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PHOTO COURTESY CALVINKNIGHTS.COM

Day 10 Report shows drop in enrollment *A decrease in enrollment follows trend set in 2015*

BY MICHELLE HOFMAN
Editor-in-Chief

Calvin's 2018 Day 10 Report was released by Calvin's enrollment management team this past Wednesday, Sept. 26. The Day 10 Report is the annual enrollment report that provides data on Calvin's fall enrollment, set alongside a ten year trend.

This year's report shows a drop in enrollment from last year's number, which follows a trend that started after 2015. The report shows numbers for total enrollment that remain fairly consistent, hovering between 4,100 and 3,960, from 2009 through 2015. In 2016 the number dropped down to 3,918, followed by a decrease to 3,840 for 2017. The number dropped even further this year to 3,732

total students enrolled for this academic year.

Sent out with the tables that present the enrollment information in spreadsheets, there was a message from the enrollment management team that explains the notable changes, as well as what the college hopes to do to encourage an upward trend. The message included an assessment of the incoming class:

"This year's incoming class includes 900 students (825 FTIACs [First Time in Any College] and 75 Transfers) from across the country and around the world. FTIAC admits reached an all-time high of 3,038; however, overall yield fell significantly and the number of new students declined by 65 vs fall 2017."

SEE DAY 10, PAGE 3 ▶



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

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Calvin Theater Company embraces dramatic work for 2018-2019 season

BY GARRETT STRPKO
Staff Reporter

The Calvin Theater Company (CTC) is beginning work on its 2018-2019 season, based around the theme of "create, unite, renew," which seeks to address and explore issues of gender, race, and reconciliation.

This fall's production is a lesser-known play entitled "Precious Bane," written by Meryl Friedman and adapted from the novel by Mary Webb.

The play is set in the English county of Shropshire in the 19th century, and follows a young woman named Prue Sarn, who suffers from a "hare-lip," or cleft-palate. This often makes her a target of prejudice in her superstitious community, who accuse her of being a witch. When Prue's brother Gideon takes over the family farm, dramatic events ensue from his pursuit of greed, and she works for him in a form of indentured servitude. Prue's world is further turned upside-down when a traveling weaver, Kester Woodseves, comes to town and the two fall in love, an event which has powerful unforeseen consequences.

This fall's production is one marked with changes and newcomers. While most CTC productions are directed by Calvin theater professor Debra

"Doc" Freeberg, this fall her colleague Natalie Carmolli will be taking the helm. Carmolli has directed 14 plays over her career. This will be her 15th, and also one of her first working with a college-aged cast.

SEE CTC, PAGE 4 ▶

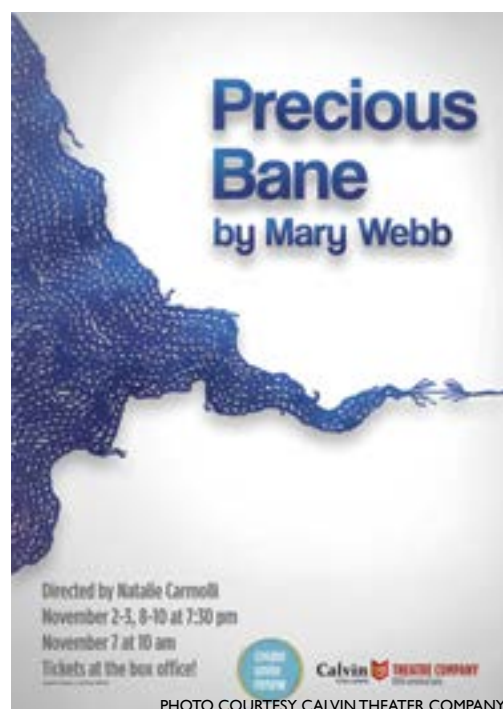


PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN THEATER COMPANY

SPIN skids to a halt

Bike-share program abruptly ends due to company's switch to scooters

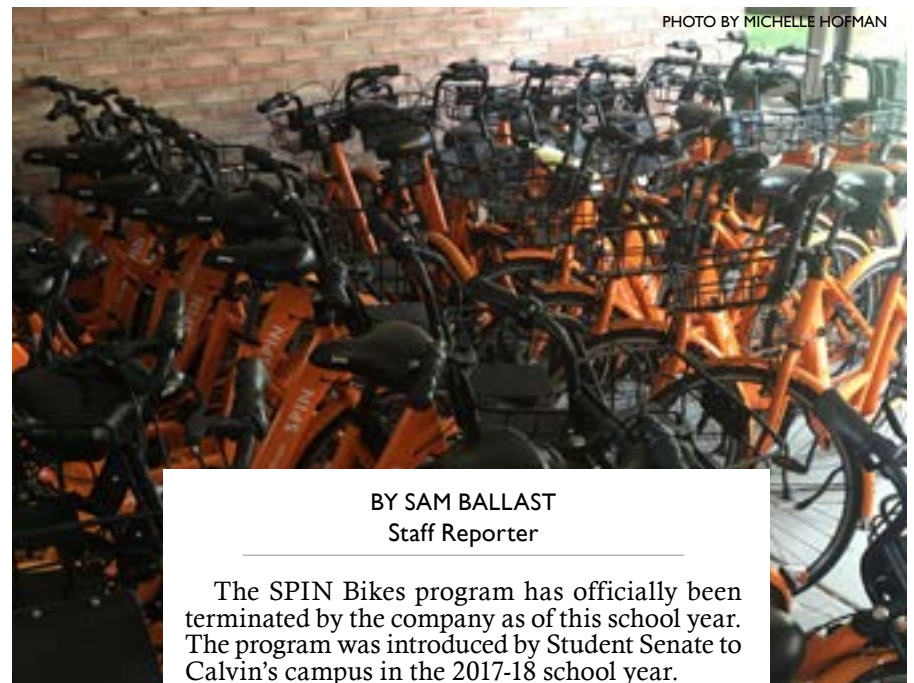


PHOTO BY MICHELLE HOFMAN

BY SAM BALLAST
Staff Reporter

The SPIN Bikes program has officially been terminated by the company as of this school year. The program was introduced by Student Senate to Calvin's campus in the 2017-18 school year.

Joshua Bulten, former student senator and project team member, said that over the past six months, SPIN has developed an additional segment line of electronic scooters and have ended their bike program altogether.

"[SPIN] experienced ten times faster growth with the scooters, while the bikes stayed consistent," said Bulten. "They felt having the two segments was spreading the company too thin — they are quite a small company still — so they decided to focus solely on the scooters."

JB Britton, associate dean of Campus Involvement and Leadership, shared his experience with SPIN as the project overseer and developer.

"I was pretty upset about it. They didn't lead us on but it was very abrupt. So, literally, we got an email and the next day the program ended," said Britton. "They talked a good talk and they wanted to be collaborative, but in the end, to be honest — and with us being responsible for getting rid of the bikes — it was a joke."

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Chimes is the official student newspaper of Calvin College. The mission of Chimes is to reform, review, challenge and foster dialogue within the Calvin community.

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► SPIN

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SPIN informed Calvin that they would be allowed to keep the bikes. Keeping true to its mission of stewardship, Calvin decided to turn a seemingly overwhelming supply of bright orange bikes into an opportunity to serve. They donated about 25 bikes to Oakdale Neighbors, a nonprofit with several bike programs, and about 45 bikes to Dynamic In Motion. Both are nonprofits with similar missions of repairing donated bikes for the community.

Kieran Valk, former vice president of senate and project team member, commented on the usage of bikes currently grouped together near Johnny's Cafe on campus.

"Right now there's no specific protocol for their use," said Valk. "If groups want to use them, they could go through student senate or the Campus Involvement and Leadership office."

In the past year, all 110 bikes had gotten quite a bit of usage. All three project team members

commented about the positive impact of having a rideshare bike program on Calvin's campus.

"Kieran, JB and I had a master map that showed the location of all the bikes in Grand Rapids. Every following weekend, I would notice at least a few groups of bikes at Gaslight Village, Reeds Lake or at the mall," said Bulten. "Having a successful, easy and affordable bike share program allowed for community growth through activity on and off campus."

With that opportunity now gone, Britton mentioned that he has been looking into other programs similar to SPIN which could be contenders for future installations on campus.

"The only model that's really working right now is using corporate sponsorship or nonprofit sponsorship as a way of modifying the bike projects."

He said that he is unsure whether or not a sponsorship like that would be the best fit for Calvin, but that there is work being done to reinstate a program like this in the future.



PHOTO BY MICHELLE HOFMAN

Planting events at Ecosystem Preserve prep for spring bloom



Volunteers gather to help reintroduce native plants to the nature preserve.

PHOTO BY MIMI MUTESA

YOLANDA CHOW
Campus Co-editor

Several native garden planting events are happening this fall around the Bunker Interpretive Center as part of the renovations of the Ecosystem Preserve.

Last Saturday, Sept. 22, was the first of six such scheduled events, all of which are open to the public. The planting sessions aim to reintroduce over 30,000 native plants to new garden beds as part of a revamp project funded by Thelma Venema, who also attended last weekend's planting party.

Zachary Hartwig, a senior, enjoyed the experience of installing the plants. He was also surprised to see plenty of older volunteers.

"I sometimes forget that the nature preserve has a lot of behind-the-scenes support from people that we rarely get to meet. I am thankful, though, that when our paths do cross, it is always a pleasant encounter," said Hartwig.

Another senior, Mimi Mutesa, also commented on the variety of people at the event.

"It was a beautiful day for an event like that because families were able to bring their children, and their children were able to participate in something beautiful," said Mutesa.

Jen Howell, the land manager of the Ecosystem Preserve, was present to direct volunteers in following the planting plan designed by landscape architect Wes Landon.

"My favorite part of the day? ...Watching a neat variety of folks—grandparents with enthusiastic grandchildren, moth-

ers with adult children, Calvin students (including an especially cute pair that appeared to be on a date), native plant enthusiasts, and even a couple of defensive linemen from the GVSU football team!—come together for the purpose of restoring a little corner of creation," said Howell.

Another planting session is scheduled for this Saturday, September 29, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. All are welcome to take part in on the ongoing efforts to make the preserve a beautiful place for spring to bloom.

“Patsy’s Place”: unrest over reduced cafe hours on east side of campus



The new “Patsy’s Place” sign at the DeVos Grab-n-Go Cafe.



Patsy smiles as she works at the cafe.

PHOTOS BY ANNETTE ESPINOZA

ANNETTE ESPINOZA
Campus Co-editor

Reduced hours for the DeVos Grab-n-Go Cafe have stirred unrest among those on the east side of campus, particularly for customers of Patsy Westra, the cafe’s designated operator.

Budget cuts have placed a constraint on the number of hours Patsy is allowed to work at the kiosk. Recently, she asked to resume her 40-hour work week but was told that all cafe employees are only allowed to work up to 37.5 hours per week.

At the beginning of this school year, the cafe hours changed from 8 a.m.–3 p.m. to 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m., then changed again to the current Monday–Thursday 9:45 a.m.–2 p.m. and Friday 9:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Faculty and staff expressed concern over the changes, citing difficulties for the east side of campus as a whole as well as for Patsy Westra, who is widely loved in this area.

“Where we sit now is about as far east as you could be and still get an education. On this side of campus, there’s a certain degree of isolation. So one of the features of our building [the DeVos Communication Center] that helps maintain a culture of our own is that kiosk,” said Kevin den Dulk, a political science professor and executive director of the Henry Institute. “Folks are calling it ‘Patsy’s Place,’ and that name tells you a little bit about the culture.”

Den Dulk went on to explain that the adjustments to the cafe’s hours of operation were inconvenient because of the distance from DeVos to Johnny’s to grab a quick snack or cup of coffee. For professors or students looking to grab something quickly, it is difficult to get across campus and back within ten minutes.

“It’s also about a person, and Patsy is a culture maker,” den Dulk added. “I’ve sometimes referred to her as the den mother of

the building; she’s not only providing for this human need for sustenance, she’s also mentoring and engaging our students. I’ve always noticed that our alums will often go visit her first before visiting their professors, and that also speaks to the culture she has created.”

Margie Styf, the political science administrative assistant, added, “It’s easy to look at a spreadsheet and think about cost efficiency and say, ‘this is not cost efficient,’ but it’s so much bigger than that; it’s a mission, a sort of ministry that she has. [Patsy] is an integral part of Calvin’s campus, and it’s just not something you can designate with a dollar amount. She goes above and beyond her job description.”

Styf added, “I understand if people say it’s not her job, but she has filled a need. Patsy embodies Calvin’s mission actively everyday: she is an agent of renewal, she encourages students to act justly, think deeply, and live

wholeheartedly! Calvin, don’t you want more of that?”

Emily Verda, the clinical department assistant of the speech pathology and audiology department, even created a sign (pictured) in honor of Patsy. “Patsy’s Place” is the unofficial name many faculty and staff use to refer to the Grab-n-Go cafe. Those who work in the building expressed support for both Patsy and the desire to keep “Patsy’s Place” intact despite any budget changes.

When asked to comment about the changes in the cafe’s hours, retail manager Nikolai Gorski explained, “We noticed that there were a lot of hours that weren’t making the best use of what she has to offer. So we re-assigned the hours to the best flow of business.”

Gorski went on to say that in making decisions, they went by past sales trends. With the response they’ve received, Gorski noted that they might need to restructure themselves a bit, but

they’ll “always go back to whatever hours are needed.”

Asked about the concerns that Calvin Dining Services appears to be placing a higher value on profits rather than their employees, Gorski said, “I think [Calvin Dining Services] had that structure before I was here, but I have an open door policy and I want my employees to feel valued and cared for.” He added that he values Patsy and appreciates the atmosphere she has been able to create.

Reflecting on her position, Patsy said, “For years I was single and I wanted kids. I prayed to God ‘please give me kids,’ but I wanted a package. I wanted a family.”

She expressed that God answered her prayers through her job. She has worked for Calvin Dining Services for 26 years, and each year she meets new students whom she mentors.

“You’re all young adults, but to me you’re my kids. I love my job so much.”



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

► Day 10 report

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The message also notes the “bright spots” of the incoming FTIAC class who have a record high mean GPA and strong standardized test scores, strong participation in Calvin’s signature cohort programs (Honors,

Perkins, Artists, Entrada), a continued increase in diversity, and a good gender balance with 52.4% of the class being women.

“It is a solid class with attributes that bode well for retention and graduation,” the message states. “We just wish it were larger.”

The statement noted that the college was able to gain more money in tuition by offering fewer scholarships.

“Overall, our financial aid awarding strategy and control processes were effective in managing this expense more tightly this year. Our Discount Rate for

first year students was reduced by 4 percentage points. Total Net Tuition Revenue is projected to grow slightly in 2018-19 but fell short of our budget goal. This was anticipated earlier this year and adjustments have been made.”

The adjustments referenced were made to faculty benefits and pay freezes.

The message continues to address the objective of the enrollment management division which was the recruitment of enough students to generate the Net Tuition Revenue required to pay for the cost of running the college.

“This goal was not met again this year. We own this outcome and are deeply saddened by the pressure it places on our budget and the painful choices it forces upon the college.”

The message names two contributing factors that led to the disappointing drop in enrollment numbers, one being “the continued demographic and competitive pressures facing private higher education in the Midwest and Northeast” and the second being “the deliberate efforts to re-

duce our discount rate in order to achieve sustainable Net Tuition Revenue growth.”

In addition to the factors given, the management team included a list of actions they will employ in this coming year, which includes adjusting expectations to take account of the downward pressure on enrollment numbers, maintaining discipline in financial aid awards to realize the reality of budget constraints, implementing a variety of tactical changes, and building a systems approach to recruitment.

The variety of tactical changes includes “sharpening our admissions team focus and impact, reimagining campus tours, refining our messaging based on a better understanding of prospective student profiles, and revising some of our transfer student admissions policies.”

The message ends with this final statement:

“It is clear that increasing enrollment will be a campus-wide challenge for the long term and the enrollment management team looks forward to partnering with you.”

► CTC

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

In addition to working with a new demographic, Carmolli is also passionate about the way this production will speak to this year's CTC theme. "In today's society people are misunderstood, marginalized and even feared for race and gender differences. Much like with Prue's story, the fear of someone who is different can lead to tragic consequences. Reconciliation, however, can occur when even one person is brave enough see through the differences, and even champion them."

The lead role of Prue is going to be played by newcomer Hannah Koning, a junior who had previously been involved with CTC in the costuming department, helping actors change in and out of costumes during shows. Although she had acted occasionally in high school, landing the lead role in this production came as a surprise to her. Her decision to try out was based on a number of factors.

"This semester I seemed to have the time for it... I prefer dramas over comedies and musicals, and this play is more dramatic and serious in nature."

Koning noted that a major difference between high school theater and college theater is that college plays begin to focus on heavier material that often has clear themes and messages intended to make the audience think.

Veteran CTC actor Josh Boers, who plays Prue's lover Kester Woodseves, added that this particular production is notably more dramatic than those in years past. Whereas many of CTC's last few productions have been more light-hearted in nature, such as "Sense and Sensibility" and "Arabian Nights," Boers anticipates that this production is going to be even darker than the company's last drama, "Nicholas Nickleby."

Koning emphasized that in addition to a change in tone, audience members can look forward to experiencing a period piece that uniquely incorporates aspects of a set and production design that errs toward expressionism rather than realism.

Carmolli added that while the beautiful set design will be one aspect of this production that the audience can look forward to, it is the beauty at the heart of the story that will move audience members.

"There's a great deal of beauty in this story," Carmolli said. "It is spoken in a way that is very poetic and laced together with music that is sung and hauntingly played on cello. Against this backdrop, audience members will experience the cruel judgement that comes from fear and ignorance, and the redemptive power of open-mindedness, trust and love."

Review: SYML delivers a stirring performance

Electronic music is brought home, with a more soft and contemplative palette



PHOTO CREDIT ANDY CALVERT

BY MICHELLE MERRITT
Staff Reporter

"Girl, you'll come to see the world/and you'll come to learn/that falling in love is a strange work of art," SYML writes in his song "Girl," which he described at his Monday concert as a "letter" to his one-and-a-half-year-old daughter. These meditative lyrics are characteristic of the thirty-five-year-old singer, who had his Calvin audience mesmerized with his introspective messages and ethereal sound.

SYML is the solo breakout of former Barcelona member Brian Fennell. Fennell, who has been performing in different groups since college, released his first EP as SYML in 2016 and has been making music under the moniker ever since.

"This is not EDM. It's a different application of electronic music ... it's very soft and contemplative. The lyrics are more substantive than you usually find in EDM," Student Activities Office (SAO) Director Ken Heffner told Chimes in a pre-concert interview. But why SYML? "Every kind of style has strengths ... the vocabulary of the music is able to express certain things well," Heffner pointed out. "This kind of music can go to more the lament and sorrow side of things."

Though SYML may be a new artist to many Calvin students, Heffner is adamant that bringing a wide variety of acts to campus is the most valuable thing that the SAO can do. "We encourage students to take a chance and go to concerts of artists they don't know. It's important for [them] to know that the way that we're doing student activities is not meant to be just entertaining—it's meant to be arts education. For the most part, popular arts are seen as the disposable arts," he added. "We want to change that whole posture."

In a rare opportunity, the SAO was able to bring in a local artist, Jes Kramer, as SYML's opening act. Also an electronic-based musician, Kramer has a unique take on the genre. "She's very self-consciously making music as a woman," Heffner remarked.

Watching SYML perform was far more than just hearing music; it was a highly visual experience. Colorful backlights outlined Fennell sometimes as a shadowy silhouette, other times with blinding clarity. "The lights and stuff... [they feel] kind of homey," Rockford-area eighth-grader Anna remarked after the concert. She and her friend were both previous fans and agreed that the multi-dimensional show sets SYML apart. Central Michigan student Isaac, who

had driven two hours to attend the concert, added, "[SYML is] one of the best vocal performers I've seen ... a very solid performance."

However, Fennell proved throughout the concert and the following Q&A that he is more than just a good performer. His music is raw and extremely personal. Take the first two songs he composed as SYML, "War" and "Where's My Love," for example: "They're just like an open diary," he told the audience.

"[I hope that students'] artistic vocabularies would be expanded," Heffner professed when asked what he wanted the audience to take away. "[I want them to] hear things in that show that they didn't know had a musical voice to them."

Perhaps someone heard grief expressed in one of Fennell's songs in a way that they never had before. Perhaps they identified with Jes Kramer's distinctive message of life as a woman in 21st century America. Whatever the case, both artists had the audience captivated and listening not just to their unique musical sounds, but to the words that accompanied them.



PHOTO CREDIT ANDY CALVERT

SYML gives us a visually stunning performance.

Star clusters dazzle

PHOTO COURTESY BY EVAN COOK

BY EVAN COOK
Guest Writer

This week we will take a look at an open star cluster named NGC 1027. An open star cluster is a cluster of stars that are very loosely held together by gravity, if at all. One of the things that astronomers want to know when they study a star cluster is its age. In order to date star clusters, one must know that stars within a given cluster all form around

roughly the same time, by which astronomers mean plus or minus a couple tens of millions of years. The second piece of the puzzle is that larger stars use up the hydrogen in their cores much faster than smaller stars. As an analogy, think about the fuel efficiencies of cars. Imagine a long-distance race where the contestants aren't allowed to refuel. If all the cars, including the monster trucks, manage to cross the finish line, I know it must be a relatively "short" long-distance race. If, however, only the most fuel-efficient cars make it to the

end on one tank of gas, I know I am watching a much longer race. Now, instead of a race and a finish line, we have time and the present.

If all the stars in a cluster are still fusing hydrogen in their cores, it is a very "young" cluster. However, if only the smallest, most fuel efficient stars have survived until today on one "tank" of hydrogen, it must be a very old star cluster. So to know the age of a star cluster, one must study the stars that are still fusing hydrogen. (It is worth noting that the Sun's hydrogen reserves are expected to last for another 5 billion years, so we should be safe.)

For more on star clusters, stellar ages, and other bizarre features of our lovely universe check out the Calvin Observatory webpage at <http://www.calvin.edu/academic/phys/observatory/>. If you want to visit the Calvin observatory on top of the science building, our hours are from sunset to 11 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays (weather permitting). More directions can be found on our website.

First Ever Computing & Computing Fair in September

BY BERNARD BOADU
Sci-Tech Editor

On September 20, Calvin hosted the 2018 Engineering and Computing Career Fair for engineering, math, information systems, data science, digital communication and computer science majors. The fair was held at the Prince Conference Center in the Willow and Great Halls from 2:00pm to 5:00pm.

The fair included 52 companies like Auto-Owners Insurance, Tetra Tech, Plascore, CQL, SonSet, DTE Energy, TEKsystems, TWR International, TGW Systems, Steelcase, Progressive AE, Open Systems Technology and many others. Further, this year's fair marked one of the earliest fairs held at Calvin. Previously, the fair was held in February but due to feedback from employers about late applications, the Career Center shifted the fair's month a little earlier. Thus, the fair was held in November last year but then moved up to September this year to give students ample time to complete their application process.

In an interview with Laurie Lemmen, the Communication and Marketing Manager for the Career Center, Lemmen told chimes about the good feedback she received from most of the employers that attended the fair. "The em-



PHOTO BY AARON BRINK

ployers told me that this was the best fair ever. One employer told me that talking to students gave him hope for humanity," said Lemmen. Also, Lemmen told Chimes about the upcoming events organized by the Career Center which includes the Accounting and Finance Career Fair on September 26 at the Prince Conference Center from 4:00pm to 5:00pm, the Calvin Networking Event at Amway on October 2 at the Amway World Headquarters from 3:30pm to 5:00pm as well as the Grand Valley State (GVSU) Career Fair on October 16 at the DeVos Place Convention Center from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. In addition, Calvin is providing shuttles for students who would like to attend the GVSU Career fair. The shuttle is free for all students and faculty and leaves from the flagpole near the administration office at Spoelhof Center to the DeVos Place Convention Center and back. The shuttle leaves the campus at 12:30PM, 1:30PM and 2:30PM respectively. Also, the shuttle leaves the DeVos Place Convention Center at 2:00PM, 3:00PM, 4:00PM and 5:00PM respectively.

In her closing remarks, Lemmen encouraged students to always follow up with employers after handing over their resumes and apply online at the company's website in order to increase their chances of getting their desired jobs and internships.

College Democrats, Republicans bridge gap in a polarized world

MADALYN BUURSMAN
Features Editor

Calvin College Democrats

Despite existing in a polarized climate, two student organizations — the Calvin College Republicans and the Calvin College Democrats — maintain a Christ-like bipartisan relationship, through joint events and constructive dialogue.

Calvin College Republicans

The Calvin College Republicans has been around for a while.

"It was started by Bill Huizenga [Republican representative of Michigan's second district] when he was at Calvin; at least that's the legend behind it," Senior and Republicans of Calvin interim -- President Grace Lemkuil said.

The organization is a chapter of both the Michigan federation for college Republicans as well as the national federation.

Recently, they went to the Kent GOP to listen to U.S. Senate candidate John James speak and during election cycles they often host debate watching parties.

"In presidential election years, our biggest events have always been debate watching parties," Lemkuil said, and this year, "there will be a couple debates between John James and Debbie Stabenow, who are running for the Michigan Senate seat, so if we have the opportunity to live stream those we'd love to do some more debate watch parties this year."

Their biggest event takes a group of students down to Washington D.C., to the Conservative Political Action Conference, CPAC.

At CPAC, the group hears big name conservative speakers, as well as meeting with other college students from similar organizations.

The Calvin College Democrats, on the other hand, is a relatively new organization, having started in the past two years. Senior Jessie Brink, president and founder of the club, said it was largely inspired by the 2016 presidential election. He said that a couple weeks later he was sitting next to a friend during a political science class.

"I just turned him, and I was like, 'Why do we have a Republican club at Calvin and no Democratic club?'" Brink said.

One thing the organization hopes to accomplish is to be a way for Calvin students to make electoral changes.

"Calvin students have a lot of progressive energy, a lot of desire to change the world," Brink said. "We're focused on channeling that energy into making electoral change."

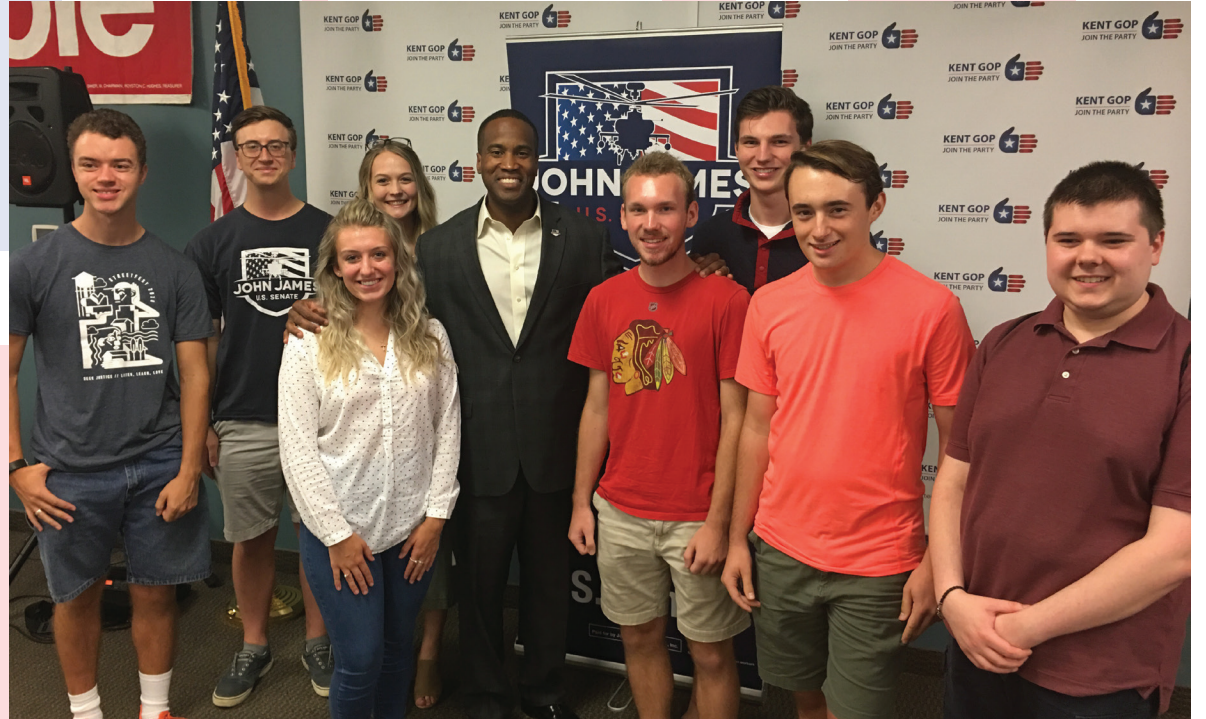
Similar to their Republican counterpart, the club, a chartered chapter of the Michigan Federation of College Democrats, is event-based, with about one event a month. They recently had Winnie Brinks, a state representative running for state Senate, as a speaker.

The group is also involved electorally, doing some campaigning for candidates. Last year they went canvassing for Rachel Hood, a candidate for state representative.

A healthy bipartisan relationship

Through joint events and effective dialogue, the clubs are setting an example on campus for constructive bipartisan relationships.

"Yes, campaigning is a major thing that we do, and supporting candidates is a major thing to do," Brink said, "but I'd say just as big a thing



The Republicans of Calvin with U.S. Senate candidate John James

COURTESY OF CALVIN COLLEGE REPUBLICANS

is modeling how to have civil political conversations."

"We see ourselves as an organization as Christians first, and American second, and Democrat third," Brinks said.

Both clubs have intentionally worked to maintain a good relationship with one another.

"We're very focused on maintaining a good relationship with the other clubs here on campus," Lemkuil said, "especially the Calvin Dems."

This past year, the two clubs hosted a debate series together. Lemkuil explained that typically, a student will represent each side, and will prepare their arguments ahead of time. The students are each paired with a professor who will draw which side they're debating for from a hat.

These debates have been widely successful, with many Calvin students attending. According to Brink, about a hundred people came to the three debates in the series.

The debates served as an opportunity for open dialogue between the opponents.

"It's a good practice of trying to be able to resonate with other viewpoints," Lemkuil said.

The two clubs plan on doing more events this year as well, including a voter registration drive this October, along with the Calvin College Political Dialogue & Action Club (PDAC).

The drive will offer an easy way for Calvin students to register to vote, without having to worry about mailing the voter registration form to the Secretary of State office. Students interested in registering to vote can stop by at Johnny's, where the clubs will be running the drive throughout the first week of October.

They will also be hosting a joint debate watch party this November, as well as another debate series this spring.

Through their relationship, both clubs hope to work through the polarized climate of American politics.

"We see in America this huge polarizing political divide right now," Brink said. "We're really focused on bridging that divide."

In order to fix problems, Lemkuil pointed out, problems should be approached from every angle, and their relationship is facilitating a way for students to do so.

"If anything's ever going to get done, specifically at a national level, it has to be a bipartisan effort," she said. "No matter who has the majority, if it's just one party pushing their agenda it's not really going to work."

The clubs approach their bipartisan relationships from a Christian perspective.

"Especially as a Christian college, we have to be really focused on reconciliation," Lemkuil pointed out, saying, "the kind of fighting and hate speak and everything that goes on between the parties really helps no one, ever... it's very important to us that we continue to show Christ's love to people who might have different political views than we do."

A relationship like the one the two clubs have is not found on many other campuses. Brink commented on other College Democrat organizations he's met, saying most either have no relationship or even a bad relationship with their Republican counterpart.

"I honestly think that's something really unique about Calvin," he said.

Both clubs have enjoyed creating their relationship, and working with each other.

"We really enjoy working alongside their club," Lemkuil said. "It's a great opportunity to hear things that we might not necessarily hear if we only surround ourselves with like-minded people."

In the end, both organizations are passionate about politics. They come together through those passions and have a lot of fun while they're at it: last year they had a bipartisan pizza party, and members are friends across "club lines."

"I'm actually a groomsman in the wedding of last year's president of the Republicans of Calvin," Brink said.

The Calvin College Republicans and the Calvin College Democrats are perhaps more similar than they are different. As Lemkuil said, "We're all people, we're all Christians, we're all interested in politics."



COURTESY OF CALVIN COLLEGE DEMOCRATS

Calvin College Democrats sit and listen to State Democratic Representative Winnie Brinks





Participants of the dinner discuss faith over Thai food.

PHOTO BY JOSHUA POLANSKI

Calvin students attend interfaith dinner and discussion in Holland

BY JOSHUA POLANSKI
Religion Editor

Six Calvin students shared an interfaith meal with members of the Holland community. The event took place at the Holland Arts Council on Tuesday, September 25.

Participants came to the dinner from a variety of faith backgrounds, including lay Catholics, secular and humanist guests, a Protestant pastor and Islamic worshippers.

This was the third annual Interfaith Community Dinner. Interfaith Allies, a Holland-based group that promotes interfaith relations, hosted the event.

The evening's host, Jill Russell, noted that over the years the community initiatives and events have moved "beyond mere tolerance and towards understanding and complete respect."

The evening opened with a quick round of "Speed Faithing,"

a fun play on "speed dating." The community members got in two circles. The circles faced each other and each person would be paired with a partner.

The pairs would discuss a variety of faith-based questions about their own backgrounds, and then the circles would rotate for new conversation partners.

This allowed the entire community to interact with each other rather than just the people at their dining table.

Manato Jansen, the interfaith coordinator for Calvin's Service-Learning Center (S-LC), says that this type of event is special because "[we] hear about the experiences of people of various faith, spiritual and non-religious worldview and backgrounds."

During the dinner itself, each table discussed similar faith-themed topics. The topics included personal stories about faith, tales

about struggles with particular dominations and testimonies of changing religious traditions.

Multiple participants noted a particular anxiety and frustration with their own faith in the midst of the Catholic Church's sexual abuse crisis.

Jansen said, "Interfaith dialogue is important because it tears down a lot of walls that come from fear of the unknown."

Jansen continued, "Especially for Calvin students, who can very easily stay in our comfortable CRC bubble on campus."

Thai Avenue, the popular Zeeland-based Thai restaurant, provided the entirely vegan dinner.

Interfaith Allies' next event, a panel discussion, "Know Your Jewish Neighbor," takes place Tuesday, Nov. 13 at the Herrick District Library from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Contact S-LC for more information regarding interfaith events.

Weekly church spotlight: LaGrave Avenue CRC

BY JONATHAN BOER
Guest Writer

Location: 107 LaGrave Ave SE
Denomination: Christian Reformed Church

LaGrave Avenue CRC, in the middle of downtown Grand Rapids and only a 20 minute drive from campus, focuses on meeting people's needs and engaging in authentic, God-centered worship. A number of Calvin students attend LaGrave, some of which you can find on the bus leaving at 10:25 a.m. from the front of NVW on Sunday. Reformed creeds provide a strong foundation for LaGrave's constantly progressing theology.

Established in 1887 by Dutch immigrants, LaGrave was the first English-speaking CRC church in the United States — bringing controversy. LaGrave's female and male pastors play a variety of roles in congregational life, music and preaching. Rev. Peter Jonker, Minister of Preaching, preaches expressively with clearly articulated points and no theatrics.

When entering the church below the enormous brick steeple, you will see the extensive sanctuary held up by flying buttresses and surrounded with vibrant stained glass windows portraying the story of Salvation. At the front of the church, a magnificent pipe organ encapsulates the choir loft, and the ornate window shows worshipping hands of all different colors lifting high the risen Lord.

The worship services, at either 8:40 a.m. or 11 a.m., follow a three-sided bulletin's worth of

traditional reformed liturgy. The organ prelude envelops the sanctuary in sound. The robed choir sings pieces from many time periods while proceeding down the aisles into the loft. The church sings from hymnals with various harmonies and timbres. Before the sermon, the organist plays a transition with delightful modulations, ending in the congregation singing The Doxology.

After the service, churchgoers participate in friendly conversation; coffee is served in mugs so that you cannot run off with your styrofoam cup and avoid interaction.

The atmosphere of LaGrave directs believers to the enormity, transcendence and majesty of God. Individuals seem small when drowned out by the harmonics of the boisterous organ and when looking towards the lofty ceiling. Worshipping at LaGrave helps you reflect on the worth of God's glory.

In this vein, Reverend Jonker added, "When you come into LaGrave you enter a place that is unlike anywhere else you will go during the week. We think worship is meant to lift you to a place where you can see over the grey hills of your weekly problems and all the way to the hope of the new creation. Just walking into the sanctuary gives you that feeling."

LaGrave is a welcoming church with rich history and a unique style of worship.



The inside of LaGrave Avenue CRC.

PHOTO CREDIT JONATHAN BOER



Junior Ian Adams dribbles past the defender

PHOTO COURTESY OF CALVINKNIGHTS.COM

Men's, women's soccer both lose to University of Chicago

BY JOSE HERNANDEZ
Staff Reporter

Both Calvin soccer teams were defeated in their respective matches against the University of Chicago yesterday.

The UChicago Maroons are ranked third in the nation for Division III Women's Soccer, and second in the nation for Men's Soccer, according to the National

Collegiate Athletic Association's (NCAA) United Soccer Coaches ranking. In addition, the Maroons men's team made it to the Final Four last season, defeating the Calvin Knights 2-0 in the process.

The women played first, and the Knights took an early lead in the third minute after a corner by sophomore Jessie Paulson was headed in by senior Mackenna Nesky.

It was her fifth goal of the season. The Maroons began to push intensely for an equalizer and were able to create several changes, but the Knights' defense was up to the task. Their best chance was off a corner in the 18th minute, when Calvin goalkeeper Amy Kliever did an excellent double-save, and a third shot was cleared off the line, to maintain the lead.

Despite some good opportunities for the Knights late into the first half, the score remained 1-0.

Calvin came into the second half just as they had left in the first, looking for a goal to extend their lead.

The ladies created some good chances, but in spite of this, it was Chicago who got the next goal. Seven minutes into the second half, junior Hanna Watkins scored on a swerving shot from outside the 18-yard box. Both teams battled aggressively to gain the lead, and chances came for both teams, but to no avail.

Then, with one minute left in regulation, freshman Nicole Willing scored what would be the game-winning goal for the Maroons.

The men's game began at 5 p.m., and things were fairly even between the two sides.

The Knights quickly began to dominate possession and create chances. Calvin found the back of the net in the 27th minute, but the goal did not stand because of an offside call. Soon afterwards, a curling effort from the Knights hit the post.

Calvin dominated possession and cre-

ated the best chances in the first half, but they were unable to score because of some tough, aggressive defending and pressure from Chicago.

Chicago was able to find some more rhythm during the second half. They created a counterattack opportunity that led to a free kick just outside Calvin's 18-yard box. Senior Matthew Koh stepped up to take the free kick, and was able to curl it over the wall and score for the Maroons five minutes into the half.

The Knights pushed for an equalizer, but they were unable to dominate possession as much as they did in the first half.

Chicago's aggressive defending and attacking resulted in some yellow cards for players on both sides as the game got more physical.

With 15 minutes left on the clock, the referee called a foul inside the Knights' box and awarded a penalty to the Maroons. Sophomore goalkeeper Chris Morrish was able to step up and save the penalty, keeping the score at 1-0.

The Knights gained some momentum, but they could not find a way through the resolute Chicago defense, and the Maroons held out to win 1-0.

The ladies will be playing their first conference game on Saturday, Sept. 29 at home against Kalamazoo at 7 p.m. The men will be traveling to Kalamazoo on Wednesday, Sept. 26 for a non-conference game, and they will begin their conference season on Oct. 3 with a home game against Hope College.

Church needs to take action on mental illness

BY LEXI JONES
Guest Writer

Religious or not, you're aware that the Church claims to be a source of support and refuge. Sure. Congregations can hold food pantries, collect winter coats, or throw a few extra coins in the bucket to help make Thanksgiving supper happen. But this ignores the trials that undoubtedly exist inside the congregation. To mention just one, how about the one in five people who suffer from mental illnesses.

The thing about Christianity is that the "I-have-it-all-together-because-of-Jesus" persona works as a camouflage. It conceals the reality that humans have lived in a broken world since the first episode of sin at the Garden of Eden. We all live with parts of our lives—some more than others—that continue to be more and more mangled by sin and brokenness. However, those of us who claim to know Jesus as our Savior and are utilizing this mask, consciously or unconsciously, are missing the point completely.

Allow me to be preachy for a second. Jesus, the sinless Son, became incarnate, but not because He had some strange desire to live alongside people that mock, kill, steal, gossip, etc. If we're being honest, those people

who had the chance to physically live alongside Jesus looked real immature and ignorant to Him, although He'd never say it Himself. This generation is no different. We remain sinners. We still struggle with poverty, cancer, mental illnesses, infertility, unemployment, divorce. The list goes on. But here's where it gets neat. Jesus could have just stayed up with God and skipped over the torture He endured. But He didn't. People, Jesus knew when He became incarnate about all the battles He was about to face, as well as the battles His people were already facing. Yet, He still chose to walk with us. He chose this path because He knew if He didn't, we would never get to see the glorious face of His Father. Instead, we would literally be buried in sin.

Jesus is not meant to be the veil suppressing struggles so we can look good. Bluntly, that is using the death and resurrection all wrong. Rather, those who claim Jesus as their Savior should start by acknowledging the reason why Jesus came in the first place. He takes away the sin and brokenness of the world by acknowledging the sin and brokenness Himself. He didn't even stop there. Jesus did something about it.

This mask is hiding the reality that our lives are full of

junk, which is the reason why Jesus ever existed on Earth. Instead, the Church makes all who are struggling deeply feel as if they are outsiders, like they are the only ones being squashed by this heavy weight. Mental illness is surely not excluded from this scene.

The Church cannot be the true Church without working towards reconciliation and redemption. Therefore, there should be no way around addressing debilitating struggles. By drawing attention to hardships, it demolishes the possibility of "othering" someone.

Let's go back to the one-in-five statistic. This means that in an average congregation of roughly 300 people, at least 60 are suffering from a mental illness. And if you're one of those who blow off statistics, fine. Here's evidence.

Look at the suicide of Matthew Warren, the son of the renowned American evangelical pastor and author, Rick Warren. Matthew, who worked at the megachurch, Saddleback, and was active in many areas of ministry at the church took his own life during what his father described as "a wave of despair." Matthew struggled his entire life with a mental illness in a megachurch full of people who claim to be ones of refuge and support.

Or take a look at a more local

example of the destruction of mental illness. A Grand Rapids church member committed suicide after a constant battle with depression and anxiety since childhood. A husband and father of two, he made his struggles known. As a staff member at the church for a short time before his passing, I knew of our mutual struggle with depression. I also knew how hard it was to talk about these struggles from personal experience.

The pushback against the conversation about and assistance with mental illness comes in when some say mental illnesses aren't "regular" or "real" illnesses. Instead, they're said to be a consequence of lack of faith because surely, God is a healer. Going along with this, Christians find themselves disapproving of medication. "Happy pills" shouldn't be the source of relief, God should be. What I say to this: "Yes, you're right. God should be the source of relief, and He is because God created a solution to resurrect His children from the biological imbalance that is pulling them into darkness." Let's not forget that God is Healer and Creator.

To continue, numerous theological writings have put into question the status of salvation of those who commit suicide. The

theological reality is that once one has been received by God through grace, forgiveness cannot be taken away. Therefore, salvation cannot be lost because God does not rank based on performance. Dr. Roger Barrier speaks of his past experience with mental illness saying, "I wasn't worried about going to Heaven or to Hell. Jesus forgave all of my sins at the cross — even suicide was forgiven."

So when the people of the Church do speak on mental illness, on the whole, it seems pretty inaccurate. And when Christians don't speak, it can be due to a few reasons, such as unawareness, theological uncertainty, disagreement, minimal education, or the "I-have-it-all-together-because-of-Jesus" persona. The excuse doesn't matter, the next steps do.

Church: by being a silent bystander, you do not remain neutral. Take action. Start by changing the tone and attitude of the previously non-existing or semi-existent conversation. Openly discuss the matter in sermons. Offer education. Consult Scripture. Matthew chapter five says, "Blessed are they who mourn ... for they shall receive comfort." The acts of mourning and comforting take at least two people — one to mourn and one to comfort. If you're not one, be the other.

These articles are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Chimes, Calvin College or the Christian Reformed Church.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be no longer than 250 words. The editors reserve the right to edit any letters for grammatical accuracy or clarity.

SEND ALL OPINIONS AND LETTERS TO:
AUTUMN LAU - ANL25@STUDENTS.CALVIN.EDU

POLICIES

All letters and Opinions must include the writer's name and class year. Unless otherwise specified, names will be printed. Chimes does not accept anonymous letters except under very special circumstances. Chimes accepts submissions from all Calvin students, faculty, staff and alumni. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m. on Monday for print on Friday.

Campus Safety Report

A Calvin Seminary student who lives at off campus Seminary housing in the 2100 block of Batchawana Street SE, discovered their slider door had been smashed out and their apartment gone through by unknown individuals. The victim contacted the Grand Rapids Police Department and filed a burglary report.

Reported 9/17/18

Campus Safety took a report of a larceny of a bicycle from the bike racks near North Hall and Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex. The owner of the bicycle said the bike was not locked at the time of the theft. They were also unable to provide a description of the bike other than it had purple and grey spokes. The student later reported finding the bicycle near North Hall.

Reported 9/17/18

The Campus Safety Department took a report of a stolen vehicle from the lower Knollcrest East parking lot (Lot 19). The vehicle, a dark green Buick with Oregon license plates and a roof storage container was taken sometime between 10:00 pm and midnight Monday, September 17. The owner of the stolen vehicle also filed a motor vehicle theft report with the Grand Rapids Police Department. On 9-20-18, the car was located near campus and returned to the owner.

Reported 9/18/18

The Campus Safety Department took a larceny from a motor vehicle report in the Lower KE Apartment Lot (Lot 19). The vehicle had been left unlocked and items were moved around. A small amount of loose change was taken from a cup holder. The theft occurred between September 16 and September 19.

Reported 9/19/18

The Campus Safety Department took a report of an attempted larceny from a motor vehicle that occurred in the lower Knollcrest East lot (lot #19) sometime between September 17 and September 19. Items in the car had been disturbed, but nothing appeared to be taken. The owner indicated they forgot to lock their vehicle.

Reported 9/19/18

The Campus Safety Department took a report of a larceny from a motor vehicle. The theft occurred in the Knollcrest East parking lot (Lot #19) sometime between September 18 and September 20. Items were removed from the vehicle. The owner believed they locked their vehicle, however there was no sign of a forced entry into the vehicle.

Reported 9/20/18

King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Eastern bigwig (Var.)
 - 5 One-on-one battle
 - 9 Scoundrel
 - 12 Rice-A-—
 - 13 Paquin or Faris
 - 14 Raw rock
 - 15 Over
 - 17 Pen point
 - 18 Vagrant
 - 19 Ticket
 - 21 Aspect
 - 24 Idea that spreads on the Web
 - 25 48-Across' counterparts
 - 26 Room-to-room accesses
 - 30 Convent dweller
 - 31 Great praise
 - 32 Old card game
 - 33 Wine pourer
 - 35 Existed, Biblically
 - 36 Do as you're told
 - 37 Exposes
 - 38 Cease-fire
 - 40 Noble title
 - 42 Melody
 - 43 Ecclesiastical compact
 - 48 See 25-Across
 - 49 Soon, in verse
 - 50 "Do — others ..."
 - 51 Shelter
 - 52 Sit for a photo
 - 53 Unaltered
 - 20 Coal diggers' org.
 - 21 Ward (off)
 - 22 Chills and fever
 - 23 Open area at a terminal
 - 24 Othello, for one
 - 26 Responsibility
 - 27 Praise in verse
 - 28 Days gone by
 - 29 Drunkards
 - 31 Patella
 - 34 Jimmy Kimmel's net-work
 - 35 Tusked mammal
 - 37 Buddy
 - 38 Party-game pin-on
 - 39 Go by train
 - 40 Son of Seth
 - 41 Pimples
 - 44 Yoko of music
 - 45 "CSI" evidence
 - 46 \$ dispenser
 - 47 Pirouette pivot
- DOWN**
- 1 Joan of —
 - 2 Cattle call?
 - 3 Hostel
 - 4 Wealth
 - 5 Paint amateur-ishly
 - 6 Ruin
 - 7 Compass pt.
 - 8 Firetruck gear
 - 9 Skin-tone cosmetic
 - 10 Operatic solo
 - 11 Credit card
 - 16 Parcel of land



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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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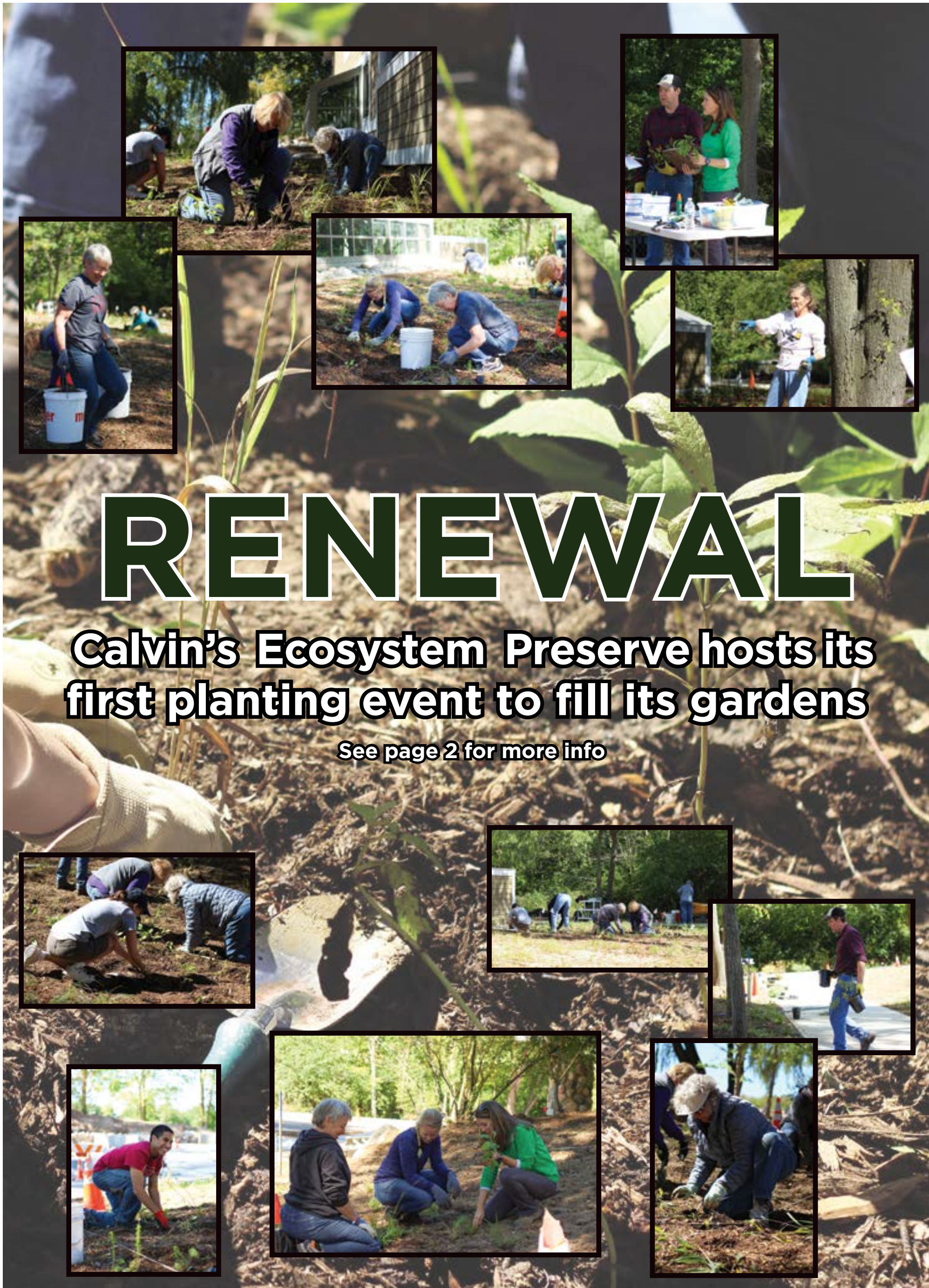
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

★ IT TAKES ★
6 HOURS
OF PREP TO MAKE A
30 SECOND
SANDWICH
FREAK YEAH™



VISIT JIMMYJOHNS.COM
TO FIND A LOCATION NEAR YOU



RENEWAL

Calvin's Ecosystem Preserve hosts its first planting event to fill its gardens

See page 2 for more info