11-27-2017

Crow's Nest : 2017 : 11 : 27

University of South Florida St. Petersburg.

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Greek life: a cure for student apathy?

By Emily Wunderlich
Contributor

Another seven-month search, the university has chosen a new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Magali Cornier Michael, the former Associate Dean of the McAnulty College and Graduate School of Liberal Arts at Duquesne University, will begin her duties at USF St. Petersburg starting July 1.

In an email sent to faculty Tuesday, Tadlock praised Michael as "a leader who understands the role of an engaged university as a steward of the community."

“I very much look forward to joining the USFSP College of Arts and Sciences and to the prospect of working creatively and collaboratively with its faculty, staff, and students, along with the university as a whole and the St. Petersburg community," said Michael in a written statement.

“The University’s growth mode offers a unique opportunity, which I welcome, to lead efforts to develop new programs and strengthen existing ones so as to offer an even greater quality of education that meets the distinct needs of 21st century students, while at the same time managing growth judiciously," she said.

In her role at Duquesne University, Michael oversaw 12 departments, which housed 22 majors and 1,500 undergraduate students.

She graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in English from the University of Georgia before earning her doctorate in English from Emory University.

Michael will fill the vacancy left by Dean Frank Biafora, who has served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences for the last decade.

By Delaney Brown
delaneybrown@mail.usf.edu

The second annual Et Culta festival celebrates creativity and diversity in downtown St. Petersburg.

The loss to UCF has USF football fans wondering why the Bulls couldn’t live up to the hype this season.

Registration for a training program in Brewing Arts ends Thursday. The class is perfect for hobbyists and enthusiasts.

A recent survey asked students if they were interested in bringing Greek life to campus. 63 percent said yes. However, the survey drew 505 respondents — a troubling figure for a school over 4,800 students. To put it in perspective, SG is relying on the feedback of only 10 percent of the student population.

Pamela Helton, regional vice chancellor of Student Affairs, said this is a risk worth taking.

“I think you have to use a buckshot approach, because what you might like might not be what the next person would like, so I think you have to try a variety of different things,” she said.

Cost to students

Each student pays an Athletics and Services fee of $25.63 per credit hour or $307.56 for a full-time student in a semester of 12 credit hours. These fees fund organizations on campus, such as the University Student Center.

See Greek on P3

By Jeffrey Waitkevich
Contributor

Raymond Arsenault, a history professor at USF St. Petersburg, has finished writing the third and final book in his forgotten civil rights stories series, “Arthur Ashe: A Life.”

While Ashe wrote four autobiographies, Arsenault’s book will be the first full biography of the tennis legend. New York City-based publisher Simon & Schuster will publish the book on Aug. 1. It is also set to be unveiled during the 2018 U.S. Open at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

“Arthur Ashe: A Life” will join “Freedom Riders: 1961 and the Struggle for Racial Justice,” which was turned into a three-time Emmy-winning PBS documentary, and “The Sound of Freedom: Marian Anderson, the Lincoln Memorial and the Concert that Awakened America” a biography of singer Marian Anderson.

While writing the book, Arsenault worked closely with Ashe’s widow Jeanne and interviewed over 150 people, including tennis legends John McEnroe and Stan Smith.

“They’re all very willing to talk because they loved Ashe," said Arsenault. “He was a beloved figure. Some of them break down crying saying, ‘he was the greatest person I’ve ever met in my lifetime.’”

Arsenault spent eight years writing the book. He battled through the passing of both his parents and took a year off to reconsider whether he wanted to finish his latest project. His inspiration to persevere came from Ashe’s story.

“arwenf thought if Arthur Ashe could do what he did, I could suck it up and do what I do, that he deserved it,” he said. Arsenault died of AIDS at 49 after he was given infected blood during an open-heart surgery. He grew up 40 feet from a tennis court, won an NCAA championship at UCLA, became the first black player in the Davis Cup and won the inaugural U.S. Open.

Even so, Arsenault pointed to Ashe as a civil rights icon.

“He was more of a man of substance and courage than I ever could have imagined," Arsenault said. “Very bright, an accomplished writer for the Washington Post. [He] wrote a three-volume history of black athletes. [He] picketed the White House for the rights of Haitian people, was arrested right before he died. [He] was an emaciated 128 lbs. but there he was.”

“A lot of what I’m writing about is not just the tennis... it’s everything. He was like a Renaissance man,” said Arsenault.

>> SEE ARENSALNT ON P2

Arwenf is the greatest person I’ve ever known, and he’s one of the greatest figures in tennis history."
The university unveiled a 40 kilowatt solar array carport Nov. 15 during a ribbon cutting ceremony, which saw speakers praise sustainable initiatives on campus.

The array, which was done in partnership with Duke Energy Florida and was funded by the Student Green Energy Fund, is projected to power about 15 percent of the new biology and chemistry labs on campus. The solar array is just north of USF St. Petersburg’s biology and chemistry labs on Fourth Street South between Eighth and Ninth Streets.

“Spearheaded by an active student body and faculty, USFSP is investing in solar panels and energy efficient buildings, leading innovative research in sustainability and increasing campus-wide environmental stewardship into many planning decisions on campus,” said Martin Tadlock, interim regional chancellor.

The project is considered by some to be a major step in the university’s climate action plan, which aims to reduce baseline greenhouse gas emissions by 50 percent by 2035 — with the ultimate goal of achieving carbon neutrality by 2050.

Tadlock credits Sustainability Planner Brian Pullen for much of the progress in this department.

“The university took a major step in its sustainability efforts nearly two years ago by hiring Brian, its first full-time sustainability planner,” Tadlock said. “Brian works to ensure environmentally friendly practices are used in operations, and to facilitate partnerships with the local community on projects such as this one.”

One such partnership has been Duke Energy Florida, which has had a major role in these initiatives on campus.

Tom Lawery, wholesale renewables manager for Duke Energy Florida, was one of the speakers at Wednesday’s event. “I applaud the effort it took to get this facility built. The university students are the first to get credit for setting a direction and sticking to it, as it’s not easy getting a project from a vision to complete,” he said.

“I also thank the USFSP administration for leading, aiding and mentoring the project to completion as the next step toward the great sustainability goals,” Lawery said.

In 2014 the company awarded the university a $1 million grant to fund research on storing solar energy in new battery systems. In addition to the research, the grant resulted in a 6,600-square-foot, 100-kilowatt solar array that now sits atop the parking garage.

As far as Tadlock is concerned, the green initiatives have paid off.

“All the good work is beginning to show,” he said. Earlier this year, USF St. Petersburg made The Princeton Review’s “Guide to 375 Green Colleges” for the first time.

According to its website, the annual list “highlights colleges with the most exceptional commitments to sustainability based on academic offerings and career preparation for students.”

Each school is given a “green rating” from 80 to 99 based on data points that assess things such as whether or not a school has a sustainability committee and what percentage of a school’s food is spent on local and organic food. USF St. Petersburg received a score of 95.

The ceremony also highlighted the university’s recent recognition by the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education and the fact that the campus moved up 66 spots in U.S. News & World Report’s “Cool Schools” rankings, to 112 out of 227.

Alana Todd, a senior double majoring in environmental science and anthropology, was a speaker at the event and student sustainability representative. She and Tadlock turned on the solar array at the end of the ceremony.

As far as Lawery is concerned, students like Todd are the future of sustainability.

“The future of energy development lies in the capable hands of the next generation, and having tangible results, such as this, to show us all of us to do more toward real change,” Lawery said.

Want to become a Brewmaster?

By Timothy Fanning

tfanning@mail.usf.edu

T he days when your boss let you drink a beer at lunch are long gone. But if you love beer, especially craft beer, you can still drink on the job as a Brewmaster.

Although Florida is a relative latecomer to the craft beer scene, the economic impact was estimated at $301 million in 2012 and $432 million in 2013, according to Florida Brewers Guild, a nonprofit trade association committed to preserving the rights and interests of craft brewers throughout the state.

Future predictions project many as 500 breweries in Florida contributing to a total impact upwards of $2.5 billion in the state.

The class is for hobbyists and enthusiasts, people wanting to work in a brewery, or anyone aspiring to be a modern day Arthur Guinness.

The brewing program is online and registration is open for the spring semester. The deadline is Thursday. Veterans interested in applying for the program can apply for a scholarship through Yuengling Brewing Company.

Arsenault, continued from P1

Trying to find a fitting title for the book proved difficult for Arsenault because of how important Ashe was. He considered what he called “cute titles,” but decided to save them for the chapter titles.

“I want to communicate his status as someone to be reckoned with,” said Arsenault. “There’s no one like him in the sports world — white or black…LeBron James, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Jackie Robinson [were close], but they were not writing biweekly article for the Washington Post or researching three-volume histories of blacks in sports or doing all the commenting on HBO and ABC or lecturing at Yale or teaching courses at Florida Memorial (University).”

Figuring out how to finish the book was also an unknown until former president Barack Obama spoke about Ashe and Muhammad Ali while giving a talk to students at North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University in October 2016.

“They’re the ones who taught me what it meant to be a man,” Obama said.

The story of that talk is featured in the epilogue. Arsenault is dedicating the book to his longtime friend and fellow civil rights activist Jim Horton, who passed away earlier this year.

He spoke of how tennis was a release for him and Horton was a fixture at his former school, Brandeis University.

“Jim really idolized him,” Arsenault said regarding Ashe. Horton and Arsenault were both born in 1943, stood at 6 foot 1 inch tall, and weighed 155 lbs.

Arsenault continued with a story about how Horton — wearing the haberdashery and wielding the racquet of his idol — ended up meeting Ashe:

“He and I and our wives were at a tennis tournament at Longwood in Brookline. Ashe was about to play Bjorn Borg, but he was waiting for him. My sister-in-law thought she would play a practical joke, so she looks over at Jim … yells ‘Arthur!’ and he’s just swarmed with autograph seekers, and he very graciously signed James O. Horton.”

They’d look at it maybe a few weeks later. That’s his signing these fake autographs and the real Ashe comes out. The person with him points over at Jim, this imposter. So, Ashe came over and they had a big laugh. It was probably the best moment in Jim’s life.”

ARSENault, continued from P1

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GREEK, continued from P1

By Rachel Freeman
Contributor

When you hear the word ‘hypnosis’, maybe a pendulum swinging back and forth comes to mind. You might think of a hypnotist counting down from three and just like that, the patient is lost in subconscious oblivion. Like that, the patient is lost in subconscious oblivion. Or maybe you think of a hypnotist counting down from three and just like that, the patient is lost in subconscious oblivion. Hypnosis isn’t real, and that it could not make for a real job. She decided to take the course and earn her degree at USF. She wanted to help people.

Fontenot helped people day every day to improve their subconscious minds to improve their lives. She also hosts free monthly community group hypnotherapy sessions. After her introduction, Fontenot discussed a brief history of hypnosis with the group. Throughout time, hypnosis has not been taken seriously, even though it does have potential to help people.

There are a ton of common misconceptions about hypnosis, which is why so many people don’t believe in it today. It’s possible to learn how to recode the world to get rid of things that aren’t helpful or uplifting, according to Fontenot. Some Dream Explorers were initially skeptical, but were surprised by the overall experience.

Fontenot explained the importance of consent and responsibility when practicing hypnosis. She made sure that the group was comfortable before starting the mini-regression hypnosis.

“The important thing to remember about hypnosis is that you can’t do anything you don’t already want to do,” said Permuy, a junior political science major. “You can’t do anything against your own will. The choice ultimately belongs to you.”

The hypnotherapy session focused on positive reinforcement. Fontenot guided the students through an almost meditative experience, her soothing voice guiding them to their subconscious thoughts.

The group remained silent as they explored their happiest memories and feelings. At the end, Fontenot gently brought them back into reality. The realistically quick session felt timeless, to Permuy.

“Time is interesting when you practice hypnosis. I completely lost my sense of it when I slipped into that subconscious state. I thought it had an hour, at least. I was shocked when Tamera said it had only been 13 minutes,” said Permuy.

The hypnotherapy group session helped the students take a step back and look at themselves in a more positive light.

It was an affirmative practice that combined mindfulness, meditation and hypnosis to create a healing and peaceful experience. Affirming the subconscious mind with happy memories is the most successful way to see the realistic effects of hypnotherapy.

Permuy said hypnosis has a lot of benefits that can help people. As college students, it’s easy to view our world as simply a grade point average. It can be hard to keep things in perspective when we are always labeled by our academic successes. It’s important to remember that our stressors in life are time-limited,” said Permuy. “There is an end to all the stress and it’s in sight. We can do it. Practicing mindfulness, meditation and hypnosis helps me do it.”

Learning how to reprogram our conscious and subconscious minds can help us view the world and ourselves in a better light. Hypnotherapy skills have the power to benefit students by teaching them new ways to look at life and at themselves. “These are the deeper and long-lasting lessons you learn from college,” said Permuy, “The goal of the Dream Explorers is to help everyone become more in touch with their best selves, and to discover and appreciate their strengths.”

The Dream Explorers look forward to hosting another hypnotherapy event with Fontenot next semester. Their every-other Monday meetings are open to anyone who wants to learn more about the subconscious mind and dream states. You can like the Big Sisters of Psychology’s Facebook page for updates on the next hypnosis event. The next Dream Explorers meeting is this Monday night.

Sisters of Psychology group at a dreams and consciousness exploration earlier this year.
Reaching for the stars could start with the soil

By Emily Vsetula
Contributor

Note from the Editor: Et Cultura, a multi-day event that highlights innovation and creativity through a diverse platform of cultural experiences. This year was the second annual Et Cultura festival that took place throughout downtown St. Petersburg. The diverse events allowed attendees to support the community through music, film, art and interactive sessions. Local bands performed at downtown venues and local independent films were shown to festival goers. Art galleries kept their doors open later for the community to enjoy. The interactive sessions covered various topics involving urban agriculture and changes in food production.

The collaborative and innovative encounters allow for the community to gain unique cultural experiences. Farming pioneer Will Allen wants to change the way we farm — that’s why he started the Milwaukee-based urban agriculture organization Growing Power.

At Et Cultura, he presented the segment “Seeds,” where he spoke about his experience as an urban farmer and explained how he is now aiding aspiring farmers in creating their own till.

The talk was part of a three-day showcase of panel discussions hosted by the Aresty Distinguished Speakers program in conjunction with the Open Partnership Education Network.

Although farming is Allen’s passion, it was not his first calling. Allen acquired prominence in the industry by giving public seminars and farming lessons, but he was also the first African American to play basketball for the University of Miami and was inducted into the school’s hall of fame in 2016. He played professionally for the Baltimore Bullets of the NBA and the Miami Floridians of the American Basketball Association. At 28, he retired from the sport to start Growing Power.

Allen said the 40-acre lot is flourishing. He uses worms to fertilize his soil and has such a surplus of them that he considers them livestock. According to Allen, Growing Power produces 22 million pounds of compost a year, some of which he sells to other agriculturists, along with his worms, in order to ease the process of establishing their own farms.

“Will Allen is a really inspiring man who I’ve valued since I was in college and I read his book,” said Heather Henderson, garden director with Edible Peace Patch Project. “He’s just such a humble man with so much innovation.”

Walter Balser, founding director of OPEN, sees Allen’s ability to prioritize happiness over the potential wealth of a basketball career as inspiring.

“Every day we think about what we’re supposed to be doing,” Balser said. “My dream is really to inspire and teach. Today, in many ways we are teaching a community, so in that sense I am very much accomplishing those dreams.”

OPEN brings unlikely people together through events involving national and local public speakers that instruct classes, workshops, discussions and other learning opportunities based on a wide variety of topics.

Allen’s only goal isn’t to inspire — he is also keen on motivating people to eat healthy, locally-produced food. A number of people have been driven to begin their own gardens and even farms because of Allen.

Balser suggested that more people would grow their own produce if they were educated on how to do so.

“I will probably not be a meat-eater very soon. Hearing how to grow your own food, cook it and eat it is definitely moving me closer toward doing that,” Balser said.

Henderson expressed that she was inspired by the way Allen took action.

“He saw space that was not utilized and took what he knew from his family of sharecroppers and built an amazing community resource. He saw an opportunity and he took it,” she said.

When asked for advice on how young, hardworking dreamers can reach their goals and pursue their dreams, Allen said “not everybody wants to put a plant in the ground, but there is always a way to get involved in making our Earth’s future better.”

Folk singer Jean Eb
BMX Rider Zach Newman

All photos on Page 4 by Dinorah Prevost
With a natural instinct for combining folk, pop, rock and classic country, Have Gun, Will Travel took to the Black Crow stage at Et Cultura.

Robin Hilton, host and producer of NPR’s All Songs Considered has called the band’s energy and sing-along choruses “infectious.” The crowd sang along with the band as the set ended with “Blessing and a Curse” — a hit off their first album and the only song that wasn’t from either the upcoming album or “Science From an Easy Chair.”

The band is a six piece from Bradenton and used the hour-slot to showcase pieces from the newest album. In addition, the band previewed an upcoming album with songs “Blood on the Stage” and “Mystery of Mine.” “We’re going to put ‘Blood on the Stage’ out as kind of a single, and two or three months later release the full album,” said Matt Burke, after the show.

Burke, the lead singer, writer and guitarist, recalled the band’s beginnings ten years ago. “Well we used to be in a sort of indie rock band called The Chase Theory. Then, I started Have Gun as just kind of a side, solo, acoustic, singer songwriter, kind of a project. Then I kind of convinced everybody to get on board with it,” he said.

Besides Burke, other members are bassist Danny Burke, guitarist Scott Anderson and drummer Jean-Paul Beabien. While the band is heavily influenced by Johnny Cash and Bob Dylan, Burke’s biggest inspiration is Tom Petty.

The group plans to release a music video for “Blood on the Stage,” which will be filmed at The Crowbar in Ybor.
Back Friday’s War on 1-4 was the most exciting collegiate football game of the season — unless you’re a Bulls fan.

The No. 15 University of Central Florida Knights were the top scoring offense in the nation. On Friday, USF quarterback Quinton Flowers single-handedly outgained them by 44 yards on his way to amassing a school record 605 yards total offense. It was a historic performance and the best of his career; he even passed former quarterback Matt Grothe as USF’s all-time leader in career offense.

But deserved is a tricky word to throw around when talking about football. Everything can look great on paper, but at the end of the day you get exactly what you earn. Sometimes it goes your way — other times it doesn’t. Like it or not, USF earned a record of nine wins and two losses. And that just stinks and say I got, it I got your back. She’s banking on people being silent. Don’t give into that.”

USF falls to rival UCF in thrilling game

The No. 15 University of Central Florida Knights were the top scoring offense in the nation. On Friday, USF quarterback Quinton Flowers single-handedly outgained them by 44 yards on his way to amassing a school record 605 yards total offense. It was a historic performance and the best of his career; he even passed former quarterback Matt Grothe as USF’s all-time leader in career offense. It wasn’t enough.

The 250th football game in USF history came down to three touchdowns that took place within a span of 53 seconds. UCF took a 42-34 lead with 2:21 remaining before Flowers connected with receiver Darnell Salomon for an 83-yard touchdown on the very next play. A two-point conversion tied the game at 42 all. Then came the kickoff return that silenced the Bulls nation. They came up just short, falling to UCF 49-42.

The team has a lot to be proud of this season. They are 9-2 with a shot at finishing with double-digit wins should they prevail in whichever receiving yards record in the AAC title game was a forlorn conclusion — they’d be undefeated, the pundits said. And we believed them. Let’s face it: We all bought into the hype.

We were promised the best team in the program’s history — what we got was a pretty good USF team that struggled and came up short in games against Houston and UCF. It’s the kind of letdown fans in the area have come to expect — yeah, I’m looking at you, Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

While the level of disappointment isn’t even in the same stratosphere as the pitiful four-win, seven-loss Buccaneers, it still sucks. None of us should be forced to watch USF play the Memphis Tigers in December — that should have been Flowers out there. With the performance like he did on Saturday, Friday, he deserved it obscure gestures notwithstanding. Jordan “aptic” McCants, who set a USF single-game receiving yardage record in the first half and finished with nine catches for 227 yards, deserved it.

But deserved is a tricky word to throw around when talking about football. Everything can look great on paper, but at the end of the day you get exactly what you earn. Sometimes it goes your way — other times it doesn’t. Like it or not, USF earned a record of nine wins and two losses.

And that just stinks and say I got, it I got your back. She’s banking on people being silent. Don’t give into that.”

Campus rape policy rollbacks hurt victims

Rebecca Guthrie, a senior majoring in criminology “Everyone is entitled to equal protection under the law, this includes the individuals who are survivor[s] of sexual assault... With the changes that are being made regarding Title IX, it feels more like the only person concerned with protecting are the perpetrators of these crimes. There is this stigma regarding these crimes that the victim in some way contributed to their attack. That simply is inaccurate. One in five women are raped while they are in college, and the Obama-era guidelines allowed victims to feel that they had some sense of power regarding what happens afterward. DeVo’s is changing all of that. I believe all this will do is stop more victims from coming forward. We’ve tried it this way before, and we know (victims) won’t speak up, so why would we change it back? We handle all other crimes (by punishing) according to due process like assaults, vandalism, and possession of a firearm on public properties, why should sexual misconduct be different?”

Theresa Lancaster, lawyer and sexual assault victim advocate featured on the Netflix documentary “The Keepers” “UCF (DeVo’s) is doing it is not pro-school. It’s taking rape culture back 20, 30 maybe even 40 years. “Women seem to feel like they can come forward. (When I came forward,) I had church people hearing at me, trying to pick apart my story. They kept trying to put the blame on me. “It has got to stop. Betsy DeVo’s has seemed to want to turn back the clock, but we have to fight against that. Young girls need to know they won’t be taken over the coals. They need to be supported. This is doing the complete opposite.”

David Thompson, student body president “Student Government’s role is to help create an environment where people feel comfortable discussing sexual misconduct. Regardless what DeVo’s says or any of these guidelines ... If someone is assaulted, they can come forward. “In the spring we are going to continue with the “It’s on us” campaign. It is something that is very important to me, regardless of any changes with DeVo’s.”

Rod Roberts, director of “Written On My Skin,” and advocate for sexual assault victims “One hundred thousand students a year suffer from sexual assault and universities doing about it? On average only two are falsely accused out of 1000. The easiest way to fight her on this issue is to come forward. “Make sure your voice is heard for the next person. If you haven’t come forward, please come forward ... Just because (DeVo’s) is saying she is going to put a wall in front of you, find some girls who have gone through this like you, and you all take a hammer and break that wall down. “You’re still living with it. He may be a repeat offender, and you have to live with that end of it as well. You might as well live with it that you tried your hardest to fight it. People will stand with you and say I got it, I got your back. She’s banking on people being silent. Don’t give into that.”
University makes strides to increase diversity on campus

By Anna Bryson

November 27, 2017

Ulf St. Petersburg’s student population reached its highest level of diversity this semester. About a third of the current student population are non-white students, according to data from Vice President for Enrollment Management and Institutional Effectiveness. Diversity and Inclusion Officer Cecil E. Howard. The university has made strides to maintain diversity, not only demographically, but in all aspects of inclusion, Desir said.

“My role is to make sure the university is doing all it can to do that,” said Howard.

Howard partners with students, staff, and institutional committees and serves as a liaison to community partners regarding positive initiatives that advance diversity and inclusion on campus.

It is his priority to ensure everyone feels respected on campus, regardless of their race, age, sexual orientation, gender or socioeconomic status.

The ultimate goal of the diversity staff and administration play an important role in maintaining diversity within the student body. But the university still has a long way to go.

“I’ve heard that from some of our students, that USF felt the only black kid in the classroom can feel very uncomfortable, particularly if you’re talking of an issue of race or if another student says something in the room, it may not feel appropriate,” Howard said.

“If that black student is the only one in the classroom, they are going to feel like all eyes are on them, and nobody likes to be put in that type of situation. You know, we can make sure that our classrooms are diverse, our offices are diverse, students and others that look like them.

The more we improve in that department, then the more likely we’re going to attract larger numbers of minority students and leaders on campus.

Getting minority students to stay at the university becomes a revolving door situation; they often leave soon after coming in.

“We believe once they (students) get here, that they feel like minority faculty members. It’s important that they see other students that look like them. It’s important that they see, if I talk black males for instance, they’ll see a black male administrator on campus, because then they start to feel comfortable and then if they have a need to speak with someone else about an issue, they will feel comfortable coming to that person,” said Howard.

The university is developing a “diversity and inclusion plan” that will be discussed in a meeting before the campus board next semester. It includes specific strategies to attract and retain students of color.

CORRECTIONS

Major and peer counselor. The word “major” is missing in both the story and the photo caption.

Robert Mueller didn’t subpoena Paul Manafort, he indicted him. The caption was incorrect.

A story on Oct. 30 indicated that the university expects the student population to reach 4,222 full-time undergraduate students by 2025. As of fall 2017, there are 4,170 degree-seeking undergraduate students. The university aims to reach a projected student enrollment of 10,000.

The event, attended by about 20 students, was part of Diversity Week, a celebration of the campus’ diverse community and an opportunity to explore topics across a broad range of topics. The activities are intended to introduce students to campus community and help it to be a more inclusive culture.

Peacock Alandra Savage set the event.

“I looked for diversity educated people (who are) conscious of what they say,” Savage said.

Speakers focused on subjects surrounding diversity, sexual harassment, and racism, and became an advocate and learning from our own bias.

The speakers of the afternoon were Samantha Fiore, peer coach; Kania Davis, new director of Student Government internal affairs; and Milton White, assistant director of Veteran Services.

“You love yourself if, and only if, you want to be happy,” White said.

Each of these speakers spoke for years in the Marine Corp., and experienced firsthand how difficult life after serving can be.

The speakers also talked about how to be yourself when there are people around who don’t agree with your beliefs.

“I love being part of the student body, it’s sexy, it’s exciting, it’s educational (who are) conscious of what they say,” Savage said.

The job is never done.

What to do this week: Nov. 27-Dec. 3

By Lis Casanova

MONDAY

You’re being picked up the newspaper today so we’re assuming you like to read, you know, from time to time. If you know, you have some new and gently-used children and young adult books laying around your house that have been put on a shelf and left. Why not grab a few of those and take them to the nearest donation center around you for Keep St. Pete Lit’s fourth annual holiday book drive.

You have until Dec. 12 to donate. The drive will be taken to the Christmas Toy Shop. Donation centers are Rollin’ Oats Cafe, 2842 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N; The Gabber Newspaper, 1419 49th St., in Gulfport; Black Hound Books, 722 2nd St. N; Daddy Kool Records, 666 Central Ave; and St. Petersburg Shuffle, 559 Mirror Lake Dr.

Have you got an unquerieable love of books, writing and a yearning for deeper human connection? Try an old-school approach by joining the Paper & Pen Pal Club at Room 901 at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY

Women’s rights have a long way since the last century, but there is still some work that needs to be done right.

Join the Spotlight Series Community Conversation, students here at the program, Much Ado About Nothing, at 7 p.m. on American Stage where everyone will get a chance to hear these hear stories, and experiences with a group of panelists.

THURSDAY

Are you looking for “The Handmaid’s Tale”? If so, head over to Soft Water Studios at 7 p.m. for Handmaids respond: A literary speakout with Keep St. Pete Lit and League of Women Voters of the St. Petersburg area. The event will bring out guest writers to read their poems, essays, and other works inspired by “The Handmaid’s Tale” and to call out sexism. Advanced purchase tickets are available for $10 or $15 at the door. Proceeds will benefit Keep St. Pete Lit and League of Women Voters.

FRIDAY

Need some inspiration for Christmas? It’s kind of hard to get into the spirit with 90 degree weather, but hey, nothing is impossible. Get over to the Palladium for the St. Petersburg Ballet: The Nutcracker at 3 p.m. or 7:30 p.m. for a study care package, and make your own trail mix.

SATURDAY

Celebrate the start of the holiday season with a movie in the park and some craft making. While Williams Park hosts outdoor movies throughout the year, this will be the first year they host a Christmas special event. Be there from 4 to 6 p.m. for the Christmas craft market, music, trivia, and art, and from 6 to 7:45 p.m. for “Elf” starring Will Ferrell. Bring a blanket, enjoy the food trucks and maybe even sip on some hot chocolate.

SUNDAY

You know what’s even more exciting than doing a bar hop? Doing a shop hop. That’s right, and down Central Avenue, no less. Seven different shops will be participating from 11 to 5 p.m. and drinks and appetizers will be served along the way. Hit all of them and enter to win a gift basket, or spend more than $25 in any store and get a free scented candle. The Jingle down Central shop hop consists of Florida CraftArt,azzo’s, MIRSED Outfitters, Strands of Sunshine, Ashe Couture Boutique, Plain Jane, and Milagros.

THE CROW’S NEST

By Rosshel Rivas

Tuesday, Nov. 27

The Crow’s Nest is continuing its Spotlight Series, a program that features a diverse community conversation hosted by students at the university.

The event, attended by about 20 students, was part of Diversity Week, a celebration of the campus’ diverse community and an opportunity to explore topics across a broad range of topics. The activities are intended to introduce students to campus community and help it to be a more inclusive culture.

Peacock Alandra Savage set the event.

“I looked for diversity educated people (who are) conscious of what they say,” Savage said.

Speakers focused on subjects surrounding diversity, sexual harassment, and racism, and became an advocate and learning from our own bias.

The speakers of the afternoon were Samantha Fiore, peer coach; Kania Davis, new director of Student Government internal affairs; and Milton White, assistant director of Veteran Services.

“You love yourself if, and only if, you want to be happy,” White said.

Each of these speakers spoke for years in the Marine Corp., and experienced firsthand how difficult life after serving can be.

The speakers also talked about how to be yourself when there are people around who don’t agree with your beliefs.

“I love being part of the student body, it’s sexy, it’s exciting, it’s educational,” Savage said.

The job is never done.

Sunday, Nov. 27

The Spotlight Series is continuing this Sunday.

The session will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the University Center. The event is part of Diversity Week, and will feature a discussion on the topic of diversity and inclusion.

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The job is never done.
Review: Justice League flashes potential, still a bust

By Jeffrey Waitkevich

If the movie “Justice League” was an NBA player, it would be Michael Carter-Williams.

As a rookie, Carter-Williams burst onto the scene as a must-have in the 2013 NBA Draft. He went on to Rookie of the Year honors. But Carter-Williams quickly fell off during a sophomore season and has since been unable to keep that production up, scoring a measly four points in three games this season with the Charlotte Hornets.

This is mirrored by the DC Comics team up that is “Justice League.” Despite the weak character introductions via security camera footage on the Batcomputer, started off strong. The physical introductions of Aquaman (Jason Momoa), The Flash (Ezra Miller) and Cyborg (Ray Fisher) went smoothly and were a lot better than expected. Steppenwolf, the main antagonist, even seemed cool for a little while.

But that feeling did not last. The movie never found its stride.

In the end, there were too many references to “Batman v Superman” and the occasional plot hole hurt the flow of the film.

Steppenwolf and his demon bug versions of the flying monkeys from “The Wizard of Oz” became lame. The digital effects got old and it became clear that Steppenwolf is just an inadequate villain. He’s supposed to be a world ender, but it’s pretty clear he isn’t going to end anything.

However, the comic book feel during the fight scenes, especially for the Flash, were better than any Marvel, DC Comics’ rival, has put out. Musician Gary Clark Jr. and producer Junkie XL’s cover of the Beatles’ “Come Together” also stood out in a soundtrack that otherwise fell out of place.

The biggest plus was the characters. The culmination of DC Comics’ best was every bit as magnificent as one would expect. Quirky banter from the mix of personalities fit together seamlessly and gave the dialogue a lot of depth.

Individually, each superhero was pretty good—with Ben Affleck’s Batman being the exception. Affleck did well in his serious scenes, but director Zack Snyder tried to make him funny, and the delivery was poor every time.

Miller is phenomenal in his role as The Flash. He’s funny, charismatic and just awkward enough to remind everyone of their teenage years. He is unquestionably the best character.

Gal Gadot resumed her role as Wonder Woman, so it was no surprise that she was as astonishing as she is stunning. Her Lasso of Truth became more than a weapon and was transformed into a device for comedy.

Cyborg isn’t as cool or as comical as he was in “Teen Titans” and Aquaman is humorous in a cool, alcoholic uncle way, but is essentially useless on land. They are imperfect characters, but they could do well in solo movies. That is where this movie’s role becomes apparent. It is a setup for the solo movies.

“Wonder Woman” was by far the best DC Comics movie since the “Dark Knight Trilogy.” There is no reason why the other non-Batman heroes will not follow suit.

Rating: 3/5

Thrift store to runway: Alumnus hosts fashion show

By Timothy Fanning
tfanning@mail.usf.edu

One year ago, alumnus Alessandro Cocozza hoped to sew together the seams of Worldliftdrift, his first business. From the spare room of his home, he built a single pipe rack inventory full of treasures he’d found while scouring thrift stores and bargain bins, local and worldwide.

Now business has exploded. He’s had a big pop-up event at Green Bench Brewing Co. and was a lot better than expected. Steppenwolf, the main antagonist, even seemed expected. Steppenwolf and his demon monkeys from “The Wizard of Oz” became lame. The digital effects got old and it became clear that Steppenwolf is just an inadequate villain. He’s supposed to be a world ender, but it’s pretty clear he isn’t going to end anything.

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