Nawwal Moustafa ’12 received national and international attention for a coloring book project. Story starts on page 6.
"Carianne and I give back to WOU because we have experienced the life changing effects of this campus community. Through my involvement in student government, I have personally seen students lifted out of troubled situations by a simple connection to a faculty or staff member, student organization, or athletic team. When these connections are paired with the amazing leadership opportunities Western offers, students can rise above their past and move forward as tomorrow's leaders. The challenge, of course, is getting students to experience WOU's unique brand of education, and minimize financial burden. Your ability to give, be it big or small, can truly make the difference in someone's future."

Corbin '17, Carianne and Oliver Garner (and not pictured at time of photo) Ryder Fox Garner, born April 18

Interested in giving back like Corbin?

Contact us at:
WOU Foundation
Western Oregon University
345 Monmouth Ave. N.
Monmouth, OR 97361
wou.edu/giving
**Message from the editor**

This year of “firsts” is wrapping up quickly! From our change to independent status with a new governing board, a new president, year seven accreditation reviews, our new education building nearly completed, men’s basketball making it to the Final Four, our new affordability grant—well, you get the idea! To say it’s been exciting is a bit of an understatement. To top it off, early in the fall we’ll be breaking ground on our new Student Health and Counseling Center. And we look forward to welcoming the next group of alumni in a few short weeks. It may be cliché, but if you blink, you might miss it!

*Denise Visuano ’99, director of publications and creative services*

**Veteran Success Center makes a comeback**

*By Emily Lafon, alumni relations coordinator*

PASSION, DRIVE AND ENTHUSIASM. These are three words that best describe Andrew Holbert, the new coordinator of the Veteran Success Center (VSC). Holbert started working at WOU in December 2015 and in few short months has transformed the VSC into an inviting, calm, well-appointed and welcoming lounge for student veterans. He is working with Cody Knight, the Student Veterans of America chapter president, to furnish the lounge with hot beverage dispensers, work stations, comfortable seating, reading materials and more.

Holbert is a combat veteran himself and spent time serving in Iraq when he wasn’t stationed at Twentynine Palms in Southern California. To Holbert, providing a space for student veterans hits close to home. It is something he cares passionately about because of his own experience in the service and dealing with the pressures and stress of being a non-traditional student and combat veteran. He recognizes the need and purpose for the VSC and wants other student veterans to utilize the space and know what is available to them.

Although the VSC has been available for several years, this is the first time the coordinator position has been filled. Holbert has transformed it into a space that beckons students to use it. The center is meant as a resource for veteran students to study, relax, and talk with others who have been through similar experiences. They also want to help veteran students find resources they may need to be successful both in school and life.

Holbert transformed the center with little to no budget and has big plans for the space and goals for supporting veteran students. Some of his needs include having more work stations for students, such as computers and tables. He would also like to develop a peer-to-peer mentoring program that would invite volunteer veterans to come and work with students to help remove any stumbling blocks WOU student veterans face.

Funding and support from faculty and staff are also major areas of need for the center, as he moves forward with plans of scholarships for student veterans. Holbert also hopes to provide resources and updated spaces for increased privacy and to accommodate more people.

Holbert says his goal is to “integrate, not isolate,” and provide an inclusive and conducive environment for student veterans.

*Holbert and fellow veterans joined a 5K run in support of the Governor’s Food Drive fundraiser sponsored by Campus Recreation.*
Graduate Student Profile: Carlee Nelson
by Erin Westfall ’15, ’17

CARLEE NELSON, an honors graduate and current M.S. in Education in Information Technology student, is sitting at her desk in the honors office. Currently serving as the Honors Program Specialist, Nelson works with her advisor Dr. Gavin Keulks in assisting the current honors students as they make their way through the program.

“As a staff member, the students are so friendly. They come in, hang out, and ask me for advice. Just being able to help them out is really fun.”

Though she assists all the undergraduate students for her GA, most of the time Nelson is assisting the underclassmen. “Usually the juniors and seniors are pretty self-sufficient. I’m an ed major, so I usually help them while Gavin helps the English majors. I’ll help the freshmen pick the right classes, and tell them which professors to talk to for advice.”

When she’s not assisting students, Nelson helps with planning events. “Every term there is a gathering, usually at Gentle House,” Nelson said. “We provide a meal and talk about registration for the next term, upcoming events, and catch up. Usually we get 80-90 students and a handful of professors and family members to attend. We usually try to do a fun event for the students, so this term we are doing a movie night. In addition to the fun events, we plan volunteering events as well. This term the kids are going to be volunteering at the retirement center by Bi-Mart playing kickball and bingo, and next term we’ll be heading to some local elementary schools to have reading nights.”

Nelson’s studies are helping her to prepare for life surrounding the classroom using technology. “You don’t have to be in the ed world to get the degree,” she said. “It teaches you a bunch of different skills that you can use in your occupation. But I’m using it to create artifacts that you can use as a teacher.”

“Last term we learned about web 2.0 tools, so that can be anything from Facebook to learning how to use screencasts to podcasts, or recording lectures for students. And this term we are learning about open source tools. There is a bunch of free software out there that is simple like WordPress, or programs that are complicated, like making code. I definitely want to know how to use these tools for myself, but I want to show other teachers how to use these tools effectively.”

“As a staff member, the students are so friendly. They come in, hang out, and ask me for advice. Just being able to help them out is really fun.”

~ Carlee Nelson

WOU receives 2015 Tree Campus USA recognition

Congratulations to WOU (and our outstanding grounds crew!) for earning 2015 Tree Campus USA® recognition. This national program honors colleges and universities for promoting healthy trees and engaging students and staff in the spirit of conservation.
It’s an uncomfortable topic to cover, but in recent years school shootings have been on the rise while preparedness hasn’t changed. The method still taught at many elementary and high schools, the practice of lockdown (children gathering at the side of a room or under their desks) has become outdated, and potentially unsafe. There must be a change to keep the safety of children at the highest it can be, if a dangerous situation were to ever occur.

Across the country many organizations have adopted the A.L.I.C.E. program or a type of run-hide-fight training. The program does not claim to be perfect, but it does show that students who are informed of the program can feel better prepared if disaster were to ever strike. A public safety ALICE staff instructor offers this free class at various times during every term.

A.L.I.C.E. stands for:
Alert: Instead of using code words, alert here means getting everyone the information at the first notice of danger.
Lockdown: This step includes barricading doorways, as well as blocking locking mechanisms for doors in a way that prohibits entry.
Inform: Keep everyone informed on the intruder’s location and the direction that they are going. Use clear and direct language.
Counter: In the case of a school shooter entering a room, throw the closest object you have at them, a split second of confusion can mean a world of difference.
Evacuate: Run, get as far away from the situation as you can. Remove yourself from the area of danger.

A.L.I.C.E. training focuses primarily on the concept of the O.O.D.A. loop, a military-in-mind system of cognition, Observe, Orient, Decide, and Act. With a better sense of preparedness, a persons O.O.D.A. loop has the ability to react faster and therefore students should feel prepared, and in turn, safer.
University Day at the state capitol

THE FIRST ANNUAL University Day at the Oregon Capitol took place on Thursday, Feb. 11. This was an opportunity for the seven public Oregon universities (and their furry, feathery and/or bearded representatives) to bring students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and other supporters of Oregon’s public universities to Salem for a day of legislative engagement and advocacy. This critical effort advocated for support of funding for higher education in Oregon. Student and administrative teams gathered outside on the capitol steps, and met with state representatives on the floors of the House and Senate to make the case for Oregon’s public universities.

Clockwise from top: The seven mascots paused for an early morning photo op on the capitol steps; the lobbying groups assembled on the senate-side staircase; Rex Fuller and his team met with Representative Betty Komp ’90; House Representative Paul Evans ’92 spoke with students from several of Oregon’s universities, including WOU student Brenda Flores. Flores is an intern for the Associated Students of Western Oregon University (ASWOU). Governor Kate Brown greeted all the mascots in her office; Rex Fuller and Wolfie met on the steps with coffee and VooDoo Donuts.
WOU announces “WOU Affordability Grant” to increase access to college

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY President Rex Fuller announced this spring that the university was taking another bold step in keeping its high quality education affordable for Oregon students. With the support of the Board of Trustees, WOU limited its tuition increase for undergraduate residents to less than three percent for next year. The WOU Affordability Grant will further protect many Oregon students and families by offering a tuition grant that will fully offset the increase.

President Fuller said, “For 2016-17 we will fully offset the planned small tuition increase with an affordability grant for resident undergraduate students whose expected family contribution (EFC) is zero. Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is used to determine EFC and it is affected by a number of factors including family income and family size.” These grants to Oregon residents are intended to reduce financial barriers to educational attainment.

The WOU Affordability Grant is the latest action by the university to help keep the cost of its undergraduate education as low as possible. In 2007 the university created the innovative Western Tuition Promise, which allows students to select the tuition plan that best meets their needs, and in 2011 the university started a textbook rental program that saves students a half-million dollars a year in course material costs.

“The WOU Affordability Grant is further evidence of WOU’s strong commitment to support Oregon students by keeping WOU affordable and accessible so that more students can earn bachelor’s degrees,” said Jim Baumgartner, chair of the WOU Board of Trustees.

The WOU Affordability Grant will be included in the financial aid package that new and continuing students will receive from the university. Eligible Oregon students will be identified from information provided in their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), so it is important that all current and future WOU students complete the FAFSA.

More than 500 names were nominated for our newest campus coffee spot! Jill Love submitted the winning entry and received a $50 café gift card. The campus barista staff has expanded to help fill The Press, located on the north-side first floor of the Hamersly Library. Get your java, tea, smoothies, pastries and more before hitting the books! Photo courtesy of Joey Foat ’16 (pictured at far right).
Two young alums - and former roommates - put their passion for the arts to good use

A LOT CAN be accomplished in the few years following graduation. For two Western Oregon University graduates – friends and former roommates of the class of 2012 – it has been an eventful four years. Love, loss, cross-country moves, career growth, personal growth – the accomplishments of Nawwal Moustafa and Sara McIntyre were significant during their time in Monmouth and have continued beyond their college careers.

They met during their freshman year in Dr. Cunningham’s Psych 201 class. Moustafa had just transferred to WOU and recalled they hit it off immediately. McIntyre said with a laugh, “Nawwal was artsy. I was artsy. We were both kind of class clowns. It was great from there. I think one of us did a squirrel impression and from there we became great friends.”

Moustafa developed a trust with McIntyre that she hadn’t built with many people. “Sara taught me how to be strong and how to enjoy life,” Moustafa said. The two later became roommates for their junior and senior years.

Following graduation they both moved to the East Coast for a time. Moustafa went to New York City where she taught 6th grade special education in Harlem and McIntyre to the Boston area where she started a graduate program in dance and movement therapy. But personal and medical emergencies brought both women closer to home.

Moustafa received donations from 260 people totaling more than $7,500. The idea for the coloring book came to Moustafa at dinner with a friend after having just ended a relationship. “I had felt for a while like I was on the brink of something creative, but couldn’t figure it out.” She had been thinking about the therapeutic value of coloring books and the idea for “Chin Up, Dreamboat!” was born.

“...the great thing about a coloring book is that you need to finish it. This way you aren't just thinking about someone else's experience, but reflecting on your own.” ~Nawaal Moustafa

Moustafa is currently teaching English to immigrant and refugee children in Portland. She is also involved in a comedy group doing improv and recently received international attention for a crowdfunding campaign she created on Kickstarter: “Chin Up, Dreamboat!” – an adult coloring book to serve as a creative companion for lesbian break-ups. The fundraising campaign started with a modest goal of $1,200, but after international press coverage in outlets like BuzzFeed, Bustle, and Metro (and a lot of sharing on social media)
Sara
During college, McIntyre held multiple jobs to help pay her way. One of them was working in a home for people with developmental disabilities. The job was hard, exhausting, and very rewarding. This experience shaped the path she’d take after graduating from WOU with dual bachelor’s degrees in psychology and dance. When she chose these majors based on her interests, she didn’t have a plan of how to combine them. But some searching of career paths led her to dance/movement. As only a handful of colleges offered graduate level training in this area, she applied and was accepted to Lesley University in Cambridge, Mass.

Earlier this year McIntyre was selected to represent the American Dance Therapy Association at Art Advocacy Day in Washington D.C. The organization chose only one student and one professional. Like Moustafa, McIntyre successfully crowdfunded to achieve this goal. She went to D.C. in March to help convince politicians on Capitol Hill that the arts are vital and a worthy recipient of funding. The first day of the trip was a conference filled with workshops and training about the bills and acts that support and fund the arts, as well as facts and statistics about how the government has supported the arts in the past. McIntyre said this part of the experience was challenging because they were given so much information at once. “But more resonated with me than I gave myself credit for,” she said.

The participants were grouped by home states and met with people on Capitol Hill on the second day. “I was talking specifically on a house bill integrating expressive therapies with veterans and their families,” McIntyre said. Music and art therapies are used in this way, but McIntyre lobbied to get dance therapy added. Although she received mixed interest from the staffers she talked with, McIntyre had an experience that stood out for her personally. As a current resident of California, she was assigned to the group that visited Rep. Nancy Pelosi’s office. The staff member McIntyre’s group spoke with was a young woman about the same age as herself. “When I spoke on the importance of dance therapy and working with veterans she was super excited. It didn’t feel like the others paid attention to me, but she talked about how interested Congresswoman Pelosi is about expressive therapies.” McIntyre added, “I felt like I did something right. I made it through to one person. That was a great feeling.”

McIntyre is finishing up her last semester of the dance therapy master’s program. She’s currently living in California doing an internship at Napa State Hospital in an adult male forensic unit. They were all charged with crimes and deemed incompetent to stand trial so they’re placed in hospitals like McIntyre’s to get treatment so they can eventually go back to court.

“I felt like I did something right. I made it through to one person. That was a great feeling.” ~Sara McIntyre

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FINAL FOUR
Many WOU, WOSC and OCE alums caught a glimpse of 15 minutes of fame when WOU alum and KGW news reporter, Katherine Cook '02, stopped by the Independence Cinema during the 3/23 game watch.

kgw.com/sports/western-oregon-advances-to-first-ncaa-final-four-in-school-history/99284669

Coach Shaw and Andy Avgi earn top honors
The Wolves record season just kept getting better. In late March, Avgi was named to the National Association of Basketball Coaches Division II All-American team and earned his second All-American honor of the season. Alum coach Jim Shaw '86 was named NABC West Region Coach of the Year!
A season to remember

by Michael Feuling '07

IT WAS A season that united community and university, and went down as the most successful men's basketball season in Western's history. The list of accomplishments range from GNAC Regular Season Champions, GNAC Conference Champions, NCAA West Regional Champions and Final Four participants. The 2015-16 Men's Basketball team finished with a record of 31-4, the most wins in school history, and with their 18 GNAC wins set a conference record. The team was nationally ranked number one in all of Division II for the first time in school history since the university transitioned to NCAA.

Led by five seniors (Andy Avgi, DeVon Alexander, Julian Nichols, Jordan Schriber, and Jordan Wiley) who over their four seasons totaled 82 victories with 54 in the last two years. This year, Wolves alumnus Jim Shaw returned to take over the reigns of the program and in doing so was named the GNAC Coach of the year and the West Region Coach of the year. Andy Avgi, from Woodburn, Ore., was named to the All-American lists by the National Association of Basketball Coaches and Division II College Commissioner’s Association. He also was honored by the Division II Bulletin as a First Team All-American and by Basketball Times as a Second Team selection. Those awards capped off being named the GNAC Player of the Year, and the Most Outstanding Player of the West Regional Tournament.

The Wolves were rewarded for their successful regular season by earning a number one seed in the NCAA West Regional Tournament and hosting the first three rounds in Monmouth in the NPE Gym. In front of record attendance the Wolves punched their ticket to Frisco, Texas and an Elite Eight matchup with Saginaw Valley State University, with a 60-55 win over UC San Diego.

In a season of firsts the team travelled on a chartered flight from Corvallis to Texas, and was treated to a hero’s welcome at a local Frisco elementary school for a morning of educational activities with local grade school students. Armed with the support of fans who made the trip, multiple sold-out watch parties in Monmouth, the movie theatre in Independence, and on campus—the Wolves secured an 81-68 victory over Saginaw Valley State to advance to the Final Four. After a Final Four defeat by the eventual NCAA Champions, Augustana Vikings, the team was welcomed home complete with a police escort and fans awaiting their arrival in front of the NPE gym. In recognition of the astounding achievements, the cities of Monmouth and Independence declared April 8, 2016 as WOU Men's Basketball Day (see page 11).

As Coach Shaw told a gymnasium of kids in Texas, “Teamwork is the key to success,” the 2015-16 Wolves exemplified that philosophy to win many games and set a new precedent for basketball in Monmouth. Armed with success and community support, it truly was March Madness in Monmouth and a season that no one will soon forget.

Photos (l-r): Julian Nichols, Andy Avgi, Jordan Schriber and Kadeem Strickland celebrate their victory; Jordan Wiley; Tanner Omlid; DeVon Alexander; Coach Shaw in huddle with his team: (clockwise from left) Nick Nestell, Janvier Alaby, Tanner Omlid, Buster Souza, Hunter Raglione, Jordan Schriber, Dezmond Dupree-Turner, Kadeem Strickland, Conner Thompson, Jordan Wiley, and Alex Roth
Men’s Basketball Day

In recognition of the astounding achievements of this year’s WOU men’s basketball team, the cities of Monmouth and Independence issued a joint proclamation deeming Friday, April 8 as WOU Men’s Basketball Day. The proclamation was read at the Monmouth City Council meeting on April 5 in Volunteer Hall.

Here are a few facts from the 2015-16 WOU men’s basketball season:

- Most wins in Western Oregon University history – 31
- One of 10 teams in all of NCAA Basketball with 30 wins on the season
- Earned first national No. 1 ranking on Feb. 9, 2016
- NCAA National Semifinalist
- First appearance in the NCAA Division II Men’s Basketball Elite Eight
- First Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Tournament Championship
- Back-to-back GNAC regular-season champions
- Set GNAC record with 18 league victories
- Undefeated at home – 17-0 (includes regular season, West Regional Tournament, and exhibition games)
- Longest win streak in the NCAA-era – 13 games (1/2/16-2/18/16)

More recognition for a job well done:

- Jim Shaw named GNAC Coach of the Year and NABC West Region Coach of the Year
- First back-to-back GNAC Player of the Year was Andy Avgi
- During the three-day tournament, more than 5,000 fans attended the West Regional Tournament games – and more than 200 fans were in attendance at area watch parties for the Elite Eight game!
a comic book or other medium I believe the message and relatability would be there, but the great thing about a coloring book is that you need to finish it. This way you aren’t just thinking about someone else’s experience, but reflecting on your own.”

Moustafa was humbled by the support and attention she and the project received. Two surreal moments stood out to her. The first was seeing her project and her own picture on the BuzzFeed homepage, a site she’s followed since college. “I am a comedian and artist and could have only dreamed that I would be featured on such a website for either of those things,” she said. The second moment was someone from another country expressing that they need this book. “I knew in the beginning that people would think this project was funny, but I didn’t quite estimate how many people would view it as a tool for moving on and healing.”

Someone reached out to Moustafa on social media and told her that she’s helping a lot of people with this project. “Those words were a game changer for me and I realized that something I created was making a difference.” When people use the coloring book, her hope is that people will understand that someone relates to what they’re experiencing.

She hopes people will color and reflect on what went right in their relationships as well as what went wrong – and then begin to move on and leave the bitterness behind. Moustafa also hopes people who aren’t experiencing heartache color in her designs.

Ultimately, this project reflects a personal journey for her – one that heavily involved her time at WOU. She came out as a lesbian during her junior year of college. While in high school, Moustafa was far from ready to be so open about her sexuality, but as an adult teaching high school students she sees many who openly identify as gay or bisexual.

“I am pleased to see this shift and I would tell someone who is grappling with sexuality and coming out that though it might be scary, it is incredibly freeing and you will thank yourself later for giving yourself that voice,” she said. “You’re a dreamboat and it is a privilege to be in your life.” She sums up her experience with the famous adage: “Those who matter don’t mind, and those who mind don’t matter.”

Nawwal

continued from page 6

Sara

continued from page 7

“I am pleased to see this shift and I would tell someone who is grappling with sexuality and coming out that though it might be scary, it is incredibly freeing and you will thank yourself later for giving yourself that voice,” she said. “You’re a dreamboat and it is a privilege to be in your life.” She sums up her experience with the famous adage: “Those who matter don’t mind, and those who mind don’t matter.”
Class notes

Dr. Darrel Camp ’75, ’82 has been appointed as the new administrator of the Renaissance Public Academy in Molalla.

Terry Lohf ’94 returned to his hometown of Lakeview as the newest member of the Lakeview Police Department.

Spencer Morgan ’02 has been appointed as vice president, commercial banking officer, for Columbia Bank.

Allison Galvin ’07 was hired as the executive director for Oregon Connections Academy, a statewide online school. The Mill City-based academy is Oregon’s largest, online, public school. Galvin has been an educator for 13 years, serving as a school administrator with the academy and as a math teacher and instructional coach in the Salem-Keizer School District.

Clarissa Comer ’08 started as first-grade teacher at Muskegon Heights Public School in Michigan.

Tiffany Kehl ’09 will marry Reeve Woodward in July 2016. Kehl is currently employed with County Media as the office manager and legal advertiser for the Tillamook Headlight Herald and Lincoln City News Guard.

Boone Marker ’09 has been hired as the new recreation program supervisor for the city of Lincoln City.

Julie Drescher ’13 of St. Paul is finishing up her year as Miss Rodeo Oregon. Over the course of the year she’s traveled all over the country and visited dozens of rodeos.

Faculty

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the nation’s leading philanthropic organization on health and health care, has awarded Doris Cancel-Tirado, PhD, MPH, MA assistant professor a 24-month grant through the New Connections program.

In remembrance

1930s
Alyce E. Waddill ’30
Anna L. Case ’36, ’57
Koneta (Nowowiejski) Doran ’37
Helen M. Glodt ’37

1940s
Rosemary Malo ’46

1950s
Harry D. Peters ’50
Raymond R. Cummings ’51
Col. Joseph D. Formick ’53, ’56
Edythe M. McCarty ’54
Jack D. Morton ’57
John Lawrence O’Donnell ’57

1960s
Edward Dougherty ’61
Thomas M. Paterson ’65
Michael J. Costello ’69, ’70
Richard W. Noland ’69

1970s
John C. Sprenger ’70
Ronald A. George ’72
Chester N. Phillips ’73
Rodney K. Myrick ’73
George H. Kirby ’75
Richard W. Noland ’75
Ardyce R. Swift ’75
Gene Lanthorn ’77
Linda Cummings ’79

1980s
Lawrence A. Larson ’81
Ramona L. (Mays) Peterson ’82
Gerald A. Antonson ’83

1990s
Katherine A. Thompson ’93
Rosemary K. Burbee ’95

2000s
Adam P. Hooper ’02, ’09
Lori R. Florez ’10

Friends of WOU
Erhard Dortmund, professor of history
Ruth Rice, wife of former OCE president, Leonard Rice
Jack Morton, former administrator and dean of students at OCE
David Wallace, retired professor of music, director of graduate programs, and founder of the Smith Fine Arts Series
Claude “Bud” Edward Smith, ’58, ’61, director of educational media
LOOKING FOR A SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITY?
HERE ARE A FEW HAPPENING ON CAMPUSS YOU’LL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT!

**MEL BROWN JAZZ CAMP**
**JULY 31- AUG 6**
The first week of August campus is abuzz with jazz musicians—ages thirteen and up. Together with a faculty made up of Oregon’s finest jazz musicians, campers develop their skills as musicians. For more information, go to: melbrownworkshop@wou.edu

**SPORTS CAMPS**

**BASEBALL**
Prospect Camp #1: June 17-19
Prospect Camp #2: August 1-3 (grades 9-12)

**MEN’S BASKETBALL**
Team Camp #1: June 17-19
Team Camp #2: June 24-26 (grades 9-12)

**FOOTBALL**
Camp: June 23-26 (grades 9-12)

**SOCCER**
Camp: July 18-20 (female campers, grades 6-12)

**SOFTBALL**
Three-day Elite Competition Clinic June 20–22 (grades 9-12)

**VOLLEYBALL**
Camp #1: July 11-13 (8th grade and under)
Camp #2: July 14-16 (grades 9-12)
Camp #3: July 18-20 (grades 9-12)

For more information on sports camps, go to wouwolves.com and scroll down the “fan zone” tab to “camps and clinics.”