

Campus Calendar

Kathy Goldsberry
Copy Editor

October 29

College Republicans host meeting

The UWF College Republicans will host its 2003-04 kick-off meeting at 8:30 p.m. in the Commons, in the Nautilus Chamber. All those who are interested are invited to attend. For questions, call Jeff Weaver at 471-3880 or e-mail JBWeaver@students.uwf.edu.

October 29

VIPs to participate in Wheelchair Basketball Game

In honor of National Disability Awareness Month, UWF President John Cavanaugh and Vice President Hal White will participate in a wheelchair basketball game against the Mobile Patriots wheelchair team at 7 p.m. Oct. 29 at the University Field House. Both teams will play in wheelchairs, and admission is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Rachel Croker at (850) 473-7307 or e-mail rcrocker@uwf.edu.

October 31

Arabic language professor to speak on education of Arab women

The UWF Department of English and Foreign Languages and the Women Studies Program will host a lecture titled "Arab Women's Amorous Devices" at 10 a.m. on Friday in Building 41, Room 136. The presentation will be hosted by Aida Bamia, professor of Arabic language and literature, and is free and open to the public. For details, contact Kate Baumann at (850) 474-2923.

November 3

Student Slam

A Student Slam will be held from 8:30-10 p.m. on Monday in the Commons Cafeteria. This event will feature hip-hop poets, singers, and disc jockeys who will compete for first and second prize. The winner will open up for Mums on Nov. 7. For more information, call the Campus Activities Board at 474-2084.

November 3

Center on Aging presents brain building nutrition lecture

The UWF Center on Aging lecture series continues with "Brain Building Nutrition — The Healing Powers of Fats and Oils" from 7-8:30 p.m. on Monday in the Azalea Trace Auditorium at 10100 Hillview Drive. The lecture will be presented by Michael Schmidt, director of Clinical Research at Unigen Pharmaceuticals. The presentation is free and open to the public. For details, contact Petra Schuler at (850) 857-6495.

November 4

Lunch 'N' Learn

UWF Community and University Partnerships will host a Lunch 'N' Learn session from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the Jubilee restaurant at 400 Quietwater Beach Rd. Herbert Berger, a retired forensic neuropsychologist, will present the lecture titled "Care and Maintenance of the Maturing Brain." Berger will discuss how neuropsychology has progressed from phrenology to the scientific understanding of the brain's limitless capacity for activity. For more information, contact Mardi McDaniel-King at (850) 857-6017.

November 5

Living Well Workshop

A Living Well workshop will be held from 3-4 p.m. on Wednesday in the Commons, Room 272. Wednesday's session is titled "Stress: Quit Stressing About Stress" and will focus on learning how to use stress to change your life for the better. For more information, call the Counseling Center at 474-2420.

Campus Briefs

Kathy Goldsberry
Copy Editor

MixItUp Day

This year's annual MixItUp Day will be held from 11-1 p.m. Nov. 18 in the Commons Cafeteria. The event is sponsored by Chat Sue's Diversity class, called the UWF MixItUp Group. MixItUp Day is the group's way of bridging social boundaries in furthering the cause of diversity and multiculturalism. All those interested are invited to attend. For more information, contact Chat Sue at 474-3170 or e-mail mcs_sue@postmark.net.

'Spoon River Anthology'

The UWF Division of Fine and Performing Arts will present "Spoon River Anthology" at 7:30 p.m. on Nov. 14, 15, 21 and 22 and 2:30 p.m. on Nov. 15 and 23 at the Center for Fine and Performing Arts Mainstage Theatre. "Spoon River Anthology" represents a collection of free-verse poems by Edgar Lee Masters that were adapted for the stage by Charles Aidman with music by Naomi Caryl. Cost of admission is \$15 for the general public, \$12 for seniors and active military, \$8 for non-UWF students and free for UWF students. For details, contact the UWF Theatre Department at (850) 474-2146.

Runge Strings Orchestra to present fall concert

The UWF Runge Strings Orchestra, conducted by Leonid Yanovskiy, will perform its fall concert at 2:30 p.m. Nov. 15 in the UWF Music Hall. The program will include the "Simple Symphony" by Benjamin Britten, "Variations on a Medieval Song" by Matthew Fossa, "Memories of Tomorrow" by Eric Ewanzen, "The Nutcracker Suite" by Tchaikovsky and waltzes by Johann Strauss Jr. The event is free and open to the public.

'Christmas on the Coast' tickets on sale

The Pensacola Children's Chorus' annual production of "Christmas on the Coast" will take place Dec. 11-13 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pensacola Saenger Theatre. Tickets will go on sale to the general public on Nov. 3. More than 260 singers will entertain audiences with holiday music, lively movement and colorful costumes. Featured segments include songs about Santa, tap-dancing angels, an "International Christmas," "Carousel of Christmas" and "Holiday in the City." Tickets are \$25, \$22 and \$11 and will be available at the Saenger Theatre Box Office (850) 444-7686 and through TicketMaster (850) 434-7444. For more information, call (850) 434-7760.

'Theatre of the Dead' tour

Pensacola's haunted house tour, Stage Fright, returns with the "Theatre of the Dead" at the Pensacola Cultural Center. Tours last 20 minutes beginning every 10 minutes from 7-10 p.m. on Oct. 28 and Oct. 30, and 7-11 p.m. Oct. 31. Patrons will be guided on a tour behind the scenes of the Haunted Theatre, excavation site of the former Escambia County Court of Records and Jail. Admission is \$5 per person. For details, call 432-2042.

Papantonio to present environment and economy program

Mike Papantonio will address the League of Women Voters on the subject of the environment and our economy. The event will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 15 in the Auditorium at Pensacola Junior College. Papantonio will discuss the close relationship between a community's environment and its economic sustainability. For more information, contact Gail Fournier at 458-0173.

Jewish students group forming

Any students interested in forming a Jewish students group are asked to contact Professor Ross Goodman at 857-6284 (rgoodman@uwf.edu) or Stephanie Gaffney at slg16@students.uwf.edu.

Think AIDS can't affect you? Think again

Rates of HIV infection rising among adolescent population

Christina Tilton
Staff Writer

Most students don't think that AIDS or HIV will affect their lives. Some students won't get tested because they either fear the results or just don't think the test is necessary for them. Health department officials have seen a tripling of HIV/AIDS infection in heterosexual women, the Centers for Disease Control reported. The increase is thought to be due to cultural opposition to safe sex messages, unprotected sex, drug use and when their partners engage in gay sex without telling them.

Up to 25 percent of the 40,000 new cases of HIV infection in the United States each year are under the age of 22. Over the past decade, the number of AIDS cases reported among adolescents (13-19 years of age) has increased substantially. By 2001, the CDC had reported 4,428 cumulative cases of AIDS among adolescents.

HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) is the virus that causes AIDS. This virus is passed from one person to another through blood-to-blood and sexual contact. People with HIV have what is called HIV infection. Most of these people will develop AIDS as a result of their HIV infection. The virus has existed in the United States since at least the 1970s, according to the CDC's Division of HIV/AIDS Prevention.

According to the HIV/AIDS Surveillance General Report for Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton Counties, the total AIDS cases in these counties are 1,093 and the total HIV cases are 518 as reported since 1997. The total cases of AIDS reported in Florida as of Nov. 30 were 90,078 and the total HIV cases were 27,900.

Florida is third in the number of adult cases of 10 leading states or territories reporting the highest number of cumulative AIDS cases among residents as of December 2001, according to the CDC.

The number one state was New York.

Since 1992, scientists have estimated that about half the people with HIV develop AIDS within 10 years after becoming infected, the CDC reported. This time varies greatly from person to person and can depend on many factors, including a person's health status and their health-related behaviors. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases believes most young adults were likely infected with HIV as adolescents.

Today, there are medical treatments that can slow down the rate at which HIV weakens the immune system. There are other treatments that can prevent or cure some of the illnesses associated with AIDS, though the treatments do not cure AIDS itself. As with other diseases, early detection offers more options for treatment and preventative health care.

According to the Sexually Transmitted Diseases: What Everyone Should Know pamphlet available in the Student Health Center on campus, there are four stages of symptoms of HIV/AIDS. The first stage is infection and seroconversion, which includes flu-like illness with rapid weight loss, dry cough, profound and unexplained fatigue, depression and many other symptoms for approximately two weeks. The second stage is symptom-free for months or even years. The third stage involves early symptoms of fevers, herpes zoster (shingles) and yeast infections for a few months to several years. The fourth and final stage is AIDS, which causes opportunistic infections, neoplasia (Kaposi's sarcoma, lymphoma, cervical cancer), dementia, and other neurological symptoms for a few months to several years.

Free HIV testing is available from 5-7 p.m. every Tuesday at the Escambia County Health Department located at 1295 W. Fairfield Drive.

If someone tests positive for HIV, the CDC suggests taking steps as soon as possible, the sooner the better.

See a doctor even if you do not feel sick, and seek a doctor who has experience treating HIV. Many drugs are available to treat HIV infection to maintain health. It is also suggested to have a tuberculosis test done. Undetected TB can cause serious illness, but can be successfully treated if caught early.

Cumulative Cases by Age

Of the total AIDS cases reported through December 2001, patients' ages at time of diagnosis were distributed as follows:

Age	No. of Cumulative AIDS Cases
Under 5:	6,975
Ages 5 to 12:	2,099
Ages 13 to 19:	4,428
Ages 20 to 24:	28,665
Ages 25 to 29:	105,060
Ages 30 to 34:	179,164
Ages 35 to 39:	182,857
Ages 40 to 44:	136,145
Ages 45 to 49:	80,242
Ages 50 to 54:	42,780
Ages 55 to 59:	23,280
Ages 60 to 64:	12,898
Ages 65 or older:	11,555

Source: www.cdc.gov/hiv/stats.htm

The following is a sexual exposure list that shows how many sexual partners you have technically had sex with, assuming your partner has had as many partners as you.

No. of sexual partners	No. of people exposed to
1	1
2	3
3	7
4	15
5	31
6	63
7	127
8	255

Source: www.pregnancyhelp.com/index.cfm/method/content.home.

People with HIV live despite the pain

Chris Louie
Staff Writer

Doug Landreth estimates that by the time he was 26, he had been to more than 200 funerals. Many of them were for friends who had died of AIDS. Landreth worked primarily as a fund-raiser for non profit HIV/AIDS organizations in Chattanooga. He took a break from his involvement and moved to Pensacola, in part to escape reminders of the many tragedies he'd seen.

Around Easter of 2002, Landreth's life took a tragic step of its own when he learned he had contracted HIV. Despite using protection nearly every time he had sex, somewhere along the line he had made a mistake. Landreth is open about his foibles and frank about his condition in order to educate others about the virus.

"To be honest, my first thought when I heard I had HIV was one of regret," Landreth said. "I was looking forward to being in a monogamous relationship in which I could have unprotected sex." His open, non-didactic approach brings a personal aspect to AIDS education.

A panel of five, including Landreth, presented a question and answer discussion, "HIV/AIDS and You," on Oct. 22 in the University Commons Conference Center lounge. All five panelists were HIV and AIDS patients who told their stories and shared their philosophies. Susan Walch, assistant professor of psychology, was the moderator of the discussion.

As a recently diagnosed with HIV patient, Landreth is still adjusting to things he used to take for granted. "I learned, for instance, just how horrible my insurance company was," he said. He worries about having to eventually take medica-



Special to The Voyager

Some medications have been shown to help patients with HIV.

tion and has adopted an exercise regimen to stay healthy.

Another panel member, Neil Murphy, was diagnosed with HIV in 1983. Despite an unsupportive family, Murphy drew on his faith in God in order to return to school and earn a doctorate in grief counseling.

"I wouldn't go back and change things if I could," he said. "HIV gave me a purpose."

He described AIDS as more than a social problem. It's a behavioral, cultural and social epidemic as well, which is why he has devoted his life to helping those afflicted with it.

One person who believes they would be completely lost without the support of people like Murphy is Barbara Webb. Webb was blissfully unaware of her condition for months, joking that she was actually enjoying the mysterious weight loss she was experiencing. "I figured I would be the finest thing in town if I

kept dropping dress sizes," she said.

Levy turned to despair when she received her diagnosis. Feeling immense loneliness, she even asked her doctor when she could expect to die. To her surprise, she was told that having HIV isn't as bleak a condition as it once was, and that what would benefit her most would be a support group.

"My friends, the support group, are awesome," she said, referring to the circle of people she meets every Monday night. Webb is a self-described "phone person" who will "call you before you go to sleep and then when you wake up." Having someone on the other end that cares and empathizes with her has meant everything, she said.

Walch said the African American community is being hit hard by the scourge of AIDS.

Another panel member, Owen Neil, has invested much into coun-

tering this trend. Neil, a native of Jamaica, was instrumental in forming the Community Information Network, an organization dedicated to minority health education.

"As black people, we're so willing to endure pains that we tend to not talk about health issues," Neil said. His agency also helps the illiterate, those without insurance, and whoever is in economic straits.

In April 2002, CIN secured funding for a series of brutal yet poignant billboards that brought attention to the growing problem of HIV/AIDS in the black community. Along with radio and print ads, they helped to make people aware of CIN and the services they provide. After initial struggles, the organization has gathered more crucial volunteers and is now focusing on increasing its scope and the range of its programs.

Although the discussion's attendance was meager, perhaps because of a lack of publicity, those who heard the speakers were struck by their honesty.

"I really liked hearing their stories," said Rebecca Miller, a sophomore majoring in international business. "It made it a lot more interesting than someone just reading off a bunch of statistics."

Walch said that a biased picture might be presented by the apparent healthiness of the panel members. While there seems to be constant advancements made in treatment, she somberly noted that she works with patients in every phase of the disease. Some of them have recently been lost to it.

"The young people today haven't seen the horrors of the early years of AIDS," said Landreth.

Murphy, who was given a year to live when he was first diagnosed 20 years ago, and who remembers that bleak dawn of fear and hopelessness, shook his head in agreement.



Classifieds

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