

3-13-2018

## **Independent - Mar. 13, 2018**

Robin Bridges

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### **Recommended Citation**

Bridges, Robin, "Independent - Mar. 13, 2018" (2018). *The Independent (1988-present)*. 542.  
<https://neiudc.neiu.edu/independent/542>

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# NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT

Student-run newspaper since 1960

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

[www.neiuindependent.org](http://www.neiuindependent.org)

Volume 37 Issue 11

## Initiative encourages community involvement



### Inside News

Diamond Barnes greeting over 300 freshman to the university at the Golden Eagle Welcome Day ceremony. Freshmen were handed one dollar each and were encouraged to hand the dollar back as their first act of giving back to the community.

pg. 5

Photo courtesy of Joe Davis

### Inside Opinions

Are teachers the next line of defense against school mass shootings?

pg. 6

### Inside Features

Student Stephanie Teresi's film on water pollution shines during film festival.

pg. 8

### Inside Arts and Life

In the neighborhood: Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club's new location, same welcoming feel.

pg. 9

### Inside Sports

Check out the best places to watch March Madness near main campus.

pg.12

### Got news? Contact us!

We are located in E-049 at the main campus. The next issue comes out on March 27.



# NEWS

## Interim President Helldobler moves on



Photo courtesy of Joe Davis

### Sarahy Lopez

NEIU Interim President Richard Helldobler has been ap-

pointed as the eighth president of William Paterson University in Wayne, New Jersey, starting July 1. The Board of Trustees are

currently in the final stages of its search for the next president which will be announced at a later date.

Dr. Helldobler has served as Interim President at NEIU since July 2016, when the previous President Sharon Hahs retired.

During his tenure, the College of Business and Management received accreditation from the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) and the university's accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission was reaffirmed for a 10-year period.

Prior to his appointment as president, he served as acting provost and vice president for academic affairs, overseeing all matters related to academics.

Dr. Helldobler was responsible for creating the academic program for El Centro, reaching the \$10 million goal of the Transforming Lives fundraising campaign.

He also helped Hahs open NEIU's first residence hall (The Nest) and assisted in the creation of the Center for College Access and Success which works with neighborhood communi-

ties to provide "equal education tools for excellence and a successful future for students."

William Paterson University is a public institution that has a student population of about 11,000, offering a wide range of undergraduate and graduate coursework and programs.

Dr. Helldobler stated in an email sent to the university that the "move feels right."

"I leave Northeastern with many great memories, along with friendships that I know will continue," Dr. Helldobler said in the email.

"However, as author Daniel Quinn wrote, 'To each is given its moment in the blaze, its spark to be surrendered to another when it is sent, so that the blaze may go on.' I pass the spark on to the next president and know the good work done here at Northeastern will continue," he said.

"Since arriving at Northeastern, the university's value of diversity has had a profound effect on me; I've come to learn about other cultures and backgrounds, and I've also better understood my own. And when I think of saying goodbye, I immediately

think of a certain song that takes me back to my childhood," Helldobler continued.

"When I was young, every Saturday evening my family gathered around the television to watch the Lawrence Welk show. Perhaps it was my father's shared German heritage with Mr. Welk, or that much of the music of that generation provided some of his earliest American memories. Add to that the German polkas Mr. Welk was fond of, this show was his favorite part of the weekend.

"I feel it wouldn't be fitting to end this communication without leaving you with a musical thought. Therefore, it is fitting that my last musical send off is the weekly closing number from the show."

Dr. Helldobler linked a YouTube video within the email he sent to a musical number. It was a song that he played often after town hall meetings.

"Thank you for making my years at Northeastern special, and I wish you the best of luck in everything that you do," Dr. Helldobler concluded in his email.

## Independent

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# Congratulations to all of our residents!

**38** of our residents achieved a  
**4.0** & a total of **157** residents  
achieved a **3.0** or above.

*Keep up the success! We can't wait  
to see what you do this semester.*  
– The Nest Staff



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## Enrollment changes coming this fall

Sarahy Lopez

NEIU students will be able to get refunded 100 percent of their money back instead of only 90 percent when a class is dropped for the first week of classes, according to an email from Acting Provost Dr. Wamucii Njogu and Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services Janice Harring-Hendon.

The change will be implemented for the fall semester of 2018.

The Enrollment Management Council discussed a variety of enrollment enhancement initiatives last year that they “believe will reduce enrollment inhibitors for students,” as stated in the email.

These changes include the elimination of the 90 percent refund period and replacing it with a 100 percent refund period through the 10th day of the semester.

During this time, students will be allowed to register for courses with open seating, unless a registration authorization is needed for another reason.

Additionally, waitlisting classes that have open seats will extend through the first seven days of the semester.

“During the fall 2017 semester, there was extensive discussions concerning these administrative practices in the academic colleges,” the email stated. “The deans shared feedback from the faculty and department chairs with members of the Enrollment Management Council and Provost Council.

“In response to this feedback, it was determined that students registering after a course begins will receive a message letting them know that they are responsible for making up missed assignments and getting up to speed with the course.”

Lastly, work will be done to allow faculty the ability to authorize students in NEIU-Port.

These changes will be piloted for one academic year.

Freshman student Ana Costilla said, “I think this is a good idea because students will not be afraid to try out an extra class. Currently a student has to decide between the first week if they like the class or not.”

“This encourages me to register for more classes instead of just two every semester. Because now I can try it out without feeling pressure to decide right away,” she said.

Junior student Enrique Costilla said, “It’s a good idea to extend the time period in which you can drop classes because during the first week, student’s do not get a feel of the classes and this way it will be better so they can get the chance to register for another course.”

Open registration for all classes will occur on March 17. For fall 2018, students will have the enrollment period of Sept. 1 to Sept. 10 to decide whether they want to keep or drop classes, and will be fully refunded if the class is dropped.

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## NEWS

# New book highlights black female educators

**Sarahy Lopez**

Four professors discussed their recently published book that led to the tales of hardship and perseverance of black female educators.

Professors Sharon Bethea, Olivia Perlow, Barbara Scott and Durene Wheeler held a panel about their anthology "Black Women's Liberatory Pedagogies: Resistance, Transformation, and Healing Within and the Beyond the Academy" in the Golden Eagles room on Feb. 27.

The interdisciplinary anthology "sheds light on the frameworks and lived experiences of black women educators."

Contributors for this anthology submitted works from an array of academic disciplines and learning environments, portraying

black women faculty's classroom experiences.

Their work also showcased their pedagogical approaches both inside and outside of the higher education classroom that have fostered transformative teaching-learning environments.

Editors Bethea, Perlow, Scott, Wheeler and contributors view instruction and learning as a "political endeavor aimed at changing the way we think about teaching, learning, and praxis."

They also provided insight within their own experiences, each writing their own chapter or contribution within the book.

Widely-known activist and published author Loretta Ross also contributed to the book.

Ross is also the co-founder and

the National Coordinator of the SisterSong Women of Color Reproductive Justice Collective.

Because the book was based off of personal experiences, the professors ran into some challenges before publishing the anthology, like getting other educators to write a chapter or piece in it.

"It was very difficult for people to put their trust in us, to put their work in our volume," Perlow said. "We were very green in the publishing business. We reached out to people we knew like colleagues to ask them if they knew anybody."

"Someone actually told me that 'you'll never get that published,' so it helped when we got a contract," Bethea said. "It was hard to trust people you don't know. But we were very clear about what we were

writing and what our subject matter was about."

"It was difficult to get these black women to write about their brilliance because we have been taught to put others before ourselves and be humble," said Perlow. "We found that these women as well as ourselves had a lot of insecurities regarding our own writing. (Those insecurities) got in the way of us producing what we are capable of producing."

"Black women have such a hard time, especially in academics, talking outside the traditional canon," Scott said. "Some people dropped off because they just couldn't do it or didn't want to do it. Really good pieces could have been included if they had drawn themselves out onto the paper."

The professors each read aloud a piece from a chapter from their anthology.

Bethea's chapter included a personal experience she had when she went on her first trip to Africa, and Perlow talked about her frustrations with the administration.

"By cultivating mutually empowering relationships with many of the black women in this volume we engage in the practice of radical black female subjectivity," Wheeler read. "Guided by the spirits of our ancestors and foremothers, we invoke the bonds the stretch across time and space. We were able to discover and reclaim our collective power as black women."

The new anthology can be bought at local bookstores and Amazon.

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

### NEW ORGANIZATIONS APPROVED BY COC

NEIU Society of Physics Students

### EVENTS APPROVED BY COC

#### March 1 Meeting

Green Conversation Group - Green Initiative Conference  
\$720.00

Green Conversation Group - Chicago Ornithological Society  
\$180.00

Gamma Phi Omega Swantastic  
\$1,622.42

Linguistics Honor Society of NEIU - Dr. Lucy  
\$77.22

Black Caucus Black Graduate Reception  
\$2,285.92

Society of Physics Apollo 13 Screening  
\$301.50

Phi Iota Alpha, Pin@y, Theta Chi Omega, Sigma Gamma Rho, Rebel Poetry, Open Mic Slam The Asia Project  
\$3,089.91

### EVENTS FUNDED BY STUDENT ACTIVITY FEE FOR MAR 13-27

Mar. 12 & 13 - COBM-Student Advisory Council International Business Conference  
All day - Alumni Hall & various locations

Mar. 16 - ASSW & Graduate ASSW Social Work Day  
9am-5pm - Alumni Hall

Mar. 29 - Muslim Student Association Hijab Challenge Follow Up  
3pm-4pm - Pedrosa Center (B 159)

#### Student Leadership Development

Mar. 16 - El Centro Freshmen Meet Up  
11am-Noon - Room 320

Mar. 27 - Chavez Day Speaker and Activist Monica Ramirez "From Dolores Huerta to #TimesUp - Change begins with you"  
3pm - Alumni Hall

### SENATE UPDATES

Announcing Student Government Association elections for the 2018-2019 year. All positions available. For more information visit [neiu.edu/sld](http://neiu.edu/sld) Student Government tab or email [v-rodriquez9@neiu.edu](mailto:v-rodriquez9@neiu.edu).

Candidate trainings on the week of March 26.

Last day to register to be on ballot March 29.

Campaign week April 2-6.

Elections April 7-13.





# Initiative motivates students to give back

Sarahy Lopez

The Student Philanthropy Initiative, started by NEIU alumni and current students, intends to engage and encourage students on campus to raise money for scholarships and to become more involved within the community.

"We educate students on the importance of giving during their academic career and host student life activities to build school spirit at Northeastern," Assistant Director of the Office of Alumni Relations Ashley Agron said. "Giving doesn't always include money. It is giving your time and your talent and your treasure. If you're good at baking goods, you can host a bake sale and that's one way to contribute your talent."

Agron stated that while their ultimate goal is to raise scholarships for students, they can also help by volunteering and engaging in community projects and events.

"The whole purpose of this is so that, in the future, once graduates are alums and they are in a position to give back to the university—we hope that we have instilled that 'giving' pattern in them as students," Agron said. "It's more likely for students to give as an alum if they have already been accustomed to a giving pattern."

Started last year, the Student Philanthropy Initiative and the Office of Alumni Relations hosted a number of events during the academic year in hopes to entertain and engage students in a wide range of activities on campus.

They also contributed funds to the Transforming Lives campaign, specifically for the Class Gift which raises scholarships for incoming and current students by seniors.

They will be hosting the second annual March Mania (a series of events in March) in support of the NEIU Alumni Association and the Class Gift Scholarship Fund.

The Student Philanthropy Initiative also helps complete community service projects to ultimately incorporate the practice of benevolence and charity into NEIU student life.

One of the ways the Student Philanthropy

Initiative started engaging incoming students is during Golden Eagle Welcome Day, the move-in day for the Nest residents.

As part of the initiative, around 350 students were each handed a dollar from the donations of alum Jim Blair and the fraternity Alpha Phi Lambda.

After the welcoming ceremony, the students were encouraged to donate the dollar back as their first act of giving back to NEIU.

"A lot of them put in a couple extra dollars, or even threw in a five. But that's their first step in giving," Agron said.

The initiative will host a number of events beginning March 14 including a Pie-lanthropy Bake Sale in Village Square where there will be games and prizes.

On March 22 and 23, the initiative will host a "Dinner for 12" during Spring Break where alumni will have a meal with current NEIU students.

March 28, there will be "Psycho Bingo," a fast-paced bingo in Replay Arcade Bar, located in Lincoln Park, beginning at 8 p.m.

And lastly, on March 29, the initiative will hand out piggy banks in Village Square for students to fill up and bring back from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The student with the heaviest piggy bank will win a prize.

"I wish there was more student involvement. I know that it's hard because Northeastern is a commuter campus, and the students that are involved, they're already involved in their own student group. It's hard to get students to participate. I hope that the Student Philanthropy Initiative will give students the opportunity to be involved," Agron said.

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## NEIU POLICE BLOTTER

The following occurred on the main campus between Feb. 22 to March 7:

**Feb. 22** - Library: Officers responded to a complaint of a homeless person inside the building. Food, warm shower and clean clothes were provided for her.

**Feb. 23** - Library: Officers responded to a racially motivated graffiti at the library. The offender is currently unknown. Facilities management was notified for a clean up.

**Feb. 28** - CCICS: Officers and Chicago Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at the south campus. There weren't any signs of smoke or fire. The Fire Department reset the alarm.

**Feb. 28** - P.E. Building Exterior: A student was cited for violating the smoke-free campus policy. The matter was also reported to the dean of students for non-academic misconduct.

**March 2** - College of Business and Management: A staff member received a suspicious letter under the office door. She believes it is related to the work she does with the community.

**March 4** - Parking Lot J: A student reported a vehicle stolen from the parking lot. After further investigation, it was revealed that it was legally repossessed.

**March 4** - CCICS: The alarm company notified NEIU police of a burglar alarm that was set off at the south campus location. Officers conducted a sweep of the building. No one was found.

**March 6** - D-Building: A subject is under investigation for five fraudulent transactions using NEIU accounts.

**March 7** - The Nest: A well-being check was conducted on a resident after others expressed concern for her. The resident is doing well and had left campus to go to a friend's house.



Class Gift Scholarship recipient Stephanie Finne turning in her piggy bank on Giving Tuesday | Photo courtesy of Ashley Agron



# OPINIONS

## No to armed teachers in our classrooms

Sarahy Lopez

What's worse than the rampant violence and death going on in our country today?

Requiring teachers to carry firearms and trained to be sharpshooters against someone with a semi-automatic weapon designed to kill multiple people at once.

Why do people even buy semi-automatic weapons? I can't imagine it being used for "hunting purposes" since the deer would look more like swiss cheese after an AR-15 shoots it.

As ridiculous as this sounds, it is something that is being considered by our 45th U.S. president.

"These people are cowards. They're not going to walk into a school if 20 percent of the teachers have guns -- it may be 10 percent or may be 40 percent. And what I'd recommend doing is the people that do carry, we give them a bonus. We give them a little bit of a bonus," President Donald Trump said during a press conference on Feb. 22. "They'll frankly feel more comfortable having the gun anyway. But you give them a little bit of a bonus."

However, teachers need more than guns.

**“In the end, the ones paying the price are children and students. We are the ones who lose our futures and our lives because of this violence.”**

-Sarahy Lopez, News Editor

They need healthcare coverage, they need pensions, they need better wages and school supplies.

I find it extremely alarming that school programs such as arts and physical education can be automatically cut without a second thought, but the idea of a gun training program for teachers is being considered.

The stress with constantly having to keep a gun out of reach from children and worrying about active shooters should not even exist in the first place. Elected officials should ban deadly assault rifles that can easily be bought in Walmarts.

We shouldn't be answering the question of how to stop gun violence with more guns.

Students would also feel uneasy. As a current university student, I wouldn't want to think about how my teachers and professors are carrying guns while they're lecturing about Shakespeare.

Additionally, not only would financing the program be difficult, there could also be inadequate training. If the government refuses to screen people who want to purchase guns every day, who's to say they will mentally-health screen every single teacher?

"I couldn't even imagine what the kids must have felt having to witness their classmates and teachers getting shot at. Of course it made me think about my school and students, and I worry about their safety," said CPS 10th-grade teacher Husna Kidwai on the subject of the recent school shooting.

"I had to reassure my students that our school is pretty diligent with safety and security. We went over drill procedures and what do to if something like that ever happened," she said.

On the subject of whether teachers should be required to carry firearms in classrooms, Kidwai responded, "If I needed to be a shield for them I would, but I don't

think it's my responsibility. It's not fair to expect teachers to be taking bullets for their students when the government is doing little to nothing about tightening gun laws.

"I am definitely not comfortable with carrying a gun to school and then being expected to use it in case of a shooting. How does it make sense to combat bullets with more bullets? It's going to lead to more casualties," Kidwai said.

She expressed that the answer to no more school shootings should be no more guns.

Mirsad Muminovic, an aspiring teacher who's studying at NEIU, said, "I would use this situation as a teaching moment to

cement to my students the importance of their civil duty. Voters make the difference, and the types of voters that allow the government officials to be elected impact not only gun laws and mental health, but also my student's very own lives.

"It is a moral obligation as a teacher to use my body as a shield in the likely chance something horrific were to occur. Educators should foster young minds at any cost and that should include risking their own lives to save their students," Muminovic said.

"Arming teachers would not necessarily make the school safer. Teachers can misplace their weapons or students can forcefully take the weapon from the teacher and it leads to even more chaotic scenarios.

"A single faculty member such as a security guard having a handgun would pail in comparison to the army weaponry that school shooters have used in the past. It would be like a duel between a police officer and an army soldier, the army weaponry is far too sophisticated compared to the policeman's handgun," Muminovic concluded.

In the end, the ones paying the price are children and students. We are the ones who lose our futures and our lives because of this violence.

However, we are more passionate about it because we pay the price and I personally will not stop advocating to place a ban on guns until it is accomplished.

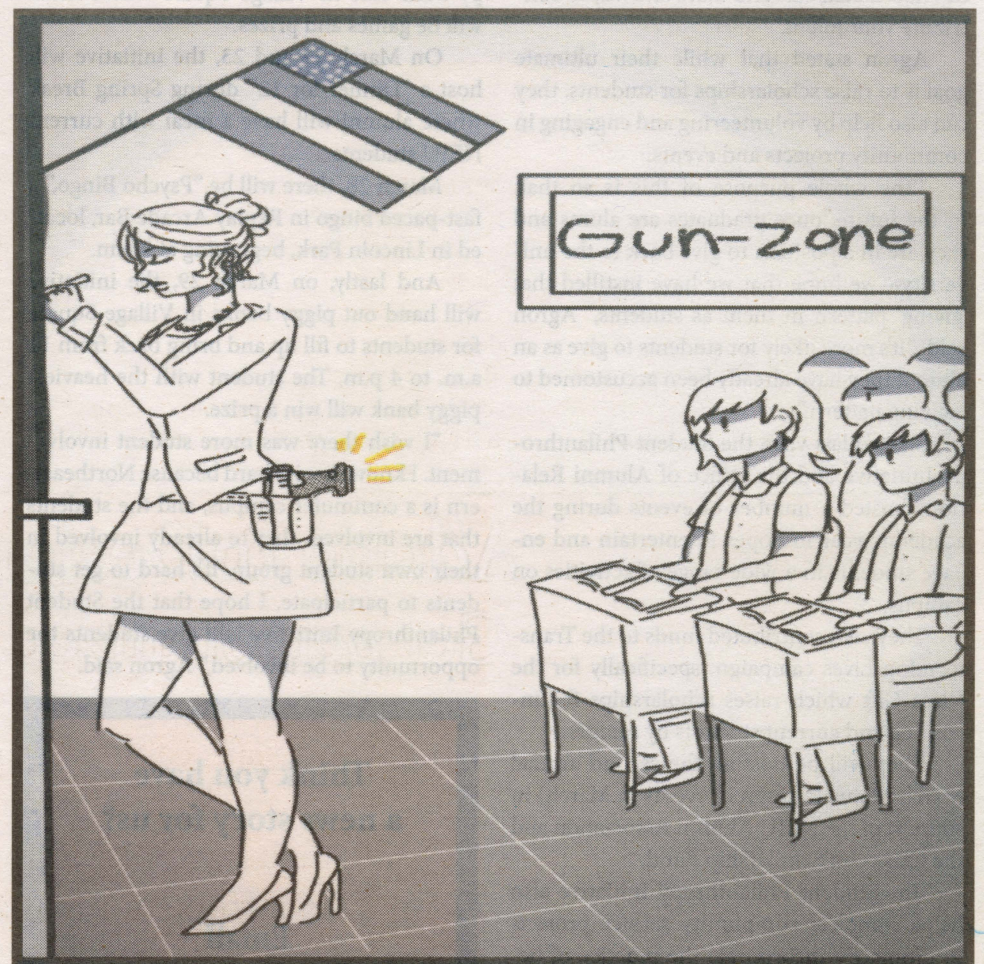


Illustration Courtesy of Brandi Nevarez



# U.S. students warned against protesting

Amaris E. Rodriguez

Survivors of the school shooting in Parkland, Florida and students across the country are demanding action from our government through protests after nineteen-year-old Nikolas Cruz opened fire and killed seventeen people.

A national debate was re-sparked about implementing gun regulations and this time it's adolescents acting as the voice of reason.

Emma Gonzalez, an eighteen-year-old student, quickly became the face of the student movement after her heartfelt speech in front of the Broward County Courthouse went viral. Gonzalez, along with fellow students David Hogg and Cameron Kasky, made it their mission to bring awareness on the importance of gun regulations to students across the nation, giving a voice to an underrepresented population when it comes to legislature.

As students around the country follow their lead, questions are raised on how much participation will be tolerated by school administration.

Curtis Rhodes, the superintendent of the school district in Needville, Texas has faced strong criticism after his letter written to students and parents was distributed saying that action would be taken against students if they decide to participate in the protests and walkouts.

"Should students choose to do so, they will be suspended from school for 3 days and face all the consequences that come

along with an out of school suspension," Rhodes said. "Life is all about choices and every choice has a consequence whether it be positive or negative. We will discipline no matter if it is one, fifty, or five hundred students involved."

The letter continued with Rhodes stating, "We are here for an education and not a political protest."

Texas is not the only state where students were told disciplinary actions would be taken if they participated in any protests. Steven Walts, the superintendent of schools

**“ Not allowing students the opportunity to walk out and participate in protests is a violation of their freedom of speech. ”**

-Amaris E. Rodriguez, Opinions Editor

in Virginia's Prince William County said, "PWCS recognizes your right to free speech and to protest, but these rights do not extend to disrupting classes or to leaving school. Students who cause disruptions or leave school without authorization will face disciplinary consequences, in keeping with the PWCS Code of Behavior."

"It's a quintessential First Amendment violation, and most Americans have an instinct about that," Georgetown law professor Heidi Li Feldman told The Washington Post.

She is exactly right. Not allowing students the opportunity to walk out and participate in protests is a violation of their freedom of speech. As students, especially in high school and middle school, our voices

are often limited. If students are passionate about a social issue it is the responsibility of adults to ensure that they are able to express themselves and give their voice to the cause.

While that idea is not hard for many people to grasp, the problem arises as many faculty and parents believe students should not participate in anything that will hinder their education, even for one day.

However, this is an important time in history concerning student activism and it is crucial for them to be in the front lines. As we have witnessed, if students and

younger generations do not put pressure on government officials no change on any kind will come out of this tragedy.

EMPOWER, a youth branch from the people behind the national Women's March, will be organizing a national student walkout to protest gun violence in response to the mass shooting and controversy that has followed the events of Feb. 14.

"Students and staff have the right to teach and learn in an environment free from the worry of being gunned down in their classrooms or on their way home from school," said the groups organizers.

As a result of the energy behind the movement, many school officials took notice and have addressed possible walkouts in a more positive way.

Public middle schools and high schools in Portland, Maine will be letting students participate in the national student walkout without fear of repercussions.

"We are proud that our students are passionate about advocating for their beliefs," said Portland public school Superintendent Xavier Botana. "They have a powerful voice that can effect change and it is our role as educators to support them as they learn to apply democratic principles in action."

Students should be allowed to participate in protesting when the protests are organized and nonviolent, such as the national walkout day. By allowing encouraging students to be active in politics, adults would be teaching younger generations valuable lessons regarding government and democracy.

Giving young students the ability to show interest in national events and legislature will help motivate them from a young age to be involved in politics, something our nation could greatly benefit from.

As college students and faculty, it is important to also lend our voices and provide an example for younger generations. While not everyone is able to protest, the importance of being aware and supporting those who are protesting is crucial on its own.

The nation wide walkout will be on March 14. where everyone is encouraged to walk out of the classroom at 10 a.m. for 17 minutes as a way to remember the 17 victims of the shooting in Parkland, Florida.

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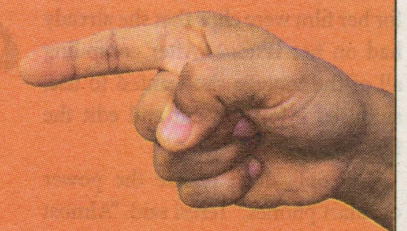
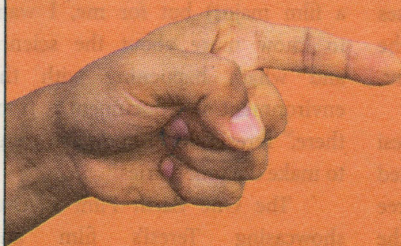
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# FEATURES

## Senior student's film premieres in The One Earth Film Festival

Nicole F. Anderson

NEIU senior Stephanie Teresi had only four months to record and one week to edit and finalize a five-minute film showcasing water pollution for One Earth's Young Filmmakers Contest.

"The World of Convenience: Plastic Bottles" didn't win first prize, but it was premiered during the One Earth Film Festival in NEIU's Alumni Hall on March 6.

The World of Convenience: Plastic Bottles starts by addressing the beauty and power of Earth's water. Immediately afterwards, the short film showcases how water pollution is affecting the earth using statistics. The film's ending aims to encourage others to make some positive, eco-friendly adjustments in their lives.

"I like to end on a positive note because it encourages people to want to make a positive change," Teresi said. "[I want] people to become aware of how much plastic shoppers are consuming."

Teresi said little changes people can make are buying metal straws instead of plastic ones and bringing their own shopping bags.

Most of the footage Teresi used for her film were clips that she already had on her iPhone. After compiling all of the footage she wanted to use, she used iMovie to cut and edit the film.

"People don't realize the power of smart phones," Teresi said. "Almost everything was shot on my iPhone... I'm not high-tech or anything at all. I always tell people that anyone could do it, just go out there and start filming."

Teresi grew up in Park Ridge,



Stephanie Teresi hiked Mount Fuji in Japan as she documented and filmed some of her adventures.

Illinois and has been in love with filming for most of her life. She couldn't recall the moment when she decided to start filming, the desire

focused on nature, documenting her travel experiences with informative aspects.

"I make my films educational

“ When I finished the Belize documentary, I felt powerful. Something I created could be used to shine a light on a dark subject.

- Stephanie Teresi, senior student

was just embedded in her.

It was during her time at Maine South High School that Teresi began filming documentaries with her friends. Most of the documentaries

because it's one thing to show visuals, but it's a whole other to show facts; numbers help correlate the two," Teresi said. "People need to learn to care about the subject."

be used to shine a light on a dark subject."

Teresi has traveled to several places in the United States, Ireland, Japan, Italy, Belize and Spain. She does not have an online portfolio of her documentaries but maintains a travel Instagram instead: @leaving\_the\_nest286.

"I'm very fortunate to travel as much as I do, so I like to do a lot of filming when I travel," Teresi said. "I like making travel blogs. In high school, I began to put education into them."

She hopes to make her own YouTube page to post her future docuseries focusing on the world and plastic, elaborating on "The World of Convenience" topic.

"I really like the way I started with the title 'The World of Convenience' because that's the way we live right now," Teresi said. "Almost everything we want comes in plastic; plastic bottles, silverware, bags - our world is made of plastic."

After graduation, she hopes to work with conservation, specifically marine life and finding ways to clean the ocean. She is double majoring in environmental studies and geography.

"I thought about it (becoming a film major) but for me, I want to know more about the science and what's happening with the environment and document it from there," Teresi said. "I know I'm going to make documentaries."

The One Earth Film Festival showcasing Teresi's film and Filmmaker Cyrus Sutton's "Island Earth" was sponsored by NEIU's Green Fee Committee and the department of geography and environmental studies.

Photo courtesy of Stephanie Teresi



# ARTS AND LIFE

## In The Neighborhood

### Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club

**Robert Kukla**

Whenever someone asks me what my favorite food is my answer is always breakfast. So, when I was asked to try out Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club's new location, 3348 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, I was excited.

When you first walk into the Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club, you are greeted with a homey atmosphere. All the décor and the way the location is set up makes it feel as if you were at your grandma's house and she's making you breakfast.

The décor is country but with a contemporary twist. It enhances the vibe the restaurant gives off.

Everything on the menu sounded interesting. Some of the choices offered were Bread Pudding French toast, a caprese omelette and other unique combinations. Once again, it gave a southern country vibe but made it modern.

I got the Carne Asada Skillet and it had fried potatoes and eggs, skirt steak, pico de gallo, avocado and cotija cheese. It tasted like a taco married a country skillet and had a baby. What really impressed me about it were

the flavors. Everything was well-seasoned and tasted fresh. I felt like everything that went into the dish was made with care.

Something I always look for in a restaurant is good, quality service. At Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club, you won't be disappointed. When I walked through the door, I was promptly greeted and seated.

The waiter was friendly and attentive. I asked him some questions about the new location and he told me the new location allowed them to expand the restaurant with 40 more seats and to add a patio for the spring and summer months.

One thing I will say is that people shouldn't go into the restaurant expecting cheap prices. I paid \$14 for my skillet. However, I really feel everything was definitely worth the price.

So, if you love breakfast as much as I do, I definitely think you should give Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club a chance because you won't be disappointed. This was my first time going and I definitely plan to go back in the future.

Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club is located at 3348 W. Bryn Mawr Ave, passing Kimball Ave.



Bryn Mawr Breakfast Club  
3348 W Bryn Mawr Ave  
Chicago, IL 60659



Photos Courtesy of Christopher Starnawski



ARTS AND LIFE

# Jamming with Funk Vendetta

Amy Buscemi

It might seem rare that Monday would be a happening night out on the town, but a combination of Chicago's best local musicians gather every Monday at the Tonic Room in Lincoln Park to bring music fans Funk Vendetta, a seven-piece funk fusion project.

If that isn't enticing enough, there isn't a cover charge and the band offers an opportunity for attending musicians to engage in an open jam that follows the show.

Funk Vendetta began in April of 2016 by Marty Gierczyk, a saxophone and electric wind instrument player, an electric wind instrument, who has played alongside multiple musicians and bands in the local music scene for over a decade.

Gierczyk's vision in creating Funk Vendetta was to bring together some of the most diverse and talented musicians he's played with and create something based on the diversity of their musical backgrounds and both various and common influences.

The result is a powerhouse of highly synced energy that provides a vibrant fusion of genres and improvisation based around a funk core, all elements that certainly do bring out the most in what local Chicago music has to offer.

The band is composed of Igor Voltchenko, guitarist, who also plays for local band Genome and Ryan Chamlin, keyboardist for the disbanded Herbert Wiser Band, both of whom Gierczyk says, "I knew I wanted to work with off the bat. We had been sitting in with each other's bands for years and I

thought it was time to finally join forces."

He says the other four band members fell into place from there and have included other musicians on occasion to ensure that the greatest potential chemistry exists within the band.

In addition to Gierczyk, Voltchenko, and Chamlin, Funk Vendetta consists of singer Drew Delneky. Delneky said that he, "feels blessed to be part of the local Chicago music scene".

Jae Gentile can be found playing bass, Christopher Stein on trumpet and Jarad Kleinstein on drums.

Kyle Davis, a regular attendee that brings his solo act, Kobrakai, to fill the breaks and engage in the open jam says, "I just think [Funk Vendetta] is next level music, always taking it to the top!"

The inspiration for the open jam portion of the evening also came from Gierczyk. He thought the idea of an open jam might help motivate people to come out on a Monday night. He says, "We start early and like to encourage up and coming musicians to come out and jam, come out and play."

Funk Vendetta began their weekly Monday night residency on Feb. 5 and will continue through May 28 of this year. The band starts around 9 p.m. and has an occasional opening act. The open jam begins around 10:30 p.m. and is open to both up and coming and established musicians.

The evening concludes in full around midnight and is open to people ages 21 and up and there is no cover charge. **The Tonic Room is located at 2447 N. Halsted St.**

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# 'Girls: Incarcerated': Rooting for progress

Nicole F. Anderson

Season one of docuseries "Girls: Incarcerated" aired on Netflix earlier this month. The docuseries follows several young women in Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility located in Madison, Ind.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility calls the girls "students" instead of inmates. The facility has a high school diploma and GED program in which students are required to complete coursework in one or the other. Upon entry, each student is given an individualized rehabilitation program to complete: drug abuse, communication, coping skills, etc.

Throughout season one, the girls had to undergo drastic changes, most for the better. The staff at Madison stresses the importance of making positive choices and how the students can change their lives.

The students in Madison, specifically the

ones the show focuses on, come from different backgrounds and are inside for varying charges.

The docuseries doesn't try to exploit the students or over exaggerate on certain topics.

Many of students' charges were shown, but only if they brought it up. The show didn't focus on how the girls were "bad," but instead showed their progress and insights on how they wanted to make a change, if they wanted to.

By not focusing on their crimes, it allows the students to realize they are more than their crime and there is time to change. One of the students' favorite staff members, Jacie Minnick was their biggest cheerleader. She was the facility's psychiatric social service specialist and taught the students coping skills and communication techniques.

For example, when Chrissy Hutchison was first admitted to Madison she had extreme anger issues. After completing her pro-

gram with the help of Minnick, Hutchison still had bouts of extreme anger but was able to learn how to control her anger more effectively.

One of the show's main students, Brianna Guerra, grew up in a loving single-mother family but was drinking, doing drugs and other illegal activities before she turned 16.

Guerra says she turned to the streets because her father left her for the streets and she wanted to see why that was more important than her.

Later in the show, she reveals that she stayed in the streets because she felt a type of love from the people she spent time around.

Many of the students that were focused on were lesbians or bisexual.

However, the show let the students talk about that if they wanted to and gave the impression of: "teenage girls are gay, this is how it is," without trying to put an angle on it.

"Girls: Incarcerated" tugs at the heart;

making you laugh, cry and root for their progress. According to the Madison Courier, the facility was to close at the end of Oct. 2017 and the students were to be moved to Camp Summit: Boot Camp in LaPorte.

This news is actually good. The numbers of students being placed into Madison dropped significantly; 10 years ago Madison housed around 200 students and in 2017 the facility had only 40 students. This makes waiting for season two that much harder.

Want to review your new favorite show?

Visit us at E-049 in the Student Union building on the Main Campus Tuesdays at 3pm to find out more.




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# SPORTS

## Best Bars for March Madness Near NEIU

### Nicole F. Anderson

The March Madness Tournament teams were announced on Selection Sunday. The next steps for fans are to fill out the brackets and choose one of the many drinking spots to watch the games. Don't wait until the last minute to choose a spot, the first game is March 13! The following bars on the Northside of Chicago will be airing the games:

- **Ted's Place Ltd on 4425 N. Central Ave...** will open at 12 p.m. everyday and have all-day specials and happy hour. This Portage Park dive bar has friendly bartenders and a pool table.

Ted's Place Ltd is cash only so be sure to leave your credit cards at home.

- **Vaughan's Pub & Grill on 5485 N. Northwest Highway...**

is open from 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Vaughan's has daily deals but will have specials during the March Madness games on wings, sliders and domestics.

- **City's Edge on 5310 W. Devon...** will open at 10 a.m. on Sunday and 11 a.m. Monday through Sunday. There will be daily deals along with their daily beer bucket deal. Their food specials will include burger specials Mondays through Thursdays and a fish fry on Fridays. They have a

variety of food items that will appeal to almost everyone and the friendly staff can offer recommendations for food pairings.

- **Max's Place on 4621 N Clark Street...**

opens at 7am and will air the games and have daily drink specials. This is a mom and pop place with a diverse crowd. Grab a couple friends and cozy up in this tiny Sheridan Park bar.

- **Replay Andersonville on 5358 N Clark Street...**

is open at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. The games will be aired,

however the sound will be muted. Replay is bright, always stocked and has attentive bartenders.

- **Little Bad Wolf on 1541 W Bryn Mawr Ave...**

opens at 11 a.m. every day. They have drink specials and will air the March Madness games with sound. They boast about their 100+ beer selection, whiskey choices and their specialty cocktails.

- **Mullens on 7301 N Western Ave...**

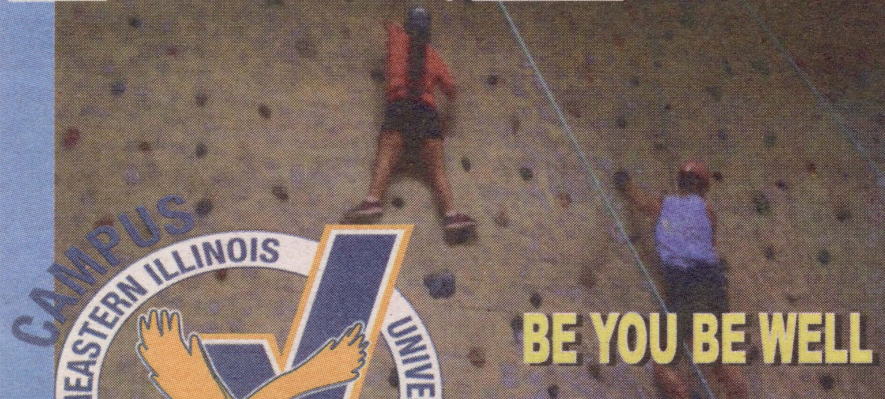
opens at 11 a.m. Mullens will air the games and have daily specials. Be sure to try their famous 'Moon Burger.'

- **Public House on 400 N. State Street...**

has a 30-foot video wall and the place is filled with plasma TVs. Their March Madness specials include burgers, nachos, wings and drinks. The early games will have Bud Light and Kettle One Bloody Mary specials. During the Final Four games, fans can enter into Public House's raffle for the chance to win a 10-person Happy Hour.

Whether you choose a dive bar like Ted's Place or a nicer bar like Replay Andersonville, you'll be sure to get your March Madness and beer fill. Drink responsibly.

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