



Fitchburg State University Today

March 18, 2013 - Vol 3, Issue 13

In This Issue

Energy Race concludes

Spelling bee champs, again

Distinguished Speaker a hit

Falcon 4 Health Challenge

March is Women's History Month

Learn about Weight Watchers

Affari di Famiglia

White Ribbon Day March 21

Drag Show March 21

Third Thursday film series

Graphic Design Lecture Series returns

Teaching opportunities in GCE

Center for Conflict Studies looks at violence

Interview with Confidence

Financial Issues in Health Care

Scholarship support for internships

Free tax help available

International Studies speaker in April

CenterStage and cultural events

Faculty Notes

Quick Links

www.fitchburgstate.edu

[Public Relations](#)

[Campus News](#)

[Campus Calendar](#)

[Graduate and Continuing Education](#)

[Fitchburg State in the News](#)

Energy race ends in a tie

The Energy Race is finished! And it's a tie (among residence halls, at least). Townhouse 7 and Mara 6 each saved more than 15 percent in electricity



compared to February 2012, with the contest too close to call within the margin of error. Its residents will each be sharing in an ice cream party to celebrate the occasion. Congratulations!

Also noteworthy was Russell Towers, which saw a smaller decrease in electricity use from last year (just over 2 percent), but residents actually saved as much energy as the residents of Townhouse 7 and Mara 6. But the contest was decided on percent reduction over the prior year, so Townhouse 7 and Mara 6 take the prize. Each residence hall will get an ice cream party on Wednesday, March 20.

Among academic buildings, Percival Hall won the contest with an impressive reduction in electricity use of 17.4 percent. Miller Hall came in second, with a net reduction of 12.2 percent. Conlon Hall came in third, cutting electricity use by 7.6 percent, but because of its size actually saved more energy than any other campus building. Percival's ice cream party will be held on March 26.

While all these accomplishments are remarkable, it's disappointing that we ended the month of February with a net INCREASE in electricity use over the prior year. The university will be crunching the numbers and analyzing the data to figure out why there were several significant spikes in certain locations across campus during the month, with the goal being to find a way to build on successful strategies and control our energy footprint.

The university's Sustainability Advisory Committee is already developing plans for the spring, including Earth Day, and will keep the campus posted.

Find us on Facebook 




Broadcast Yourself



[Join Our Mailing List](#)

Spelling bee crown defended

Nailing words like melissophobia, ophidiophobia, and the title-winning onomatopoeia, the Fitchburg State Word Sleuths defended their title last week to win the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster's 10th annual adult spelling bee.

The team included captain Meledath Govindan (Biology and Chemistry), Randall Grometstein (Behavioral Sciences), Jannette M. McMenemy (Behavioral Sciences), Daniel Sarefield (Economics, History, and Political Science), and Mark Snyder (Mathematics).



Fitchburg Mayor Lisa Wong, center, congratulates the Fitchburg State Word Sleuths after their triumphant appearance at the adult spelling bee.

Distinguished Speaker Steven Layne ignites crowd



Educators from across the region were inspired and delighted by Steven Layne at last week's 8th Annual Distinguished Speaker Series presentation, "Confessions of a Reading Arsonist."

Layne, a full-time professor of literacy education at Judson University in Elgin, Ill., shared tales of his own experiences as a classroom teacher and offered countless techniques and practices that have helped instill in his students a passion for reading.

Take the Falcon 4 Health Challenge

[Health Services](#) will be offering the [Falcon 4 Health Challenge](#) again this year, starting March 19. This four-week program focuses on four healthy habits:

- Walking 10,000 steps a day
- Eating more fruits and vegetables
- Drinking eight (8) glasses of water a day; and
- Eating breakfast



Once registered, participants will receive a weekly packet of information via e-mail every Tuesday, along with a tracking card. The first week they are asked to track their daily steps with the goal of 10,000 steps a day. In week two they are asked to continue to track their daily steps and record their daily consumption of fruits and vegetables with a goal of 9 servings a day. The third week they track all of the above and add the goal of 8 glasses of water a day. The final week they add a daily breakfast.

Health Services will be offering an optional group sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 4 to 4:30 that will include speakers and cooking demonstrations.

It is a free program and if people participate for all four weeks by returning their completed tracking cards to Health Services on Tuesday, they will be eligible to enter a raffle for \$300 Falcon Dollars, compliments of Chartwells.

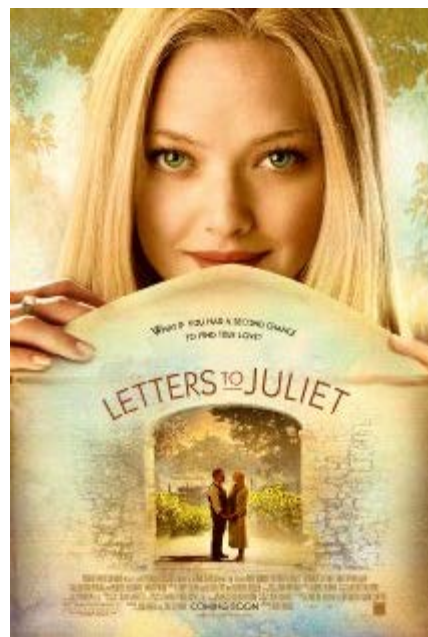
[Register](#) by going to the Health Services website.

Women's History Month celebration continues

Fitchburg State University will observe Women's History Month in March with a celebration of the special contributions that Italian and Italian-American women have made to American cultural life.

On Monday, March 18, from 3:30 to 5 p.m. there will be a panel discussion on "The Women of Italy" at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. This interdisciplinary discussion about the diverse contributions of Italian women to modern culture will feature professors Rala Diakite, Joe Moser, Teresa Thomas, and Susan Williams.

On Wednesday, March 20, from 3:30 to p.m. there will be a Women's History Month Tea at Presidents' Hall in the Mazzaferro Center. Celebrate Women's History Month with tea and dainties. Professor Susan Wadsworth will speak about "Italian Women Futurist Artists: Pioneering Modernism." Known for bucking tradition, these women were often aviators of merit, and abstracted aerial landscapes were some of their favorite subjects. Blending the flat planes of Cubism with color, movement, and sensuality, these artists may have foreseen some of the ideas that later led toward



"Letters to Juliet" will screen March 26 as part of Women's History Month.

animation, as well as forms that reflected their own courageous pioneering of modernism. Come hear stories of their exploits - in the air, in the bedroom, and on canvas. The tea is sponsored by WITS and the university's Economics, History and Political Science Department.

The celebration concludes Tuesday, March 26, with a screening of the film "Letters to Juliet" at 7 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. This romantic movie is set in Verona, Italy, the place where Romeo and Juliet first met. Sophie is part of a group that responds to letters written to Juliet for love advice. By helping one special correspondent find the love of her life, Sophie will find herself in a sequence of love events as well. The screening is sponsored by the Student Government Association and the Office of International Education.

Weight Watchers informational meeting, March 20

The campus community is invited to learn about Weight Watchers at an information session Wednesday, March 20, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in Percival room 209. Contact [Kelli Lundgren](#) for additional information.

Affari di Famiglia panel discussion on March 20

The Center for Italian Culture at Fitchburg State University will conclude *Affari di Famiglia*, an exploration of Italian-American families and their foray into commerce, with a panel discussion on Wednesday, March 20 at 7 p.m. at Kent Recital Hall in the Conlon Fine Arts Building, 367 North St. The talk will feature representatives from Italian-American businesses in central Massachusetts.

The conversation will focus on how immigrants and their children worked to establish commercial enterprises and how the challenges of family and success affected them. The discussion will be led by Fitchburg State Professor Teresa Fava Thomas, a member of the Economics, History and Political Science Department faculty.

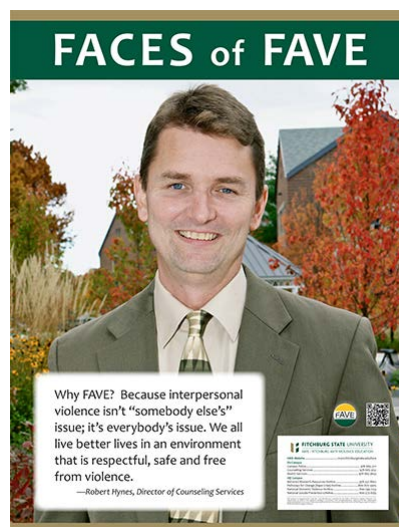
Affari di Famiglia opened earlier this year with a screening and discussion of the film *Big Night*.

White Ribbon Day to be observed Thursday, March 21

Fitchburg State will recognize White Ribbon Day on Thursday, March 21, by handing out ribbons and encouraging men on campus to wear them in a symbolic pledge they will never commit, condone or remain silent about men's violence against women.

The White Ribbon Day program at Fitchburg State is being coordinated by the [Fitchburg Anti-Violence Education \(FAVE\)](#) program, launched in 2011 with the support of a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women. The FAVE program features mandatory training for incoming students that discusses relationship violence, sexual assault and stalking.

Students may pick up a white ribbon on Thursday, March 21, at the Information Desk in Hammond, Holmes or the Rec Center. Ribbons will be distributed to staff prior to the event.



Drag Show returns March 21

The Gay Straight Alliance at Fitchburg State University will present the eighth annual drag show Thursday, March 21, at 7 p.m., an event



designed to entertain and enlighten the community. Tickets are \$5 for students with Fitchburg State ID and \$10 for the public.

The Queens in Wonderland Drag Show will be held at the university's Athletics and Recreation Center, 130 North St. Proceeds from the show will support two very worthwhile charities: Cocheco Arts & Technology Academy of New Hampshire and the 15 West Coffee House Kids of Leominster.

The show will feature dancing and cabaret-style performances by stage performers Rainbow Fright and Mizery to name a few, with Raquel Blake to be the hostess for the evening. DJ Scotty P will spin the tunes for the show and there will be several drag bingo games, with Miss Dutchy Devine drawing the numbers.

"I am very proud of the young men and women of GSA for putting on such a fantastic show," said Associate Director of Student Development Shane Franzen. "Many months and hours upon hours to put this show together. I never dreamed eight years ago that the students were creating such a lasting event. It's one of the most anticipated programs the University has."

Tickets may be purchased at the Hammond Campus Center Information Desk or online at www.MKTix.com/fscosd. Mail orders can be sent to Queens in Wonderland, Student Development at Fitchburg State University, 160 Pearl St., Fitchburg, MA 01420. Please make checks payable to Fitchburg State University.

For more information, contact Franzen at (978) 665-3164 or by email at sfranzen@fitchburgstate.edu.

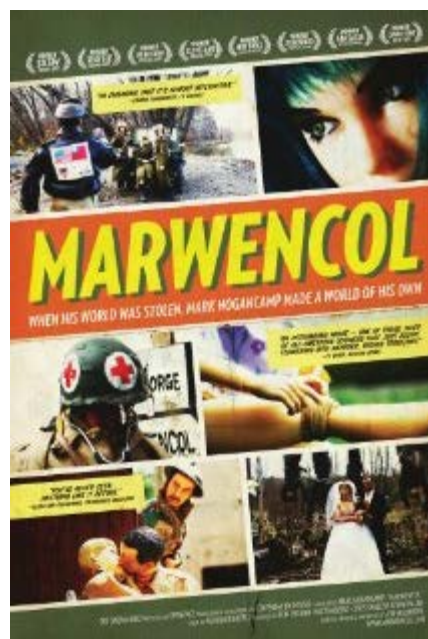
Third Thursday film series continues with "Marwencol" on March 21

The Third Thursday film series - bridging the Fitchburg State University campus and the city - continues this week with Marwencol (2010), a documentary about Mark Hogancamp, a man left brain-damaged and broke after a vicious attack who seeks recovery in "Marwencol," a one-sixth scale World War II-era town he creates in his backyard.

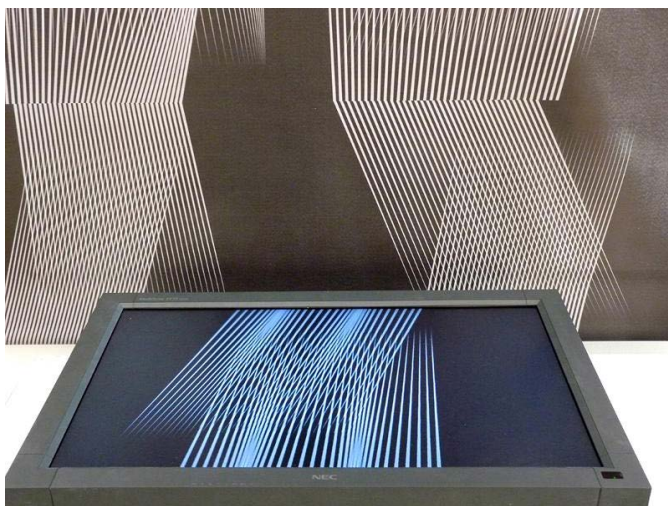
The film will be introduced by Kristy Collins (Capital Planning and Maintenance).

The community is invited to join Fitchburg State faculty and staff members for free monthly film screenings and discussions at the Fitchburg Public Library.

Each film is presented at 7 p.m. in the library auditorium, introduced by a member of the university's faculty or staff. The films touch on issues or events that will resonate with today's audiences. A discussion follows each screening.



Graphic Design Lecture Series continues March 27



The Communications Media Department's second Graphic Design Lecture Series continues March 27 with Jan Kubasiewicz, director of the Dynamic Media Institute at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design.

Kubasiewicz will present "Dynamic Media; The Future of Communication Design" at 3:30 p.m. March 27 at Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall.

The series concludes in April with a presentation by Fritz Klaetke, design director of Visual Dialogue, titled "10

Rules (To Design and/or Live By)." That talk will be given Tuesday, April 30 at 3:30 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall. Klaetke recently won a Grammy Award for best boxed or special limited edition package design for "Woody at 100," a centennial celebration of the music of Woody Guthrie produced for the Smithsonian Institution.

The lecture series is coordinated by Professor Stephen Goldstein with support from the university's Ruth Butler Grant.

Teaching opportunities in Graduate and Continuing Education

The Office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) is currently accepting requests from faculty to teach for the upcoming fall 2013 semester. Faculty members interested in teaching should contact the appropriate department chair for approval. The deadline for submitting course schedules to GCE is Monday, April 1. Please feel free to contact [Brian Bercier](#), Associate Dean, with any questions.

Center for Conflict Studies exploration of violence continues in April

The Center for Conflict Studies at Fitchburg State continues its semester-long exploration of violence in society with a panel discussion will be held **Tuesday, April 2** at 3:30 p.m. (location to be determined) to explore the question of whether violence in the media leads to mass shootings. Panelists will include faculty members Laura Garafoli, Randall Grometstein, Joe Moser, Sam Tobin and Director of Counseling Services Robert Hynes.

On **Wednesday, April 17**, also at 3:30 p.m. (location to be determined), there will be a screening of the classic film *Straw Dogs* starring Dustin Hoffman, with a discussion to follow led by Prof. Robert Harris.

On **Wednesday, May 1**, David Hemenway from the Harvard School of Public Health will present "Reducing Gun Violence: The Public Health Approach" at 7 p.m. in Ellis White Lecture Hall.

Learn how to interview with confidence on April 3

Ethan Becker '93, president of The Speech Improvement Company, will present a workshop for all students and alumni entitled "Interviewing with Confidence" at 3 p.m. Wednesday, April 3, in Ellis White Lecture Hall in Hammond Hall. The presentation is free.

Becker is a speech coach and trainer, and co-author of the



best-selling book "Mastering Communication at Work." His skills are sought by business and political leaders around the world.

A 1993 graduate of Fitchburg State, Becker delivered the commencement address at the undergraduate ceremony last May and was awarded an honorary doctorate.

Learn about issues in health care at weekend seminar April 6-7



The office of [Graduate and Continuing Education](#) will offer a one-credit weekend seminar in April exploring financial issues in health care.

The program, running Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7, at the McKay Complex, 67 Rindge Road, will give participants a better understanding of financial management, insurance, capital management and health care economics. The cost of the program is \$289. Participants may register by April 1 by calling 978-665-4196. Additional information is at www.fitchburgstate.edu/gce. The

program will be run by faculty member Renee Scapparone.

"This is an excellent opportunity to get a crash course on health care finance, earn a graduate credit applicable to a degree or certificate and network with other students interested in the field," said Brian Bercier, associate dean of Graduate and Continuing Education at Fitchburg State.

Scholarship support for internships available



The university has received funding designed to increase internship opportunities for our students. Scholarships are now available for the upcoming summer with applications due by **April 8**.

The program is open to current full-time day undergraduate students who are Massachusetts residents, have earned a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 and have a valid 2012-2013 FAFSA on file with the Financial Aid Office. All majors will be considered but priority will be given to STEM

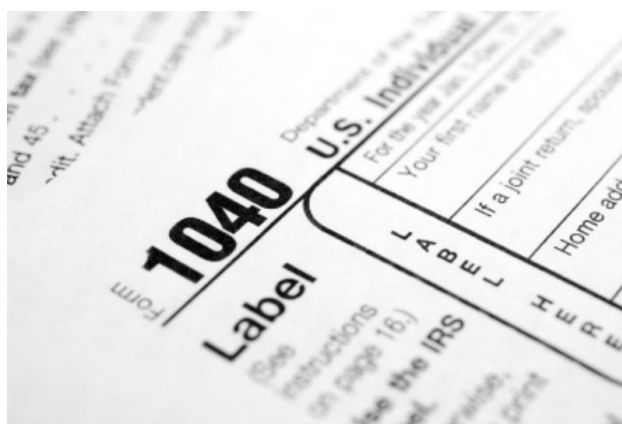
(science, technology, engineering and mathematics) and business/finance majors. Scholarship amounts will range from \$1,000-\$5,000.

Questions may be directed to Dean of Enrollment Management Pamela McCafferty at pmccafferty@fitchburgstate.edu.

Accounting students offering free tax preparation

Student volunteers and interns from Fitchburg State University will offer free volunteer income tax assistance (VITA) to qualified taxpayers from Feb. 1 through April 22.

Assistant Professor Richard DesRoches, CPA, a member of the Fitchburg State business administration faculty and advisor to the university's Accounting Society, said more than 15 students have completed IRS tax training to offer their services preparing and reviewing returns.



The Fitchburg State VITA site will be open by appointment only from 4 to 7 p.m. Mondays and Fridays in room B142 of the McKay Complex, 67 Rindge Road. Fitchburg State students will also be assisting at the VITA site at the Cleghorn Neighborhood Center, 18 Fairmount St., Fitchburg.

The VITA program generally offers free tax help to people who make \$51,000 or less and need assistance in preparing their own tax returns. IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals in local communities. They can inform taxpayers about special tax credits for which they may qualify such as Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, and Credit for the Elderly or the Disabled. VITA sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls, and other convenient locations.

"The student volunteers have worked very hard over the past three months preparing for their involvement in the VITA program," DesRoches said. "It's a great opportunity for the university to offer a valuable service to the community and for the students to apply what they have learned. We look forward to a successful first year and beyond."

Appointments for the Fitchburg State site may be requested by phone or email. By phone, call (978) 665-3329 to leave your name and phone number and a volunteer will contact you within 48 hours. By email, send your name and phone number to taxwise@fitchburgstate.edu, and a volunteer will contact you within 48 hours.

Once scheduled, a volunteer will be in touch about what information to bring to the appointment. This includes:

- Picture ID
- Social Security cards for yourself and all other individuals on your return (spouse and all dependents)
- Your 2011 tax returns (federal and state) if available
- All income documents including W-2s, 1099s, and other tax documents including Massachusetts Form 1099-HC
- Documentation of higher education expenses including tuition paid and student loan interest paid
- Daycare expenses and the daycare provider's name, address and tax ID number
- Documentation to support itemized deductions if applicable. These items may include:
 - Mortgage loan interest paid
 - Charitable contributions
 - Property (excise) taxes paid (home and auto)
 - Medical expenses

In addition, you must complete the first three pages of [Form 13614-C](#) which can be retrieved at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f13614c.pdf>.

Visitors with appointments will also be provided with temporary parking passes.

International Studies speaker series resumes in April



Ambassador Adrian Basora

Fitchburg State University will welcome Ambassador Adrian A. Basora - national security strategic and scenario planner, scholar and business leader - to deliver the address at the International and Conflict Studies Keynote Speaker Series in April.

Basora will discuss "the challenges for post-communist democracies surviving a continued Euro-crisis." Basora is a senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Research Institute and director of its Project on Democratic Transitions. He served in diplomatic posts in the Czech Republic, Spain and France and was also a member of the National Security Council in Washington, D.C., where he shaped the U.S. response to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the first Gulf War.

Prof. Joshua Spero (Economics, History and Political Science), coordinator of the International Studies Minor Program, will introduce the ambassador and moderate the discussion.

Basora is a recognized expert on political, economic and social transitions of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union since the fall of communism. He is a trustee of the International Research and Exchanges Board and a director of the National Futures Exchange, and was also independent director of the Quaker Investment Trust and chairman of its audit committee.

Among his diplomatic posts, Basora served as the U.S. ambassador to the Czech Republic from 1992 to 1995, where he received the Presidential Performance Award for his overall achievements in Prague and he was director of European Affairs for the National Security Council from 1989 to 1991.

His presentation, free and open to the public, is supported by the Office of Academic Affairs and sponsored and hosted by the university's International Studies Minor. It is co-sponsored by the Department of Economics, History and Political Science, the Center for Conflict Studies, the Office of International Education, the Office of Career Services, and the Office of Student Development.

The talk is tentatively scheduled for the second week in April at a campus location to be determined.

CenterStage and cultural events

In the Gallery at Sanders: "When the Wheels Fall Off"

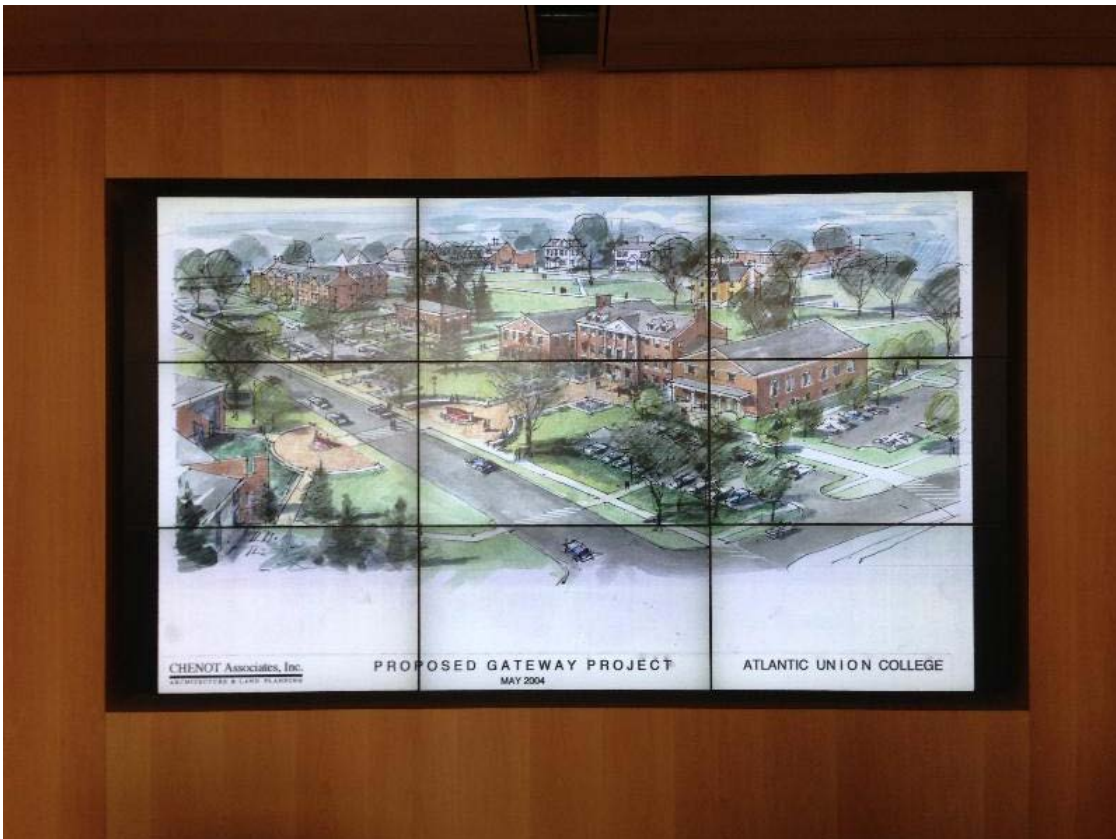
A collection of bold images depicting a vivid equilibrium of color, composition and movement are featured in Fitchburg State's latest gallery exhibition, "When the Wheels Fall Off" by New Hampshire artist David Preston Wells. The works will be featured in the Gallery at Sanders, at 300 Highland Ave., through April 9.

"It is not unlike how I experience my life," Wells writes of his work. "When the Wheels Fall Off"-that time when events, often beyond one's control, just happen. Doors open and close, seemingly to



govern our passage over time. As a life participant, observer, and artist, the process of assembling visual snippets collected over time produces multiple frames of reference, abstract narratives both lyrical and somber, where ground meshes with the aerial. Images are multi-faceted, woven in and out of pictorial compositions. These juxtapositions of compositions create stereoscopic glimpses of inherited past/present narratives. The whole kit and caboodle is reflected in my eternal buoyancy."

On the Conlon Media Wall: The Art and Architecture of Keith Chenot



Professor Keith Chenot's keen eye, balance and artistry pervade all his work. See the work of this Industrial Technology faculty member on the Conlon Media Wall through April 10.

Coming in April: American Idol Stars celebrate Broadway!

[CenterStage](#) at Fitchburg State invites you to experience Broadway presented as only "American Idol" can! Will it be Frenchie from Season 2 or Matt Giraud from Season 8? Four stars from the past seasons of "American Idol" will take the Weston stage-accompanied by a

american stars in concert
Featuring Former
American Idol Stars
celebrate **BROADWAY!**

MAMMA MIA!
JERSEY BOYS
WEST SIDE STORY
WICKED
THE LION KING

Michael Server Season 8
Frenchie Davis Season 2
Yma Bokros Season 6
Matt Giraud Season 8
David Hernandez Season 7
MeiLinda Doolittle Season 6
Lanisha Jones Season 6

OTHER IDOLS AVAILABLE FOR THIS CONCEPT!

America loves Broadway and, for the first time, your favorite AMERICAN IDOL finalists will dazzle you with the blockbuster hits of today and yesterday. A rotating cast of 4 to 6 IDOLS and an ensemble of 6 Broadway dancers will present the Tony Award winning show stoppers that have delighted audiences for decades. The favorites include numbers from **JERSEY BOYS**, **WICKED**, **MAMMA MIA!**, **LION KING**, **WEST SIDE STORY** and **PHANTOM**. The featured performers from the top 12 finalists of past seasons will stop the show with soaring duets, exciting group numbers and amazing solos. Broadway never sounded so good when the songs are in the hands and hearts of Your AMERICAN IDOLS.

Celebrating Broadway Music from
JERSEY BOYS MAMMA MIA! WICKED
THE LION KING WEST SIDE STORY and MORE!

live band-belt out solos, duets and ensemble numbers from *Mamma Mia!*, *Wicked*, *Jersey Boys* and more. Broadway never sounded so good!

Leading up to the performance is a talent shows for Fitchburg State students. Check out the winners as they perform with American Idol stars!

"American Idol Stars in Concert" is presented with the Fitchburg Activities Board and Workers Credit Union.

Tickets are \$30 for adults and seniors and \$15 for students and can be purchased online at

<https://prod.mkat.com/mktixrun/shared/mknporun?dir=mvarts.MKT-293.CSFSC-E26641&Event=CSFSC-E26641&page=mkeventregisterfrm.jsp>.

Faculty Notes

Paul Beaudoin (Humanities) will present "iTunes, YouTube and Me: Augmenting Your Classroom with Web-based Media" on Tuesday, April 2 at the Sharjah Higher College of Technology in the United Arab Emirates. The paper describes the strategies and techniques he has developed for teaching several popular music and art classes. In addition, he will be participating in a plenary session that addresses how technology is redefining education. The paper will be published in a book available August called "Redefining Education."

Archived editions of Fitchburg State University Today can be found online at <http://www.fitchburgstate.edu/offices/administration/public-relations/fitchburg-state-university-today-archive>. For questions about Fitchburg State University Today, contact the Public Relations Office at (978) 665-4694. To submit to Fitchburg State University Today, visit the Public Relations site at www.fitchburgstate.edu/publicrelations and click on [Request for Publicity](#).

[Forward email](#)



This email was sent to mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu by mbruun@fitchburgstate.edu | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Fitchburg State University | 160 Pearl Street | Fitchburg | MA | 01420