October 23, 2006

Upcoming Events

♦ October 23 - Partner’s Advantage Information Session, 6 pm, Student Center Prairie Lounge
♦ October 24 - Partners Advantage Interviews, Career Services
♦ October 24 - Career Services “Resources for Graduate School”, 7 pm, SC 244
♦ October 25 - PIAC Torch and Shield
♦ October 25 - Grand Movie Night
♦ October 26 - College 101 “Make a Note of That”, 11am - Noon, Bede C,D,E
♦ October 27 - Day Trip to the Timberwolves Game or Scary Movie Night (sponsored by Res Life)
♦ October 27 - Pumpkin Carving
♦ October 29 - Daylight Savings Time - Don’t Forget to Turn Your Clock Back an Hour
♦ October 31 - Haunted House, 7-10 pm, McCall Hall
♦ November 1 - Singer Nick Motil, 11:30 am, Northern Lights Lounge
♦ November 1 - Spelling B, 8 pm, Bede Ballroom
♦ November 4 - Preview Day
♦ November 4 - IHSA Hunt Show, 1 pm
♦ November 4 - Old Time Photos
♦ November 5 - IHSA Hunt Show, 9 am
♦ November 7 - Election Day
♦ November 8 - One Voice Mixed Choir, Noon
♦ November 10 - UMC Football at Metrodome and Fan Bus
♦ November 13 to 17 - Study Abroad Week
♦ November 13 - College 101 “Leavin’ on a Jet Plane”, 7 - 8 pm, Bede Ballroom
♦ November 15 - Men’s Basketball vs JND, 7 pm
♦ November 17 - Hockey vs Lawrence University, 7:30 pm

Grand Movie Night October 26

Showcasing two movies:

Grand Movie Night

Wednesday, October 25
Get in FREE with your Student ID
Sponsored by S.P.A.C.E

Showing at 7 pm

Showing at 7:15 pm

Halloween Benefit Party!

Saturday, October 28
9 pm – 1 am
American Legion in Crookston
$5.00 Admission
Proceeds will go to the Care and Share
Come enjoy a Halloween Party including:
-DJ and dance floor
-Costume contest with gift certificates of $50 for 1st, $25 for 2nd, and $10 for 3rd
-Refreshments and munchies provided
Come and enjoy a Spooktacular party!
Sponsored by Delta Theta Sigma

Congratulations to Delta Theta Sigma for receiving the Philanthropy Award at National Conclave for the Third Consecutive Year! UMC won the Philanthropy Award for most community service projects and hours. The fraternity had 68% of their members involved in community service projects. Thank you DTS!

Express Flu Shot Clinic October 28

Polk County Public Health invites YOU to assist us in improving our Mass Dispensing plans. An Express Flu Shot Clinic will be held Saturday, October 28, 2006 from 10 am - 2 pm in Lysaker Gymnasium. The cost is $20 per person. MA and MN Care Accepted. Bring your cards. No group or private Insurance please. Short sleeves recommended. Questions contact Linda Hanson at 218-281-3385. Sponsored by Polk County Public Health and Altru Health System

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Lessons from Laural

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Last week, an eighteen-year-old student of mine at the University of Minnesota-Crookston died of injuries from a car accident which happened as she drove home from class.

Laural was an eager student, always in the front row, always early, always full of commentary.

After class the day before her accident, Laural pulled a big Tupperware container out of her backpack and gave me a piece of peanut butter cake with a rich chocolate frosting. I promised her an A at that point, knowing full well she’d earn one anyway.

Laural was an unusual girl. As a child, she took a laundry basket to the library to tote the dozens of books she checked out each week.

Laural didn’t just aspire to write, she completed two novels in her short life. Every now and then over the past few years, Laural would send me an email asking advice on getting them published.

Laural was generous and kind-hearted. But like most creative types, she was eccentric. During late elementary, teasing made school so difficult for Laural that her parents elected to school her at home.

When she qualified, she enrolled in college under the Post Secondary Enrollment Option. At college, Laural discovered a new circle of friends who shared her creative bent and allowed her to be herself.

When I hear stories such as Laural’s, my first impulse is to want to tear into kids who pick on peers they don’t see as “normal.” How can you be so cruel?

But that would be hypocritical. The sad truth is that I did the same thing myself at that age. I was too small to physically abuse others, but I had a smart mouth which I used to inflict maximum possible pain.

Years later, I found out that at least one girl went home crying at night because of my ruthless comments. Like Laural, she was a creative type, not prone to peer pressure to conform, not interested in sports or becoming Homecoming queen.

What made me so cruel? What happens to kids at that age which so often makes them cruel?

Sometimes I wonder if cruelty arises naturally in our public school system. Even though I am suspicious of the ideological motives of many parents who school their kids at home, I have found home-schooled kids to be almost unfailingly sweet and innocent.

Some argue that the cruelties of high school are necessary to “socialize” people. I have even heard some parents defend a little bullying as a natural way to keep the weirdos in line.

Folks, not one great work of art, music, literature or advance in human dignity has been brought about by somebody who was considered “normal” in high school.

Furthermore, I know of several good and decent people older than I who have confessed that they still live in the shadow of high school teasing. High school was a nightmare for them and no, the experience wasn’t worth it.

Last spring, I was encouraged when I visited an area elementary school to find that they were taking class time to concentrate upon teaching matters of character, being kind, respecting others, helping those less fortunate.

But all too often the juices which govern adolescent behavior obliterate early lessons in decency. I remember making friends with friendless people only to betray them when I started to get teased myself. Better if I hadn’t tried at all.

I didn’t realize that even though I felt inconsequential, I had, just as all people have, the power to ruin the day of everyone I came across. I also had the power to make their day better, if I so chose.

Remorse for past misdeeds is useless. What we really need to do is resolve each morning not to ruin anybody’s day today. Look forward, not back.

We don’t have to start bringing people cake. Not everybody can be Laural. But the least we can do is not make things worse for others. That much basic decency shouldn’t be difficult, and it might mean a life with fewer regrets.
Career Services Corner

October 23 - Partner’s Advantage will hold an information session with refreshments in the Prairie Lounge beginning at 6 p.m.
October 24 - Partner’s Advantage will conduct interviews in the Career Services Office Suite 245 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To sign up for an interview or additional information on available positions contact Meloni in 236 Student Center or email melonir@umn.edu.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

This year in Minnesota, more than 3,060 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, and more than 590 women will die from the disease. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), an annual mammogram is the best way to detect breast cancer early and before it has spread, when survival rates are 98%. The ACS is encouraging women age 40 and older to receive annual mammograms for life. For more information contact the ACS at 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit the American Cancer Society Website at www.cancer.org.

Every lid matters. The Information Desk in the Student Center is collecting Yoplait Yogurt pink lids to help fight breast cancer. For every lid collected Yoplait will donate 10 cents to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Up to $1.5 million will be donated with a guarantee of at least $500,000. Please drop off your lids at the Information Desk. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

In conjunction with October being Breast Cancer Awareness Month, the UMC Relay for Life Golden Eagles will be hosting a bake sale in the Northern Lights Lounge on Monday, October 23rd from 11 am - 1 pm. Please stop by and purchase goodies with the proceeds going to the West Polk County Relay for Life. Relay for Life is an event held on the UMC campus in June to raise money to help fight cancer.

Student E-mail Is Official Means of Communication

Have you been checking your University assigned e-mail account? Well you should. Student e-mail is the official means of communication on the UMC campus. The University policy is as follows: “University assigned student e-mail accounts shall be the University’s official means of communication with all students. Students are responsible for all information sent to them via the University assigned e-mail account. If students choose to forward the University e-mail account they are still responsible for all the information including attachments that were sent to the University e-mail account.” If your mailbox has not been checked lately it could be full and important information will not reach you.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are needed to chaperone a teen dance Friday, October 27, 8 p.m. to midnight at Win-E-Mac High School. This dance is for all teens in Polk County and is sponsored by the Minor League. For more information, please contact D’Anne Johnson at 281-3385 or djohnson@pcphealth.org.

College 101 October 26

The next workshop in the College 101 series will be “Make a Note of That” The workshop will be held Thursday, October 26 from 11 am to Noon in Bede Ballroom. Attend this fun workshop on note taking tips. Door prizes will be given away. Sponsored by Academic Assistance Center and Student Experience.

Publication Information

The Eagle’s Eye is published by the Student Center weekly September through May. Copy deadline is noon on Thursday of each week. Please send items for the Eagle’s Eye electronically to Meloni Rasmussen, Senior Administrative Specialist, at melonir@umcrookston.edu, or drop the copy off at the Student Center Info Desk. Disability accommodations will be provided upon request for all events. The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer. The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation.
Brain Teasers

Stephanie Glover is last week’s winner. Stephanie knew that the puzzle below on the left meant “Side Burns.” Stephanie can pick up her free movie pass from Meloni in 236 Student Center. Can you guess this week’s puzzle (below on the right)? If you think you know the answer, send an e-mail to melonir. A winner will be chosen from the correct answers. The winner will receive a free ticket to the Grand Theatre in Crookston. E-mail your answer to Meloni prior to noon on Thursday, October 26, 2006. The winner’s name will appear in the October 30 Eagle’s Eye.

Thank You!

A big thank you to those students, faculty and staff that made UMC’s first blood drive such a success. We were able to collect 43 units of blood with 11 people donating for the first time. This is great! You can be very proud of the fact that your donation has had a direct impact on someone’s life! On be half of SIFE, thanks!

Halloween Haunted House

Residential Life is again sponsoring their annual Haunted House on Tuesday, October 31 from 7 - 10 pm in McCall Hall. This year’s theme is Pirates of the Caribbean. The event is for individuals 12 and older. The cost is $4 at the door. All proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity.

Classified Ads

Help Wanted - Looking for a Job? Come join the team at REM North Star, Inc. We have full and part-time direct care positions available in Crookston working with people with disabilities. There are a variety of shifts available including weekends and evenings. Applicants must have a valid driver’s license and insurable driving record. Apply by calling for an application at 218-281-5113. EOE

Unexpectedly Pregnant? If you are pregnant and considering adoption for your child, we would love to talk to you! We are a young, childless, Catholic couple in the Duluth, MN area seeking to adopt a healthy infant. We have a fun, loving, and stable home and are eager to raise our family. We are agency approved in MN, and open to a relationship with you. Please contact us ANYTIME: nrhope2adopt@hotmail.com or 888-834-2041.

Help Wanted - Dahlgren and Company Inc., Crookston MN is hiring part-time/call-in hand packers in the roasting plant. Will hand-pack sunflower seeds. Two shifts available: Swing – 3 pm to 11:15 pm. Rate of pay $7.36 per hour. Grave – 11 pm to 7:15 am. Rate of pay $7.47 per hour. Apply at Dahlgren and Company Inc., 1220 Sunflower Street Crookston MN 56716. Call Julie Oertwich, Human Resource Director, for more information at 218-281-4944 between 8 am – 3 pm weekdays. EOE

Help Wanted - The Irishman’s Shanty is looking for individuals to work part-time. Duties include: Fry Cooking, Cleaning, some dishwashing (we have a dish washing machine), prep cooking and miscellaneous work. Experience desired, but not required. A willingness to work and learn is a must. For more information or to apply for the position please contact Caputo or Paul at 1501 S. Broadway or call (218) 281-3538.

Help Wanted - Crookston Building Center is looking for an individual truck driver/yard worker to work full-time through the summer and part-time in the fall. Wages are negotiable. For more information or to apply for this position stop by Crookston building Center at 537 Marin Avenue, fax your resume to (218) 281-6257 or call Wes Cameron at (218) 281-1170.

Help Wanted - Dee Inc. is looking for individuals part-time and on weekends. Willing to accommodate your classroom schedules. Starting Pay is: $10.00 per hour for the day shift and $10.50 per hour for night shifts. Apply in person at DEE, Inc., 1302 Foskett Street, Crookston, MN (218) 281-5811.

If you would like to include an ad in the classified section of the Eagle’s Eye, email your request to melonir or drop your ad off in 236 Student Center. Ads will be included in the Eagle’s Eye FREE of charge to students, faculty and staff. Off campus ads will be charged $5 per ad. Ads will be included on a first come first served basis. Ads will run for two weeks if space allows. We reserve the right to reject any ads.

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