CONSOLING THE SOLE

Students helped repurpose pants to support shoe-making charity. | PAGE 2

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Students work to heal heels

By Quentin Ison
Reporter

On Saturday, students and Bowling Green community members gathered for the second annual “Sole Hope” shoe cutting event, hosted by the Bowling Green Medlife organization.

Students were tasked with cutting up donated pairs of blue jeans into different shoe patterns. Once completed, the patterns are shipped to the Sole Hope headquarters in North Carolina, where a seamstress sews the product together. The finished shoes are then sent to impoverished third world nations, such as Uganda, where foot health is a major concern.

“We use donated items such as old tires to make foot soles and different colors of denim jeans to help form a sturdy shoe,” Julie Emmert, volunteer coordinator, said.

Making a shoe is a strenuous process which can take some time without help.

“We can cut a pair of shoes in 45 minutes,” Emmert said.

Along with the amount of time it takes to make a good finished design, volunteers are a vital element to Sole Hope’s success.

“We have seen an increase in attendance since last semester’s event, I think it was easier to reach out to student organizations and community members the second time around,” Alanna Meadows, BGSU Medlife chapter president, said.

The key to hosting any charitable event starts with gathering donations. Sole Hope asked for a donation of $5 from each person in attendance, a cost which goes to shipping the patterns and hiring a seamstress. Apart from student donations, other campus organizations are committed to the cause.

“We got $100 from the Chapman Learning Community in Kohl Hall last semester and accumulated about $300 in donations. This year we are hoping to reach $500,” Maddi Tyson, Medlife fundraising chair, said.

Apart from Sole Hope, Medlife participates in a vast amount of other activities that focus on improving health in impoverished nations.

“Medlife is scheduled to do mobile clinics in Tanzania this coming May. We hope to send about 15 people. Our project will focus on development work as well as education on basic hygiene and dentistry precautions,” Meadows said.

The organization sees the fruits of its labor shine ripe.

“We see first hand how we have made an impact on these communities, and I think that is such a rewarding feeling,” Meadows said.

For more information about Sole Hope and Medlife, log onto OrgSync and search keyword Medlife. Medlife will meet again on Feb. 9 in room 110 of the Business Administration building at 7:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the general public.
March for Life draws BG locals

By Holly Shively
Editor-in-Chief

Several University students and St. Thomas More University Parish parishioners travelled to Washington D.C. to the March for Life on Friday.

This was senior graphic design major Sophia Moretto’s fifth year attending the march, and this year she took her fiancé Joseph Bauer, a senior studying computer science and math. Both attend mass at St. Thomas More, but they went to D.C. with a group sponsored by the Diocese of Steubenville.

This year was the march’s 44th anniversary.

“Every year they say the same thing—that they hope they don’t see us next year,” Moretto said.

While Bauer said he went mainly because Moretto wanted him to, several events surprised him as a first time marcher.

“I just couldn’t get over how many different people there were, especially at the mass at the basilica. It was overflowing,” Bauer said.

Bauer and Moretto left Thursday morning and attended mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception that night. The mass took about two hours because the church was so full. It was broadcasted for those sitting at other places in the church, and

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Obama’s eight years in office

Obama: we really cannot hide the facts. Here’s my take on the last eight years.

Barack Obama will go down in history as one of our country’s most successful presidents, but in reality, the amount of destruction that he has wrought in such a short period of time is astounding. Make no mistake, this was intentional, and he was successful. Nearly half of the population is now on some form of welfare. 94 million working-age Americans are unemployed, yet we are supposed to believe that the unemployment rate is below 6%. Our military is the weakest it has been in generations, thanks to the destruction of our nuclear arsenal, even though we’ve been facilitating the development of nuclear weapons for terrorist regimes such as Iran, who publicly call for death to America and Israel. We are allowing China and Russia continue to expand their arsenals. We were also allowing the U.S. to divide, we are much easier to conquer.

Obama allowed government takeover of GM (at the expense of the bondholders and the taxpayers), as well as of the entire health care insurance industry, and he lied through his teeth to facilitate this. He incited racial division at every possible juncture, as well as class warfare, because when we stand divided, we are much easier to conquer.

Obama constantly degraded and apologized for America on a world stage, while teaching our children in schools that America is evil and was founded upon this evilness - an America that has, in a time span of less than 250 years, been the greatest force for good in the history of the world. When he was in office we had a first lady that said she’d never been proud of America before her husband was elected, and make no mistake, these two are completely representative of the Democrat party elite. It’s obvious that Obama wanted to take America down a couple of notches, and that he does not want America to be the greatest nation on earth. But if not America, then who?

He blatantly refused enforcement of immigration laws and he trampled upon the Constitution, after taking an oath to uphold it and to enforce the laws of this country. He facilitated the invasion of America by illegal immigrants, for the sole purpose of infusing the Democrat party with future voters and building the dependent class necessary for liberals to remain in power. I say, let’s legalize all the illegal immigrants with only one caveat: they’re not allowed to vote for 25 years.

Say this to a liberal and you will find out what their true agenda is when it comes to illegal immigration.

Obama insulted and abandoned our allies while he simultaneously defended, appeased, and bowed to our enemies. He released known terrorists back onto the battlefield during an armed conflict, something I find treasonous, and then “traded” them for a known traitor (Beau Bergdahl).

He used federal agencies such as the IRS to target American citizens who disagreed with him politically. He used the DOJ to further divide by non-prosecution and to enforce the laws of this country. He trampled upon the Constitution, after taking an oath to uphold it and to enforce the laws of this country. But if not America, then who?

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Surviving The Super Bowl

This Sunday is one of the biggest sports days of the year, or so I’m told. This Sunday is the Super Bowl, where the best of one conference plays against the best of another conference.

If you know me, you know I hate football and anything related to sports. For those of you who feel the same way, I’m going to offer my invaluable tips on how to survive another Sunday filled with football.

One of my personal favorite ways to avoid sports in general is to have a mini-marathon of my favorite TV shows. For instance, two years ago, USA Network aired a marathon of “Law & Order: Special Victims Unit” the night of the Super Bowl that was aptly titled “The Benson Bowl,” showing some of the best Olivia Benson episodes in the show's history. They may not be doing another Benson Bowl marathon this year, but there are episodes of the show airing on USA the day of the Super Bowl.

If a marathon of Olivia Benson isn't your idea of a Super Bowl Sunday, but you still want to have a marathon of something, then I suggest turning to reality TV. For me, I recommend a marathon of “The Real Housewives of Orange County,” as my favorite real housewife, Heather Dubrow, just announced that she’s leaving the show after five seasons. Is there a better way to honor the queen of class by having a marathon of her best moments? I think not.

So maybe watching reality TV or the Benson Bowl isn’t among your ideal ways to celebrate the big game. Don’t worry, I’m not out of suggestions. If you still want to watch TV and stay in the realm of football, then I suggest watching “Friday Night Lights,” which is available to stream on Netflix. The show deals with a high school football team and the trials and tribulations that surround the Dillon Panthers’ players and coaches, and shines a spotlight on what happens to them both on and off the field. Clear eyes and full hearts - you can't lose with watching this show.

However, I’m not totally against the Super Bowl in its entirety. After all, Lady Gaga, the Mother Monster herself, is performing at the halftime show. If betting on sports isn’t your thing, you can bet on how many times I’ll cry during her performance (my money’s on me crying twice).

But, if you don’t like sports and feel you must watch the game, for your sake, I hope you’re at a party with lots of food and with lots of people you know so you can at least be surrounded by people who hopefully know what’s going on more than you do.

One cannot avoid having to face the destruction that was caused by the leftist administration that was formerly in the White House.

Thank God this pathologically lying President is gone!

Reply to Lauren at thenews@bgnews.com
**Quirky game one of 2016’s best**

**By Max Brickner**

Pulse Reporter

What started off as a joke has now become a reality with “Cat Girl Without Salad: Amuse-Bouche,” a video game released in June by WayForward Technologies. The game is about a cat girl named Kebako who is a cyborg and bounty hunter in space, accompanied by her robotic squid assistant, Squiddie. Initially a 2013 April Fools joke, “Cat Girl Without Salad: Amuse-Bouche” became a real game in 2016 due to popular demand by fans of the until then non-existent series.

The gameplay is typical of a real time 2D shooter. However, elements of turn-based RPG gameplay, puzzle games, classic arcade games, sports games or rhythm & dancing games occasionally come into play. The 2D shooting section never stops until the game ends. When playing, enemies drop junk food which can be eaten to regain lost health. However, players must avoid salad, which hurts them rather than healing them. This is justified in the plot of the game, as the main character, Kebako the Cat Girl, does not like salad.

“CatGirlWithoutSalad:Amuse-Bouche” can often be difficult, as enemy attacks are not always telegraphed, but the game is fairly generous with power ups and high scores. The game also limits the player hitbox to the size of their bowtie. The game is fairly balanced, just not on a consistent basis. The game also utilizes the consequences of choice, allowing players to spare certain characters through mercy or destroy their peace offerings. The game makes a point that burning bridges can hold serious consequences, as the difficulty increases after shooting down peace offerings.

The soundtrack is composed by Jake Kauffman, the composer for the games “Shovel Knight,” “Mighty Switch Force,” and “Shantae.” The quality of the soundtrack is superb, and is coordinated with player action to ensure looping rarely, if ever, occurs during normal gameplay. The beats are poppy and upbeat, and match the thematic tones of the game very well. Unlike the game itself, the full over thirty minute soundtrack is available online under a name your price model as “Cat Girl Without Salad: Amuse-Bouche – Extra Crispy or Original Soundtrack.”

The other audio aspects of the game are also on point. All character interactions are fully voice acted, and the voice actors do a great job giving their characters inspired personalities. One flaw is, occasionally, it can be hard to understand what is going on in the game due to stimulus overload.

Overall, this oddity is a true gem, and my game of the year for 2016. If such an award existed I would bestow the BG News Pulse Game of the Year Award upon “Cat Girl Without Salad: Amuse-Bouche.” Whenever WayForward Technologies releases a full version, you should certainly consider playing it. If you accidentally purchased “Cat Girl Without Salad: Amuse-Bouche” during its limited availability in 2016 and forgot to play it, you should definitely give it a shot!

**19-track debut album impresses**

**Teegan Matthews**

Pulse Reporter

Kehlani Parrish is an up-and-coming R&B singer who has been gaining popularity with the release of earlier music. Her mixtape “You Should Be Here” from 2015 was even nominated for a Grammy. Since then, many people have been anticipating the release of her debut project -- two years later, it is finally here. Parrish pulled out all the stops for the release of her first official album “SweetSexySavage,” which includes 19 tracks. The album has no features on it, which I respect because as an artist, it’s important that people get to know you and see what you can do without any influence from other artists. Parrish’s type of music is very modern and she is creating a lane for herself, but at the same time she is breathing life back into the seemingly forgotten genre of R&B. This new version of R&B Parrish has created is something that has been missing from music. Her interpretation and perspective is very innovative and refreshing. She is showing others that they can now make waves to follow her path, or at least branch from it.

Kehlani starts the project off with the intro song, a very empowering poem about how she is a very flawed and normal woman and can go through the ups and downs but still come out fine in the end. With this song, she sends the message that she just wants someone to accept her for who she is and to flourish with her. It really sets the tone for the entire album and actually explains the underlying meaning of the title of the album. The vocal style she uses is very unique because it incorporates a silky, raspy tone but out of nowhere she can burst into her upper range and really belt out those higher notes effortlessly when she needs to.

Throughout this album, Parrish gives examples of different sides to herself. From a sweet girl in touch with her emotional side, a sexy woman who is in touch with and not afraid of her sexuality and a savage woman who cares about her feelings only and does whatever is necessary to make herself happy without the influence of others. She gives an in-depth expression of each of these sides in her songs. The main songs that really stand out on the album are “Keep On” and “Piece of Mind,” which illustrate Parrish’s sweet side and confidence. “Distraction” and “Undercover” are two songs that deal with her sensuality. “Personal” and “Too Much” bring out her savage side, the part of her that doesn’t worry about past relationships and wants to focus on herself. Kehlani definitely shows her versatility as an artist. It is great she does this, because many artists are one-dimensional, and it is easy to see how much she stands above the rest in the R&B genre, especially considering that this is her first attempt. Overall, this project is really great. If you want to check her album out you can find it on YouTube, or on any music streaming service (Spotify, Tidal etc.).
Kesha concert raises money for charity

By Meredith Siegel
Pulse Reporter

On Friday Jan. 27, singer/songwriter Kesha preformed at the Stroh center at Bowling Green State University. She was backed by her band, The Creepies, and delivered a lively, glittery and political show.

The concert was opened by two bands, Graduation Day and Light Horizon. Both bands provided genres much different from Kesha's own, and while they each had their own strengths, the audience got antsy waiting for the main show to start.

This was highlighted by the huge gap of time between the end of Light Horizon's performance and Kesha's.

When she finally came out, the crowd was energized again. There were reportedly about 2000 in attendance. Kesha continued on her F**k the World Tour backed by her band, The Creepies. She opened with one of her most popular songs, “Die Young”. All night she played covers or songs from past albums.

This past year Kesha has been in a lawsuit against her producer, Dr. Luke, for alleged sexual assault. She lost the right to perform or release any songs without him, and she refuses to work with him.

As she told the crowd, she has “73 new songs” waiting for her audience, but she is not legally allowed to release them now. Playing her well-known songs made the crowd excited. There were cheers and fists in the air as each song started to play, especially really big hits like “Tik Tok” or “Take it Off”. Kesha also covered “You Don’t Own Me” by Grace and expressed the song expressed exactly what she was feeling.

Kesha’s performance was political all night as she talked about her “lawsuit from hell,” as well as our new presidential administration and brought out a rainbow American flag in solidarity for the LGBT community.

The performance was organized by Bands4Change, a company that sets up concerts for charity. This show was the company’s first, but CEO Maya Dayal, an Ohio resident, hopes to continue doing a concert like this annually. When asked why she chose Kesha for this particular show, Dayal responded that Kesha has history as an activist, and the charities chosen were all things Kesha is passionate about. To make the performers have a “personal connection to the company,” Dayal lets the performers pick the charities they want the proceeds to benefit. The Humane Society International, the National Eating Disorder Association, and the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network were the three charities that Kesha chose.

The show was fun and energetic. The crowd left the show with sore throats and tried legs, which are the marks of a good concert.

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or Send us your story suggestions and ideas to thenews@bgnews.com!

FALCONMEDIA
Community rallies against executive order

By Jennifer Verzuhan
Pulse Editor

Dawn Hubbell-Staeble has been attending rallies and protests since she joined her family at a mobilization following the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. Since then, she hasn't slowed down, having participated in the Women's March in Washington D.C. earlier this month.

"I think it's important to let our voices be heard," Hubbell-Staeble said.

On Sunday night she was one of roughly 250 community members, students, and faculty members who gathered together sporting signs and candles to show their support of immigrant and refugees and their disapproval of President Trump's recent executive order which temporarily restricts travel and immigration into the United States from seven countries. Hubbell-Staeble feels particularly connected to this issue given her history.

"I came to the US as an immigrant as a child and had a green card until I was naturalized," she said. "And this really angers me."

A senior lecturer at the University, Hubbell-Staeble predicts that this ban will negatively impact the college.

"The current ban will affect international enrollment, which Bowling Green is trying to improve, and our ability to recruit quality faculty," she said.

She advised that University students get involved with this cause as it greatly impacts them.

Graduate student Meriem Mechehoud, who was also in attendance, agreed.

"Many of the students are directly affected," she said.

An international student from Algeria, Mechehoud said she was heartened by the community's reaction to the executive order.

"It's really nice to see people showing their love to us, and the least we can do is join them."

The event was organized by Megan Rancier, who created a Facebook event the previous night and was happy to see such a large turn out.

"I'm overwhelmed," she said. "It was just a spur of the moment idea that people connected with."

Two petitions were circulating at the event, one addressed to Senator BLANK

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Hockey splits series with Ferris State

The Falcons hockey team defeated the Ferris State Bulldogs 3-2 in overtime Friday night, but suffered their first shutout loss of the season on Saturday night, falling 5-0.

“I thought we played pretty good Friday, but not good at all Saturday,” Falcons Head Coach Chris Bergeron said. “(We need) the same thing we need to work all year, our consistency.”

Friday’s game began with Ferris State getting on the board first, scoring at the 7:02 mark of the first period and taking the 1-0 lead into the second period. In the second, however, the Falcons responded with junior forward Tyler Spezia scoring at the 7:29 mark to tie the game back up. Ferris State rebounded at 15:47 to retake the lead, which they also carried going into the third period.

Senior forward Kevin Dufour got the tying goal on the power play for the Falcons just after the halfway point in the third period. Neither team could score in regulation from that point on, causing the game to go into overtime. The overtime period did not take long, however. After 34 seconds into overtime, junior defenseman Mark Friedman scored the game winner for the Falcons, as the team took the 3-2 victory.

“It was an up and down game in terms of momentum,” Bergeron said. “I thought we had a decent first, but we obviously came out down a goal. I really liked our second period, and then to come out of the second period down a goal was disappointing. Then we had to go into the third with a five-on-three penalty kill, but I thought our guys stuck with it. They didn’t let the momentum change us, they didn’t let that stop us from playing hard, I thought our energy and intensity was pretty consistent all night long, and, ultimately, I think we really earned a tough win.”

On Saturday, both teams went scoreless through the first period, until Ferris State broke the stalemate with a goal at 2:51. The goal started off a big period offensively for Ferris State, as they scored again at 8:59, then scored back-to-back goals just over a minute apart to take a 4-0 lead going into the third period. The Falcons would not be able to come back in the third period, as Ferris State added another goal at 12:14 to take the 5-0 victory.

“It was tough getting the offense going, we weren’t very competitive,” Bergeron said. “We weren’t even close to the level that we set for ourselves. You can’t create offense when you’re chasing the other team around or turning pucks over, we played the game slow in all three columns.”

The team is set to play in the first series of a five-game home stand, as they face the Northern Michigan Wildcats on Friday and Saturday night.
Womens basketball takes loss at Kent St.

Jacob Poverman  
Sports Reporter

The Bowling Green Falcons womens basketball team squared off against the Kent State Golden Flashes this past Saturday for the first time this year only to come short by a score of 80-78. Last season ago the Falcons swept Kent State in both meetings, but have been unable to get a win since Jan. 7 and now have dropped their sixth straight game.

Sophomore guard Carly Santoro led the Falcons, contributing 31 points, 5 assists and 6 rebounds. The Bellevue, Ohio native's previous career high occurred against the Saint Peter's Peacocks. Other Falcons standouts include fellow sophomore guard Sydney Lambert, who added 16 points with 4 assists, and junior guard Haley Puk, who contributed 8 points and 4 assists.

"At the end of the day the foul line was the big difference," Falcons Head Coach Jennifer Roos said. The Falcons allowed Kent State to get to the line 36 times, a season high. Kent State converted on their chances by making 31 of the 36 free throws while shooting 19-20 at the line in the second half. Of the 31 makes at the line, senior guard Larissa Lurken made 19. Lurken only missed one free throw all game. She leads the country in free throws made and attempted, and is also tied for fifth in the nation with 22.7 points per game. Lurken was a headache for the Falcons, contributing 31 points, 5 assists and 6 rebounds.

The first half seemed as though it would be a runaway game for Kent State with a 36-24 lead, including a 13-0 run and a 4-minute scoring drought for the Falcons. The Falcons trailed for over nineteen minutes and saw themselves losing the battle of the boards, turnovers and second chance points. Senior guard McKenna Stephens seemed as though she would coast to a double-double with an easy win.

However, the Falcons came to play in the second half. With strong third quarter performances from Santoro, Siefker, Lambert and the rest of the Falcons, the team managed to cut the deficit to 2 points while managing to drop 30 points in the quarter.

Headed into the fourth quarter the Falcons saw themselves down two with momentum on their side. Senior forward Ashley Tunstall, freshman guard Andrea Cecil and Puk all fouled out in the final 10 minutes which allowed Kent State to convert at the line. Up 3 points with 6:27 left, Kent guard Larissa Lurken fouled Puk that sparked a Falcons 7-0 run and a 2-point lead with five minutes left in the game. In Bird vs Magic fashion, Larissa Lurken and Santoro combined for 20 points in the final 4 minutes and 50 seconds of the game, but Kent State freshman Megan Carter was the hero after she buried a free throw line jumper with 2.2 seconds to seal the deal for Kent State after the Falcons failed to get a shot off at the buzzer.

Heading into the bye week, the Falcons will have plenty of time to rest up in hopes of snapping their losing streak as they host the Akron Zips Saturday, Feb. 4, with tip off at 12:30.
Student opens door to a year of free rent

By Holly Shively
Editor-in-Chief

On the half-court line of the Jan. 21 womens basketball game, one University student opened a door that changed her senior year.

While many students dream of living rent free, third year business administration student Katie Hyre's dream became a reality when her key worked on the door marked with Mecca's logo, winning free rent for the 2017-2018 academic year.

"It took me a minute to even get the key in the lock without knocking it over, and I remember feeling it turn a little bit," Hyre said.

It took a man telling her the door opened and she had won for it to really sink in, "and I was just speechless," she said.

One of Mecca's owners, Michelle Remeis, said Mecca has offered free rent to one student for the last six years, but this year it partnered with the University to make the giveaway a larger event as a housing sponsor at sporting events.

Three names were drawn from the hat as finalists for a chance to win the free rent. Those three each got a key at the basketball game, with one key being the right one to open the lock.

Hyre was the first one to try, and also the winner. The prize is about a $5000 value, Remeis said.

"That will probably be the same way we do it next year because it was great for both us and the University," Remeis said. "Just the energy in the arena—everyone was so excited."

While she currently rents from Greenbriar because of convenience after spending a semester at an internship, Hyre will switch to live near her best friend.

"I knew exactly where I wanted to be and just decided to get a jump on it," Hyre said about renting with Mecca.

She said she had no idea about the deal before she turned in her paperwork and deposit.

"My plan was to go to Mecca and pay my deposit, and when I did they said 'oh you can out your name on this ticket to win free rent,'" she said. "I didn't think much of it, but I did it anyway."

She first found out she was a finalist for the prize while she was at work.

"I honestly couldn't even comprehend it at first…I remember being like 'okay great thanks,'" she said. "I wasn't even thinking I could actually win free rent at first."

Hyre said she's extremely grateful to Mecca because now she will be able to just focus on school during her senior year.

"This eliminates all the stress of the costs associated with living off-campus," she said.

The drawing each year is open to all Mecca tenants renewing their leases or any new renters who have their paperwork, application and deposit submitted by the end of fall semester.

Mecca owns between 800 and 1000 units in Bowling Green.

Katie Hyre won free rent for the 2017-2018 academic year when her key opened the winning door.
The City of Bowling Green’s Planning Department is amidst plans to revitalize the city, particularly the east side neighborhoods around the University and between Main Street and I-75.

Heather Sayler of the city’s Planning Department visited USG on Monday to present the idea to students.

“It’s really important that we work closely with the University and, of course, students,” Sayler said.

In 2014, the city passed a future land use plan that prioritizes neighborhoods around the University.

“Not only do we want you to have a great education here, but we would like you to stay here and live in our neighborhoods and have a great job,” Sayler said.

To accomplish these goals, the city hired an urban planning firm called Camiros. Adam Rosa, a principle at Camiros, is working closely with the city and University community to better understand the community’s desires for the east side neighborhoods.

“This is all about strengthening the relationship between the University and the surrounding neighborhoods,” Rosa said. “We’re trying to move towards something that’s more about opportunity, livability, vitality and education.”

Rosa and the city hope to improve both the experiences of students and non-students who live in the east side neighborhoods.

“In college towns like this there’s always a little bit of tension between the students and the long timers,” Rosa said.

The plan seeks to take both reactive and proactive approaches to improvements.

Questions Rosa and the city are seeking to answer include transportation changes, such as bike lanes, business development like accessible shopping, public safety and affordable student housing.

The city has had community meetings and currently has a task force working on plans for the neighborhood development.

The next community outreach effort is occurring on Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the courthouse. Community members are encouraged to come by to learn more about the plans being made and to offer suggestions for improvements.

Rosa has worked on similar projects to Bowling Green, South Bend, Indiana where the University of Notre Dame is located.

“We did the original plan [in South Bend] that resulted in what’s called Eddy Street Commons,” Rosa said. “It’s a three to four block long strip with restaurants and shops and housing above...it created a whole new neighborhood that’s right next to campus.”

Although this South Bend model may not fit for Bowling Green, it shows the success Camiros has had in college towns before. The firm is also staring a similar college town project in DeKalb, Illinois where Northern Illinois University is located.

Rosa’s goal for Bowling Green is to learn from the residents how the city can make positive changes for the east side neighborhoods.

“The focus of what we do is really neighborhood planning, and it’s all community based planning” aimed at positive change, Rosa said.

Separately at the meeting, Provost Rodney Rogers gave some follow up to President Mary Ellen Mazey’s email letter about President Trump’s recent executive order banning immigration from seven select countries.

“Fostering a culture of inclusion is a core value of Bowling Green State University,” the letter states. “Our University community is greatly enriched by our international students and faculty...”

The University is working to fully understand the implications of Trump’s executive order. There are students and faculty from the seven countries included in the executive order. The University has reached out to each of these individuals, Rogers said.

Rogers also said that student with more questions should reach out to Dr. Marcia Salazar-Valentine.

Updates on the possible J-term were also given on Monday night.

“A core value of Bowling Green State University since as long as I know has been around ensuring that we have a diverse community to learn from each other,” Rogers said. “Diverse communities are powerful and strong communities.”

Rogers reiterated Mazey’s message from her letter.

Read more at: BGFalconMedia.com
Program offers safety, tolerance

Amber Jones
Faculty/Staff Safe Zone Training

With prejudice and discriminatory behavior towards LGBT+ folks and limited understanding adversely affecting the community, education and understanding of LGBT+ people is becoming essential. The University’s Safe Zone Program strives to promote equity, diversity and inclusion while building a support network of allies for the LGBT+ community.

Since its official launch in the Fall of 2012, this project has offered the Safe Zone workshop to every student organization, University department and program on campus. The Safe Zone Training program is a two-hour workshop that provides education concerning LGBT+ issues.

“We pack so much information into the Safe Zone training,” Coordinator for LGBT+ Programs, Dr. Katie Stygles, said. “We go through definitions and vocabulary that pertain to the LGBT+ community, we talk about the cycle of oppression and everything dealing with homophobia and heterosexism and how that affects college students.”

The definitions and vocabulary discussed in the training that pertain to the LGBT+ community involve the gender identity, gender expression and sexual orientation of a person. The acknowledgement of these terms and working definitions creates an understanding of how a person identifies. With the faculty and staff Safe Zone training on Wednesday, Feb. 1, Dr. Styles hopes to modify the information for faculty and staff so they can take what they learn and apply it to their teaching styles.

“This one in particular gives us the opportunity to tailor the material a little more specifically to our faculty and staff members in terms of better supporting the LGBT+ students,” Dr. Styles said.

With over 30 staff members registered for the training, Dr. Styles expressed that it is important that the University faculty and staff take part in the Safe Zone training so they know the actions and steps to take to make sure all students feel respected and included. Faculty and staff will be taking part in lectures and small group discussions regarding LGBT+ issues/concerns and participating in an interactive workshop.

“With the interactive activity, people get cards with an LGBT+ related identity and then get another card with an intersecting identity. It might tell them what their socioeconomic status is or what their race and religion is, and then we talk about how those identities might impact one another. With this activity, we focus a lot on intersectionalities of a person,” Dr. Styles said.

Because some faculty and staff are already aware of some of these issues, the trainings are never the same and involve some faculty members training others within the workshop.

“The Safe Zone training program is intended to build a network of allies, so we are seeing people becoming more aware of different LGBT+ issues that are affecting individuals right here on campus and around the world. When we have allies and advocates willing to stand up and say ‘I am going to do this work with you,’ our numbers grow and there is strength in numbers,” Dr. Styles said.

According to the University’s LGBT+ Programs webpage, the University also offers the Safe Zone Train the Trainer program which aims to teach participants how to be Safe Zone Workshop Facilitators. Participants need to complete a Safe Zone workshop before the facilitator training. Faculty, staff and students as well as community members can take part in the workshop.

“I think it is important that everyone in the Bowling Green community take part in the Safe Zone training because we need to be educated and make our community members feel safe and not excluded,” community member Carmella Ramos said.

Upcoming Safe Zone Trainings are Feb. 21 and 22, March 17 and 22. These trainings are open to students, faculty/staff and community members. Registration is on the University’s LGBT+ Programs webpage under Safe Zone Program.

**THE BG NEWS SUDOKU**

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CHECK ENGINE LIGHT ON? WE CAN FIX THAT!
Councilman Daniel Gordon criticized the executive order and spoke on the need for acceptance.

“We will tolerate no hate in Bowling Green,” he said. “All of this illegal, it’s unconstitutional and it’s stupid.”

“America was built by immigrants and refugees,” Gordon said.

Other speakers included members of the University’s Persian Students Association, the Muslim Students Association, the Toledo Music Association and Rev. Gary Saunders, Not In Our Town’s co-chairman and the co-pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Bowling Green.

Rancier ended the event by encouraging those in attendance not to despair, but to take action.

“You can always do something,” she said.

Yesterday, in response to the executive order and the impact it may have on the university, the Office of the President at the University issued a statement revealing they plan on supporting international students and faculty.

“BGSU will be advocating for affected students and all members of our international community with our representatives in Congress and in collaboration with Ohio’s Inter-University Council, the Association of American Universities, and other higher education organizations,” President Mary-Ellen Mazey said in the statement.

Many community members and students gathered to express their disapproval of the ban.

Protesters also attended to show their support of immigrants and refugees.

Portman and the other to Representative Latta asking them to “condemn this executive order and take immediate legislative action to overturn it.”

The hour long vigil, which took place on the corner of Wooster and Church Street, had several speakers, including members of the local government. City

Dawn Hubbell-Staebel made her sign to show no one will interfere with her students.

PHOTO BY SIMIEON SPIVEY

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Gibson fashions First Friday

By Samantha Nicholas
Reporter

Gibson First Fridays give students opportunities to express concerns.

Vice President of Student Affairs, Dr. Thomas Gibson, will be hosting Gibson First Fridays on the first Friday of every month. These meetings are for students to express any comments or concerns they may have.

“I want to hear about the things they enjoy and we should do more of, as well as some of those things that they view as not being worthwhile or exciting or helpful that we should do less of,” Gibson said.

“I want to hear about the things (students) enjoy…as well as some of those things that they view as not being worthwhile or exciting or helpful that we should do less of,”

Thomas Gibson
Vice President of Student Affairs

These First Fridays are meant to give students an opportunity to speak freely without the pressure to stick to certain topics. This allows students to raise any concerns they have and to make sure their voice is heard.

It also allows them to ask questions about subjects they may want to learn more about.

The inaugural meeting held on Jan. 13 in The Oaks covered topics such as the BG experience. Students were asked about what they would and would not change about the experience. Students mentioned that they most loved the support they found in University faculty and staff and the strong sense of community. Though the main topic for the inaugural meeting was the BG experience, the conversation covered many other topics as well.

“"We were talking a little about everything and that is what I enjoy so much about that exchange, we kind of went where the discussion led us,”

Gibson said.

With these meetings, Gibson hopes to help ensure students’ success on campus by opening communication up without any agendas, and by allowing students to talk about anything they want to talk about. He also hopes to remove any potential barriers there may be between students and administration.

“I want them to know that there are folks on campus that are really concerned about their success and I’m willing to do anything I can possibly do to ensure they are successful at the institution,” Gibson said.

Gibson hopes to continue these meetings for as long as students are interested. First Fridays will alternate between The Oaks and the Falcon’s Nest to better accommodate both resident and commuter students. The next meeting will be on Feb. 3 in the Falcon’s Nest.
attendants sat in the aisles to fit more people.

After the mass, the basilica offered adoration until 6 a.m. the following morning before another mass and rosary for life. Two separate youth rallies began at 7 a.m. which included speakers, a live house band, masses and personal accounts of abortion and euthanasia experiences until early afternoon.

There was another band and rally right before the actual march, including a speech from Vice President Mike Pence.

The march began on Constitution Avenue around 1 p.m., and the two-mile walk lasted about two hours.

Bauer also said he was surprised by the radicals showing graphic abortion images and other Christians yelling at Catholic marchers.

However, Moretto said the number of youth stepping up is impressive, and the walk has definitely grown larger since she first started attending in 2011.

“I always thought it was just a lot of youth. I’m surprised at how many older people were there,” Bauer said.

He always thought it was something youth parishes went to, but that adults steered clear of.

“It’s actually pretty impactful to see just so many people joining together for life,” Moretto said.

While she said she wished there was more of a focus on all life instead of just abortion, joining together for the most recent issue was still beneficial.

Bauer said there were also marchers advocating for refugees and ending euthanasia. The march signified all life is sacred.

The walk is now always held on the last Friday in January, after a change last year from its original date on the anniversary of Roe v. Wade.

“I always thought it was just a lot of youth. I’m surprised at how many older people were there,”

Joseph Bauer
Senior

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Mass and adoration were held as part of the March for Life.