



THE IRON BLADE

SINCE 1955



Ferrum Folks

Mike Nolte

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Vol. 56, No. 3

56 Years of Ferrum College News

October 5, 2010

Tri-Area Community Health Center receives \$396,000 federal grant for rural health care

John Carlin
Public Relations Director

A \$396,000 grant to enhance the Tri-Area Community Health Center located on campus was announced during a news conference on Sept. 23. The grant is provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Representative Tom Perriello (D) participated in the announcement.

Perriello praised the college for working with Tri-Area to support the needs of the community. Perriello also spoke about the benefits of the national health care bill for college students.

“Because of this bill, students can continue to enjoy healthcare under their parents’ insurance until age 26,” said Perriello. The new law took effect on Thursday, September 23.

“This is one of the best examples of how Ferrum College is a part of the fabric of Franklin County,” said President Jennifer Braaten. Braaten said people in the community have frequently expressed to her their gratitude. “We are so fortunate to have this partnership with Tri-Area Community Health Center,” Braaten said. “People are looking for a model of success for rural healthcare, and this is it.”

The health center serves the residents of Franklin County as well as



Dr. Jennifer Braaten and personnel of the Tri-Area Community Health Center look on during a September 23 news conference as Representative Tom Perriello (at the podium) praised Ferrum College for working to support the community's health care needs. photo courtesy of Public Relations Office

students, faculty and staff.

According to Bobby Thompson, Ferrum College Senior Vice President for Administration, the grant funds will be used to substantially enlarge the health center to provide more space for existing and new services due to significantly increased numbers

of patients--including more Ferrum students. Thompson is a lifelong resident of the Ferrum community

The health center serves about 3,500 people annually, according to Debra Shelor, Executive Director of Tri-Area Community Health Center, which also operates health centers in

Floyd and Laurel Fork. “Everyone benefits from this collaboration between Ferrum College and Tri-Area,” said Shelor. She noted about 75 percent of patients are from the local Ferrum community.

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Civility Task Force invites interest, encourages participation and professional behavior

Stephen Washington
Staff Writer

The Civility Task Force was established in the fall of 2009 as a subtle approach to language abuse on campus – in particular, the use of profanity by some students.

The purpose of the Civility Task Force is to get people to take more pride in the way they look, and to get students to clean up their language and the way that they act. Mike Ferguson, assistant director of Dining Services

and task force member, says, “If we don’t set the example, then we can’t expect students to follow.”

The reason why the Civility Task Force was developed is to prepare young people for the professional world beyond college. That would include preparing students to conduct themselves in a more professional manner. It is also to prepare young people to use professional language in their everyday lives. “We would also like to see the civility rules be enforced in the student handbook,” says

Ferguson. “When visitors or potential employers enter the cafeteria, they look at your outward appearance and they make judgments based upon how you look,” says Ferguson.

“With the Civility Task Force enacted, everybody benefits in some way,” says Ferguson. This past summer the staff in the dining hall were trained in customer service to improve their attitude, and to be able to better assist them in dealing with difficult customers. “We want our students to shine, and we’re not trying to inhibit

anyone’s rights,” says Ferguson.

Many members of the Civility Task Force are wearing buttons on their members’ uniforms or clothing. These buttons say, “I like nice.” Ferguson said the purpose of the buttons is to give people the opportunity to explain the Civility Task Force, and how it relates to the college community as a whole. The message of civility has also spread to dorm rooms, and other public places on campus where students normally congregate.

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2010-11 class officers announced

Congratulations to the following students who have been selected to represent their classes for the 2010-2011 school year.

Freshmen Class

President - Ron Hasan
Vice President - Jordan Hunter
Secretary - Kristian Green

Sophomore Class

President - Blake DiMeglio
Vice President - Marcus Burwell
Secretary - Kasey Davis
Treasurer - Heather Dawson

Junior Class

President - Caitlin Fournier
Vice President - Gabrielle Dobbs

Senior Class

President - Jeremiah Cook

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Opinion/Editorial

R-E-S-P-E-C-T: You get what you give

Bethany Lackey
Editor-in-Chief

I won't sing the song aloud (at least, not in front of anyone), but there is something to it. If there's one thing that I've learned, it's that you get back the respect you give out. It goes with that old mantra, "What goes around comes around." By that I mean that everyone wants to be respected. I know if someone disrespected me, I would be very offended and lose respect for that person.

For instance, in one of my classes, some people were laughing out loud and one person told the teacher that she was not doing her work. The teacher asked her to leave, and she

ignored the professor. My first thought was, "how rude." I lost respect for that person (as I'm sure the professor must have too) because she blatantly disrespected the professor in front of everyone.

Believe it or not, people are constantly watching you – maybe not the same person, because that would be creepy. But at any point in time, you can look around while walking on campus and people know that you are there, just as you are aware of their presence. If you are using profanity or talking about others, people know and hear the things you say.

The same goes for Facebook®. If you go to www.failbook.com, you can see some of the horror stories.

People put disrespectful things online thinking that it won't get back around. Think again, folks. I know I have many "friends" on Facebook®, just as I'm sure you do too. When you post something about a professor, class, or a friend that is disrespectful, someone in your class or even the professor can easily find out. Then, what happens? People lose respect for you.

I have heard many times "Well, I pay to be here, so I should get to do what I want."

Things don't exactly work that way. We do pay to be here, but why are we here in the first place? It is to learn and grow. We chose to be here to better ourselves. Professors have chosen to teach us, and we should

respect them and be thankful that they do what they do for us.

Once we're out of college, in "the real world" as some put it, we have to give respect to our boss in order to keep our job. When we're here, we want to make a good impression on our friends and superiors so that they will always have respect and speak highly of us down the road.

The question you should ask yourself this week is "Am I giving out the respect that I would want people to give me?" Think about it, people, and if the answer is no, then try to think of ways to change your behavior so that you can be respectable.

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Glenn Thompson
Senior Staff Writer

TAAA-DAAA!

Or however one represents a fanfare, I am not sure. Her highness, Cleocatra, after presenting us with four MORE little ones, was finally caught and fixed! That still leaves us with ten little sweethearts...and one

heck of a cat food bill every month.

At the request of my Fellow Feline Fanatics, here is the Fabulous Furry Feline Family Update:

His Highness, Nefer the Mighty... still rules, of course.

Cleo...I mentioned (YEA!).

The older children, Menefer, Mene-careh, Isis, and Squeaker are all well. Isis and Menefer are "adjusted"...the

“One Little... Two Little... TEN Little Kitties!”

others to follow as soon as possible.

Now...to the babies. They are SO-O-O cute!

Our two "twins," Fric and Frac (MY idea! Both girls...we think) are grey with a bit of white and black tiger stripes (like all their older half-siblings and mama). They are still a bit shy, but they are coming around.

Little Miss Buggy is a white, black, and orange calico, with a black beauty mark by her mouth. When I first saw her, I thought it was a bug and had to confirm it was not. She also loves to chase and eat bugs... it can be hilarious...hence, the name. She is warming up to affection and petting...truly cuteness-on-the-paw!

Finally...comes Smokey. He is black with beautiful yellow eyes. In the right sunlight, you can see leopard-like spots and deep black stripes in his coat. He is so sleek and mini-panther-like...such a proper Ferrum College cat! He is turning into a real lover-boy!

Adjustments and new homes are in kitty futures here. The adjustments will not be so dear now; we received some coupons from the animal shelter to help with that expense. Luckily, there are quite a few local vet offices,

and of course, the wonderful folks at Planned Pethood, who will honor the discounted service. If you off-campus folks find yourselves with friendly stray dogs or cats, you can call the shelter and request the number of coupons you need. I know it can be a hassle, but if you need a capture and carry cage, they will even loan you one of those.

Stray overpopulation has become quite a problem in many areas...including this one. The population of stray cats in this county has gotten out of hand, and responsibility for controlling this problem lies in the hands of each and every one of us.

So, attention all you farmers and friends of farmers! Barn cats available! They are used to living outdoors...they are ALL great mousers (they like to leave the "choice bits" for us by the door sometimes)...and they like the occasional bit of affection! Not too much, mind you. Just that random ear scratch...stroke...or even the occasional bit of neck and shoulder rubbing (heck, who doesn't?).

Or...if you just want a kitty for your very own...

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Letters Policy and Publication Details:

Address letters to the editor of The Iron Blade through campus mail, or e-mail iblade@ferrum.edu; all letters must include names and phone numbers and are subject to editing for grammar, space, and potentially libelous material. Names may be withheld in special circumstances, subject to the discretion of the editor, but in no case will a letter be printed if the identity of the writer is not known to the editor or advisor.

Opinions expressed in The Iron Blade do not necessarily reflect those of Ferrum College administration, staff, faculty, or students.

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To contact The Iron Blade, call 365-4304 or e-mail iblade@ferrum.edu.

The crest on page one was designed by alumna Sandy Southard ('04) in 2005 and updated and colorized in 2009 by Glenn Thompson.

Letters to the editor: Praying at the flagpole is not idolatry

Dear Editor and campus community,

I was especially hurt by George Loveland's letter on prayer and the flag because he is my friend. The letter is divisive, and if I did not already know that George is a very friendly person, it would lead me to think that George is divisive too. The letter insinuates that those gathered by the flag pole for prayer, here at Ferrum College on the morning of September 22, were either worshipping the flag or conspicuously looked like they were. These are things that I avoid. If I was not there that morning, George's letter might lead me to believe that people were bowed on their knees,

facing the flag. In fact, we were gathered in a circle of solidarity, off to the side of the flag, as both a community of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ and as members of the Ferrum College community. No prayer was offered to the flag or to any country, but each prayer was offered to God for the Ferrum community, our country, and our world, in awesome reverence to Him and His loving grace.

George says that bowing to the flag is idolatry, and it is, but it is also idolatry to believe that the flag has some special significance that somehow prohibits a person from praying beside

See Letter to the editor, page 3

Features

Ferrum Folks: Mike Nolte

Susan M. King
Features Editor

It was the first game of the 2007 baseball conference tournament. Senior Michael Nolte Jr., then a freshman, was up to bat. Brett Thomas was on third, and Ferrum's baseball team had one out. With the pressure on, Nolte hit a long flyball to win the game against Christopher Newport University.

"It was such an emotional moment I almost forgot to run to first," Nolte said. "The whole team met me (at first



photo by Susan M. King

base) and then I looked up, and the entire Burlington City Stadium was on their feet cheering."

That year, Nolte and the rest of the baseball team went on to become regular season champions and tournament champions.

Although Nolte will not be able to play this year, due to him finishing

his classes in December, he said he will never forget the memories he has made on and off the field.

"It definitely strikes a chord in my heart when I drive back from night class and see the field lights on and I think of all the friends I made that are probably out there practicing," Nolte said.

Baseball has always played a big role in Nolte's life. When Nolte was five years old, his parents started him in recreation league. Nolte went on to play baseball two years in middle school, four years in high school, and then four years here at Ferrum.

"[W]hen I drive back from night class and see the field lights on... I think of all the friends I've made..."

Whenever Nolte needed extra coaching, his parents sent him to Major League player Bob Brawley, who gave him pitching and hitting lessons.

However, Nolte's mother made sure that baseball never took away from his academics.

Nolte remembers one night when there was a schedule conflict between a big baseball game and an academic fair for school. Instead of going to the academic fair, Nolte started the game,



photo by Susan M. King

only to have his mother come on the field and make him leave so that he could attend the school function.

While Nolte's parents made sure he didn't slip up, they also made sure he knew that they supported him. As a business owner, Nolte's father had to sacrifice in order to make sure that both Mike and his brother Matt were given as many opportunities as possible.

The lessons Nolte has learned here at Ferrum have only been reinforced by his parents, he says. His hard work, determination, and dedication are things that he has been able to apply to baseball and life in general.

Although Nolte came to Ferrum mainly for baseball, the experiences

and friends he has made along the way has made his time worthwhile and will carry on long after he graduates. "Fraternities have brothers, sororities have sisters, baseball players have a bond just like any other group," Nolte said.

As baseball season approaches, Nolte believes that his baseball brothers are going to do well. Even though Nolte will not be out there on the field, there is little doubt that he will not be in the stands remembering all the great times he had on the field and rooting on his alma mater.

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Student Activities Calendar

Compiled by **Rena Holliday**
Staff writer

Tuesday, October 5, 2010

9 a.m. – 10 p.m. Daily - Artist Exhibit, Greer Art Gallery, Stanley Library
4:30 p.m. - Flag Football Signups, Franklin Hall Atrium
7:30 p.m. - Faithful Few Rehearsals
8 p.m. - "The Billies" in concert, Panther's Den, Franklin Hall
9:30 p.m. – Bible Study, Lighthouse

Wednesday, October 6, 2010

11 a.m. - Cancer Awareness, Franklin Hall Atrium
4:30 p.m. - Flag Football sign-ups, Franklin Hall Atrium
7 p.m. – Men's Soccer vs. Greensboro College (Home)
9:30 p.m. – Bible Study, Lighthouse

Thursday, October 7, 2010

4:30 p.m. - Flag Football signups, Franklin Hall Atrium
7 p.m. - An evening with Dan Gribbin (Folk guitar), Panther's Den, Franklin Hall
8 p.m. – Keeping the Pace Bible Study, Grousbeck 201

Friday, October 8, 2010

2:30 p.m. - Teachers Education Committee meeting, Beckham Conference Room
7 p.m. – MEX Chill Night, Lighthouse
7 p.m. – Volleyball vs. Southern Virginia University (Home)

Saturday, October 9, 2010

Noon – Volleyball vs. Randolph College (Home)

Sunday, October 10, 2010

6 p.m. - Anomaly: New Movement/ New Generation, Grousbeck 201

Monday, October 11, 2010

Columbus Day (observed)
3:30 p.m. - Flag Football Begins, Bassett Field
4 p.m.-5:30 P.m. - Art Exhibit Ceramics-Kent University through November 12th
7 p.m. - Monday Night Praise, Vaughn Chapel

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Letter to the editor, from page 2

it. See You at the Pole is a student-led initiative that began in 1990 because students felt that they no longer had the freedom to gather for corporate prayer inside school walls. They resolved, at least once a year on September 22, to gather together in prayer outside their schools, at the flag pole, a place everyone could easily find. We should not continue to limit the places we pray. The only restrictions placed on prayer to God should have to do with our attitude, not the geography of where we are. After all, God's love for us extends everywhere. Our country and its citizens should espouse freedom and unity and discourage repression and discord. More importantly, God

calls us to pray continually and to make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. He wants us all to be part of His community, grounded in His love and love for one another. I hope that more of us will decide to gather for prayer at the beginning of the day, and that we would do it more often. I would love to see each one of you at the pole, or if for some reason you would rather not pray beside a pole, I will be glad to meet you somewhere else to pray.

Sincerely yours and His,
Joby Kauffman

There's plenty of room in and for Anomaly

Susan M. King
Features Editor

On October 25, 2009, several Ferrum students came together to form a group called Anomaly.

Anomaly's purpose is to provide an environment for people to talk about the troubles they face and encourage each other. When the group meets, they study the Bible, play games, watch videos, and many other activities designed to provide

encouragement.

There is no initiation for the group. All a person has to do if he or she is interested in learning more is to show up at a meeting. The group meets every Sunday in Grousbeck.

The group's name came from a shirt a few of the founders had seen on a website. The description of the shirt said, "Stick out like a sore thumb." This struck an interest in the group, so they decided to look up the word "anomaly."

Anomaly is a term that means something that is irregular or different from expectations.

Founder Ashley Hardy said, "Anomaly is a group of people that sticks out like a sore thumb in our community, but that isn't a bad thing because we are sticking out for Jesus."

One of the main goals of Anomaly is for people to be comfortable just being themselves. Hardy said that the one thing she wants people to understand is that no one is perfect

and we all make mistakes. "Anomaly was created to be real," Hardy said.

Anomaly is all about improving oneself and having a comfortable environment for fellowship together.

So, whether you are looking for someone to talk to or just needing something to do on a Sunday, there is plenty of room in Anomaly.

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It's hunting season! Play it safe!

While in the woods,
MAKE SURE YOU ARE VISABLE!

- **WEAR bright clothing**
(blaze orange safety vests are available for free checkout in the Fitness Center)
- **TRAVEL in PAIRS** or small groups
- **STAY ON** designated trails
AND on campus

**Hunting is strictly prohibited
on the Ferrum College campus.**

**Please report any safety concerns
to Ferrum Campus Security
at 365-4444.**

Winners announced for Sept. 23 Coffeehouse

The first Coffeehouse of the year rocked the Panther's Den on Thursday, Sept. 23, until 10:30 with a wide range of music, poetry, and comedy. The Chrysalis Art and Literary Magazine staff would like to thank the 125 people in attendance and two dozen performers for supporting the arts on campus.

The next date is October 28: the Halloween Costume Contest Coffeehouse. To sign up to perform, just contact jkitterman@ferrum.edu.

Prizes can be picked up in Britt 214 for the winners in the following categories, as judged by the audience:

Best Poetry: Delita Johnson

Best Music: Tyler Seal

Best Other: Kenny Barron

Best Overall: Fiskars Scissors

Florida troubador

DAN GRIBBIN

presents a program of word and song entitled

The Magic of Creative Choice

or

**How to Trust Your Instincts and
Kick the Blues to Cruise to
the Life You Choose**

**Thursday, Oct. 7 7-9 p.m.
Panther's Den**

*Sponsored by the Boone Honors Program and
The Office of Student Leadership & Engagement*



Dan Gribbin is a former Professor of English, adviser to Chrysalis, and sponsor of the campus Coffeehouse who lives now in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Sample Dan's work at www.dangribbin.com