

# Black History Month in Full Swing



AfroFuturism Board outside of Professor Landis' office.

Photo source: Emma Fleming

emma FLEMING | Co-Editor

This February, Parkland College will host various Black History Month events. The events will take place throughout the month. According to the Parkland Website, this year's theme for the activities is "History, Heritage and Hope: Looking Forward." The events will include faculty led discussions, student led presentations, a cultural fashion show, and a luncheon. The different events will touch on religion, AfroFuturism, racialized stress, relationships, art, diversity, politics, popular culture, fashion, and spoken word. Nichalas Sanders, Associate Director of Admissions and an organizer of the Black History Month events, states that, "Students will get a mix of educational

presentations, fun activities such as a fashion show and spoken word, and things that showcase people's experiences." The events are open to students and to the public and are intended to celebrate African American achievement through student engagement.

Other than the Black History Month Kickoff that was held on Jan. 30th, the first event will be "Reasons to Rethink Black History Month" on Feb. 5th at 1 p.m. in room U140. Dr. Joe Walwik, Social Sciences and Human Services faculty chair, will lead this Dine and Discuss event to talk about the ways we recognize and observe Black History Month. Following this event, on Wednesday, Feb. 6th the Black Student Success Project will host an event

about relationships within the African American community from 1-2 p.m. in room U140. According to the Parkland website, this event "is a popular one with Parkland College Students."

One of the Black History Month events will be led by Amber Landis, an English professor and the Director of Parkland's Literature Program. Landis' event, entitled "Black Panther and AfroFuturism," will be held on Thursday, Feb. 13 from 12-1 p.m. in room U140. When asked about what her event entails, Landis said, "I am going to bring a bunch of books; I am going to show some video clips. I'm going to show part of a TED Talk by Nnedi Okorafor when she talks about what AfroFuturism is...and why the whole idea of the future being African

is a really appealing one."

Landis describes AfroFuturism as a mixture of traditional African culture, modern science, and technology. "If you liked Black Panther then you will probably like AfroFuturism in terms of science fiction," Landis says, "But also in really imaginative ideas about what it is like to have a society based on traditional culture but also having really futuristic technologies." The Black History Month events range from discussions about Afro Futurism and Black Muslims in the United States to a student led fashion show. There will be a range of events to appeal to the different interests of the student body.

Students, faculty, and the public are encouraged to attend Parkland's Black

History Month events.

"Everyone is encouraged to attend," Sanders states, "I think the sessions are helpful for all students and staff regardless of color. I hope students learn and have fun at these events." This year's "History, Heritage and Hope: Looking Forward" themed events are meant to shine light on the African American experiences of the past, present and future. These activities encourage pride, learning and understanding of African American culture. "I think that students should take away pride in black culture from these events," Landis says. "It is black history month and we should celebrate the fact that African culture is the foundation of modern civilization. Black history month is about reversing

the stereotypes."

Most of the Black History Month events will be held in Parkland's U and D wings. For more information about Parkland's Black History Month activities, head to the Parkland website at [www.parkland.edu](http://www.parkland.edu) or look for the posters around campus.

events," Landis says. "It is black history month and we should celebrate the fact that African culture is the foundation of modern civilization. Black history month is about reversing the stereotypes."

Most of the Black History Month events will be held in Parkland's U and D wings. For more information about Parkland's Black History Month activities, head to the Parkland website at [www.parkland.edu](http://www.parkland.edu) or look for the posters around campus.

## The government shutdown and how it affects Parkland

paul BENSON | Reporter

President Trump shutdown the government between December 22nd and January 25th, 2019, due to a lack of agreement on funding the U.S. - Mexico Border wall. So, Trump's solution to get what he wants, despite the division he's sowed, is to shut down the government. According to NPR.org and various other sources, this recent shutdown has lasted a full month and has been the longest shutdown in U.S. history. A government should not be designed to fail and the U.S. government shutdowns only started in 1980 under President

Carter.

David Wessel, Director of the Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy at the Brookings Institution, said on NPR that the government shutdown is costing the U.S. economy billions of dollars. According to the Department of Labor's news release, Unemployment Insurance Weekly Claims, "UI benefits filed by former Federal civilian employees totaled 25,419 in the week ending January 12."

On January 25th, Outside the Oval Office, the day after the senate failed to come to an agreement on reopening the government, Trump

announced he would sign a bill to temporarily reopen the government and to compensate the unpaid workers. But, if no funds are allocated to the building of a wall at the U.S. - Mexico border, Trump plans to shut down the government again on February 15th.

Luckily, Parkland College has been able to function moderately well without the federal government. That being said, complications have occurred for some.

Tim Wendt, Director of Enrollment Services, said, "the Department of Education hasn't really been impacted...some agencies that work with



SEE SHUTDOWN PAGE 2

PARKLAND COLLEGE CELEBRATES

## Black History Month February 2019

# history, heritage, and hope: looking forward

FEB 5

**"Reasons to Re-think Black History Month"**  
by Joe Walwik

Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140

FEB 6

**Black Student Success Project**

1-2p, U140

FEB 12

**"Black Muslims in the U.S."** by Evelyn Reynolds

Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140

FEB 13

**"Leaning In and the Black Experience"**  
by Marietta Turner

noon-1p, U140

FEB 14

**Black History Month Luncheon**

1130a-1p, U140

FEB 19

**"Black Panther and AfroFuturism"**  
by Amber Landis

Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140

FEB 20

**"Racialized Stress/Trauma in Higher Education"**  
by Nathan Stephens

11a-noon, U140

FEB 20

**Black Student Success Project**

1-2p, U140

FEB 21

**"The Art of Kehinde Wiley, painter of former president Barack Obama's official portrait"**  
by Laura O'Donnell and Lisa Costello

11a-noon, U140

FEB 25

**"Diversity in the Classroom"**  
by Willie Fowler

10-11a, D105

FEB 26

**"Donald Trump and African Americans: Has He Delivered?"** by Willie Fowler

11a-noon, D105

FEB 27

**"Afro Puerto Rican Women in Popular Culture"**  
by Maritza Quinones

11a-noon, D105

Cultural Fashion Show

noon-1p, cafeteria

MAR 1

**"Student Voices: Spoken Word and Original Songs by Parkland Students"** conducted by the academic coaches of the Center for Academic Success

Cafeteria Stage

# PARKLAND

## Meet the CobraVenture Student Entrepreneurs! Part 1

Ayla McDonald | Co-Editor

CobraVenture, Parkland College's first business cohort for students, has chosen ten student applicants for Spring Semester 2019 to coach on the journey towards launching and running their own businesses.

"Part of the Parkland Entrepreneurial Network (PEN), the CobraVenture program provides students with an avenue for networking and business mentorship," said a January 15 Newsroom broadcast from parkland.edu. "The semester-long accelerator will feature a collaborative workspace, topics taught by local serial entrepreneurs, and one-on-one guidance with business mentors. Participants will have the chance to bring their business ideas to fruition by competing for up to \$3,000 in seed money in CobraVenture's capstone Pitch Showcase this May,

along with opportunities to raise even more capital as their pitches impress area leaders."

Meet four of the ten prospective entrepreneurs and read about their business ideas!



**Giscard Roland: Screenboard LLC**

"My name is Giscard Roland and I am the visionary founder of ISCHUO TECHNOLOGY trademark LLC. My major is Biological Sciences. I was born in Cameroon, a place known

as the Africa in miniature because of its great diversity and vast cultural treasure. My passion for Innovative Technology was born after realizing the struggles of African consumers to adapt and utilize the capabilities of technological devices that are designed and manufactured by Westernized countries mainly China, as there are no considerations made for cultural differences including language, visualization preferences and user interface customization. Poor technological capability continues to jeopardize Africa's growth potential, and market analysis shows that a very low percentage of African Students find interest enrolling in science, technology, and mathematics as well as engineering. Further studies have shown that early exposure to technology has lasting impact on education fostering a desire to increase

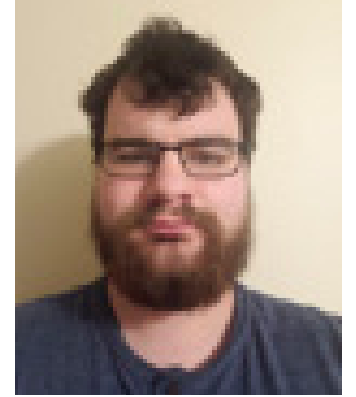
technological knowledge and users' experience. As the Economist said, "Technology cannot solve all of Africa's problems but it can help with many." And that is our goal, to bridge the gap by recreating Technologies that are too complex for end users and make it easy to use and simple even to the most uneducated person in [the] emerging market."



**Nichole Pearson: Medical Rides**

"My name is Nichole Pearson, currently I am attending Parkland full time finishing up my prerequisites for the nursing program. I am a mother of 2 sons working full time as a medical assistant, with dreams of owning

my own transportation business. I would like to offer transportation with care, meaning a Certified Nursing Assistant will accompany you to medical appointments to assist with transfers, help picking up prescriptions, and recording and giving records of your medical visit. I look forward to meeting you!"



**James Buhr: Brace and Byte Woodworks**

"Currently I am studying Industrial Technology. I

SEE COBRAVENTURE PAGE 4

## Meet the Editors - Part 2

Nicoline Hansen | Digital Editor

This week I sat down with our other editor, Ayla McDonald. She is currently studying Liberal Arts and Sciences but is planning on transferring into the Journalism program at the U of I. When asked about her favorite part of Parkland College, McDonald answered without a doubt, "Working for the Prospectus for sure". She feels as if the Prospectus gives her an opportunity to have a voice while being a voice for other people at the same time. When our editor is not studying or attending classes, she enjoys singing and gardening. Furthermore, she has big plans for her future. In just five years, she hopes to have graduated, written at least one book and will be working towards a career in journalism. Ayla hopes that this future career will help her land a job for National Geographic one day.

The editor also has a deep passion for traveling. Ayla is planning a gap year to

work on an organic farm in Ireland before transferring to the U of I. While traveling, she wants to begin her own travel journalism project. When finding out about Ayla's passion for traveling, I decided to ask her about her favorite travel destinations. "That's a really hard one. There are so many places in the world that I would like to go," she states. She decided on Australia, where she once lived for three months, as one of the favorite places that she has been. "It was very beautiful, and the people were so nice" McDonald adds. Her future travel plans include seeing the rest of Europe as well as going to Africa. However, Ireland has been one of Ayla's dream travel destinations for awhile, due to her love for Irish music. Our editor's interest in Irish music has also made her want to learn Gaelic, "I know it's a dying language, but I feel like learning Gaelic would enable me to be a better performer. It would also offer an entirely new level of insight into the

culture of the Irish people," she says.

After an interesting conversation about travel, I directed the conversation back to Parkland, and more specifically, the Prospectus. Ayla's first semester with the Prospectus was during the Fall of 2018; she worked as a reporter. Ayla did not need to question whether to take the position as the new editor this semester. Her interest in the position stems from her interest in both editing and writing. Additionally, she saw the position as a great opportunity as she is pursuing a career in journalism.

According to McDonald, if she could do a story on any person in the world, she would choose to do a story on Tara Westover, an academic who had no education growing up. "I would love to pick her brain and find out if she experienced any of the same struggles that I'm going through on a more personal level, and what she thinks America could be doing differently for home educated



Ayla McDonald

Photo source: Ayla McDonald

students," she adds.

Ayla considers the last Prospectus meeting of the Fall 2018 semester to be her favorite memory with the newspaper. She tells me that the staff shuffled through several old copies of the Prospectus from many different decades. "It was a really neat experience, just being able to look at what has happened at the college, what has happened in our community and what has happened in our nation through the eyes of other Parkland students who went here before me," McDonald

says. When it comes to future Prospectus team members, Ayla advises curious students to apply, as working for the newspaper is a great hands-on experience. "The Prospectus offers its staff an opportunity to create incredible experiences for themselves and be able to share those experiences with the community," McDonald says. "It's also a great way to make friends."

## Shutdown

Federal Student Aid (when applying for financial aid) were impacted, but most of those have been resolved now. The initial issues were with the IRS, for tax information, the Selective Service with registration confirmation, and the Department of Homeland Security for verification of eligible non-citizens. As I said, now we either have workarounds in place or the issues have been fixed."

More complications occurred for Federal

Aviation Administration (FAA) testing.

Mike Behrens, Assessment Center Director, said about the first week of testing, "We received an email that said we would not be able to give any tests for FAA licensing that week. So all of our appointments were put on hold." Behrens explained that some test takers came from hours away only to be told that they made the trip for nothing.

"Later on that week or the beginning of next week, we got a second email saying that the federal

government said we can test, however candidates had to be aware that their licensing process might not be as fast or even possible during this government shutdown," Behrens said. "The only problem now is that a testing candidate for the FAA, if they don't have their previous score report from a past or a failed FAA test, they cannot get a new one due to the government shutdown. Which means they can't go on and either renew or reapply for their FAA license." Now that the government is temporarily open, FAA tests are fully available.

International students traveling to the U.S. may have been inconvenienced the most.

Parkland student, Rif Achmad, experienced what it was like to travel back to the U.S. during the government shutdown. Achmad said, "Seeing... more and more foreigners coming to immigration... the line just gets longer and longer and just doesn't stop. From there I knew, it's going to take a long time just for me to get through immigration." Of Immigration Achmad said, "There were hundreds of people lining up and there's

only one TSA worker that's working." Achmad was in an airport in Nevada that he was rerouted to stop at instead of taking a nonstop flight to O'Hare. He had to rebuy bus tickets, because of the delay. To make matters worse, Achmad said, "I literally landed 12 hours before my classes started." So, for Achmad and other students traveling back by plane, it's been a rocky start to the semester with plenty of jet lag and confusion to go around.

In spite of many troubles, it's relieving to know that Parkland was able to

function and resolve minor federal complications during the government shutdown.

According to NPR, We started 2019 with 400,000 federal workers working without pay. Thankfully, the government is now reopened and, hopefully, it will stay open.

Now the questions remain: will Americans pay for the wall? Haven't Americans paid enough already? Can politicians agree on anything? Only time will tell.



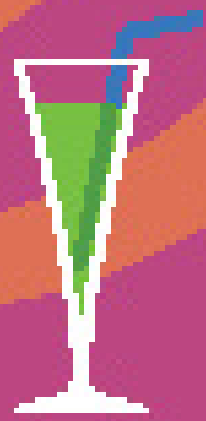
# PARKLAND

28TH ANNUAL STUDENT PRODUCTION

# COME BLOW YOUR HORN



BY NEIL SIMON  
DIRECTED BY MELISSA GOLDMAN



# February 7-17

[parkland.edu/theatre](http://parkland.edu/theatre)  
217/351-2528



 EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

## OPPORTUNITY LIVES HERE.

Our all in commitment doesn't just apply to our traditional freshmen. Transfer students succeed at EIU because we invest the same energy in seeing them succeed. All you have to do is be ready to explore, engage and grow as our community invests in you. So you can step into a life you never knew was possible. Check out our generous scholarship options for transfer students and apply soon!

**CONTACT OUR TRANSFER RELATIONS OFFICE:**  
Call 217-581-2120 or email us at [transfer@eiu.edu](mailto:transfer@eiu.edu).

**[TRANSFER.EIU.EDU](http://TRANSFER.EIU.EDU)**

### TRANSFER ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

CUMULATIVE GPA	TIER ONE	
	3.5 - 4.0	\$5,000* <small>(\$2,500 ANNUALLY)</small>
CUMULATIVE GPA	TIER TWO	
	3.0 - 3.49	\$3,000* <small>(\$1,500 ANNUALLY)</small>

### PANTHER PROMISE TUITION WAIVER

We are committed to making your education accessible. Students from households with an annual incoming ranging from \$31,000 to \$75,000 will receive up to \$2,500 towards tuition for up to eight semesters.

# PARKLAND



## degree completion day

**WED FEB 20, 2019**  
**9:30AM-1:30PM**  
**PARKLAND COLLEGE**  
**STUDENT UNION**

see which universities guarantee junior-level transfer status with a completed associate's degree

for more information contact  
 Office of Admissions  
**217/351-2482**  
**admissions@parkland.edu**

- academic advising available
- learn how to track your progress toward your degree or certificate
- confirm your degree program
- complete your petition to graduate form
- giveaways, refreshments, and WPCD-FM live streaming!



## CobraVenture

grew up in Paxton, Illinois and graduated from PBL High School," Buhr said. "In my senior [year] of high school, I took a wood shop class. I had always enjoyed making things growing up. Fast forward a few years and I decided to participate in a craft show. I made a little money and decided to keep on doing it." Buhr both designs his

own projects and takes commissions from clients, including wood-turning, laser-cutting, and furniture production. You can view Buhr's pastworks, place a commission, or shop the Brace and Byte Woodworks online store at [www.braceandbyte.com](http://www.braceandbyte.com)."

**Mitchell Thompson: Vanguard Drone Services**

Mitchell Thompson is a Media Advertising Major from St. Joseph, IL. His business idea, Vanguard Drone Services, will provide drone services for industrial, agricultural, real estate, photography, and cinematography purposes.

"Senior year of high School I started looking into drones and how they can be used in multiple different work fields and saw

the potential for it in this area," Thompson said. "I'm passionate about it because I truly believe it will be a successful business and there is a demand for drone work in central Illinois that not many are taking up on."

Keep an eye out in next week's edition of the Propsectus Newspaper for profiles of the other six CobraVenture student entrepreneurs.



**217-344-0102**  
**PresbyHall.com**

**\$5,000 SPRING SEMESTER LEASE**

**Meal Plan Included**  
**Suite-Style Living**  
**Corner of 5th & John**  
**FREE PARKING**  
 {Parkland Students Only}

**Call today!**



## Prospectus News



**Corrections:** We strive to publish fair and accurate information. Please let us know if you believe a correction to published content is in order.

**Grammar Suggestions:** If you find incorrect or otherwise unclear grammar or wording in any articles, please do not hesitate to let us know.

**Letters to the Editor:** Contributions must be original work by the contributor, typed, include the contributor's name, and sent to [prospectus@parkland.edu](mailto:prospectus@parkland.edu). Please include the words "letter to the editor" in the subject line of your email. The Prospectus reserves the right to edit or deny any contributions.

**Employment:** If you are interested in working with the *Prospectus*, go to [prospectusnews.com](http://prospectusnews.com), click on the "Work with us!" tab, review our employment requirements, and submit the completed application form. Alternatively, you can stop by Student Life to pick up a paper application.

**Advertising:** Interested in advertising with us? Go to [prospectusnews.com/advertising](http://prospectusnews.com/advertising) for information on our advertising policies and to view our 2018-2019 Media Kit and Rate Card.

### thePROSPECTUS

Parkland's campus-wide student newspaper since 1968

**Room U111**  
**2400 W. Bradley Ave.**  
**Champaign, IL 61821**  
**prospectus@parkland.edu**  
**217/351-2492**

*The Prospectus works to proliferate information relevant to Parkland-goers and provide its student workers with a space conducive to the learning environment.*

The *Prospectus* is Parkland College's campus-wide student newspaper, and has been in constant production since late 1968. Our reporters and editors are exclusively students of Parkland College with a variety of majors and career interests, not just communications and journalism. We set out to provide an outlet for students to further develop their writing, photography, communication, time management, and critical thinking skills while producing a quality, trusted source of news for Parkland-goers. The *Prospectus* publishes weekly during Parkland's spring and fall semesters and three times during the summer semester.

### thePROSPECTUS Staff

ayla **MCDONALD** - Co-Editor  
 emma **FLEMING** - Co-Editor  
 paul **BENSON** - Reporter  
 sidney **MOUNTS** - Reporter  
 nicoline **HANSEN** - Reporter  
 adam **RAHN** - Managing Editor  
 scott **LANDELLS** - Designer



Did you know?  
 All unused issues of the *Prospectus* are recycled or donated to the Parkland College Veterinary Technology program.