The City of Highwood held its third annual Pumpkin Fest this past weekend, attempting to set the Guinness Book record of carving and lighting 30,000 jack-o-lanterns. Lake Forest College students Diana Rosales ‘14 and Arty Foster ‘14 were among a group of Foresters on hand to help contribute.
Liz Snider is the new Program Director of the Gates Center. She graduated from the College in 2010. She will be working with the commuter students, Greek chapters, Gates Leadership Scholars and other student organizations. During her time away from Lake Forest College she worked for the Greater Illinois Chapter of the Alzheimer’s association as well for Alpha Phi International. She is very excited to be back here at Lake Forest College because she feels that her experience as a student was very positive and she is excited to be back on campus in a professional role.

Q&A

With Liz Snider ’10
Program Director
John & Christine Gates Center for Leadership & Personal Growth

STENTOR: Where are you from originally?

SNIDER: I am from North Muskegon, MI.

STENTOR: What did you study at Lake Forest College?

SNIDER: I studied Sociology and Anthropology as well as Communication.

STENTOR: Where were you working after graduating from Lake Forest College? What position did you have?

SNIDER: After I graduated from Lake Forest, I went on to work for a short time for the Greater Illinois Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association as a team recruitment specialist for the 2010 Chicago Memory Walk. After my time at the Alzheimer’s Association, I worked at Alpha Phi International as the Coordinator of Collegiate Member Services.

STENTOR: What was your favorite part of LFC, what made you decide to come back? Any single factor or are there many?

SNIDER: I really enjoyed my time as a student at Lake Forest and think that the many opportunities to be involved in various clubs and organizations really made my experience so great. Since my experience as a student was so positive, I’m excited about the opportunity to work on campus in a professional role.

STENTOR: What about working in the Gates Center are you most excited about?

SNIDER: I’m most excited about the opportunity to work with the diverse student population at Lake Forest and the possibility of developing some new on campus programs.

STENTOR: What part do you think will be the most challenging?

SNIDER: One of the challenges I am most excited about is working to increase the level of leadership training we provide to on campus leaders. I think that programs like SOAP and President’s Council are great tools but I’m excited about the opportunity to strengthen these programs as well as develop additional opportunities for students to grow as leaders.

STENTOR: What exactly will your job entail?

SNIDER: As Program Director, I’ll be working with Fraternity and Sorority Life, Student Organizations, commuter student services, and the Gates Leadership Scholarship program.

STENTOR: Do you have a vision for the Gate Center? Anything major you would like to accomplish?

SNIDER: I would definitely like to increase the number of resources available to students and organization advisors, as well as ensure that current resources are being utilized.

STENTOR: Anything else you would like to say to the student body?

SNIDER: Please stop in and see me! I’m here to be a resource for you, so please feel free to stop by and discuss how things are going on campus. If you have an idea for a new program on campus, want to improve something that already occurs, or just want to chat, my door is always open!

Liz Snider started at Lake Forest College on Thursday, October 20. You can reach her at snider@mx.lakeforest.edu or by contacting the John & Christine Gates Center for Leadership & Personal Growth at 847-735-5210.
MSA hosts Ask a Muslim Student Anything Panel

BRITTANY PULLER ’14
CONTRIBUTOR
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On Thursday, Oct. 20, the Muslim Student Association (MSA) hosted their annual “Ask a Muslim Anything” event in the Skybox. The event consisted of student panelists that spoke. The student panelists for this event were fellow MSA members Anhar Mohamed ’14, Brittany Puller ’14, Rida Khan ’14, and Yusuf Ismail ’15, all of whom are either Muslims or are well acquainted with Islam. The panelists answered questions from the audience and from anonymous notes about topics spanning from personal beliefs in faith and modest dress to views on personal instances of discrimination and Islam’s association with terrorism. The panelists’ perspectives gave students modern and diverse opinions about Islam that helped to break down stereotypes about Muslims. Students asked questions like “Why don’t Muslims drink alcohol?” “Do you feel that it is difficult following Islam due to the fact that you’re away from home?” and “What is the difference between Islam and Muslim?”

“Even though it was an informal event, we had a good turn out. I really enjoyed how both students and staff were able to ask questions in an open setting. I really enjoyed how both students and staff were able to ask questions in an open setting. The fact we had different opinions and views of Islam both in the panel and in the audience shows how multi-faceted Islam is.” Puller is the president of MSA. The student organization holds their weekly meetings on Mondays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Senior 25 Lounge. All are welcome to attend.

Campus Watch

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Q&A with Eva Salzman
Contemporary American poet
Lake Forest’s Artist in Residence

Recent books include Double Crossing: New & Selected Poems (Bloodaxe) and the acclaimed Women’s Work: Modern Women Poets Writing in English (Seren). Her work is frequently broadcast on BBC radio, performed widely in UK and USA especially and translated internationally (French, Spanish, Romanian, etc). A recipient of a Cholmondeley Award from the Society of Authors, she has received grants from the Arts Council of Great Britain and won second prize in the National Poetry Competition. A Royal Literary Fund and West Midlands Fellow at Ruskin College, Oxford and Warwick University respectively, she has also held fellowships at Wesleyan Writers’ Conference and at Villa Mont Noir in France. She is co-writer of Start Writing Poetry for the Open University and teaches extensively within academia at graduate and undergraduate level and for all ages and levels: in schools, prisons and as part of adult education programs and community projects.

STENTOR: What kind of writing do you do?

SALZMAN: Apart from four books of poetry, my fiction has been broadcast on BBC radio and published in anthologies in both the UK and USA. My librettis for music-theatre and opera have been performed in the UK and Europe. I also write essays, features, reviews and pretty much anything a commission throws at me. Have pen, will travel... and I do often write first drafts in pen. Call me old-fashioned, but I love my pen.

STENTOR: What got you interested in writing? When did you know this is what you were going to pursue?

SALZMAN: It’s odd to talk about getting interested in something I’ve always done. Writing and books have been an essential part of my life for as long as I can remember. Frankly, I’m not good for anything else now.

STENTOR: Who are some of your favorite authors?

SALZMAN: That question always seems unanswerable. It’s more individual works rather than authors and my tastes are wide-ranging, in all genres: one might discriminate. Hell, I’d read a cereal box. My first reading was the 19th and 18th century novel. Slowly I moved forward in time to Hardy, Lawrence, Fitzgerald, Hemingway… The Romantics generally were the first poets to catch my attention, along with Sylvia Plath, who is such the staple for angst-ridden adolescents that I went off her briefly, embarrassingly, only to return to a poet whose technical finesse critics often overlook in favor of the sensual aspects of her life and death.

STENTOR: Where did you go to college? What are your degrees in?

SALZMAN: I received a BA from Bennington College in Dance, but functionally I was a double major in English too. At Columbia, where I got my MFA in Writing, I had the great fortune to study with a starry array of writers then in situ. At Stuyvesant H.S. in New York City, my English teacher was Frank McCourt. His class was nothing but telling us stories of his poverty-stricken childhood in Ireland. Apparently he was rehearsing on us the book Angela’s Ashes which would make his name. He got us to produce our own creative writing (really a dream class). I recall my attempts at hard-bitten, wordly vignettes of the tough streets of 1970’s NYC.

STENTOR: What special places has your work been published in?

SALZMAN: In the UK, where I’ve been living, I’ve been published in the Times Literary Supplement, Poetry Review, London Magazine, Encounter, The Spectator and leading broadsheet newspapers such as The Guardian, The Independent and The Times. It’s always an honour to have poems translated and published abroad and to revel in hearing one’s own familiar work made strange in the music of an unknown language. In this country, my poems have been published in the Kenyon Review and New Yorker.

STENTOR: Out of everything you’ve written, can you pick something you enjoyed writing the most?

SALZMAN: Not really. Writing is such a mix of anguish and pleasure to finally get something right. Although, once when writing an opera the composer came to me and requested a country western number at a certain point in the scene, something I’ve always wanted to write.

STENTOR: What is your favorite part about being a writer? What is most challenging?

SALZMAN: Publication itself isn’t the high point. The greatest satisfaction comes at the completion of work with which one is pleased, and there is great pleasure in the run-up to publication. The challenging bit is trying to live up to one’s utterly impossible standards and the practical aspects of how to pay the bills and find time to write. I tell my students in London all the very worst aspects of life as a writer, and then after I’ve given them the list of misery if they still want to be writers, well then, they probably are writers already.
Last year, nearly 500 Foresters dared to find out just what Haunted Hixon was, and entered an insane asylum of pure terror. Despite the screams of terror and the chilly October night, the cast of Haunted Hixon found more attendees than they could possibly admit in just one night. Over the course of the weekend, using just a small budget and space, the enthusiastic troupe put on one of the Fall Semester’s biggest events. Zombies, strobe lights, gore, and insanity were found inside the theater’s winding hallways and dark rooms. Asylum orderlies guided frightened groups around the maze of rooms for just under half an hour, showing the highlights of Haunted Hixon, while hoping not to disturb the real ghosts that reside within its walls.

This year the Garrick Players return with even more bone-chilling horror - and clowns! This year, we invite you to come to the circus, and see just what’s going on under the big-top. Admission is free, and the event will be held this coming Halloween weekend in Hixon Hall from 7 - 10PM both October 28th and 29th. Come one, come all - bring your friends, bring your roommate, bring your teammates. Come see the clowns, the lion tamer, the freak show, and the tightrope walker... but be forewarned: you may not make it out alive, or worse: you might become part of the act!

Want to get involved? It’s not too late to join the Garrick Players. We meet every Wednesday at 6:15PM in the Skybox.

Photos Courtesy of James Dunnigan ’12.

Clockwise from top left:
2. Johanna Becker ’13 is a wheelchair zombie.
3. Sydney Sailor appears to be a particularly frightful zombie.
4. The ghoulish and demented performers of Hixon’s 2010 Insane Asylum pose for a less-than-menacing photo.

JAMES DUNNIGAN ’12
CONTRIBUTOR
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Building Lake Forest College’s tangible symbol of spirit

CHRIS WAY ‘14
WAYCD@LAKEFORREST.EDU

Welcome to the 2nd half of the first semester! It’s crazy, but we are already more than one-fourth of the way done with the entire academic year. So many exciting things have already happened, are happening, and are going to happen. And some things are going to transcend one academic year and move into future generations at the College.

After meeting with the Board of Trustees Property and Operations Committee this past Friday, it is with great pleasure that I introduce a new project that will be taking off starting next semester and moving into the coming years.

The Campus Monument Committee is a recently formed group whose purpose is to create a timeline, procedure, and process to help bring a new monument to campus. This monument will hopefully serve as a rallying location for students in a time of celebration or emotional distress.

Lake Forest College has huge potential to create a community that will affect the lives of every person who crosses this campus. It is with this hope that the Campus Monument Committee has decided to pursue a project that will assist in this ultimate goal.

Now that our committee has been approved by the Property and Operations Committee, we are able to discuss ideas with the student body and gather input as to what students would like to see come from this monument.

Next semester there will be a design competition among the student body, alumni, and faculty/staff members. Any past or present member of campus will be able to submit their designs for the monument.

After the designs have been submitted, our committee, along with the help of President Schutt, will narrow down the top four submissions and then the Board of Trustees will choose the final design. Student input will be critical to inform the Board and President Schutt of exactly what we students want to see put up here on our own campus.

If you have any ideas about this project or would like to attend one of our meetings, please do not hesitate to contact yours truly at waycd@lakeforest.edu. I would love to hear from you and report back to my committee so that your individual voice is heard in the process of completing this project.

It may seem like a bit of self-promotion that I’m writing this article in a section that is devoted to campus optimism, but this is exactly what our project is about. I am constantly writing about the community on campus and ways in which students can actively engage with the campus in order to create a better living environment.

A monument is a tangible object that would allow students a chance to interactively engage with the campus. Many traditions could arise from this monument and it is our committee’s goal to make sure that all students’ voices are heard in the process of creating those traditions.

Please help out your College and speak up for this project. We want to hear from you. We want to build community. And we want to make Lake Forest College the best it can be. But this is only possible with your voice. Speak out and you will be heard!

Have a wonderful rest of your week and a happy and safe Halloween! I hope to see everyone in his or her best costumes at Friday’s Halloween ACP!

Beyond the media: Opening your eyes and ears to the real reality

KATIE TORKELSON ‘15
TORKELSONKI@LAKEFORREST.EDU

We hear so little about things happening all over our planet and we dare wonder why other countries find us to be so oblivious?

The Occupy Movements aren’t all about anti-capitalism or people who got a little crazy with their credit cards in the 90’s and are now seeking the easy way out. The Occupy Movements are about getting rid of corporate greed, fixing a broken system, raising awareness about media control and the actual state of matters, and, above all, changing the world.

I’ve heard people criticize the movement - “The corporations find loopholes, why don’t you whiny protesters look for those loopholes too and avoid taxes like them?”

The problem here is that we need to pay taxes. I’d like national parks to stick around, I’d like to see the FDA inspect food, I’d like to watch PBS, and I’d like to have the Postal Service. Why can’t corporations pay taxes?

Funding schools so they can have better workers in the future just makes sense, the old “teach a man to fish” adage is coming to mind here.

Our system is broken because we are being “represented” by politicians who can afford the shiniest campaign controls a lot of this and again, if the education system were to be funded better and we would seek out other forms of media, we’d be in a better place to hear all sides and cast a better vote.

Going along with the idea of media control, it never ceases to amaze me how little is known about this movement. In between classes and homework I try to post photos, links, videos, and political cartoons on Facebook and Tumblr in order to spread the word.

Last week, I was speaking with one of my professors about the Occupy Movements. Every single one of my classmates looked at us like we were talking about an obscure block party on Mars. Think about Yahoo! News, Fox, MSNBC, all of the other news stations. They hardly talk about the Occupy Movements. I’ve learned everything about the movements on websites, user uploaded videos on YouTube, and social networking sites.

The Occupy movement is afraid because they know that we are right! We scare them because without our mindless consumption of their wares (by that I mean reinforced stereotypes, cheap gimmicks, purposely false information, etc. I could go on about this but I’ll save that for a later article), they won’t be pumped with our money. It’s important to note that this again goes back to education: if they don’t help fund the school system, a large portion of Americans will be kept in the state of ignorance that is so often found today.

Another thing the media carefully omits from agendas is the coverage of world events.
Opinions

Reality cont.

We are constantly being lied to. Things aren’t deemed important until a media station finds ways to make money off of it. We hear so little about things happening all over our planet and we dare wonder why other countries find us to be so oblivious?

They know more about our state of affairs than we do! It’s not that we can’t go out and find this information; we literally have all of it at our fingertips with the Internet. But it’s that these media companies are widespread and lie to us when they claim that they are here to “inform the people about things that are important”.

All of these things mean that the Occupy Movements are revitalizing the backbone of democracy and basic human rights: we have the power to change things if we don’t like them. This is why I don’t understand opposition to the Occupy Movements. All the protesters are looking for is change. They want people to realize that our government is a part of us.

The government matters because we make it matter and we don’t have to feel bad if we say that we don’t like the way things are. We have a right to change it because we are it. Seriously, it was created so we would have better lives, why are you letting it do the opposite?

I support the Occupy Movements, I support making the lives of people better, I support change.

The sophomore slump: Why the second year just isn’t the same

FREDY VASQUEZ ’14
CONTRIBUTOR
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Freshman year is one of the most radically different years of their entire lives. Living up to your freshman year’s experiences seems to be impossible with such high standards from freshman year set. As is the case with many second things that come after great firsts, emulating the fantastic is difficult. The example here, of course, is last school year—which was my freshman year. My first year at college was a year of ups and downs, but it was also the most fun I have ever had.

However, after living on campus for a year, finances made it difficult for me to stay on campus again. As a result, I’m now a commuter for my sophomore year at college.

It is with this knowledge, that I raise the question of whether or not being a commuter makes the prospect of the sophomore slump that much more realistic? So far, I can say without a doubt that this is true. I cannot completely blame the school for this slump. Part of this cause is just my own shortcomings, such as a lack in event participation for example.

Try putting yourself in my shoes though: you’re done with class by noon, but there’s an event going on at 6:30 that everyone and then having it virtually eradicated the next is a big shock--at least to me is. This year it’s go to school; if I catch someone, talk to them, and then drive home and do homework. Whereas last year it was go to class, catch some lunch, go hang out for a while, go to dinner, do homework, go to the gym. The lists show major differences and my life certainly reflects it.

A solution? Well, commuters have been fighting to make the school a little more commuter friendly, but that’s a slow going process. That isn’t to say, however, that the school is the main problem.

A little effort is needed on the flipside as well—which is why I continue to write about my experiences.

“ It’s difficult but it’s part of being an independent individual: you have to break your normal boundaries and see what else a place or something might have to offer you."

President’s Corner

Get involved and enjoy the last bits of warm weather

ELISE BECKMAN
COLUMNIST ’13
beckmen@lakeforest.edu

What does it take to be a good president? Student? Person? These are questions that I often grapple with as I struggle to balance all of the responsibilities of being in leadership and also being a student. One of the best things about being a student at Lake Forest College is the opportunity to not only learn about oneself, but also lead others.

However, this is also one of the most difficult things about being a student at Lake Forest College: one must learn to balance all of the details in order to maintain sanity, and most importantly, happiness. As the semester rages on and things become even busier, I hope that you will have the opportunity to take a moment to think about what you are doing on campus.

Are you being a good leader? Do you enjoy what you do? Are you happy? I realize that I continue to write about happiness in this column. But I honestly think that it is a very important part of our experience here at the College. We are given an incredible amount of resources and opportunities to take part in this community. Use them!

If you need help getting involved, feel free to email me at beckmen@lakeforest.edu I would love to meet for coffee or a meal to discuss ways in which you can become better connected as a Forester. The reality is that four years is a short amount of time. It flies by, just trust me!

On another front, the Student Government Executive Board (SG EB) election season is upon us! Petitions for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and e.Team President will be available on Tuesday, November 1. If you have ever considered running for the SG EB, please do so! This is an awesome way to meet your fellow students and to serve the campus community.

Please feel free to email me with any questions or comments. Petitions will be due on November 8th and the annual Debate will take place on November 15th. More information will be provided via email within the next week!

Enjoy the last bit of nice weather! I have heard that this week is the last week in which we will experience any warmth. Get ready to crack out those heavy coats and boots!

Student Government will be hosting the final “Fall Day” of October this Friday. Make sure to stop by the table on your way to lunch!
Sports

UPCOMING GAMES

10/28/11
Women's Volleyball
St. Norbert
Lake Forest
7:00 PM

Women's Ice Hockey
St. Mary's (Minn.)
Lake Forest
7:00 PM

10/29/11
Cross Country
Midwest Conference
Championships
11:00 am
Ripon College - Ripon, Wis.

 UP!  

10/23/11
Men's Soccer
Lake Forest 1
Lawrence 1
Final - 2OT

Women's Soccer
Lake Forest 0
Lawrence 2
Final

Women's Volleyball
Grinnell 1
Lake Forest 3
Final

Women's Volleyball
Trinity Int'l 1.3
Lake Forest 1
Final

10/22/11
Football
Lake Forest 56
Lawrence 38
Final

Women's Volleyball
Grinnell 1
Lake Forest 3
Final

10/21/11
Women's Volleyball
Knox 0
Lake Forest 3
Final

WOMEN'S HOCKEY HOME OPENER
October 28 at 7 pm
vs. St. Mary's

Costume Contest!
- Best Costume
- Scariest PRIZES!
- Forester Pride

Also come support...
Volleyball vs. St. Norbert
7:00 pm - Main Gym