

THE GUSTAVIAN WEEKLY

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ISSUE 1

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Record \$40 million donation makes history

Alumni couple changes the future of Gustavus

Caroline Probst
Editor-in-Chief

Gustavus should be at the forefront of liberal arts education for years to come thanks to a record-breaking \$40 million donation from an anonymous alumni couple.

This remarkable gift is the largest of several significant donations received by the college in recent years.

The series of sizable bequests started in 2011, when Gustavus received its first eight-figure donation of \$16 million.

Tom Young, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, described this donation as a major "breakthrough for the school."

In 2015, that record contribution was topped by a \$25 million donation tagged to fund the renovation of the Nobel Hall of Science.

"That [donation] raised the bar for everybody," he said. "It was because of that \$16 million commitment in 2011 that we were able to invite the \$25 million commitment that really has become the anchor gift for the renovation of the Nobel Hall of Science."

The first phase of Nobel's renovation will occur April through June 2018.

The Schaefer Fine Arts Center and Nobel Hall projects also will be underway then and completed by summer 2019.

The second and final phase of the Nobel activity will be



The atrium of Nobel Hall after extensive renovations.

Submitted

The refreshed building will feature state-of-the-art education and technology resources.

"It really feels touchable," Julie Bartley, Associate Provost and Dean of Sciences and Education said.

When the labs now in use were built in 1962, teaching methods were very different from today.

The future classrooms were designed with collaborative work in mind and to create an intimate learning environment for all who use them.

Students will have more hands-on work with scientific equipment they likely will use post-graduation.

This remarkable gift is the largest of several significant donations received by the college in recent years.

Another portion of the donation creates scholarships to encourage talented students to attend Gustavus and help build the college's academic reputation.

These scholarships have already been awarded to handful of current students.

"This is our time," Young said. "Something is happening for Gustavus right now that I hope we'll look back on as a point in the history of the college. That sounds big. For the sake of our continued academic excellence, I hope that it is that big."

finished by late 2020.

Now, the generosity of alumni has reached the remarkable \$40 million mark.

Young is excited about the gift and what the future holds for the college.

"What they [donors] hope is that everybody else will do exactly what they've done," Young said. "They want to be

a part of changing the history of the college and are hoping that everybody will join them in making the best possible gift they can make."

The \$40 million gift is one of the largest donations ever given to a Minnesota private college.

Because the Associated Press covered the story, the news spread nationwide and was

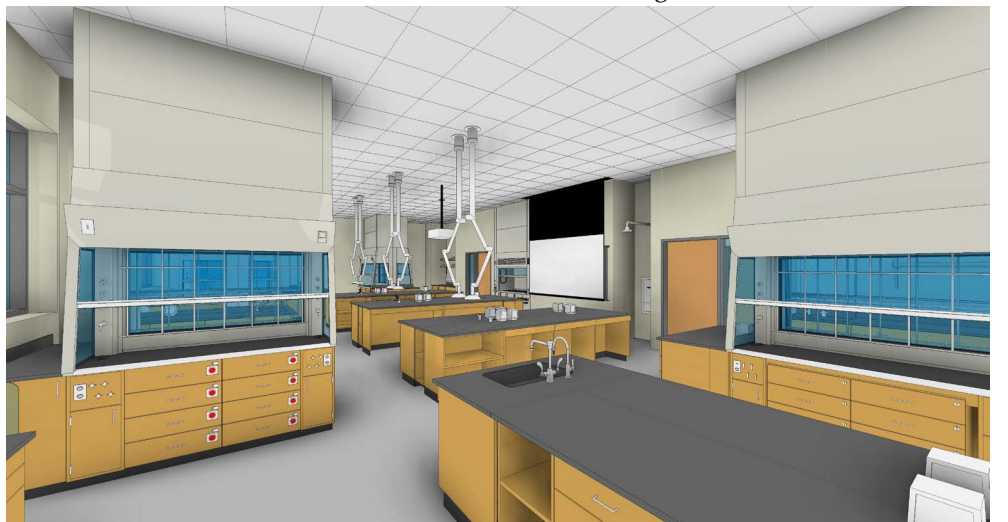
covered by major news outlets.

As a result, Gustavus has received an outpouring of support and congratulations from alumni and other groups across the country.

Part of the most recent donation contributes to the top-to-bottom renovation of Nobel Hall, work that has been planned for the past six years.



The exterior of Nobel after it is finished being remodeled.



A future Chemistry lab once all the new features are added.

Submitted

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New additions added to Anderson building

Education Department boasts advanced outdoor classroom and garden

Corbyn Jenkins
News Writer

Future Gustie teachers came back to campus this fall to discover multiple new additions added to their “new” home on campus.

These new additions to Anderson Hall include an outdoor classroom located in front of the building and a beautiful garden in the back.

“We are all so excited about

the building and grounds! It’s been a joy to watch them develop around us. We’re all still getting our “sea legs” with the new spaces, and that includes the outdoor spaces,” Professor in education Lisa Dembouski, said.

The students are very excited to spend time in the outdoor classroom this fall.

“I love the new outdoor classroom and garden! I think it really adds to our campus and the opportunities that a class

can give us,” Sophomore and Education Department student worker, Mikayla Kendall said.

These new spaces will be used for multiple purposes which will be beneficial to current and future Gustavus faculty.

“Several of us faculty are thinking of more ways to not only utilize the spaces for our own students but also how to model their use for our teachers-to-be and THEIR use of outdoor classroom spaces. Everything is still a work in progress, but we

could not be more delighted about how they’re turning out,” Dembouski said.

These new classroom spaces will provide Education students with a space to interact and collaborate with each other even more.

“The collaborative and interactive classroom spaces provided in the newly remodeled Anderson Hall enable us to model best practices in education, preparing our teacher education candidates to teach Twenty-first

Century learners. It’s exciting to be able to equip our candidates to meet the needs of today’s learners,” Professor in Education Amy Vizenor said.

The colorful garden located in the back of the building isn’t just for looks.

“Elementary education students learn about phenology which is the study of how plants

‘Anderson building’ continues on page 3

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The Gustavus Fund Student Phonathon will run from September 30 to November 9
 APPLICATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 22

Gain professional experience. Connect with alumni, parents and friends of Gustavus. Build support for the Gustavus Fund.

- Earn \$12 per hour
- You can do this AND your regular student employment
- Shifts are 5:45–9:00 p.m.
- Daily shifts with flexibility

Interviews are happening on a rolling basis, so get your application in early!

Apply online at www.phonathon.com with entry code GAC17F.

For questions contact:
 Katie Schroeder '03 at 507-933-7539 or kschroe7@gustavus.edu

Sponsored by the Gustavus Fund.

'Anderson building' continued from page 2

and animals respond to cyclical seasonal changes. These events might include: flowering, fruiting, bird migration, or animal reproduction. The garden plantings are dominated by native wildflowers, including several kinds of cone flowers, milkweeds, liatris, and paintbrush, to name just a few. These flowers are originally native to

the prairie biome of the St. Peter area," Professor in education, Michele Koomen, said.

The new gardens provide an excellent learning opportunity because "Our education students will learn about the science of phenology by documenting the seasonal changes of the plants which is very applicable to their future elementary outdoor science teaching. In addition, the gardens are a springboard to other citizen science endeavors for our students as future teachers, such as

monitoring monarchs and birds through the Monarch Larva Monitoring (University of Minnesota) project or eBird (Cornell University)," Koomen said.

The Gustavus community, especially Education students and faculty, are so grateful to have such an incredible resource and hall located right on campus.

"We are grateful to all the stakeholders involved in moving the Anderson project forward. The renovated building makes a difference," Vizenor said.

It makes a difference not only for the Gustavus community, but the local schools in St. Peter as well.

"We are thrilled that we have a dedicated outdoor learning space and model native gardens! Research is very strong on the value of taking K-12 students outdoors for learning in science and other curricular areas, but also for releasing stress and promoting well being, including a longer attention span. We look forward to using the gardens with our Gustavus

students and K-12 students from St. Peter and other local schools," Koomen said.

The Education Department will be hosting an Affinity Group for Homecoming this year and hope to see education majors, thinking-about-it-students, and alumni and friends on Sept. 23.

Class of 2021 moves up the hill



Gustie Greeters hollar and cheer for the incoming freshman as they drive up the hill.

Abby Anderson

Monali Bhakta
News Editor

In the summer leading up to a student's first year at college, there are various emotions a student could be feeling.

Some are ecstatic that they are moving away from their parents and creating a life that is their own, whereas others are nervous about leaving their support system as they must figure out how to navigate through this momentous milestone.

When it came time for the incoming freshmen to move in, they were first introduced to their Collegiate Fellows (CF's) either in Sohre, Pittman, or Norelius Hall.

"It actually went smoother than I thought...I set up my room, got to meet my CF right away, Taylor, and I couldn't have expected it to be any better," First-Year Hannah Boeze said.

Aside from checking students in, Collegiate Fellows are meant to provide their residents with assistance as they settle into their room and learn how to adjust to the college lifestyle.

In regards to interacting with residents for the first time, "it felt really good. I know so many thoughts go through their heads...they're scared or excited, so helping them and making them move-in a little bit easier

made me really happy," Sophomore CF, Taylor Kmiech said.

The whole purpose of a CF is to ensure students feel safe and welcome in the living quarters they call their "home away from home."

The CF's understand the transition to dorm life is not easy, especially when experiencing it for the first time. As a fellow upperclassman who endured similar circumstances, they know how to handle lingering emotions of homesickness.

"It was more stressful when the parents were here...you feel more tense because they're assuming you need to be sad...but they left and you kind of get on your way," Boeze continued.

In the first couple days, they played ice breaker games, made their community agreements, and shared the most interesting facts about each other. While move in day was focused on students hauling belongings into their room, the CF's were already looking forward to the upcoming year.

"I'm just excited to create fun memories with my residents and make their experience at GAC one of the best," Kmiech said.

After students were situated into their dorms and said emotional goodbyes to their families, it was time to dive into the New Student Orientation. This program was designed to be an

engaging experience that introduced students to the uplifting campus environment.

Students were separated into orientation groups led by the well-rounded, knowledgeable Gustie Greeter, who introduced them to essential aspects of the college.

"For me, one of the more important things was talking about the things people don't want to talk about...if people

aren't clear and concise about those, their safety is at risk," Sophomore Gustie Greeter, Nicole Pfalz said.

Both the greeters and students had the opportunity to know more about each other by sharing their interests and engaging in playful banter. Greeters made sure to do their job well, so they could be an informational support system for their freshmen during the academic year.

"You met a whole set of people, so all the different events where they have us mingling and getting to know each other and talking is probably the best part," Boeze said.

All first years attended the formal President's Banquet where Rebecca Bergman and Student Senate President Co-Presidents, Solveig Svendsen and Hubert Ngabirano gave passionate speeches.

The Greeters encouraged them to attend social events such as the Square Dance in the Lund parking lot, where they could potentially find their soulmate.

"It was really cool, just because it's getting out of your comfort zone and dancing even if you don't like dancing...it makes me happy that they want to branch out and meet new people and become apart of the community we have on campus," Pfalz said.

Along with that, students could show off their funky

moves at the back-to-back Dive Dances held in the lower level of campus center.

Students also saw the live performance of the Minneapolis-based social justice troupe, You. Me. We., whose powerful message was to show that despite differences, human beings are all bound by certain commonalities.

For more reserved individuals, the Greeters had organized a Grocery Bingo in the Evelyn Young Dining Hall, where they had prizes consisting of a popcorn maker, comfy chair, candy, and pretzels.

The prizes kept getting bigger as the bingo went on.

There were also small social events held by the Diversity Center, the Pan-Afrikan Student Organization, LGBTQA, and the Womyn's Awareness Center.

Throughout these eventful days, students had gotten to understand the five core values at Gustavus such as Justice, Faith, Service, Community, and Excellence.

For many individuals, Orientation Week has given the students the stability to survive their first year of college.

"I'm just excited to actually live in the moment...and experience this stuff that others have before me...I'm probably happier now than I've ever been" Boeze said.



A first year student talks to the information desk to receive her orientation information on move-in day.

Caroline Probst

GUSTIE of the WEEK

Sarah Anderson

Sarah Knutson
Variety Editor

Sophomore Sarah Anderson is a ray of sunshine on The Hill. Her contagious smile and positive attitude extend across campus, which shows in her academics, athletics, and other activities she's involved with on campus.

Having graduated from Irondale High School, Sarah chose Gustavus for the location. She found the switch from city life to the slow pace of St. Peter refreshing.

She valued the school's focus on the environment and our community.

"I lived close to the cities, so everything was always hustle and bustle. Here at Gustavus I found myself embracing the small town atmosphere and the stillness of life. Being at Gustavus taught me to appreciate life and everything it has to offer," Sarah said.

Despite Sarah loving the tranquil city of St. Peter, she has not slowed down—in fact, she runs even faster than before.

Sarah is a successful member of the cross country team, indoor track, outdoor track, and the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

As the new cross country season takes off running, Sarah is looking forward to moving up with the team, hoping to score top 30 in the MIAC conference as a personal goal.

"Sarah exemplifies everything that is valued as a Gustie. She makes everyone's day better by just being herself."

—Coach Huber

The girls team is striving to score top five in the conference and to build on their positive environment to help each runner grow.

Cross Country Coach Brenden Huber met Sarah at one of her cross country meets during her senior year of high school and saw her upbeat personality and leadership.

"As a person, Sarah is caring and thoughtful towards everyone around her. As an athlete, she is dedicated to being her best; has a phenomenal work ethic and attitude," Huber said.

On top of being a successful athlete, Sarah, and fellow cross country runner Sam Abegglen,

decided to audition for handbells together last year.

Although never being musically inclined, she wanted to try a new activity.

"We had a blast getting to know our fellow ringers and Chad Winterfeldt makes rehearsal so much fun. Even though neither of us had any handbell experience, we tried our best and had a lot of laughs along the way," Abegglen said.

While running and ringing take up most of her time, Sarah still finds academics her main focus at Gustavus.

She decided to be a biology major due to her fascination with human anatomy and the environment.

Her love for people and the environment has brought Sarah into a field where she is flourishing.

This past summer Sarah worked on campus as part of the FYRE Program (First-Year Research Experience) with the biology department and Professor Amy Kochsiek, studying the carbon storage potential of different landscapes in and around Gustavus.

Students, under the advisement of Kochsiek, focused on the restored prairie in the Arboretum to see if restoring ecosystems could have an impact on



Abby Anderson

Sarah loves spending time outside, especially in the arb.

increasing the amount of carbon storage in the soil.

An avid fan of crops and art, Sarah entered two pieces of art made out of seeds and beans into the 2017 Minnesota State Fair Crop Art Competition.

Her first piece depicted a familiar scene for all Gusties: Old Main and the Gustavus Sign, and placed Sarah fifth overall. The second piece of art was a pair of hoop earrings where she placed fourth.

After this busy summer, Sarah

is excited for "strengthening friendships and building our community even more".

One of Sarah's best friends is sophomore Sydney Hedberg, her randomly selected first-year roommate.

"When we first met, I was already in the dorm room and she saw me from outside and ran up to the window to say hi, so our very first conversation was through a window," Hedberg said.

"Whether it is in the classroom, running, or just in life in general, Sarah has proven to be a constant source of support and friendship."

—Sydney Hedberg

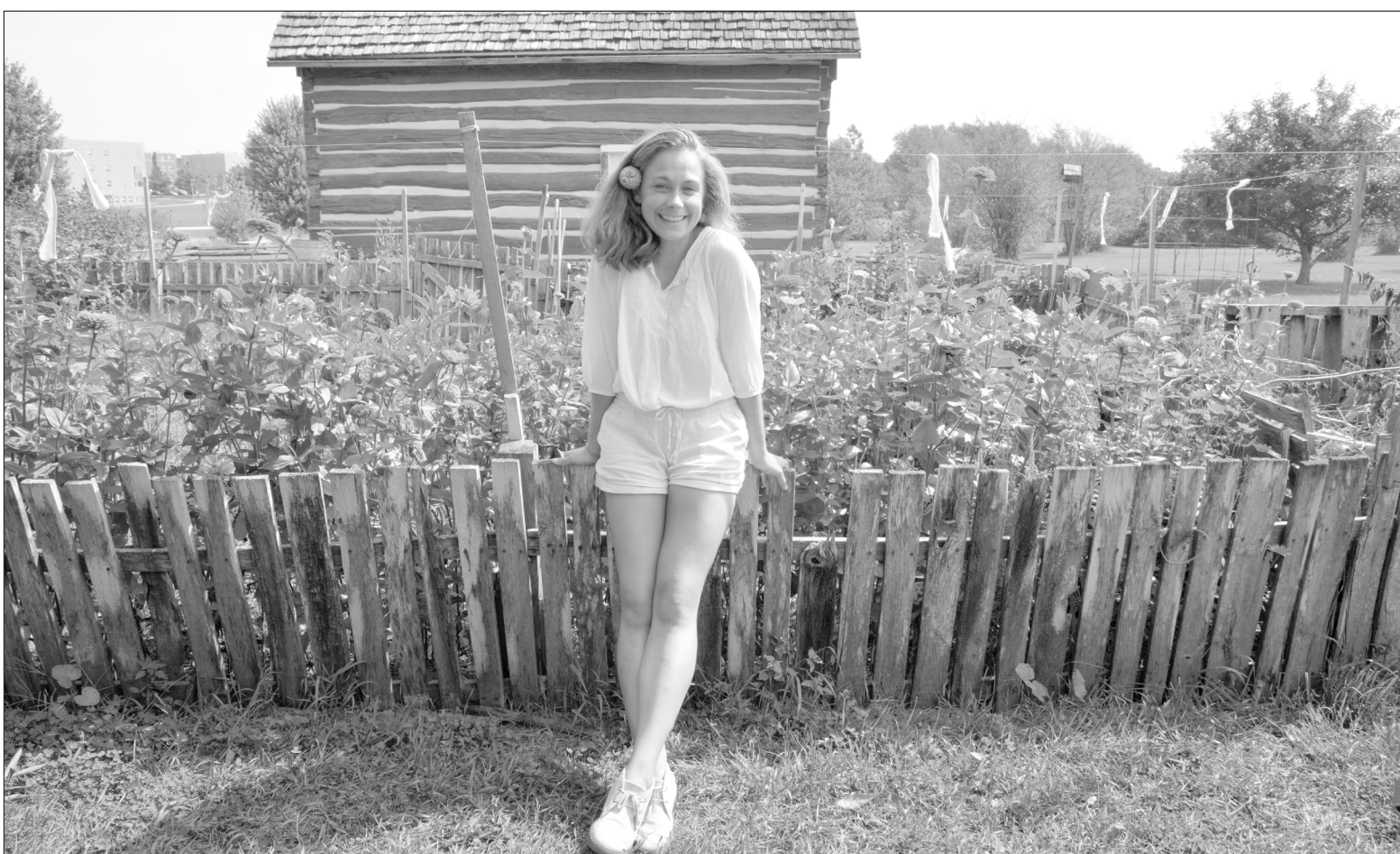
The two have been inseparable since, running together in cross country and track, as well as in the same classes as biology majors.

Sarah's biggest piece of advice to incoming students is to really stay true to who you are as a person.

Instead of focusing on making a million friends, focus on taking care of yourself and people will be drawn to you.

"If you are yourself, then everyone will love you for that. Branch out because now is the perfect time to become who you want to be and become someone you are proud to be."

Being around Sarah Anderson it is easy to see that she has truly taken her own advice. She pulls the best qualities out of those around her and makes Gustavus a better place.



Abby Anderson

She spent the summer at Gustavus studying prairie restoration and its impact on carbon storage.

Blockbuster Break-outs of Summer

Anna Duong-Topp
Staff Writer

Film junkies know summer as the season of coveted remakes, sequels, and big hits. Not surprisingly, 2017 exceeded this expectation with flying colors.

The action genre premiered long-awaited superhero flicks like *Wonder Woman*, *Guardians of the Galaxy 2*, and *Spiderman: Homecoming*, with impressive newcomers like *Babydriver* and *Dunkirk*.

Family flicks like *Despicable Me 3*, *Cars 3*, and the *Emoji Movie* hit the big screen as well.

The highest grossing—and arguably the most anticipated—movie of the summer was *Wonder Woman*.

This modern take of the classic comic introduces Israeli actress Gal Gadot as an Amazonian warrior, created by Zeus to protect human life and the events that ensue as Ares threatens to destroy mankind.

Luckily, Zeus created a weapon called the ‘Godkiller’ to stop Ares—a weapon Diana endeavors to wield.

Audiences and critics alike praised *Wonder Woman* for its direction, female empowerment, and compelling plot.

Rotten Tomatoes rated

the film at an impressive 92 percent, making it the highest-rated superhero film on the community-based site.

At \$38.7 million in its first 24 hours, *Wonder Woman* is the highest-grossing for a female director in a single day, and following opening weekend became the highest-grossing domestic premier of all time for a female director.

Much like *Wonder Woman*, Christopher Nolan’s epic war flick *Dunkirk* riled quite a bit of excitement.

Fans anticipated the movie to see former One Direction member Harry Styles play a role in the film and watch a new piece of work of Christopher Nolan’s repertoire.

Films like *Memento*, *Inception*, and *The Dark Knight* trilogy have established Nolan as nothing less than genius.

Dunkirk focuses on the Battle of Dunkirk that occurred during World War II. Most historians have praised the film for its historical accuracy.

The plot focuses on three perspectives: The Mole, The Sea, and The Air. Beginning with The Mole narrative, British army privates fight the repercussions of a German ambush on the Dunkirk shore.

Located in Weymouth, England, The Sea follows the narrative of a father and son who encounter deadly minesweep-



Creative Commons

Actress Gal Gadot plays Diana Prince, also known as Wonder Woman.

ers while in their boat.

The film finishes with the third section, The Air, which depicts three Spitfire warplanes in their battle against German air forces.

Dunkirk received a strong, unsurprising, Rotten Tomatoes rating of 93 percent, reflecting a high approval rating among audiences. Overall, the film came out to be the fifth highest-grossing of the summer.

Unlike *Wonder Woman* and *Dunkirk*, *Despicable Me 3* topped box office charts without boasting an action title.

Third of its kind in the adorable, comedic, and family-friendly world of Gru and his army of minions, this film did not disappoint its fanbase.

This sequel sees Gru’s desire for villainy after being fired from the Anti-Villain League.

He decides to spend his free time traveling to Freedonia in order to reunite with his twin brother, Dru. While Gru undergoes the temptation of his villainous past, his wife Lucy embarks on being a mother to Margo, Edith, and Agnes.

Despicable Me 3 landed in the

fourth highest-grossing spot for summer 2017 films.

Though it clearly was a box office success, this sequel had the lowest ratings of the three films in the series, scoring 63 percent on Rotten Tomatoes.

This summer brought fresh, high-quality variety to the film industry table.

Feminism reigned supreme under *Wonder Woman*’s rule, WWII fought back in style with *Dunkirk*, and *Despicable Me 3* continued a much-loved saga of love, little yellow men, and strange Russian accents.

Diamond Dust Bakery Will Shine

Sarah Knutson
Variety Editor

Cheri Brown hopes to bring a sparkle to Gustavus life with her new addition to St. Peter: the Diamond Dust Bakery.

The shop is named after Diamond Bluff Tavern, a restaurant owned by Brown’s great-grandfather in St. Peter during the 1930s and 1940s.

Her bakery opened in July and offers sandwiches, soup, coffee and teas - hot, cold or blended, Italian and cream sodas, speciality desserts, and custom designed cupcakes.

Located just a quick walk from campus, the bakery has a strong Gustavus connection. Brown worked in the Advancement Office for fourteen years while catering events for her friends and family.

“If people [had] functions, they’d ask me to bake [for them]. My background is in managing restaurants, and I’ve always wanted to get into owning my own,” Brown said.

Friendly and familiar faces around campus, the Brown’s had help from fellow Gusties to get the shop up and running.

“I worked with Kathi Tunheim’s marketing class and the students helped me with marketing, the website,



Caroline Probst

Diamond Dust Bakery offers breakfast and lunch, appetizers, beverages and gourmet treats.

and designing for the store,” Brown said.

The students in the class conducted multiple surveys on campus, asking if kids would come to the bakery and what types of food and beverages they would like to see.

After finding success with students on campus, Diamond Dust cupcakes were handed out by the caf to give students a sneak peek of what the bakery had to offer.

Senior Sam Kuschel visited when the bakery opened in the summer.

“It’s gonna be a huge hit for Gusties. It’s new from the Courtyard Cafe or River Rock

and is much closer to campus,” Kuschel said.

With more than 25 flavors of cupcakes and more thought of and made each day, the bakery keeps expanding their menu. Each day workers put out a few flavors to keep it interesting for their guests.

Diamond Dust’s top three sellers so far have been Ho-Ho, Peanut Butter Cup and Butterfinger.

“We like to be creative and make what people would want,” Brown said.

She is open for flavor suggestions and can’t wait to get Gustie feedback on what students and St. Peter residents

want in her bakery.

Diamond Dust is currently five-star rated bakery on Facebook, and their page has

“If the Gusties are coming down, we will be here for them.”

—Cheri Brown

almost three thousand likes.

The reviews from guests shows the bakery’s impact on our local community.

Making the bakery a place students want to visit has been a priority for Diamond Dust.

“I’m so excited to see the students. Right now we close at four, but we’re going to extend our hours until eight when they come back. In the evening, we’re going to have appetizers like warm skillet cookies and nachos, where we can make their food while students are studying and bring them out hot,” Cheri said.

There is a study room at Diamond Dust that can fit 10-12 people around a large table with a Smart-TV for presentations or study groups.

Brown hopes to have a way for online reservations of the room, mentioning Gustavus professors have already signed up for times to have the room this fall.

Sophomore Hannah Deyo is excited to spend time at Diamond Dust and highly recommended the peanut butter cup cupcake. “The bakery will be full of Gusties. I think the welcoming environment will draw in students to study or hangout and I’m excited to visit often,” Deyo said.

The bakery looks to host events for students to come down including, “Gusties who play music can come down and close the parking lot for an evening concert,” Brown said.

Diamond Dust Bakery is sure to shine as a new favorite hangout for a sweet treat and study spot.

Meet the Weekly



Caroline Probst
Senior, Editor-in-Chief
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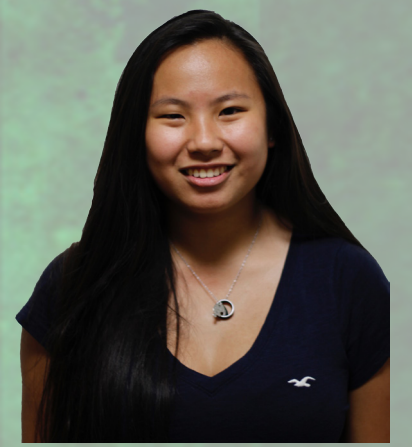
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