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Construction update: Get used to it

By Abby Shifley
Campus Editor

Some construction projects in Bowling Green will continue into October and July 2019.

In the downtown area, Columbia Gas is upgrading the gas lines, said Mike Trinity, a representative of the Bowling Green Engineering Division. The project is expected to last into October and will result in a few lane closures.

However, Trinity said construction projects like these are always dependent on the weather.

Trinity also said Manville Avenue is going to be repaved. Once the process starts, it will take two weeks to chop up the old street and lay down the new pavement. However, there is always some level of seeding and restoration after the pavement has been placed, which will take additional time.

The Columbia Gas project will overlap with the weekend of the Black Swamp Arts Festival, which takes place Sept. 7-9. Alex Hann, chair of site and logistics on the festival’s committee, said he has a few concerns regarding the construction.

“It’s safe but not very pretty,” Hann said. “The construction downtown will not affect handicap access or pedestrian crosswalks. Most of the sidewalk has been reduced to a very fine gravel at the moment; however, Hann said he heard from the city that the contractor is trying to replace it with concrete. A source within Columbia Gas told Hann replacing the sidewalk with concrete before Friday is too optimistic.

Hann said one of his foreseeable goals is to eliminate all the orange cones in the downtown area. While construction was halted over the weekend, the majority of the cones were gone. Hann said he heard from the city that downtown would be cleaned up for the festival by noon on Friday. Music on the main stage will start at 5 p.m.

David Dupont, media correspondent for the festival, said the festival — being outdoors — has gone through these kinds of issues before.

In 2000, there was a reworking of Bowling Green’s infrastructure, a project that overlapped with the festival. “Some adjustments will have to be made, but it’s not going to stop the festival. People will still have a great time,” Dupont said.

In the city council meeting on Aug. 20, Public Works Director Brian Craft said Columbia Gas’ paving work to repair some trenches it had dug was unacceptable, and Columbia Gas will have to repair those areas.

The construction on East Wooster Street will not be completed until July 2019. The street will look completely different after the renovation, according to the Ohio Department of Transportation’s website.

• The ramps from Interstate-75 will be replaced with single-lane roundabouts.
• The existing bridge will be rehabilitated with a new bridge deck.
• A new multi-use (bike/pedestrian) path will be constructed across I-75.
• New aesthetic and lighting features will be incorporated along East Wooster Street.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY ODOT

Bird’s eye view of what the new roundabouts and bridge will look like.
Where are teachers who look like me?

By Angelica Euseary
Columnist

I attended a predominantly black high school in Detroit, Michigan. Even there, the school had an equal amount of black and white staff. I never noticed the lack of black faculty and staff at the University until I recently asked around. I knew it was something people talked about, but I never understood how big of an issue it truly is.

I am going into my seventh semester. For the first time in my life, I’ve had more teachers who don’t look like me.

I’ve had two black professors, one for Computer Science and one for an Intro Africana Studies course. I did better in those classes, and even though they were Bowling Green Perspective courses, I was able to communicate better and ask for more help from those professors.

The fact that I’ve never had a black professor teach me any classes for my major is a problem to me. I’ve talked to some black alumni of the University who said they never had a black professor throughout their whole college career.

That means they went eight semesters without having a professor who looked like them, which is sad.

There is something so important about seeing teachers who look like you. It helped me as a student because I knew my black professors truly understood me. My career goal is to become professor of African American Studies.

I greatly appreciate the black professors I did have, because they were able to show me that a job in higher education for someone like me is possible. They inspired me more than they knew.

I don’t think there should be an all-black staff. I just think there should be an equal amount of black staff in every college or department here. Real diversity within the University’s faculty and staff will benefit all students here.

If there is more diversity within the staff, I think students will believe that the University means what they say when citing a growth in diversity.

The lack of black faculty and staff here definitely impacts the black students who attend the University. I don’t see anything wrong with hiring more black staff.

The University recruits students from all over with different backgrounds, and I think they should do the same with the people who teach them.

Stop burning your Nikes

By Meredith Siegel
Forum Editor

Nike has chosen Colin Kaepernick as the new face of their company which has garnered about as much controversy as you would expect.

The most surprising, and dumbest, thing to come out of the debate, however, has been the call for Nike owners who Love America and Support Our Troops™ to literally burn their expensive Nike apparel.

It’s not really doing anything to hurt Nike: They already have the money from the shoes you bought.

But it’s not worth really getting into why that’s a bad idea, and I don’t think there’s a ton of patriots out there actually burning their shoes. I think the bigger issue here is that people are so outraged by what I think is essentially a non-issue.

Kaepernick’s activism has never been linked to the military. Just because it’s during the anthem, which doesn’t necessarily have a direct tie to the military - just American values, doesn’t mean that Kaepernick is attacking America as a whole. And it raises another question, why is our military so tied to the American identity? The answer is probably Sept. 11, but that’s a discussion for another column.

This has been said thousands of times before, but those who are angry are refusing to listen. Kneeling during the anthem is a way to call out racism and police brutality in America. If you think those things have something to do with the military, that’s your connection, not the movement’s.

The Nike controversy is willful ignorance at this point. Taya Kyle, wife of Chris Kyle, who was the focus of “American Sniper,” wrote an editorial calling out Kaepernick for ignoring those who had “actually sacrificed everything.” She meant people in the military and their families. I’m not disagreeing that people in the military often give up a lot, but they are not the only definition of sacrifice. We should respect people who stand up for what they believe in, even if we disagree.

But Kaepernick and those who agree with him aren’t even having the same discussion as those who are burning or throwing away their Nikes. So, wait to get upset until you actually know what you’re disagreeing with.

What makes it even less of a big deal is that Nike using Kaepernick’s face to sell their product doesn’t necessarily mean they are truly ideologically backing him, and it doesn’t mean anyone will change their mind about the issue.

Nike’s primary charity work seems to be in giving grants to underprivileged kids in struggling communities. It’s generally agreed upon that kids deserve more opportunity.

I encourage everyone to take a step back from the issue and start talking about children in need. Then maybe we can get somewhere - but probably not.
So, here are some businesses downtown I love to visit, and I think you should check out this weekend and beyond.

The Black Swamp Arts Festival is this weekend, and along with showing off local art, local businesses are also a showcase.

**Grounds for Thought**
Location: 174 S. Main St.
**Best Feature:** Lavender Fog drink
Every time I think everyone in Bowling Green has heard of Grounds for Thought, someone asks me what I'm talking about when I mention it. There are plenty of good coffee shops in BG, but the atmosphere is what really makes the space. They often have live music, or poetry shows, held near the stacks and stacks of used books for sale. There are tons of choices for specialty drinks and a huge cabinet full of pastries to eat.

**Two Foxes Gastropub**
Location: 121 S. Main St.
**Best Feature:** Tomato Jam
Two Foxes is a gastropub that specializes in burgers, and their burgers are great. They also have a varied and delicious drink menu if you are over 21. Like Grounds, Two Foxes has a fun atmosphere that pairs really well with their food. If you're a vegetarian, they offer a portobello burger, and for those who eat meat, any burger on the menu is a good choice.

**Gallery Salon and Spa**
Location: 165 N. Main St. #2
**Best Feature:** Wonderful haircuts
For most of my life, I haven't been a stick-to-one-place kind of person when it came to getting my haircut. I knew I wouldn't like it very much until I got used to it, so I went where it was convenient. However, last year I decided to chop a lot of my hair off, and I went to Gallery Salon and Spa to do it. The owner cut my hair that day, and it was the best haircut I have ever had. She made sure to know exactly what I wanted, and continually checked in with me to make sure I liked the cut. No one else had been so careful with my haircut before. And, it resulted in a haircut that I loved immediately. Even though she took steps to make sure I liked the cut, it was almost like she read my mind. The care she took when cutting my hair and how good it looked proves, for me, that it's the best place in BG to get your hair cut.

**Cameron’s Comics**
Location: 175 N. Main St.
**Best Feature:** Two dogs that greet you at the door
If you like reading, playing games and are a bit of a nerd, then you will love Cameron’s Comics and Stuff. They have tons of brand new comics and the latest update to a ton more. If they don't have something you’re looking for, they are happy to order it for you. They have Dungeons and Dragons handbooks, as well as Pathfinder. If you’re looking for Settlers of Catan, Cameron’s Comics is the place to buy it.

**Ben’s Crafts**
Location: 154 S. Main St.
**Best Feature:** A huge variety of cheap things
Undergoing a name change this past summer, Ben’s is still the best place to get craft items downtown. The store is pretty big and holds just about anything you could want, from toys to poster board to frames to candy. It’s in a super convenient place with good prices. It’s a store that’s definitely worth stopping in.

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**PEOPLE ON THE STREET**
Has the construction downtown affected you in any way?

**KIMBERLY BRANDLE**
Sophomore | Intervention Specialist

“Yes, not only driving but trying to walk around downtown on the weekends is really difficult now.”

**MIKE DEE**
Sophomore | Exercise Science

“I was stuck at a red light for probably three cycles the other day because of the construction, so that sucks.”

**LINDSEY MURPHY**
Sophomore | Gerontology

“Yeah, it made me really distracted one day. I was turning left, and I almost hit somebody.”

**AUSTIN RENO**
Junior | Undecided

“It’s really annoying because half the turn lane to make a left or a right is all one now. It takes longer to get to class, and it’s just really irritating.”
City Council looks to address parking

Adam Gretsinger
City Editor

Bowling Green City Council this fall is looking to tackle questions about the town’s parking system and historical preservation efforts.

During the first council meeting for the school year this Tuesday, the town government voted to table an ordinance detailing changes to its approach on parking to Oct. 15. Fees at parking meters, specifically, were among the matters to be decided.

John Zanfardino, a member from the city’s 2nd Ward, said council members and administrators should ask whether “doubling the fine” would help put the town budget “in the black.”

Third Ward member and Council President Michael Aspacher said work would begin immediately to form a task force to address these issues with the help of downtown business owners.

The council also discussed the possible creation of a historical preservation commission, but it has not yet written legislation addressing this possibility.

Mayor Richard Edwards called on Bowling Green to follow in the footsteps of the Ohio government and cities like Tiffin and Cincinnati to create a committee for preserving historic buildings and neighborhoods.

Edwards expressly addressed the need to improve sections of East Wooster Street and Court Street. He said complaints about certain residents’ use of property in such historic areas helped prompt this push.

Read the rest online @ bgfalconmedia.com
Rugby celebrates 50th

Upcoming Games

Friday, September 7

Volleyball: The Falcons travel to Cleveland to play Illinois Fighting Illini at 9:30 a.m., and then again later at 4:30 p.m. against University of California, Irvine.

Cross Country: The men’s and women’s cross country teams race in Bowling Green at the Mel Brodt Collegiate Opener at 5 p.m.

Soccer: The men’s soccer team challenges the Michigan State Spartans at their home field starting at 7 p.m.

Saturday, September 8

Football: The Falcons get ready to compete against the Maryland Terrapins on their own home field in Bowling Green at 6 p.m.

Volleyball: The volleyball team plays against Cleveland State Vikings at 1:30 p.m. on the competitor’s territory.

Men’s Golf: The men’s golf team participates all day in the Fuzzy Zoeller Invitational located in Henryville, IN.

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1. Reserve scrum half Peter Weiss prepares to put the ball in the scrum
2. Fly half Tim May runs upfield with scrum half Chris Labadie in support
3. Scrum half Chris Labadie kicks off
4. Lock Levi Muter goes up in a lineout to snare an Ohio State throw-in
5. Scrum half Chris Labadie prepares to put the ball in the scrum
6. Captain Bobby Kiskin, left, and center Eric Steinmetz, right, combine to bring down a Buckeye ball carrier

All photos by Megan Gaumer
Local talent showcased at Black Swamp Arts Festival

Brionna Scebbi
Copy Chief

There are a handful of Bowling Green artists and musicians among the over 150 booths and bands at the Black Swamp Arts Festival. This three-day celebration of different music genres and styles of art brings together local and national talent.

Here are the artists and musicians who will be representing Bowling Green in the juried art show and on stage:

THE ARTISTS
CHELSEA HALL
Jewelry | Booth: 52

What inspired her:
“Growing up, my dad was an artist, and I had a couple aunts who were artists. So I've kind of always been around (art) and always been attracted to color and big beautiful paintings. I always wanted to be able to create something people would actually want to buy.”

What she's looking forward to:
“It is a local show for me, so I do have a lot of friends and family that come to the show. I have a lot of regular friends that do the show as well, so it's nice that I know more people here.”

How it feels to represent Bowling Green:
“I am really proud to be a part of it. Sometimes it's hard to get into the show. I went to school at BGSU; we have a really good art department, so I'm proud to be in the juried show.”

ELLEN SMITH
Wood | Booth: 106

LARRY ZENGEL
Glass | Booth: 59

GUY DACHIK
Paint | Booth: 53

THOMAS SANDERS
Photography | Booth: 29

THE MUSICIANS
MINDLESS MATTERS
Alternative rock/indie rock | Stage: Family Stage on Sept. 8 at 1:30 p.m.

What inspired them: “We all started pretty young … This is the first band we've all been a part of, so any experience we have as a band is distributed to the other members,” according to Kameron Frankart, lead guitar and vocals. “The only other experience we have is in jazz band or choir at school, so we get musical inspiration from jazz, indie rock and folk rock.”

What they are looking forward to: “We're really excited about the diverse selection of acts at the festival.”

How it feels to represent Bowling Green: “We all feel really fortunate that Black Swamp reached out to us as a local band.”

TORAIGH
Genre: Traditional Irish and Scottish
Stage: Community Stage on Sept. 9 at 11 a.m.

What inspired Bob Midden, Toraigh's flutist: “I've had almost a need for music since I was a teenager; it's always played an important role in my life. It is a way for me to communicate with others, sometimes in ways that go beyond words. Words are a very effective means of communication, but sometimes there's things that it's difficult to say with just words. I find music to be a really powerful means of communication, connection and relationship with others. It's even an international language; I think music can be understood when words can't be.”

What Midden is looking forward to: “The rich array of such high quality music and an opportunity to see a variety of talent that is rare to have available so easily and at no cost right here in Bowling Green is really quite a remarkable opportunity. They bring in outstanding musicians from all over the country, and some of them I've heard of and some I haven't. I get to discover new entertainers and artists and have a chance to get a sample of music that'd be really hard for me to enjoy and even discover under normal circumstances.”

How it feels to represent Bowling Green: “It's really a wonderful honor and a thrill to be able to perform at a venue that's also hosting such notable and accomplished artists. I also really appreciate the fact that a number of other local artists are also featured, and I think it helps strengthen our sense of community and helps us realize the riches we have available right here in our town… It's really a wonderful mix of national talent as well as local talent; I love the way those are combined and the fact that we're able to showcase and celebrate the accomplishments of so many people locally as well as nationally.”

BLACK SWAMP OPERA ENSEMBLE
Opera | Community Stage on Sept. 8 at 2:30 p.m.

GRAND ROYALE UKULELISTS OF THE BLACK SWAMP
Various | Community Stage on Sept. 9 at 1:30 p.m.

INSIDE VOICES
A Cappella | Community Stage on Sept. 9 at 12:15 p.m.

KAZE NO DAICHI TAIKO
Japanese taiko | Family Stage on Sept. 9 at 2 p.m.

TIM TEGGE AND THE BLACK SWAMP BOYS AMERICANA
Main Stage on Sept. 9 at 11 a.m.

TREE NO LEAVES
Heavy psychedelic soul | Main Stage on Sept. 8 at 12 p.m., Family Stage on Sept. 8 at 2:45 p.m.

ZACK FLETCHER
Folk, blues, soul, rock, singer/songwriter | Community Stage on Sept. 8 at 12 p.m.

The Black Swamp Arts Festival concerts will take place in Downtown Bowling Green at three stages from 5 p.m. to midnight on Sept. 7, noon to midnight on Sept. 8 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 9. The juried and invitational art shows will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 8 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sept. 9.

The rest of the schedule of lineups and locations can be found on bgfalconmedia.com and blackswampfest.org.
CSOs work to serve fellow students

By Stephia Poulin
Editor-in-Chief

Imagine you spent some time on campus studying late. You get out to your car, pop open the trunk and decide to throw in your backpack.

But you accidentally throw in your keys, too.

He said he’s had to help someone get their keys out of their trunk, all while wondering why and how it happened.

The CSOs at the University unlock cars and provide jump starts or walking escorts across campus. They usually work from 4 p.m. to 8 a.m.

“A campus safety officer is a supplement of the campus police department,” Lt. Jon Luidhardt said.

Luidhardt, who has been at the department for 15 years, supervises the hiring of CSOs. He said the hours may deter some applicants, but a lot of criminal justice majors and people in ROTC apply regardless of that.

He said there were about 70 applicants this time around. There are currently five CSOs.

McMenamin said that students sometimes expect a police car to show up when they request a CSO. However, unlike the University police, CSOs don’t deal with anything criminal.

But they still have to ensure a request is reliable when the dispatcher gets a call.

“Some people just want rides,” McMenamin said.

To take advantage of the services CSOs provide, you can call 419-372-8360 or 419-372-2346, the main line for the police department. Escorts are available every day of the week from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. and can be scheduled via the same numbers.

“We’re here, and we’re here to help,” McMenamin said.

If you’re interested in becoming a CSO, McMenamin has a tip: be prepared to change your sleep schedule.

“I’m a professional stranger.”

–Collin McMenamin–
Senior CSO

may bar someone from employment if they have a criminal record.

Luidhardt steps out of the picture once training begins. McMenamin is in charge of training two of his fellow CSOs.

People skills are an important part of criminal justice and being a CSO, McMenamin said. When they escort students across campus, smalltalk can help quell some of the tension, especially if a student is scared.

The CSOs work independently of the campus police despite operating within the same department. They have their own dispatcher who deals with CSO-related calls.

McMenamin is there to help, not ask questions — even when he had to jump-start the same person’s car “three or four times.”

“I’m a professional stranger,” McMenamin said.

He said he’s a people person, and being a CSO gives him an opportunity to use his people skills.

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