2009 Brings More Students and More Room to UACCM!

Whether you are just beginning your journey at UACCM, or if you have been here a while, welcome back! The semester is officially underway, and it looks like UACCM is on the way to breaking another enrollment record! Preliminary numbers show that the college has achieved an increase in the number of students of approximately 15.5 percent over the spring 2008 semester. Watch the UACCM Web site and the next issue of “The Campus Link” for a detailed look at this semester’s student population.

Not only are our student numbers up, but our campus is growing, too. UACCM announced on Friday, January 16, that the University of Arkansas System Board of Trustees approved the purchase of the former Greer’s Building located at 115 Broadway in historic downtown Morrilton. The 7,500-square-foot building will eventually house the UACCM Community Outreach Department.

Moving the Community Outreach Department downtown is expected to alleviate the competition for parking and classroom spaces to accommodate a growing student population. This will also give the college a much-needed presence in the downtown area, which will hopefully bring more business to downtown merchants and enhance the aesthetics and activities of the area.

An architectural renovation plan will be prepared following the transfer of the building’s title to the University of Arkansas System, but initial planning indicates the possibility of a gallery area, offices, three classrooms, a computer lab, and a conference room.

The Community Outreach Program offers business and industry training, non-credit community education courses, seminars, and workshops. For more information on the ongoing project, watch the UACCM Web site at www.uaccm.edu.<http://www.uaccm.edu>.

Good luck and enjoy this semester!

You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown

The UACCM theatre department will produce its first spring musical, You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown, to be performed in the UACCM Fine Arts Auditorium on April 16, 17, 25, and 26.

Based on Charles Schulz’s loveable Peanuts characters, this award winning musical is created from little moments picked from all the days of Charlie Brown.

Anyone interested in performing should attend the general audition on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 6:00 pm in the UACCM Fine Arts Auditorium. Auditions are open to the community, and no prior experience is necessary. Those wishing to audition should be prepared to sing a simple song of their choice (Happy Birthday, Mary Had a Little Lamb, etc.) without accompaniment. Readings from the script will be assigned at the audition. If you have any questions, or for further information, contact UACCM Speech/Theatre Instructor Jim Harris at (501) 977-2118 or at harris@uaccm.edu.

“Essie the Blues Lady” to Present Free Concert

Essie Neal, better known as “Essie the Blues Lady,” will present a free blues concert on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the UACCM Fine Arts Auditorium. The concert, part of the college’s Black History Month tribute, will be open to the public and free of charge.

Born to a musical family and raised in central Arkansas, she learned to play the guitar at twelve years of age. Neal says “When the chores were done and the sun set in the evening, it was music time.” Her father played several instruments and her mother sang while she and her sisters and brothers would listen for hours. Determined to learn to play, Neal started picking her dad’s guitar when he was at work. She formed an all-female blues band, “Queen Bee and the Soul Seekers” in the 1970’s and toured Arkansas and surrounding states. Her performances showcase a great variety of blues styles and tunes, including her own compositions. In 2008, Neal was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame, and she was quoted as saying “I was born into the blues, I was raised on the blues, and I’m a product of the blues.”

All students are encouraged to attend what promises to be an entertaining event for the whole family. For more information, contact Jacob Ward at (501) 977-2142 or at ward@uaccm.edu.
Students: Get in Shape by Spring Break and Win $$

Were the holidays unkind to your waistline? Has the luster already worn off your New Year’s resolution to get fit? Would you like to lose some POUNDS and gain some MONEY in a competition against your fellow students? If any of the above applies to you, the Get in Shape by Spring Break contest is just for you. Sponsored by the UACCM Student Government Association, the contest will test your willpower and determination and can lead to better health, some extra money, and bragging rights when you step out on the beach for spring break. Read on for more info.

The Basics

• Contest begins on Monday, February 2
• Contest is open to all UACCM students
• Deadline for entry is Thursday, January 29 (see more below)
• Winners will be determined using a percent of bodyweight lost system (we’ll base it on the total percentage of your bodyweight lost, not just pounds…so even if you just need to lose a few, you still have a good chance to win!)
• Contestants weigh-in with “The Weighmaster” at the beginning and end of the contest (don’t worry, it’ll be just the two of you—watch your E-mail for specific weigh-in dates)
• The top three winners (or losers) in the contest will win prizes as follows:
  1st place-$100.00
  2nd place-$50.00
  3rd place-$25.00

The “Rules” (some serious, some not so much)

• No shoes, coats or pocket weights (including excessive change) allowed during weigh-in
• You MUST weigh-in on our pre-approved scale each week
• Contestants are encouraged to utilize the UACCM Walking Trail at the west end of campus and the Fitness Center in the Kirk Building during the contest. Weight Watchers also meets each week in the Business Technology Center for anyone interested in joining.
• Contestants are encouraged to sabotage fellow participants by bringing doughnuts, cookies, or other calorie-laden foods to class
• Binge and purge is NOT an acceptable diet plan—violators will be disqualified
• Comments like “Wow! Looks like you packed on a few over the holidays!” and “Aww when’s your due date?” can really help motivate fellow participants.

WARNING: Do this at your own risk.

Seriously, we want to motivate contestants to have fun and be healthier in 2009. This is meant to be a fun, competitive contest, so plan accordingly. We are conducting this contest in conjunction with the Slim and Trim with KVOM contest, so your participation will not only benefit you, but will also show the community that our college is committed to good health in the new year. Oh yeah, and the faculty and staff at UACCM are going to be doing their own weight-loss contest too, so you won’t be alone!

If you want to participate and maybe win some spring break fun money, sign up at the table in the lobby of the University Center or in the Student Center in the Kirk Building by Thursday, January 29. Watch the UACCM Web site and your student E-mail for more information. We’ll see you at the scale!

Become a Lab Rat

One of the great services offered by UACCM is a series of free tutoring labs to help you brush up on your math, computer, and writing skills. The writing center is located in room 114 in the Kirk Building and is open at the following times:
• Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday — 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
• Monday—7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in Kirk Building and 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. in room 215 in the University Center

The math lab is located in room 215 in the University Center and is open during the following hours:
• Monday—7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
• Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday—7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

The computer lab in Room 114 of the Business Technology Center is open during the following times:
• Monday through Thursday—7:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
• Friday—7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.