

## Mont Alto Film Project: Ghosting

### FABULOUS FLORES

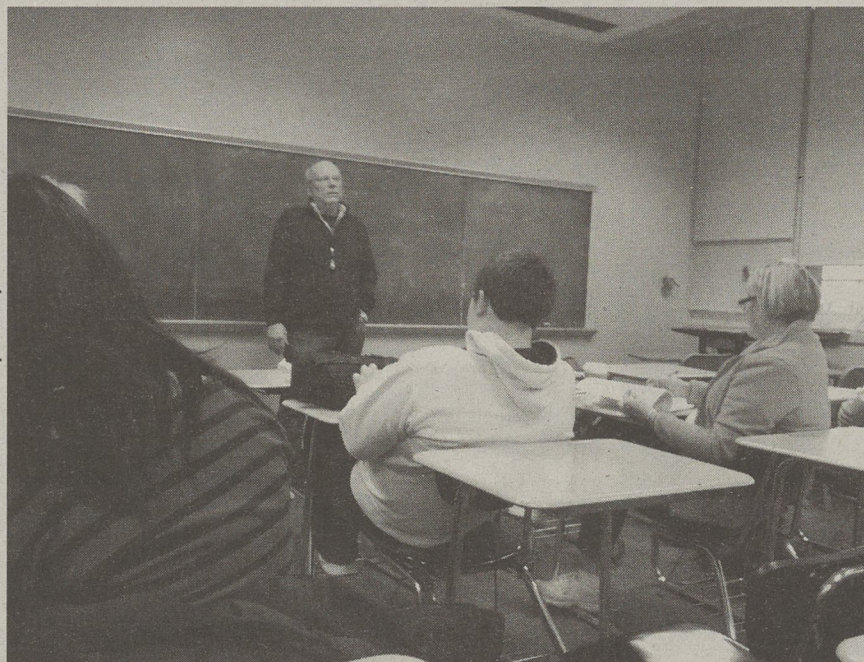
The Mont Alto Film Project (MAFP) has entered into their second phase of their yearlong project. The MAFP is working to create an independent film better than its predecessor "Two Days Back." Last semester the students worked with each other to come up with an idea for their film. The Fall semester ended with not only a story idea in place, but each student was assigned a section of the movie to write in order to have a tangible script for the beginning of the Spring semester.

Now that there is a set story and script what is next for the students in their endeavors towards cinematic accomplishment? Preproduction must be done, this includes casting, finding and securing locations for shooting, putting the crew together, and finding props. Every small detail of a film that magically comes together

reaches theatres is actually a long arduous process of nit picking that is someone's job to handle; in this case it falls on the shoulders of the students. "How much gets done depends on the students" said Dr. Kevin Boon, Professor of English and director of the MAFP. Boon is reliant on how much the students are committed and actually do what they are supposed to.

Up until this point the film concept has been somewhat hush-hush, but

by the soon casting will begin and time it those auditioning need to know what they are auditioning for. The title of the film is "Ghosting", those involved with the film know this is a



Dr. Kevin Boon talks about the Mont Alto Film Project with students.

play-off words. Boon describes it as "a supernatural thriller of

a first generation college student from a blue collar background who begins to suspect he might be going crazy when he starts seeing things." With a story idea and script set, it is now time to cast. Auditions will be held the last Saturday, February 23rd and Saturday, March 16th from 10AM to 4PM. Anyone can audition for the film.

From last semester until now new students have

joined the class. Joe Fenice, a psychology major said he joined because "I've always been interested in film, been wanting to make my own film. I have my own YouTube page -- something I've been interested in since I was a child." Students of the class come from all different majors, joined for different reasons, and different experience levels. Jonathan Matthew, English major, joined "because in all honesty...it's turning into a 400 level class which I need to pursue my major. But I am also interested in it, I saw the film from last year and was impressed." Despite having diverse majors and reasons for being there, every student shares the same drive and responsibility for completing the film.

## Washington Reviews Gun Laws

### ROSS HOLLAND

There has been a lot of media coverage about President Obama's new gun control measures. The plan takes a two-pronged approach. There are those laws which have been signed through executive order by the president, and those that will be passed through congress. Most of the new measures involve expanding of awareness and communication. There are relatively few pieces of legislation that are entirely new. The ban on assault weapons that was instituted from 1994 until 2004 is being reinstated and strengthened, potentially to include all assault weapons. There has also been a measure proposed to limit magazine capacities to ten rounds. A ban on armor pierc-

ing rounds except for military and police use is also on the table.

Most of the proposed actions are about increasing visibility and communication between agencies as well as allowing those agencies to track information on a more advanced level. There will be funding for data tracking that will allow for many things, including tracking violent deaths throughout the United States. There will also be programs that will allow background checks to be done more extensively and universally on all gun purchases. This will allow for a crackdown on "straw purchases", a "straw purchase" being when someone buys a gun for someone who cannot. It was seen as a point of emphasis to enlarge the penalty for these types of purchases as

well as limiting the private sale of fire-arms by private sellers, which have been exempt from background checks in the past.

There has also been talk about allowing the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and (ATF) to ban the import of guns that are more than fifty years old, unless they have been determined to be legitimate collectibles. There has also been mention that the Department of Justice will annually publish a record of all reports of lost and stolen guns to ensure that all agencies can make use of the information. There will be measures in place to track all guns from manufacture to owner regardless of where they end up. Currently there are many weapons that are left untracked after private purchase or police seizures.

Potentially the most important pieces of legislation will be a direct action to protect schools. Schools will be given incentives to employ "resource officers", as well as institute programs that will help them prepare for an on-site shooter. There will also be expanded counseling services and programs to help. The president has proposed the creation of a nationwide safety and responsible gun ownership program. The White House also plans to create a board and committee to review national mental health. These measure are all designed to prevent tragedies like the massacre that occurred at Sandy Hook elementary.

In all, there will be many small changes, but they will only affect a very limited number of fire-arms. Most of the proposed legislation enhances

communication between agencies which will allow them to do their jobs more effectively. The few proposed measures that will actually affect guns only reinstates old laws. The sole exception to that is the limit of magazines beyond ten shots. None of them have been voted on, and none have been enacted. At this point, nothing has been made final, and there are many Congressmen from both parties who are not sure about these proposed changes.

