



BLUGOLD NUGGETS

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Ahh . . . November is sweet on campus! Most leaves have fallen and students have taken out the hats, mittens, and scarves for the trek to campus, coursework is in full momentum, and the campus is still full of life and activity despite shorter days! Your student might be coming home over Thanksgiving for the first time and you'll get to see how they've grown and changed. It might be a surprise to them that life has moved on and things have changed at home as well. In this issue we talk about being an off campus neighbor, job seeking, our new Facebook page, and parenting now and in the past. I hope you enjoy our November issue of the Blugold Nuggets

FINDING A JOB ON CAMPUS

Attending college is an exciting time, but there are also challenges through which students must learn to maneuver. Being away from home and family, navigating your way through a new city, meeting new people, managing your academic schedule and perhaps working a part time job can present both challenges and learning opportunities for students.

Let's look at this last one a little closer; part time jobs – where are they and how do you find them? One place to start looking is the [UWEC online job board](#). Part-time jobs are listed from employers both on and off-campus and can be found on the online job board. This can be especially useful for those students who might not have a car as many jobs are on campus or close to campus.

There are also several websites containing job postings in the city of Eau Claire and the surrounding Chippewa Valley. These include: [Leader Telegram](#) , [Chippewa Valley Help Wanted](#) and [WEAU](#) . Another website that may be useful for the part time job search is [Craigslist](#).

There are many tools available to aide in the job search; you just have to be willing to exercise patience, diligence and flexibility.

Submitted by: Liz Hartzke, Career Specialist

CAMPUS MAP

- Dates to Remember**
- Nov. 23rd - 5pm
Thanksgiving Break Begins
 - Nov. 27th - 12pm
Residence Halls re-open

MONEY MATTERS



The season may be autumn, but in the Cashier's Office, we're thinking spring! Now is the time for students to make their \$100.00 spring registration deposit. As a review, that deposit can be made in several different ways. Visit uwec.edu/payment to see those options. Students have started registering for spring already, and the first day of classes is January 23, 2012.

Business Office

We've completed our first experience with the Registration Deposit Rollover process. A lot has been learned along the way! By now, most students will have either applied their fall deposit to their fall charges or rolled it over to become the Spring 2012 deposit. We've put this system into place to save the students time each semester, and hope that everyone gets the

hang of rolling their deposits. Ask your student if s/he has completed this step.

Winterim classes are enrolling now. Students who are enrolled in Fall 2011 classes do not need to pay a separate Winterim deposit. Tuition for Winterim classes is due in full on January 3, which is the first day of classes. The tuition for Winterim classes is the same per credit cost as other semesters.

Did you know that you can submit questions directly to the Cashier's Office via email? Our address is cashier@uwec.edu. We'll be happy to assist you with answers to your student account questions.

NEW PERSPECTIVE ON BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

For most students living off campus here at UW-Eau Claire is their first experience living in a neighborhood without parental guidance. Most students naturally meet and show respect toward their new neighbors, for some it is easier to meet their student neighbors than local neighbors, for others the concept of having relationships with local people and being helpful hasn't occurred to them. Some students have relayed great stories of mowing the lawn for a neighbor and having free cookies weekly for a year, others have had permanent residents bring brownies and introduce themselves, some get help taking care of the snow over break from neighbors, and for a few they receive a police visit with a noise violation because a neighbor complained about their party.

We hope that the later story remains a rare occurrence. Your students can contribute to successful neighborly relationships with a few easy steps:

- ◆ Know the neighbors – this can go a long way in solving problems before they start
- ◆ Be responsible – take care of pets, be aware of noise levels, and make sure sidewalks are cleared in a timely fashion – or even shovel the neighbors walk
- ◆ Keep things clean – keep indoor furniture indoors, pick up garbage in a timely fashion, etc.

Students need to be aware that the rules in each city differ somewhat. Some students have found themselves in violation of local ordinances related to neighborhood and city concerns.

ORDINANCE REMINDERS

Parking - City of Eau Claire has alternate day parking from November 1 - May 1

Garbage - Containers need to be sitting behind the house and need to be removed with 24hr of pick up

Sidewalks - must be cleared within 24 hours of snowfall

Furniture - Indoor furniture may not be kept on porches patios

Noise - Students can put their lease at risk if they are found responsible for noise violations.

Signs - The city needs to perform maintenance and occasionally needs people to move their cars. The city is great about installing temporary signs, but students sometimes do not use their vehicles for several days at a time and risk being towed.

TIDBITS FROM THE DEAN

Each month we will be featuring information from the Dean of Students, Brian Carlisle, J.D.

It's no secret - students who get involved in campus programs feel more connected to the University, perform better academically, and build stronger relationships with fellow students, faculty, and staff. There are a variety of ways students can get involved on campus. With more than 250 student organizations, there is almost no end to the social, political, religious, or honors groups on campus. If there isn't a group on campus to meet your student's needs, starting a group is easy.



As strange as it may sound, employment on campus is another great way to connect to the University. Whether working on campus grounds, answering walk-in questions in the Registrar's Office, or serving as a resident assistant in housing, thousands of students are employed on campus each semester. In addition to developing valuable employment skills, students meet and interact with University employees and help fellow students navigate the complexities of the University.

From weekly programs offered in the residence halls to outdoor adventures sponsored through University Recreation; from athletic events to the arts and entertainment series; and from music and theater arts to the campus ambassador program, students have myriad opportunities for campus engagement.

One program sponsored by the Dean of Students Office is Dinner with 12 Strangers. Each semester, students, faculty, and staff are invited to register for this exciting event of food and conversation. Members of our campus community graciously open their homes for the event, and registrants are chosen at random to participate. This semester, dinners took place at three locations the week of October 24th. Ask your student to look for an opportunity to participate during the spring semester. It's a free meal at a safe location with fellow Blugolds. As we like to say - **Arrive as strangers, leave as friends!**

There are many more programs, far too many to list here. Be sure to encourage your student to make the most of their experience by getting involved on campus, and in the process, you might notice better academic performance and a greater sense of connection with the University.



CALLING ALL PARENTS

The UW-Eau Claire Telefund will once again be reaching out to Blugold parents in an effort to raise support for the UW-Eau Claire Parents Fund. The fund supports great programs at UW-Eau Claire, including the Blugold Family Connection, student/faculty collaborative research projects, scholarships, study abroad opportunities and much more!



When the phone rings, please take our call! Please know that gifts of any amount are appreciated!

For more information on the UW- Eau Claire Parents Fund, please visit their [website](#).

Get/Keep Your Child Insured! Changes in Health Care for Young Adults

As you may already know, under the new federal health care law (Affordable Care Act) you can usually keep your adult child – up to age 26 – on your health insurance.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, your children can join or remain on your plan *even if* they are married, not living with you, attending school, not financially dependent on you, or eligible to enroll in their employer's plan. There is one temporary exception – until 2014, "grandfathered" group plans do not have to offer dependent coverage up to age 26 if a young adult is eligible for group coverage outside their parents' plan (see link below for a description of grandfathered plans).

This means that even if your child's first job(s) after leaving campus doesn't offer insurance, or if your child gets sick and has to take a break from school or needs to drop below full time status, you can usually keep them covered.

Check with your employer and insurance company for more information. In addition, a full description of the provision is available at: www.healthcare.gov.



ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK OPPORTUNITY

For the third year students will be given the opportunity to participate in spring break trip that explores the concepts of servant leadership and social justice – specifically around the issues of homelessness, poverty, and socioeconomic status. This experience has several hands on components and the cost is only \$375.00 to participate. Students can attend listening sessions to learn about the program listed [HERE](#)

For more information contact Katy Rand, coordinator of student leadership, at 715-836-4803 or randka@uwec.edu.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST

Submitted by Julia Diggins, Advising

As I sat around the table recently for my first time at a “Blugold Nuggets” meeting, brainstorming ideas for what we should be talking to parents about this time of year, I couldn’t help but let my mind wonder to a different newsletter I had recently read from “Genesis Child Development Center,” where my children go. You see, I am the proud working mother of a 3 year old son, Mack, and a 3 month old daughter, Lucy. Our day care also gives us monthly newsletters.

Maybe some of you read the Blugold Nuggets like I read those newsletters—word for word as soon as I get them. I mean, I don’t even get out of the parking lot. Why? I guess because it somehow makes me feel more connected to my kids to know what they are learning about, what will be coming up for them, what their days are like. It’s the curse of the working mother, to crave any information about her child’s day. I can imagine many of you may crave news about your child from this place called UW-Eau Claire since you also can’t be with them every day.

The most prominent line of Genesis’ newsletter highlights “Dates to Remember.” Picture Day is on the 13th, staff in-service on the 28th, and the Halloween parade on the 31st. How many old Halloween costumes can you remember putting together for your child over years? Mack’s going to be a monster this year and has been practicing his roar. For your students here, many are still thinking about costumes they will wear for Halloween, but we also hope they are starting to learn about the many other new “Dates to Remember.” Here it’s time for mid-term grades, academic advising appointments, withdrawal deadlines, registration for Spring semester, Thanksgiving Break, paper and project deadlines, finals week- the list could go on and on. As parents you can still play a crucial role in helping your student be successful by learning some of the dates. At Orientation, we give parents the same calendar we give students. (You might want to dig that Orientation Binder out.) We hope you will not only remind students about what is coming up, just like you did before their pre-school Picture Day, but also help them begin to keep track of these dates themselves and plan ahead.

This month’s childcare newsletter also had an article on helping children develop self-control. At day care they are told to, “Stop and think like a turtle.” It took my sister, who is an elementary school teacher, to explain to me what that meant. Use slow methodical thinking before you do something you know you shouldn’t. It works too. The other day Mack said, “I am going to do something naughty.” Then there was a pause and he said, “Stop and think like a turtle.” Whatever he was thinking of doing, he didn’t. Lesson Learned!

Too often we see college students who aren’t thinking like turtles. They jump into decisions without gathering the necessary information and doing what they know in their gut is right. I’m not sure telling them to, “stop and think like a turtle” will be all that effective for eighteen year olds. However, the newsletter does give the tip to “make a ‘problem and solution’ list together.” That’s something you can do. Help your student work through the decisions they are making here, not by always telling them what to do, but teaching them how to make the decision themselves, by gathering all the relevant information, and helping them make a pro and con list. For example, many students are worried about making decisions about majors. Sitting down with them and helping them sort out the pro’s and con’s (without judgment about which one you may think is best) can help them through a decision-making process. Identify concrete next steps that will lead them to the best decision for them.



Parent/Teacher conferences are coming up at Genesis soon. (Yes, we even have them for Lucy.) That’s a difference between day care and college. In most cases, we don’t encourage parent/teacher conferences here. However, we do encourage student/teacher conferences and you can help your student understand how to become more involved in and take responsibility for their own education. Talk to them about how they might approach their professors to ask for help or how they can find out how they are progressing so far in courses. What questions did you ask their elementary school teachers? Many of those are still appropriate. Teach them how to ask those questions and encourage them to do so. Just as I will hear a breakdown of how Lucy should start developing next and what I can do to help her (I think rolling over is a good next goal), your children should be talking to their professors about how they are doing and what they can do to improve or extend their learning.



There’s one more piece of paper we get from day care each month...a hefty bill. Can you relate?

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

The Blugold Family Connection is now on Facebook - we thought it would be a great place for Blugold Families to connect! Find us at [Blugold Family Connection—UW-Eau Claire](#) —and like our page!



BLUGOLD FAMILY CONNECT GIFTS

Cookies, Cakes, Flowers and More..... Help your student quench their thirst with an Aluminum UWEC Water Bottle—**our special item this month for only \$7.** You can [place your order online](#) and we will take care of the rest!

Please visit our [website](#) to check out all our gift items. Please remember to allow 3 days for delivery and we do not deliver on Saturdays or Sundays. Delivery is made to the front desk of your student's residence hall on your requested delivery date. Off campus students can pick their treats up in our office in Schofield Hall. Contact us with any questions at family@uwec.edu or call 715.836.5110.

RESIDENCE HALLS CLOSED DURING THE HOLIDAYS



All residence halls (with the exception of Chancellors, Thomas and Towers Halls) will be closed during Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break.

Halls will close at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23rd** and will reopen at **12:00 noon on Sunday, November 27th.**

Since we are at high occupancy, if your son/daughter needs to stay on-campus anytime during these break periods due to work, Winterim classes, athletic or music departmental commitments, and you do not live in one of those three halls, it is your son/daughters responsibility to find someone whose room they can stay in. Your son/daughter must

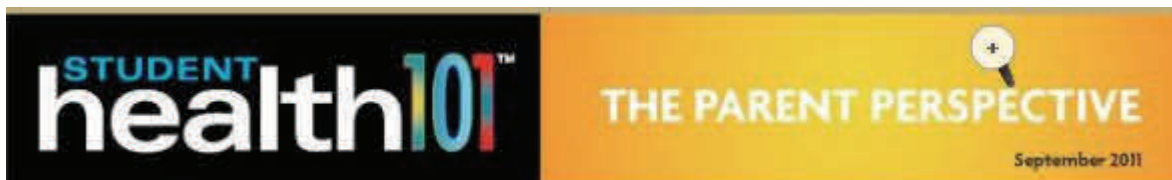
complete a Break Authorization Form, get signatures of the student(s) and turn the form into Housing, Towers 112. He/she will also need to get the door combination from the person whose room they will be staying in. Male students can only stay in male-designated rooms and female students can only stay in female-designated rooms.

Thanksgiving Break forms must be submitted before 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 22ND. If your student currently lives in Chancellors, Thomas or Towers Halls, they may complete the form on-line by Monday, November 21st. If your student lives in a residence hall other than Chancellors, Thomas or Towers, they will need to stop in the Housing Office (Towers 112) between November 1-22nd to complete the form.

STUDENT HEALTH 101

[Student Health 101](#) is a newsletter brought to your student each month by the Student Health Service Office. The Parent Perspective is a parent's companion to Student Health 101 newsletter. Student Health 101 is written to help your son or daughter live a healthier life.

Each issue of the [Parent Perspective](#) is a quick-to-read summary of that month's student newsletter.



WHAT'S HAPPENING ON CAMPUS

There is always lots going on each month on campus - have your student visit the [Events Calendar](#) for a complete listing of campus movies, music and more!

- **Swap-O-Rama - November 15th—10am—3pm, Cabin, Davies Center:** Creating Alternatives to Consumerism" has been held on campus each semester since Fall of 2005. The event gives students, faculty, and staff the opportunity to give, take, or trade items – including, but not limited to, clothing, shoes, accessories, or books – that they no longer have a use for. The “swap” supports the university’s mission to promote sustainable living. Left over items are donated to various community organizations based on need.
- **Friday Night Team Trivia** - every Friday from 9pm—11pm, Team Trivia is hosted in the BBC—cash prizes are awarded to the winning teams. Encourage your students to join in on the fun!
- **Blugold Athletics**— The Fall Blugold Athletic season is in full swing - and students can attend events for free with their Blugold Card. Student can find schedules and more information on the [Athletics homepage](#).
- **Campus Films—Thursday thru Sunday— 6pm & 8:30pm, Davies Theater.** Every week your student can see a new movie, Admission is free at the door with a Blugold Card or an International Film Society membership. [Click here](#) for a list off all movies that are scheduled for this semester.



Excellence. Our Measure, Our Motto, Our Goal.

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Questions / Comments: [Blugold Family Connection](#)

Jennifer Lee , Director, Blugold Family Connection, Blugold Nuggets Editor