10 years of RUSH to be celebrated

BY EMILY WALLACE

The upcoming performances of RUSH will mark the 10-year anniversary of what has become one of Northwestern’s most popular rituals.

RUSH was originally founded by Corinne (Mings) Christian, Becky Fanning) Donahue and Heather Sidney—all NW alumni from ’03.

“The founders wanted to create a space for those with experience and those without to have fun with dance,” said junior Rowan Sullivan, RUSH stage manager.

Rumors have been circulating around campus that the founders will possibly perform this year’s RUSH to celebrate the anniversary.

“I don’t want to kill all the surprises, but the founders will be attending the performances,” Sullivan said. “They are coming back to see what the show has become because when they started it was nothing.”

The founders created RUSH because they were all involved in the theater program at NW.

“The theater department pushes students to sponsor programs,” Sullivan said. “They wanted an outlet for dance.”

Only 15 students signed up to participate the first year of RUSH. By its second year, the program had become so popular that auditions had to be held. Now in its 10th year, RUSH has evolved into an elaborate production involving more than 100 students.

The planning process is broken up into three branches: producer, stage manager and choreography director. According to Sullivan, planning is taxing on the students involved.

“I will probably spend three to five hours a day the week before RUSH working on it and around two hours a day two weeks beforehand,” Sullivan said. “The week of RUSH is just crazy.”

Even those who did not participate in the planning have spent many hours working on RUSH to put on an impressive show for their audience.

See “Founders” on Page 8

“Life” is a show for all ages

BY JACKSON NICKOLAY

The Northwestern College Theatre department will open the season this weekend with its first main stage show of the children’s play “Still Life with Iris.”

The play follows the story of a little girl named Iris who lives in a magical world called Nocturno. The people of this strange world work all night to make the things that the world uses during the day.

The memories and personalities of each of the citizens of Nocturno are stitched into the coats they wear. If any part of a coat is damaged or lost, the wearer could lose a part of his or her memory. Throughout the course of the play, Iris loses her coat and is forced to go on a journey of discovery in an attempt to find herself again and remember who she truly is.

Jonathan Sabo, Professor of Theatre and Speech at NW and the scenic designer for the show says: “Probably the biggest theme is ‘Who am I without my past or my memories?’ Because without those, [Iris] is nothing.” Iris faces this crisis of identity with very little to depend on and, at first, no one to share her journey with.

See “Children’s” on Page 2

INSIDE this issue:

• Page 2: Review of “Insidious Chapter 2”
• Page 4: Thrive Workshops aim to help students thrive
• Page 7: Volleyball beats Dordt

Famous jazz musician to perform

BY DELANEY DUGGER

Northwestern College will be hosting the famous clarinetist Doreen Ketchens and her jazz band, Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans, at Raider Days homecoming this Friday, Sept. 27. The band will perform at 8:30 p.m. on the campus green and will also have a jazz workshop for music students at 4:30 p.m. in Christ Chapel.

Members in Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans band include herself on clarinet; her husband, Lawrence, on tuba; Dwayne Nelson on drums; Paul Kmnitz on guitar; and Pete Hittle on the trumpet.

Ketchens’ band has quite the reputation following them. It has produced 21 CDs and 3 DVDs. Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans has performed throughout the United States and in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and Russia. The group has also had the privilege of performing for four U.S. presidents, including Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George Bush Sr. and Bill Clinton. Along with these prestigious performances, the band also plays at many schools to educate students of all languages on the culture and music of New Orleans.

Ketchens is connected to Orange City through Gary Bouma. Bouma grew up in Orange City and graduated from Northwestern. He taught at Unity Christian High School from 1964 through 1968 and at Dordt College from 1969 through 1985.

“I met Doreen in 2001, on the streets of New Orleans,” Bouma said. “I was there judging a music contest and happened to hear her band playing in the French Quarter while I was on break.”

Students practice for their RUSH dance choreographed by Tyler Gleason. RUSH will open at 7 p.m. on Thurs., Oct. 3. Performances will also take place at 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Fri., Oct. 4, as well as at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. on Sat., Oct. 5. This year marks the 10th anniversary of RUSH.

“10 years of RUSH to be celebrated”

See “Founders” on Page 8

“Life” is a show for all ages

See “Children’s” on Page 2
Second Insidious film falls short of scary

MOVIE REVIEW

BY THERESA LARRABEE

Two years have gone by since the first “Insidious” movie was released, yet as “Insidious Chapter 2” opens, it has been mere days since the Lambert family got their son back from a demonically induced coma.

Unfortunately, the nightmare is not over for this family. When Josh Lambert, played by Patrick Wilson (“The Conjuring,” “The A-Team”), went into The Further, the spiritual realm where these demons reside, he brought something back with him. Something that needs him and his family to die in order to live again.

The highlight of the film is that the ghosts and other special effects, both in The Further and in the real world, were well done and convincing.

The movie as a whole, however, fell short of being scary. There were many times when the movie was building, and viewers were prepared to be spooked but were disappointed.

Many elements of the first movie were continued, yet the same tricks were used over and over again. The ghosts in the closet were too unrealistic to actually be scary.

In the end, “Insidious Chapter 2” is your average scary movie. You’ll jump a few times, probably cover your face for a bit, and constantly ask the characters “Why would you do that?”

Rating: ★★
Vanderhill highlights local beauty with new art exhibit

By Jacob Christiansen

"Art is a very human endeavor," said Margo Vanderhill, a local artist. "It is a way of looking for truth." Vanderhill, a local artist, is currently being displayed in an exhibit by Vanderhill, Transforming the Landscape. The exhibit also features a variety of local night scenes.

"Night is more mysterious," she said. "Many things are hidden, but you're aware of so much. It's incredible." Vanderhill takes photographs of local areas and then captures the mood of night by drawing on black pigmented paper. Her pieces speak to human connection.

"Even though there aren't people out at night, you're aware of them by the lights that are on or what's left in the yard," Vanderhill said. "You imagine families gathered inside cozy houses, and contrast that with the empty streets." Vanderhill's new work will be on display until Oct. 18. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to midnight Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m. to midnight on Sunday.

This exhibit is an extension of what Vanderhill feels is her goal as an artist.

"There are some things you can't put into words. That is the artist's job — to explore the beauty in God's creation."

Prisoners delivers heartbreak and horror

By Megan Vipond

"It's Thanksgiving dinner. Two families are gathered to share the day as they joke and play together. Two young girls decide to grab something from a second house but don't return. Suddenly Thanksgiving has turned from the ideal get together to a nightmare. Viewers of the new film Prisoners follow Keller Dover (Hugh Jackman) as he does whatever it takes to get his daughter back — whether it's legal or not. Detective Loki (Jake Gyllenhaal) has been assigned to the case, and his record says that he always gets the job done and the case solved. This time, however, Loki has his work cut out for him. Dover demands results and then seeks them out on his own. But will their efforts be in vain? Will they be able to find the two girls before it's too late?

This new fast-paced crime thriller is not for the faint of heart. The twists and turns are sure to make the audience ask the question: "How far would I go if this situation affected my family?"

A few small quirks prove to be distracting from the main plot: a stray artistic shot that didn't quite fit or acting choices that surely helped to build character but were never explained or justified. Though noticeable, these distractions were few and far between.

The movie delivered what it promised (maybe even a bit too much). It is more graphic than expected, with scenes involving torture and injuries that are unarguably disturbing. However, these scenes help tell a realistic story of a man desperate to keep his family united and a kidnapper who sees the world through a skewed lens.

Prisoners is sure to quiet a room, and is well worth the cost of a movie ticket.

"Please don't put anything in the Beacon about my obsession with girlbands. It's not true."

- Professor Mike Kugler in Historical Perspectives

"If CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ) becomes established on campus, will that overstep our own campus ministries?"

- Thought-provoking words from senior Aaron DeBoer

"Katy Perry will love us."

- Professor Jonathan Sabo in reference to the cotton candy-colored floor for the upcoming play.
Features

DeWitt family passionate about Northwestern

BY JORDAN DYKSTRA

Even before donating large sums of money for Learning Commons, the DeWitt family has been a household name on campus. The chapel, music hall and theater building were some of the more recent projects completed with large DeWitt contributions. Surprisingly, not a single member of the DeWitt family has ever attended Northwestern.

For Jack and Mary DeWitt, for whom the Learning Commons is named, Northwestern is a special place.

"Whenever we visit this campus, you can really see the difference in the students and staff," Mary DeWitt said. "You can see it in their eyes, actions, the respect they show and their love for Jesus. It really sets it apart from other colleges and even other Christian colleges."

Although none of the DeWitt's ever attended Northwestern, Jack recalled a time when he visited Northwestern with his father in the 1980s.

"I was working at our Storm Lake turkey plant at the time, and my dad took me with him on a drive to Orange City to see what Northwestern was all about," Jack said. "We fell in love with the college and with the president, faculty and students. From then on, my parents, four siblings and I have contributed to Northwestern."

Since their discovery, Jack and Mary have eagerly looked forward to sending students from the Western Michigan area to Northwestern.

"We enjoy providing scholarships to students that are striving for a Christ-centered education, and we feel that Northwestern is a tremendous opportunity for them to grow," Mary said.

However, the recruitment within the family is a challenge the couple has taken on.

"We are still working very hard to get a DeWitt to attend Northwestern," Jack said. "We sent one of our grandchildren and five of his friends down last fall for a visit, and although they loved it, they didn’t want to be that far away from home."

In his youth, Jack took a lot of pride in working at his father’s company, Bill Mar Foods. Bill Mar Foods was a turkey, cow, pig and chicken slaughtering operation that was started in 1938. By 1987, the company was top-three in the nation in turkey production and was sold to Sara Lee Corp.

Jack graduated from Zeeland High School in Zeeland, MI, in 1960 and chose to bypass college to continue working for his father. Although he took away a lot from his education, he said his biggest reward was Mary, his high school sweetheart. Jack and Mary married in 1964 and had five children and have 18 grandchildren.

Currently, Jack is the CEO of Request Foods out of Holland, MI. Request Foods is a division from his father’s business that produces frozen entrees and foods, which Jack purchased back from Sara Lee in 1990. The company employs more than 600 people and produces more than one million pounds of food each day. In 2010, Jack celebrated 50 years of service in the food industry.

“We’ve truly been so blessed over the years, and we feel that Northwestern is a great place to give some of that back to,” Jack said.

Jack and Mary will be in attendance during the dedication of the Learning Commons at 4 p.m. on Friday.

Students learn to thrive at college workshops

BY LIZ KOTTICH

For most incoming freshmen, faculty and staff give short, standard pieces of advice: “get plenty of sleep” or “take general education classes to find your major” or “don’t spend all your money at once or you will go into debt.”

Although it is excellent advice, without the knowledge of how to manage time, find a major or manage money, students are unable to follow any of it.

The Thrive Workshops help change this. Put on by the Student Activities Council, the workshops teach students how to become college students and why it is important.

In the spring of 2013, a committee of faculty and staff members came together to brainstorm ways to help freshmen better transition into college. The end result was the idea for the Thrive Workshops, a series of seminars on topics such as “choosing a major,” “proper financial management” and “having a healthy community in the dorms.”

The workshops are a partner of the First Year Seminar classes; students in those classes are required to attend at least two of the workshops.

The workshops are put on by organizations on campus such as the Wellness Center, the Peer Learning Center, Resident Life and the Career Development Center. The various heads of these organizations present the information at the workshops. The workshops take place at 7 p.m. on Mondays and at 11:05 a.m. on Thursdays in the Vogel Community Room in the Learning Commons. Workshops will continue until Fall Break.

"I’m really happy with the subjects we chose for this year’s workshops and once they are done, we will run an assessment of the different subjects to see if we need to remove some or add some,” director of student programs Aaron Beadner said.

Although freshmen orientation weekend provides incoming students with valuable knowledge and resources for their upcoming college careers, there is simply not enough time and space to cover such a large volume of topics and material.

“We feel that the Thrive Workshops are a merger between the First Year Seminar classes and Orientation, offering information to students and a way to build community with classmates,” Beadner said.

The Thrive Workshops are open to students in all classes – not just freshmen – and run for approximately 50 minutes. Upcoming Workshops are “Journeying With Jesus” on Sept. 30 and Oct. 3 and the final Workshop “Can We Be Different Together?” on Oct. 7 and Oct. 10.

“I really enjoyed going to the Thrive Workshops, especially the ‘Fostering Healthy Community’ one put on by the Resident Directors,” freshman Lindsey Schaap said. “They actually gave us reasonable answers to why community is important and how to resolve conflict instead of overused quotes and cliches.”

PHOTO SUBMITTED

Jack and Mary DeWitt have been generous donors to NW even though no member of their family has ever attended school here.

PHOTO BY MAWULI MACDONALD

NW student’s listen to a speaker talk about how to live well during their college years.
Features
Old Ramaker library undergoing renovations

BY SARAH WEDEL

This summer thousands of books were transported out of the campus’ old Ramaker Library and into the new DeWitt Learning Commons. Ramaker now stands empty in the middle of campus and has likely caused many students to wonder what will become of the old but still functional building.

A few weeks ago, a chain link fence went up around the west side of the building, and further raised curiosities about what is going to happen to Ramaker. Provost Jasper Lesage is excited to reveal the plans for the fate of the building.

When the Learning Commons was completed this summer, everything was moved out of Ramaker. Although Ramaker is older, it is still in relatively good condition, so tearing it down was not an option. With its central location on campus, administration also did not want the building to stand empty.

A strategic planning committee was formed to decide what the new use of Ramaker would be and also what remodeling would have to be done in order for the building to fulfill its new purpose. On behalf of President Christy, Lesage is the chairman of this committee.

With the approval of the board of directors, the committee has decided Ramaker will be used for the student and academic life offices. This means all of the offices in the Franken Center will be moving into Ramaker along with all of the offices located in the RSC with the exception of the health and counseling services.

“Student Life and Academic Life ought to be complementary,” Lesage said. “Putting them in the same building helps them interact better. Right now they are split, which makes it hard for them to interact.”

The current hallway through the middle of Ramaker will be widened and will lead to a new entrance on the north side of the building. The new entrance will open to a sidewalk that leads straight to the Learning Commons.

“We want to encourage students to walk through the building instead of around it,” Lesage said.

The committee, Lesage said, wants students to be able to do this, so they will see the different offices in the building. The concern right now is the offices located in the Franken Center aren’t noticed by students. The new location in Ramaker would highlight their presence on campus.

Although many of the remodeling plans aren’t finalized, it is expected there will be spaces providing a place for students to interact. The floor plans include several student lounges. One lounge area will even feature a gas fireplace.

The student activity council, multicultural and international student affairs and the student government offices will all be moved into Ramaker. With these organizations being placed side-by-side, the students involved will cross paths more often.

If all goes according to plan, the renovations in Ramaker should be finished by next summer, and the faculty will move into their new offices by the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year. The cost of the remodeling project has not been made public yet, but Lesage said a budget has been determined.

Athletic coaches and the Kinesiology Department will use the vacated offices in the Rowenhorst Student Center. The Franken Center will be repurposed; however, what it will be used for has yet to be determined.

FROM PAGE 1

In 2004, he hired her band to play at the Morningside Jazz Festival. They then began to talk about the possibility of Bouma’s Morningside Jazz Band going to New Orleans for a week and working with her.

Hurricane Katrina hit in the fall of 2005. It took Bouma a week after the hurricane to get in contact with Ketchens. Ketchens said her band had lost pretty much everything, and it needed work.

Morningside, the Sioux City Public Schools, NW, Dordt and the University of South Dakota all agreed to host Doreen’s Jazz for concerts. An airline agreed to fly them to Sioux City, free of charge, and the media made an effort to let everyone know about them. The band stayed in Northwest Iowa for 10 days.

The whole experience was incredible. The communities overwhelmed Doreen with their kindness and Doreen’s band overwhelmed us with their music,” Bouma said.

Ketchens’ group has since returned a few times to Orange City and has been a popular attraction each time. Doreen’s Jazz concert this weekend is being sponsored by the Orange City Arts Council, NW, Diamond Vogel Paint and Lee Ann Roetman.

“We brought (Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans concert) will perform this weekend with her band, Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans Jazz.

“The music department, Cheryl Kugler, absolutely loved Doreen’s Jazz when they were here after Hurricane Katrina,” Janine Calsbeek, a member of the Orange City Arts Board, said.

“The music department, Aaron Beadner, Mark Bloemendaal and all of NW loved the idea of Doreen being here for homecoming weekend.”

Doreen’s Jazz New Orleans concert will take place on the green in front of Christ Chapel or inside Christ Chapel if it is raining. Admission to the event is free and open to all faculty, staff, students and family members, but the suggested donation is $5.
I've come to the conclusion that Northwestern is absolutely vulnerable to the scenarios that benefits professors, staff and students. I encourage you all to be respectful people that you have around you. If you want to make a difference, I encourage you to spend more time with others and less time on the phone. And did you know that the money that on the table looks like it went toward a fancy building in Isola del Giglio, Monaco and the French Riviera so far? By Kirsten van Wyhe

Last week's Opinion article on the Learning Commons voiced a few of the complaints students have mentioned in passing lately regarding the new facility. Therefore, I thought it was time to clarify some facts regarding this "conundrum."

"Learning Commons conundrum" decried the huge size of the Learning Commons compared to Ramaker library. Yes, it is large. But it is more than just the library!

And did you know that the original plans were more than 15,000 square feet larger, totaling $20 million instead of the $13.4 million that it became? Northwestern sought to be good stewards of their resources and realized that the smaller redesign was sufficient.

Yes, this amount of money could have done a lot of good in other settings. But it was all funded through donations, and so those who donated chose to give their money to this cause. Who are we to say that those who donated $20 and those who donated $2 million should have given their money to children in impoverished nations instead?

Many donors felt called to give to this cause because the money is not just for a building. It is part of the housing of learning resources for generations of college students, students who may go on (due in part to their education) to serve the poor, provide nursing care to the needy, work in Christian community development, teach children who have no one else who cares for them. Do you get what I'm saying?

This money that on the surface looks like it went toward a fancy building in fact went to the training of future world-changers, as I hope we all become in small or large ways.

Last week's article also addressed the fact that the Learning Commons benefits future enrollment rates (which is true), but then mentioned later that the money could have been better spent focusing on enrollment rates in order to help salaries and other bills the college has.

Northwestern prayerfully and strategically invested in the Learning Commons to encourage more students to enroll. Again, this money isn't just for a building. It is an investment in the college which has a waterfall effect that benefits professors, staff and students.

In regard to all the comments about problems with the design of the building and not including students' input, let's clarify a few things. First, it sometimes is hard to find a seat in the Learning Commons (even with three times the seating of Ramaker). I think this is because people like it so much they go there and fill it up!

Second, there are few quiet, individual study spaces. I've heard this said many times, and I agree. However, the "commons" was designed to be focused more on peer collaboration in learning than individual studying.

The decision to create a new space was made by the Learning Commons task force (which included a student representative) and library staff after they solicited more than 300 student responses during the early planning stages of the facility. Students voiced a general desire for a place to comfortably study and socialize — a need the RSC wasn't meeting.

Students were a vital part of the decision making process, which we as a student body then complain about. I'm simply asking for us to be thankful for the blessing that the Learning Commons is and to recognize that a lot of thoughtful planning went into this place.

Learning Commons Response

BY KIERSTEN VAN WYHE
Men’s soccer blows out Briar Cliff 6-2 on home turf

BY JORDAN DYSKTRA
FEATURES EDITOR
On Wednesday, the Red Raider Men’s Soccer team came out on top 6-2 against conference rival Briar Cliff. The Raiders improved their record to 6-2 and 1-0 in conference play. NW outshot the Chargers by a wide margin of 36-6.

Sophomore forward Koray Korakas lit up the scoreboard with three goals on five shots. Senior defender Harri Edwards and senior midfielder Travis Systma each scored a goal. Freshman forward Wesley Lockwood tallied up six shots with two on goal.

On Saturday, the Raiders traveled to Fremont, Neb. and tied Midland 4-4. The match marked the first conference draw for NW.

The men’s cross country team won its 8K race on Sept. 14 at the Herb Blakely Invitational. It was the first win for the men’s squad in over 20 years.

As a squad, Northwestern scored a miniscule 22 points, just seven off a perfect 15.

Skyler Giddings won the conference runner of the week award for medaling at the race.

- 1st - Junior Skyler Giddings - 26:34.11
- 2nd - Freshman Will Norris - 26:34.73
- 3rd - Junior Logan Holvan - 26:36
- 8th - Sophomore Kyle Anderson - 27:09
- 10th - Sophomore Elliot Stoltz - 27:17
- 16th - Senior Zach Wittenberg - 27:30
- 18th - Senior Taylor Bodin - 27:35

Check out a recap of both women’s soccer games at beacon.nwciowa.edu

Volleyball squad wins tough five sets at Dordt

After an impressive weekend of GCAC play, the Red Raiders volleyball team faced off against a tough opponent in rival Dordt on Tuesday night.

Northwestern headed to Sioux Center on Tuesday to battle against rival Dordt while riding an 18-game winning streak.

Led in the first two sets by the upperclassmen, NW took an early 2-0 set advantage. After falling in sets three and four, a fifth and deciding set was needed. The Raiders were able to secure an early lead and maintain their advantage. They proceeded to capitalize on their opponents errors down the stretch.

NW played a road contest against Morningside College last Friday and won the game in four sets (23-25, 25-21, 25-10, 28-26). The women were led offensively by sophomore Karlie Schut, Floerchinger and sophomore Haley Chambers, who tallied 18, 15 and 11 kills, respectively.

“We are riding pretty high,” Floerchinger said. “We are in a really good place right now.”

The very next night the Raider women played a home game against Doane College. The women started strong and won the first two sets but dropped the next two forcing a deciding fifth game, which they managed to win.

NW came out strong and limited their opponents to negative kill efficiency while running streaks of 17-8 in the first set and 15-4 in the second to secure both wins.

The Raiders took an early 8-2 lead in the fifth before switching sides and closing the game on a 7-4 run.

“We are starting to see some really good things from everyone,” said Floerchinger, who had a game-high 17 kills in the contest. “We have more improvements to make, but we are definitely moving in the right direction.”

The Raiders improved to 20-1 (3-0) on the season and extended their regular season win streak to 19. The win also helped improve the team’s national standing. NW moved up four spots, from No. 11 to No. 7.

The Raiders travel to Concordia today.
**News**

**Around Campus**

**Theater**
The Northwestern Theatre Department will present "Still Life With Iris" at 7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 27, and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28, at the Allen Theater. Tickets can be reserved at the box office.

**Road Race**
The Red Raider Road Race will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28, at the De Valois Stadium. Registration costs $20 for those who pre-register and $25 on the day of the race.

**Carnival**
Bring the kids to Morning on the Green, a family-friendly carnival of games and prizes from 9:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Oct. 28. Tickets are 25 cents, and proceeds benefit student clubs and organizations.

**Dance**
The homecoming dance will be held from 10:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, in the tent at Noon. Highlights include a live DJ, food, and prizes from 9:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Oct. 28, at the Allen Theater. Tickets can be purchased at the box office.

**Football**
The Northwestern football team will take on Dakota Wesleyan at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28, at Korf Field.

**Chapel**

**Monday**
• Dr. Zuhair Fathalla, Iraq

**Tuesday**
• Jeff Guthmiller, admissions

**Wednesday**
• Alyssum Roe, residence life

**Friday**
• Chaplain Harlan VanGort

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**A new taco’s in town**

BY DAVID LI

In true Orange City fashion, a taco stand has opened complete with Dutch architecture. Taco Vallarto fills a void in students’ local dining options that has existed since the closing of Cinco de Mayo in 2012.

The taco stand is really good and has great prices,” senior Lauren Van’t Hof said. “It’s nice to have a Mexican food option in town again.”

The stand, which opened last August, is owned and operated by the family of senior Ed Sánchez-Perry, junior Leo Sánchez-Perry and freshman Rafael Sánchez-Perry. It’s named after their hometown of Puerto Vallarto, Mexico.

Their father, Gumaro Sánchez, decided to open a taco stand last year. The family looked for a location in Sheldon and Le Mars, but all the available places were too large and expensive. So when Sno Shack moved out of the small building next to the Dutch Mart gas station on Albany Avenue, it turned out to be the perfect place for Gumaro’s taco stand.

“This is technically the dream job for him,” Leo said. “He said he was going open one up no matter what, whether it was going to be here or back home in Mexico.”

During Taco Vallarto’s first weeks, Leo worked there every day. Since school has started, other people, such as their mother, Maria Sánchez, have been filling in.

 Eventually, Gumaro would like to acquire a larger property, open a restaurant and possibly expand to multiple locations. Currently, he’s testing the waters to see if it’s a feasible option for the future.

The stand serves tacos for $1 and burritos for $4. Customers who want meat have their choice of steak, chicken and pork. Burritos come with a variety of toppings, including Pico de Gallo, sour cream and hot or mild sauce. According to the Sánchez family, more menu items are coming soon.

Except for Sunday, Taco Vallarto is open every day from noon to approximately 8 p.m., depending on the flow of business.

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**Founders of RUSH to return for 10-year anniversary**

FROM PAGE 1

“While as lighting designer, I try to make the dancers look the best that they can,” sophomore Abby McCubbin said.

“For dance lighting it usually needs to be simpler because it needs to show the form of the dancer. For me, it will take a few days to first get all of the lighting cues written in, and then it takes another day to see how it looks on the dancers and to edit it.”

The dancers themselves put a lot of their free time into the program.

“I’d say I spend eight hours a week simply practicing my dance routine,” freshman Cayla Slattery said. “That’s dedication.”

Planning for RUSH began last spring; choreographers applied and then auditioned for the three branches of the planning committee.

“We definitely put more time in it than we should have, but we wanted our dance to be the best that it could be,” junior choreographer Frankie Eszes said. “In the end, we are really proud of our dancers.”

This year, 145 students are participating in RUSH, and there are 11 dances.

“We try to get as much variety as we can in the dances,” Sullivan said.

According to sophomore Miles Fletcher, everyone should try RUSH at least once.

“I love to dance,” Fletcher said. “It’s also pretty cool at the beginning thinking, ‘Holy cow, we have a lot to learn,’ and then at the end seeing how far we have come.”

Many students choose to be a part of RUSH for more than just the dancing.

“My favorite part of RUSH, because I am a freshman, is the friendships I get to create and share with the upper classmen,” Slattery said.

“Not to mention all the sweet dance moves I get to learn.”

Although sources won’t reveal the surprise, Sullivan said those who attend will definitely know it’s the 10-year anniversary. RUSH will take place at 7 and 9 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 3; 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Friday; Oct. 4 and 7 and 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 5. For more information, contact the box office at boxoffice@nwciowa.edu. 

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**Senior Denise Cowherd, junior Chelsea Kesavadhana, freshman Victoria Lumbereras and sophomore Samantha Nelson are four of the 145 students who have spent weeks practicing for the 10th annual RUSH.**

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**#NWCBeacon**

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