Apathy Decides Student Senate Vote

By Kelsey Padilla
Voice Staff Writer

GALLUP—Although there are approximately 3,000 students currently enrolled at UNM Gallup, only 398 votes were cast in the recent UNM Student Senate election, which was held on Feb. 9 and 10.

So why the low voter turnout? Voting was announced on UNM Gallup’s Student Senate Facebook page on the day of the election at 11:09 a.m.

A total of eight candidates sought Student Senate positions as well as positions for treasurer, secretary and vice president, according to Student Senate advisor Anthony Billy.

Winners for senators were Arianna Joe with 59 votes; Matthew Begay with 41 votes; Lorelia Joe with 21 votes; Adam Rutherford with 37 votes; Mark Nez with 19 votes and Lewis Espinoza was elected as Student Senate Secretary with 23 votes, plus Delfred Sam retained his position as Student Senate Vice President with 84 votes, finally, Lisa Wilson was reelected to serve as Student Senate Treasurer with 76 votes, according to official election results.

New Student Senators can look forward to duties such as voting on legislation brought before the Student Senate and providing advice and insight in regards to possible on-campus activities, according to the UNM Gallup Student Government Constitution.

The first official meeting of the Student Senate was to be held on Feb. 26 in the Student Senate office, however due to conflicting student schedules, the meeting was cancelled, according to Billy.

February’s election was the second election to occur since 2014 when the Student Senate was disbanded under controversy, according to the Voice newspaper article “No More Self-Serving Senate.”

For additional information, visit the Student Senate office located in Gurley Hall, Room B225 and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The lack of participation from students will be one of the problems the current Student Senate will seek to address as well as endeavoring to update the roughly ten-year-old Student Government Constitution, plus addressing the decline of campus clubs within the past two years, according to Billy.

Senator Rutherford, a 17-year-old student of Middle College High School is now the youngest Student Senator who is an avid writer and fan of anime. Rutherford believes his experience with running UNM Gallup’s Writing Club will aid him in his new role as Senator. Treasurer

Continued on Page 3

Vow to Provide Mental Health Services

By Adrian L. Keyonnie
Voice Staff Writer

GALLUP—Since October 2015, the Student Health and Counseling program has been providing mental health services for post-traumatic stress disorder, suicidal tendencies, depression, chronic anxiety, date rape, alcohol and substance abuse.

Why does this matter? According to College Students Speak: A Survey Report on Mental Health (2012) report, one of the key findings was women are two times more likely than men to experience depression in their lifetime, plus the same report concluded reasons why survey respondents did not access (mental health) accommodations, which included an unawareness that they qualified for and had the right to receive accommodations, fear or stigma and the process for obtaining accommodations is too burdensome and requires too much documentation. SHAC works in complete confidentiality and no one has

Continued on Page 4

LGBTQ Center Fetes First Year

By Jeremy Yazzie
Voice Editor

GALLUP—Free coffee isn’t the biggest draw to the LGBTQ Resource Center anymore, but more and more students are dropping by to ask questions about their sexual identities.

Since the resource center opened its doors on campus over one year ago, February 2015, it has seen an influx of students, faculty, allies and community members stopping by to pick up resources such as brochures, safe sex kits and applications for volunteer opportunities, according to Liberal Arts major and Program Assistant Tia Howard.

“It’s becoming a welcoming environment where students can express their identities and here they know they are welcome and will be respected,” said Howard.

“On a typical day, we get about twenty to thirty people dropping by and it gets crowded in our little office, but we’re happy to see everyone.”

According to Maria Joy Oliver-Chavez, Sociology major and Program Assistant and Trans Inclusion Specialist, within a year, the resource center has conducted two Safe Zone trainings on campus, shown educational LGBTQ movies, disbursed HIV/STD prevention material, provided bullying prevention information and hosted a drag show for World AIDS Day.

“Since I started working here in October, I think we have made a big impact on campus,” said Chavez. “For example, I had one of the library employees come to us to inform them on bathroom policies because they wanted a transgender student to feel safe whenever she was there.”

Chavez also mentioned they have received sufficient support from the main campus LGBTQ resource center in operating UNM G’s programs and services.

The LGBTQ Resource is located in Gurley Hall, Room B213. Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Plus, the resource center serves free coffee until it lasts.

Volunteer Opportunities

Currently, there are four established volunteers that help operate the resource center, ac-
Editorial

Like the State of New Mexico and many of its citizens and residents, UNM-Gallup faces a tighter budget. This campus has been an integral part of the “lower Four Corners” community for decades. But the budget cuts required by the state will undoubtedly be painful.

Yet, UNM-Gallup remains a significant player in Gallup, McKinley County and the sovereign nations around us. Many of us are no stranger to economic downturns. And there undoubtedly will be more in the future.

But these downturns are good times to reassess of what we want out of life. Education is always a good way to develop new skills and talents that will help us take advantage of future opportunities.

Many reading this are already taking advantage of what UNM-Gallup has to offer. For those who aren’t, let’s be clear: education is not a luxury, it’s a necessity. Ben Franklin noted that “An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

Of course, getting a degree or certificate doesn’t guarantee success. But it certainly helps get one’s foot in the door. From then on it takes determination, consistency and continuing learning to help make the job successful.

Learning isn’t something that is given; it’s sought out and molded into what the person needs to do their job better, get a better position or even understand the world better.

Working together as a community, we can get through this down cycle and make a better home for all of us. As Franklin also wrote, “Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.” Get involved in your own education.

Library Revamp Coming Soon

By Melorie Begay
Voice Staff Writer

GALLUP - Renovations in the Zollinger Library will begin during the summer, according to Library Interim Director Rachel Hewett-Beah, renovations will take place on both the ground floor and the basement of the library.

The basement will also include a stairwell and an elevator to make the building more accessible. The ground floor will have an open layout so students can study in groups and move furniture.

“It’s going to look a little more like other libraries with a common area for students,” said Hewett-Beah.

A majority of the funding for these renovations will come from the state. The library will still be open, it’ll just be noisy,” said Hewett-Beah.

While the main floor of the library will be open during renovations, the basement will remain closed until spring 2017. Before students can use the basement, a HVAC system will have to be installed said Hewett-Beah.

In the meantime, students will be informed by library staff of any closures or excessive noise due to renovations.

For more information, contact the Zollinger Library at 505-863-7552.

“My best friend is a person who will give me a book I have not read.”
-Abraham Lincoln

Corey’s Vivid Portrayal

By Jeremy Yazzie
Voice Editor

GALLUP — About one hundred people attend UNM Gallup’s Artist Talk series on Feb. 2 for artist Corey Lamb of Indiana University.

Lamb presented an anthology of his charcoal drawings and paintings from an undergraduate to the spring semester’s inaugural exhibition, which was curated in the Ingham Chapman Gallery, titled “Cold Comfort.”

His mammoth drawing Bather (2013), graphite and charcoal on paper, a doleful anatomy of a child possibly in utero received great reception.

Another drawing in the cul-de-

sac of undergraduate work is Pattern 1 (2013), a sprawling charcoal drawing of his son’s face with topography underpinnings and an exceptional value scale.

However, it was Lamb’s painting Hide and Seek (2015), a grim interpretation of the assailant’s psyche of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, painted with a suite of oils on linen that completed a paradigm of pieces that captures Lamb’s grainy oeuvre of the tragedy.

As the country healed from the tragedy, Lamb said he immersed himself in his thoughts about society’s tension and grappling of the tragedy, which is why he titled his exhibition “Cold Comfort,” because according to Lamb, “… they haven’t been changed.”

In his painting New Challenger (2015), Lamb mines a melancholic utopia of oil and linen, showing faceless children laying the shoot-er to rest.

For more information contact Kristi Wilson at 505-863-7649.

The library will still be open, it’ll just be noisy.

-Abraham Lincoln

Bath 1 (2013), graphite and charcoal on paper, a doleful anatomy of a child possibly in utero received great reception.

Another drawing in the cul-de-

sac of undergraduate work is Pattern 1 (2013), a sprawling charcoal drawing of his son’s face with topography underpinnings and an exceptional value scale.

However, it was Lamb’s painting Hide and Seek (2015), a grim interpretation of the assailant’s psyche of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, painted with a suite of oils on linen that completed a paradigm of pieces that captures Lamb’s grainy oeuvre of the tragedy.

As the country healed from the tragedy, Lamb said he immersed himself in his thoughts about society’s tension and grappling of the tragedy, which is why he titled his exhibition “Cold Comfort,” because according to Lamb, “… they haven’t been changed.”

In his painting New Challenger (2015), Lamb mines a melancholic utopia of oil and linen, showing faceless children laying the shoot-er to rest.

For more information contact Kristi Wilson at 505-863-7649.
Vote

Continued from p. 1

Wilson believes Rutherford’s youth will bring a fresh perspective to the Student Senate and spark interest in younger student participation.

Senator Espinoza says he is looking forward to the challenge of serving on Student Senate, saying, “It’s nice to get involved when it’s for something positive.” Student Ryan Whitman remains president of Student Senate since 2015.

For additional information, the UNM Gallup Student Senate can be reached at 505-863-7644 or visit their Facebook page.

Bigfoot Invades

By Adam Rutherford

Voice Staff Writer

GALLUP--Bigfoot became part of UNM Gallup’s legacy.

On Feb. 11 and 12, Executive Director Dr. Christopher Dyre organized the Bigfoot in New Mexico: Evidence, Ecology and Behavior conference that featured Dr. Jeff Muldum, Professor of Anatomy and Anthropology at Idaho State University and New Mexico Naturalist Rob Kryder.

The turnout surpassed the room originally reserved for the conference, therefore Bigfoot aficionados had to be moved into the Calvin Hall Auditorium, still surpassing the room capacity of 500.

Meldrum presented an extremely blurry video of what he claims is Bigfoot while Kryder gave the more evidence, mainly focusing on casted footprints and additional pictures from Google Earth of foot indents in the dirt.

Allies for the LGBTQ Community

The resource center carries information on how to be an effective ally as well as bullying prevention resources for high schools.

For more information, call the UNM Gallup LGBTQ Resource Center at 505-726-6473 or visit their Facebook page.
Mental Health

**Continued from p. 1**

access to the sessions, which are conducted between yourself and the counseling services. Stephanie D. McIver, Ph.D., is the director of UNM counseling services on UNM main campus and she helps provide a staff of psychiatrists to nutritionists.

Through three free sessions, these professionals will give a triage and assessment by utilizing the Zoom conferencing technology, according to Career and Accessibility Resource Center Coordinator Mary Lou Mraz.

“We wanted to find a way to help students that couldn’t afford the cost due to no insurance coverage and also health care insurance doesn’t provide for these services,” said Mraz.

“The three sessions are an hour and half and are done with the assurance of complete security and confidentiality.’”

Anthropology major Alisha Davis said, “It’s a good thing,” she continued, “if they (students) have no one to talk to. They now have someone to talk to with less stress and it will make them feel better. It helps them focus and stabilizes them mentally.”

SHAC began as a response to students who couldn’t afford the cost of seeking help, according to the American Disability Act and the Equal Opportunity Act. SHAC is located in Gurley Hall, Room 1129 and is open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. To schedule an appointment, contact Mraz in the Career and Accessibility Resource Center, which is located on the second floor of GH or Jayme McMahon in the Student Services Director’s Office in the SSTC building.

---

**Film Review**

**Brooklyn**

By Melorie Begay
Voice Staff Writer

“Brooklyn,” directed by John Crowley, tells the story of a young immigrant woman finding love in America. Adapted from the novel of the same name, written by Colm Toibin.

Screenwriter Nick Hornby adapts the novel to create a well-balanced script. Hornby offers most of his attention to the character Eilis, which in return gives lead actor Saoirse Ronan a chance to shine. Ronan’s stellar performance combined with Hornby’s writing creates a film worthy of attention.

One of the opening scenes that gets the film rolling is a scene where Eilis tries to tell her boss she’s moving to America. This scene characterizes the type of person Eilis is, she’s shy and docile.

Upon arrival to America, Eilis moves into a house other Irish women, only this doesn’t ease the pain of being away from home. It isn’t until Eilis starts taking bookkeeping classes at a college that she begins to bloom.

Soon, Eilis meets Tony (Emory Cohen), an Italian-American boy, who’s sweet and kind. They fall in love and become inseparable.

At first, she wants nothing more than to return to America, she slowly becomes entwined with her old life in Ireland, getting a job and meeting a boy, Jim Farrell (Domhnall Gleeson).

In the end, Eilis has to choose between a life with Tony in Brooklyn and a life with Jim in Ireland.

On the surface, “Brooklyn” is a love story about an ambivalent immigrant girl faced with choosing between two equally desirable men, but underneath it’s a story about family, identity and home. These themes resonate with a wider demographic than immigrants alone.

It can be painful and terrifying, but leaving doesn’t mean never going back and going back doesn’t mean never leaving.

Home isn’t necessarily where you’re from rather, in the words of Tony, “Home is home.”