A Different Kind of All-Nighter

Many students have to pull an all-nighter sometime during their undergraduate years, but the one Sarah Bryan ’10 and Mia Lieb-Lappen ’10 are preparing for isn’t because they started a paper too late. The pair are the chairwomen of the 2010 Relay for Life of Middlebury College, an American Cancer Society event that will take place this year from three in the afternoon on Friday, April 23, until ten a.m. the next day. Relay e-mails from Mia and Sarah are signed with their slogan, “Cancer doesn’t sleep, so why should we?”

This is a special year for the Middlebury College Relay because this year’s event will most likely bring the total money raised by the College’s Relays over the past seven years above $1,000,000. With $55,000 to go to reach the million-dollar mark, it is a fitting year for such a milestone because Mia’s brother Ross Lieb-Lappen ’07 and his classmate Meg Young brought Relay for Life to Middlebury College in 2004 and co-chaired the event again in 2005.

Mia has participated in Relay in her home state of Massachusetts since she was six years old. Sarah had never heard about Relay before coming to Middlebury, but she got involved as a first-year student when she saw a flier posted. “Sarah was abroad last spring so she couldn’t walk, but she was one of the biggest fundraisers and she wasn’t even in the country,” Mia says, describing Sarah’s support of the Middlebury College Relay.

The duo and the many students who make up the various Relay committees (planning, survivorship, ceremonies, registration, food & beverage, publicity, logistics, sponsorship, entertainment) have set some lofty goals and are dedicating the time and energy to reach them: they hope that the 2010 Relay will raise $130,000 and include 40 survivors, 100 teams, and 150 community members from outside the College.

“Don’t Let Cancer Pass Go”
The theme of this year’s Relay is Board Games, with “Don’t Let Cancer Pass Go” as the motto. “We wanted it to be something that people of all ages can have fun at. It is a family event with a different kind of all-nighter.”

Mia Lieb-Lappen and Sarah Bryan

Reminder: Banner 8 Upgrade
February 17-21
The College’s Banner system is slated for a major upgrade early this spring semester, as we move from the current version of the software to a major new release, Banner 8. This level of upgrade happens only every few years. Because of its complexity, BannerWeb and the production database for Banner INB will be unavailable from 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 17 through Sunday, February 21. The system will be opened up for access by all on Monday morning, February 22.

Our thanks for the many hours staff members continue to dedicate to this process to ensure a smooth transition. If you have questions, College staff may contact the functional or technical lead for your area, or feel free to contact Jeff Rehbach in LIS.

~ Jeff Rehbach
Faculty Grants

John Schmitt (Mathematics) has received a Young Investigators Grant from the National Security Agency to fund a two-year research project in discrete mathematics. John will seek an algorithmic solution to a problem in graph theory concerning integer sequences. This grant includes some support for John’s 2009-2010 academic leave.

Richard Wolfson (Physics) has been awarded a National Science Foundation grant to investigate the physics of magnetic energy buildup in the solar corona, which can lead to the violent eruptive outbursts known as coronal mass ejections. This project, which will fund part of his 2010-2011 leave, will introduce a computational technique known as the finite-element method to solar physics, and will involve undergraduates in the research. The work should increase understanding of the pre-eruption solar corona and may enhance our ability to predict space weather and the terrestrial impacts of solar activity.

Steve Abbott (Mathematics) has received Fellowship support from Clare Hall and the Centre for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (CRASSH) at the University of Cambridge, England, to work on his book Mathematics as Art in Contemporary Theater during his 2010-2011 leave. By exploring the aesthetic kinship between theater and mathematics, the book will highlight the role of mathematics within the vibrant new genre of “science theater.”

John McWilliams (Humanities) has been awarded an NEH Fellowship to support his academic leave in 2011 during which he plans to complete work on a book project titled Revolution and the Historical Novel. His goal is to write the most authoritative study of revolutionary politics in the historical novel yet to appear in print.

Relay for Life, ctd. from page 1

activities for kids,” Mia says, adding, “Relay is a mixture of the fun of celebrating life and survivorship with the serious goal of doing something important to fight cancer.”

Each year the event begins on a Friday afternoon with at least one walker from each team taking to the course on the practice fields in back of the athletic complex, and the walking continues without pause through the night for about 19 hours. There will be games set up to entertain team members when they’re not walking. Area businesses have been incredibly generous and supportive of the Relay, donating food, beverages, and supplies to keep the walkers moving. College voice and dance groups entertain participants at various times throughout the night, adding to the celebration.

The students organizing the 2010 Relay are staying focused on the second and third parts of the Relay for Life motto, Celebrate. Remember. Fight Back., as well. When teams and walkers register on www.relayforlife.org/middleburycollege, they are given tips on how to ask for donations in support of cancer research, raising money to fight back against the disease. The ceremonies that take place during the relay serve to both celebrate victories achieved over cancer and remember loved ones lost to the disease, and they can be very emotional parts of the relay experience.

The Luminaria Ceremony is one that Mia finds most powerful; illuminated bags are set out along the course, each bearing a name, either in memory of loved ones lost to cancer, or to honor those who are fighting the disease now or for survivors who have won their battle. Following the Luminaria lighting is a touching slideshow of photos sent in by any participants who wish to celebrate or remember those touched by cancer. Another emotional and powerful time is the Survivors’ Lap when people living with cancer, survivors, and their families lead a victory lap of the course.

Get Involved

Sarah and Mia appreciate the approximately 50 to 60 student volunteers who are working on the event. They say that many students have participated in Relay for Life in their hometowns before coming to Middlebury, and they bring fresh ideas for this year’s fundraiser. Two goals for the Relay this year are to get more participation from staff and faculty and also from community members who are not employed at the College. “Relay is a great way for the community and the College to get involved in something together, a great way for students to meet people from town and for townspeople to come on campus and get to know students while all raising money for such an important cause,” Sarah says.

“There is a mixture of the fun of celebrating life and survivorship with the serious goal of doing something important to fight cancer.”

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There are many ways to get involved: start a team, join a team, donate to a walker’s team, donate for luminaria and participate in the ceremonies, serve on one of the planning committees that make the event happen, or volunteer on relay day. Anyone who wishes to form or join a team should go to the Relay website at: www.relayforlife.org/middleburycollege. If you would like to serve on a Relay committee or volunteer on April 23rd, please e-mail Sarah and Mia at relayforlife@middlebury.edu. Many students formed and joined teams at a kick-off event held last month at The Grille, and another event will take place in March at 51 Main.

Mia describes what makes the Relay for Life so wonderful by saying, “It raises a ton of money AND there is so much emotional support” for those who are remembering loved ones lost to the disease, for those fighting cancer who participate, and for the survivors who inspire and give us hope.

~ Liz Hammel
Notice: Make TIAA-CREF appointments by telephone

Until further notice, please call Melissa Prunier, toll free at 866.904.7801 x275142, or direct at 603.653.5142 to schedule an appointment with Erik Moreau, TIAA-CREF Consultant. Erik will be on campus for one-on-one visits on three Tuesdays coming up: February 16, March 9, and March 23.

VTrans Launches New Web-Based Carpooling Program

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) through its Go Vermont initiative has launched a new, state-of-the-art ridesharing program. The new program offers those seeking to carpool an Internet tool to search for others who rideshare. The new, web-based program replaces the Vermont Rideshare Program, and the new tool is reported to offer quick and easy service for people looking to ride share not only within Vermont, but also anywhere within the entire tri-state area of Vermont, Maine and New Hampshire.

Go Vermont is VTrans’ web-based clearinghouse for all kinds of alternative transportation options, including carpools, vanpools, public transit, and rail services, as well as park-&-ride locations. Registering with Go Vermont automatically qualifies carpoolers for a “guaranteed ride home” in case of emergency. This benefit provides those who use the website with an “insurance policy” in case either they or their driver has an unexpected schedule change. Registrants also can obtain parking passes for designated spaces at participating employers, as well as qualify them for any incentive and drawings offered directly through the Go Vermont program.

This free resource can be accessed by visiting www.connectingcommuters.org or by calling 800.683.RIDE.

OHIC sponsors Pilates classes with Nina Vila

Nina Vila of the Vermont Center for Classical Pilates will teach Pilates classes open to College students, faculty, and staff. Newcomers are welcome.

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-1:20 p.m., starting February 16; 10 weeks total Mahaney Center for the Arts, Dance Studio (room 109)
Price: once/week (come on either day) $60; twice/week $120*

* The first 10 College faculty/staff to register will receive a $20 discount, courtesy of the Optimal Health Initiative Committee. Sorry, this discount is limited to current faculty/staff only; other ID card holders are not eligible.

Register starting February 8 online at http://go/tickets (from off-campus: http://www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets) or at either Box Office location (McCullough or Mahaney CFA). Registration closes February 26. Questions? Nina Vila at 388.7400, ninavccp@gmail.com; or Liza Lloyd at x3169, liza@middlebury.edu.

Sunday 2/7/10
Middlebury College Kids’ Party
3:00 P.M., Mahaney CFA, Concert Hall
President and Mrs. Liebowitz invite College employees, their children, and grandchildren to a performance with the Middlebury College Choir, refreshments, and more.

Opening Friday 2/12/10 (on view through June 6)
American Paintings and Prints from Shelburne Museum
Middlebury College Museum of Art
30 works celebrating the American landscape and its inhabitants, including pieces by Thomas Cole, Edward Hicks, and Martin Johnson Heade, among many others. Free

Saturday 2/13/10
Sophie Shao & Friends
8:00 P.M., Mahaney CFA, Concert Hall
Past Middlebury performances by this young cellist were met by standing ovations. The concert program includes works by Schumann, Mendelssohn, and Fauré. Tickets: $24/18/6. xMIDD or www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets

Saturday 2/27/10
Voices, with Philip Hamilton ’82
8:00 P.M., McCullough
An original a cappella performance that fuses global rhythms and influences, from Tuvan throat singing to hip-hop beat-boxing, and from Gregorian chants to barbershop quartets. Tickets: $24/18/6. xMIDD or www.middlebury.edu/arts/tickets
Classifieds

Classified ads are free for members of the staff, faculty, student body and alumni of Middlebury College. Ads must be submitted seven days prior to the publication date. Guidelines for ads can be found on the MiddPoints section of the HR Website. Please send ads to Classifieds, MiddPoints, HR, Service Building, or e-mail to middpoints@middlebury.edu (electronic submissions preferred).

Real Estate

For Sale: 3 BR Cape (1,500 sq. ft.), Great country locat. 25 min. SW of Middlebury in Orwell. Open floor plan, LR, DR, mud-room, eat-in kitchen, 1-3/4 BA (recently remodeled), addition w/ office, laundry, & addit. storage. Kitchen has stainless steel appliances. Property just under 1 acre on hill w/ beautiful Adk. views, surrounded by woods & farmland. Barn, swing set, perennial flowers & fruit trees, lots of gardening space, close to Lake Champlain. Sunset Lake, Lake Bomoseen. $155,000. Photos avail. Contact Stacey at x5898, 802.989.1309 or sthebodo@middlebury.edu.

For Sale: House for rent, weekends and holidays, January 1 – May 1. Charming, in-town, artist-owned 1850s home in prime Midd. location. Sleeps up to 6: 2.5 BR up, 1 BR down, 2 full BA. Easy walk to College and to downtown stores, restaurants, galleries. Fully equipped kitchen. Bedding & towels provided. Heat included as well as full use of washer, dryer, dishwasher, cable TV, Internet. Two-night min.: $75/person/night; if a party of 6, $350/night for group. Freshly bought ingredients for make-your-own breakfast provided. Dog negotiable; no cats. Contact mambolvt@gmail.com.

For Rent: Cute 3BR/2BA house 4 mi. from downtown Midd in quiet neighborhood. Owned by Midd alum and staff member. Upstairs: 2 BR, kitchen, living, BA, washer/dryer, deck. Downstairs: kitchen, 1BR, BA, office, living area. One car garage. $1,300/mo. includes mowing/plowing. Renter pays utilities. Also an option to rent just upstairs or downstairs (separate entrances). No smoking, no pets. Please contact Manuel with any questions: 802.989.3616 or mcarball@middlebury.edu.

Misc.

For Sale: NordicTrack 1300 commercial elliptical machine. 1 yr. old, gently used, $600. Call 802.922.5951.

For Sale: John Deer 112 tractor w/mower; new belts, deck completely rebuilt. Like new. $425. Call 388.3097.

Free

Free to a good home: 4 yr. old female black lab - sweet, loving, playful. Spayed, vaccs. current. Sammy has hip joint issues & is on daily supplement. Her home needs to be one w/out small children. If you have questions or would like to meet her contact Sheila at sandrus@middlebury.edu or 388.9643.

Wanted

Summer Housing Wanted: I am a 2nd year Bread Loaf student looking for summer housing for my family of four, ideally a 3 BR in East Midd. or Midd., but we would certainly consider other locations if they’re convenient. We’d like to rent from June 15 through August 15 but can be somewhat flexible. We are very responsible and would take wonderful care of your property. Please contact Kristin Liu at awsumbliu@gmail.com.

Wanted: 3 drawer, horizontally oriented dresser. Please contact Madeleine at mwinterf@middlebury.edu or x2007.

Wanted: Preferably furnished place to live for spring term w/in walking distance of campus for a post-grad. House-sitting also an option. Will be responsible, very clean, and will leave place pristine by the end of stay. Non-smoker and non-drinker. Contact: 727.488.3175 or chelsea.utterback@gmail.com.

Middlebury History

This month in

25 years ago Murray Dry (Political Science), Elizabeth Endicott-West (History), and John Hunisack (Art) received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities. On a unanimous vote of Community Council, the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity was reactivated after about 16 years of dormancy.

10 years ago Research by Susan Campbell (Psychology) was the focus of an article titled “Love Potion: Forget Objectivity Say Psychologists” in the Boston Globe Sunday Magazine. John Elder (English and Environmental Studies) received a Fulbright Scholar Award to support research on “The Italian Career of George Perkins Marsh.”

5 years ago Legal affairs reporter Jeffrey Toobin of CNN and The New Yorker spoke in McCordell Bicentennial Hall on “Monica, O.J., Kobe, and Martha: Covering the Law From Inside and Out.” Congressman Bernie Sanders was keynote speaker at a countywide community summit on poverty held by the Alliance for Civic Engagement and United Way of Addison County.