FRESHMAN GUIDE

Andrew Chapman
Comics Editor

Being new to a school as big as Loy Norrix can be hard and a little overwhelming at first.

Here are some things that you should know about.

The Loy Norrix Marquee

A series of slides detailing school news and events that runs daily on LNTV following the morning announcements.

The Winter/Holiday Formal

Hosted by the current junior class, this school dance features a holiday/winter-based theme. This year's dance is currently scheduled for December 1st.

Winterfest

The Homecoming Week's winter companion; Winterfest features events and activities with a winter theme. Highlights include: the crowning of a Winterfest King and Queen, the last chance for a class to claim the Spirit Jug, the last pep assembly of the year, and the Winterfest dance, the last dance that freshmen and sophomores can purchase tickets for.

The Spirit Jug

A trophy awarded to the class with the most points at the end of Homecoming and again at Winterfest. The class that is in possession of the trophy has bragging rights until the next chance at ownership.

Hallsweep

Where students found roaming the halls without a hall pass are sent, the Hallsweep room is located in C-16.

DON'T BE LATE GET TO CLASS!!!

Lunch

Lunch at Loy Norrix is unique in that you can find a food to suit any taste you might have that day, here is a rundown of the various lunch lines.

Casa Amigos: Specializes in food of the Tex-Mex variety, common entre'es include nachos, tacos, and taco salads.

Sandwich Central: Here you can build your own sandwich and wrap using a large variety of breads, meats, cheeses, vegetables and sauces.

The Fresh Grille: Specializes in Grilled food, common entre'es include burgers, chicken sandwiches, and chicken tenders.

Trattoria: Specializes in pizza and pasta, expect to find calzones, various pizzas, and ravioli.

Sports

Didn't find the right sport to join in the fall? Well don't worry, Loy Norrix has plenty of other sports to join in the winter and springtime; and if you need a refresher, fall sports are also included.

Fall- Cross Country, Fall Cheerleading, Football, Women's Golf, Women's Swimming, Men's Soccer, Women's Swimming, Men's Tennis, and Women's Volleyball

Winter- Men's and Women's Basketball, Competitive Cheerleading, Hockey, Men's Swimming, Winter Cheerleading, and Wrestling.

Spring- Baseball, Men's Golf, Softball, Track and Field, and Women's Soccer.

Fundraiser Aides Citizens in America as well as Uganda

Christina Pillsbury
Opinion Editor

According to Celeste Dely, 12 year old Kalamazoo resident, the reason she held a lemonade stand and gave all the profits to children in Uganda is because "I wanted to help other people- it makes me feel good."

This was the tone of the fundraising event held at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts on Friday, September 21st. The event was held to raise money for students in an Ugandan school called St. Kizito S.S. Bugolobi. These same students were featured in the Uganda Project of "Knight Life" last year. Hosted by the organization 4 oneworld, the event served to educate, inspire, and empower, not only children in Africa, but Kalamazoo residents as well. Citizens of Kalamazoo gathered to raise money for the St. Kizito computer lab by bidding on local and African art up for auction. Residents came together to eat, drink, be merry, and to fight for education for one world.

> " The youth of our community need to realize that there is a terrible, terrible need out there"
>
> Mimi Nevela

Founder Tara McKinney runs the organization 4 Oneworld, and its sole purpose now is to support St. Kizito. This school plays host to what McKinney calls "the most underprivileged children in the world." AIDS orphans and former child soldiers all find refuge in this private school in war-inflicted Uganda. The idea is that with education, these children can rise out of the poverty with which they are experiencing, and live the lives they wish to. Citizens of Kalamazoo are working to raise money to finance the computer literacy program for this school

Besides the hors d'oeuvres and the auction, the KIA played host to authentic African drumming and dancing on that Friday night. While attendees bid on art, a local drum-dance group, Dunya performed. One hundred and twenty items were auctioned off, coming to a total revenue of $12,000 for the organization. Needless to say, it was a success for the organization.

Attendees continued to have fun helping others, as Dely suggested. The dance floor was sparse at first but eventually filled with an eclectic group of people ranging from two to 60. The styles also ranged, from tiny tots trying to imitate the fast-paced, free-form dancing like that of Dunya, to older couples who seemed to be dancing to their own beats. All, regardless of age took their lead from Dunya in the joy they exhibited while dancing. Even Dunya is diverse in age. The youngest member is a pre-teen named Dasan Mitchell, who is a very talented dancer, and his mother, Kama Mitchell, also part of the group.

CHRISTINA PILLSBURY/ KNIGHT LIFE

Dasan Mitchell, a dancer for Dunya, entertains a younger guest on break. During the show he performs with a guest from the audience, he shows them a portion of a dance.

The diverse ages of the fundraiser attendees proved to be exactly what 4 oneworld is looking for. There were teens, youthful adults, and those of middle age and older who attended.But it is the youth who need to recognize this project and take notice, according to 4 Oneworld Secretary Mimi Nevala.

"The youth of our community need to realize that there is a terrible, terrible need out there," said Nevala.

After the dancing, drumming, eating and bidding was over, Tara McKinney addressed the crowd and presented the auctioned items to their winners. Part of this presentation included Loy Norrix students Emily Rooney and Sarah Leip who have been communicating with pen pals from St. Kizito.

McKinney probed the girls about why they want to help children in Uganda, and what it was like to have a pen pal across the globe. Last year, students from Loy Norrix learned a great deal by participating in a project that paired each of them with one student from St. Kizito School. According to "Knight Life" editor, a senior at LN, Emily Rooney, the Pen-Pal project taught her that students in Africa are more relevant to her life than she originally thought.

"They [students at St. Kizito] are just like us, and talking to a girl across the world who was less fortunate taught me this; she's just like me in many ways," said Rooney.

One of 4 Oneworld's goals is to make a connection with a local school and St. Kizito, and according to President Adam Stubbs, the pen-pal project accomplished this goal. Stubbs also believes that "Knight Life's" The Uganda Project of 2007 helped in making the organization more visible in the community. This was evident by the much larger turnout. Nevala also attributes the higher attendance to the accessibility of the venue.

"At the first fundraiser, we were litterally begging people left and right to come... but anyone can just walk into the KIA, I think that helps," Nevala said.

At the conclusion of the event, Stubbs, Nevala and McKinney expressed their excitement for the turnout, enthusiasm of the community, and need for continued efforts for the organization.

"This project began with an asking for help. And now we're asking you for help. Help the students of St. Kizito," Stubbs said.

New Teachers: The Road to Norrix

Angelo Murray
Photo Editor

With a staff of over 150 people. Loy Norrix welcomes 27 new teachers and staff members to our roster. Among the new teachers are two who come from very different backgrounds.

Bettina Smith who works in B17 and teaches English in the freshmen academy is among one of our new teachers. Smith is the second of four children. She was born and raised in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Growing up, her inspiration for finishing high school was her mother.

"Mom thought education was really important... she instilled an instinctive motavation, nothing external, she made me realize education was the only way I could transend," Smith said.

Smith is a LN alumni, and she compares LN then to now as "a different time." One of her most memorable times in high school was spirit week. She laughed at the fact that on crazy hair day, she wore her hair like Alfalfa. Smith ran with the popular crew. But she still managed to find time to play the violin and was a member on the debate team.

"I wasn't a cheerleader, more popular in an academic way," said Smith.

After completing high school, Smith went on to graduate from Western Michigan University. She studied English. While at WMU, Smith interned at Milwood Middle School, where she taught French and English. Smith had no experience yet in teaching French, so when her students were given flash cards to help them study, she would quiz herself with flash cards too. When Smith administered a test, she would take the test right along with her class, and sometimes students would correct her.

Before working for LN, Smith was a staff member of the program Nova Net, where students take classes online. While at Nova Net, Smith supervised many courses like government, physics and calculus. She said with a smile, "I would dread when I did anything calculus."

Overseeing so many subjects for over 200 students a day was difficult. "It's a lot less stressful," Smith said of Norrix compared to Nova Net. Smith loves the fact that she is interacting with students regularly at LN. "I absolutely adore being here," she said.

Another new teacher is Breann Wozniak, who teaches Biology in room C17. Wozniak was born in the small town of Alpena which is in Northern Michigan. She is the oldest of three. Growing up, Wozniak's parents set high standards for her to complete high school, and offered to pay a percentage of her college upon graduation.

Wozniak's parents kept in contact with her teachers by attending Parent Teacher Conferences, "My parents were involved with my teachers. They made sure I was on track," Wozniak said.

Wozniak attended Alpena High School. AHS is a rural school with not much diversity. The school made everyone feel accepted.

"It's a wonderful community to be a part of," said Wozniak. Although there was not much diversity, everyone was unique, and Wozniak ran with the preps. After high school Wozniak went on to graduate from WMU. When she graduated she went on to teach physics, chemistry and biology at Battle Creek Central and Allegan High School. The schools are similar to LN, Wozniak said, "It's really similar in most ways. Ask me later in the year, my answer should be different." So far Wozniak likes LN a lot. She likes the fact that she gets to teach in a larger classroom and teach upperclassmen, where before she taught freshmen. Wozniak is still adapting to LN though.

"I'm trying to figure out where the copy machine is," she said.

For now she is looking forward to getting to know the LN teachers and students. "This could be my second home," she said.

ANGELO MURRAY/KNIGHT LIFE

Breann Wozniak (top) gives instructions to her 4th block Biology class, for a group project. While Bettina Smith (bottom) gets her class ready to go to the library for an assignment.