A new Thanksgiving tradition

By purchasing Heritage Turkeys, Emory is supporting a viable market for an endangered breed.

By DAVID PAYNE

On Thursday, Nov. 19, Emory is planning its annual Heritage Harvest Feast for more than 8,000 faculty, staff and students, but don’t look for the traditional ‘tom turkey’ at this Thanksgiving meal.

And for Julie Shaffer, Emory’s sustainable food educator, that’s exactly the point.

Shaffer, working in conjunction with Emory Dining, leveraged her past role as the president of Slow Food Atlanta to bring something unique to Emory: breeds of turkeys that just a few years ago were on the brink of extinction.

In fact, Emory is the only college or university in the nation to partner with a national distribution network that specializes in cultivating the resurgence of endangered breeds of turkeys.

Emory wields considerable purchasing power — 1,600 pounds of turkey will be served across dining outlets on Nov. 19 alone. For the second year, all Emory Dining outlets will feature Heritage Turkeys on their Harvest Feast menus.

Heritage Turkey breeds are rare and raised on only a handful of farms. “By buying these turkeys, we are working to ensure that there is a viable consumer market for them,” says Shaffer.

H1N1 back? Keep hygiene habits at hand

By MARGIE FISHMAN

Washing hands after using the restroom is a force of habit. But is it standard operating procedure after touching a door handle, typing on a library computer or retrieving money from an ATM?

As the nation gears up for another round of H1N1 influenza, Emory health officials are reminding students, faculty and staff that taking simple precautions, such as regularly washing hands with soap and water, covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue and then disposing, and avoiding contact with those who are sick, can go a long way in helping to prevent the spread of illness.

“Until a greater proportion of our community can be vaccinated, taking hand hygiene seriously can reduce the spread of the virus,” says Mike Huey, executive director of Student Health Services.

First appearing in April, H1N1 is a new flu strain that has been declared both a global pandemic and a national emergency.

As of early November, Emory University and Emory Healthcare clinics have distributed more than 3,100 vaccine doses for H1N1 influenza, also known as the swine flu, and another 13,100 doses for common seasonal influenza, which is already on par with the number of seasonal flu vaccines administered last year.

Emory received very limited quantities of novel H1N1 vaccine in mid-October, prompting the University to follow the CDC’s guidance and distribute the vaccine to the highest priority groups. These include pregnant women, caretakers of children under 6 months of age, frontline health care workers, and individuals ages 18 to 64 with severe cardiac, pulmonary or neurodegenerative disease.

Emory was fortunate to receive the H1N1 vaccine last month, says Huey, as some communities are still waiting on their first delivery. As many as 200 individuals have lined up at a single Emory vaccination clinic, he adds.

“if you are in a group that is eligible to receive the vaccine right now, you shouldn’t wait to get it,” says Alexander Isaev, executive director of Emory’s Office of Critical Event Preparedness and Response (CEPAR). “The likelihood is that the clinics will run out before more vaccine becomes available.”

As future H1N1 vaccine shipments are released by the state (no formal time-table has been set, the program will be expanded to other priority groups in the Emory

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EMORY PROFILE Victoria Hanson

At the center of campus life

New DUC manager keeps operations running smoothly

By MARGIE FISHPMAN

Two weeks into her new position managing the Dobbs University Center operations, Vickie Hanson received her trial by flood. Merciless rains in September dumped 10 inches of water into the DUC's east wing, flooding several campus offices and meeting rooms. In the west wing, former President Jimmy Carter — on campus for a town hall meeting — was supping in the Winship Ballroom.

Hanson and her staff sprung into action, evacuating the immediate area, wielding water extraction machines and moving electrical equipment to higher ground.

"[Carter] never actually knew what was happening," she remembers, "and I think that's a testament to our staff." Hanson is accustomed to working on the fly while keeping her cool and sense of humor. Before coming to Emory, she managed student centers at Augusta State University and Buffalo State College.

She encountered an altogether different challenge during her first two weeks at Augusta, when her boss pulled her into his office to "have a talk about the Southern way." Incidentally, Hanson grew up in Niagara Falls, where acknowledging a complete stranger and letting him cut ahead of you in line was met with suspicion. Before she decided to come down South, her boyfriend drew a line across the middle of a map of the United States and informed her that he would follow her anywhere "above the line."

In the end, Hanson became versed in Southern etiquette as a student operations coordinator at Augusta, dutifully smiling and waving "hi" to follow passersby.

At Emory, she oversees nearly 30 student employees and ensures the 10,000 meetings and events held at the DUC each year run without a hitch.

During a recent visit, she flashed a 10-page schedule from Meeting Services crammed with events during the DUC's regular operating hours from 8 a.m. until 1 a.m. "This is actually a short day," she quips.

While Hanson typically reports to work before sunrise to prep rooms for the day ahead, she also fields 1 a.m. phone calls at least three times a week, solving everything from cash shortages to faulty lights. She takes it all in stride, impressed by her student workers' academic commitment. "They're so smart and bright," she says. "They'll challenge you in ways you wouldn't imagine."

Hanson teaches her employees how to achieve the right balance between academia and work, and she is a firm believer in granting second chances.

Growing up with six siblings and working her way through college, Hanson learned how to operate independently but also to call for backup when necessary. She tries to impart that same sense of personal and communal responsibility to her student employees, exposing them to practical, real-life work scenarios. They may not know how to hook up a video projector, but at least they will be in a position to ask the right questions, she says.

Before her three-month anniversary at Emory, Hanson initiated a year-long cataloguing of technical equipment at the DUC. The goal is to know where every piece of equipment is at all times, she says.

A certified Red Cross instructor, she also plans to train her staff in first aid, CPR and emergency response.

Before landing in the high education field, Hanson worked in public relations and marketing for the Niagara Falls City School District. She grew weary of staring at four walls all day, yearning for more variety.

In 2004, she returned to school to earn her master of science degree in student personnel administration at Buffalo State. Hanson graduated, despite being involved in a serious car accident and spending much of her time in a class sitting propped up on a pillow.

At present, she serves as marketing coordinator for the Association of College Unions International. Last week, she presented a conference talk focused on millennials and the multi-generational workplace. In her down time, Hanson enjoys walking her Blue Nose Pit Bull Terrier, Lance, and adding to her collection of 300 porcelain dolls (not necessarily in that order). Her boy friend acquiesced and made the move down South last year.

Occasionally, Hanson will catch herself calling one of her student employees "ma'am" instead of the other way around. "The Southern way," she says, grinning. "It's in there now. I can't get rid of it."
By KIM URQUHART

From toe wrestling to lawn mower racing, Emory College junior Ben Kassoy spent weeks searching Google and combing the Woodruff Library to unearth the world’s most wacky, eclectic and obscure sports.

"This is a book that will appeal to almost everyone," Kassoy says. "Kassy, who plays intramurals at Emory and performs with a local circus, about pushing the limits of human creativity and, at times, human stupidity."

"It’s a global phenomenon, and I’m not sure about the power of human creativity. You have to get into the mind of the type of person who would take an ordinary game and make it totally unique and off-the-wall," says Kassoy, who admits to having his own history of inventing games. "(Knocce, anyone?)"

Kassoy credits Rosen, and the support he received at Emory for the book, as helping him grow as a writer. "I’m already at work on his next project with Rosen, the forthcoming ‘Any Body’s Guess! A Quiz about What Makes You Tick.’"

Visit nodribblingthesquid.com to buy or learn more about the book, and to check out the ‘Featured Freaky Sport of the Week.’

Senior Ben Kassoy teamed up with author Michael J. Rosen for "No Dribbling the Squid," a guide to oddball sports.

By CAROL CLARK

R. Parimala has received one of the highest global honors in her field. Selection as a plenary speaker for the International Congress of Mathematicians. The Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Math plans to talk about the arithmetic of two-dimensional fields at ICM 2010, set for Aug. 19-27, 2010, in Hyderabad, India.

The ICM is held at four-year intervals and is the most important activity of the International Mathematical Union. Twenty plenary speakers are chosen for the event, drawing from top talent throughout the world.

It may be a lofty honor, but Parimala remains decidedly down to earth. “I’ve always been very comfortable with math,” she says, relaxing in her office after teaching a class. Her hair hangs down her back in a long dark braid and she looks casually elegant in a cotton turban, shirt and pants.

The outfit is called a “salwar-kameez,” she explains, and is from northern India. She grew up in the southern tip of the country, in the state of Tamil Nadu, where the saree is the traditional dress. “I love to say ‘vaarce,’ but there are six yards of fabric and hard to maintain,” she says. “Irrising is a bit boring.”

When she graduated from high school, her father sat her down and asked what she wanted to do. “I said, ‘I want to continue with math. Period.’" Parimala recalls, adding that it was an unusual path for a female. “My father knew I had an aptitude for math and was very supportive of my higher studies.

At Stella Marie College in Chennai, India, she briefly considered focusing her studies on Sanskrit poetry, but math won out. “Math has the beauty of poetry,” Parimala says. “It’s abstractions are combined with perfect rigor.”

For her doctorate, Parimala attended the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Mumbai, one of the top institutes in India for the basic sciences. She was hired on the faculty after graduating, but then she got married and moved to Tanzania, where her husband worked as an auditor. “It’s a beautiful place, and I had a lot of friends, but there was no math opportunity for me there,” Parimala says.

When she was hired a post-doc position in Zurich, she found herself in a dilemma until her husband offered to move with her to Switzerland. “It worked out 100 percent well,” Parimala says. “My husband is not just supportive, he’s very proud of me.”

After Switzerland, the couple returned to Mumbai, where Parimala resumed teaching at the Tata Institute, until she joined Emory in 2005. She had met members of the math faculty at conferences, and knew that she would fit in well with the department. "The other primary motivation was to be closer to my only child, Sri, who now works as a quantitative research analyst at a New York firm," Parimala says. "I’ve always enjoyed teaching," Parimala says, and it’s fun to work with undergraduate students. They are so enthusiastic.

She also looks forward to new research challenges, primarily in algebraic groups, and quadratic forms. "There are so many interesting questions that keep my attention," she says. "Math is dynamic, not only internally dynamic, but across disciplines." Parimala says. "It’s a global phenomenon, and I’m not sure about the power of human creativity. You have to get into the mind of the type of person who would take an ordinary game and make it totally unique and off-the-wall," says Kassoy, who admits to having his own history of inventing games. "(Knocce, anyone?)"

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Junior Ben Kassoy teamed up with author Michael J. Rosen for "No Dribbling the Squid," a guide to oddball sports.
Food drive helps fill empty shelves

The Emory University Community Food Drive is collec- tiong canned goods for the Atlanta Community Food Bank until Nov. 20. According to Matt Emmens, coordinator of the Emory Alumni Class of 2004, Emory’s biggest, college-wide food drive.The campaign aims to provide help to those in need. Look for collection boxes at various locations across cam- pus, strategically placed to make it as easy as possible for students, staff and faculty to participate. Donations and other gifts are also encouraged to set up individual contribution boxes to collect food, boxes must be dropped off at one of the 12 main locations for pick-up.

Most-wanted food items include: peanut butter; canned tuna; canned beans; canned soups and stews; pas- tas; 100 percent juice; canned fruits and vegetables; macaroni and cheese; and whole grain, low sugar cereals.

2010 Unsung Heroines sought

The Center for Women is accepting nominations for Unsung Heroine awards; the deadline is Nov. 19. Unsung Heroines are undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, faculty, staff and retirees who have demonstrated extraordinary effort to women’s issues at Emory or the larger commu- nity but whose dedication has not been formally recognized. Nominations are due by Nov. 19. Submit a list describing why she should be consid- ered for the award, detailed rationale for her contributions to the community, and a brief statement regarding her role model. Awards will be presented to women who are honored in a cere- mony Feb. 18, 2010, at the Miller-Ward Alumnii House. For more information, contact Sanya Smith at saasha.smithy@emory.edu.

Campagne Emory

Winship's breast cancer efforts pay off

BY CINDY MURPHY-TOIF

The Emory Winship Cancer Institute has earned a Community-based Organization Recognition Award from the BET Foundation and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for its focus on health programs and treatments for underserved women.

The award recognizes Emory Winship’s multi-touched approach to addressing breast cancer in the African American community — research, clinical access and community outreach.

“This award will allow us to further educate women on the importance of having annual mammograms since all breast cancers, including triple-negative cancers, are curable if diagnosed early,” said Marcia O’Regan, associate professor of hematology and medical oncology at Emory and the chief of hematology and medical oncology at the Winship Cancer Center for Excellence at Grady Memorial Hospital.

Through the Jean Sindah Project at Emory Winship, researchers are focusing on the causes of, and treatments for, triple-negative breast cancer. This aggressive form of breast cancer strikes African American women nearly two times more often than it does Caucasian women. The project is named for environmental- and racial-justice activist Jean Sindah, who was killed in January 1996 after a year-long battle with breast cancer. The project was created in her memory in 2005 by an anonymous donor.

There is a separate focus on one of the largest impacts on underserved women in the Atlanta community,” says Linda Turrell, chair of Winship’s Development Advisory Board, who submitted Winship as a nominee for the award.

Breast cancer programs are available through the Avon Comprehensive Breast Care Project, located at the Georgia Cancer Center for Excellence at Grady. The Avon nominations are being considered by women who live in either Fulton or DeKalb counties can receive screenings, treatment and counseling, as well as other support services.

Since 2000, the Avon Foundation has awarded more than $31 million to Winship and Grady, most recently contributing $750,000 to continue community outreach, education, clinical access, and four research studies that directly affect care for underserved populations in Atlanta. The funds have been instrumental in supporting breast cancer research projects and improving outcomes for underserved women diagnosed with breast cancer in Atlanta.

“We recognize the tremendous support from the Avon Foundation that allows us to provide high quality clinical care for our patients and make the diagnosis of breast cancer easier,” says Sheryl A. Gabram-Mendola, professor of surgical oncology at Emory and deputy director of the Georgia Cancer Center for Excellence at Grady. “Our success stories are directly aligned with our mission of the Avon Foundation — to improve the lives of women globally and for that we are extremely grateful.”

Community outreach efforts have brought the message of regular mammograms to churches, health clinics, community meetings, and other gatherings.

The outreach efforts are working: From 2005 to 2008, mammography services at the Avon Center at Grady increased from 11,000 to 16,000. In addition, diagnoses of stage IV breast cancer are decreasing, and nearly 100 percent of the women diagnosed with breast cancer are completing their treatments.

The award also honors the hard work and dedication of patient navigators — breast cancer survivors who, after training, help guide and support newly diagnosed breast cancer patients through the completion of treatment, says Kimberly R. Jacob Arriola, principal investigator for the Avon Foundation Community Education and Outreach Initiative.

GLOBAL HEALTH CHRONICLES

Heroes against disease

BY REBECCA BADGETT

In celebration of the 30th anniversary of the worldwide eradication of smallpox, Emory has launched the Global Health Chronicles (www.globalhealthchronicles.org), an online archive that documents the historic and successful battle that public health professionals waged against this deadly disease.

Many of the CDC disease experts who led the fight against smallpox in the 1960s were present for the archives' public launch at Emory Nov. 21.

“Eradicating a disease is the ultimate in disease prevention; as smallpox is the one human infection that has been completely eradicated there’s much to celebrate,” said former CDC director David Sencer.

“The Global Health Chronicles site features oral histories of individuals who played a crucial role in that monumental achievement. Today’s health professionals and students can hear and read the passion these women and men brought to their work. This archive will also be a valuable source of previously unknown material for historians.”

Materials collected in the online archive hosted by Emory University Libraries include previously unpublished field reports and documents; oral histories of epidemiologists, operations officers, and their spouses and children who worked in 25 countries to stop the disease; The Academic President's report; books on the history of smallpox eradication; and seminars by the leaders of the global program to eradicate smallpox.

The massive effort to show Emory’s most loyal alumni, faculty, staff and students call donors to show Emory’s most loyal donor, the University. This site will also be a valuable resource for students and individuals who played a crucial role in the collection of 29 oral histories, numerous photographs and documents in the Global Health Chronicles project. A program hono- ring Laney

The Emory University Board of Trustees cel- ebrated the naming of James T. Laney School of Graduate Studies at a Nov. 11 reception.

In August the school was named in honor of President Emeritus James T. Laney, former U.S. ambassador to South Korea, who led Emory from 1977 to 1993 during its emergence as a national research university. A program honored Laney’s legacy of trans- forming graduate education at Emory. Laney was presented with a gonfalone imprint- ed with the school’s name. Guests left with a smaller replica, a bookmark tucked inside a copy of The Emory Leader (Mercer University Press, 2001) by James T. Laney and F. Stuart Galley that chronicles Emory’s growth under Laney’s leadership.
REPORT FROM: The Carter Center
Symposia bring attention to mental health policy

When I began speaking about mental health issues in the early ‘70s, the stigma of mental illness kept many from seeking help, and treatment options were virtually nonexistent outside of institutionalization. This year, as we celebrate the 55th anniversary of the Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy, I pause to consider just how far we have come.

We have a greater understanding of brain disorders and their causes, and most people diagnosed can be successfully treated and live normal lives. Yet access to treatment for all who need it remains a huge hurdle, and one longstanding goal has been to eliminate unfair coverage limits in health insurance plans for mental health conditions. Working together, policymakers and mental health organizations finally won passage of parity last September. We like to think that our symposia played a role in making this happen.

As debate about health care reform ensues, our anniversary symposium in early November tackled integration of mental health care into primary care — how to ensure that primary care physicians have needed resources to identify and care for patients with mental illnesses.

We’ve made progress since the 1970s, but there’s still so much more to do. Our symposia will continue to bring attention to issues of the day, influence policies that will make a difference, and spur action to get the job done.

For more information and to watch the archived webcast of this year’s symposium, please visit www.cartercenter.org.

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter is co-founder of The Carter Center and founder of the Center’s Mental Health Program.
Ajit Yoganathan.
Atlanta and Georgia Tech have
difficult questions, many of
cine, nursing and public health.
Arts and the schools of medi-
By CaROL CLaRk
Nazi politics and Medicine shows face of evil
COURSE SPOTLIghT
Emory College history depart -
Museum sponsors the course,
with it."

By qUINN EaSTMaN
These images are part of a gallery created by the United States h olocaust Memorial Museum as a resource for the Emory course.

Institutions team up on
pediatric kidney device
By QUINN EASTMAN
When children need kid-
dialysis because of disease
or congenital defects, doctors
are forced to adapt adult-size
dialysis equipment. No FDA-
approved kidney replacement
devices exist that are specifi-
cally designed for children.

To address this problem, physis-
cians and researchers from Emory, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Georgia Tech have teamed up in a research proj-
ected leading “from the laboratory
bench to the basinet,” in the
words of biomedical engineer Ajit Yoganathan.

The team has been awarded a Challenge grant of $1 million from the National Institutes of Health to refine a prototype
kidney replacement device. Pediatrician Matthew Paden, a specialist in critical care, is the

Jacqueline Black, a senior
majoring in American Studies,
was shocked to learn during the
class that several U.S. states
had sterilization laws for crimi-
nals and the “feebly minded”
before the Nazis. “Some of the
exact wording of the Nazi law
was taken from U.S. laws,” says
Black, who is researching a
paper on the topic. “That was a
real wake-up call for me.”

I was surprised that German
physicians joined the Nazi party
earlier and in greater numbers
than many other demographic
is," says Luke Reimer, a sopho-
more majoring in biology and
history who plans to go to medi-
cal school. “The medical field
in Germany underwent a severe
crisis and some physicians were
living on the streets, selling sau-
sages. For me, it’s an interesting
story. Physicians should look at
their responsibilities as a care-
giver first and put their careers
second. I think German physi-
cians inverted this relationship
during this phase of history.”

The course also delves into
important science done in the
totallitarian state. “All of the
early work on the relation
between cancer and smoking
was done in Germany under
the Nazis,” Gilman says.

Would it be ethical for a
modern geneticist to consider
data gathered by the infamous
Josef Mengelo and his twin

EMORY REPORT
NOVEMBER 16, 2009

Nazi Politics and Medicine shows face of evil

By QUINN EASTMAN

When muscle cells need repair, they use odor-detecting

tools found in the nose to start

the process, Emory researchers
have discovered.

The results were published in the November issue of
Developmental Cell.

Found on the surfaces

of neurons inside the nose, odor-
ant receptors are molecules

that bind and respond to sub-
stances wafting through the air.

Researchers have shown that

one particular odorant receptor
gene, MOR23, is turned on in

muscle cells undergoing repair.

“Normally MOR23 is not

turned on when the tissue is

at rest, so we wouldn’t have

picked it up without looking

specifically at muscle injury,”
says pharmacologist Grace
Pavlath. “There is no way we

would have guessed this.”

Interfering with MOR23

inhibits muscle cells’ ability
to migrate, stick to each other
and form long fibers, Pavlath
and graduate student Christine
Griffin showed. In addition,
MOR23 is the first molecule
found to influence the process
of myofiber branching, a form
of degeneration seen in muscular
dystrophies and aging.

The finding could lead to

new ways to treat muscular dystro-
phies and muscle wasting dis-

eases. It also raises intriguing

questions about what odorant

receptors are doing in muscle
tissue and possibly other tis-


Investigating muscle repair,
scientists follow their noses

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tissue and possibly other tis-


"There is a tremendous varia-
tion in humans as far as what
dors individuals can recognize," Pavlath says. "Could this be
linked somehow to differences
in the ability to repair muscle?"

MOR23 responds to lylar, a
fragrance ingredient in many

cosmetics that smells like lily-
of-the-valley. Although Griffin
could show that muscle cells
migrate towards lylar, this
doesn’t mean muscles in the

body use the same chemical

or ligand.”

The human genome contains
around 400 genes encoding odor-
ant receptors, and mice have
more than 900. It is not clear
what the MOR23 equivalent
is in humans, or whether the
odorant receptors that respond
to lylar in humans are also
involved in muscle repair.

Pavlath says she wants to
identify the molecule the body
uses to direct muscle repair
through MOR23. Apparently,
when muscle cells are injured,
the molecule leaks out or is
released.
What do the smell of freshly baked cookies, the warm feel of a puppy dog's fur, and a dunking tank have in common? Besides being topics in my e-mail inbox, hopefully they provide comfort, a feel of “home,” or just an opportunity for laughter that will allow students to relax and enjoy something outside of the usual college experience. And, in my role as dean of students, each of these has served as a unique way for me to reach out to students.

After an external consultant team recommended that our university needed a “dean of students,” Sr. Vice President and Dean for Campus Life John Ford asked me to assume that role in fall 2006. Because the dean of students is universally understood as the person who helps students and families navigate the complexities of the university, this was a wonderful opportunity.

John and I talked about how I could connect with students and hear what was on their minds. Of course, this is often done by attending meetings or programs, going to residence halls and sitting down with students for a Coke or coffee. However, by appealing to students in unique or non-traditional ways, I sought to gather information from a wide variety of voices so that I could listen, learn, and be an advocate for the needs of all students.

Shortly after being named dean, I volunteered to move in to a residence hall for a three-day stay to understand the current residential hall experience. However, my visit had a little twist: I decided to bring my family so students could engage with a family similar to the experience some of our Faculty-in-Residence families provide at the Clairmont Campus.

With a husband, grade-school daughter and dog, we couldn’t invade the traditional residence hall rooms, but instead stayed in a vacant apartment in Harris Hall. I’ll admit that a lovely two-bedroom apartment is not comparable to bunking with a student or sharing a bathroom with 20 other people. However, we bonded with the students over the trials of navigating the double front doors with boxes and living next to noises associated with the Emory Hospital Emergency Department. (Student advice: Moving in is easier if you have friends to help, and a well-placed pillow muffs the ambulance siren.)

The residential living experience was enlightening and educational. With our dachshund puppy named Jelly Bean, we sponsored “Pet Therapy” and had other Campus Life staff members bring their dogs to join in the fun.

Students got to hold and pet the dogs who showed their appreciation through licks and tail wags. It was a crowded and somewhat chaotic event, but the opportunity to connect with students and hear about their Emory experiences was priceless.

Students commented that they missed their pets at home and it was nice to have the unconditional love a dog provides. They also talked about their lives and how Emory was now their home. It gave me an opportunity to listen and get insights into the lives of Emory students.

Since our first successful hall experience, we have moved on campus three other times. Each time I learned a new perspective about living on campus. In addition to staying in university housing and continuing Pet Therapy sessions, I also embarked on one of my favorite hobbies, baking cookies. My thought is, “Who doesn’t love cookies and milk?” So with the opening of the Few Hall Demonstration Kitchen, I saw my opportunity to take advantage of a great kitchen and share the fun with students.

In September I invited a cross-section of students I had met through Orientation, Outdoor Emory, and various student interactions to the kitchen. Since my family and I were staying in the Sorority Village apartment for a week (we left the dog in the apartment), it really felt like home. With my husband (the former college rugby player) talking to a member of the rugby team and my daughter (the talented jewelry designer) comparing jewelry with some students, we had multiple and varied conversations going at once.

I caught up with a freshman I had met at the Roman Catholic Mass during orientation. She filled me in on the many activities she was exploring on campus. I met her roommate who had already spent time in Turman Hall (recovering from the flu). Reaching for a cookie she then reconnected with another Turman Hall resident. I got to hear about the 18th birthday party they held in the “swine flue hall” for a fellow incubated resident.

Some fraternity and sorority members involved with the Emory Wheel and Outdoor Emory connected outside of their usual hangout places. In addition, a few Residence Life staff joined us to meet and interact. The noise level was high and the energy was contagious. Overall, I felt like we had our own Emory rush party in action.

Along with my colleagues in Campus Life, I work with students who are developing and growing in the “Emory bubble,” as many of them like to call it. Their co-curricular experiences are vital as they chart their paths in the Emory community. We challenge and support them as they adapt to new roommates and friends, find new interests and hobbies, and develop new skills. We help them mourn losses and celebrate successes. We laugh with them, cry with them, and encourage their spirits and growth.

Pet therapy sessions and baking cookies may seem pretty light-hearted, but they show that someone is listening. Whether students need support or encouragement, or just someone to understand their needs, they know they have that person in the dean of students.

Oh, and about that dunk tank...if getting in that was more fun for students, please pass me the snorkel and flippers.

—Bridget Guernsey Riordan's dachshund Jelly Bean is a frequent star in her outreach to students.

Bridget Guernsey Riordan is dean of students.
ADVANCE NOTICE

Booksigning with Sanjay Gupta

Emory neurosurgeon Sanjay Gupta will give a public lecture on Thursday, Nov. 12 at 6 p.m. in Room 215 of the Cannon School of Theology.

Willimon’s lecture, which will be followed by a question-and-answer session, is titled “Emerging Evangelicals Among Postmoderns: A Blessing and a Warning.” Sponsored by the Student organization, Candler Evangelical Society, the event is free.

Willimon was elected bishop of the North Alabama Area of the United Methodist Church and is a member of Emory’s Board of Trustees. He was formerly dean of the chapel and professor of ministry at Duke University.

Unity Month has diversity of events

Unity Month, Emory’s annual celebration of “community and the unique individuals that create it,” goes into its second half with a variety of events.

Coordinated by the Office of Multicultural Programs and Services, this year’s events are free and all are open to the Emory community.

Elliot Chang’s Bad Role Model Comedy Tour is Monday, Nov. 16 at 8 p.m. at the Harland Cinema.

On Tuesday, Nov. 17, there will be a “Dialogue on Race” with Provost Earl Lewis in the Woodruff Ballroom at 6:30 p.m. SGA Unity Game Night at the Coke Commons is Saturday, Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m., followed by the Unity Ball at Emory Conference Center at 9 p.m. Attendees must buy tickets for the ball. Reservations are not required for the full schedule of events, see www.unitymonth.com.

Waste not at recycling week

The Center for Sustainable Energy recently hosted the National Recycling Week. Nov. 14-21 with a variety of ways to promote sustainability. Visit sustainability. emory.edu for a list of events sponsored by the Office of Sustainability Initiatives and Emory Recycles.

Events

THIS WEEK’S HIGHLIGHTS

MONDAY, Nov. 16

READING: QUÍARA HUDES.
6:30 p.m. Jones Room, Woodruff Library. Free. 404-727-4683. Also: Colloquium on Nov. 17 at 2:30 p.m., N307 Callaway Center.

TUESDAY, Nov. 17

Diversity and Race at Emory: A Dialogue with Provost Earl Lewis. 5:30 p.m. Room 141, Woodruff Ballroom. Free: pytalow@emory.edu.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 18


THURSDAY, Nov. 19


FRIDAY, Nov. 20


SATURDAY, Nov. 21

Unity Ball. 9 p.m. Emory Conference Center Ballroom. Free: 404-727-6754.

To see all campus events, visit the online Emory Events Calendar at www.emory.edu/home/events.

Connecting to the growth of ‘green’ jobs

By LESLIE KING

Despite the continuing rocky economy and the change of the seasons, some things are still green and growing: ‘Green’ jobs.

“The outlook for green jobs is very positive, as the U.S. and other nations continue to explore alternative energy sources and as businesses everywhere look for ways to use resources more wisely and to save costs.” says Paul Bredderman, assistant director of Emory’s Career Center.

For the second year in a row, The Careers Center hosted the “Green Networking Night” on Nov. 18 from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Dobbs University Center’s Wisnall Ballroom, where students and metro Atlanta’s green professionals mingle to explore career opportunities in media, business, health, government, transportation, advocacy and law, among others.

The Center’s partners — the Office of Sustainability Initiatives, Office of University-Community Partnerships, Department of Environmental Studies, Emory Alumni Association and the Blue and Gold Make Green Alumni Network, University Food Service Administration and Volunteer Emory — are broadening the scope of last year’s successful initial event, which drew 98 students and 38 Atlanta-based green professionals.

Community sponsors include Sevananda Natural Foods Market and Flat Creek Creek. “Our own network of green professionals keeps expanding, and we really want to showcase the fact that there are green career paths available to students from all majors and disciplines who are looking to make an impact.” Bredderman says.

In addition to dispensing information on new jobs in new fields, the event serves a secondary purpose: Teaching students how to network.

“We chose to keep the event as a networking night, rather than a career fair, because it’s crucial for our students to learn how to proactively reach out and meet people who are doing the kinds of things they’ve wanting to do, Bredderman says. “They need practice in conveying their professional goals and interests in order to be persuasive and generate enthusiasm in what they have to offer as new workers.”

The event is for undergraduates and graduate students from all majors and backgrounds. “We want students to stay wide open to the possibilities” of translating what they’ve learned into work that’s sustainable and fulfilling, says Clannet Howett of the Office of Sustainability Initiatives.

Howett also says the networking night is “the first rollout” of Blue and Gold Make Green, a new group of alumni interested in sustainability.

“It’s the perfect way to introduce sustainable-related work, and our alumni are such great models for our students,” Howett says.

Her office made a special effort to get nonprofits involved, including public interest and social justice organizations as well as environmental groups.

“It’s not only about environmental impact but social equity issues as well,” she says. Another profession her office is keen on: Chefs and restaurateurs committed to locally-grown and sustainable foods.

“Finding the right niche is often the most challenging prospect for students seeking jobs within the realm of environmental sustainability,” says Bredderman.