Construction students build sheds for sale as part of course

Alex Davidson
Staff Writer

Sheds built by Parkland students are being sold for the price of the materials needed to build them, $1,600, and the proceeds will go back into funding for the college's carpentry program.

The sheds are built by students in CIT-115, rough carpentry, a class in which students learn how to use tools and techniques for doing the layout, measurement, and framing necessary in residential construction.

The class runs for eight weeks each semester and is taught by Gregory Walburg from the Engineering Science and Technologies department.

In Leuszler’s class, the sheds are narrow and have two sheds each class time.

The class schedule is to build the shed and do the lecture material, but we get them done in eight weeks,” he says. Layout, measurement, and framing are not the only things students learn in the class, however. They also have to learn how to read drawings when working on a construction project.

This is important if they build based on a plan. Communication skills are important as well, because if students don’t have them while working in construction, not only does it make the job more difficult to do but it makes it much more dangerous—so a lack of communication can lead to accidents on site.

Students also learn how long it takes to complete tasks. Time management is a very important part of construction and learning how long it will take to complete each part of a project is important.

From right to left: Zachary Jackson, Caleb Lyons, Joey Adams, Zach LaPayne, and Jesse Boone, all Parkland college students, work together on building a shed during their construction class.

Burning grass part of teaching environmental biology

Peter Floess
Staff Writer

Parkland’s environmental biology courses make use of an on-site prairie to inform students on the delicate ecosystem and show them the means through which such an ecosystem is maintained.

This prairie can be seen across from the east entrance to the U-wing.

Heidi Leuszler teaches environmental biology at Parkland. She says the prairie is one of those students would find in a prairie environment with moderate moisture.

“Parkland prairies are all tallgrass prairies,” Leuszler says. “Mesic means that there is a medium amount of water in the soil, and tallgrass is simply that the grasses are tall.”

Prairies are classified in two different ways by soil types, and water availability.

A feature of prairies is that setting them aflame is actually helpful to them. “Prairies are a fire-maintained ecosystem, which means that if we want to keep prairies around, we have to burn them,” says Leuszler. “Burning keeps out tree saplings because the young trees are usually susceptible to fire. If a tree grows tall, it will shade out the prairie species and turn into a savanna or a forest.”

“When prairies are first planted, burning is required every year to kill weed plants that would outcompete the tiny, slow-growing prairie plants. Burning gives the prairie plants a spring advantage over the weeds, and hopefully the prairie plants will grow strong enough to outcompete the weeds.”

Burnings are only required every year for the first few years, however. “After a few years, you can burn once in a while, and eventually, you only need to burn when it seems like it needs it,” Leuszler says. “A prairie manager would know what signs to look for to help determine when burning is required. There is also evidence that burning helps to return nutrients back to the soil faster that decomposition, and warm up the soil in the spring.”

In Leuszler’s environmental biology class, one subject covered is ecology. She wants students to come away from the ecology unit with
Art, design student work displayed at Ceritz Gallery exhibition

Springer Center’s 61st annual amateur art show draws to a close

Greg Gancara
Staff Writer

The art gallery at the Springer Cultural Center will be coming to a close with a reception and juror critique session at 10:30 a.m. on April 29 after two months of display.

The gallery, part of the center’s annual Town & Country Amateur Art Show, provides artists in Champaign County with the chance to have their work publicly displayed and critiqued by a professional in the field of art. This year’s work has been on display since March 18. This year’s critique session is held as a juror critique. The reception is held as a juror critique. The reception is held as a juror critique.

This is McCarty’s second year judging the show. “I look for various things — the work is going to be diverse in media and it is important for student artists to see what students outside of their classes are creating,” McCarty says.

With 110 total pieces submitted by 86 different artists, the art gallery at the Springer Cultural Center in downtown Champaign, but not until the fall. The choice to display it, in spring, is a decision made by the center’s Exhibitions Coordinator at what is now the Giertz Gallery for multiple years.

This is McCarty’s second year judging the show. “I look for various things when judging art and they don’t always overlap,” McCarty says of her critique process. “I look for technical skills, inventiveness or originality, content or story-telling, expression or ability to convey emotion, and formal concerns such as composition, use of color, value, space, line, [and] texture.”

As a local and an artist, McCarty says the competition is a way for students to have their work hung in the gallery, which is located in the heart of downtown Champaign. “It’s a chance for students to experience art shows in a gallery setting,” McCarty says.

The show gives students the opportunity to experience what it’s like professionally, showcasing art, and participating in an art show. “The show is important to all art students, even those not participating in the show according to Stolz. All students are taught how to prepare pieces for shows for professionally if they have chosen to do so. Their pieces may not be hanging in the show, but they do learn how to present their work and how it looks professionally,” Stolz says.

Parks and Recreation does not require that students be art majors to take classes and make use of Parkland’s resources for the different types of art. Any student can take an art class, and ultimately participate in the art shows. “We do provide a lot of classes for people who just want to find out if they like art,” Stolz says.

For Berti the show is a magical experience. “There’s something that happens when the work is hung, it’s almost like a magic that happens when seeing it all together.” For more information visit artgallery.parkland.edu/2017/student-exhibit17.html.
During the week of April 10, libraries around the country celebrated National Library Week, and Parkland’s is no exception.

The theme of National Library Week this year was “Libraries Transform.” Parkland’s library held events throughout the week that included free coffee, Cupcake-A-Book, and a “READ” poster unveiling.

On Monday, Parkland’s library celebrated the beginning of the National Library Week with a food event hosted in the library. Students, staff, and faculty were invited to enjoy free coffee, tea, and donuts.

“We had coffee and donate on Monday morning,” said Sarah Meilike, a Parkland librarian. “It was a way to reach out to the community and say thank you, and how much we appreciate the community.”

Following the theme of National Library Week, some of Parkland’s library staff had transformed some books into artwork. This included cutting pages into shapes and decorating older books. These were on display all throughout the week.

For the past few years, the library has put on an event called Cupcake-A-Book in which cupcakes are decorated and raffled off to represent favorite books. This event was held in front of the library this year. A few of the books mentioned were “If You Give a Cat a Cupcake,” “Harold and the Purple Crayon,” and “Star Trek Cats.”

The final event that Parkland sponsored was the “READ” poster unveiling. Derek Dallas was the sponsored “READ” person. He is the faculty chair of the computer science department, and has been a staunch supporter the 3-D printer in the library.

“One of the reasons he got picked, and one of the reasons that we’ve been working with him is because of the 3-D printer,” Dallas stated. “That’s his relationship with the library.”

Leuszler encourages people to email him at hleuszler@parkland.edu.

“It is also important that we know how they are maintained, and why we appreciate the community,” said Sarah Meilike, a Parkland librarian. “It was a way to reach out to the community and say thank you, and how much we appreciate the community.”

For those interested in improving their understanding of how prairie ecosystems work, students can use fire to maintain prairie ecology.

“Burning the prairies is one tool they use to maintain the health and stability of the prairies, so I want the students to be exposed to it,” Leuszler says. “This is done by doing a fire, and arranging as to represent favorite prairies. This event was held in front of the library this year. A few of the books mentioned were “If You Give a Cat a Cupcake,” “Harold and the Purple Crayon,” and “Star Trek Cats.”

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Little Theatre to host

Dracula and others

George Chambers, Academic Award winner for best stage performance as Bela Lugosi in “Yes, Yes, Yes”, will reprise his role in the title role of Dracula, as announced by Dr. Richard Keen, Director of Little Theatre. The production is set for October 10, 11 and 12, at 8 pm in the Little Theatre in the Student Union. "It’s a great opportunity for the students," said Keen. "It’s a chance for them to show what they can do." The Little Theatre will also be presenting "Dracula’s Night Out," a musical which will run for three days, October 13, 14 and 15, at 8 pm. The show will feature a cast of local performers and a live orchestra. "The Little Theatre is a great place to see live theatre," said Keen. "It’s a great opportunity for the students to see what they can do." The Little Theatre is located in the Student Union, on the first floor of the Student Union. "It’s a great opportunity for the students," said Keen. "It’s a chance for them to show what they can do." 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**PUZZLES&COMICS**

**Crossword (solve for the answers below)**

**ACROSS**
1. The Italian student leaves Jesus College in Cambridge for one in Oxford (6,6)
9. After final portion of vindaloo, time in the bog is required – many a time (5)
10. Driving back from endless binge – utter lunatic! (9)
11. Washing up liquid (9)
12. South American uses it to pay sweetener to Frenchman (5)
13. Live with uncontrolled desire (6)
15. Turned around the car, almost plunging into the grass (8)
18. Man United’s opposition? (8)
19. They can be worn on the sleeve of a suit and there (6)
22. Showy splendour’s reflected in some festal celebrations (5)
24. Throw Liverpudlian into a stew (9,3)
26. She saw girl following an investigation out East (9)
27. Piece of eight? (5)

**DOWN**
1. Thick soup is food to the German (7)
2. Priest not empowered to perform ceremonies? (5)
3. Snack, very loosely speaking, provided by club (4,5)
4. It follows that he came across a bad egg here and there (6)
5. Peacekeepers under British leader fighting to relieve oppression (8)
6. Animal shelters in broken down Escort, having run away (5)
7. Find or even records finished playing (9)
8. A vice that’s accepted (6)
14. One’s name may often be on it being extremely prone to illness, lacking energy (4,4)
16. Try to accommodate too many people – more than 100, on the fourth row (8)
17. Arrived and, being unimportant, found the red carpet thus? (6,2)
18. Schism causes endless damage to church (6)
20. At university to get first in philosophy? Much would be required here! (2,3)
21. Wear down a fabric, say (6)
23. Refuse to have reckless time at fi rst (5)
25. At university to get fi rst in philosophy? Much would be required here! (2,3)

**Sudoku**

Answers from last week

**Fact or Fiction**

**FACT:** Gusts in the Gulf of Tehuantapec were once recorded at 135 miles per hour. The force of this wind was great enough to “sandblast” some of the paint off the ship that took this measurement. Violent winds are not rare in the gulf, as already-dense air is forced through a thin mountain gap in southern Mexico and expands outward over the sea.
Jeff Karoub
Associated Press

DEARBORN, Mich. (AP) — In her role as a refugee case manager, Fatima Farrow would come to work in a white building in the Arab community in Dearborn, in a city near Detroit. Although she was born and raised in the United States, she found it easier to communicate with those who share the same religion.

"It's challenging because the stories and the articles and the books and the movies and the TV shows all have non-Muslim people as heroes. They are written by people who don't share your experiences or your culture or your faith," she said.

She grew up in a large family of Arab Muslims and is now a teacher at the Islamic Institute of Milwaukee, a school with an enrollment of about 100 students. She said she enjoys teaching because it allows her to share her knowledge and experiences with others.

"I feel honored to be able to do this work and to be able to share my stories with others," she said. "It's a way for me to give back and to help others understand the richness of our culture and our religion."

Fatima Farrow, a leading expert on the Arab and Muslim American community, has been working to help bridge the gap between the two cultures. She said she sees the need for more education and understanding on both sides.

"I think there's a lot of ignorance and misunderstanding on both sides," she said. "We need to work together to create a better understanding and to work towards greater unity and reconciliation."
As the world watches, America's most challenging environmental crisis, and one that threatens our very survival, appears at first glance. It is easy to despair. Thor Leuszler, a sustainability expert, has seen it all before. "It's a role. The first Earth Day was a nationwide protest, bringing together nearly 20 million Americans to a series of dramatic events in major cities, "Leuszler says. "Sustainability asks us to take action to protect our planet."

"I think the easiest thing to do is just buy reusable bags. It's a way to make a small change that has a big impact. If we can get it into our heads that were making a difference, we can create a more sustainable future."

If you're considering starting a business, you might be interested in learning more about the potential of the manufacturing industry in the United States. According to recent studies, the United States is leading the world in manufacturing, with new technologies and processes being developed to increase efficiency and reduce costs. This trend is expected to continue in the coming years, offering opportunities for entrepreneurs to explore new markets and capitalize on the growth of the manufacturing sector. If you're interested in learning more about the manufacturing industry in the United States, please feel free to contact me at [email protected].

--Dane!.txt
Looking for Spring Housing?

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