



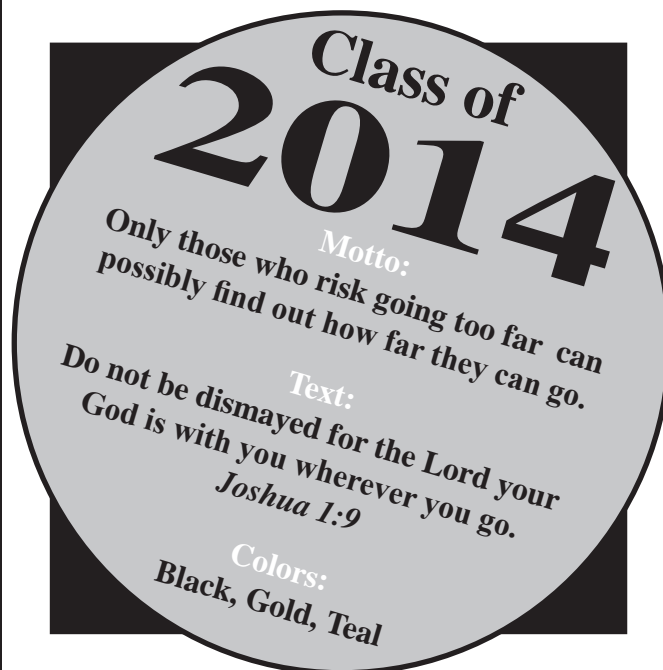
Anticipation and excitement well up within each student as the year draws closer to the end. All year relationships have formed, memories have been made, and tests have been failed. But now that it is almost the end of the year, many of us tend to see school not so much as a priority, but as a tedious, necessary

task. Spring fever hits like a semi-truck going 100 mph and the desire to get out grows. As a senior, I have had the pleasure of going through this three times before and have been envious that the seniors get to check out and never return.

Looking back though, I would not trade a single day here for an earlier graduation. So often we find ways to complain about the food, living conditions, and homework, but what about those times and memories that you've spent your years here making? During my freshman year on the Canada Music Tour, one of the busses refused to work and we had to do the rest of the trip in a ton of twelve passenger vans. On my sophomore year campout, we had to endure water colder than the Arctic Ocean for five hours while on a rafting trip. And just last year gymnastics experienced another bus misfortune with an axle breaking. Lastly, Senior Survival was filled with times of growing and bonding, even with the misfortune of Cameron breaking his back. So often we dwell on the bad side of things and lose sight of the blessings and opportunities we had, missing the essence of life.

I encourage all who will be returning next year to focus on the good things here and not the petty little discouraging things. Your time here is very limited and like every older being says, you *will* miss it here. As a 4-year senior, I look back and see all the amazing times and experiences that I, along with my classmates, got to experience, and it is almost sad to see that those times are almost done. I also encourage this year's senior class to make the best of the time we have left. It's almost time for graduation and now is the time to make even better memories than the ones we've already made.

**Alex Moseanko,**  
*President, Class of 2014*



## Mothers and daughters

*by Melissa Petrello*

There comes a time once a year where people show their mothers how much they're appreciated. People may do this in many ways. For example, some may write a letter or make a card for their mom to go with a gift; others may take their mothers out to eat. Girls' Club officers worked hard to make sure that Mother's Day at UCA would be special. Sunday morning, mothers and daughters gathered in the cafeteria for a special Mother's Day Brunch.

The Brunch theme was a garden tea party, and Dean Chelle was responsible for the decoration ideas that were used. Girls' Club President, Jae MacPhee, gave the welcome to the mothers and Kianna Villegas, Vice President, gave the prayer, and then it was time to eat. As the guys stayed in their cozy dorm rooms eating cereal and muffins, the girls enjoyed some fruit kabobs, bagels, egg puffs wrapped in stripples, and Dean Steph's chai tea. When they were done eating, a line formed outside the Fireside Room where a picture booth was set up, and mothers, daughters, and friends started taking pictures with crazy hats, colorful wigs, and other accessories.

It is always a good thing to highlight mothers and show them love. The hard work of Girls' Club, deans, cafeteria workers, and volunteers that helped in many ways made the Mother's Day Brunch a success.

## Blood drive

by *Mason Parks*

Every year UCA hosts several blood drives. People from the local blood bank drive to UCA in a bus set up to collect plasma. This is a great way to be a hero and save up to three lives without even leaving campus.

Unfortunately, to most people, giving blood is terrifying. The thought of getting a large needle shoved into a vein does not appeal to many, especially to people like me. I am petrified of having any sharp object thrust through my skin. Just thinking about the process sends chills galloping up my spine. I can relate to people who want to give their hemoglobin but are too afraid to do so. However, when brave students do give blood they can make a huge difference, and each can save up to three injured people. Students who give blood also get free food to nibble on so they don't pass out.

This month a brave 16 stomped their fears and sacrificed a half an hour and a few red blood cells in the name of saving lives.



## What matters

by *Niolas Ruud*

As the school year winds to a slow yet steady close, we are given the opportunity to look back to its beginning. Do you remember what you first did on registration day? Or perhaps the place you stood during handshake? How about some experiences during fall picnic or class night? These events are for the most part fond memories of fun times past, but that's all they are—memories. Nothing Less. Nothing more.

As you look back to the picnics, parties, and those seemingly insignificant dorm memories, what do they all share? I'm sure that most of us could come up with a few answers to the question such as food, sunshine, or simply fun. But what is it that makes fun food in the sunshine such a jolly ole good time? Why it's the people with you! Your friends, dorm neighbors and classmates make your life so much more exiting and memorable.

So, today, take just a minute to pull aside one of your closest friends and simply thank them for being such a great pal. They will appreciate this small gesture more than you could ever imagine.

## Seniors reelin' it in

by *Daniel Wilkinson*

The seniors this year have been working hard to find the funds for a class gift and an awesome class trip. The budget has been tight so they've been working extra hard to earn a little money.

Recently, Administration presented them with a fundraising option to add much-needed cash to the budget. As graduation comes around the corner, the campus is in need of touch ups and landscaping jobs. So the desperate senior officers agreed to the offer of having the class work outside.

Because of rain, the seniors were forced to move their work day to four bright and early mornings to provide the time to finish the job and not steal a precious Sunday from their already busy schedule. The hard-working seniors were only required to work one of the mornings but had to contribute three hours all together. The senior sponsors put in two or three mornigs, and UCA's devoted principal worked all four days, and the jobs would have been disorganized without his help. Jim Mann and Grant Williams also put in many hours to this big fundraiser and the seniors truly appreciate their time and effort. Prayers are being answered and the seniors are well on their way to a great class trip.





# Bioluminescence

by *Kristen Cottrell*

Exhaustion was plain on the faces of my fellow classmates. I knew that, like me, they just wanted to crawl into bed after our busy day. We had gone bird watching, made sushi, looked at plankton under a microscope, and had Bible studies on the beach with Pastor Fred. We had waded through mud to find worms and then dragged ourselves, covered in mud, through a museum, but we still had just one more stop to make before hitting the sack.

After worship on the beach, we boarded the bus and drove about ten miles to a nearby dock. We stumbled down the steps of the bus and followed Mrs. Haeger out on to the dock in the pitch black darkness of the night. Then, Mrs. Haeger stuck her hand in the water to show us the reason we had come to the dock. As she swished her hand around in the water, the water around her hand began to sparkle. We couldn't believe our eyes! There were little sparkly microorganisms producing bioluminescence in the cold ocean water. (Bioluminescence is the production and emission of light by a living organism.)

Soon everyone had their hands in the water, were dragging sticks through the water, or were throwing rocks into the water just to see the little sparkles for a couple of seconds before they disappeared. Some girls even hung their feet over the edge of the dock to kick their feet in the marine bioluminescence. Everyone was awake now and we were very glad we had made our one last stop at this dock to see something we would never forget.

# Bloomsday

by *Josh Enjati*

People crowd the street in search of the color that is on their bib. The forecast called for cold and rainy weather, and at the start of the day it is cloudy and windy but there is no rain. Some come dressed warmly while others are dressed as if it were summer. Then there are those in weird costumes or dressed up like super heroes.

Fifty-thousand people stand waiting behind the start line. Then the shots are heard and the crowd cheers as they start moving. Everyone knows they won't be staying cold as they get into their long trek. Jackets and sweats can be seen dangling from the trees—hundreds of them just waiting to be collected for charity at the end of the race. People are on the course now, walking, jogging or sprinting hard as they weave through the crowd.

At the end of the race, people cheer and congratulate one another for finishing the 12 kilometer race. They walk victoriously to pick up their Bloomsday finisher t-shirts. Everyone is excited to see what the new t-shirt design and color are going to be. (You may have seen some on campus.) They pick up the t-shirts and head back to cars or buses. Some have short rides back others have hundreds of miles to travel home. All are waiting for next year's run.



*During May's Spirit Week, four seniors participate in Hat Day*



*If it's May, it must be soccer season, and this year there was a new UCA girls' varsity team*

# Five, six, pick up ticks

by *Tajhicia West*

We'd been told we were to wear walking shoes for our Biology class field trip to Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge and could see why when we got there. The area was covered in plants which we later learned were home to many creepy-crawlies and blood-sucking parasites that people like to call ticks.

The first stop was the museum, mostly a small room filled with once-living animals. We had worksheets to complete, and the first thing was to write the names of the animals in the museum along with their description, habitats, and lifestyles. There were mostly lopsided birds, a few of which looked like they had met a tragic death.

After lunch, we analyzed and drew nearly microscopic swamp organisms and then proceeded to invade tick terrain. We first identified plants and then birds with the help of binoculars, guidebooks . . . and Pastor Fred.

All in all it was an interesting trip during which some gathered useful information and most managed to gather ticks.

## Can you tan?

by *Jesse Humbert*

Excitement is brewing as the school year winds down. Summer is coming! But are we prepared for the pool parties and other outdoor events? Many students have been concerned about being in classes during the best part of the skin destroying daylight hours. There they cannot get burned . . . or should I say tanned? They try lying on the grass to catch the last few moments of sunlight and tell themselves that the moon does provide some golden rays. Others have tried too quickly to prepare for summer and have experienced the pain of destroyed skin cells.

Alas, for the majority of students or those not blessed with tanning skills (namely myself), the concern is growing. With summer coming and pools opening, UCA cannot be behind in the tanning-ment of the season. We NEED to be tan! The school's reputation might be reduced if people became aware of the pale winter children who attend.

Despite our worries, summer will begin and end, and regardless of our skin's shade, school will start anew. So, in the end, a tan is unimportant. Yes, the school year is ending and people are parting ways for a few months to reacquire themselves with the outside world, but the summer will soon come to a close and most of us will reunite for another year of de-tanning.

## Distractions

by *Mariya McCombs*

Distractions are an ordinary thing in life and here at UCA. Not only do they take place outside the classroom, but, strangely, they take place in the classroom too.

These interruptions come in all shapes and forms. They come from students making so-called "hilarious" comments (that they are hilarious is definitely up for debate) and from students throwing things such as paper airplanes, pencils, or little crumpled pieces of paper. Outside the classroom the distractions come in even more numerous, unexpected ways.

The students aren't the only ones that get off track, though. Teachers also are guilty of being distracted. They get thrown off topic by students asking obscure questions, by remembering facts from their past, or even by the writing on students' clothing.

Although distractions can be negative at times, they also have a positive effect. They allow us to momentarily forget about our worries and enjoy the moment.

## Mothers

by *Madalynn Kack*

**Moth-er** [muhth -er] noun

**A term of address for a female parent or a woman having or regarded as having the status, function, or authority of a female parent.**

Being a mother is so much more than that definition. We need to look at the bigger picture, something far too big to fit in a dictionary.

God has given mothers to us, not only for the purpose of being our parents and telling us what to do, but also to be our friends and our mentors. Being a mother is the biggest job in the world. Mothers are our nurses, teachers, cooks, house cleaners, supporters, coaches, and, quite possibly, our best friends.

There is no job that is harder than being a mother. A mother isn't just a person—she is a gift sent from God.

There is no one who understands you better than the one who raised you. Learn to appreciate the small things she does because there are a lot of things that go unnoticed. She shouldn't have to earn your respect or your love; you should give those without expecting any reward in return.

So let me paraphrase:

**Moth-er** [muhth-er] noun

**Someone who goes beyond what she is to be everything imaginable for serving those she loves.**



UPPER COLUMBIA ACADEMY  
**ECHOES**  
 is a regular student publication of  
 Upper Columbia Academy, Spangle, Washington 99031  
 This issue's contributors included:

Alex Moseanko, Jonathan Fitch, Danon Shumway, Darla Morgan,  
 Sarah Lehman, Amanda McCarter, Madeleine Everett,  
 Jesse Humbert, Mariya McCombs, Madalynn Kack,  
 Megan Rasmussen, Coleman Dietrich, Daniel Wilkinson,  
 Mason Parks, Niqolas Ruud, Kristen Cottrell, Josh Enjati,  
 Tajhicia West, Melissa Petrello,  
 and Stephen Lacey, sponsor





# The schedule scramble

by Megan Rasmussen

Any current or past student at UCA can tell you how important it is to have the right schedule. Everyone needs a schedule that fits their individual needs and preferences. Some want to get the latest classes possible, and others like to fit everything they can into the morning. A lot of the scheduling is out of their control though. Certain classes are at specific times and a student can't just change when a class meets to fit their preferences.

Recently there were some dramatic changes made in the schedule for next year; and I don't use the word dramatic lightly. If you thought you had your schedule all planned out, you had to think again. Some classes were swapped around and given to completely different teachers. Some sophomores will no longer have the luxury of not having a class until 9:45. Juniors will still have those dreaded 7:15's. Pastor Sid was given one more history class and one less Bible class. Mrs. Turner will be handing Senior Composition over to Mr. Lacey. Pastor Fred will be teaching Senior Bible. . . .

These, and many other changes, were made to the 2014-2015 schedule. Some are satisfied, and others are still a bit unsure. We will have to wait and see if these changes will prove to be better or worse for the students next year. All we can do now is hope for the best!



# Cookie Tuesday banned

by Coleman Dietrich

Every week there are things to look forward to. Since people are all created differently, not everyone looks forward to the same things. But there is one thing it seems the majority of the population here gets excited about, and that is cookie Tuesday. Who doesn't love cookies? And Every Tuesday the cafeteria cooks us wonderful trays of delicious cookies. But, unfortunately, cookies recently have been taken off the menu.

This is not something that we can blame the cafeteria for. They did not have to make us cookies in the first place. Cookie Tuesday was ended because of the students. There are always the selfish kids that when there is a sign that reads "2 or 3 please" take 12. This causes a huge issue because there is not enough for everyone. If everyone broke the limit rule, the cafeteria would have no hope of baking enough. Another issue is that kids make a mess with the cookies. You would think that by the time kids hit high school age, they would be done playing with their food, but I guess not. Recently there have been large messes created by students that involve cookies.

I want Cookie Tuesday back as much as everyone else. If we want to have this and other privileges, we need to be more mature. If we just follow the simple rules and do not make messes, then Cookie Tuesday could return.





*Heading to the last HOPE project of the year*

## Home away from home

*by: Darla Morgan*

Whether you're dorm or village, UCA is a home away from home. After all, we spend more time here than at home and most likely eat more meals in the cafeteria than in our home kitchen. Most of the friends that we hang out with on a regular basis are most likely related to UCA in some fashion. There are many little things that make UCA and the girls' dorm feel like a true home away from home.

Many students state that the great staff here at UCA is what makes it feel like home. It is very apparent that the staff here truly care and want to see us succeed. Senior Sara Bumgardner said, "The deans are what make UCA feel like home." They are nurturing and spiritual leaders to us. They are always willing to lend a listening ear or provide us with chocolate or a good joke when we could use a laugh.

The splash of color throughout the girls' dorm feels welcoming and inviting. The new lobby furniture adds class and sophistication to the dorm and is a comfortable place to do homework or hang out with friends. Then, every night at 8:00, the girls gather in the chapel when worship begins and sing together in a melodious blend of 120 voices. If the music in heaven sounds half as good as worship time, we will be sincerely blessed. Worship carries on with a student speaker or devotional thought from one of the deans. Dorm worship is a nice time set aside for us to gather together every night and worship our Creator.

Living under a roof with over 120 girls is quite the fun experience. It's nice to be able to walk down the hall and knock on a friend's door. It's like having 120 sisters! Walking through the halls of the girls' dorm can be quite unpredictable. One might hear laughter or loud music blasting from the workout room and there may be the sweet aroma of freshly baked cookies.

Life in the girls' dorm is never dull, and it is our true home away from home.

## How do I do this?

*by Amanda McCarter*

As we approach the end of the year, it seems that everyone gets all excited to be done with studies. Students feel energized by the sun and many claim to be victims of senioritis. But instead of talking about how happy and wonderful summer is, let's discuss something a bit different.

As you look around your dorm room, you see all the things you've acquired over time that make it special: the cards you received over the holidays, the books you've bought for the long home-leave bus rides, and all the warm clothes you brought over when the first snow came.

As you examine all of your belongings one question stands out in your mind: How can everything be packed for the trip home? Most students have much more in their rooms now than they had at the start of the school year. Well, rather than waiting until the last two days of school to plan how to fit everything back into suitcases and boxes, try to plan it out little by little in these last two weeks. It will save you from stress and help you get the task done more quickly so you can spend more time with your friends before you part ways over the summer. Of course, for many students this is not a new task, but for some freshmen and first-year students, it could be the beginning of a new and very different challenge.

## So many boxes!

*by Sarah Lehman*

It is that time of year again when our local UCA cafeteria starts putting out boxes to help students start packing up their dorm rooms. This school year has flown by and the boxes are proof that the end is near.

Every year our cafeteria puts out boxes and students fight and bicker over the biggest and best ones. These boxes are then taken back to dorm rooms and stuffed full of the possessions, odds and ends and other useless items that the owner holds dear.

But where do these boxes come from? Once or twice a week a truck comes and delivers food, styro-foam plates and bowls, plastic silverware, napkins, and other beneficial objects. These boxes are then organized into groups containing similar items and sit waiting to be emptied. Once all the wonderful contents are used, the boxes usually are flattened and go to the maintenance building where they are squashed into cubes; however, at this time of year the cafeteria is benevolent enough to set them out for the eager and excited students to squabble over.

Thank-you to the UCA cafeteria for all the cardboard they provide!





## Spring Week of Prayer

*Pastor Travis Sager from the Kansas-Nebraska Conference visited during the week of April 21-26 for our spring Week of Prayer*



## \$\$ Summer jobs \$\$

*by Madeleine Everett*

According to the Washington Times, 16% of high school students hold summer jobs, compared to 32% in 1990. Why is this a problem? A summer job means money for college, for spending and dreaming, and provides valuable work experience. The longer you go without a job, the less attractive you look to future employers. With more and more adults taking entry level jobs, students are being squeezed out of the market. Here are some tips on landing a summer job:

**1. Start Searching Early**

Summer Camps, your city's Parks and Recreation district, and Craigslist are great places to start.

**2. Ask for Advice**

Your parents, teachers, and guidance counselor/registrar can give you tips on where to look and what to do, and might know of open job positions.

**3. Have a Resume and Letters of Recommendation**

Put in the time to write a good resume! Get recommendations from past employers who can affirm your good work ethic, character, and attitude.

**4. Call Around, Drive Around**

Call family friends and acquaintances with businesses, asking if they need summer help. If you apply for a job online, go in person to ask about the job and talk to the employer. Make a list of places to drop by, have a bunch of resumes handy, and spend a day driving around asking for work.

**5. Follow Up**

Call back in a couple weeks if you haven't heard anything.

**6. Don't Give Up!**

Keep looking, even if you're already a couple weeks into summer. Settle for whatever you can get; no job is beneath worth doing. If you can't find a paying job, volunteer. The experience will make you more attractive to employers next year.

Good Luck!

Membership in the National Honor Society at Upper Columbia Academy is based on scholarship, leadership, character, and service. These are the criteria established by the National Honor Society.

Each spring a committee evaluates all junior and senior students who attain a grade point average of at least 3.5 and are not already members of the Society. Scholarship is the most important criterion and includes not only g.p.a. but also the number and difficulty of classes taken beyond the basic graduation requirements.

Unusually negative or positive demonstrations of leadership, character, and service also affect a student's selection to the UCA chapter of the National Honor Society.

Membership in the Society is both an honor and a responsibility. Students selected for membership are expected to continue to demonstrate the qualities by which they were selected.

## Spokane Scholars



*This year's Spokane Scholars, who enjoyed food, entertainment, and a presentation by former congressman George Nethercutt, were Andrew Fisher, math; Alina Pilipchuk, foreign language; Braden Stanyer, fine arts; Courtney MacPhee, English; Bryson Gray, science; and Alissa Robins, social studies.*

## Tyler Warren Pulitzer Prize winner?

*by Jonathan Fitch*

A new game seems to have swept the UCA campus. The phenomenon is known as "2048." This game has players combine like numbers to create larger numbers in the hope of achieving the number 2048. While this game is all well and good, a new rendition has come across the campus which puts a new twist on the game. Tyler Warren, a junior here on this fine campus, says it this way: "When designing this game, I first looked toward what I knew the general population would be able to relate to." Upon sitting down to work, and after several beta tests, the *2048 UCA Staff Edition* was born. Rave reviews and sold out box-stores make this critically acclaimed pastime one of the best-selling games in existence here on campus, reeling in millions on opening weekend.

Knowledge of the game is expanding beyond the general campus population, reaching Alumni and others. The game even makes world-renowned game and food enthusiast Niqolas Ruud go "Oohhhh" and "Ahhha."

Nobody knows how Tyler pulled it off, but we all know that he has changed our lives forever.

## Click the "like" button!

*by Danon Shumway*

In this day and age, the world revolves around technology. Maybe you like that, maybe you don't. But no matter what your viewpoint is, it's hard not to be tempted to see the man you frequently hear belting out, "That's ten points off your score" or "Look in the back of the book." He may even randomly say "Donuts."

By going on Facebook, you can be reminded of his superior English knowledge and lifestyle even after you leave UCA. This leaves you no choice but to enhance your life by clicking the LIKE button! Don't worry: it's free. You're welcome.

**CLASS OF 2014  
COMMENCEMENT  
JUNE 8**

**REGISTRATION  
FOR  
2014 -2015  
AUGUST 24**