



Mount Observer



A voice for the students of Mount Wachusett Community College

NOVEMBER 15, 2011

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www.mountobserver.com

Who Keeps MWCC Clean?



Eleanor Gauthier (left) and Chelsea Coppenrath (right) keeping the doors clean (photo by Christopher Kyprianos.)

by Christopher Kyprianos

First impressions count. Everyday those who walk through the doors at Mount Wachusett Community College immediately notice how nice, clean, fresh and orderly everything is, especially when it comes to the first floor of the main building. The reason behind this is because of two very special women who take to heart the services they provide MWCC. Their faces are familiar to most everyone who attends or works at the college, but few know their stories.

Eleanor Gauthier and Chelsea Coppenrath are the two team

"I'm happy being here, but I would love to be full time here. That would make me absolutely content!"

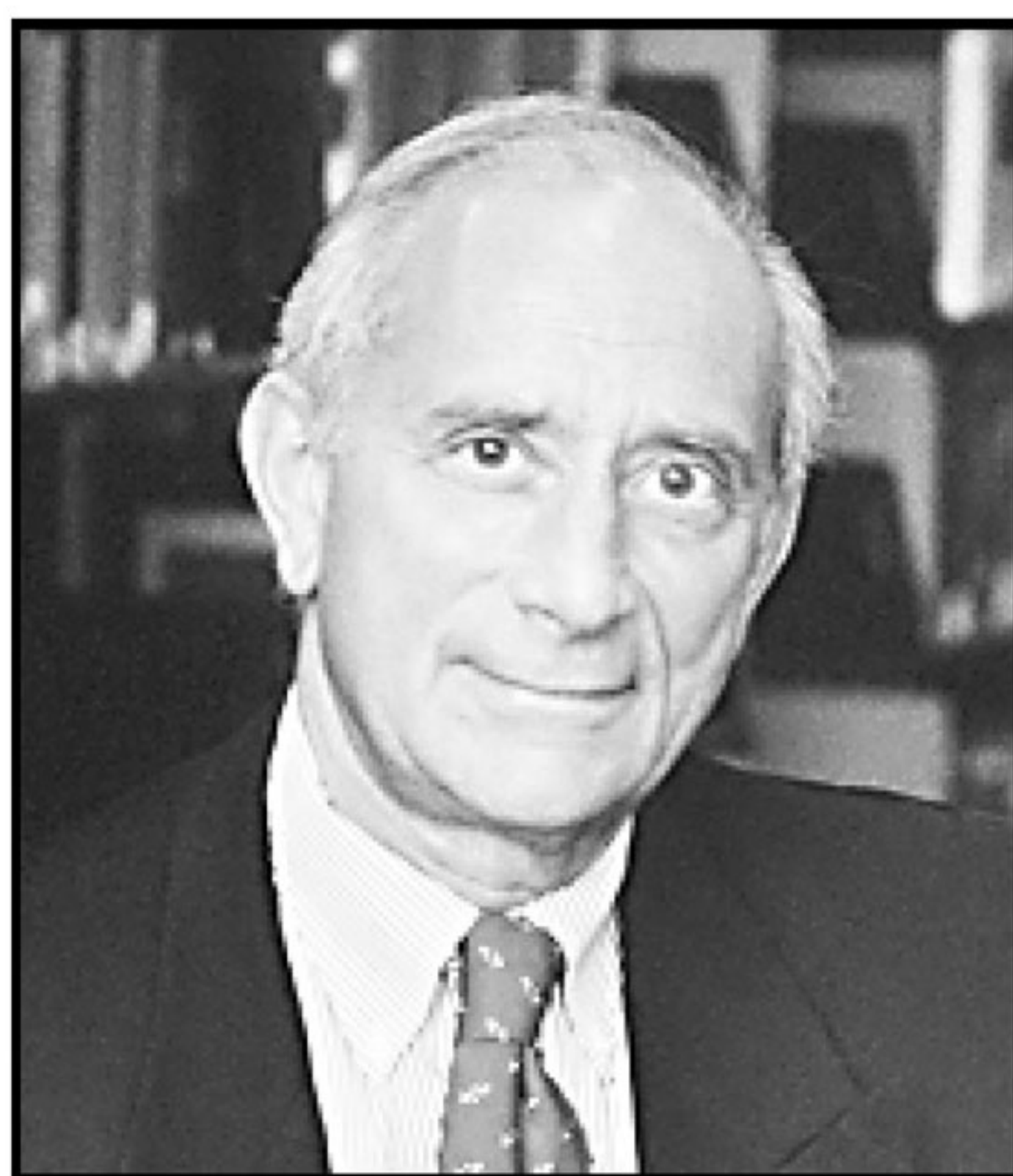
- Chelsea Coppenrath

members responsible for maintaining the areas from the café's double doors right on down to the art wing. They clean the windows, floors and bathrooms, which they state with enthusiasm, "Are the cleanest on campus!"

Both women gain personal satisfaction from the work they do and are very happy to be pro-

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Law Changed to Allow Dorms at MWCC



President Asquino

by Ericka Pultorak

After a decade of rumors, the Mount may only need to wait a few years to see dorms spring up on campus.

The delay to see dormitories on the Mount Wachusett Community College Campus is because it has not always been acceptable to have dorms on a community college campus. Mainly, there have not been any laws allowing it. However, thanks to Daniel Asquino, President of MWCC, and others who share his desire

to provide the dorm experience, the legislation has changed. Since then, MWCC has moved forward on making plans and goals for the potential dorms.

President Asquino said he wants to set up a small number of rooms to start, with 300 to 400 rooms in a

quad format. This would mean four rooms per quad connected by a living room and kitchen. There would be a meal plan but students could make their own food on weekends. The location on campus for the dorms is not yet decided, although President Asquino said he is not worried about it given the Mount has plenty of land. He is estimating that it will take about 2 to 3 years to start seeing results.

President Asquino foresees four-year colleges as a potential problem. They might challenge him, saying that MWCC should not have dorms because they are not part of the Mount's mission creed. Still, he persists because he knows there are a lot of students in

"President Asquino said he wants to set up a small number of rooms to start, with 300 to 400 rooms in a quad format. This would mean four rooms per quad connected by a living room and kitchen."

two-year programs that want the "Resident hall experience" but do not get it. He believes that "Everyone should have the opportunity to have that experience if they'd like that experience." President Asquino said he is confident that the process of getting dorms and establishing them will have its challenges but will overall be a good thing for MWCC.

Facebook Connect



We asked you:

How are you riding out the storm? Watching movies? Hanging with friends? Sitting by the fire? Anyone miss any classes?

You Answered:

Susan Coleman Goldstein: I still have power, thankfully! I am working on my laptop and sitting by the warm pellet stove. Just gone done baking an apple cake, so the house smells good. This is the only way to ride out a snowstorm!

Karen Ray Costa: I'm working on my online course for spring!

Sean Krieger: Oddly enough I spent it doing laundry, playing on the computer, and watching Slayers Next on my Ps3

Cathy Gagnon: I take my classes all on-line, I lost power Saturday into Sunday. I went on campus (Gardner) Monday morning to work on a project because my internet was down. One of my online classes postponed the deadline to an assignment because of the power outages. It actually didn't matter because it was done. It's good to know that even online they postpone dates.



Ryan Hass, a CGD Major, charges his mobile appliances at school after his power went out in Townsend. (photo by Cheyne Ordonio)

Permission To Be Selfish

by Eric Fisk

(With Apologies to Harlan Ellison, Dennis Miller, Lewis Black, Andy Rooney, and any other commentator that's inspired me and for whom I'm about to rip off.)

Many of the students I've been talking to have the same problem I have, and that's the inability to get "the work" done after class. All of us have issues that we have to cope with after we drive away from the campus parking lots. Most of us have families or jobs, many of us have both. More than a handful have spouses and children and there are quite a few of us — like my self — who have elderly parents who also need us to check up on them from time to time.

Many of us get pressured to

make "The Work" take a back seat. I have to put it off until later since my homework assignment is less important to everyone else. My book assignments are less important than the kid's lunches, the cat box, the dishes and the recycling that's built up on the counter, and the two pounds of dog hair that's collected behind the refrigerator. None of this was important until I sat down and opened my programs at my desk?

For those of us who have spouses with high pressure and very important jobs that take them away from the house too often, don't get me started... we're tired of being life-support systems for your careers. Now it's our turn.

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Guest Speaker Tineke Floris On European Media

by Leigh Edwards

On October 27, Tineke Floris spoke in Professor Sue Goldsteins Journalism class to about her Profession her perception on the news and media in the Netherlands.

Floris is an ESL teacher in the Netherlands for adults 18-60. Many of her students are refugees, mainly from Iraq and Somalia, who hope to become citizens of the Netherlands. In order for someone to become a citizen of the Netherlands, Flo-

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GOOMBA'S PIZZERIA



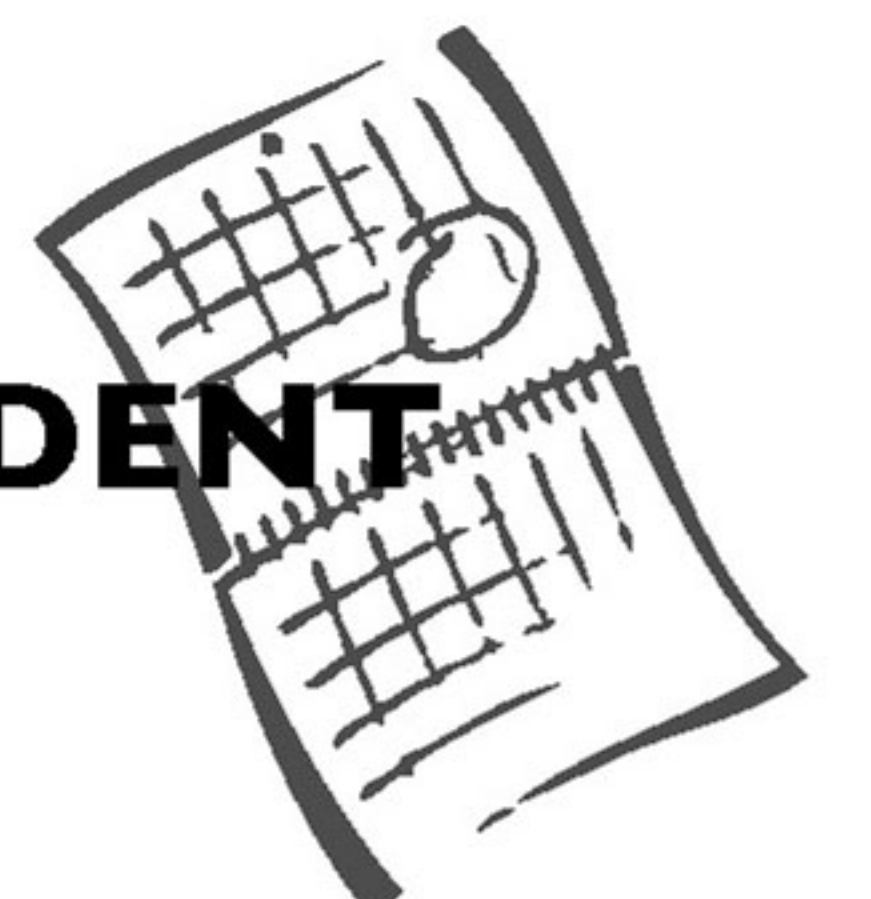
Face Space page 3

SCARY KARAOKE 2011!



Calendar page 4

NOVEMBER STUDENT LIFE CALENDAR



Letter to the Editor



Dear Mount Observer,

The pencil I'm writing with is really big, and it makes me feel like I should skip every other line.

ANYWAY,

I hope you're doing well.

-Veronica

Correction

In the Nov 1 Issue, the article titled "Photography: A New Business Concentration" stated that the new Photography concentration was under the Business major. That is incorrect. Photography falls under the BCT, or Broadcasting & Electronic Media major.



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November 23. For all article submissions after deadline, please coordinate with the Mount Observer Editor.

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December 1

First issue is FREE; additional copies 50 cents

Who Keeps MWCC Clean?

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viding a refreshingly clean environment for all. Gauthier is a twelve year full time veteran of the maintenance staff, while Coppentrath began in 2005 while a Human Service work study student. This past July she happily secured a 25 hour per week work shift. Each is content with their positions, yet Coppentrath commented, "I'm happy being here, but I would love to be full time here. That would make me absolutely content!"

This dynamic dual are even found outside in the winter, shoveling and keeping the walkways clear and safe. The women agreed, "We are the eyes of the college. We are the first floor people. We are the show casers of the first floor."

The team does it right, whether they are at work or tending to their personal affairs. Gauthier's zest for life extends beyond the workplace where she can occasionally be found riding with her partner on their Harley, enjoying a walk in the fresh air, playing with her five grandchildren or watching some of the little one's street hockey games. Coppentrath shared that she enjoys being a home body, cleaning and cooking around her place and working on arts and crafts when time permits. Coppentrath also enjoys providing assistance to an elderly woman who very much appreciates her help.

Review: Goomba's Pizzeria



Goomba's Pizzeria
(photo by Cheyne Ordonio)

by Jillian Richard

Goomba's is a Pizzeria located in Fitchburg right outside the T station on Main Street, a convenient location for any hungry person. Many students that attend the Gardner campus take the bus that goes to and from the Fitchburg station.

Goomba's has a huge selection and variety of food to offer. They offer everything from pizza to wraps to deserts. This menu was screaming Italian all over. Perfect pizza pies lined up in a glass case as you walk towards the drinks and napkins make your mouth water if you haven't been there before. For

a hungry student this is a great stop to make if you want something that will fill you up.

Their menu doesn't stop at just pizzas. True Italian stromboli's and calzones are made big and tasty. Don't underestimate the size because there's a safe bet you will have leftovers.

They have a huge flat screen TV that is always running either the news or the latest sport. If you're a sports fan or if you need to catch up on the daily news I would recommend this pizzeria. It can be a great place to relax too as they have authentic Italian music playing not too loud so you can concentrate on your schoolwork.

The theme behind the restaurant is a great attraction. Hanging on every wall is a picture of a movie star from the old

"The theme behind the restaurant is a great attraction. Hanging on every wall is a picture of a movie star from the old mob films to modern day mobsters."

mob films to modern day mobsters. The setting is nice and relaxing so you can enjoy yourself and take in all the photographs and artwork. It can even be inspiration for an English essay.

The employees are all friendly and even college students themselves. This adapts well to the average college student whether they're coming or going. With great food and free wifi, who could ask for a better environment to do schoolwork in?

Permission To Be Selfish

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The question I have for everyone in my life outside the Mount Wachusett grounds is - when is it going to be about "me."

I know for a fact that the world outside of MWCC is a harsh, mean and vicious. It's an employer's market out there; for every job posting there is there are dozens of applicants. To get an interview you have to have the proper skills and experience listed on your resume. At the interview, you actually need to know what you're talking about before you sit down. Employers are like hungry sharks and will strike you out the moment they smell fear or your blood in the water. College is our time to "learn how to swim."

Keep in mind also that somehow, some way, we're paying for this educational process with grants, scholarships or loans. Getting the coin to go to school was a ca-

reer in itself for me and I'll be paying the loan back for years to come. Why can't I get the most out of it? Not taking full advantage of this experience would be like borrowing money from the bank to buy a car that I have to keep in the garage.

This is our time to be selfish. There is never going to come a time in our lives when "The Work" will be this important. What we do now, and how well we do it, will determine our level of success the minute we re-enter the job market. Everyone else needs to understand that.

The rest of the family wants the pool in the back yard, the trips to Disney World, the expensive toys or the chance to go to an expensive school themselves when their time comes; it's time for them to sacrifice too.

finish the story online at mountobserver.com

face space

a photo album of student life activities this semester

More photos in color online at mountobserver.com

All photos courtesy of Student Life

Some life sized dolls.



Some kind of 16th century Power Ranger.



Matthew Cohen as a Vampire.



Something went wrong at peanut butter jelly time.



Creepy.



Guitar Hero!

Scary '11 Karaoke

Bringing scandal to The Mount.



Costume winners left to right 1st Charlie Case 2nd Jackie Soar3rd Shane Cullins

NOVEMBER STUDENT LIFE CALENDAR

Ping Pong Tournament

Wed., Nov. 16 (and Nov. 17)

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lion's Den Student Center.

Pre-registration required; sign up in Room 150 or 151. Must be available to compete on both Nov. 16 and Nov. 17. Sponsored by the Student Life Office.

Make Your Own Lanyard Lacing Key Chain

Mon., Nov. 21

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Lion's Den Student Center.

Come relive your younger days when you made a key chain from lanyard lacing—it's free. Sponsored by the Student Life Office and CATS.

Intramural Activity—Racquetball

Mon., Nov. 21

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

MWCC Fitness and Wellness Center.

You must have athletic sneakers to participate. For more information contact Paula in Room 149.

Student Government Association Meeting

Mon., Nov. 28

12:30 p.m.

Room W11.

Meeting is open to all.

Intramural Activity—Kickball:

Tues., Nov. 29

12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

MWCC Fitness and Wellness Center.

You must have athletic sneakers to participate. For more information contact Paula in Room 149.

Winterfest Fair,

Tues., Nov. 29

Wed., Nov. 30

9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Commons Area.

Featuring the raffling off of more than twenty decorated wreaths and also theme baskets. There will be a variety of vendors selling items from children's books to Pashmina scarves. Sponsored by the Student Life office and Student Services.

Events held on the Gardner Campus unless otherwise noted. Check out the calendar at <http://iconnect.mwcc.edu> or www.mwcc.edu/studentlife/default.html.

Veterans Group Looking For More Members

The Veterans group, which usually meets on Thursdays, is looking for more Veterans to join their group. The purpose of this club is to form a group of students with a common interest in the general welfare of Mount Wachusett Community College with a special emphasis on students that are Veterans and veterans in the surrounding communities.

For more information, contact Kristine Larkin in room 138.

Guest Speaker

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ris informed the class that one must learn the Dutch language through taking ESL classes at least five hours a week

Floris said, "Most refugees are illiterate. They need to learn how to read and write in a different language. It's very hard." Once her students have taken and passed the citizenship test, they must still take classes on the Dutch language every week.

Floris also talked heavily with the class on how the news and media are perceived in the Netherlands. She informed the class that the news and media seem to be extremely accurate, even in the tabloids,

which is a far cry from tabloids that are seen and read in the United States. "A lot of people are reading tabloid papers in the Netherlands, and yes they're accurate, some just tell it in a different way," said Floris.

Most people from the Netherlands believe that what is being put out there on newsstands, on TV, and online is true and accurate as well as timely. "I trust them, yes. Media is becoming very big, and they also have more power now," Said Floris. Even with the financial crisis in Europe, Floris feels The Dutch news and media are keeping their citizens accurately informed about what exactly is going on, and the steps they're taking to fix it.

RAD Program

Erica Pultorak

Campus Police Chief Karen Kolimaga and the rest of the force expressed interest in doing their annual four to five day R.A.D. Course (Rape Aggression Defense). This course is designed to show women some reasonable defense moves against attackers. Mrs. Kolimaga and the rest of the team get about ten officers to teach the class, however, they need students to sign up. In past years they have had low numbers and are looking to get better attendance this

year. They know that everyone has different schedules but they are still looking to see if anyone would be interested and what days and times are best. Mrs. Kolimaga is thinking maybe a survey or some other way of collecting student opinions might be helpful in molding the class to the needs of the students. If you are interested, email Lt. Melissa Croteau at MCroteau@mwcc.mass.edu



Theatre at the Mount Presents CHILDREN OF EDEN

CHILDREN OF EDEN, a story freely based on the Genesis, is a heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age old conflict between parents and children. It stars Fatima Lewis, Taylor Lawton, Melissa Gates, Matt Dombroski, Nick Howe, Joel LeBlanc, Amanda Carpenito, Alison Laverdiere, Jacob McDonald, Emily Xarras, Tyler Moran, Michael Kozloski and many others.

Shows will be on:

November 25 and 26 at 8 p.m.

November 27 at 2 p.m.



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