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Beacon Staff

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Students turn passions into businesses

ENTREPRENEURS PURSUE BUSINESS VENTURES ON CAMPUS

HANNAH WAMHOFF
THEATRE

There are many students on campus who have found ways to turn their passions into revenue while still studying at Northwestern. Three campus entrepreneurs, Cherish Shuka, Emily Linneweber and Matthew Shuka have started businesses in photography, makeup design and craftsmanship respectively.

Cherish Shuka began taking photos in college by photographing her friends before it became a money-making business. Matthew also started his business in craftsmanship from a passion to create.

Matthew started his business in craftsmanship from a passion to create. He began his business just by a love of creating, specifically woodworking. Matthew said, "I began to find great enjoyment in the creativity I could have in designing, creating and building things."

Eventually, friends and family saw and liked Matthew's work and began commissioning him to do replicas of past works or custom pieces. Although he does produce revenue, Matthew doesn't see this as anything more than a hobby that he'll schedule into his life when he has the time. It's a fulfilling hobby, but not one he sees becoming a job.

Emily is a senior psychology major who says, "Part of me didn't want to come here, simply because I had always known it to be my parents' place...I didn't want my time to be compared to their time."

However, in the end, NW felt comfortable and familiar. Emily is always ready with a fun fact for NW's all-too-familiar get-to-know-you games, where she is able to proudly say, "I lived in Coly first."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
American Authors release third album

ARTS & CULTURE

MOVIE REVIEW

A STORY OF TRUE FRIENDSHIP
MATTHEW AGUILAR

On Feb. 1, the Brooklyn-based band American Authors released their third studio album. The American Authors are best known for their 2014 smash hit “Best Day of My Life.” My li-eye-eye-eye-eye-ee-eye.

The band has proven their ability to produce upbeat pop songs. Seasons, however, takes an edgier tone. And quite frankly, I’m here for it.

In my opinion, this is the American Authors’ best album to date. Is it raw? Yes! Is it interesting? Catchy? Creative? Yes, yes and yes. “Deep Water,” the first single released from the album, is a slow and dark Lukas Graham-esque song about going through life with someone. The lyrics are beautifully crafted and show the band’s purposeful writing. Lead vocalist Zac Barnett sings, “Ain’t even scratched the surface — thinking I deserve the dream but I don’t deserve the hurting — I want the flame without the burning.

But I can’t find my purpose when I don’t know what my worth is.”

NEEDTOBREATHE fans may be surprised to hear the vocals of Bear Rinehart accompanying the American Authors on their track entitled, “Neighbor- hood.” The song is a melancholy account of someone moving from place to place with unapologetic but reminiscent goodbyes. The unexpected collaboration is successful and one of my favorite tracks on Seasons.

The band also teams up with Billy Raffoul on “Say Amen.” Raffoul, known for his raspy voice, slows the beat down and adds a tasteful dose of soul to the album.

Those who miss the old, upbeat-pop sound of American Authors will be thankful for the band’s fourth track, “I Wanna Go Out!” The song is playful and catchy. It reminds me of Grouplove’s 2011 summer-hit, “Tongue Tied.” Another feel-good tune, “Bring It On Home,” is joy and banjo-filled. These songs appeal to the band’s larger audience and do not disappoint.

Songs like “Before I Go” and “Real Place” tie up the album’s theme of living life with a purpose. The last two tracks of the album contain lyrics like, “I hope I live before I go” and “Turns out I was lost... from a real place, I just wanna know the truth.”

Love seems to be another main theme throughout the album, but I would not classify any of the tracks as love songs. Love comes in the form of friendship in “Neighbor- hood” and encouragement in “Deep Wa- ter” and “Stay Around!” In a culture whose music is love and sex-obsessed, it is refreshing to hear music with a broader focus.

Seasons by the American Authors is everything that Evolve by Imagine Dragons should have been. They successfully experimented with many styles of music without ruining the fluency of the album. The lyrics are meaningful and the instrumental is creative. I am giving the album four stars. There are many five star songs, but the lack of focus in the album keeps it from being a perfect score.

For the American Authors’ fourth album, I would love to see them pick a style and perfect it. Nevertheless, this album is satisfying and shows promise for the once “pop-only” band.
NW alum is rapper on the rise

**REASON FEATURED IN BLACK PANTHER**

**ETHAN HUSBANDS**

**PSYCHOLOGY**

On August 8, 2018, Top Dawg Entertainment (TDE) a music label that is home to artists like Kendrick Lamar, SZA and Schoolboy Q, signed its newest artist. The newest signee, a rapper going by the name of REASON, has since dropped his debut album to positive reviews. According to an online interview, REASON has only been rapping for four years but per a Hot New Hip Hop interview he started freestyling to kill time at none other than Northwestern College. Previously known as Robert Gill, he graduated from NW in 2012 with a business major.

Born in south central Los Angeles, REASON is no stranger to what it's like growing up and seeing gang violence, addiction and drug dealing firsthand. He continued in the Hot New Hip Hop interview talking about how he started making music on his MacBook for fun, but it shortly turned into an outlet for him to talk about what he was going through.

On one of his tracks, “Better Days,” he opens up about a cousin who almost lost his life to drug addiction. The first two verses come from a place of anger and resentment but on the third verse, you can hear the regret in his voice and words. REASON boasts in a freestyle performed on Power106 Los Angeles, that he’s “from the bottom but headed high” - a bar that could be taken both as a metaphor for going to heaven in achieving success. Part of what makes REASON such a captivating artist is his lyricism. When he says he’s from the bottom, he really means it. He tells in a mass appeal interview that the reason he moved from south central LA to Carson is because his neighbor shot his wife in the middle of the day.

From not being able to go outside as a kid to playing basketball at NW and turning down a contract to play professional basketball overseas, REASON has remained himself and lives to tell the trials and tales of his life.

REASON had a specific purpose for signing with Top Dawg Entertainment. The rapper said, “When we would go to meetings with record deals, the majority of the conversation was about social media following and SoundCloud plays. Hardly ever would they focus on the music, but TDE was different.”

In the meeting with TDE, they spent an hour and a half playing music and told him not to worry about his number of social media followers.

After he was signed to TDE, Kendrick Lamar was executive – producing the soundtrack to the Oscar-nominated film “Black Panther.” Originally, REASON wasn’t going to be involved, however, someone didn’t turn in their verse on time and he was in the right place at the right time. Being featured in the song “Seasons” in the film’s soundtrack helped REASON garner millions of streams and a larger audience. Although his first project didn’t get nearly the same exposure that some of the more pronounced TDE artists have gotten, REASON shows both potential and poise.

Check out a NW’s notable alum and TDE’s most recent signee, REASON, on Spotify and other music services.

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**OC library to host trivia night**

**REMAINS**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

The Orange City Public Library is hosting an all-new trivia event, designed specifically for college students so they can put their knowledge and quick wit to the test once again.

The library in October. She chose the activity because she loves trivia and thinks it will be a great way to draw in more adults, especially college-age students.

“I am trying to find events that the patrons will like and attend, and I think a trivia night is a fun thing to do.” - Parveen Karim

Teams of four or more will sit at tables and answer the questions that Karim gives. She promises that the questions are a good balance of difficulty so that they aren’t too hard or too easy. The winning team will receive a prize, which may include a box of chocolates since the event is on Valentine’s Day, however, that is still in the works according to Karim.

As for whether or not the library will continue to host trivia night events like this one is still uncertain. The future will depend on attendance at this event, since this is the first time the library has hosted anything like this. However, they are hoping that this event will get staff at the library more connected with college students so they can communicate with that age group to find out what students would like to see happen at the library.

Karim says that college students should come to this event to have fun and find something exciting to do in a warm building away from the cold. Those who are interested, must register at https://orangepubliclibrary.com/residents/library/ before Monday, Feb. 11. The event will be at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 14, in the basement of the library and is expected to last an hour.

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**TEAMS OF FOUR NEEDED FOR EVENT**

**RACHEL KOERTNER**

**PUBLIC RELATIONS**

All those who didn’t win at Northwestern’s Trivia Night now have another shot at glory. The Orange City Public Library is hosting an all-new trivia event, designed specifically for college students so they can put their knowledge and quick wit to the test once again.

Trivia Night, is part of the library’s Winter Reading Program, which runs from February 1 through March 2. The program’s theme this year is “bundle up with a good book.”

Other events beside the Trivia Night include a lock-in for high school students, a craft night and a night to build forts with chairs and blankets.

The library is always looking to expand their programming, so they are very excited for this occasion to draw in more adults. Assistant Director Patricia Karim who is in charge of trivia night, and

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**PHOTO COURTESY OF GOOGLE IMAGES**

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Unsung heroes of NW: Chad Miller

There are many staff members on campus that students do not realize play a large role in keeping NW running smoothly—for instance, those in the maintenance and the security department or the staff who arrive at 3 a.m. to various buildings each morning to clean. As the director of environmental health, Chad Miller is one of these key players who are vital to NW.

Miller handles campus safety training on various subjects and coordinates the fire drills each semester. Miller works with organizations like Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and individuals such as the Iowa State Fire Marshall.

Miller started at NW 10 years ago after several years of working in the corporate world. This change occurred due to his love of higher education, which is why, when asked his favorite part of the job he replied, “Easy; working with students.” He loves the atmosphere of universities and the liveliness of college students.

While here, Miller has helped the campus stay a Groundwater Guardian Green site as recognized by the Groundwater Foundation. To be named a Green Site by the Groundwater Foundation, an organization’s responsible use of chemicals, pollution prevention and water quality are taken into account. NW’s campus has been given this title 10 years in a row.

Miller is also the Biology/Chemistry Department Lab Coordinator. In this position, he sets up lab equipment, answers students’ questions, assists with instruction and orders supplies.

Sophomore Abby Petrick said, “He is always so personable and willing to talk with students he doesn’t know.”

Students like Patrick are able to interact with him most often in the new Jack and Mary DeWitt Family Science Center but are also able to catch him at various places around campus when he is acting as the director of environmental health.

More so, Miller would love to stop and chat with any student about his hobbies or his family. He enjoys riding horses and helping around the family farm where he lives with his wife, Erin, and their three children, Shannon, Samuel and Connor. This farm lifestyle reflects his life philosophy of “keep things simple and to the point.” He has plenty of funny stories to tell about “foolish and dangerous things” that have happened because of students on campus these last 10 years. However, he encourages students not to get ideas from any of the stories he may recount because he would rather not see someone get hurt.

Although reckless student decisions were the fuel that led to the stories he loves to tell, they have also created the biggest obstacle to Miller’s job. He is “constantly reminding people to not take safety for granted and to be aware of what they are doing and their surroundings.” Students should keep in mind that their behavior affects not only themselves, but campus staff members around them.

Miller would like to leave this advice for the student body: “Maintain your Christian beliefs after graduation. The real world needs individuals with morals who are willing to be honest and upfront.”
Professor Leif fan of Metallica and philosophy

LEIF ENJOYS MORE THAN THEOLOGY

HANNAH ROSS
WRITING & RHETORIC

Professor Leif teaches theology here at NW, but he also loves listening to rock music, watching movies and playing in a band with his son called The Hiccups. They play at The Fruited Plain in Sioux Center. Leif’s top three favorite bands are The Foo Fighters, Metallica and Led Zeppelin. If he had to pick a movie that is a staple of American culture, he’d say Wayne’s World, though his favorite movie is Punch Drunk Love.

Leif grew up in Willmar, Minn. until he was in sixth grade, when his parents moved his family to Mason City, Iowa. He attended Mason City Newman Catholic high school before coming to NW. College was a very important time of self-discovery for Leif.

“For me, college was the place where I was introduced to an entirely different way of thinking and it changed my life, set me on a certain trajectory,” he said.

Leif pursued theology and philosophy because he loved thinking about big ideas.

“I really enjoyed trying to understand scripture, trying to understand ideas about God and the world, and I really enjoy digging into some of those bigger questions.”

He also loves philosophy and trying to find what truly matters. He had a painful moment of clarity when he experienced the death of a family member.

“My wife and I lost a child,” Leif said. “We had twins, and we knew one was going to live and one wasn’t. That was an important moment for me, because when you lose a child, even though she only lived for 4 days, it changes the way you think about the world. It changes how you think about what really matters and doesn’t matter. For me, that was a sad moment, but also a moment of clarification of what really matters and what doesn’t.”

His first teaching job was at a small Christian high school in Bigelow, Minn. for one year before moving to Pella where he taught history and Bible at Pella Christian High School. Once he had his master’s degree from Wheaton College, he taught at Dordt College for ten years. He also earned his Ph.D. from Luther Seminary.

His teaching philosophy is centered around the idea that teaching students facts is not as helpful as teaching them to understand the concepts. A lot of his classes are discussion-based.

“I’m much more interested in creating a space where students can talk back to me so that it’s not just me answering questions that nobody is asking.”

His all-time favorite class to teach is theology and pop culture. In this class, students watch films and listen to music, trying to understand what’s going on in the world and how things connect. One of his other favorite classes is spiritual formation. For the first part of class, they meet at the Church of the Savior spending time in prayer, and then go back to the classroom.

“I just like helping students explore spirituality and some of the practices.”

It’s interesting for me to see them awaken to what spirituality is really about and helping them become more comfortable in their own skin,” he said.

He hopes that through this class he can help students recognize “that spirituality isn’t overcoming our own humanness but embracing it.”

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jason Leif, professor of theology, hopes students can understand concepts he teaches and not just memorize facts.

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RD kids reminisce

FROM PAGE 1

Josh, on the other hand, says, “My father’s position as RD played a role in my decision from a young age… without his connection to Coach Bahrke (the cross country and track coach), Northwestern may not have been on my radar nearly as much as it is.” Josh is currently a sophomore accounting major and runner for NW.

Starr’s last words of advice to current and future RDs is this: “If you’re going to have kids as an RD, you have to be a flexible family that doesn’t mind the constant social interaction and be able to take a ‘team approach’ to the job.”

NW currently has three RDs with kids living on campus: Kendall Stanislav and his wife Ashley, Celeste Ryan and her husband Nathaniel and Tyler Zentenhorst and his wife Rachel.

The Ryans are raising their two girls in Stegenga Hall and love the atmosphere surrounding them: “Our girls love hanging out with the women of Steg and getting all kinds of attention… the setting is so much fun,” Celeste says.

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Current NW students Emily and Josh Starr’s father was the resident director of Coly in the ’90s.

PHOTO BY: LAUREN FABER
NW education undervalued

Maybe NW needs to focus on attracting students who will value learning and desire more than just a diploma. Maybe current students need to do a better job of encouraging each other’s education and taking interest in what their peers are learning.

— Matt Scott

Northwestern is an institution of higher education; yet, students often seem to overlook this. Many student athletes “didn’t come here to play school.” However, this goes beyond the athletes at NW. The student culture is often very negative towards learning, especially in prerequisite and general education courses.

As a math tutor, the worst classes to tutor are entry-level statistics and calculus courses. These classes are often full of students who need the class to fill a requirement or a prerequisite. These are the same students who are typically not invested in learning the actual material and will take any shortcut available to them. When they come into the tutor center, they sit down and expect to learn entire units in one evening (side note: the tutor center is a great resource and is not abused by most students being tutored). They say things like, “They never taught us this!” or, “How am I supposed to know how to do that?” when in reality, they seldom pay attention in class and would not even consider opening up their textbooks.

The lack of passion for education produces negative consequences for more than just grumpy old math tutors. The group this most directly impacts is the students who have poor attitudes toward learning. Students who take shortcuts in their prerequisite calculus courses should expect to struggle once they reach higher level courses. It is not the professor’s fault you managed to pass statistics without retaining a single piece of knowledge. Do not be surprised when you feel overwhelmed by new material, you started this course an entire semester behind. Additionally, the consequences of failing to learn go beyond these students’ four years at NW. For many students, college is the most transformative time of their lives. Allowing yourself to repeatedly seek out shortcuts now will make it much easier for you to continue to do so after graduation.

This attitude toward learning will also have a negative impact on these students’ peers and professors. If these students need a “review” of what they have failed to learn in past semesters, the first week of classes will always be incredibly dull for those who take their education seriously. This can also be frustrating for professors who want to make significant progress throughout the semester. Professors have to choose between teaching the course at a high level and receiving positive feedback from students in faculty evaluations.

The negative externalities of these students’ attitudes also go beyond NW’s campus. Wherever they are or whatever they are doing, alumni represent their alma maters. Graduates who fail to learn anything will represent NW whether we want them to or not. An employer who hires a NW student will base their expectations for future graduates on their current employee. Graduates who have developed poor habits as students will have a much more difficult time representing NW well once they reach the real world.

This leaves me wondering what can be done about this culture of negativity. Without any serious data it is hard to say who is to blame. Maybe professors need to focus on attracting students who will value learning and desire more than just a diploma. Maybe current students need to do a better job of encouraging each other’s education and taking interest in what their peers are learning. Adding more events like the Celebration of Research is definitely a way NW can facilitate a culture that places a higher value on learning. Whichever way NW decides to handle this, it ought to be addressed if the school wants to attract students with a willingness to invest serious time and effort into their education.

Long distance is possible

It surely is easier to be in a relationship when you can see the person every day and talk to them whenever you want, but the best things aren’t necessarily always the easiest. Relationships come with their hard times and their easy times. You argue, you make up and you agree to disagree sometimes. There will be fights, especially with distance. It’s not healthy if couples don’t fight because that means someone isn’t being completely honest. It’s impossible to fully agree on everything with someone.

If you truly care about someone, you can make it work through anything. Both people in the relationship have to be on the same page with where the relationship will go and if it’s better to break up now, try to work it out or not even think of it and put no pressure on it.

My boyfriend of two years is finishing his senior year of high school while I’m completing my first year in college. Before I left, we had a long conversation about how things could potentially end – I told him there was no way a ‘break’ was going to happen.

We weren’t going to put it off altogether and then break it off later when our timing might be “more convenient.” It is easy to think of the “what-ifs” in a long-distance relationship, but distance makes the heart grow fonder and creates a deeper commitment. Either you’re in it or you’re not.

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VARSITY MATCH IN 16 YEARS
MEN'S TENNIS PLAYS

they will receive significant
half minutes; any longer and
once for fewer than two and a
Each team performs only
of six teams with a score of 61.2.
Northwestern finished fifth out
of the year. At the competition,
their first major competition
University in Seward, Neb. for
They hit the road for Concordia
in the dark to load the vans.
team stumbled across campus
Feb. 2, the Red Raider cheer

AIMS TO PRAISE GOD

Tennis in Minnesota is the start of something new

MEN'S TENNIS PLAYS FIRST
VARSITY MATCH IN 16 YEARS

KENDRA MCGINNIS
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Northwestern’s newest variety sport
began competition Friday, Feb. 1, in
Minnesota. NW men’s tennis team lost
against Bethel University 0-9. The team
was able to muster eight games overall
against Bethel, who has a long history of
competitive play coming off their 9-0 win
against Simpson College last weekend.
The standout game in singles was
sophomore Christopher Jelken who
managed to take three games away
from Bethel’s number one. Several other
Raiders, including sophomore Peyton
Scott and freshman Caleb Ketelsen, were
also able to claim a few games.

Doubles play also led to several
game victories against Bethel. Jelken
and sophomore Bradley Bourland took one
game at the number one doubles position.
Scott and junior Zane Weigand
managed one game against Bethel’s number
two doubles team.

NW men’s tennis rejoins the GPAC
conference after 16 years of absence.

The last varsity season was ‘02-’03.
The team is coached by theater professor
Jonathan Sabo. Sabo has played tennis for
more than 20 years and is a member of
the Professional Tennis Registry. Before
coming to NW, Sabo coached men’s
tennis for eight years at Bethel College in
Mishawaka, Ind.

“Our trip to Minnesota was a good experience for the young men on the
team,” Sabo said.

The men’s tennis team will travel
to Eden Prairie, Minn. to play two teams
on Friday, Feb. 8. The Raider’s will face
Bethany Lutheran in their season opener
and Martin Luther College who is 0-1 in
the pre-season. The men’s tennis team
will begin conference play against Concordia
University March 9 in Seward, Neb.
Scholarship Auction to take place on campus

KAITLYN ASMUS  
WRITING AND RHETORIC

As a private school, Northwestern provides many opportunities for financial aid for their students. These opportunities benefit a multitude of students and assist them in financially affording the Christian community experience that NW offers. One of the fundraisers this year includes the 36th annual Scholarship Auction on Saturday, Feb. 9, a chance for patrons, alumni and students to enjoy a social event and participate in a meaningful cause.

This event will begin with a pancake breakfast at 7:30 a.m. hosted by the American Legion in Orange City. The morning will include a silent auction and an audibler auction taking place in the Rowenhorst Student Center. The four sections of the silent auction will begin closing at 9 a.m. in increments of 30 minutes. People will have the chance to write down bids for the products they find intriguing until the time runs out. There will also be a “buy-it-now” option for each of the 260 items in the silent section, in which the item can be purchased on the spot for one and a half times the original price. That event begins at 9 a.m.

The audible auction, beginning at 11 a.m., will include over 100 items, including professional golf items, fishing trips, a Magnolia trip, professional sports items, homemade t-shirt quilts, flower arrangements and more. While there will be many larger items at the audible auction, the silent auction will have both small and large items. The Scholarship Auction will end between 12:30 and 1 p.m.

Volunteers, NW alumni and current students will assist throughout the morning. As a National Alumni Board event, there will be many well-known faces helping out with items and bidding numbers during the auction. With over 208 donors from all over the country, the auction is a big opportunity to raise money for NW. Last year, about $35,000 was raised which allowed 198 scholarships to be given away. This year, they hope to exceed this amount.

The auction is run by a computerized system, which makes it easy to use an assigned number in the morning and pay at the end. Many businesses throughout the community get involved with donations, advertising and participation.

There will be other tables at the Scholarship Auction, including a table with complimentary pop, popcorn and Twin Bing bars, a second-chance table for items that were not originally sold during the silent auction and a table with discounted NW clothing.

With a morning filled to the brim with excitement, the Scholarship Auction on Saturday is an event you won’t want to miss.

Saturday brings dress-up bingo night

This Saturday night, Feb. 9, the Student Activities Council is hosting the annual Dress-up Bingo Night. This will take place at 8 p.m. in the Rowenhorst Student Center four-court area. The event, a favorite among students, provides an exciting opportunity to dress up like senior citizens going to a bingo night with friends.

The event will include several rounds of bingo with increasing difficulty as the rounds progress. As the game gets more difficult, the value of the prizes will also increase. Students discouraged by their lack of skill in sports or arts will appreciate the lack of skill necessary to play this fun and classic game of chance.

Students participating in this event have the opportunity to come home with big-ticket prizes for winning rounds of bingo. Possible prizes include an Xbox One gaming console by Microsoft, a custom-made high-quality Sector 9 longboard, convenient and high-tech wireless earbuds, assorted Bluetooth speakers, tickets to see the Minnesota Timberwolves play basketball, a conveniently-placed reserved parking spot on campus, a Townsquare Coffee-house and Kitchen mug with included gift card, a retro mini-fridge and much more.

Junior Emily Weber says, “Bingo night is one of my favorite campus events because everyone breaks out their best grandparent clothes and we all look so silly together.” Sutton Derr encourages students to go to the event because “it is a great opportunity to be with a bunch of friends and possibly win a great prize.”

Many students said their dorms’ costume closet, make trips to Bibles for Missions or go home to borrow clothing items from family members. Some students are so invested in this event that they adopt “old-age” voices, put on old-age makeup, and stay in character throughout the event.

One reason this campus tradition is a student favorite is because it breaks up the long weeks in February before Spring Break. Bring your significant other, your roommate and your wing along for a silly night with a fun game that requires no skill. Join the entire campus in the RSC four-court area this for a great night of bingo.

Michael Simmelink and Sutton Derr are representatives of the Student Activities Council and are willing to answer questions regarding this event.

PHOTO COURTESY OF NWCMARCOM

Many prizes are given out at Bingo Night held in the RSC court area.

THEATRE

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