The Antelope
The Week of October 30, 2003

Kearney Federal Credit Union benefits UNK

by Chrys Wiebelhaus
Antelope Staff Writer

Discover the magic of Wicca...

by Stephanie Fielder
Antelope Staff Writer

Annual event pays tribute to students’ families

by Jan Averbeck
Antelope Staff Writer

At 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 24, almost every student still was in bed and the campus was quiet. The only exception was in the Student Union, where preparations were underway for Family Day.

Matt Allbritton and Noah Mosley, members of the Logic Programming and Activities Council (LPAC), were busy helping Karla Falk, director of LPAC, set up for the day’s events.

Family Day is so help pay “tribute to the families of all UNK students,” said Chancellor Douglas A. Christensen during a speech in the Family Day function.

The Logic Programming and Activities Council helps celebrate the importance of families by honoring them on this special day. The Family Day committee, made up of LPAC, aids in the planning of the luncheon, college reception with faculty members and other special events for the day.

These special events included a two-hour doublet of a pantomime show at Brenner Hall of Sciences, a performance by the Nebrodo Valley Youth Chorale, a Fall-blowing demonstration in the Olsen, some educational chemistry in Mary Morse lecture hall and Love Live Broadway at the Miriam Drake Theater.

These events were free of charge, but required a ticket to be in attendance since there was a limited number of spaces.

The shows were popular and tickets disappeared rapidly. For example, the tickets for the glass-blowing demonstration were gone within an hour after Family Day’s opening at 8:30 a.m.

The college receptions gave students a chance to meet most of their majors on campus. The College of Business and Technology, the College of Education, the College of Fine Arts and the College of Natural and Social Sciences each had a faculty member and student volunteer to meet with and talk with students and parents. There was a special reception for undecided students where a career counselor was present to provide help people find their interests.

Receptions were served at each college.

See Family Day, page 8

FATALITIES

by Ben Broshar
Antelope Staff Writer

There are more fatal accidents in fall than any other season, according to a Kearney Hub report. UNK should be particularly aware with so many community members and people traveling home on the weekends. Even though travel may not be unusual, they are still dangerous.

As of Monday, Oct. 27, 31 people have died in traffic accidents this fall, according to Nebraska Highway Safety. This is 11 percent increase since 2002.

Yearly reports by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR) state that more fatalities have occurred in the fall in the past five years than in the winter, spring and summer seasons.

See Statistics, Page 9

Photo by Quincy Crossula
Saturday, Oct. 25 marked UNK’s annual Family Day.

News
Purple Hedges sparks much controversy

by Chrys Wiebelhaus
Antelope Staff Writer

UNK club to collect books on Halloween

by Lauren Pilette
Antelope Staff Writer

It’s about that time of year again for Halloween. Daylight-saving time has past, it’s getting darker earlier, leaves are falling, there is frost on car windows in the mornings and the big bright sunset is gone. Yet, this year, the evening’s typical events might be a little different. Instead of just getting candy ready for the night, students are taking trick-or-treating for many Kearney residents are getting ready for the UNK Mortar Board students trick-or-treat as well.

These events were included in various college receptions to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to provide to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests. Refreshments were served to people to help people find their interests.

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**Halloween Phobias**

- Hemophobia - fear of blood
- Noctiphobia - fear of night
- Phobophobia - fear of tombstones
- Triskaidekaphobia - fear of the number 13
- Wicophobia - fear of witches
- Galeophobia - fear of cats
- Phasmophobia - fear of ghosts
- Samhainophobia - fear of Halloween
- Sciophobia - fear of shadows

**UNK Calendar**

- **Police Beat:**
  - October 30: A Kearney man reported the theft of a black and silver bike. The estimated value of the bike is $500.
  - October 10: Six male URS residents were stopped for suspicion of possession of a liquor violation. The case was referred to Residential and Neighborhood Life.

- **The Bottom Line**
  - **QUESTION:** What are you going to be for Halloween?
  - **Answer:** I’ll be Bert and Ernie.

**Campus Briefs**

**FOR SALE:**

- Smith & Wesson .40 Sigma automatic
  - 9 months old, less than 75 rounds fired, includes holster, case, 2 magazines, trigger lock and slip-on grip. $275. Must be 21 yrs. old and own State of Nebraska Handgun Permit. Call Jonathan at 865-4646.

**The Shot Clinic**

- **Thursday, October 30th (9am to 5pm)**
  - **Health and Sports Services (by east concessions) and
    - Wednesday, November 5 (9am to 5pm)
      - West Center (above Jitters)

- **New Taking Applications for one BRF/efficiency apt. at University Heights. Starting at $255 a month, including utilities and basic cable. Coin top, laundry. Must be a full time UNK student and 21 years old. Call 865-4861.**

**Campus Beat:**

**PUBLIC BEAT**

- **Thursday, October 30:** Legal Lessons, 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the Office of the Health and Sports Center.
- **Friday, October 31:** UNK Volleyball vs. Rape (5:00 game), 7 p.m. in the Health and Sports Center.
- **November 1-3:** Native American History Month, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs.
- **Monday, November 3:** Opening Ceremony for Native American History Month, 12:20 p.m. at the bell tower.
- **Monday, November 3:** UNK Chess Club, 7-10 p.m. in the Student Union. Anyone interested in more information may contact Randall Heckman at heckmanfr@unk.edu.
- **Tuesday, November 4:** Office of Multicultural Affairs Brown Bag Discussion, 12 p.m. in the殴田 of the Nebraska Student Union. All appeals must be written within 14 days of the ticket issue date.
- **Thursday, November 6:** Five "Skin" sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. 7 p.m. in Copeland Hall room 1-292. Four popcont and the patch will be revealed.
- **Friday, November 7:** Poet Jim Daniels - Reynolds Writers and Readers Series, 8 p.m. in the Brick Room at the Museum of Nebraska Art, 2401 Central Ave. Event free and open to public with a book signing and reception following.
- **Friday, November 7:** Coffeeshop Performer: Steven Jackson, 8:30 p.m. in the Student Union-Atrium.

**FREE GIVEAWAYS! EXCLUSIVEieri UNIVERSITY PROCESS**

- If students or faculty feel as though Public Safety has unfairly ticketed there, they are options to present. Toicket ticket for an appeal to the Public Safety Office located in the southwest corner of the Nebraska Student Union Building. Another option is to try to submit the case to the Student Government court at 4 p.m. every Tuesday in the Student Government Area of the Nebraska Student Union. All appeals must be written within 14 days of the ticket issue date.

**UGA's VERY Own "BACHELOR"**

- On Nov. 5, the Greek Screening Committee will be hosting a fundraising event for the Kappa Kappa Phi (Kappa Pi) Center, from 7-10 p.m. at a location to be determined. All proceeds will benefit the UGA Bachelor selects finalists for a future date. This event is off the ABC network’s "The Bachelor," which will be videotaped and aired at a later date.

**POLICE BEAT**

- **Thursday, November 5:** Crime Development and Job Search, 4-5 p.m. in Career Services - MSAB 3440. November 6: Poetry Reading, sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs, in the Student Union-Atrium.
- **Wednesday, November 5:** The UNK Bachlor, 7-10 p.m. in location JBA. The concept is a spin off of the ABC network’s hit, "The Bachelor.

**FALL FINE PRINT**

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- Articles appearing on the website at www.unk.edu/publicaffairs are available to readers without charge.

**CAMPUS BRIEFS**

- **November 6:** Poetry Reading, 8 p.m. in Copeland Hall room 1-292. For more information, contact Ryan Wanek at (308) 440-4935 or wanekra@unk.edu.

**ENGLISH CONVERSATION TABLE**

- Any student with a desire to learn about worldwide cultures is invited to come to the Nebraska Student Union near Coyote Jack’s, in the area with tables and a TV.

**JOBS OPENING FOR LOUISE**

- The UNK Spirit Squad recently announced a new position for interested and skilled dancers. Louise Brown will be a new addition and welcoming member for the show seeking to be a part of this event. For more information, call Molly Mitchell at 402-212-4083 or Brian Britten at 865-4931.

**COFFEEHOUSE PERFORMER**

- On Nov. 7 at 8:30 p.m. the Nebraska Student Union Atrium will host roots-rock singer and songwriter Steven Jackson. Jackson hails from the predominantly country city of Nashville, Tenn., but his music has been compared more to the Counting Crows and Bruce Springsteen. He claims Willie Nelson and Johnny Cash most influenced his "storytelling" music style. Concert attendees can expect a show full of humor and spectator shock, spontaneous and "raw." Make sure to come see the artist Paste Magazine says "gives form to your thoughts with words more beautiful,-executive and honest than could ever find yourself."

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**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**

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**Police Beat: October 30**

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**QUESTION:** What are you going to be for Halloween?

**Answer:** I’ll be Bert and Ernie.
 Searching for a little soul... Attendance should not affect grade

ặt sat not affect grade

A good lesson in loyalty can be learned from William Wallace, who dealt with near-

vices today. As students, we need to realize that we are not alone, and we can turn to our friends for support.

Cheer up! I am here for you.

Quality time is better spent with good friends than attending class for the sake of getting good grades. I believe that school should be a place where we can make new friends and learn from them. Let's make the most of our time at school and enjoy the company of our friends.

The Antelope

Kearney in need of better sportsmanship

By this line of thinking, the community may simply accept that it is okay to treat others with a lack of respect. I don't think this is a good approach, and I believe that we should encourage our students to treat others with respect and courtesy at all times.

If I were a student, I would like to see the sports team become more respectful towards the fans. The fans are the ones who support the team and make the games enjoyable, and it is important to show appreciation for their support.

I believe that sportsmanship is important and that it should be encouraged in all aspects of life. By promoting sportsmanship, we can create a more positive and respectful atmosphere for everyone.

The Antelope

Antelope Opinion Page Policy

Any opinions expressed in columns, editorials, editorial cartoons or advertisements are the views of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Nebraska at Kearney, faculty, administrators, or the Kearney Star staff.

Contributions to "Readers' Opinions" must include the name of the writer, as well as the writer's phone number, email address, mailing address and school affiliation. The columns and editorials will not be printed but are available for verification.

Policy statements and advertisements may be delayed for up to two weeks past deadline will be published in the following edition The Antelope staff reserves the right to edit contributions to ensure clarity and maintain a consistent appearance.

Letters to the editor should be sent to:

Readers' Opinions
The Antelope
300 University of Nebraska at Kearney
Kearney, NE 68847

Any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions may be sent to the above address.
The Nebraska-Kearney wrestling team, coming off a runner up finish at last year’s NCAA Division II, National Championships, is picked 10th in the Wrestling Coaches Association Preseason Top 25 poll.

UNK, which has won three of the last four RMAC Championships, is the third highest ranked RMAC team in the poll. Both Adams State is 5th (92 points) and Western State 7th (22) are ahead of the Lopers.

UNK received 18 points and is ahead of fellow West Region members San Francisco State (17th), Central Washington (19th) and RMAC rival Chadron State (19th).

The Lopers are one of four teams from the North Central region in the Top 25. Others include South Dakota (No. 3), Metro State (No. 11) and South Dakota State (No. 15). UNK beat Metro State three times last year, including in the regional final, and also beat SDSU in the regional semifinal.

Humboldt State of California is 19th in the preseason No. 1 pick. The Lumberjacks are also No. 1 in Street & Smith’s preseason Top 10 poll.

UNK begins its season Nov. 15th with a home exhibition game vs. Dreambuilders. The Lopers open the regular season Nov. 25, with a home game vs. Peru State. UNK currently has the longest home court wins streak in Division II at 21 games.
**The Antelope**

**Antelope Writer**

**Charlie's Angels fall from grace**

House of Fear” tonight, we will be holding “The Frat Massacre.” I’m glad I went,” said Sands of the Choices Award, which he won for playing the lead role in “Kill Bill V ol.1.”

“I thought it was pretty uneventful. The film was so doped up on drugs that it was uneventful. It’s good to see that she could take time out of her busy sched-""
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Tips for safe Trick-or-Treating on Halloween:

1. Travel in small groups or be accompanied by an adult.
2. Carry emergency telephone numbers with you.
3. Travel in small groups or be accompanied by an adult.
4. Use flashlight, and do not walk in the street.
5. Inspect all candy before consuming.

Shaking Tree returns to Kearney with Halloween CD release

by Stacie Ginsen
Adelphi staff writer

They’re back, and just in time for Halloween.

No, it’s not another Poltergeist revisited. It’s the Shaking Tree, a local favorite, with a new release. The hand known as Baughman is a local favorite, being performed at Cunningham’s, the Friday, Oct. 31. Besides the fact that it’s Halloween, the release day serves as a CD release party for their CD, “Z Games,” and the Discovery Channel’s “Road Rules.”

Some of Shaking Tree’s songs have been used in episodes of MTV’s “The Real World” and “Road Rules.” The band’s music has also been featured in The Disney Channel’s “Z Games” and The Discovery Channel’s “Road Rules.”

Having appeared in Kearney before, the band has created quite a following. “It’s one of the best bands that comes to Kearney,” Kenda Noller, UNK junior, said.

Shaking Tree is one of those bands that have something for almost everyone. Perhaps it’s the mix of horns, violins (don’t be afraid, it’s almost everyone.

Mike Kelley, one of the venue’s friendly bartenders, says they like to have people dress up and “The costumes are usually pretty hilarious.”

They are expecting a crowd of around 200 to attend so have your five bucks in hand at the door, say some states around 2:30) and celebrate Shaking Tree’s new CD release along with all the other ghouls and goblins.

For more information on the band, you can visit www.shak- ingtree.com.

Photo by Nick Vold/Daily Record

Happy Halloween!

The eclecticism of the first set I looked at was “Writers Block,” “Deadline” and “attaboy” (that’s right, no ‘G’), it’s easy to see why. My favorite, “Love Letter” is a very colorful piece featuring two overlapping typewriters, while my other favorite pieces are a series of three darker paintings (numbers 15, 16 and 17), that are lacking much color and seem to be done in various shades of gray, blue, purple and black.

Happily, you don’t really find typewriters of that interesting. I also don’t find myself spending much free time thinking about or checking out art, much less printing machinery.

However, not only is this display free to the public, it’s really interesting, and if nothing else it makes you think about the history of printing machinery.

Charles Baughman received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at Studio Art from what was Kearney State College (now UNK). He also holds a Master’s Degree of Fine Arts in Painting and Sculpture, and currently teaches at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas, where he also works as a professional artist.

Baughman’s affiliation with MONA began when he was still a student and volunteered his time to help clean up and restore the former Kearney Post Office into the current Museum of Nebraska Art.

This series of 17 very unusual (but definitely interesting) paintings displayed at MONA through January 16, 2004, is called Charles Baughman’s Typewriter Series. The paintings are a series of three darker paintings (numbers 15, 16 and 17), that are lacking much color and seem to be done in various shades of gray, blue, purple and black.
Eagles hand Lopers third loss of the season

From Rutland, page 4

Kim was Richie Ross, Lincoln native, sophomore, who caught at 143 yards and a touchdown.

The UNK football team bounced back after their loss against Chadron State. Scoring on their first five possessions to open the second half in rout of Fort Lewis 30-12 at Foster Field.

Along with the win the Lopers stopped Fort Lewis's quarterback from breaking the Division II career passing record against them. Andrew Welch needed 313 yards to break former Loper Justin Coleman's record. The UNK defense thought otherwise.

"We did not want the record to be broken against us, of course, so I do think that there was a little extra incentive to get out there and dominate," Akil Davis, Aurora, Colo., junior, said.

Welch was 11 of 30 for 137 yards in the first half and managed only 23 yards in the second half. He finished the game 15 of 37 for 160 yards a touchdown and three interceptions.

"Our coaches had a good plan laid out in front of us, all we had to do was execute and we knew we would get the win. Our defensive line and linebackers caused great pressure up front and the secondary came up big," Clay Mankin, Aurora, junior, said.

The UNK defense shutdown the Skyhawks offense; limiting them to just 227 yards of total offense. Jared Butts, Colorado Springs, Colo., junior led the Loper defense with eight tackles, three were for loss. Right behind him was Davis who had seven tackles, two for loss.

Richie Ross, Lincoln sophomore, had eight catches for 163 yards and a touchdown.

The offense came up big racking up more than 550 yards of total offense. Pat Kerth, Hastings, senior, completed 21 of 29 passes for 349 yards and four touchdowns with no interceptions.

The Loper rushing attack was also effective gaining 212 yards. Mike Miller, Littleton, Colo., junior, carried the ball 24 times for 169 yards and a touchdown. Also running back Kevin Petch, Bird City, Kan., carried the ball five times for 33 yards and the last two touchdowns.

Richie Ross, Lincoln sophomore, had eight catches for 163 yards and two scores. Ross became the fourth Loper with 2,000 receiving yards in a career; he only needs 17 yards to become the only Loper to have more than one season of 1,000 yards receiving.

The Lopers hand back on the road to face Fort Hays State next week in Kansas. With a RMAC title no longer in their grasp the Lopers find themselves playing for something else pride.
Chloupek family honored at 2003 Family Day

The big event of the day was the presentation of the Outstanding Family Award, which occurred at the 11:35 a.m. luncheon. The luncheon was like an indoor picnic or a midafternoon a.m. luncheon. The luncheon was the presentation of the project that addresses reading. All students need to do is gather up old books and set them out for the Mortar Board students to pick up on Halloween evening. Don’t forget to contact Ashley Clark to give proper address information. To contact Mortar Board for book donations and to leave address information, call Ashley Clark at (308) 865-4895 or e-mail Mortar Board at mortarboard@unk.edu.

From Mortar Board, page 1

Project committee and this project include Ashley Clark, chair, and Jessica Vossler, Nick Vahrenkamp, daughter of Marc Vahrenkamp, daughter of Ellis and Diane Newman, ambassador and active in the Newman Center, a student-oriented Catholic faith community. Brett wrote on his award application, “My parents are selected as the top university student in the U.S. for a graphic arts internship. Her internship was with the Los Angeles Times newspaper and included a variety of experiences including advertising work for the Academy Awards. The university is looking forward to another highly successful Family Day next year. Details are available in the Student Affairs building or through LPAC about next year’s event and how to apply for the Outstanding Family Award.

From Family Day, page 1

“We have the opportunity to help the community and students, and it is a good way that the community and students can help out,” Clark said.

The children’s books that are gathered from this project will be given to a few of the local elementary schools faced with hardships. The books will be kept for those students who lack the resources to have other students have their own books for reading. Paperback for adults will also be placed in local elementary schools. As usual, for an award like this, it was very difficult to choose the one family that should be honored. Other families considered praiseworthy enough to give special recognition to are: Amy Willadson, daughter of Ellis and Diane Willadson of Greenwood, Jill Vahrenkamp, daughter of Marc and Judy Vahrenkamp of Hay Springs, Courtney Bredahl and daughter of James and Julie Bradlack of Fremont; Brianna Stevenson, daughter of Richard and Kathy Stevenson of Sutherland, Kari Malemik, wife of Michael and mother of Alexis, originally of Paxton, and the host family of Janka Budkovka and Sylvia Mihalik both of Slovakia. Their host parents are Dr. Al and Jani Tompkins from Grand Island. Erica Wendland was also recognized as the recipient of last year’s Outstanding Family Award. This year she was selected as the top university student in the U.S. for a graphic arts internship. Her internship was with the Los Angeles Times newspaper and included a variety of experiences including advertising work for the Academy Awards. The university is looking forward to another highly successful Family Day next year. Details are available in the Student Affairs building or through LPAC about next year’s event and how to apply for the Outstanding Family Award.

From Credit Union, page 1

Operator 911:jan 151

From Omni (lincoln), page 1

National Credit Union administration.

“The University is well capitalized and well run, so we feel the deposits are very safe,” Syring said. Current UNK students do not have to worry about what is going to happen to their membership if they move, graduate or quit school. A merit of the credit union is that once you are a member you are always a member, provided you maintain the minimum balance. Membership is eligible to all public employees in Buffalo County, Teachernauts, Good Samaritan Health System, Mother Hubbard House, Mount Carmel Nursing Home, Kearney Orthopedic and Fracture Clinic, Cashway Distributing, Wild West, Inc., Whiskey Creek Restaurants and anyone who lives, works, worships or attends school in Dawson County are also eligible for membership.

Stated in a brochure produced by KFCU, membership of the credit union is free for any child, is encouraged because there is not a better way to teach thrift or to build up a fund for future educational needs. To join KFCU, a person must provide proof they qualify for membership. To begin an account, members must make a $5 deposit that will be placed into the account. Students or people under that age of 18 are required to have $5 deposit to begin the account. A $5 fine is required to open an account. “Due to the growth that we have experienced over the past few years, we are in the process of building a new office on the corner of 20th Street and Second Avenue. Completion date is targeted for November 2004,” Syring said. “We are also looking at other select groups to include in our membership to continue with our growth. At this time, we have over 500 members at our Kearney, KFCU also provides four free ATM locations in the city.

The big event of the day was the presentation of the Outstanding Family Award, which occurred at the 11:35 a.m. luncheon. The luncheon was like an indoor picnic or a midafternoon a.m. luncheon. The luncheon was the presentation of the project that addresses reading. All students need to do is gather up old books and set them out for the Mortar Board students to pick up on Halloween evening. Don’t forget to contact Ashley Clark to give proper address information. To contact Mortar Board for book donations and to leave address information, call Ashley Clark at (308) 865-4895 or e-mail Mortar Board at mortarboard@unk.edu.

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KFCU provides multiple incentives

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This Halloween, before all of the students partake in a celebration of your choosing, just take a moment to think about and appreciate the origins of this American's favorite holiday. The tradition of dressing up and having fun came to the United States from Britain. There are several theories as to the origin of the word "Halloween." Some believe it comes from the Old Irish word “Hogmanay,” which is a time to honor saints and the end of the old calendar year. The night before the new year, both Celtic and European roots, the festival of Samhain originated among the Celts. The practice of "trick-or-treating" most likely has its roots in the practice of "knavery". The festival was revived with more emphasis on the evil side of Samhain. Or perhaps, the practice was eventuated when it was believed that ghosts of the dead were particularly active on the night of Oct. 31, so the ghosts would mistake people dressed like them for the living, and so the ghosts would leave the people alone.

In 1972, UNK acquired the Fine Arts building to West Center's campus. With the pipeline's extension from Calvin T. Litchfield Hall to the Fine Arts building, the university will no longer have to rely on the network of pipes that connects to a network of pipes that extend throughout the entire campus. Although recent upkeep on the network has been extensive for the past several years, the network is still in need of repair. The pipeline's extension through Cushing to the building will not only make maintenance of the network easier, but it will also increase the lifespan of the network. Due to the increased lifespan, the pipeline will no longer have to be replaced as often, and therefore will not cause as much disruption to the university.

In 1972, UNK acquired the Fine Arts building to West Center's campus. The acquired building was the old McCue's building at 2012 Avenue A in Kearney. The building had been broken for several years. The university acquired the building in order to use it as a time to honor saints and martyrs on Nov. 1. The building was renovated and the College of Education declared plans to connect the College of Education to West Center's building in the West Center's pipeline for heating and cooling.

The College of Education was one of the first colleges on UNK's campus. The College of Education was the first college to be established at UNK. The College of Education was established in 1908. The College of Education was one of the first colleges to be established in the state of Nebraska. The College of Education was established in order to provide education to the people of the state. The College of Education was one of the first colleges to be established in the United States. The College of Education was established in order to provide education to the people of the United States.

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Purple Hedge owners dispel pagan myths

by Lindsey Learned
Janelle Stuber Editor

“The Christians and the pagans were not together at the table, feeding faith and common ground, the last: that they were alike.” -Dar W. Lilliam

In her popular song, “Christians and Pagans,” Dar Williams dispels some myths about paganism and tries to bring the two religions closer together. Frank and Audrey Spulak are hoping for the same type of tolerance to come from their efforts.

The Spulaks own the Purple Hedge Shoppe downtown. They supply a variety of products—from incense to religious books to other materials needed for rituals in religions such as Buddhism and Wicca. There has been some controversy over the store and its products, but what it all comes down to is how people are willing to accept.

“People are afraid of change, of anything that is different than what they know,” Audrey Spulak said. “It’s all fear. All people think about is what they’ve been taught to accept.”

Frank, her husband Frank told the Kearney Hub on Aug. 2, “It’s all fear. All people think about is what Hollywood paints out.”

In real life, the religions that fall under paganism are not practiced in the way they are portrayed on the big screen.

“Here Christian–living witchcraft has its wide hang. Many in the town... It’s Christmas Time: I knew our life is not your style,” -Dar W. Lilliam

If the pagan style is not celebrating and rejecting as Christians do at Christmas, what is their style? What does it mean to be pagan?

“There is a lot of misconception about religions,” Audrey Spulak said.

Paganism is possibly the most misunderstood religion in the world. That could be because paganism in itself is not a religion. Pagans encompass all the non-Abrahamic (Christianity, Judaism and Islam) religions such as Wicca, Dunessianism, Tanis and yes–witchcraft.

It is important to understand that being a pagan–or a Wiccan–does not translate into being a witch. “There is Wicca, and there is witchcraft,” Audrey Spulak said. “Witchcraft is magic without the religion, and Wicca is the religion. You can have a witch who is not religious and a Wiccan who does not practice witchcraft,” she said.

It is hard to define what a pagan is because so many religions fall under paganism, and each has different beliefs. “Pagan’s for the most part tend to be polytheistic,” said a friend of the Spulaks.

Most pagan religions do acknowledge the idea of a single god, but believe that there is a spiritual being in everything around us. For this reason, many pagan religions worship multiple deities.

Religious homophobic, for example, worship the same gods as the ancient Greeks did.

“Traditional Wicca believes in a multi-faith deity, which is mostly likely the reason some people have converted to Wicca,” Audrey Spulak said.

In Wicca, the idea of the Maid, Mother and Crone is important. It is comparable to the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

“For me, one of the hardest to believe is or follow a single male entity that you are supposed to fear,” a friend of the Spulaks said. “Paganism is much more balanced.”

“You find magic from your God, and we find magic everywhere,” -Dar W. Lilliam

Pagan religions and Christianity seem to have many similarities. It is a common thought by many theologians that Christianity derived many of its fundamental values from paganism.

One example that could be used is the ancient text, “Revel.” This epic poem was written before the 5th century A.D. by an unknown author. The poem refers many times to pagan traditions and customs, but it is also linked to Christian beliefs.

“There is the possibility that Jesus Christ was derived from earlier pagan myths about a golden child that would save people,” Audrey Spulak said.

An eye-catching similarity is that pagan chapels seem to be the prototype of Christian churches.

“Most Christian churches were built on old pagan sites,” Audrey Spulak said. This was all taking place during the conversion time–about 300 to 500 A.D. Even today, there are pagan temples to the basement of Notre Dame, an enormous Christian cathedral in France.

It was during this time that the pagan religions had to start going underground. As Christianity was becoming more and more popular, other religions starting being persecuted. “It was basically, ‘You don’t convert or we’ll kill you,’” Audrey Spulak said.

“One big difference between Christianity and most pagan religions is that you don’t have a god you are to fear.” A.D. Roberts, a friend of the Spulaks, said. “You know that term, ‘God-fearing American?’ Well, we have tender and loving gods and goddesses, whereas in the Christian faith, you are taught to fear God.”

“Paganism and Wicca are very similar in this way,” -Dar W. Lilliam

When a pagan wants to help someone to make something happen, they pray. When a pagan wants to help make something happen, they pray.

“Magic and prayer is the same thing,” Frank Spulak told the Hub. “We (pagans) manipulate that energy to help people. If the prayer is answered, it’s magic. We’re not trying to work spells to have people turned into horses. A Wiccan would practice magic in the same way that a Christian would pray. If a family member were sick, a Wiccan might light a candle for them. Instead of putting the power into the hands of a deity by praying, they try to make the magic happen themselves.

Wiccans, and most witches, do not practice witchcraft in the way it is shown on movies such as “I Am Witch.” A real witch or Wiccan would know better than to try to mess with a person’s free will.

“We have one commandment, if you want to call it that,” Audrey Spulak said. “It is the Wiccan Rede. The last line is, ‘Do as you will, as long as it harms none.’” Love is considered consensual, because it forces someone to have feelings that they don’t actually feel. Most true Wiccans and pagans are not attractive to those who are wrong.

According to the Spulaks, a true pagan would never do something that will cause harm to another being, whether directly or indirectly.

It is a pagan’s belief in the power of magic, he or she would also believe in the power of the three-fold law that if you do good or evil, you will get the same in return three times as much.

Where does magic come from? I think magic is in the universe,” -Dar W. Lilliam

When paganism is shunned, it seems to be because it is misunderstood. Many Christians cannot give a description of a pagans’ lifestyle, and what they do. “That’s because Wiccans, on the other hand, often know as much about the other religions as they do their own,” Frank Spulak said.

Frank Spulak grew up Catholic, and it was that beginning that sparked his interest in researching other religions.

“I was always interested in religion,” he told the Hub.

“The Catholic school taught me to love religion.”

Learning about new religions and cultures is one way to promote tolerance. The more knowledgeable a person is on a subject, the more familiar it will be. Paganism is an amazing more comfortable that is familiar, and that leads to tolerance.

Audrey and Frank Spulak, along with most pagans, would never try to convert people to convert to their religion. To them, that would be religious bigotry.

“Of all the harmful influences on our children, I have found the one to be the most damaging is people who say they are Christians, but live like devil.” St. Thomas More said to Hub reporters.

“A local Baptist pastor has found the same ideals important. He is aware and accepts that there are religions and beliefs other than Christianity. Of all the harmful influences on our children, I have found the one to be the most damaging is people who say they are Christians, but live like devil.” -Dar Williams

Pagan religions encourage individuality and following the right path based on one’s personal beliefs. For someone interested in the religion, the best way to find out is if the right choice is to do research. Read books and talk with local pagans; Frank and Audrey Spulak are great resources.

On Halloween night, starting at sundown, the Spulaks will host an open circle at the Purple Hedge Shoppe downtown. This is a chance for all current and interested pagans to meet.

All pagans are invited and encouraged to attend, and all those who are not pagan but who are interested in understanding the religions are also welcome. The Spulaks assure that there will be no stereotypical animal (or human) sacrifices and nothing else to be scared of or petrified about.

The creepiest part will be walking down the alley to get there, and the risk of running into the headless horseman.

“We when Christians sit with pagans only pumpkin... -Dar W. Lilliam