**Small fire leads to Cravens evacuation**

**By Emma Collins**
HERALD@WKU.EDU

On Tuesday morning, a fire broke out in Cravens Graduate Center and Library resulting in an evacuation of the entire building.

According to Daniel Peach, library facilities coordinator, the fire started on the first floor of the library when a spam machine caught some insulation on fire.

“It was extinguished quickly, but it did create a full response and evacuation of the building,” Peach said.

“Maintenance was notified immediately, due to the heating and cooling system on the first floor,” according to Bryan Bussell, chief facilities officer, the staff was using a special fire extinguisher that is the only one on this course of wheel to grind down materials.

“They were using a grinder to grind some bolts off of a steel plate, and some spark ignited several paper-backed bookshelves,” Bussell said.

The fire remained small and caused very little damage, so only some of the insulation will need to be replaced.

Peach attributes this to the quick action of a member of the maintenance staff.

“He got the fire out really quickly,” Peach said.

The fire and subsequent evacuation did not affect the library’s hours. The fire department was also called.

“It happened all really quickly; we got everybody out,” Peach said.

The fire and subsequent evacuation did not affect the library’s hours. The fire department was also called.

“Customers and Helm are two separate buildings, so if ours goes off then theirs won’t unless it hits both, affecting both buildings,” Jessica Simpson, a Helm employee, said. “They’re together, but they’re separate.”

**A TASTE OF EL SALVADOR ACROSS THE TRACKS**

**By Joseph Barkoff**
HERALD@WKU.EDU

Located in an older, dilapidated neighborhood across the tracks from WKU on Woodford Avenue, the Mercadito Hispano restaurant occupies a one-story duplex.

Though El Sabado is its roots, Mercadito Hispano is a hub of Hispanic diversity in Bowling Green. However, Mercadito Hispano is often mistaken as a Mexican restaurant.

Through one entrance in the front of the building is a modest, clean restaurant, and on the other side is a small market with ripe avocados, frozen ta-males and everything in between.

Manager Melissa Escoito, Bowling Green sophomore, is a double major in marketing and management at WKU. She is also the middle child of Mercadito Hispano’s owner and chef Gloria Escoito.

“Any place you go,” Melissa Escoito said, “there’s a lot of foods people can tell you where you are from by your accent.”

Mercadito means “little market,” and Hispanic is an all-encompassing reference to being descended from the original conquistadors of Spain.

**After Spain conquered large areas of Central and South America in the 1566 and 18th centuries, the conquerors’ offspring, regardless of their native country today, are referred to as Hispanics.**

Antonio Ramírez, 33, originally from Mexico and Texas, now lives in Bowling Green. He has driven 40 minutes east at least once every week for 10 years to

**SEE MERCADITO PAGE A2**

Presidential search to be conducted by hiring firm

**By Monica Kast**
HERALD@WKU.EDU

The Board of Regents voted unanimously to retain an executive hiring firm to search for WKU’s next president during its meeting on Friday.

This is common practice for searching for the new executive of a company or university, but many students at WKU might be unfamiliar with the role a firm will play in the selection of their next president.

Micahyethes, international chairman of Stanwood Chase, an international executive hiring firm, provided some information about executive hiring firms and their roles in selecting candidates.

“The primary goal of an executive search firm is to partner with their clients to help them put in place the best leadership talent to assist them in reaching their corporate goals,” he said in an interview.

“This can involve assessing and evaluating internal or external executives.”

Kristen Miller, WKU alumna, was on the search committee that appointed current WKU president Gary Ransdell. She was the student body president and student regent in 1997; the year Ransdell was selected.

“It was a lengthy process, as it should be,” she said of the selection process.

She said the search commi-tee was made of both commu-nity and university representatives in a manner similar to

**SEE SEARCH COMMITTEE PAGE A2**

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Unpredictable winter weather can lead to some last minute decisions when it comes to closing campuses.

It wasn’t until Monday morning that WKU students received the email that stated WKU campuses were closed and classes were cancelled due to the snow.

On Sunday night, WKU described the Bowling Green campus would remain open as usual until later advised. Elizabethtown and Fort Knox campuses were closed and the decision for the other regional campuses would be pending.

The decision-making process for events like snowstorms begins with a group of WKU staff who convene to discuss the possibilities or necessities of closing campuses.

Bob Skipper, public affairs director of Media Relations, sent the emails announcing the status of their decisions on Sunday evening and Monday morning. Skipper is included in the group of WKU staff who confer about cancellations.

“We have a group that includes campus police, facilities management, environmental health and safety, myself and Dr. Lee,” Skipper said.

David Lee, provost and vice president of Academic Affairs, takes the recommendation from WKU President Gary Ransdell, who ultimately makes the choice.

“I provide him with the information that’s been generated by the group,” Lee said. “Usually we have a recommendation, he and I talk about it, and he makes the final decision.”

At present, the group that formulates the recommendation does not consult a representative from WKU’s meteorology program.

“There are no meteorology faculty members who are involved in it,” Lee said. “We do have pretty good access to professional meteorology expertise through media.

Kevin McShane, WKU Storm Team secretary, weighed in on the snowy weather this weekend. He said a variety of meteorological factors could influence the impact a winter storm will have.

“Overnight, they were counting on the rain melting the snow, but that doesn’t exactly add up,” McShane said. “You need a lot of rain in order to melt any amount of snow.”

McShane said she felt the weekend’s snowfall would have a significant impact.

“Travel was a big issue,” McShane said.

WKU staff ultimately made the correct decision in closing all campuses because some students were traveling back from the weekend.

“I think it was a close call. The weather was so unpredictable,” McShane said. “Highways were closed, shut down because of accidents and the weather.”

Skipper said the most important factor is safety for students, faculty and staff.

“We look at how the campus looks, how the roads coming in campus are going, what the impact is going to be with the weather, and all that is taken into consideration with an eye towards safety,” Skipper said.

Residents of Bowling Green take to the streets and head to Hospital Hill for some fun in the snow on Jan. 23. While snow was still falling, dozens of people were already sledding and snowboarding all along the hill.

Resident Tonya Bittinger said the pupusa. Similar to a taco, the pupusa is made with a corn meal mixture called masa de Harina, instead of cooking the masa to form a flattened vessel, the maker adds fillings like beans, cheese and pork to its center, the covering fills the more with masa and cooks the dish flat on the top. A 2012 thesis study by Caitlin A. Reyes at WKU found that of the 80 people surveyed, more than 30 percent of the Hispanic population responding to the questionnaire were from El Salvador. Mexico was a close second with over 20 percent. Melissa Escoto doesn’t get upset when classmates are misinformed about what country her family is from.

“Where you go, you know, the first thing people thing you speak Spanish is that you’re Mexican,” Melissa Escoto said. “Obviously some people take it as offensive, and some people let it slide.”

When it comes to identifying what the business culture and then overlay the responses with the ideal profile of the client’s values, goals, strategy and sources and seeks ... to match the best candidates based on their belief systems and experiences with the ideal profile of the client.”

At the board’s meeting Friday, Feb. 12, search committee chairman Philip Bale said the committee’s first task would be to establish a presidential profile to advise the firm.

Miller said the search committee used in 1997 did “a lot of the heavy lifting” and recruited people who might be interested in the position of university president.

Matthews elaborated on the importance of identifying what the business — looks for in the new executive.

“The search firm must understand the client’s values, goals, strategy and culture and then overlay the responsibilities and accountabilities of the specific role being recruited for,” he said. “During the search process, the firm speaks to, meets with and interviews numerous potential candidates and sources and seeks ... to match the alignment of the best candidates based on their belief systems and experiences with the ideal profile of the client.”

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At the board’s meeting Friday, Feb.
WKU hosts state forensics tournament starting Friday

By SONA WINTER
HERALD NEWSWEEKLY EDU

The WKU Forensics Team will host two upcoming tournaments in the state. The first tournament will focus on women's leadership opportunities and the second will focus on Academic and Professional Advocacy.

Women's Leadership Conference

The conference is sponsored by the WKU LEAD Coalition, WKU Women in Higher Education (WKU-WHE), the WKU School of Education and WKU's Ogle College of Science and Engineering.

The conference will feature three guest speakers who are currently holding prominent leadership positions.

Cheryl Stearns, a former director of the United States Air Force and current department chair at the United States Air Force Academy, will be discussing leadership differences between men and women.

Luke Smith, a former officer in the United States Army and current department chair at the United States Military Academy, will be discussing leadership differences between men and women.

Sara Wight, the present dean of Pennsylvania University, will be discussing leadership at work and outside of work.

Jerry Daddy, associate professor of speech and theater, said that the event is an opportunity to see the state of women in higher education leadership positions.

"Women are getting about half of the PhDs in this country and even half of the bachelor's degrees, yet we don't see women in these prominent leadership positions," Daddy said.

"Women have earned over half of all bachelor's degrees and half of the bachelor's degrees in speech and theater," said Daddy. "But we have also seen a reduction in budget cuts, so if they can't, they hope to carry on in the same way throughout the day, they would be able to catch the event that is happening," Daddy said.

"We have done well at the tournament over the past few years, but it has to on our home campus should be pretty thrilling," Daddy said.

"We have to move past the idea that only men can lead and women have to follow," Daddy said. "We have to think about and start a conversation about leading broadly."

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Paul's Cat:

Ah, a classic dilemma.

Spring break is coming up, dear Paul and his cat, and you are trying to decide whether to stay put or head off on an adventure. Both options have their pros and cons, and it can be tough to make the right choice. But with a bit of planning and creativity, you can make the most of your time off.

If you choose to stay put, you can still have a great time! Weekday movies are often free, so you can save some money by going to the movies during the week. You can also consider getting a meal at a different restaurant for a change of pace. If you're a student, you may be able to get into some events for free with your student ID.

If you choose to hit the road, there are plenty of options for you and your cat. For example, you could take a trip to the zoo or to a nearby park. Or you could consider volunteering at an animal shelter, which can be a great way to give back to your community. If you're feeling adventurous, you could even consider a road trip to a nearby state or national park. Whatever you choose, just remember to pack some treats for your furry friend.

So whether you choose to stay put or hit the road, you're sure to have a great time. Just make sure to check the weather forecast and plan accordingly. Happy spring break, Paul and his cat!
City of Bowling Green
SUMMER AQUATICS

Applications are currently being accepted for the following Parks and Recreation Aquatics positions for the Russell Sims Aquatic Center, solaris, and the Great Escape Rod & Reel Center. The City of Bowling Green is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

Position: Green Keepers
Responsibilities: including watering, weeding, spraying with pesticides, mowing, pruning, and fertilizing. Installing plant materials, maintaining grass, and trims grass at CrossWinds, or Paul Walker Golf Course. Hours, salaries, and job requirements will vary depending on the position.

Requirements:
- 1st semester experience in a vocational school with one year of grounds keeping experience
- Must be dependable, fl exible, nurturing, have reliable transportation, a valid driver’s license, and good communication skills. Obtain application at www.bgky.org/hr/jobs or at the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

HOURS: 35 hrs/wk; Monday - Thursday 7:00 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.; Fridays 7:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

Interested applicants can apply online at www.bgky.org/hr/jobs or at the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

The City of Bowling Green is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Drug-Free Workplace.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, March 4, 2016

City of Bowling Green
LABORERS
Parks & Recreation Department

25 - 40 hours/week, with weekend work required.

Position: Seasonal Laborer

Responsibilities: Operates assorted equipment for the assigned department. Requires experience in Assisted Living and community centers. Must be dependable, fl exible, nurturing, have reliable transportation, a valid driver’s license, and good communication skills. Obtain application at www.bgky.org/hr/jobs or at the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green or from our website at www.bgky.org.

Interested applicants should obtain an employment application from the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green or from our website at www.bgky.org.

The City of Bowling Green is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Certified Drug-Free Workplace.

Across
1. In any way
6. Brief
11. Pack the groceries
14. Actress
15. Peter, Peter, pumpkin
16. TV head
17. *Alabama team
20. Fisherman’s Wharf entire
21. Kevin of ‘Dances With Wolves’
23. Honey makers
25. Okla. neighbor
26. Fighting
30. Item inserted through eyeholes
34. Nappy leather
35. Woodwind instrument
36. ‘Veep’ channel
38. x or y, on graphs
39. Dickens’ Drood
41. Crystal ball maker
43. Hall of Fame
45. Dietary supplement obtained from prebaited fish
48. Up on a map
49. Letter before up
50. NASCAR targets
51. 2 Vein in the neck
56. Actress Wood
61. Eggs
62. One literary, ... and, literally, any ends of the answers to starred clues
64. Hawaiian
65. Cabs Hall of Fame
66. One committed to a military career
67. Copperstone user’s goal
68. Lefr daughter
69. Cosmetician
70. Soldier

Down
1. Circle segments
2. Ripped
3. Bathing suit
4. Bump/Run/Outsideback
5. One committed to a military career
6. Swimming pool
7. Boater or bowler
8. Suffix with psychic
9. Decorate again
10. Railroad bridge support
11. *Raspberry
12. 43,560 square feet
13. Actress Teri
14. *Alabama team
15. “Peter, Peter, pumpkin
16. TV head
17. *Alabama team
18. Sugary ending
20. Fisherman’s Wharf entire
21. Kevin of ‘Dances With Wolves’
23. Honey makers
25. Okla. neighbor
26. Fighting
30. Item inserted through eyeholes
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City of Bowling Green
GREENKEEPER
Parks & Recreation Department Seasonal Positions

CAMP COUNSELORS — Assist with Summer Camp activities, group activities, camp counselors work with special needs children, teens & adults. Must be knowledgeable in recreation/sports activities; may require CPR & First Aid Certification. 40 hours per week. May thru August; weekend work may be re- quired. Age 17+. Min. $9.25/hour.

Interested applicants can apply online at www.bgky.org/hr/jobs or at the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

The City of Bowling Green is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Certified Drug-Free Workplace.

Parks & Recreation Department

Operates riding and push lawn mowers, weedeats, and trims grass at CrossWinds, or Paul Walker Golf Course; assist in general maintenance of the course.

HOURS: 40 hours/week, Monday — Friday, (March — November) 5:30 a.m. — 2:00 p.m.; weekend and holiday work required; SALARY: $9.60/hour.

Interested applicants can apply online at www.bgky.org/hr/jobs or at the Human Resources Department in City Hall, 1001 College Street, Bowling Green.

The City of Bowling Green is an Equal Opportunity Employer and a Certified Drug-Free Workplace.
William Hardy runs into Carla Whittlow, an old friend and fellow member of Taylor Chapel AME Church, after setting up an exhibit for a special service Sunday, Feb. 7, that recognized and celebrated African stories in the Bible.

Photos by Weston Kenney

African stories and figures in the Bible are rarely emphasized during typical weekly church services, according to William Hardy, former professor of philosophy and religious studies at Tennessee State University. Hardy revisited his old church, Taylor Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Bowling Green, to recognize important African parables in the Bible.

“Most people, black or white, are given a Eurocentric view of Christianity. African stories are a neglected truth, so my work over the last 40 years has lifted these truths,” Hardy said.

Hardy gave a sermon on this subject during the church service and brought a collection of paintings and pictures to illustrate his point that African culture is widespread in the Bible.

“Africa is the origin of black people in America. My grandfather was most instructive when I was in the fifth grade about learning who we were as a people. As the years went on, it became an interest to study toward a higher education degree. I took my first trip to Africa in the 1996-1997 school year. I was a visiting scholar at the University of Nairobi in Kenya,” Hardy said.

Charlene Maxwell, bottom, and other members of Taylor Chapel AME Church stand in song and praise on Sunday, Feb. 7.
States. Graham got into pageantry when she was 16. “I was reluctant at first. I never thought I would do one but I did,” Graham said. Graham has won Miss Kentucky Fair and Miss Teen Kentucky United States.

Minter also testified to the brain “hubbub” that resulted from WKU’s Twitter account @WKU_GreenHustle, referring to someone named “Skipper” who had been able to meet friends had it not been for the pageant. “I feel a huge responsibility,” Minter said, “to try because the students of the campus were so upset about this.”

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Patricia Minteer, an Elizabethtown sophomore and broadcasting major, was crowned Miss Teen Kentucky United States. Minteer said she had never even thought of doing a pageant and didn’t think she had the ability. “I was reluctant at first. I never thought I would do one but I did,” Graham said. Graham has won Miss Kentucky Fair and Miss Teen Kentucky United States.

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Chinese Flagship students accepted into Princeton in Beijing

BY MADISON MARTIN
HERALD FEATURES@WKU.EDU

For sophomores like Kate Hart and Dalton Harshbarger, becoming bilingual in Span-
ish and Chinese was originally the reason they enrolled in the Chinese Flagship Program. Each of the 12 ini-
tially drew these students into many different courses that they believed will provide a solid founda-
tion in the language. These courses have the op-
pportunity to study in China for eight weeks in an immersive language study at the Prince-
ton in Beijing program through Princeton University.

I guess a year and a half isn't the longest to be studying lan-
guage, but it requires great diligence which is why many students outside the Internet, Skipper also
learns Chinese. The three students are look-
ing forward to advancing their abilities in the language and culture. Students are required to
understand where the language and culture is because of the constant use of teaching while in China. It
emphasizes fluency through accuracy, providing every two to three weeks with feedback from a single
one teacher, according to the program’s website.

Harshbarger, a Spanish and international business major said they’ll be “essentially a language pro-
ficiency” required to complete a degree. There is currently no course on Chinese within class and
the city. Students are required to sign a pledge stating they will only speak Chinese during two
months in the coun-

Sophomore Kate Hart was recently accepted into the Chinese Flagship Program in Beijing for the sum-
er of 2016. Hart studies in the Chinese Flagship Program along with her family members in multiple organizations on campus. MICHALA

Miller

Scott McDermott, a senior from Franklin,
 said one of the few sacrifices he made was
time off work from O’Charley’s.

To prepare for the trip, McDermott said he started packing as early as possible, which included
the weather allowing a week of hiking


during his last-minute planning to White

But he has no idea how his trip to China will

from tweets about his becoming WKU’s next president to being threat-
ed. “Usually someone will come to my Facebook page and say ‘Good luck’ or ‘I’ll be do-
ing something’,” McDermott said.

Whether your plans take you to the

by the end of the night so you
can study the day five the next day and the
day after that and the next day after that

Morss hopes to make his final plans,

“Wku is only having class tomorrow so
they can get time off work from O’Charley’s.

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It’s an issue that affects men, women,
young and old, and so I definitely won’t use my title to troll or to use it as an excuse to go to
places in the city,” Graham said. “May-
be do something — make a stand on the Facebook page, maybe have a fun-

Friday about how to market themselves correctly.

Many students have been in a simi-
lar position, wondering if a week of fun in the weather allowing a week of hiking

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with her family members in multiple organizations on campus. MICHALA

Miller

Scott McDermott, a senior from Franklin,
This conference is a very competitive one, Head Coach John Paulowski said. "We know it's going to be a very hard game every day, and there's 12 teams in the conference. Once you get into the tournament, anything can happen."

The WKU baseball team opens its season this weekend in a three-game series against Youngstown State. The first matchup will be played at 3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19, at Nick Denes Field.
The Lady Toppers are set to face Austin Peay and Missouri State February 10-11 for their first home games of the season as they compete at home in the Holiday Inn Hiltopper Classic. The tournament is the first of two home invitations for WKU as it will also compete in the Holiday Inn Hiltopper Classic on February 26-27.

“We play 29 home games this season including two tournaments, so we have some home games for our team,” Head Coach Amy Tucker said.

Facing the Lady Toppers first will be the Austin Peay Governors on Friday at 12:30 p.m, who finished their 2015 season with a 9-37 record, winning five games at home and three games on the road. The Governors also finished with a 5-12 record in Ohio Valley Conference play.

Austin Peay has only played twice this season so far, winning one and losing nine against Gardner-Webb University in a two game series at Boiling Springs, North Carolina.

Despite having a less than promising record in their 2015 season, the Lady Governors have quite a few returning players, including seven starters and five pitchers, among their 20-player roster.

The returning players also include four of Austin Peay’s top five hitters from 2015, 100 percent of their pitching and five seniors.

Next up to face the Lady Toppers at 3 p.m. will be Missouri State, who finished with a record of 30-25 last season. Missouri State finished with a record of 17-19 during its conference play last year.

The Lady Bears have started the season so far with a 3-2 record, losing to Detroit and UT-Arlington while gaining a win against Texas Southern and two more victories against Northern Colorado in the UT Arlington Classic.

For Missouri State, it seems that pitcher Erin Strumruth has a key to look forward to this season. Strumruth pitched a complete game in the win against Texas Southern, finishing the game with six strikeouts. She also pitched the shutout against Northern Colorado.

The Lady Bears are off to a solid start to their 2016 season as they enter the home invitational with a record of 3-1. The Lady Toppers opened their season against Appalachian State, Butler and Furman.

Despite losing standout pitcher Mirmak Eram, the 15-game winner last year, the Lady Toppers picked up wins against Appalachian State, Butler and Furman.

The duo of Parker and Mauch combined for four victories against Northern Colorado in two games this season. Redshirt sophomore Kelsey Jermaine continued to relieve Downing, while gaining a win against Furman.

Downing only allowed one earned run over 4 1/3 innings, winning her first game against Furman. Downing also allowed only one earned run over 4 1/3 innings, winning her second win against Furman.

The Lady Toppers are off to a solid start against Furman.

In the victory against Furman, sophomore pitcher Eram pitched a complete game, while completing another three strikeouts. Redshirt sophomore Kelsey Jermaine continued to relieve Downing, while gaining a win against Furman.

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