The Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA) in Kearney is currently exhibiting the photographs of National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore. Sartore will be at MONA discussing his art and experiences March 18 from 4-6 p.m, while the work will be displayed until August.

Teliza V. Rodriguez, curator of MONA said she thought bringing Sartore to Kearney would be perfect to recognize both crane season and the statehood anniversary of Nebraska. “...It really forces us to look at our past and our present and our future,” Rodriguez said. “And that is what the whole show is about. What can we do to conserve?”

MONA had been working with Sartore for a couple years to get a permanent collection when Rodriguez approached Sartore with the idea of doing the exhibition focusing on North American and plains’ animals. The main gallery for this exhibition features plains’ animals. The side galleries feature animals from the rest of the world.

The main gallery features a photo of a black-footed ferret. This animal used to be native to the plains, but is now extinct in this area. Sartore uses this photo to show the impact that people truly have on animals to promote conservation.

“The difference between us and, like, a natural history museum is that we want them (the photos) to make a statement with each other. …We didn’t want them on panels, we wanted them in frames, we wanted them matted, we wanted them to be as big as they could be,” said Rodriguez.

Sartore's art on exhibit at MONA
Internationally acclaimed photographer talks about his work, projects March 18

SARTORE, PAGE 11

Joel Sartore is a photographer, speaker, author, teacher, conservationist, National Geographic Fellow and a regular contributor to National Geographic Magazine. His hallmarks are a sense of humor and a Midwestern work ethic. The Ponca City, Oklahoma, native is a long-time Nebraska resident whose interests in animals and photography began when he was a child.

Photo Ark founder and National Geographic photographer, Sartore has visited 40 countries in his quest to create this photo archive of global biodiversity. To date, he has completed intimate portraits of more than 6,000 species.

No matter its size, each animal is treated with the same amount of affection and respect. The results are portraits that are not just stunningly beautiful, but also intimate and moving.

See and purchase Sartore work at: http://www.joelsartore.com/galleries/the-photo-ark/

I want people to care, to fall in love, and to take action.”

/ Sartore

“Sartore is trying to make us fall in love with these animals so we can see the reciprocal effect that anything we do or any legislation or anything like that has asked him if he would be interested in doing a six-month show. “I thought it would be a real hit with our audience, but as well as the people that come in (to Kearney) for the migration,” Rodriguez

ABOUT SARTORE
Spring break safety

It is that time of year again, where college students across the country head to a fun destination spot away from school, often sandy beaches in Florida or a beach club in Vegas. It’s a time for students to relax for a whole week without any worries of studying.

However, spring break can also be a time for students to make some difficult choices and learn some tough lessons if they aren’t careful.

Here are 6 ways to ensure your spring break memories are full of fun and friends, rather than a nightmare.

**Stick together:** it can become easy for any member of the group to get lost running off to the bathroom or even just getting mixed up in a crowd at the beach or nightclub. It is crucial to keep tabs on each other. No one wants to be the babysitter, but who wants to spend their spring break constantly trying to locate friends?

**Make a game plan ahead of time** before heading out with friends for activities, and set rules for each other so that everyone is accounted for throughout the whole trip.

**Do not let your guard down.** The chances are high that students will meet many other people on their trip. Unfortunately, some or even most of those people are questionable or dangerous. Be a good friend, and if a situation or someone becomes aggressive, don’t be afraid to intervene. Strangers are strangers no matter how friendly they seem. So, don’t let your guard down, and don’t assume all the other spring breakers are looking out for you or your friends.

**Drink responsibly, and always know your limit.** Be careful by following the golden rule: If you leave your drink unattended for any moment, it is no longer your drink. Always watch your drink being made, and if a friend seems too intoxicated, trust your instincts and get them the help they need. Don’t assume your friend can sleep it off if they appear too drunk for their own safety. Get them to a hospital immediately. It is always better to be more safe than sorry.

**Stay connected;** keep your phone fully charged at all times if possible. And plan to pack a back-up charger in your bag/purse just in case. Phone apps allow people to be more safe. Witness, for example, lets you secretively notify your emergency contacts in case you find yourself in any danger. It is also wise to let someone back at home know your hotel information and more than one way to reach you if your phone is lost, dies or loses reception.

**Stay healthy!** While this may not be a top priority for many students while on spring break, and eating more vegetables is not the problem either. Sun care and hydration are crucial for avoiding a painful sunburn or sickness that can ruin the entire trip. It is important to reapply sunscreen throughout the day, whether lying out on the beach or exploring a city. Also, taking breaks from the sun can go a long way to avoid dehydration. So, make sure to keep a bottle or two of water on hand not only throughout the day but at night as well.

Students can obtain more safety tips at http://www.safespringbreak.org/safety-tips/ It is important for students to think smart. Spring break is a time to have fun, let loose and let the memories be made.
Looking for easy answer to life’s problems?

Fake News. Two simple words that, when placed together, have taken on a different meaning in recent times. What was originally meant for comedic purposes through satirical newspapers such as the Onion, (which has some of my favorite headlines such as Special Olympic Tee-Ball Stand Pitches Perfect Game) has now encompassed some legitimate news stations.

To give some idea of the scale, Politifact -- a fact checking site that covers politics on a national scale -- gave the “prize” of Lie of the Year to fake news in 2016. And, considering how bad that year was for the value of truth, that is saying something. So, what is the reason for the rise in these stations, as well as those labeling credible news sources as lies?

There are a few reasons why, but I think the main motivation behind these false sites is that people are looking for a reason, no matter how ludicrous, to blame their shortcomings on others. This need for a scapegoat has been around since two apes talked to one another, but with the creation of the internet, anything can be said and shared with only seconds of delay. Because the internet has been around for a long time, people have become less wary about what is on the internet and will accept anything on it as fact.

I remember when I originally went on the internet, I was told to take everything with a grain of salt. Now, if it is published by someone who has more than ten followers (especially by celebrities), it must be true! However, fame doesn’t equal intelligence or common sense. You only need to look at the likes of Jenny McCarthy, Chris Brown, Kid Rock and Alex Jones to realize that brains are not a necessary factor in popularity. Some people of middling intelligence have very little wisdom when it comes to the world around them.

This also plays out on the national level, especially with Trump, his hollow promises and asinine excuses for his shortcomings. We can see the new administration trying, and failing, to make good on Trump's insane campaign promises. However, we are currently a little more than fifty days into Trump's presidency and anyone with two eyes can see how well, or how poorly in this case, that legislation is progressing. Repeal/replacement of the ACA is finding few allies, Mexican politicians are basically telling Trump to do something physically impossible when it comes to the wall and Trump’s responses would be hilarious if they didn’t come from the Oval Office.

The problem when people want something immediate is that they will believe anything if it holds a chance of them getting what they want. People believe these fake news sites that post garbage and the sites continue to fuel their perspective of reality so they don’t discard it like a normal person. If something promoted a point of view and offered a scapegoat for why that wasn’t happening, we should not be surprised when people rush to embrace both the promise and the excuse.

When a news source provides the news in a well-thought-out manner that the casual reader can easily verify through interviews, documents and video footage challenges that preconceived point of view, the same people who believe fake news attack real reporters. Will there be bias to news stations? Of course. It is hard to be non-biased when covering politics and fence-sitters don’t attract audiences. News stations need to draw an audience, and that is where the bias, liberal or conservative, comes into play.

Fake news does not do that. These made-up stories are created to get a rise out of people, and often those false stories, even if there are disclaimers, can lead to dangerous results. The Pizza Parlor incident could have easily become a massacre, all because satire was seen as real news. The warning I leave you with is be educated. The problem does not lie about what is on the internet and will accept anything on it as fact.

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Monthly Fireside Chat encourages discussion on Nebraska law, policy

KATIE COKER
Antelope Staff

March 15, 2017

Antelope Staff

Political science faculty Dr. Peter Longo and Dr. Claude Louishomme facilitated this month's Fireside Chat Friday afternoon, covering important topics to Nebraskans.

The casual gathering gives all in attendance a chance to speak of concerns and respectfully debate over differing opinions. Issues in the past have been both nationwide and global but this month focused on issues closer to home: Nebraska prisons, the helmet legislation and telehealth services.

Those in attendance for the Nebraska Politics and Policy Fireside Chat on Friday, March 3, included former mayor of Kearney Pete Kotsiopulos as well as Chancellor Douglas A. Kristensen. The Chancellor opened talks by speaking about Jerome Warner, who was key in bringing the former Kearney State College into the University of Nebraska system.

"If not for him, none of you would be here and your degrees would not be worth what they are today," Kristensen said.

Nebraska has some of the most overcrowded prisons in the nation. Prisons like Tecumseh State Correctional Institution are as much as 150 percent over-capacity. Prisons also have a 30 percent turnover rate for employees. To keep facilities staffed many are working overtime, costing the state more in the long run.

There was discussion about whether money could be trimmed from the education budget to help the prison crisis. Other said programs to keep employees and lower the prison population would be more fruitful that pouring more money into an already struggling system.

Omaha senator Ernie Chambers has introduced a bill that would lower the number of inmates by eliminating the sentence minimums for nonviolent, drug-related offences. Chambers says that mandatory minimum sentences remove incentives for inmates to behave and can endanger prison guards and other inmates. His bill would allow the sentencing judge and two other judges randomly selected by the Nebraska Supreme Court's chief justice to review cases and determine whether a mandatory minimum is appropriate.

Repealing the mandatory helmet law for motorcyclists in Nebraska was the second topic brought up for discussion. Proponents say the helmet law could be costing Nebraska money since some bikers chose to go around Nebraska to avoid the law. Repealing the law could mean more money coming into the state.

Those in attendance offered up ideas such as higher insurance rates for people.

Fireside Chat

- Hosted on the first Friday of each month in the Nebraskan Student Union's Fireside Lounge. The monthly event is free and open to the public.
- Has become a monthly platform for professors and students to discuss important issues outside of the classroom environment.
- Check UNK calander for upcoming events.

KATIE COKER
Antelope Staff

Post-truth era

Kennedy Schaefer: a junior journalism major, photography minor from Garland, attended Friday’s “Post-Truth Era” day-long conference at UNL, focusing on how to report the news following the campaign and election of President Donald Trump.

KATIE COKER
Antelope Staff

Petrol Kotsiopulos

The election of Trump has prompted questions around the nation about our country’s future and has highlighted opposatory opinions against previously trusted media outlets. Now, these outlets are facing questions regarding their intentions.

“It’s a great time to be a journalist, people are following the news like never before,” said Washington Post journalist and Omaha native Jenna Johnson at a Friday March 10 UNL conference open to the public and to all mass communication students throughout the state. The topic of discussions was the “Post-Truth Era,” which began due to recent uproars in the media outlets throughout the U.S. covering President Donald Trump’s year-long controversial campaign.

Trump has prompted questions for many about whether or not they can rely on stories published from even our country’s press leaders as a source of truth or not. “It’s crucial now, more than ever before to build trust with the audience as a journalist,” Johnson said. Because people are more aware of what is going on in society and given resources that were not as accessible in the past, getting the real, raw, truth behind every story is more important now than ever. Journalists are attracting negative attention due to recent errors from credible news outlets such as CNN.

Fake news stories raising popularity and respect from public figures as well as audience members. The Washington Post, New York Times and Buzzfeed have publicly addressed their audiences to show their collaboration with each other.

“People are more hesitant in who they can trust in the media now,” Johnson said. “Because of the internet and social media, ‘brand’ is becoming the most important thing. It doesn't matter where it is shared, if an audience member trusts a certain mainstream news outlet they will 'share' the stories published and believe that is the truth.”

Gary Kebbel, a professor of mass communication at UNL as well as writer for the Omaha World-Herald, was also one of the main speakers at Friday’s event.

“People are accusing me of being arrogant and claim that myself as well as other [journalists] are only upset because we don't have the power and respect we once did.

“And guess what? They are right, we don't have the power we once did, and people are fact checking and source checking more than ever before,” Kebbel said.

Dr. Ralph Hanson, UNK Professor in the Department of Communication and author of Sage textbook “Mass Communication: Living in a Media World,” tweeted throughout the conference. “When readers see stories with lots of unnamed sources, people wonder whether the stories can be trusted,” Hanson said.

Kebbel said that allowing audience to comment on published articles might actually be the saving grace for media outlets, if they listen. “Journalists are hesitant in adapting to the change of attention that the audience are now giving,” Kebbel said.

“There will always be people against you, that's just the reality of working for a news outlet,” Johnson said. “Journalists around the country need now more than ever to focus more on getting the truth out rather than gaining the popularity.”

Gaining respect is important for any profession, but gaining the public respect is key for journalist to maintain public trust and keeping truth separated from the gossip.
BROCK MADSEN
Antelope Staff

Dr. Joel Berrier, assistant professor of physical science at UNK, presented a show on "The History of Galaxies in our Universe" Feb. 17.

Berrier used the planetarium star projector to point out to the audience, the galaxies which can be seen by the human eye on a clear night, as well as our own galaxy, the Milky Way.

Berrier went on to provide a history about the perception of the Milky Way. Many ancient myths had fantastical guesses as to what the brightest band of stars was made of, but it is only in this modern age that we understand this Milky Way is actually, the part of our own galaxy that is visible to us from Earth.

Berrier showed the audience examples of the different shapes galaxies can take on, including elliptical, spiral, barred spiral and irregular. He then showed the audience how evidence suggests that our Milky Way takes the shape of a spiral galaxy.

Berrier gave his audience a marvelous performance on the subject of the constellations as he brought their illustrations to light on the planetarium ceiling, drawing gasps from adults of the crowd and excited "woahs" and "wows" from the children in attendance as they saw giant lions, crabs, bulls, bears and other fantastical images of celestial legend.

Berrier's masterful presentation left every audience member with a deeper understanding and appreciation of the night sky, especially for galaxies like our own.

Dr. Nate Bickford, associate professor of biology at UNK, presented his show on "Wildlife Behavior When the Sun Turns Off" on March 3.

Bickford presented his research as well as the rare scientific studies on animal behavior during total solar eclipses, which point to at least one usual trend. Day-time animals experiencing solar eclipses tend to almost immediately switch to their night time behavior, since of course, the sky itself begins to darken.

Birds who are out and about will return to their night nests, hippos will head toward their evening feeding grounds and spiders will take apart their webs as if night were approaching. This leaves animals rather confused when the full daytime sun comes back in a matter of minutes, as they've just settled in for night.

Whether this hiccup in routine harms many, if any species, is still under investigation.

Due to the scarce nature of wildlife-related research during eclipse events, the lecture on wildlife behavior was over before the allotted time elapsed. But Bickford was prepared and filled the remaining time with the history of eclipse-related behavior of the most complicated animals of all, humans. Bickford shared the ancient records and cultural myths that mankind in the past used to rationalize solar eclipses.

Bickford played with the audience's imagination, mentioning werewolf accounts and sightings in the Midwest area and cautioned us all to be careful during the upcoming eclipse as solar eclipses are known to be times when werewolves lose hold of their remaining humanity.

Bickford mentioned the sky wolves of Norse mythology who relentlessly chased the sun and moon, which, upon the wolves catching either, would result in a solar or lunar eclipse.

At the end of his presentation, Bickford made a call to the audience to spread an idea called "citizen science." That is, everyday people can observe natural phenomena, and so long as they record some sort of data, they can be of great contribution to the scientific community.

One of the only reasons why there are so few scientific studies concerning animal behavior during eclipses is that there are...
Lady Lopers struggle against RiverHawks

Exceptional fieldwork and batting of Northeastern RiverHawks’ softball team caused Lopers to fall short in spring home opening game at Dryden Park

ELLEN LAIRD
Antelope Sports

Nebraska-Kearney [1-21] took on Northeastern State [11-12] Sunday afternoon at Dryden Park. The Lopers were swept up by the RiverHawks in a doubleheader, 15-7 and 9-0.

In the first game, the Lopers were able to crack the bat 13 times off of Northeastern RiverHawks’ sophomore pitcher Taryn Gray. Four players brought two hits each. Ralston junior Tayire Kennan went 2 for 3, and had two RBI’s and California freshman second baseman Macey Nelson went 2 for 4, one run and two RBI’s.

During game two, Gray held the Lopers to only four hits and no runs. During the top of the first inning in game two, the Lopers gave up eight runs. Right away the ball was popped up to short stop. The next hitter singled out to center field. RiverHawk Sierra Crick reached on a fielding error and advanced the two runners.

The RiverHawks cracked the bat later to center field to bring in two RBIs and didn’t let up until Crick was back up to ground it to first base and give the third out with eight runs chalked up.

The Lopers struggled to answer until the second inning with one hit by Papillion freshman Sara Sempek with a single to right center but was left on base by Lexington junior Halle Gydesen who went down swinging for the third out.

Loper pitcher Abbey Martin allowed only one earned walk and five hits in the last four innings of the second game. Loper second baseman Macey Nelson was the only player with assists for a total of two.

Both the Lopers and the RiverHawks totaled only three strike outs and six runners left on base.

Nebraska-Kearney is heading to Missouri Western State this week to play six games in the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference competition.

Photos by Todd Rundstrom
1. Junior Abbey Martin, a radiography major from Utah, releases the pitch in Sunday’s doubleheader against the RiverHawks. In game two, Martin allowed only four hits in the last four innings.

2. Junior Kaela Samek pulls in a pop fly in center field for the third out of the inning in game two against the RiverHawks. This out helped put a stop to the RiverHawk’s 8-0 run.

3. Molly Stern, a senior from Arizona studying sports management, steps up to bat during the first game against Northeastern State.
Lopers finish 4th in Birmingham

UNK wrestling finishes in the top four at the NCAA DII Nationals for the sixth straight year; Keith Surber crowned individual champion

1. National champion Keith Surber lunges for his opponent in a 149-pound match. Surber outscored his opponent 22-2 in his first three matches to earn a spot in the finals. His individual title came in the form of a victory over Notre Dame College’s Juwan Edmont. Surber became one of 11 Lopers to be named a three-time-All-American.

2. Senior Destin McCauley prepares to grapple with his opponent at the DII nationals in Birmingham. McCauley reached the championship match where he was upset by 10th-ranked DeAndre’ Johnson of Limestone College. McCauley was also named an All-American for the third year.

3. Sophomore Zach Stodden pulls his challenger to the mat. Stodden finished 7th in the 184-pound weight class and was named an All-American for the first time in his career.

(Not pictured) Calvin Ochs, a junior from Hoxie, Kansas finished 4th at 165 lbs. Ochs was also named an All-American for the 2016-2017 season.

Rader takes issue with Texas gender policy

JD RADER
Antelope Sports

In a conservative state such as Texas, transgender rights are a real hot button issue. This was shown on Feb. 26 when a mix of cheers and boos rang out as Mack Beggs won a high school state wrestling title. The mixed response was because Mack Beggs was born a girl, but is now a transgender boy.

Part of the transitioning process for Beggs has been taking testosterone treatments. Because of this, I have a bone to pick with The University Interscholastic League (UIL), which oversees athletics in Texas public schools.

Aug. 1, 2016, UIL put a policy into place that required athletes compete with and against the gender that is listed on their birth certificate. Therefore, Mack Beggs wrestled in the girl’s division at the state championships. Beggs, supported by his family, wanted to wrestle in the boy’s division, but UIL and the state of Texas wouldn’t allow his request.

Unfortunately for the girls in Beggs’ weight class, this created an unfair advantage for Beggs because of his testosterone treatments.

To tolerate a biological girl taking testosterone and competing against girls who aren’t is ridiculous. People lose their minds about anything gender related, but this is a biological girl taking steroids and competing against girls.

Wrestling is a combat sport and competing against girls who don’t have the same testosterone levels is unfair and dangerous.

This isn’t an issue because of Beggs. He has every right to transition as he wishes. This is on the shoulders of the UIL, who unfortunately, has no plans to change policy.

UIL deputy director, Jamey Harrison, was quoted as saying “Nothing that has happened at this year’s wrestling championships has the UIL reconsidering its rules because quite frankly we don’t believe that any issues being reported on are really a product of UIL rules.”

Harrison said, “Ninety-five percent of the school superintendents in Texas voted for the rule as it was proposed, which was to use birth certificates. So, any rule can be reconsidered, but given the overwhelming support for that rule, I don’t expect it to change anytime soon.”

More and more young people are changing their gender from the one on their birth certificate, and that trend is not going to change. The Texas school system, however, can change their policies to adapt to the times to make their high school sports more fair and safe. At the very least, they should create an even playing field by allowing transgender boys to compete against other boys.
More than your average knock-knock jokes, the UNK students performing at the PhiGam Comedy Jam brought their own brand of comedy to the stage. From signs urging the audience to “dab uncontrollably” to imitations of gym bros and plenty of embarrassing stories, these students had a lot to laugh about.

The punch lines were out in full swing for the third annual comedy event put on by the Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. This event showcased the comedic talents of some of UNK’s students in an effort to raise money for Kearney Tackles Cancer, an organization that helps those struggling with cancer financially.

“It’s a unique event to have on campus,” says Logan Hansen, Phi Gamma Delta’s philanthropy chair and a junior biochemistry major from Kearney. “No other events are specifically comedy. We thought that people like comedy and we could get students to perform.”

And perform they did. The audience was advised on how to make an attractive Tinder profile. The hint would be to not put a picture of yourself eating a sandwich up, or do that if you’re into that sort of thing.

One group talked of the people everyone can relate to seeing at the gym, including the guy who tries way too hard, the “sexy stretcher,” and unaware naked old man in the locker room.

One performer explained what it’s like to be arrested for selling a bag of barley to unsuspecting peers as “drugs.” The moral of that story being it’s best not to start in the first place.

The fraternity was able to raise around $800 through the event for the cancer organization. “This event really solidified us doing it for the next couple years,” says Hansen, who is optimistic for the future of the comedy event. “In a sense we were starting over this year. Now more people know about the event.”

Not only did one feel good because they were laughing at the funny and talented performers, but they were also able to feel good knowing that they contributed to a good cause.
Is it possible to prevent the gradual rise of stress throughout the semester, or is it inevitable? Counseling graduate student Ryan Kawata says there is a way, and there are plenty of people to help.

Students may not know that those who are taking seven credit hours or more automatically get three free counseling sessions per semester at the Student Health and Counseling Center. The three keys to student mental health are to reduce stress, get better grades and motivate yourself for greatness.

Kawata says students bothered by a pileup of stress issues should seek help because stress is indeed a very serious problem, and often people tend not to talk about it or get help.

Kawata is a graduate student from Grand Island and says he chose UNK because he has heard a lot of really good things about the counseling program. He’s in the clinical mental health program, which focuses on mental disorders, depression, bipolar issues, suicide, and things along those lines.

FREE COUNSELING FOR STUDENTS

Kawata encourages students to go to the Student Health and Counseling Center for help here on campus for any reason, or to ease any worries they may have. “It’s OK to talk with people about anything that might be bothering them, and there is a great facility for students that are facing issues,” Kawata said, “they are very professional, all the staff there are professionals and everything will be confidential.”

Kawata took a practicum class last semester, which had a required 40 hours with clients. This is an opportunity that students can take advantage of as another free counseling opportunity. Everything talked about in these sessions is completely confidential.

Since he has already taken the practicum class,
Neil touched by experience in Haiti

Neil poses with the locals while in Maliarette, Haiti during her church youth group’s mission trip.

PAULA JIMENEZ
Antelope Staff

Emma Neil, a junior social science education/ESL major from Papillion is passionate about traveling and experiencing different cultures. She has been in Haiti twice and lived in Ecuador for a month last summer.

She says her experiences traveling to Haiti in high school truly did change her life. “It showed me how important missions are to myself and gave me a desire to continue helping people and traveling.”

She decided she wanted to become a teacher to continue to help children and is obtaining an endorsement in ESL. She’s considering traveling outside the country to teach English as an option in the future.

“Going to Haiti also gave me the courage to travel to Ecuador last summer with five other college students. We did missions work in Ecuador for a month and I gained so much from that experience as well,” Neil said.

Neil is a member of the honors program, FCA, InterVarsity, SAAC, Phi Alpha Theta and is also a full-time student-athlete on the UNK women’s tennis team.

Why did you go to Haiti and what was the goal of your trips?
I traveled to Maliarette, Haiti, in the summer of 2012 and 2014 with my high school church youth group. We went through an organization called the 410 Bridge.

The 410 Bridge says their mission is to enable “the self-developing capabilities of the people we serve by mobilizing and unifying the body of Christ through holistic, redemptive, community-centered partnerships.”

Q&A

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NEIL, PAGE 11

Ulferts advocates for those in need

IAN KAHLER
Antelope Staff

As the guest advocate at the Crossroads Center Rescue Mission in Kearney, Fullerton junior Kameran Ulferts is a messenger to the homeless, but she has had her eyes opened by guests’ stories.

The K-12 Art education major has been volunteering with Crossroads for over two years. She says the guest advocate position is primarily to make sure guests get from point A to point B. “My position is the messenger between the guests and our directors of the facilities.”

Ulferts also worked as the volunteer coordinator during the summer of 2016. “During that position, I coordinated volunteer times and events for the Kearney community.

“I think my favorite part of volunteering at Crossroads is getting to know the guests and hearing their stories. Guests come from many different backgrounds and situations, so understanding and hearing how their lives have changed across the years is a huge eye-opening experience,” Ulferts said.

This job doesn’t come without hardships though. “It can be hard listening to those stories though, but they are a vital part about sharing their journeys. I sometimes take my work home with me, and I am troubled by the things that I hear or see. But I always turn to prayer and let God lead me into becoming a part of the

I love the 410 Bridge’s model because it is all about creating self-dependency and is different from many mission models. While in Haiti, volunteers are not allowed to give the locals anything. The goal of the trip is to work alongside the Haitians and build lasting relationships with them. At first, this was a struggle for me, but I realized it is for the best and really does create sustainable relationships and healthy global missions.

What was the trip for and what was the experience like?
The first time my church and I went to Haiti we helped locals build a pitlatrine (outhouse). I spent almost my whole trip there playing with the local kids.

The second time I traveled to Maliarette, we helped build a garden and did VBS with the kids. I truly learned so much about myself and how two countries can be so close in proximity but have very different cultures.

It hit me that I am such a small piece in this world. The world does not revolve around the United States or me; the world revolves around our amazing God who created it. I saw the way the Haitian people loved and did not need material goods to be happy. All they needed was
OVER THE CLIFF from page 3

prosper. Why? Because they understand, in their culture, that obedience to God brings blessing.”

So, by pandering to the stereotype that Jews are money grubbers who want to get rich by any means available, they will become Christians so they can become wealthy? I am having a hard time deciding which is the most insulting passage.

FIRESIDE from page 4

who ride without a helmet to encourage riders to wear a helmet.

Health and safety are important topics in Nebraska. Telehealth services are popping up more and more as technology and our access to it grows every year. Nebraskans even in rural communities could soon have access to a technology based system for non-emergency medical advice and counseling.

This topic, when brought forward, was met with positive reactions from students from smaller, more isolated communities where the time to reach a healthcare facility can be hours. All those present could see how a service like this one could mean so much for rural Nebraskan’s mental and medical needs.

KAWATA from page 9

he is not one of the graduate counselors available, but still encourages students to check it out.

“The class I’m in now is called advanced practicum, but it’s kind of the same concept just seeing what their problems are and trying to help with some solutions,” Kawata said.

THERE’S ALWAYS TIME TO FOLLOW YOUR PASSION

Even though Kawata graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln as a Political Science major, he didn’t like his job, and wanted to go with a completely different career path. “What I really liked about my job was the helping aspect of students from trying to find their major, and then seeing them grow into getting a job,” Kawata said. “Seeing that growth was really rewarding and I thought to myself, ‘I’m in that time in my life where I want to make a change.”

He says it’s never too late to pursue a career that you will enjoy for the rest of your life.

“I’m all about following your passion and doing what you love. I told my former students that when you’re doing what you love, it’s not a job,” Kawata said.

NEIL from page 10

a relationship with Jesus, and I realized I wanted a stronger relationship with him in my own life.

What challenges did you see people dealing with in Haiti that different from what we see in America?

After I returned from my first trip, I was truly heartbroken. I cried myself to sleep in my warm cozy bed with my air conditioning humming above me. I wore a different outfit every day. I lit off expensive fireworks. I went out to eat and spent money on so many unneeded items. I really struggled with this once I came home from Haiti. I struggled with how much I had compared to so many people in this world.

The obvious challenge I saw people dealing with in rural Haiti was a lack of safe drinking water. Another challenge is the poor infrastructure the country is made up of. The earthquake in 2010 and the recent Hurricane Matthew illustrate the fact that Haiti has faced many challenges when it comes to natural disasters. Most people would see the lack of material goods as a challenge, but I do not think the Haitians think this. Life does not revolve around wearing the newest trends like it does in the United States.

Did that experience impact your future career as an educator in any way?

Going to Haiti encouraged me to become a teacher. Even though communicating with the kids in English was a struggle, I was able to learn so much from them through body language and communicating in other ways. I am looking forward to continuing to learn from my students in the future. Going to Haiti and Ecuador also helped solidify that I want to become ESL teacher. I love learning about different cultures and countries and am looking forward to teaching students from diverse backgrounds in the future.

SARTORE from page 1

an effect,” Rodriguez said. “Since he has started the Photo Ark series, 13 species, of those (photographed), are no longer found in the wild.”

MONA specializes in Nebraska art by Nebraska artists or art made in Nebraska.

Sartore grew up in Ralston and graduated from UNL with a degree in journalism. After graduation, he worked at the Wichita Eagle newspaper before beginning photographic assignments with National Geographic. Sartore was approached by a current National Geographic photographer who encouraged him to submit his works to the magazine. After two years of submitting his works, Sartore was given an assignment and became a regular contributor in 1991.

MONA curator Rodriguez said that, in addition to his regular work for publication, Sartore is working on Photo Ark. Sartore says on his website Photo Ark specializes in documenting endangered species and landscapes in order to show a world worth saving. The Photo Ark is a multi-year documentary project.

Sartore focuses on animals that are endangered. By taking photos of these animals and exposing them to the public, he hopes to bring awareness of how people are impacting their environment.

For Photo Ark, Sartore takes portrait style photos of animals from all over the world in attempt to promote conservation.

“The goal of the Photo Ark is to document all of the species in captivity all around the world. It is estimated that there are 12 or 13 thousand. He has been at this for 11 years, and he is at about 6,500,” said Rodriguez.

When he began the Photo Ark project while at home during cancer treatment for his wife, Sartore went to the Lincoln’s Children Zoo and asked if he could photograph an animal. The zoo staff allowed him to photograph a mole. They brought the mole into the kitchen at the zoo, and Sartore took the photographs, Rodriguez said.

Rodriguez said to achieve his simplistic style photos, Sartore goes to a zoo and sets up a black or white background behind the animal. He has tried but does not have photos of chimpanzees because they tear down the backgrounds.

ECLIPSE from page 5

few professional scientists researching the subject, and eclipses are few and far between. If everyday people would lend their observations, no matter how small, they could go a long way toward understanding of animal behavior during eclipses.

During the next solar eclipse, and during every other ordinary day, Bickford encouraged the audience to consider themselves an honorary citizen scientist. Interesting and engaging topics like these are being presented every other week at the UNK planetarium. So, if interested, come get a free ticket and enjoy an out of this world show.

by Mary Spencer

the antelope

March 15, 2017
Astro-Fridays reach out to broader audience

Planetarium director Lazarova increases frequency, variety of shows for enjoyment, education, giving back to ordinary people

BROCK MADSEN
Antelope Staff

Astro-Fridays, the brainchild of Dr. Mariana Lazarova, assistant professor of physics and the planetarium director at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, was her way of increasing the frequency and availability of UNK planetarium shows to the Kearney community.

UNK previously put on planetarium shows for the community once a month and would regularly commission a planetarium speaker from out of town. Lazarova’s new direction for the UNK sponsored public planetarium shows doubles their frequency to once every two weeks, twice a night, at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., and utilizes only UNK faculty from various departments to put on the shows.

Lazarova joined UNK faculty in fall of 2014 and became the current sitting director of the UNK planetarium as of Aug. 1, 2016. Upon attaining her new director position, Lazarova had a specific goal in mind.

Lazarova said, “My goal with Astro-Fridays, is for the planetarium to reach the broader community that UNK is part of. Universities like ours have a greater mission than to just educate the students of our communities. As educators, we want to benefit our communities as a whole, and offer them something they can take pride in. Since the community has always supported us, Astro-Fridays is just one of many ways for us to give back to the community that calls us its university.”


Sharing the impressive UNK planetarium with the public is a big step toward giving back to the community. The facility is currently held to be one of the largest professional grade planetariums between Denver and Chicago boasting a state of the art analog projector, which means every individual star it projects has its own individual optic cable, providing much higher resolution than other digital projectors.

Planetariums such as the one at UNK can be an indispensable asset to amateur astronomers and ordinary people of this geographic location (Kearney, NE), where the sky can be very cloudy at night. The planetarium can then be very useful, as it lets us view stars and constellations without having to worry about the weather.

All Astro-Friday shows are free and tickets are given out at the door on first-come, first-serve basis. The popularity of the Astro-Friday events is growing, as the last couple of shows given by Dr. Joel Berrier and Dr. Nate Bickford sold out in minutes.

READ MORE
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