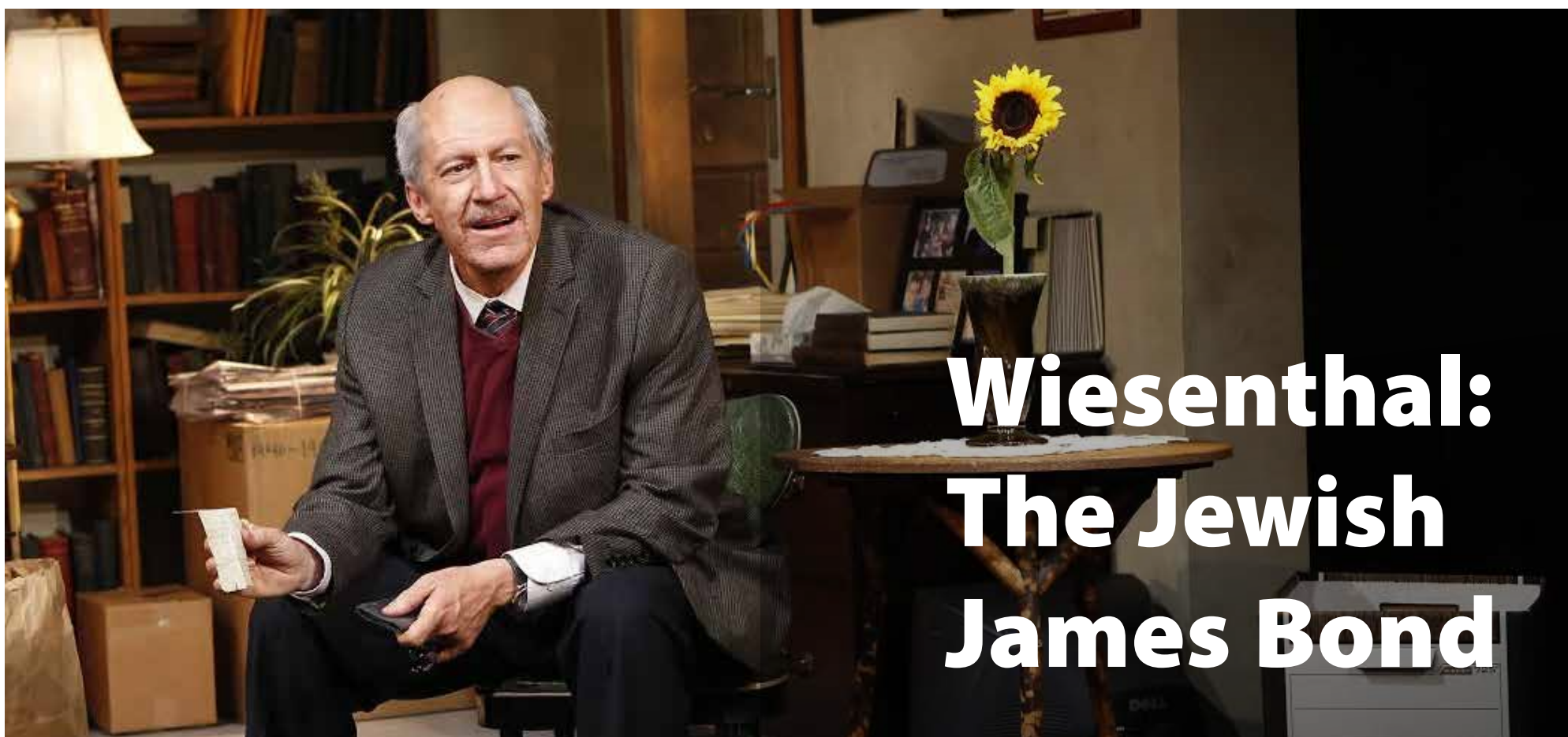


the 30 YEARS COLLEGIAN

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Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614

Tom Dugan, who wrote and stars in *Wiesenthal*, tells the story of an ordinary man who did extraordinary things. Photo: Carol RoseggTORI SANDERS
Staff Writer

The story of Simon Wiesenthal, the Holocaust survivor whose efforts led to the arrest of more than 1,100 Nazi war criminals, came to Rodeheaver Auditorium Thursday at 8 p.m. and will be presented again tonight

at the same time.

The play *Wiesenthal* is the first Artist Series program of the 2017 spring semester at Bob Jones University. Tom Dugan is both the playwright and the sole actor in the entire performance, *Wiesenthal*.

The play tells the true story of Wiesenthal, a Jewish survivor of the Holocaust.

Wiesenthal has been nicknamed “the Jewish James Bond” as he brought over 1,100 Nazi war criminals across the globe to justice after approximately 22,000 spread out across the globe.

To tell the story of Wiesenthal’s adventures, Dugan wrote the story with only one scene, Wiesenthal’s office

and one character, Wiesenthal himself. This gives the impression that the audience is sitting in Wiesenthal’s office, located in Vienna, and simply listening to his many stories.

Wiesenthal is unusual for BJU because it comes entirely from an outside source.

BJU often directs the

plays presented on campus, as well as casts many staff and students for various roles.

Wiesenthal, however, is being directed by Jenny Sullivan while Dugan, the playwright, stars as Wiesenthal.

Rodeheaver Auditorium, the venue for *Wiesenthal*, was chosen because of its smaller,

more intimate layout.

The script is composed of many of Wiesenthal’s true adventures woven together in order to give an overview of his life.

While the play has dark themes, it has a balance that helps relieve the tension. There is humor found

See **WIESENTHAL** p. 3 >>

USpeak provides students platform for change

IAN DYKE
Staff Writer

Launched at the beginning of the fall semester, USpeak allows students to anonymously give an idea, ask a question, report a problem, offer praise and participate in multiple online polls about campus issues.

USpeak serves as the communication portal between students and the administration. Students can access the online resource through the link on the intranet or directly at uspeak.bju.edu.

All student feedback is seen by a member of the Student Leadership Council before being compiled and presented to President Steve Pettit and Dr. Eric Newton, dean of students.

The USpeak homepage promises that an SLC representative will respond to each

submission within 48 hours.

USpeak originated as an idea for a class project.

Former SLC representative Daniel Herr is partially responsible for presenting the idea to Dr. Pettit.

Herr along with other SLC members worked with Student Life and IT to prepare the idea for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Herr said USpeak gives university students the same platform he enjoyed as an SLC representative.

“[The student body] is now in the room with us when we’re talking to Dr. Pettit, essentially,” Herr said.

The student body embraced USpeak last semester with thousands of online submissions.

“The SLC was blown away by how much use [USpeak]

See **USPEAK** p. 3 >>



COLUMN



ABBY SIVYER
Editor

Have you ever pulled up to a drive-thru window to find that the person in the car in front of you had already paid for your order?

When I worked at Starbucks, I was always surprised when someone would start a “pay-it-forward” chain.

The next person would pull up to the window, try to hand me their money and then usually stare at me in shock when I told them the person in front of them had paid for part of or even all of their order.

The initial surprise would then morph into a smile and they’d usually offer to pay for the person behind them.

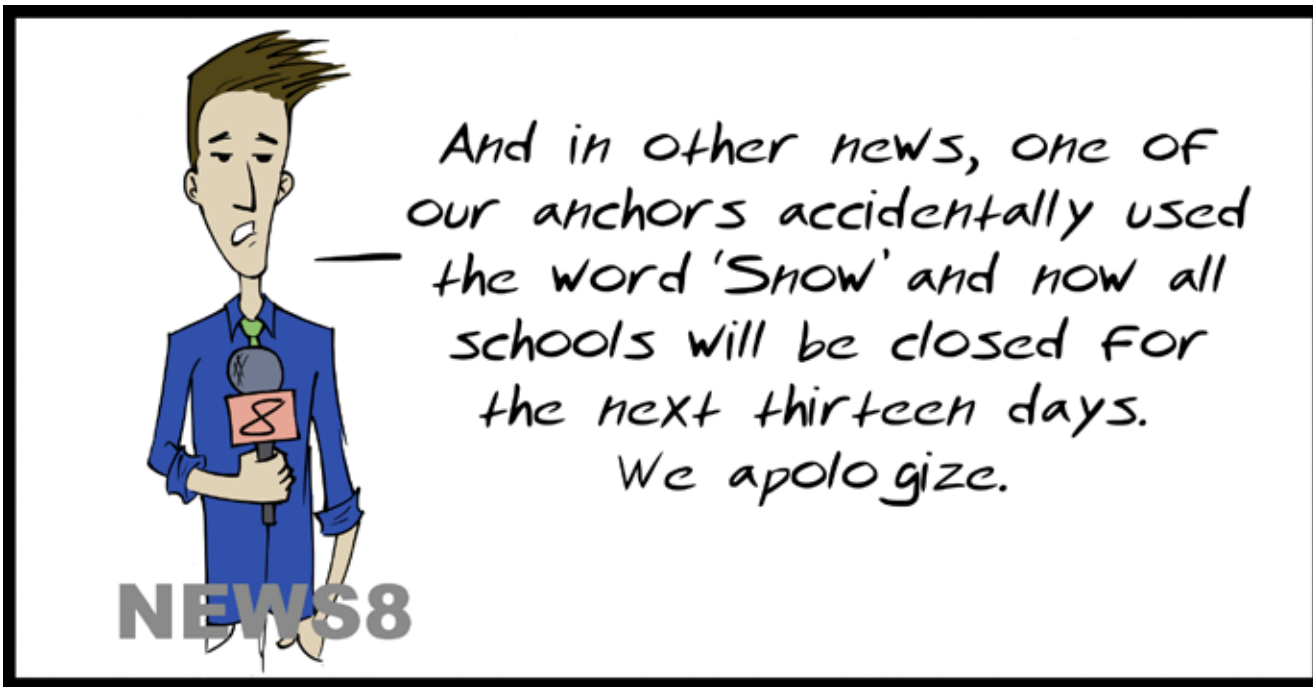
Sometimes this would go on for an impressive 15 or more cars, until one person would inevitably respond with, “Oh really? That’s nice,” grab his order and drive off.

I share the same self-centered nature as Mr. End the Chain, so I get it.

I understand that the world is fallen and that humanity is sinful. And because of that, selfishness is the norm and kindness is the exception.

So why did all those customers willingly pay for a

See **COLUMN** p. 8 »



COMIC: JORDAN HARBIN

The Collegian Editorial

When winter blues begin to set in, find purpose in the Light

January is nearly over. The newness of the New Year has worn off. The excitement of Christmas past has already faded into memories.

No more ornaments to hang, wreaths to place or presents to wrap.

No more casseroles to bake, parties to attend or fireworks at midnight to enjoy.

What next?

With the most celebrated holidays behind us, the next best thing is Valentine’s Day—not nearly as exciting.

We’ve just come off an emotional high, the holidays, and now comes the emotional low, the cold, dark winter days.

To be completely honest, January through March can be a rather depressing time of year. But it doesn’t have to be.

When you feel like staying in and sleeping the dark times away, think about your purpose in life.

Your purpose to succeed in college, and your purpose to succeed for Christ.

Luckily, we go to a university that allows us to fulfill these two purposes simultaneously.

Christ calls us to do all that we do for His glory—college, careers, ministry, relationships.

Sometimes you have to get out of your head and into your heart. Silence the voice in your head that complains about the cold, the dark, the homework and the homesickness.

Listen to the voice in your heart that says, “Christ loves me. He promised not to leave me. He called me to be where I am. I will rejoice in Him!”

Sometimes all it takes is a prayer to God, a meditation on His Word or an admiration of His Creation to make us realize how silly we are to feel down.

We can rejoice in knowing we have the Light of the world as our closest friend in

the darkest days.

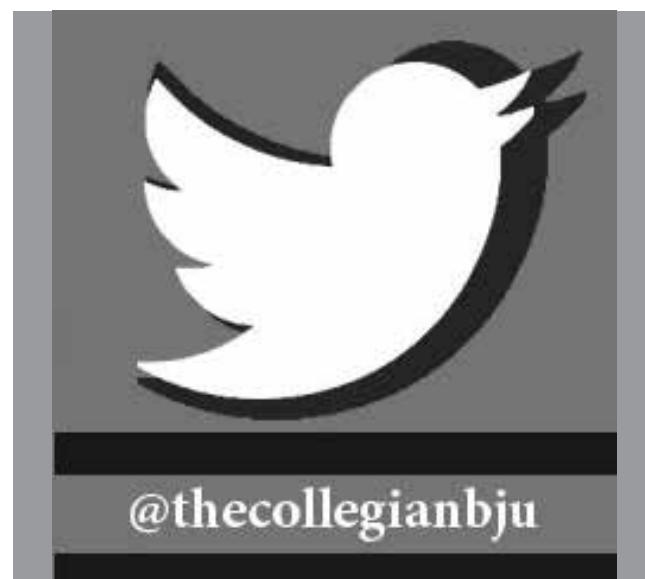
The dark times may not always make sense to us. But that’s okay.

In his book *Mood Tides: Divine Purpose in the Rhythms of Life*, BJU professor Ronald Horton wrote, “I believe that emotional highs and lows are structured into us by our Creator for reasons we do not to-

tally understand.”

These highs and lows are not random but have a purpose that sometimes God chooses to reveal to us, and other times He chooses not to.

Through the many emotional states in our lives, we can find peace in knowing there is one constant we can run to—Jesus, our Light.



TALK BACK

What’s your dream job?



senior
SCARLET VALENZUELA
“Marketing social media strategist for Sephora.”



junior
KAYLA BALDWIN
“Ice cream taste tester.”



junior
OLIVIA SCHNEGELBERGER
“Speech language pathologist.”



freshman
NATHAN BARNHOUSE
“Own a Christian dinner theater.”



sophomore
CARLOS CARDONA
“Music pastor in a foreign field.”

PHOTOS: REBECCA SNYDER

the COLLEGIAN

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»USPEAK p. 1
got,” said Emily Weier, student body president.

“We thought it was a great platform and a great opportunity, but I did not expect the volume it was going to get.”

Originally after being vetted through the SLC, feedback from USpeak was sent to Newton since many submissions involved student life on campus. But President Pettit personally asked to see every submission as well.

Student body presidents Weier and Nate Hudson now compile student feedback to discuss in a meeting with Pettit and Newton each month.

One of the most used of USpeak’s capacities is the ability to submit ideas. Students can submit ideas that they believe are worthy of consideration by the administration.

Some particularly good ideas, or ideas that are frequently submitted, become online polls that other stu-

dents can up-vote or down-vote. Ideas that receive a significant number of up-votes are further considered.

At present, students are participating in eight online polls, including votes to install printers in the residence halls, refurbish the tennis courts and replace the sand in the outdoor volleyball courts.

Up-votes on the polls for Rubi café vending machines (like the one in the library) and for locks on residence hall rooms have triggered the administration to further research the advantages and cost of both projects.

Similarly, students voiced their idea on USpeak to extend the wifi hours for upperclassmen which led Pettit to finalize plans with IT. Now upperclassmen can enjoy prolonged wifi usage.

Hudson said the changes brought about by USpeak evidence a needed shift towards better understanding and communication between the BJU student body and the administration.

He described USpeak as an appropriate and effective way for students to express their needs and ideas.

Student Leadership and Organizations Coordinator Matthew Weathers echoed Hudson’s sentiments.

“We want your feedback,” Weathers said.

“[USpeak] is a student platform: students bring ideas to the administration. I want to see the increase of quantity and quality of ideas and feedback,” he said.



Daniel Herr collaborated with classmates to create USpeak. Photo: Stephen Dysert

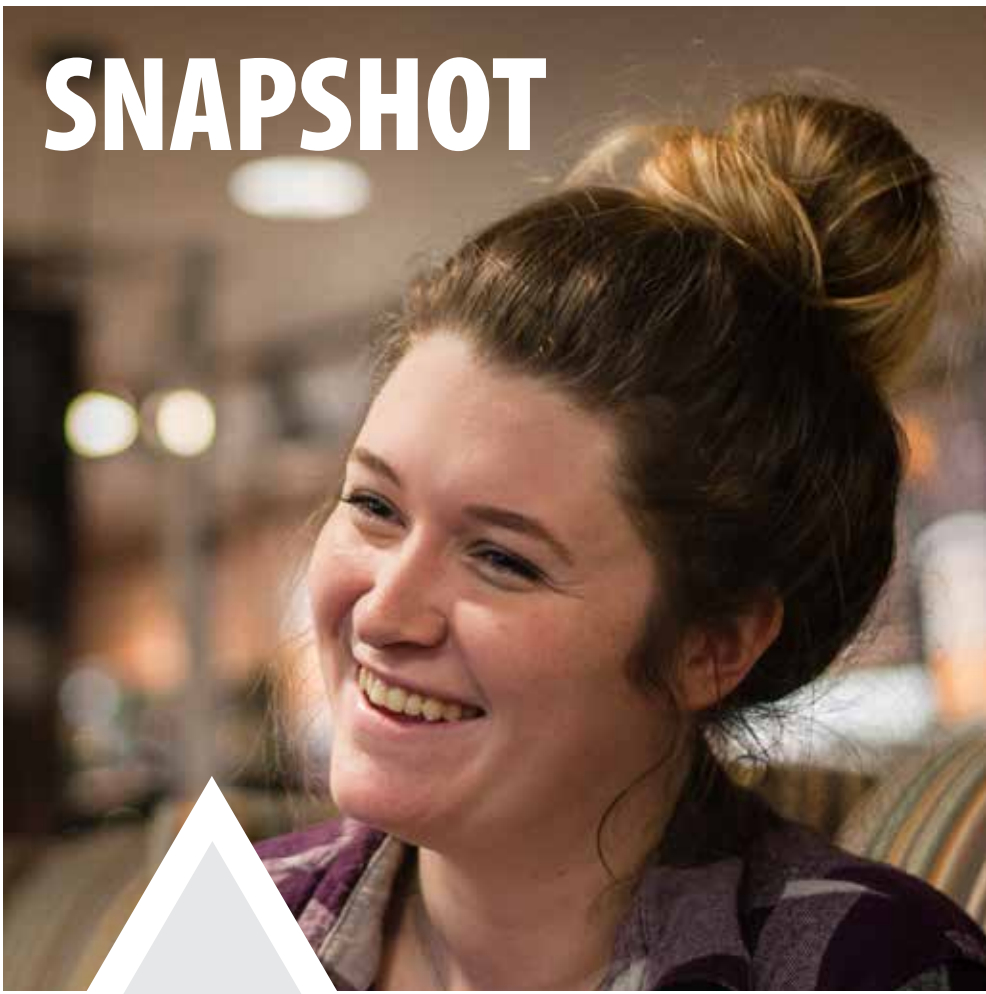


PHOTO: IAN NICHOLS

LINDSEY MASON // SENIOR // ELEMENTARY ED

“I went into [college] as a business major...I didn’t really know what I wanted to do with it, and I just had this feeling that I needed to give my major up to God. And I wasn’t doing that before. I had [gone] into business to make money. I prayed about it and prayed about it and prayed about it, and I really feel He was leading me [to become] a teacher.

“I dedicated my life to God in ninth grade and I just had this feeling that He wanted me to be a teacher, but I kind of pushed it back. And it was funny because right when I gave that up to God and I went and talked to my adviser to switch my major, I had this ultimate peace.”

SUDOKU

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»WIESENTHAL p. 1
throughout the story, says Darren Lawson, dean of the School of Fine Arts and Communication, who saw the show in Dallas.

Lawson was so impressed by the production that he was inspired to bring the play to BJU.

Lawson said the play gives

the audience a peek into Wiesenthal’s life and shows that he was a true character.

“[Wiesenthal] had a life of purpose out of adversity,” Lawson said. “Everyone can connect to his story.”

Because of the solemn nature of the story being told, Dugan is very strict about cell phone usage. He has

been known to halt performances in order to instruct an audience member to put his phone away.

Many people in the local community have made plans to attend the production, including members of the local Jewish Federation, a group particularly interested in the subject matter.

Go Greenville 2.0 to connect students with ministry

KATIE JACKSON
Staff Writer

Go Greenville 2.0 will be held Jan. 27-29 and Feb. 3-5 and will have a variety of outreaches—including nursing home, Bible club, Juvenile Detention Center and street-witnessing opportunities.

Matthew 28:19-20 commands Christians to go out into the world and spread the Gospel. The Center for Global Opportunities wants to help students fulfill this great commission.

The CGO is launching this semester's GO Greenville outreach program to be an avenue for students to reach beyond themselves and share the love of Jesus with a dying world.

Nick Mauer, Go Greenville coordinator, invites every available student to participate.

"Go Greenville is primarily an opportunity for students at the University to get one-time experience in an outreach without a long-term commitment so that they can experience a variety of different outreaches and figure out which one would best suit them," Mauer said.

Unlike last semester, Go

Greenville this semester is partnering with these established nursing home, Bible club, Juvenile Detention Center and street-witnessing outreaches.

The goal is for students to have a better understanding of where their gifts can be used most effectively and continue with that established ministry after the initial Go Greenville activity has ended.

"We want [Go Greenville to] foster in students a love for a type of outreach that will then translate into a long-term commitment to that outreach," Mauer said.

Mark Vowels, director of the Center for Global Opportunities, urges students to sign up.

"Part of our identity as followers of Christ is to be reaching beyond ourselves to give the good news of the Gospel and to make disciples," Vowels said. "Go Greenville is an organized avenue of doing that."

Go Greenville is important because of "the nature of Christianity," Vowels said.

"It gives us experiences outside of campus meeting people who don't have the same worldview or perspec-

tive or experience that we have, and it's a nonacademic activity [that is an] overall building experience for student development," he said.

"Simply being fearful is really not a New Testament excuse. Every human being can push themselves," Vowels said.

"It all comes back to what you really care about and what you really believe in."

Vowels encourages students who do not feel equipped to still get involved.

"Nobody is adequately equipped [for ministry],"

Vowels said.

"That is why God gave us the Holy Spirit. [But] most people are far more equipped than they feel like. You will never really know until you try," he said.

Students who would like to sign up to participate in this semester's Go Greenville outreach can stop by the CGO office inside the Alumni building or email Nick Mauer at nmauer@bjv.edu.

Go Greenville event dates can be found on the BJU academic calendar.



CGO director Mark Vowels, left, meets with students to discuss outreach opportunities. Photo: Anita Goodman

How to make your New Year's resolutions last all year

REBEKAH ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Only about 40 percent of Americans make resolutions each year. However, according to StatisticBrain.com, 40 percent of those people abandon their resolutions by the end of January.

If you've made it through the first month of 2017 and managed to keep your New Year's resolution intact, congratulations!

You're among 60 percent of Americans who have maintained their resolution throughout the entire month of January. Only 11 more months to go!

These statistics can be daunting, even defeating. After all, setting goals is often far easier than following through with them.

But how do you overcome the temptation to quit? How do you actually keep your resolution?

Kevin Cruze, contributor at Forbes.com, wrote an article titled, "7 Secrets of People Who Keep Their New Year's Resolutions." His first secret is to make specific

resolutions. Cruze echoes the classic goal system, which requires goals to be specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART).

He also recommends scheduling time to complete your daily goals.

Chloe Chelli, a sophomore music education student, applies this principle to her own resolutions.

She places sticky notes throughout her planner as reminders to get things done.

She also keeps herself accountable by sharing her goals with friends and family members. Chelli's resolutions for this year include not slouching, drinking more water and spending more time in prayer.

Establishing this "one-day-at-a-time" mindset is helpful for accomplishing your goals. But what happens if you miss a day?

CJ Billiu, a sophomore journalism and mass communication student, said he used to get discouraged when he broke his resolution.

"As soon as I missed a day or two, I'd quit," he said.

Now, Billiu doesn't panic when he misses a day. Instead, he shrugs it off and resumes his goal the next day.

His goals for 2017 include journaling daily, reading 10 new books and blogging once a week.

Some people, however, don't wait until January to set long-term goals.

David Ware, a junior business administration major, takes a different approach.

"When someone always makes their resolutions in January, there can be a tendency to put things off until the new year rather than addressing them when they become apparent," he said.

Instead of waiting for a new year, Ware said he sets resolutions as soon he sees something that needs to change.

This semester, Ware said he wants to pursue more opportunities to serve his local church.

Philip Arcuri, a sophomore humanities major, said, "Treat every day like a new year and resolve to get done what you resolved to that day."

TOP 10 TIPS

FOR STUDENT RESOLUTIONS

1. Improve Your Grades
2. Get More Sleep
3. Be More Health Conscious
4. Broaden Your Horizons
5. Money Matters: Find Financial Stability
6. Get a Part-time Job
7. Learn New Skills
8. Find Balance
9. Volunteer
10. Make Plans for the Future

source: www.georgebrown.ca

MLK SERVICE DAY

HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH, NICHOLTOWN

PROJECTS INCLUDED RAKING AND BAGGING LEAVES, PULLING VINES AND DISPOSING OF GARBAGE ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE BUILDING, IN ADDITION TO CLEANING BASEBOARDS, WINDOWS AND FLOORS ON THE INSIDE.



GREENVILLE COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITY

TWENTY-TWO UNDERGRAD AND GRADUATE STUDENTS, INCLUDING TEN CHORALE MEMBERS, PRESENTED A GOSPEL-CENTERED INTERACTIVE MUSICAL PROGRAM. VOLUNTEERS ALSO PLAYED A 3V3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT WITH THE JUVENILES, MAKING CONNECTIONS AND LAYING A RELATIONAL FOUNDATION THAT WILL HELP THE STUDENTS WHO REGULARLY INTERACT WITH THE JUVENILES THROUGHOUT THE SEMESTER.



CHEROKEE COUNTY RESCUE MISSION, GAFFNEY

TWENTY-ONE VOLUNTEERS HELPED DEEP CLEAN THE RESCUE MISSION'S KITCHEN, SWEEP AND MOP THE BATHROOMS IN THE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S QUARTERS AND ORGANIZE CLOTHING AND CANNED FOOD AT THE MISSION'S THRIFT STORE.

MEALS ON WHEELS GREENVILLE

THIRTY-FOUR VOLUNTEERS DELIVERED HOT MEALS TO NEEDY PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE GREENVILLE COMMUNITY. PAPA JOHN'S ON HOWELL ROAD GRACIOUSLY LOANED BJU "HOT BAGS" TO KEEP THE MEALS FROM COOLING OFF DURING THE TRIP.



MIRACLE HILL CHILDREN'S HOME, PICKENS

AFTER TOURING THE FACILITY AND LEARNING ABOUT ITS MISSION, FOUR STUDENTS HELPED ORGANIZE THE PROCEEDS FROM THE BOB JONES ACADEMY FOOD DRIVE (WHICH HAD BEEN DONATED TO MIRACLE HILL) AND SORT SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND OTHER ITEMS.

MIRACLE HILL BOY'S SHELTER GREENVILLE

FOURTEEN MEN CLEANED THE INSIDE OF THE FACILITY AND RAKED LEAVES. ONE STUDENT IN PARTICULAR HAD A VISION TO MAKE THE DAY SPECIAL FOR THE BOYS BY PROVIDING A REALLY NICE MEAL. UTILIZING KNOW-HOW FROM THE BJU CULINARY DIVISION, HE PREPARED A FANTASTIC LUNCH OF GOURMET TACOS, WHICH THE BOYS AND WORKERS SHARED.



PHILLIS WHEATLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, NICHOLTOWN

SEVENTY-THREE VOLUNTEERS ENJOYED A MEAL WITH LOCAL RESIDENTS OF NICHOLTOWN AFTER HEARING FROM MARK VOWELS, JONATHAN PARKER AND DARIAN BLUE (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PHILLIS WHEATLEY ASSOCIATION) AS THEY ADDRESSED RACE, SERVICE AND PREJUDICE. THE VOLUNTEERS ALSO MULCHED, LANDSCAPED, CLEANED, REMOVED TRASH, ORGANIZED A LIBRARY AND PAINTED A WORKOUT ROOM AND A COMPUTER LAB. A DUMP TRUCK LOAD OF MULCH, DONATED BY LANDSCAPER'S SUPPLY OF GREENVILLE, WAS ADDED TO THE FACILITY. LOWE'S DEEPLY DISCOUNTED PAINTING SUPPLIES AND SHERWIN-WILLIAMS DONATED OVER \$10,000 OF PAINT.

Afghan Cuisine at Aryana adds downtown diversity

ELISA CRAWLEY
Staff Writer

Located on East Coffee Street downtown, Greenville's first and only Afghan restaurant is about a 10-minute drive from the BJU campus.

Aryana Afghan Cuisine opened about three months ago on Nov. 4 but has already made it to No. 5 on Yelp's 10 Best Restaurants in Greenville.

The owner of the self-described cafeteria-style restaurant, Nelo Mayar (originally from Afghanistan), makes six

different traditional dishes daily from scratch, and guests can purchase a plate featuring a portion of all six for \$9.60.

Dishes vary depending on the day.

Why six? Employee Summer Vaughn said that in Afghanistan, a family will usually prepare three dishes for meals: a vegetable, a starch and a meat dish. Except when guests arrive, then the family will prepare six, two of each, because guests are a blessing and the family wants to bless its guests with food.

"It's like going into your mom's kitchen," Vaughn said.

"At Aryana we want our guests to feel welcome and leave full and satisfied."

Some traditional dishes include chicken kabob, sweet potato burani (sweet potatoes with a yogurt sauce), adas (lentils), kabuli palau (a variety of rice pilaf), and more.

Dishes are flavorful and diverse and come with pita bread. Another unique menu item is the traditional cardamom green tea.

See **ARYANA** p. 8 >>



Aryana offers a variety of authentic Afghan dishes. Photo: Rebekah Mierta

Graphic design seniors' artwork shines in Spectrum

LUKE MCCORMICK
Staff Writer

Four years of work by graphic design majors graduating in May was on display for friends, family and potential employers Saturday as seven graphic design students finish the last months of their undergraduate degrees.

The show opened Jan. 21 and will be left on display until Feb. 9 in the Sargent Art Building.

The showcase includes at least 20 prints per student from projects each student has completed in their years at BJU.

The participating seniors—Jessica Saravia, Joanna Daniels, Lindsay Bullock, Luke Zockoll, Matthew Freeland, Olivia Matthews and Sarah Kuzmic—have done the planning and organizing for the showcase themselves.

Jay Bopp, chair of the Division of Art and Design, said that the show has taken place for more than 25 years to give students a chance to display their portfolios to the community and to work with

each other on display design.

The seniors chose the theme "Spectrum" to reflect both the status of the class as a whole and as individuals.

Matthews said light passing through a spectrum is refracted into seven different colors, and the seven colors represent the seven seniors in the show.

"There are seven individuals in our graduating class," Matthews said.

"Although we have all been through the same [experience], we have all been refracted seven different ways. We have emerged very different people with very distinct styles," she said.

Freeland said the process of putting the exhibit together was more work than originally expected, including work extending late into a few nights.

He said that overall planning was an enjoyable experience and a good team-building exercise for them.

Daniels said her experience in planning the event has given her a greater appreciation

See **SPECTRUM** p. 8 >>



Spectrum reflects the seven designers' unique styles coming together as one. Photo: Rebecca Snyder



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Intramural basketball teams heat up spring semester

AJ PAPAGNO
Sports Writer

The spring semester brings many new opportunities in intramural sports. While soccer and flag football are among the only intramural sports played during the fall semester, the spring semester offers many different sports including softball, volleyball, badminton and water polo. But of all the intramural sports played during the spring, none is bigger or has a longer season than basketball, with 24 men's teams and 16 women's teams. Last spring, the Alpha Theta Pi Razorbacks defeated the Pi Gamma Delta Royals to win the intramural championship for men's basketball. Lanier will be seeking a return trip to the playoffs, where they lost on a game-winning buzzer beater to the Royals in the semifinals. The Tornados, who reached the semifinals last season only to lose to the Razorbacks, are looking to repeat last season's success and make it to the championship game this season. Augustus said he is excited to have Chandler Stephens as the Tornados' basketball coach this season. "I'm really excited to see how he helps our team develop throughout the season. I know he's got some good ideas when it comes to basketball," Augustus said. Augustus also said some key players for the Tornados on the court this season will be Colt Scheifer, Gershon Ho and Stephen Roth. For women's intramural basketball, the Pi Delta Chi Classics defeated the Theta Epsilon Chi Colts last year to win the women's intramural basketball championship. The Cardinals, who were eliminated by the Alpha Gamma Tau Eagles in last year's semifinals, are looking to their key players to lead them to the championship game. "Our president, Charis Byrd, is a key player and a natural leader in our society. Another key player is Bekah Misiura, our former athletic director," Yorgey said.



Katie Dingeldein powers toward the basket as Rebecca Williams defends. Photo: Ian Nichols



Levi Horner of the Pi Gamma Delta Royals dribbles the ball down the court. Photo: Ian Nichols

son. I know he's got some good ideas when it comes to basketball," Augustus said. Augustus also said some key players for the Tornados on the court this season will be Colt Scheifer, Gershon Ho and Stephen Roth. For women's intramural basketball, the Pi Delta Chi Classics defeated the Theta Epsilon Chi Colts last year to win the women's intramural basketball championship. The Cardinals, who were eliminated by the Alpha Gamma Tau Eagles in last year's semifinals, are looking to their key players to lead them to the championship game. "Our president, Charis Byrd, is a key player and a natural leader in our society. Another key player is Bekah Misiura, our former athletic director," Yorgey said.

2017 Intramural Sports		
Intramural Sport	Season Start	Season End
Men's Basketball	Jan. 21	March 4
Women's Basketball	Jan. 21	March 4
Men's Volleyball	March 4	April 8
Women's Volleyball	March 4	April 8
Men's Softball	April 10	May 6
Women's Softball	April 10	May 6
Women's Water Polo	Jan. 21	March 11
Badminton	March 11	March 11

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[email to editor@bju.edu](mailto:email_to_editor@bju.edu)

»SPECTRUM p. 6
tion for her peers.

“I have learned that I have the best classmates a girl could ask for, and I am so thankful for them,” Daniels said.

Matthews said communication was her most evident take away from preparation.

“We all think that our own ideas are the best,” Matthews said.

“But when we interact with other people, we learn that by bouncing ideas off each other, we can actually come up with a far greater idea.”

The participants said the showcase is an important moment in the career of a graphic design major.

“We are hunched over our sketches and the computer for four years working on some project, so it’s a perfect opportunity to show family and friends why they haven’t seen us,” Daniels said.

“And we have hopes that our future employer might come by and hire us.”

Freeland said the showcase is also a perfect opportunity for a graphic design

major to compile a portfolio and advertise himself.

The seniors would also like to encourage students and peers to visit their dis-

plays while they are available over the next two weeks.

Matthews said her favorite projects displayed will be the ones she has done as helps to

ministries, including rebranding for an Antiguan radio ministry she interacted with during a mission trip.

Daniels said visitors may

see a design she made paying tribute to her Alaskan roots.

“Over the summer, I started an Alaskan T-shirt company, and my brand and

design will be on display,” Daniels said.

“I am really proud of my Alaskan roots and would love everyone to see it.”



The work of seven graphic design seniors will be on display until Feb. 9 in the Sargent Art Building. Photo: Rebecca Snyder

»COLUMN p. 2

stranger’s order? And what about the person who started the chain?

He made the biggest sacrifice by paying for another’s order in addition to his own.

I sometimes hear people cite “good karma” as a motivation for performing random acts of kindness. But even karma’s supposed “cause and effect” is rooted in selfishness.

They do a good deed in hopes of one being returned to them down the road.

As a follower of Christ, my love for others should not be tainted with selfishness. My motivation should freely flow from the daily, unrelenting outpouring of love that I receive from my Father.

Most of us know passages like I Corinthians 13 by heart, so why do we find it so difficult to be patient?

To be kind? To be humble, unselfish, longsuffering and forgiving?

The obvious answer is that our flesh is strong. And that’s true, but there’s more to the story. God’s love has set us free. Despite our flesh, we are free to choose to love.

In my experience, loving others takes a great deal of conscious effort. And to be completely transparent, I don’t always make that effort.

But between classes, work, coffee runs and QT trips, I interact with hundreds of people each day. And you probably do too. Translation? Lots of opportunities to love.

Some of the crankiest customers I encountered at Starbucks were the impatient families well dressed in suits and skirts coming through the drive-thru on Sunday mornings, clearly on their way to church.

My heart dropped a little every time I heard one of my coworkers comment on how ironic it was that churchgoers could be so rude to others.

Those instances always reminded me that even brief interactions have the power to turn someone toward or away from Jesus.

Look for ways to love others, not because you’ll get anything in return, not to be recognized, not to feel

good about yourself and not to check off your “good deed of the day.”

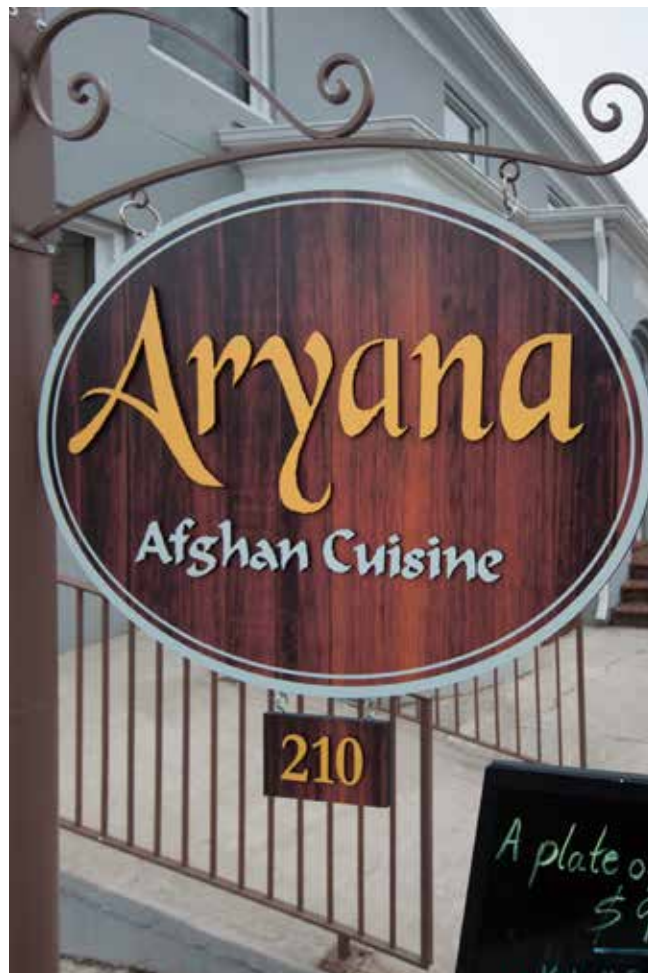
But because you love Jesus and He loves you.

If every single one of us actively searched for ways to spread Christlike love each day, think of how much influence we could have on both our family in Christ and those who’ve yet to experience Jesus’ love.

How will you love today?



Aryana is conveniently located 3 miles from Bob Jones University. Photo: Rebekah Mierta



Aryana is No. 5 on Yelp’s 10 Best Restaurants in Greenville. Photo: Rebekah Mierta

»ARYANA p. 6

Mayar does all preparation and cooking herself and in the past has taught classes on Afghan cooking at Furman University.

The restaurant is on the first floor of a renovated house and is open, bright, clean and spacious. Guests collect food, choose a table and pay when finished. Restaurant staff is friendly and take drink orders and check in to make sure guests are satisfied.

Bright traditional and popular Middle Eastern music plays, and the walls are decorated with vibrant pictures of Afghan landscapes.

With warm staff, a colorful restaurant and homemade food, Aryana Afghan Cuisine stands out as a unique and international addition to Greenville’s restaurant community.

The restaurant is open from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday.