Events kick off this week

By Darrian Pickett
Senior News Writer
dnp6a@uvawise.edu

The next few weeks are filled with events that lead up to the inaugural ceremony for Chancellor Donna Henry. The inauguration will be held at 2 p.m. April 22 in the David J. Prior Convocation Center. But events kicked off Monday with a birthday celebration for Thomas Jefferson on Founder’s Day. “Having a variety of events on campus leading up to the official Inauguration gives the entire campus community the opportunity to come together to celebrate Chancellor Henry’s leadership,” said Kathy Still, the college’s director of news and media relations.

The events will give students a chance to reiterate the impact that tradition has on institutions since inaugural ceremonies date back to the mid-16th century. Events that lead up to this momentous event include the Chancellor for a Day food drive and switch, Founder’s Day, a lecture by Pulitzer Prize winning author Stephen Greenblatt and the annual Day of Service.

Chair of the Inauguration Committee, Jacob Somervell, said “inauguration in general have rich traditions.”

Common elements include processional, music, and speeches. Our inauguration of Chancellor for Henry will have those items. What makes this one different is the unique touch that Chancellor Henry brings. We have strive to include activities and events that reflect Chancellor Henry’s unique spirit and tastes.”

Kathy Still said, “Students will learn more about UVA-Wise and its history by attending Founder’s Day and they broaden their minds by attending the Stephen Greenblatt lecture,” Still said.

Participating in the Day of Service, which is held in honor of Chancellor Henry this year, will give students an opportunity to volunteer and serve others, which is part of the College’s mission to produce graduates who can work to make their communities a better place.”

According to Still, the official inauguration ceremony will consist of a procession with delegates from many colleges and universities all over the country and a representative from student organizations on campus that will give an idea of how much the college has built up since being founded in 1954.

“Chancellor Henry’s family and friends will also attend the ceremony, which gives them an opportunity to introduce our college to them,” she said.

“Professor Donald Scrub has composed an original fanfare of professional music for the inauguration as well.”

The inauguration week started with the Founder’s Day party, celebrating Thomas Jefferson and the founding of both UVa and UVA-Wise. The event was held April 14.

Chancellor Donna Price Henry, the college’s eighth chancellor, will be inaugurated in a ceremony next week. The event will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday in the David J. Prior Center.

TJ’s birthday celebrates Founder’s Day

By Darrian Pickett
Senior News Writer
dnp6a@uvawise.edu

Students, faculty and alum gathered Monday to celebrate the founding of UVa and UVA-Wise with a birthday party for Thomas Jefferson. The college celebrates Founder’s Day around Jefferson’s birthday every year, but this year things were different.

“Creating Founder’s Day is traditional at the university and our college,” said Kathy Still, the college’s director of news and media relations.

“It is a way to pay tribute to founding father Thomas Jefferson for building the University of Virginia, which basically led to the founding of our college as well. It allows the campus an opportunity to reflect on Jefferson’s vision to create a higher educational system across the entire commonwealth of Virginia.”

“Founder’s Day normally takes place on the Monday that is closest to Mr. Jefferson’s birthday.”

The Student Government Association and the Alumni Association sponsored the event, and this year, it was made to be more like a party than a lecture.

Food was available and there were fun activities for people that attended, including a Thomas Jefferson look-alike contest, Still said.

Chancellor Donna Price Henry and her two daughters were at the party Monday afternoon.

“The event is significant because it marks the founding of the college on Founder’s Day since it’s Thomas Jefferson’s birthday,” Henry said. “It gives us an opportunity to tell the college story and how everything started, which I think is important to remember.”

She said it is significant for her as chancellor because the day - and other inauguration events - mark her installation as the eighth chancellor of UVA-Wise.

Junior theater major Jennifer Morgan-Muse dressed up as Thomas Jefferson for the look-alike contest.

“I’d just like to thank Thomas Jefferson for founding the college and making it happen,” she said. “This is my first time attending because I’ve had class during the time of the event in previous years.”

Muse was one of a few students and faculty members who had a costume for the contest.

Founder’s Day is among several other events, including Cavaliers Care Day of Service to be held Saturday and an interfaith ceremony to be held tonight, scheduled to mark Henry’s inauguration.

Upcoming

Day of Service
The annual Cavalier’s Care Day of Service will be held Saturday at 8 a.m.

SGA Elections taking place
SGA Senate and Honor Court Elections will take place April 21-24 on the student portal.

Movie on the Lawn
A big screen movie will show on the McCann Lawn at sunset April 24. Movie to be announced.

Leadership banquet
The Student Leadership Awards banquet will be held April 25 in Carroll Hall.

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Chancellor Donna Price Henry cuts the cake at Thomas Jefferson’s birthday party for Founder’s Day.

Photo courtesy Tim C. Cox
The college's Center of Appalachian Studies was officially launched this month. Associate professor of Appalachian studies and Appalachian author Amy Clark introduced former University of Kentucky's professor in Appalachian Studies Ron Eller as the special guest speaker for the 8 event held to celebrate the center.

“The Center for Appalachian Studies is a dream come true for us,” Clark said.

Eller and Clark both said the addition of the center to the college is long overdue.

The goal of this center is to focus on better understanding the world, as well as understanding and redefining a strong sense of pride about Appalachia.

The ceremony took place on the C. Bascom Sloan Student Center. It included a short introduction given by Amy Clark, a poetry reading by Hannah McNew, a speech given by Ron Eller, and a musical performance by Corbin Haslett.

“Appalachian studies, isn't the study of Appalachia, it's the study of our world,” Eller said.

“If you don’t know where you are, you don’t know who you are,” was a Wendell Berry quote that Eller used as the basis of his lecture on Appalachian Studies.

“Appalachia, it’s the study of our world,” Eller said. “If you don’t know where you are, you don’t know who you are, you don’t know what you want.”

Eller believes that the Appalachian identity movement during the 1960s should be considered as important as the Civil Rights movement and Women’s Rights movement of the same time.

“Americans, Eller said, have become more of a people who are interested in the world outside of themselves. The college experience allows us to figure out who they are, what they want to do, and say it was one of the best experiences to their life.”

“Crabtree plans to focus mainly on psychology and religion on her trip. She said, "I have always been interested in the world." Crabtree plans to study abroad next semester.

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opinion

Social media addiction

By Hannah McNew
Staff Writer
hmcm@uvawise.edu

How much time a given day do you spend on social media websites? One hundred hours? Sixty more?

Like many my age, I spend the majority of my time on the Internet, particularly browsing through social media websites.

It can seem as though there is a social butterfly I chat with my friends throughout the day and try to remain my usual media, mainly Facebook. I like to keep people entertained and often see your Facebook so do I try to come up with witty statuses about random experiences throughout my days and keep my friends smiling and wanting to read more.

I did not believe how much time that I spent on Facebook until a recent assignment kept me from using social media in its entirety. It was only then that I had the realization of how much time I had to be without it for three days. It seemed easy enough. I had done it before.

I am, without a doubt, a Fi-Fi connection and cell phone service all the time when I go home.

So being without it for three measly little days would be no-brainer, or so I thought.

Everywhere I went, I had either cell phone service or a Wi-Fi connection, sometimes both. So the temptation was there, but I knew that I had to stay away.

By the end of my three days without Facebook, I found out how dependent I had become.

For the first time in a very long time, I was enjoying a weekend with my friends with nothing more than the company of my phone app, to say the least. I realize the distraction it has become for me. Therefore, if I have something important to do, I will use my phone for a few days to alleviate myself from the distraction.

I encourage you to try it out. Give up social media for a given number of days and see the outcome.

Log off any and all social media websites. Go to your smartphone or tablet, take a deep breath and log off of any form of social media. Yes, that would even include Snapchat and Instagram, I would argue.

You are still technically communicating with others. I guarantee if you did that, your homework assignments would be completed to a much shorter amount of time and your friends would be much happier that you actually remembered what they told you.

Technology has potential to greatly ruin literature

By Diane Mathews
Student Writer
dmm2@uvawise.edu

I am the type of person who is very passionate about the things he cares about. I am one of those people who, if I am speaking with someone and they start speaking about something that I am passionate about, I will speak for hours on end. I can rambunctiously talk about the history of mankind and it is with much gratitude that I can do so.

I am an avid reader. I believe that reading has helped me to broaden my horizons and has allowed me to see the world in a different way. It has given me the opportunity to explore new cultures and new ways of thinking. It has also allowed me to escape from the real world and immerse myself in a different world.

It is a fact that literature is one of the main ways that we can learn about the history of mankind. It is through literature that we are able to learn about the experiences of others and to understand their perspectives. It is through literature that we are able to learn about the struggles of others and to understand their pain.

It is also through literature that we are able to learn about the beauty of language. It is through literature that we are able to learn about the power of words and the way that they can be used to create images and to convey emotions.

It is through literature that we are able to learn about the importance of literacy. It is through literature that we are able to learn about the way that reading can improve our lives and help us to become better people.

It is a fact that literature is something that I definitely believe in and that I am passionate about.

I am a firm believer in the power of literature and I am a firm believer in the potential of the future. I believe that literature has the power to change the world and to make a difference.

I believe that we should continue to encourage people to read and to learn about the history of mankind through literature. I believe that we should continue to support the arts and to support the writers who are creating new works of literature.

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Lowe leads Cavs on links in MEC Tournament

By Jordan Childress
Sports Editor
jchildress@uvawise.edu

Senior Clint Lowe turned in his best showing of the season for the UVa-Wise Cavaliers in the team's first season of NCAA Division II play. Lowe led the Cavs to a third place team finish and a second place individually during the April 7-8 tournament held at Cattails at Meadowview in the Mountain East Conference Tournament hosted by the Cavs.

"It was good; it was a little disappointing that I didn't win my last conference tournament," Lowe said. "I was proud of the way I played, if only I could have gotten a couple more putts to fall."

Lowe turned in a 69 on his scorecard on the first day of the tournament, placing him in third place with two under par. Jess Ferrell of Fairmont State University and Evan Muscari of Concord University led the field after day one with a five under par 66.

Senior David Harvey shot a 74 on day one as he was tied for eighth place. At the end of the first day, the Cavs were in third place with a team score of 298, leading Concord by two strokes.

On day two of the tournament, Lowe was ready to make a push for the lead. Lowe finished with a 71 and a two-day total of 140 to finish second in the tournament.

Ferrell finished with a two-day total of 136 to take home the individual title. Lowe finished four strokes behind Ferrell, the MEC Player of the Year.

The Cavs were paced by freshman Nick England who finished tied for 17th, and Tyler Roblante who finished in 15th place. Harvey finished tied for 20th place.

Lowe, who won a tournament as freshman, was pleased with his finish as he prepares for the upcoming U.S. Open Qualifier.

"I know I am playing good enough to compete and have a chance to make it through that qualifier," Lowe said. "If I can get some putts to drop because I am hitting the ball good. I've [seen] what it takes to play in the qualifiers."

The Cavs finished in third place with a total team score of 602 which was one stroke behind second place finisher in West Liberty. Charleston took the team title with a score of 587.

The tournament was held in Kingsport, which is practically the hometown backyard of Gate City, Va., native Lowe. He easily held an advantage over the rest of the field.

"I grew up playing there during the summers when I was little," Lowe said. "They would let me walk for $10 or $12, so I would have someone drop me off."

Lowe and the Cavs will be back in action this weekend as they travel to Morgantown, W.Va., to participate in the Fairmont State University Tournament on Sunday with the tournament concluding on Tuesday.