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3-30-2016

Banner News

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Des Moines Area Community College | Boone Campus



Banner News

Volume 15

Your Life, Your Campus, Your News

bannernews.org





Spring play set for April 1 & 2

DMACC Boone Campus students William Jasper (left to right), Dana Kokjohn and Sarah Giese, all of Boone, rehearse a scene from the upcoming production of the play, 'Til Beth Do Us Part by Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope and Jamie Wooten to be performed at 7:30 p.m., Fri., April 1 and Sat., April 2 in the Boone Campus Theatre. Tickets cost \$5 per person and may be purchased at the door. DMACC students receive free admission. The comedy is directed by DMACC Drama Department Professor Kay Mueller. Photo by Dan Ivis/DMACC

DMACC Boone campus to host **Suicide Prevention Day Activities**

515-432-7203 800-362-2127

Activities dedicated to the memory of DMACC student who died last month.

WHAT: The DMACC Boone Campus is hosting a presentation and community walk to focus attention on student suicides and communicate the warning signs of a person in distress.

Ryan Nesbit, co-chair of the Iowa Chapter of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, will host two sessions entitled "Talk Saves Lives" and then afterwards Boone Campus students, faculty and staff will participate in "Alive & Walking DMACC," an off-campus march to raise awareness throughout the community.

The day's activities are also set to honor the memory of a DMACC student who committed suicide just last month. This is a growing crisis on colleges and universities across the nation and we are all affected," said Steve Krafcisin, DMACC Coach and Coordinator of Student Activities. "We want to encourage students across lowa get help if they are suffering from depression and never consider suicide as a possible solution to any problems they may be facing."

According to the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) suicide is the second leading cause of death for 15 to 24 year old Americans. The program is being sponsored by the Boone Campus Student Activities Council.

WHY: To raise awareness of the growing problem of student suicides and show there are better alternatives to self-harm.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 30, 2016 (The event is free and the public is welcome)

"Talk Saves Lives" Presentation/Boone Campus Auditorium 12:15 & 12:50 p.m.

"Alive & Walking DMACC"/Meet at Door #3 Boone Campus

WHERE: DMACC Boone Campus, 1125 Hancock Drive

DMACC's Celebration | INSIDE of the Literary Arts

DMACC's 14th annual Celebration of the Literary Arts will be held April 4-6 with classroom visits to all six DMACC campuses by area writers and literary in-

Authors Matt Bell and Robin Black will read from their works in the DMACC Boone Campus Auditorium from 9:40 to 11:05 a.m., Tues., April 5.

Bell is the author of the novels, Scrapper and In the House Upon the Dirt Between the Lake and the Wood, which was a finalist for the Young Lions Fiction Award, a Michigan Notable Book, and an Indies Choice Adult Debut of the Year Honor Recipient, as well as the winner of the Paula Anderson Book Award.

He is also the author of How They Were Found and Cataclysm Baby, a non-fiction book about the classic video game, Baldur's

His stories, poems and nonfiction have been published in Best American Mystery Stories, Best American Fantasy, Conjunctions, Hobart, Gulf Coast, The American Reader, Ninth Letter and many other publications.

Bell earned his Master's in Fine Arts in Creative Writing from Bowling Green State University. He has taught writing at Northern Michigan University

and the University of Michigan. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Fiction in Arizona State University's creative writing program.

Black's short story collection, If I loved you, I would tell you this, was a finalist for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Prize and an O. Magazine Summer Reading Pick. Her debut novel, Life Drawing has been called a "magnificent literary achievement," by Karen Russell. Black's stories and essays have been widely published including in The New York Times Magazine, The Chicago Tribune, The Southern Review and One Story. Winner of the 2005 Pirates Alley Faulkner/ Wisdom Prize for a Short Story, she was the 2012-13 Distinguished Visiting Writer at Bryn Mawr College and has taught most recently in the Brooklyn College MFA Program.

She earned an MFA from the Warren Wilson MFA Program for Writers. Her forthcoming book titled CRASH COURSE: 52 Essays From Where Writing and Life Collide, will be out from Engine Books in April, 2016.

All Celebration of Literary Arts events are free and open to

this **ISSUE**



Spotlight p. 3



Bears Sports p. 5



Opinion, Page 7 & 8

· Macaroni and cheese

· Pancake/Biscuit mix

· Spaghetti and spaghetti sauce

Campus food pantry open for use, donations

The Boone campus food pantry has seen consistent use again this semester. The food pantry is housed in the gray metal cabinet outside Room 122 and is available to any student who needs assistance.

Please consider donating non-perishable food items to help replenish the inventory in the campus food pantry.

Current needs:

- · Peanut butter
- · Canned fruit
- · Canned mixed vegetables
- · Canned tomatoes
- · Canned corn
- · Soups
- · Salad dressing
- · Juice (cranberry, apple, etc.)
- · Olive/Vegetable/Cooking oil · Tuna or Hamburger Helper
- · Instant mashed potatoes
- · Toiletries such as men's or women's deodorant and toothpaste

 \cdot Tuna

· Applesauce

· Cake mix

· Snack items that students can grab between classes (granola bars, pudding cups, crackers, etc.)

Feel free to drop off donations in Room 124. All donations are greatly appreciated.

If you or someone you know has a more significant need for food/ resources than a visit to our campus food pantry can assist with, please contact Erin Neumann, coordinator, Student and Community Resources, 515-433-5037, eaneumann@dmacc.edu

Apply for Summer Scholars Award

Students are invited to apply from now until April 1st, for the SUMMER SCHOLARS AWARD which is designed to foster a deeper understanding of the importance and viability of personal commitment and diversity in a democratic society through service and scholarship.

The award is one free 3-credit hour face to face Summer semester course plus \$100 for books will be awarded to six students throughout the campuses: Ankeny, Boone, Carroll, Newton, Urban and West, as well as the Learning Centers.

For details and to apply, please go to the DMACC Diversity Commission website: https://www.dmacc.edu/diversity/commission/Pages/ welcome.aspx

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It's time to file 2016-17 FAFSA

Friday, April 1 is a FAFSA Friday on the DMACC Boone campus. Stop by the computer lab area in Room 149C from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. to get free assistance with completing and submitting your FAFSA. No appointment necessary.

Receive a FREE \$5 Subway card when you complete your FAFSA during a FAFSA Friday.

Spring 2016 FAFSA Fridays:

February 26: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in Room 149C

April 1 (rescheduled from March 25): 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in

April 22: 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in Room 149

Students and Parents should bring the following items when possible to be prepared to complete the FAFSA:

-Social Security number, driver's license number, and date of birth

-2015 federal and state tax returns

-W-2 forms and/or other records of income earned in 2015 (or your last pay stub from 2015 if you haven't filed yet).

ments and investment re-

-Records of untaxed income received in 2015 (e.g., veterans benefits,

child support received, etc.) -Alien registration number, if not a U.S. citizen

-If you have filed a FAFSA before, bring your Federal Student Aid (FSA)

FAFSA Fridays are open to all current, former, and prospective DMACC students as well as anyone needing assistance with the FAFSA, regardless of what college or university they will attend in 2016-17. Questions? Contact Erin Neumann: 515-433-

5037, eaneumann@dmacc.edu

ID and password if possible.

Free income tax help on campus

Free income tax help will continue through April 15 each Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Boone Campus. DMACC has been offering this service since 2008 and this will be the ninth year of offering the free income tax help. DMACC accounting students, who have been certified by the Internal Revenue Service, will help prepare federal and Iowa individual income tax returns for qualified residents. Each year accounting students process and file approximately 150 federal and state income tax returns.

This service, called the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, offers free tax assistance to those with low-to-moderate incomes (less than \$54,000 in annual personal income). VITA is particularly interested in identifying those taxpayers who are eligible for earned income tax credits (EITC), which is a refundable tax credit to those who are low wage earners.

All tax returns will be prepared on-site at the DMACC Boone Campus by trained and certified

DMACC student volunteers using software provided by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). Each return will be reviewed by the site coordinator and, after approval and signature of the taxpayer, will be filed electronically with the IRS and the Iowa Department of Revenue. There is no cost to eligible taxpayers for this service.

Persons interested in receiving this service should bring their W-2 forms, interest statements from banks (1099 forms), copies of last year's (2014) federal and Iowa tax returns, Forms 1095-A, B or C (Affordable Health Care Statements) and social security cards for all family members and picture IDs for the primary taxpayers. Any other pertinent information regarding personal income and expenses for tax year 2015 should be included.

Individuals may call 515-433-5029 to schedule an appointment. Parking is available on the north side of the building, and people may enter through the northeast doorway, There will be no free income tax help offered on February 19 or March 18.

Ladies, Don't Miss Out! **Self Defense Class**

DATE: Sunday April 3rd TIME: 6pm - 7:30pm

LOCATION: BOONE FITNESS FACTORY

422 9th Street Boone, IA 50036 (JUST 2 BLOCKS NORTH OF THE BOONE HIGH SCHOOL)

Limited Availability!!! There are 20 available spots in the this class. The first 20 females to RSVP to Ellie Paciorek at erpaciorek@dmacc.edu will reserve their spot!

Please plan to wear comfortable work out type clothing, and socks, as shoes will be removed before being on the wrestling mats. We will ask that any jewelry be removed prior to class also. A simple waiver of liability form will be required of each participant, as the course does include physical hands on portion.

Sponsored by Boone Campus Student Activities

Earth Day **Events**

To celebrate the 46th Earth Day, various activities and events are planned for Boone Campus during Earth Week -April 18 to 22. Visit the Courter Center to attend the Earth Day Fair. Up to 20 exhibits related to the Earth and its environment will be on display from 9am to 2pm. A detailed schedule will be circulated soon.

BANNER NEWS

News produced by and for DMACC students at the Boone campus.

The Banner News serves the Boone campus of Des Moines Area Community College. We strive to cover Your Life, Your Campus, Your News. Our news operation is funded by advertising and student fees. We update our Facebook page daily, our website weekly and publish a print edition monthly during the fall and spring semesters. The print version is distributed free on campus with additional copies available for \$.50/each. Please contact us with your news tips, comments and corrections.

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We are always looking for talented students to join our staff. CONTACT US for more information, bannernews@dmacc.edu

Community spotlight Ames teacher rocks class, stage



By Brad GroutContributing Writer

Teacher by day, rock star by night? Such is the life of Travis Pierce, special education—social skills instructor at Ames Middle School and front-man, guitar player, and main song writer for the band, The Fightin' Side.

With just one look at him, you'll notice something different about Pierce with his wild beard and tattooed arms, sleeved, from

top to bottom. He certainly doesn't have the look of the "typical" teacher. Pierce was born in Pryor, OK but raised in Arkansas. He grew up listening to classic country, rock, and some punk rock bands. "Some of my favorite and most influential bands would be Social Distortion, Bruce Springsteen, The Rolling Stones, and Johnny Cash."

Pierce grew up playing bass in a variety of punk bands until he was asked to play in the Christian rock band, Spoken. "This was an awesome opportunity and blessing, giving me the chance to tour the world and play and write music." Pierce left the band after meeting his wife, Wendy, wanting to settle down and live a nor-

mal life. Not to mention, opposed to the common belief that all, so to say, "rock stars", make lots of money, most bands are lucky if they can break even, and to do so, they have to be on the road almost non-stop as album sales contribute very little in regards to how much a band brings in in revenue.

While Pierce played music for a long time in a lot of different bands, he was always told he didn't have a good voice or couldn't sing. "I finally just said, 'Whatever, I am

writing these songs and I want to sing them, and if people don't like that, that's okay." After getting over being self conscious, he just started doing what he wanted, just being himself, having fun. "I spent a long time trying to 'make it' in the music industry, and it started to seem like work and take me away from people I loved and cared about. This band kind of has several different purposes: I get to play and write music and share it with my friends and family, and

it's more meaningful than any of my other musical endeavors for those reasons."

Ames teacher

Travis Pierce

works at the

middle school

by day and is

a member of

a band called

The Fightin'

Side by night.

The band has a

show on April

30 at DG's Tap

House in Ames

photo - printed

submitted

permission

with

at 7 p.m.

Coupled with his passion for music, Pierce spends a considerable amount of time working with the youth at his church, Corner-

the youth at his church, stone Church of Ames, of which he has attended for close to 12 years. "I love people. I love talking and working with people and helping them with their thoughts and feeling



Photo by Brad Grout
Travis Pierce

and life. Life is hard. Burdens are meant to be shared. I guess there's always been a part of me that was hurting or confused, and that's probably why music spoke to me so much."

Pierce's faith is coupled with his passion for music. According to Pierce, "Faith is the foundation. Art, music, and all things were created by God, and we were given the ability to create, imagine, and be artistic. There is a flow of faith in all things I do from playing music in bars to leading bible studies at church. I try to live one life in Christ in multiple settings, and I hope people see that. I really try to love them the way Jesus loves me."

The Fightin' Side in comprised of 5 members: Chris Saldaha plays bass, Michael Bosworth plays lead guitar, Eric Hutchinson plays drums, and James Pusey plays keyboards. As previously stated, Pierce plays the guitar and sings.

The Fightin' Side has a show on April 30th at DG's Tap House in Ames at 7 pm.

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Events

DMACC Boone Campus's In My Boots Student Organization Proudly supports the 3rd Annual

In My Boots 5K

Run, Walk, Ruck & Shadow Run



www.dmacc.edu/boone/inmyboots5k

Proceeds benefit Veterans Organizations in Iowa

Race Information: The 5K will loop around McHose Park in Boone, lowa. Participants are encouraged to bring their own ruck sack/backpack, preloaded with 30 lbs. of nonperishable food and clothing items to be donated to local homeless veterans after the event. A Shadow Run is planned with soldiers in Iraq.

Registration: Online at www.GetMeRegistered.com/InMyBoots5k

\$25 Individuals • T-shirts (not gua

T-shirts (not guaranteed after deadline)

\$80 4-person ruck team • Goodie bags

\$35 per person after 4/13/16 • Individual and Team Awards

Questions? Sean Taylor, <u>astaylor@dmacc.edu</u>; Julie Roosa, <u>jkroosa@dmacc.edu</u>; Nancy Woods, <u>nawoods@dmacc.edu</u>

The "2016 In My Boots 5K" is proudly sponsored by the Boone Campus DMACC In My Boots Student Organization

Special 5K Registration Discount

From Monday, March 28-Friday, April 1, from noon to 1 p.m. in the Courter Student Center, bring a non-perishable food item to donate and have \$1 deducted off the individual registration fee. Bring up to 5 NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS to donate and have up to \$5 deducted off the registration cost—bringing that cost down to \$20!! Or you can always register online via our our website or our Facebook Page "DMACC Sorry this limited time, special offer does not apply online.



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SPORTS=

Softball improves to 18-3

The DMACC softball team ran its record to 18-3 overall and 3-1 in the Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) after winning three of four games March 25 and 26.

The Bears, ranked fourth in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II poll, ran their winning streak to 10 consecutive games with by sweeping a doubleheader against Iowa Central Community College (ICCC) on March 25 by scores of 7-0 and 15-5. The winning steak reached 11 games when DMACC took a 6-0 decision from Kirkwood Community College (KCC) in the first game of a doubleheader on March 26. KCC, ranked sixth in NJCAA Division II, tended DMACC's winning streak with a 10-0 decision in the second game.

Sophomore Kenzie Ihle of Polk City toss a one-hitter and struck out 13 to lead DMACC past ICCC in the opener on March 25. Sophomore Sydney Weldon of Albia hit a home run and a triple and drove in three runs to pace the Bears offensively. Freshman Megan Rushing of West Des

Moines also homered in the win and came away with two RBIs.

Ihle walked one batter as she improved to 10-0 for the season.

Freshman Clair Dudek of Urbandale had a pair of base hits and drove in four runs to lead DMACC to the win in the second game. Sophomore Madi Parrott of Indianola and freshman Taylor Creason of Lee's Summit, Mo., drove in three runs apiece with Creason blasting a three-run home run to spark a seven-run rally in the second inning. Freshman Kenzie Sutton of Adel and sophomore April Sherburne of Clarksville had three hits apiece in the win and sophomores Brittney Roby of Knoxville and Parrott came away with two hits apiece. Parrott joined Creason with three RBIs and Weldon drove in a pair of runs.

Freshman Ashley Sicard of Ackley pitched the first two and a third innings, allowing five runs on five hits. She struck out two and walked one. Freshman Madi Rasmusson of Marshalltown worked two and two-thirds innings and picked up her second win of the season against one loss.

Baseball divides two games

The DMACC baseball team opened Iowa Community College Athletic Conference (ICCAC) play by dividing a double-header against Iowa Central Community College (ICCC) March 25 at Centerville.

The Bears took the opener, 3-1, and dropped the nightcap, 4-3. The split gives DMACC a 9-9 record overall and a 1-1 mark in the ICCAC.

Sophomore Nick Belzer of Ankeny tossed a five-hitter and sophomore Eric Weisbrod of Racine, Wis., drove in a pair of runs to lead the Bears to their win in the first game. Weisbrod had three hits in the win and sophomore Zac Repinski of Prior Lake, Minn., collected two hits and drove in one run.

DMACC took a 1-0 lead in the top of the sixth when Weisbrod singled and scored on a double by Repinski. Weisbrod padded the Bears' lead with a two-run single in the top of the seventh.

Belzer went the distance and improved to 2-1 with the win. He allowed one run on five hits, struck out five and walked two.

Sophomore Levi Schreiner of Waukee and freshman Luke Fegen of West Des Moines had two hits apiece and each drove in a run in DMACC's loss in the second game. The Bears trailed 2-0 after three innings, but got RBI singles from freshman Jose Rosa of Arecibo, Puerto Rico, and Fegen in the top of the fourth. ICCC went ahead 3-2 with a run in the bottom of the eighth, but DMACC tied it on Schreiner's solo home run in the ninth. ICCC then scored in the bottom of the ninth to come away with the win.

DMACC and ICCC continue their series March 28 at Fort Dodge.

Golf teams at Invite March 25 & 26

Sophomore Ashley Dumler of Dike took medalist honors with a 36-hole score of 163 as the DMACC women's golf team tied for second place in the Graceland Spring Invitational March 25 and 26 at Monzingo Golf and Country Club in Maryville, Mo.

Dumler shot scores of 85 and 78 over the par-72 layout to finish four strokes ahead of Fernanda Valdes of Waldorf College in the individual competition. Waldorf took the team championship with 716 strokes and DMACC tied Baker University for second place at 719. Other DMACC results saw freshman Josie McMartin of Grundy Center tie for sixth place and freshman Mackenzie Fuller of New Sharon and sophomore Emily Rinehart of Boone tied for 20th and 23rd respectively. DMACC also got a 26th-place tie from sophomore Rachel Walljasper of Johnston and a 28th-place tie from freshman Naomi Petrich of Calumet. DMACC sophomore Emma Sweeney of Sutherland also played in the tournament and posted a score of 100 on the second day but did not qualify for an official finish.

McMartin posted scores of 86 and 88 for a 36-hole score of 174 in tying for sixth; Fuller shot rounds of 92 and 98 for a 190 total; Rinehart turned in scores of 99 and 93 for a 192 total; Walljasper shot rounds of 102 and 98 for a 200; and Petrich had rounds of 100 and 102 for a 202 total.

The DMACC men's golf team came away with a fifth-place finish in the Graceland Spring Invitational March 25 & 26 at Monzingo Golf and Country Club in Maryville, Mo.

Lindenwood-Belleville took the team championship with a 36-hole score of 607 and DMACC had 641 strokes in placing fifth. The Bears shot 326 on the opening day and turned in a score of 315 the second day. Erik Jonasson and Anthony Slater, both of Lindenwood-Belleville, shared medalist honors with 36-hole scores of 150. Sophomore Braxton Risetter of Jewell led DMACC with a fifth-place tie on scores of 73 and 79 for 36-hole score of 152. His opening round 73 was the lowest score posted on the first day Sophomore Devon Woody of Reasnor tied for 16th with a 156, posted 18-hole scores of 80 and 76, and sophomore Zach Mason of Sac City shot rounds of 79 and 86 for a 165, tying for 41st place.

Other DMACC results included a tie for 52nd by sophomore Jake Kendig of Ankeny, a tie for 59th by freshman Jordan Eng of Panora and a 62nd-place finish by sophomore Brett Romig of Boone. Kendig turned in rounds of 89 and 78 for a 36-hole score of 167, Eng shot rounds of 84 and 86 for a 170 and Romig had scores of 89 and 82 for a 171.

DMACC freshman Lemuel Marlow of Algona also competed in the tournament. Marlow shot scores of 93 and 89 for a 36-hole total of 182, tying for 71st place.

Both teams will play in the Iowa Central Invitational April 2 and 3 at Ankeny.



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y DMACC Hon-

Editor's note: The two guest columns appearing on this page were written by DMACC Honors students as part of an Honors Capstone course. Their assignment was to demonstrate leadership through the written word on an issue important to them.

Find the truth in immigration debate



By Katherin Mena Guest Columnist

With the new presidential election taking place and the various candidates running, the immigration debate is more controversial than ever before. Immigration policy is being shaped by fear and stereotypes rather than by true evidence. This results in the perception of immigrants as threats and criminals.

As an immigrant myself, it hurts to see how poorly we are being portrayed in this country. We are not given enough credit for the support and hard work we provide that goes into helping the economic growth of the United States. We are treated as criminals because of the false stereotypes and misconceptions that are being presented.

The following are a few of the most common misconceptions about immigrants.

Misconception one: Immigrants take job opportunities from Americans.

Truth: According to the Immigration Policy Center, research indicates that there is little connection between immigrant labor and unemployment rates of native born workers. Immigrants take jobs in regions where labor is scarce, or they work jobs that native workers shun. Immigrants work jobs such as meat packing, poultry processing, dishwashing, janitorial, and field work. These are low-wage jobs with little benefits. Most immigrants perform the hard labor work that Americans can but are not willing to do.

Misconception two: Immigrants are all criminals.

Truth: The violent crime rate declined nearly 45 percent nationally from 1990 to 2010, even though the number of undocumented immigrants tripled.2 Immigrants have lower incarceration rates than native-born U.S. Citizens. According to an analysis from the 2010 American Community Survey (ACS), about 1.6 percent of immigrant males age 18-39 are incarcerated, compared to 3.3 percent of the native-born.3 Immigrants come to the United States in search of a better life, and they do their best to stay out of trouble because the fear of being sent back to their country is stronger. We don't choose to leave our countries just because we want to. We leave because we are escaping a country where there is little opportunity and no room for growth and success.

Misconception three: Immigrants don't pay taxes.

Truth: Undocumented immigrants are U.S. taxpayers. Although they can't get a Social Security Number, they are still able to file taxes with the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). According to the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP), Immigrants paid an

estimated \$10.6 billion to state and local taxes in 2010 without receiving any benefits.⁴ I stand by this fact. As an undocumented immigrant myself, I can say that in my family we all file our taxes every year. We respect the laws of the United States and follow them accordingly.

There are many undocumented immigrants who are only in search of a better life. This group includes the many students who dream of earning a valuable education and of pursuing a lifechanging career. Why deny that to them?

The dream to pass an Immigration Reform is now and you can be part of it. Sign up for weekly email updates on information that will keep you informed. Also visit americas-voice.org to learn more about the actions you can take to help.

(Endnotes)

- 1 (Teaching tolerance, n.d.)
- 2 (Teaching tolerance, n.d.) 3 (Immigration policy.org, 2015)
- 4 (Santana, 2014) REFERENCES

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Katherin Mena is a secondyear DMACC student from Perry, IA. She is a member of the Honors Program and Phi Theta Kappa. Her area of study is business administration.



Five DMACC Boone Campus students have been selected as National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scholars: Scott Dillavou (left to right) of Ames, Alexis Slade of Waukee, Dillon Hauser of Ankeny, Will Nicholson of Perry and Bob Schmidt of Perry. Dillavou, Slade, Hauser and Nicholson have been invited to attend the NASA Community College Aerospace Scholars (NCAS) Onsite Workshop at Langley Research Center in Hampton, VA, May 22-25. Schmidt has been invited to the NASA NCAS Onsite Workshop at Stennis Space Center in Stennis Space Center, MS April 11-14.

Nutrition tips to stay healthy



By Maddie Wankum Guest Columnist

As college students, we have a lot on our plate. We live hectic lives, which is a juggling act between being over loaded with homework, work, sports, and clubs. We often have to limit our food choices to what's quick and easy because we are in a hurry for class or just don't have time to prepare and cook a proper meal. Sometimes those quick and easy food choices we make aren't a healthy choice, but what food choices should we be making?

With all the craziness going on in our schedules, it's hard to sit down and enjoy a nutritious meal. This raises the question of if we are getting the proper nutrients needed to maintain a healthy life style. The food you eat has a great effect on your mind and health. Eating poorly can have a significant effect on your focus and thought process and can make you feel sluggish and tired.

To help us get the proper nutrition, I came up with 5 tips for college students that I have learned through my nutrition classes and lots of research. These tips are important to keep in mind whether you're an athlete or just trying to eat better:

1. Always eat breakfast!
Breakfast truly is the most important meal of the day, by fueling your body and mind for you upcoming daily activities.
Keep in mind that your breakfast should be low in sugar and high in protein; this will help you

feel full and energized for the day. A healthy breakfast has a wide range of options including: oatmeal with cinnamon and fresh fruit and egg whites.

2. Limit your sugar intake. Avoid reaching for sugar filled snacks that come out of a vending machine and keep your own snack in your book bag. Not only will this be a healthier choice, but it will also be an easy way to save money. Having fresh fruit, nuts or a natural granola bar as a quick snack will give you natural sugars.

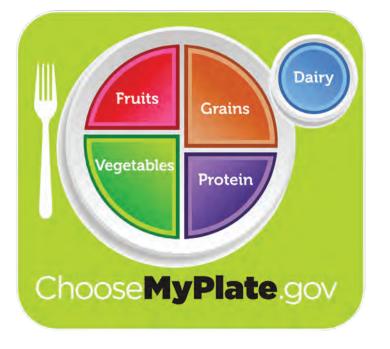
3. Drink water! It is very important to keep hydrated during your crazy lifestyle. It is easy to reach for pop, juice, coffee and other drinks that contain a lot of hidden sugar. These sugar filled drinks only dehydrate you and leave you thirstier than before. stead save the calories and drink water or tea instead.

4. Variety is good. Switch up the food you eat and don't get stuck eating the same food for weeks. This will allow you to try new foods and get a wider range of nutrients from many different kinds of foods. Ultimately you know yourself the best, but don't be afraid to try new things and step outside of the foods within our comfort zone.

5. Plan your meals. As we all know college students struggle financially, even when we have a job. This is why it is so important to grocery shop with a meal plan in mind; this will help avoid wandering around the grocery store grabbing random food items.

These tips will help you improve your college experience and keep off that freshman 15. So remember to choose wisely when you are at the grocery store and pick foods that will feed both your body and mind.

Maddie Wankum is from Merrill, Ia. She is wrapping up her second year at DMACC and will continue her education at ISU in the fall majoring in dietetics.



Editor's note: The two guest columns appearing on this page were written by DMACC Honors students as part of an Honors Capstone course. Their assignment was to demonstrate leadership through the written word on an issue *important to them.*

Choose not to declaw your cat



By Tessa Myers **Guest Columnist**

Over the past few years the amount of furry companions in the American home has increased. This is especially true in regards to college students as many researchers are finding that the addition of a dog or cat is great for reducing stress and anxiety as well as lowering blood pressure, perfect to combat the high stress environment of college life. With this rise in positive findings, many more apartments are opening their doors to our four legged friends however many apartments require the cats to be declawed. There is controversy surrounding the ethical nature of declawing in general and if apartments should be allowed to require such a procedure to be done before an animal is let in. What most people don't realize is the dangerous health problems that can result after cats have been declawed.

When cats go in to have their claws removed it is actually severing an entire part of the cat's toe, the equivalent of a human having their finger cut off at the first knuckle. Without this the cat loses some of its balance and strength. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, cats maintain top muscular form in their paws through exposing and retracting their claws and scratching. Without their claws they can no longer exercise those muscles causing mass muscle deterioration. This mass deterioration can cause early onset of arthritis in cats causing them to become less active which in turn may lead to obesity and obesity related health concerns.

This isn't the only worry however. Animal behaviorist Richard Kirshner, better known as Jackson Galaxy, has found through his work that many cats surrendered to shelters are younger, declawed cats who have been given up by their owners due to litter box issues. He explains that cats relate pain to specific areas or items rather than situations. A cat comes home with sore paws and attempts to use the litter box, the grains hurt

his feet and he jumps out. Instead of processing it as "my paws are healing so that's why the litter hurt my paws" they simply see it as "that place hurt me I'm not going there again". A key factor is it is often hard for an owner to tell if their cat is in pain. Showing signs of pain could be life threatening for the cats wild ancestors and it is a habit that hasn't been evolutionarily dropped. Often the only way to tell if a cat is in pain is through checking vitals. While this isn't true of all cats and many cats can have comparatively successful declawing outcomes the amount who don't is a growing

There are many reasons why people would declaw a cat. In many cases it is used as a way to save furniture, walls and any other things cats may be inclined to scratch. Instead of going through what can seem like a long training process it may seem easier to remove the thing causing the problem. Often owners with small children remove a cat's claws as an attempt to keep smaller children safe from scratches. A local veterinarian at Somerset Veterinary Clinic in Ames, explained that some cats are born with extra toes and in many cases the claws are deformed or grow in painful areas causing a need for declawing. This rare genetic mutation is called polydactylism.

What many owners don't know is that there are many ways to get around declawing. Often adding a scratching post to a frequently scratched area and encouraging your cat to use it is enough to reduce damage to furniture and walls. Cats nails can also be trimmed and filed to make them dull resulting in less damaging scratching. Another option is plastic claw caps. There are many brands on the market but they all work by sliding over the claw adhering with a nontoxic adhesive, sheathing the claw.. These stay on for a few weeks at a time before needing replaced, are relatively inexpensive, don't inhibit the cat from using their claws and protects young children and furniture. There are many options to explore rather than going right to the extreme of declawing a cat. With time and patience any cat can learn positive and appropriate scratching habits and owners can live with their cats, and their claws, in peace.

Tessa Myers lives in Ames and has two cats at home. She encourages others to adopt animals of their own and to make educated decisions in regards to their pets' healthcare.

Scholarships provide key to 4-year school



By Mouhamed Diallo **Guest Columnist**

Getting accepted into a four-year educational institution is good, but it comes with a high price. Four-year institutions' price per credit hour can be double compared to a community college. How can a student go to a four-year institution without having to think about student loans or working full time? The key is in scholarships, especially for community college students.

The educational system in America promotes academic success. It has a system that rewards high achieving students through scholarships and awards. With a 3.5 GPA, a community college student can join the ranks of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honors society which every year gives out millions of dollars in

scholarships. The scholarships are available for any student at a community college.

I was recently awarded a Coca-Cola scholarship, which enables me to transfer to Iowa State University with full tuition coverage. The All-USA academic team members who were selected as members of the Coca-Cola academic team will be offered, according to their rank Gold, Silver or Bronze, respectively \$1,500, \$1,200 and \$1,000. The money can be spent as they wish. Also, the members of the Coca-Cola Academic Team, regardless of their rank, can get free tuition at Iowa State University when they transfer from the community college for two years.

The scholarships are very appealing and good in terms of the benefit they bring to the students, but they come with a price too, they are not free from effort. Every year more than 1,900 people apply for the Phi Theta Kappa Spring/Fall Scholarships and only a few get accepted. To win the scholarship, the student has to demonstrate academic success as well as extracurricular accomplishment. It is not enough to only get the 4.0 GPA because a lot of people have that 4.0 GPA, it is not something unique. In terms of scholarships, the people reviewing the application are

looking for the unique factor that separates the applicant from the other 1,900 applicants.

To position themselves for the big scholarships, students need to achieve both academic and extracurricular success. Be more involved in your community college. Join organizations like the Honors Program and PTK to enhance your leadership and communication skills. Students need to be also actively engaged in their communities by volunteering and helping the less fortunate. Finally, the most important part is to become more acquainted with your professors who are there to support you and help you succeed. Professors are the ones writing the recommendation letters so make sure they know who you are.

Getting college for free through academic success is helpful for both the present and the future. Students who are motivated and desirous to learn and achieve high academic triumph will always find their way to get the boost and the encouragement for their hard work.

Mouhamed Diallo is from Senegal, West Africa. He is a second year DMACC student transferring to ISU in fall 2016 in the department of mechanical engineering.

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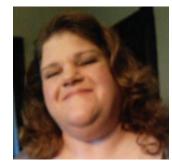
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Student Activities Council Meeting!!! Monday, April 4th 12:15pm - RM 171



Club Budget Requests will be discussed and approved. Everyone is welcome and FREE Subway will be provided for those who attend.

Our Constitutional rights deserve our protection



By Mary Rowan **Guest Columnist**

Over spring break, the political climate reached an all-time frenzy. Political rallies for Donald Trump, one of the contenders for the highest office, have become known for attacks on people who are peacefully protesting. Some Trump supporters are acting like street thugs by bullying those who are there to protest.

On March 11, peaceful protesters in Chicago brought a Donald Trump rally to a halt. Trump canceled his appearance. Shoving and arguing still ensued

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and also people throwing things at each other. At one point it looked like a standoff with supporters of Trump on one side and protesters on the other

I personally know about 15 or 20 people who want Donald Trump as President. I get what they are saying -- that he will do what needs to be done to help them. What I do

not get is how Donald Trump will not separate himself from these hate groups that show up at his rallies and beat up protesters.

The First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution gives us the right to peacefully protest. It is the American way. We have been taught to believe in our country and to work hard to try and reach our dreams. Some of us get lost along the way, but a lot of us make it happen. Even those who were barely above water always believed in America. We loved our country and still do.

As Americans we are becoming more about what "I want" not what the "law

CONGRESS SHALL MAKE NO LAW respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

> THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

15 DECEMBER 1791

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says." If we give in to silencing someone whom the people do not like and trample on their rights, over time we will start to give up all our rights.

Part of the anger seems to be fueled by a belief from Trump's supporters that their candidate is not going to be selected as the Republican Party candidate for president despite having the votes. Yes, people have the right for their vote to be counted for their candidate. Whether I agree with Trump does not matter, what matters is that we do not take away the right of the people to have who they want on the

Also another issue is the

nomination of a Supreme Court Justice. Antonin Scalia died at age 79. He was nominated by Ronald Reagan in 1986 and then soon after approved. He was conservative. The fact is in President Lyndon B Johnson's last year, he nominated a Supreme Court Justice. According to the results of a quick Google search, there have been several outgoing Presidents who nominated and had hearings for Supreme Court Justices. The fact is it is one of the Constitutional rights of the President while in office to nominate and have a hearing to confirm or deny their choice.

No matter what party we are, no matter what our beliefs

are, no matter what kind of judge we want, this nomination process should be allowed to be carried out.

At times I feel like the members of government are getting paid to just do nothing. They are not even trying to work with each other.

We cannot as a society start taking rights away that we have learned about, used and believed in for centuries. These are rights that have kept America great and functioning. We can't sacrifice our country's traditions and laws to "just have our

way." When we give those rights away to satisfy what we want, the next right taken away may be one that you would not like to lose.

Let us as a society start caring about each other again. Be happy for each other, encourage each other, embrace each other's differences. The differences are what makes the balance.

We are still the best country in the world. Let's start acting like it.

Mary C. Rowan is a student at the DMACC Boone campus. She submitted the column that appears on this page and encourages her fellow students to share their thoughts.

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