Accredited film alumna returns to Calvin

BY JACK VAN ALLSBURG AND JULIANA LUDENMA
Staff Writers

On Wednesday night, alumna and four-time Oscar nominated production designer Jeannine Oppewall gave the inaugural address of the Loeks Lectures in Film and Media, a series sponsored by Celebration Cinema and the Loeks family.

During her presentation, Oppewall described her work and philosophy throughout a career that has spanned the last 40 years in Hollywood. Her celebrated filmography comprises almost 40 films, with Academy Award nominations for her work on “L.A. Confidential” (1997), “Pleasantville” (1998), “Seabiscuit” (2003) and “The Good Shepherd” (2006).

Oppewall has collaborated with a number of renowned figures in the film industry, including directors Steven Spielberg, Brian de Palma and Clint Eastwood, among others. According to film professor Carl Plantinga during his introduction for Oppewall, “She’s widely known as one of the country’s leading production designers.”

Oppewall began her address by quoting a marquee pictured on the screen behind her: “Good films make your life better.” This is what we believe. She went on to describe her work and process in-depth for three of her films: “Tender Mercies” (1989), “L.A. Confidential” (1997) and “Snow Falling on Cedars” (1999). “Tender Mercies” was Oppewall’s first film as production designer. The movie starred Robert Duvall and Tess Harper with direction from Bob Herzfeld, for which her production design received critical praise.

“After I worked with Charles Eames, nobody ever asked to see my portfolio — ever. I learned design at the feet of the master.”

Speaking on the role of a production designer in the production process, Oppewall said, “My job is to find, manipulate and create environments for characters... the production designer is responsible for the contextual atmosphere of the story.”

“Designers are like shamans — we feel out the deep and hidden spirits of a place, whether they are human or natural,” said Oppewall.

Oppewall also spoke on her work with furniture designers Charles and Ray Eames, and the importance of that experience on her career. “After I worked with Charles Eames, nobody ever asked to see my portfolio — ever. I learned design at the feet of the master.”

Oppewall, a native of Uxbridge, Mass., attended Calvin College in the 1970s. Her time at Calvin included a stint as editor of Chimes. “I learned an enormous amount. I learned a lot of stuff that you cannot learn in class,” said Oppewall of her time as editor. “It was a really wonderful thing to have done.”

Studying English literature, Oppewall also attended classes with Calvin art history professor Edgar Boeve, who was in attendance at the event. Describing Boeve’s influence on her, she said, “He’s a total inspiration. He’s the one who started me on this path to destruction... He’s a national treasure.”

Designing believable sets often involves a lot of creative trickery. “I’m in the business of fooling people.”


The night before her address, Oppewall attended a showing of her movie “Catch Me If You Can” at Celebration Cinema, which was free for Calvin and GVSU students.

A Q&A after the show revolved around the details of the movie’s production design. Oppewall described her role in making the film, gave away design secrets and joked about director and friend Steven Spielberg.

“The production designer is given and takes responsibility for every environment you see on screen,” she explained, describing her position. Designing believable sets often involves a lot of creative trickery. “I’m in the business of fooling people.”

Calvin film students see Oppewall’s success in the film industry as a source of encouragement. “It’s definitely inspiring,” said sophomore digital communications major Matt Sweda, “because it’s real.”
Student organization hosts talk about animal ethics

Calvin graduate brings animal ethics campaign to colleges across the country

BY ALICIA DEJONG
Guest Writer

Last Friday, a selection of panelists gathered with stu-
dents to discuss an uncom-
mon topic among Evangelical
Christians: the importance of
animal ethics.

According to a survey commissioned by the Every
Living Thing’s Evangelical Statement on Responsible Care for Animals, the statement includes points such as:

- “We understand from Scripture that God has given us all animals into our hand and for food as part of our responsible rule; but as we live in a fallen world and are prone to sin, we also have the capac-
ity and inclination to cause suffering instead of care for animals and to act cruelly toward them.”

- “Act cruelly towards them,” the statement is not only referring to the abuse of domestic pets. It is also referring to the tight gus
ting stalls where mother pigs are forced to live and give birth to multiple litters before eventually being slaughtered, and to the paper-sized cages crowded by cr 
azed, egg-laying hens and to the dumpsters filled with live, unwanted male chicks.

The statement does not explicitly advocate a meat-free diet; it simply asks Christians to join in advocating for better treat-
ment of God’s creatures.

“You do not have to be a vegan (or a vegetarian) to be a part of the work that SCL is doing,” commented senior Jonathan Manni, co-leader of Students for Compassionate Living.

“Everyone is welcome! In fact, we love to hear the perspectives that everyone brings to the table — herbivores and omnivores included.”

Manni sat as a panelist at the discussion alongside Reasa Currier of the Humane Society of the United States, Abby Skeans of the Clapham Group, Dr. Steve McMullen, an economics professor from Hope College, and Pastor Trevor Sutton of St. Luke Lutheran Church.

“It was great to hear from a spectrum of perspectives,” commented senior Carolyn Brown. “The conversation was academic and rational, I really appreciated that.”

Deanna Geelhoed, senior and Sustainability Coordinator intern also attended. “It brought people of all types together — some who were very passionate and some didn’t know much. It was nice to see new faces gathering to learn more.”

Currier and Skeans will be carrying the Every Living Thing campaign to other colleges and universities across the country.

Skeans, an alum of Calvin College, explained their choice to bring the campaign to our campus. “Calvin is a unique place where students are allowed, and encouraged, to think deeply and engage thoughtfully on a range of issues.”

To learn more about the cam-
paign, or to sign the Evangelical Statement on Responsible Care for Animals, visit their website at www.everylivingthing.com.

On October 26, Students for Compassionate Living will be hosting another event, this time featuring Paul Shapiro, activist and Vice President of Farm Animal Protection at the Humane Society of the United States.
STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT: ANIME CLUB

BY MARISA HUELE
On-Call Writer

The two prominent student organizations worked to find a successful replacement to the late “Celebration on the Grand.” Increasingly, organizations are collaborating in order to combine events with the intention to raise student participation. K4L and NiteLife explained that the goal of the event was not only to connect students to artist alumni, but also to familiarize underclassmen with the city of Grand Rapids.

Beginning on Division Avenue and wrapping alongside the river, participants were required to find eight pieces. The first place winners received $250 and the second place winners won various posters from ArtPrize’s 2015 collection. The winning team completed the event in only 17 minutes and the second team in 23.

Undoubtedly, the cash prize for the first place winner was a great incentive to go to the event. One attendee explained that he was going to see ArtPrize inevitably, so he might as well try for a few hundred dollars while he was at it.

Andrew Kolen, who participated in the race, expressed that “it was fun to work as a team and navigate through Grand Rapids, a city that we love and have come to call home over the past four years.” Not all who attended the event were feeling competitive. Many students enjoyed the downtown at their own pace, stopping for coffee at MadCap or snapping photos of the food trucks at Rosa Parks.

Photo courtesy Lizz Roth

Calvin hosts an Amazing Race-esque ArtPrize scavenger hunt

UnLearn Week offers Calvin community help putting aside prejudices, preconceptions

BY AKEYRA THOMPSON
Guest Writer

UnLearn week offers plenty of opportunities to sit in and listen to a variety of speakers. Last Tuesday, about 90 students came to the Chapel. Undercroft to attend Michelle Loyd-Paige’s event titled “Being a Better Ally.”

Loyd-Paige — the dean of multi-cultural affairs and a Calvin alumna herself — explicitly displayed her passion to unite people and develop an anti-racist community at Calvin and beyond.

Loyd-Paige began her speech with something most people are familiar with — the golden rule of treating others the way you would want to be treated. However, she proceeded to say that “the platinum rule is far more important.” In contrast to the golden rule, the platinum rule emphasizes a key- yet-subtle distinction: that one should treat others the way they want to be treated.

“This guy came up to me once with a big, old turkey in his hands and I just took it like ‘Aw, thanks,’ but what if I’m a vegan—which I am,” said Loyd-Paige. “Not all black people are poor,” she continued, “a person doesn’t speak for all the experiences of their people.”

She then proceeded to explain that everyone has both privileges and disadvantages that make up their identity, like the color of their skin, their sexual orientation or their class.

Time and time again, the privileges we possess are taken for granted. “Conversation with self is hard, but it’s the first step to becoming a better all,” said Loyd-Paige.

“You have to hear both sides of the track,” Loyd-Paige said. “You need to leave your judgments at the door and share your vulnerabilities to walk alongside someone.”

Though our society has come a long way with racial issues, there is still a long way to go. If you’re willing to stand up and make a difference, it may be awkward. As Loyd-Paige would say, “If you’re serious about being a better ally, you’ve got to fight through the awkward stage.”

Photo courtesy of Calvin.edu

Campus News 3

The Anime Club's booth at Cokes and Clubs this year.
New virtual reality technology signals bright future for video gaming

BY NATE HUNT
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The words “virtual reality” are synonymous with science fiction. To many, the idea of being transported to another world by a computer-simulated reality in which the senses are fully immersed and behaviors can be physically interacted with seems unachievable and futuristic. But if you are one of those people who have dreamt of just such an experience, you will only have to wait another year.

In 2016, Sony and Kickstarter-funded Oculus VR will bring Project Morpheus and the Oculus Rift, respectively. Both are virtual reality (VR) projects designed to be used with consoles. Sony’s Project Morpheus will be compatible with the PlayStation 4 and Oculus Rift with PC.

The devices are relatively giant goggles that act as a television screen attached to your face. The display images that adjust and align with the direction your head turns. These headset block out exterior sounds and sights, maximizing the new technology. These VR games are shaping up to be less grand in scale and offer less to do than other games, yet it won’t be much you can do in these games that attracts customers.

Other than the potential emotional trauma of certain VR experiences, some of the biggest challenges facing the success of companies like Project Morpheus and Oculus Rift have been in designing products that minimize the body’s natural response to immersive experiences, namely feelings of vertigo, motion sickness and eye fatigue. If one will suffer from these ailments, developers have been experimenting on stabilizing these experiences to provide the safest and most comfortable gaming experience for the greatest number of gamers. In response to the concerns raised in regards to the success and marketability of this new gaming technology, the CEO of game developer Ubisoft, that “he recognizes the potential of this kind of instinctive hardware,” adds, “but thinks it’s a little too early to talk about advanced. The right kind of experience will make users of it.”

The future of virtual reality says that video games will no longer strictly be an escape from reality but an escape into reality.

“A Sicario” addresses issues of drug war

BY DANIEL BAAS
Guest Writer

For centuries in Europe, warfare was carried out in an organized manner. Both sides would meet on the field of battle and when one side had clearly won, the losing commander would turn his sword over to the victor.

These rules of warfare changed in North America when the United States was formed. The United States has gone through a civil war, two world wars, overseas conflicts and a drug war on terror. The war on drugs is different.

For years, the United States has fought an invisible foe in “2001: A Space Odyssey.” Perhaps this is a strong comparison considering that the game of war has few similarities. In space warfare, settings, yet it is one that is no less true because of Scott’s technical achievements and the film’s relevance to current space exploration efforts.

Yes, the film feels predictable at times; we know full well that Watney will survive and any peril he is in will be shown to be easily overcome. “The Martian’s” predictability does not detract from the film’s achievements.

Instead, “The Martian” transcends any flaws and becomes truly inspirational, emphasizing that hope and human will are strong enough to overcome any obstacle.

Villeneuve’s steady hand turns “Sicario” from a commonplace crime film into something more robust.

Daniel Baas “Sicario”
Hockey off to quick start of the season behind solid team work

The late start of the hockey season has the players focused to get ready for their first two games versus Xavier University this past Saturday and Sunday.

Junior forward Ryan Racenelli was part of the team's start. “It was good to get back out on the ice and to see what the future holds for our team.”

Coach Mike Petruma had clear objectives for his team and was pleased with the result. “Get off to a good start, tactically play better than the first and play with the right mindset. The late start of the season is the team’s focus is to continually get better at every practice and every game. “We have a talented team and when we combine that talent with great effort we could have a very successful season.”

According to the team, they have three specific goals for their season. First is to keep their goals against average under two per game, second is to win the league title and third is to win the national championship.

In order to meet their goals Duncan says that the Knights need to be consistent and never give up to the level of their opponents and instead maintain their own high tempo every time they step on the ice. The hockey team will take on University of Michigan Flint this weekend. Petruma knows the challenge they will pose on his team and wants the Knights to remain focused and execute well on the offensive side of the puck.

Racanelli added that he looks forward to playing UoM Flint for the high competition level and the opportunity to try some of the things they’ve worked on in practice. Starting off the season with two wins has prompted the team to want to continue their consistency.

The Knights travel to Flint on Friday, Oct. 9 for a 7:30 pm match up.

The Cal versus Detroit Lions loss on Monday Night Football due to poor refereeing, the league will reevaluate replay system.
What is the Grassroots floor? Grassroots (formally known as the Mosaic floor) was started in 1996 and originally made up the second floors of Kalsbeek-Huizenga. It was created to promote diversity in an intentional community. In light of UnLearn week it seems fitting to emphasize a floor that maintains the ideals of UnLearn week during the entire year. According to the Calvin website the Grassroots floor engages in:

- Fostering genuine community where Christ’s love and compassion is shown toward one another in all aspects of life, whether in the classroom or everyday living on the floor.
- Developing awareness of issues related to race and racism in the North American context, particularly in the areas of history, culture, economics and politics.
- Developing awareness and maturity in regards to our own racial identity and cultural awareness.
- Improving communication skills and intercultural skills to build relational bridges and resolve conflict.

When asked to define this floor, sophomore Kimo Cox said:

"2nd vR [van Reken] is like a home. It’s like a big family where people are open and not afraid to say what’s on their minds in a respectful and loving manner."

Resident assistant (RA) Kurt Delos Trino elaborated on this by saying "It’s a community that invests and engages in racial reconciliation through conversation, fellowship and learning in a class." Delos Trino explained it is a goal of members of 2nd vR to "be able to reach out to those who don’t know about racial reconciliation and [improve in] teaching those people to learn and continue to engage in [anti-racism]."

"Calvin has set very specific learning outcomes for this floor. Calvin’s website states that students who live on the Grassroots floor are expected to be able to: think, work, and move across boundaries—in diverse environments with a range of people, use skills and techniques learned on the floor in conflict resolution, improve anti-racism and anti-bias practices, develop and use communication skills and intercultural communication skills, link theory and practice through their own experience both as citizens and in professions, and seek out multiple perspectives—inside perspectives as well as outside ones.

James Owens, a first year resident on the Grassroots floor, explains that despite "just being a small community right now," his hope is that "over the years it will grow to engage the entire college in similar conversations of racial diversity in America." He believes it is vital that this cross-campus invitation to think more critically about issues of discrimination becomes a year-long process, not confined to one week's programming.

Owens, like many others on his floor, wants to see a change in the way the rest of Calvin students view their role on campus:

"I want to invite people into this community and [for them] to comfortably participate in conversations and then also prompt them to participate in conversations they aren’t as comfortable with."

Delos Trino reiterates this with his hope that “people know that [Grassroots] welcomes every single person here and that this floor isn’t just for AHANA (Asian, Hispanic/Latino, African, and Native American) students. We want to teach people about grassroots, about anti-racism, and racial reconciliation. Come and have a conversation about our purpose here.”

Grassroots floor residents Bastian Bouman and Kayla McLean.
Awareness walk fights stigma

BY SOPHIE VANSCICKLE
Local Editor

With National Day Without Stigma having just passed on Oct. 5 and World Mental Health Day occurring on Oct. 10, this seems the perfect time to reflect on the Out of the Darkness Walk that occurred this past Saturday in Grand Rapids for suicide awareness.

On Oct. 3, many families, groups and individuals gathered at Millennium Park to partake in the Out of the Darkness Walk, an event sponsored by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). The walk was meant to raise money and awareness for suicide and depression, and also be a comfort for those who have lost a loved one to suicide.

“It’s called ‘Out of the Darkness’ because they want to try to bring people who are depressed out of that darkness and out of feeling stigmatized and out of the conversation going,” said Jessica Somerville, Calvin College’s Active Minds president, who attended the event along with 14 other Calvin students.

Active Minds is a large national organization dedicated to raising awareness and reducing stigma for mental illness, and Calvin’s part is just a small chapter of the larger organization, which has individual chapters throughout Michigan and Michigan State universities and all over the country.

The goal of Calvin College’s Active Minds group was to raise $275, far above their original goal. All the money that was raised, and the remainder of the Out of the Darkness Walk proceeds, will go toward AFSP’s vital research.

Throughout the walk, the participants walked to raise money for the walk and the cause, and they also brought their story with others. This year, 48 counties and 42 states are represented in over 1,500 pieces of artwork.

Each year, artists travel from all over the world in hopes of sharing their story with others. This year, 48 counties and 42 states are represented in over 1,500 pieces of artwork.

At the beginning of the walk, participants were given a rock to carry, which symbolized the burdens that we all carry and the heavy hearts for ones we have lost to suicide.

Throughout the walk, they carried the rock, and the end of the walk led the participants to a lake. All the Out of the Darkness Walk participants stood at the lake with their rock in hand, and threw them in the water.

“You threw your rock to release your burden, and then you were given a feather that symbolizes how you’re lifted and release your burden, and then the water.

At the walk itself, a few people gave testimonies. According to sources such as CNN and La Times, the number of veteran suicides averages 22 each day.

“Most people hate rainy weather. It can put a damper on plans and keep you cooped up indoors. But spare a thought for the Burmese snub-nosed monkey. The furry fellow often spends rainy days with its head down between its knees because otherwise the water runs into its upturned nose and makes it sneeze.”

New California law to cut pay gap

(BBC) “A new law in California forces companies to prove higher salaries paid to men are based on factors other than gender. On Tuesday, California Governor Jerry Brown signed into law ‘Fair Pay Act, expanding wage discrimination laws in the state.’

New species found in Himalayas

(CNN) “Most people hate rainy weather. It can put a damper on plans and keep you cooped up indoors. But spare a thought for the Burmese snub-nosed monkey. The furry fellow often spends rainy days with its head down between its knees because otherwise the water runs into its upturned nose and makes it sneeze.”

El Faro search ends at sunset

(CNN) “The U.S. Coast Guard plans to call of its search for the missing mariners of the El Faro at sunset Wednesday after six days of searching yielded only debris. Capt. Mark Fodor said: ‘Any decision to end a search is painful,’ he said, adding of the El Faro crew, ‘We’ve been baptized in the same salt waters.’

White House turns to crowdfunding campaign for Syrian refugee crisis

(Al Jazeera English) “The Obama administration launched its first ever crowdfunding campaign this week to raise money for Syria’s growing refugee crisis, in a bid to draw the American public into supplementing the U.N. refugee agency’s strained budget.

ArtPrize takes over the heart of the city

SOUTH HAVEN — After much anticipation and an incredible art exhibition, the 2016 ArtPrize comes to a close this Sunday. The 10-day event has concluded what organizers believe will be the best ArtPrize to date.

“I think ArtPrize is a wonderful opportunity for people like me who are not permanent residents of Grand Rapids, to experience the beauty of the city expressed through the various pieces of art,” said first-year student Nicole Chavez.

ArtPrize does not have a specific location to start at. You can start at any venue that interests you and then visit the others around it. Or you can start at the Hub, located on 41 Sheldon Blvd. SE. The Hub has maps of the venue locations and dining locations as well as maps of downtown.

Stop by Friday or Saturday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. or Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

More information about the artists, artwork, venues and other general information is located online at artprize.org. ArtPrize will conclude this Sunday.

By Sarahaphna Seecik
Guest Writer

Looking for adventure? Looking for amusement? Looking for art? Think that you have to go far to reach these goals? Well, think again.

All you have to do is travel six miles from Calvin into the heart of downtown to reach ArtPrize.

ArtPrize is an annual art competition located in downtown Grand Rapids. This year’s program started on Sept. 23 and runs through Oct. 11. Each year, artists travel from all over the world in hopes of sharing their story with others. This year, 48 countries and 42 states are represented in over 1,500 pieces of artwork.

Artwork is displayed through out 162 venues, such as the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM). GRAM showcases photographs, sculptures and videos. The piece “As Above” by Judith Braun is displayed here. This piece, made up of charcoal fingerprints, is now a 2-D finalist. Other popular venues include The B.O.B., Kendall College of Art and Design and the Harris Building.

Every artist has a unique reason for displaying their art. For example, a Michigan artist stated, “English is not my first language; art is.” ArtPrize brings together people of all backgrounds to share in a common interest. ArtPrize gives the opportunity to talk to artists and be inspired by their works all while exploring the city. “I love all the people it brings downtown and seeing the city alive. I love seeing buildings you wouldn’t normally see. ArtPrize is a good place to get lost along the way.” said Lisa Town, a resident of West Michigan.

At the end of ArtPrize, awards are given. The art is judged by two groups: the public and a jury. There are five categories to be voted on in each group. The grand prize is worth $200,000. The 2-D Public Vote Award and the 3-D Public Vote Award are both valued at $12,500. The last two awards are the Time-Based Public Vote Award and the Installation Award, both also worth $12,500. Voting happens in two rounds. Round one consists of voting for a piece to be in the top 20. The winners are then voted for from the top 20.

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NASA reports liquid water on modern-day Mars

BY BETHANY COK
On-Call Writer

Humans have long pondered the potential for life on other planets in the universe. Up until recently, however, we not only had the technology or research capabilities to deeply investigate beyond our planet in our quest for an answer.

The downwelling-flowing streaks on the left side of this image (a false-color display of a Digital Terrain Model) are cited as evidence of flowing water on The Red Planet.

Findings released this week have brought us one step closer to discovering whether life could exist, not just in galaxies far away, but on a planet that is our neighbor in the solar system.

New evidence points to the presence of liquid, intermittently-flowing water on present-day Mars, NASA announced on Monday.

The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter (MRO), launched in 2005, is spent the last 10 years orbiting Mars in a search for evidence of water that may have historically present on the planet. As the key ingredient for the presence of life, any discovery of water should suggest that life could be possible on Mars.

Dark, narrow streaks have been observed before on the surface of the planet, and scientists at first had no real, evidence-confirmed ideas as to what was creating them.

Using an imaging spectrometer on the MRO to closely analyze these streaks, researchers recently found traces of hydrated minerals called perchlorates, which strongly support the hypothesis that there is water that ebbs and flows on Mars in the present day.

This water is likely a shallow flow beneath the surface, with just enough liquid rising to the surface of the planet to either create the dark streaks or to instigate another process that forms them, according to NASA. These streaks appear to change seasonally, darkening and flowing during warm seasons and receding during cooler seasons.

The discovery of water on Mars is particularly relevant because Mars, when it is closest to Earth, is only around 35 million miles away — really just a hop, a skip and a jump, cosmically speaking.

Bethany Cok, “Liquid water on Mars” 8

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The discovery of water on Mars is particularly relevant because Mars, when it is closest to Earth, is only around 35 million miles away — really just a hop, a skip and a jump, cosmically speaking.

Not only that, but there are plans underway for several missions to send humans to the Red Planet within the next 10 to 20 years. NASA is developing the capability necessary to send researchers to Mars by the 2030s, according to its website.

Mars One, a not for profit foundation, hopes to put crews of hearty explorers on Mars to begin a human settlement by 2026. This billings itself as a “global initiative aiming to make this everyone’s mission to Mars,” and is run by a team of international members, including people from the Netherlands, Canada and the United States, according to the Mars One website.

Perhaps sending humans to Mars will prove to be more complicated than researchers currently think. But if and when they arrive, we now know that they might even be greeted by a familiar substance, water, though admittedly in a much brinier form than water found on earth.

Nevertheless, our neighboring Red Planet still holds many mysteries, some of which researchers are continuing to unravel. Perhaps sending us to Mars will prove to be a much bigger step forward than we currently think. But if and when they arrive, we now know that they might even be greeted by a familiar substance, water, though admittedly in a much brinier form than water found on earth.

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Questions rise with Pope Francis/Kim Davis meeting

By Eckhart Chan
Religion Editor

Two weeks ago, Pope Francis traveled through Washington D.C., New York, and Philadelphia in a historic visit to the United States. Francis made stops during his trip, including giving a speech before Congress in the Capitol Rotunda at Madison Square Garden and visiting the Independence Hall. However, even though Pope Francis’ stop did not become public until after he left the United States, the Vatican has officially confirmed that on Thursday afternoon Francis was scheduled to meet with Kim Davis.

Davis has been at the center of a national controversy after having refused to issue marriage licenses to gay couples. Elected as a clerk in Rowan County, Ky., Davis defended her stance on marriage equality as a matter of religious freedom as a Christian to deny marriage licenses to gay couples. The issue escalated further when David SAVER, a state official, challenged Davis in contempt of court and jailed for five days after ignoring the federal court order. Davis refused to issue marriage licenses to homosexual couples. Given the Vatican’s secretiveness of the meeting and the details of what occurred, suspicions have risen since news of the meeting between Francis and Davis broke.

Many have taken this move by the pope to be a gesture of support in favor of Davis.

In a statement released by Davis’s attorney, the pope said to Davis and her husband, “Thank you for your cour-

gage” and “to stay strong.” The pope is then said to have said for the couple and given them two hour’s worth of his blessing. According to SAVER, the meeting between the pope and the Davis had been discussed on Sept. 14, a week before Francis actually arrived in Kentucky.

SAVER also clarified that this was not an accidental meeting, but that the Davis family took photos with the pope during their lunch visit.

As Davis describes the encounter, “I put my hand out and he & my husband grabbed it. I hugged him and he hugged me. I had tears coming out of my eyes. ... I’m just a nobody, so it was really humbling to think he would want to know me.”

However, the Vatican has re-

sponded and released a statement to clarify the details of the meeting. Vatican spokesman Rev. Federico Lombardi said that Francis actu-

ally met with several dozen peo-

ple while at the Vatican’s embassy and “the pope did not enter into the details of the situation Mr. Davis and his meeting with her should not be considered a sign of support of her position in all of its particular and complex as-

pects.” Chicago Archbishop Blad CUPICH also added that “meeting with someone is not an endor-

sement of that person’s position.”

Further news on this story has been revealed post visit with the Vatican releasing to the press that Francis actually met in private meeting with one other person, Yayo Grassi, identified as a former student of Francis.

Grassi said that he has known Francis since the 1960s when he studied literature and philosophy under Francis at a Jesuit high school in Argentina.

This news comes off the tails of reports that a Polish priest is being stripped of his duties after his announcement as a ho-

mosexual. Olaf worked with the Vatican’s doctrinal arm and had been scheduled to hold a press conference in Rome with his partner, advocating that Francis

issue reforms within the church on the Catholic doctrine on ho-

mosexuality. Olaf’s press release was released to announce that be would just be doing his job, he stated that the issue would reach the table. The three week assembly of bishops that serve around the world is focused on addressing issues pertinent to Catholic fami-

lies. However, the Vatican spokes-

man, Father Federico Lombardi, released the following statement that “The decision to make such

a pointed statement on the eve of the opening of the Synod appears very serious and irresponsible, since it aims to subject the Synod to apply medi-

um pressure. ... Monsignor Chararama will certainly be unable to con-

tinue to carry out his previous work in the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Pontifical universities, while the other aspects of his situation shall remain [the responsibility] of his diocesan Ordinary.”

Gunman targets Christians at school shooting

By Eckhart Chan
Religion Editor

Last Thursday, a gunman at Umpqua Community College in Oregon opened fire within the school, killing nine people and wounding seven others. A total of 13 weapons were recovered from the shooter, six being at the school and another seven at the killer’s house.

The suspect was heavily equipped with body armor, three pistols and a rifle when he was finally shot down by officers.

Stacy BOYLAN, whose daughter was wounded but survived the shootings, told reporters that his daugh-

ter described the gunman as having a rough and students that had been stu-

dents before shooting them. She said that the gunman asked, “Are you a Christian? And if you are a Christian stand up.”

Boylan also reported that the gunman was heard to have said, “because you’re a Christian you’re going to see God in just about one second.”

Kurt DAVIS, an 18-year-old student who was on campus that day and witnessed the shootings, similarly reported that the shooter inquired into students’ religions before opening fire. Moore added that in the same class-

room laying on the floor beside other students, told the shooter that she was a Christian, and was shot, including the teacher who was killed.

The Office of the President of the United States declared today that United States President Barack Obama, who is a Baptist, has signed a statement condemning the violence and expressing his sympathies to the families and friends of the victims.

The shooting took place at around 10:30 a.m., local time, in an area of the college that is heavily populated by Christians.

The school has been placed on lock-down and the area is currently under police control.

Chevron also joined in, posting a picture of him holding a gun, that read in bold caps, “I AM A CHRISTIAN.”

The office of Carson has received over 800,000 likes and was shared over 100,000 times. Carson also encouraged others to change their profile pictures to an image with the slogan as a sign of support and encouragement.

Woodlawn Christian Reformed Church

Belong • Grow • Serve

We invite you to join us in the Calvin College Chapel this Sunday for worship, fellowship, and more!

Morning Service - 9:30 am
Evening Service - 5:00 pm
www.woodlawnrc.org
Now the sparkle is in the sand
where earlier we wished out at the dark water,
between the sailboats, glistening.

Here too among the sailboats, the lake slips away,
much as its clear edge slipped back off the beach.

And still, there is a glistening of dark water
Though it is farther out than we first imagined,
much farther.

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and
each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ** Moderate ** Challenging *** HOO BOY! ***

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By KESELY POWERS
Opinion and Editorial Editor

This week, I was kind of startled to see an UnLearn Week event on my calendar. What do we have to unlearn about white people? What “detractors” need to be challenged? What stereotypes exist? Apparently, white people have no trouble having their skin tone privileged and they’re rich. How can we unlearn about white people this week? We shouldn’t be talking about stereotyp- ical representations of others, so we should be learning. We white people need to go to the events, learn and experi- ence UnLearn Week. Do we really need to talk about the stereotype that white people don’t have trouble? Why does society have socialized white men to think they shouldn’t dare dancing—that’s where the stereotype comes from. Shouldn’t white society socialize us into this doubtful stereotype? Or about the fact that we’re racist, supposedly? That’s absurd. We need to realize how we have misunderstood racism and militate against this amalga- mation. White people — and so many others — have a great deal to unlearn about racism. White people are seen as knowing it, as having the answers. There’s no supremacy, “nobody needs” to hear from the white people. They are just referred to as white, and “one only needs to talk about racism.” The pictures of people of color are actually stereotypes. And how racist are we? It’s Am I racist? Unfortunately, every day. I have it all the time growing up because I am white and I am America. Even if I am not guilty of any conscious racism, I make sure that I do not by the way I talk, or the things I say. I am not guilty of any conscious racism, I am guilty of unconscious or subconscious racism. I am not guilty of any conscious racism, I am guilty of unconscious or subconscious racism. And I should stop. I should not be talking about stereotypes. What do we have to unlearn about white people? What “detractors” need to be challenged? What stereotypes exist? Apparently, white people have no trouble having their skin tone privileged and they’re rich. How can we unlearn about white people this week? We shouldn’t be talking about stereotyp- ical representations of others, so we should be learning. We white people need to go to the events, learn and experi- ence UnLearn Week. Do we really need to talk about the stereotype that white people don’t have trouble? Why does society have socialized white men to think they shouldn’t dare dancing—that’s where the stereotype comes from. Shouldn’t white society socialize us into this doubtful stereotype? Or about the fact that we’re racist, supposedly? That’s absurd. We need to realize how we have misunderstood racism and militate against this amalga- mation. White people — and so many others — have a great deal to unlearn about racism. White people are seen as knowing it, as having the answers. There’s no supremacy, “nobody needs” to hear from the white people. They are just referred to as white, and “one only needs to talk about racism.” The pictures of people of color are actually stereotypes. And how racist are we? It’s Am I racist? Unfortunately, every day. I have it all the time growing up because I am white and I am America. Even if I am not guilty of any conscious racism, I make sure that I do not by the way I talk, or the things I say. I am not guilty of any conscious racism, I am guilty of unconscious or subconscious racism. And I should stop. I should not be talking about stereotypes.
SEASONS CHANGING

Photos by Rachel Evans

CHANGING | SEASONS