

# EUREKA!



News by Columbia College Students for Columbia College Students



## Too Close For Comfort: A Rim Fire Story

By Teanna Kosik

The Rim Fire has greatly impacted not only the Groveland area, but Tuolumne as well. It began on the 17th of August and as of October 3rd it has burned over 257, 135 acres. To give you a likeness of the size, that is almost 4,000 times the size of our campus. This fire has affected not only residents, but businesses too. Luckily, most evacuation areas were only advisory, meaning most homes were not in the

“As the fire burned, the smoke would engulf my home late at night...”

—Teanna Kosik

direct path, however Section 12 of Pine Mountain Lake in Groveland did have mandatory evacuations. 100+ structures have been decimated while 11 homes were lost to this ghastly fire. Businesses had a hard time meeting sales as the smoke kept many people in their homes. Also, some businesses had to close for a few days due to old A/C systems failing and others had to spend some **Too Close—pg 2**



Greg Elam,  
Security Supervisor

### Rim Fire: First of Firsts An interview with Greg Elam

The devastating Rim Fire was a fire of many firsts. The first in size, the first in manpower, the first in technological advances, and also the first whose exemplary teamwork and coalition will be used as a national model. How and why this came about is explained by Greg Elam, Security

Supervisor of Columbia College, who teaches the Incident Command System class—ICS—which stands as the framework for agencies to work together as one entity, and plans emergency preparedness with the county.

Elam explains that the Rim Fire was the first time for a collaborative effort between this county, state, local, and national organizations such as: FEMA, and Tuolumne's Emergency Operation Center worked together in a well-organized and synchronized fashion. Elam stated, “It is truly a wonderful thing to see so many different organizations

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# EUREKA!

*EUREKA!* is a Newspaper run by students for students with support and guidance from the Associated Students of Columbia College (ASCC).

## DISCLAIMER!

The opinions, beliefs and viewpoints expressed by the various authors and participants in the publication do not necessarily reflect the opinions, beliefs and viewpoints of the Associated Students of Columbia College (ASCC) Leadership and Columbia College.

## WANT TO CONTRIBUTE?

Do you have any comments or want to recommend something for an article? Are you interested in contributing to the newspaper?

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## Too Close...

extra cash to put in charcoal filters to help reduce pollution (aka smoke). The county brought in over 89 fire crews, 207 fire trucks, 17 helicopters, and 44 bulldozers. So far it has cost over \$126 million. I can see the damage from my own home in Cedar Ridge. As the fire burned, the smoke would engulf my home late at night and would not let up till noon. During the day I was able to watch smoke rise from the mountains and at night the fire would glow. I have never been so worried in my life until this fire blazed through. The Rim Fire has burnt over half of Tuolumne

County and has reached 4th place as the worst California Wildfires. Thankfully the fire is 92% contained and they estimate a full containment date of October 6th.

So THANK YOU FIREFIGHTERS for all your hardwork!!!!

Do you have a Rim Fire story or photo to share?  
Email [asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu](mailto:asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu) and your story may be featured.



Helicopter flying over Lyons Dam  
Photo by Teanna Kosik



## Rim Fire...

working together...and so smoothly, it went off without a hitch.” And indeed it did, over 30 agencies worked smoothly with each other in ideal teamwork. Elam stated that, “When you get a whole bunch of great people who are the top in their field, put them in a small room with a bundled mess of wire on the table, and say to them ‘okay, now get all that wire rolled neatly round that spool,’ you would get a lot of different ideas on how to roll it up.”

Elam explains how the teams were able to channel their strength. “The way the system works is once a disaster happens, ICS creates a certain Emergency system for that event, and within that system lies the Department Operational Center—DOC” The DOC is the operations center where coordination and management decisions are facilitated. Elam explains that the DOC is, “A mini operationalized Department within the ICS system...a way to formalize the process of unity...” For instance, the schools decision to open a DOC avoided a hectic outcome. Elam states that, “The DOC is the place where we all become one voice...with the schools, we came together and said ‘If one of us decides to close, we all close.’”

Columbia College also played a role in the Rim Fire’s firsts. Not only did our firefighters go with the teams to battle the blaze, Columbia College donated the usage of the Geographic Information System (GIS) printer so accurate maps could be printed.

Other firsts for the Rim Fire include the first civil application of an aerial drone which helped in mapping the fire and providing real time mapping of hot spots. “The drone only flew at night,” Elam stated, “and was not a simple thing to have. The Secretary of Defense had to sign the OK.” In most fires the mapping is done via helicopter or plane, but due to the thick smoke it is hazardous and nigh impossible to fly through. Hence, the “pilotless” drone provided the optimal answer. The Rim Fire was also the first time the Tuolumne County Disaster Center became fully implemented; the first time schools opened a DOC, and the first time in our county that our ICS system was fully used to its potential.



Teanna Kosik, Interim Vice President, ASCC and Greg Elam



Drones were used for the first time in a civil application. They were able to fly through the heavy smoke that planes could not.



Flames towered over the tree line



Rim Fire seen from Cedar Ridge

## President's Message

### Welcome Back Students!

**Associated Students of Columbia College President  
Matthew Christman**

Welcome back to another exciting year at Columbia College. The Associated Students of Columbia College strives to serve students to the fullest, not only by being the voice of students on campus-wide committees, but by also identifying the needs of students and strategically planning a solution to meet those needs. We take every opportunity to be as transparent as possible with the students we represent. Be on the lookout for student forums, updates to our webpage, more events and the release of more transparent and engaging documents. We would love to hear from you, please come and stop by the student center or email me at [asccpresident@student.yosemite.edu](mailto:asccpresident@student.yosemite.edu), I would love to hear your concerns, feedback, and suggestions. Our senate meetings for the Fall 2013 semester will be held on Tuesdays from 2pm–3pm, check bulletin boards on campus for the agenda or stop by the student center. Once again welcome back to

Columbia College and I hope to see you around on campus or in the student center.

Matthew Christman, President

Associated Students of Columbia College

[asccpresident@student.yosemite.edu](mailto:asccpresident@student.yosemite.edu)

209-588-5270



Doralyn Foletti, ASCC Advisor and Student Outreach Coord. and Matthew Christman, ASCC President

## Letter from the Editor

October is here and the semester is finally in full swing! This semester started out rough with the devastating and historical Rim Fire delaying us a week, but we will surely overcome.

Thank you firefighters and volunteers for all that you have done!

There are many activities happening on campus this month so make sure to mark your calendars!

I am Aiko Gonzalez, your Director of Publicity and Editor-in-chief.

*EUREKA!* is a student newspaper in association with the Associated Students of Columbia College—ASCC. If you would like to join or submit works, please feel free to contact me or see me directly at the Student Center, Ponderosa Building. Also, I am happy to answer any questions you may have. We at *EUREKA!* are always looking for student writers, photographers, editors, artists, and contributors who would be interested in helping in putting together our issues.

As the Director of Publicity for the ASCC, I help create the posters sponsoring our events on campus, assisting in graphic design needs, and chair the ASCC Public Relations Committee here on campus.

Please feel free to attend a Public Relations Committee meeting

and see what we are all about. The meetings are every Tuesday at 1pm–2pm in the Student Center, Ponderosa Building.

Thank you and enjoy this issue of *EUREKA!*

Aiko Gonzalez, Director of Publicity

Associated Students of Columbia College

*EUREKA!* Editor-in-chief

[asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu](mailto:asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu)

209.588.5270



Aiko Gonzalez, Editor-in-chief

# Upcoming Events and Announcements



## *The 4th Semi-annual Columbia College Wellness Fair!*

October 23rd and 24th  
10am–3pm  
Upper Floor of the Manzanita Building

The six dimensions of health will be highlighted through hands-on activities.

- Physical
- Emotional
- Occupational
- Spiritual
- Social
- Intellectual



We will again highlight the 6 dimensions of health (physical, emotional, occupational, spiritual, social, intellectual) through hands-on activities. (Eureka! career exploration program, ceramics with Sifu Berchtold, seated massage, yoga, tai chi, nutrition lessons, free soup, tea, Columbia College health statistics, mind expanding games, student clubs, meditations, herbal demos, County Behavioral Health,..)

## October Student Success Workshops In Career Transfer Center/Manzanita 14

- 9 Wed. **Studying with Children at Home 9am–10pm**  
Lindsay Macon, TRiO Mentor  
Strategies and tips on how to keep your cool and energy up
- 10 Thurs. **Note Taking and Study Strategies 3pm–4pm**  
Dominic Cummins and Andrea Foster, TRiO Students  
Ever wonder how other students “Ace” a test or always seem to know the answer? Come learn helpful strategies for studying and taking notes like a pro!
- 15 Tues. **Avoiding Procrastination 1pm–2pm**  
Dave Chesnut, CalWORKs Program
- 17 Thurs. **7 Habits of Successful People 10:30am–11:30am**  
Ramona Harris, Counselor
- 22 Tues. **Relaxation Strategies 10am–11am**  
Brian Jensen, Counselor

## MONSTER MASH MOVIE NIGHT



Thursday, October 24th  
6pm  
Student Center, Ponderosa Building

Movies showing:  
The Avengers  
Rocky Horror Picture Show  
So, bring your costumes!

Free Popcorn!!

Sponsored by the Associated Students of  
Columbia College.



**Dates and Deadlines to Remember!**

9/30/13 Deadline for submitting a Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) for a UC campus.

10/2/13 Last day to apply for graduation for Spring 2014—degrees and certificates.

11/30/13 Deadline for CSU Applications

11/30/13 Deadline for UC Applications

**STUDENT FORUM!**

The Associated Students of Columbia College invite you to a student forum.

**YOU HAVE QUESTIONS...****WE HAVE ANSWERS**

Wed. October 9th

11am–2:30pm

In the Manzanita Com. Ed Room

**Have you ever felt stuck?  
Breaking Down Barriers!**

Tuesday, October 8th

10am–11am

Career Transfer Center, Manzanita 14

By:

Doralyn Foletti, Outreach Coord.

What personal and educational barriers are and how to move around, through or over them in a creative way.

**Need Help Writing Your Application  
Personal Statement?**

English Professor Rick Rivera will conduct a UC application personal statement workshop.

Wed. October 30th

In Manzanita 18-1

1pm–2:30pm

Remember that UC application deadline  
for Fall of 2014 is 11/30/13

**Coats, Clothing & More**

Help by donating your gently used and clean items



October 1st–30th

Items to be distributed to Columbia College Students

Boxes Located at:

- Rotunda, Manzanita
- Library, Tamarack Hall
- Student Center, Ponderosa
- Child Development Center, Laurel

**Ice Cream Social!!**

Mon. October 7th

12noon–3pm

Student Center, Ponderosa Building

**Get Involved at...**

**The Student Government** (ASCC) is a vital part of Columbia College Shared Governance process and activities. We are proud to participate in student government at Columbia College and are equally delighted to share our enthusiasm with you.

Why get involved? Represent interests of the Columbia College Students! Serve on committees with Columbia staff, faculty, and administration through shared governance. Participate in a state level representation of California Community Colleges through the Student Senate for California Community College, SSSCC.

You can develop leadership skills, as well as plan campus activities. Enhance and enrich your academic career. Have fun, and make meaningful, long lasting connections with the student body, faculty, and staff.

Interested? Please contact us at: 209.588.5270 or visit <http://www.gocolumbia.edu/ASCC/>

Update: In regards to the May issue and the article entitled, “Wired that Way,” it has been brought to the attention of the EUREKA! staff that said article was co-written and co-presented by Grant Wells, and Jalin Cassidy.



Grant Wells



Jalin Cassidy

We at EUREKA! correct that oversight.

# We Are C.C.

## Student submitted Poems, Stories, Photos, Artwork and Comics



Sikamaru  
by "Battousai"

### Reading Me Like an Open Book

By D.B. DeGraf

If you wish to know what I know,  
then you can tell what I think.  
You seem to try,  
but you are a desert, leaving me at bay.  
Oceans that separate your understandings,  
forests that hide within,  
territory not yours for the taking.  
I wish you could know,  
what I wish to know,  
I elaborate what I know,  
oh, but what I could only show.  
The world you give me is not my own,

this imagination is not of my divinity.  
The love I sense is pure and of strength,  
the scars I bear are all these reminders.  
I doubt there are many who are prone,  
but to those I heed no warning,  
examples there all need to be,  
but I think we substantiate the theory.  
I lose no one to their imperfection,  
but their surprises I have in store,  
I learn by those who say they have learned.  
For we know what we allow.  
Privileges within the sunrise colors you see,

Poems by Deanna Stinson

### Haiku(Seraphim)

Love is my hunter  
My eyes fill up with the sea  
wings cover my face

### Crow, Spirit Animal

Thank you  
my eternal friend  
for carrying my sorrow with you  
across the sky  
into a new divide  
compassion rests  
like a burning flame  
on the wings of change  
hear the music play  
I am intoxicated by your ways

the memories you are there to see.

How you explore within your abilities to  
educate.

take up the torches to ruminate.

I believe you understand what words I use.

I know that you can open a door, believed to  
be locked.

You know as well as I,  
so what are you waiting for?

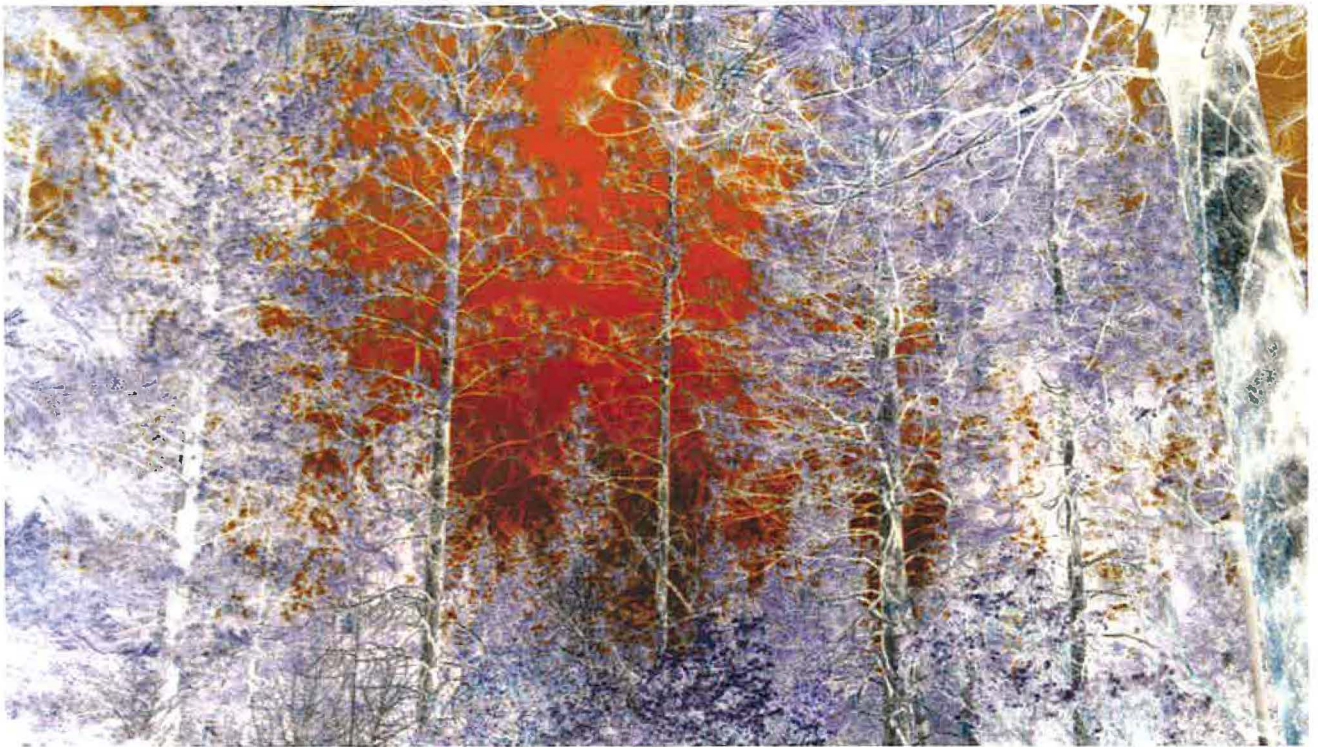




"Mystery Eye" Aileen Bales  
Medium: Acrylic Oils



"Peacock midsummer night dream" Aileen Bales  
Medium: Acrylic Oils



"Night of the Hollow" Teanna Kosik  
Medium: Mixed-Digital Photography with Negative effect

Do you want to see your artwork, poem, short story, creative writings, opinions or events in the newspaper?  
Email your submissions and letters to the Editor-in-Chief,  
Aiko Gonzalez, at: [asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu](mailto:asccpublicity@student.yosemite.edu)