Looking ahead, remembering the past

By Cory Palmer

Since 2001, the month of September has brought with it memories of a national tragedy. "The attacks on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., the World Trade Center in New York City and the United Airlines Flight 93 plane crash near Shanksville, Pa., were the greatest tragedy on American soil in years," everyone remembers what they were doing on that fateful day when they found out what had happened. "To some at Liberty, it hit closer to home.

Khalil Reed is a senior sports management major. In 2001, he was attending high school in Jersey City, New Jersey, just across the Hudson River to watch the first tower burn. "I was in my bedroom watching it on television when I realized that this was a planned attack," recalled Reed. "Our principal released school for the day, because most of the students were parents and were coming to see their children.

My teacher allowed us to go outside to watch. My school was on top of a hill, and we were able to look straight across the Hudson River to watch the first tower burn."

Reed and his classmates watched in disbelief, wondering what the firefighters would manage to extinguish the flames. From then on, they new another plane heading toward the other tower.

"We watched as a second plane hit the World Trade Center minutes after it happened."

There are many Christians remember who they believed was still frowning from a nation that embraced paganism but who they believed was still fathering spirituality. The hope for a nation as a spiritual power lies in the speakers, preachers and educators that live in this very country. One does not have to travel to the far reaches of Asia or Africa to find people with the desire to join the Army."

By Joshua King

In the midst of danger: ROTC students serve their country

Sixty-five years ago, Japan executed an attack on American homestead. The deadly assault on Pearl Harbor caught the nation off guard and cost the lives of more than 2,400 people.

By this time, we were all in a panic," Reed said. "Our principal released school for the day, because most of the students were parents and were coming to see their children.

Fortunately, the members of Reed's family were all safe. His mother gathered him up from school, and they picked up his younger sister and went home to wait for his older brother, who was called to transport injured victims to the hospital."

Eric Forcey, an Army cadet and senior at Liberty, said the events of Sept. 11 influenced him to join the Army.

"He was called in to transport injured victims to the hospital. Later that night, he volunteered in the search and rescue in New York City. He returned home a few hours several days after.

Some of those individuals who took the battle to the enemy is Corporal Mike Lynchburg, who currently serves as a recruiter for Liberty's Army ROTC program. Lynchburg, who recently joined the Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Lynchburg in 1996.

After several years as a Marine, he came very close to calling it quits.

"I fulfilled my dream and had decided to pretty much hang my boots up, and then God called me back to Liberty," he said.

Former Muslim speaks at LU

By Jonathan King

In memoriam

Life! remembers Dusty Boyce and Samuel Danso, B5

A fighter aircraft is in a panicky state as it heads toward the United States.

By Jonathan King

Clayton King brings crowd to feet at SEW

Before the beginning of this semester's Spiritual Emphasis Week, the Campus Pastor's Office had been praying, in connection with the All-Night of Prayer, for a move of God and for students to come out.

He thought I wasn't thinking about the atrocities all the way through." After talking with army recruiters, Forcey made the decision to go to basic training. Much of his inspiration came from the men and women in uniform who have already served their country overseas. "There are tons of people from Liberty who have already deployed already," he said. "I know a bunch of them. It's just really fascinating." One of those individuals who took the battle to the enemy is Corporal Mike Lynchburg, who currently serves as a recruiter for Liberty's Army ROTC program. Lynchburg, who recently joined the Marine Corps Reserve Unit in Lynchburg in 1996.

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The recent monsoon that has given Liberia wonderful rains has left behind a fluffy, full of joy to the extend—Liberty was blessed by a much more thunderous storm than this. Ahh, Hurricane Isabel. I remember it like it was three years ago.

Thanksgiving, with a vengeance. That might have everyone making the assumption that the West African country gathered at the new Thomas Road Baptist Church Worship Center. This past weekend, that is the continuing vision of Extraordinary Baptist Church Worship Center. “Wrapped in puddles” as the title of a book by Lisa Whelchel. I remember it like it was three years ago. The rains came on a Thursday with a vengeance. That night at hall dorm and us. They never did.

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Continued from page 1

What happens when a challenge is set forth to do something outrageous when the outcome is uncertain? Ziafat went on to explain that in 2001, just two years prior to the terrorist attacks on the United States, he had a vision in which he saw the towers of the World Trade Center burning. Ziafat explained that he had been praying for the nation at that time, and it was during that prayer that the vision came to him. He said that he felt God speaking to him through the vision, and that God was asking him to help prevent such a tragedy from happening.

Ziafat went on to say that the vision was a call to action, and that he felt that God was giving him a mandate to help prevent terrorist attacks on the United States. He explained that he believed that God had given him the vision as a warning to the nation, and that it was a call to respond to the challenge that God was giving him.

Ziafat said that he felt that God was asking him to help prevent terrorist attacks on the United States, and that he believed that God was giving him the vision as a warning to the nation. He said that he felt that God was calling him to respond to the challenge that God was giving him, and that he was excited to be able to do his part in helping to prevent such attacks.

Ziafat went on to explain that he had been a Muslim all of his life, and that he had always been committed to his faith. He said that he had always believed in the power of prayer, and that he had always been committed to praying for the nation.

Ziafat said that he felt that God was calling him to respond to the challenge that God was giving him, and that he was excited to be able to do his part in helping to prevent such attacks. He said that he believed that God was giving him the vision as a warning to the nation, and that it was a call to action for all Americans to come together and work towards preventing such attacks.
Most Americans feel fairly knowledgeable about international affairs. The news is always covering a story in Iraq or Afghanistan, and it seems that our government and troops are involved everywhere. However, if matters were mentioned that have no U.S. involvement, would you still feel knowledgeable? If you have ever picked up a local newspaper or read through an online newspaper, you will notice that little or nothing is said in regards to a nation unless there are American troops, civilians or money involved.

Recently, two international stories have made U.S. headlines. Not surprisingly, they included the involvement of Americans. About a few weeks ago, John Stork, a Kari of the unlisted Jonestown Fellowship reportedly lived until his American grave. CNN.com reported that Kari was being held in Bangkok for unlisted sexual assault charges. Suddenly the American media, however briefly, acknowledged the innocent child prostitution and sex trade taking place in Thailand.

Similarly, while international news web sites and humanitarian groups have been documenting the violence in Sudan for some time, it took the release of PaulTmpke, an American journalist who had been prisoner, for Sudan to gain worldwide attention.

The trend is obvious, and it is not a new development. Yet, are the American media blameless? Society recognizes that the media publishes and broadcasts what sells. So the lack of international news coverage is largely due to the lack of viewer interest, unless of course, an American is involved.

In Iraq, the U.S. received insufficient warning of an imminent massacre occurring in Roshok, the U.S. stood by, doing nothing. There was nothing they could do. President Bush (Chiefs offered "no conditionals," according to an official in the Pentagon. The Web site also published a public address by Clinton, in which he said of the people of Roshok, "In essence it is too late because there are only a small number of American troops there and it is a very dense situation." Two years and over 200,000 deaths later, Hollywood makes a film about it and Americans wonder why nothing was done to help.

In 2005, a 2-year civil war in Sudan ended "peacefully." The war between the ruling Islamic Arabs in the north and the tribal Christians and animistic Blacks in the south was due to the attempt to establish Islamic Sharia Law in the southern region. According to BBC News, the violence cost the lives of an estimated 2,500,000 people. The damage done and loss just can not be quickly fixed. In this case, Christians were being persecuted, not even the church within America did little on behalf of their Sudanese brothers and sisters.

Today in Darfur, the northern region of Sudan, another war is still being waged. The ruling Islamic regime in Sudan and while the residents of Darfur are also Muslim, they are black. The Arab militia has been accused of performing an ethnic cleansing. Be warned. Ethnic cleansing is simply a pseudonym for genocide.

Sudanese government officials have asked African Union peacekeepers to leave, and have also refused to allow United Nations to deploy peacekeeping troops within the region, reported BBC News. Once the region is devoid of peacekeeping, the government will be free to continue their quest of ethnic cleansing. "If that government is not able or willing to do something about it, the international community has yet again we have had mass killings," Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General, said.

Will we allow a repeat of Rwanda?As Americans, we identify with other Americans and place our concerns there. While I don't agree with it, I can at least understand the American public's lack of interest in certain international matters. I cannot understand the lack of concern within the church.

The abuse of humankind is rampant throughout the world. Even if made our news headlines every day, we would probab--ly ignore it. It's far easier to add the responsibility lay on the shoulders of the government or those we deem to be social activists. However, the responsibility is ours.

Our love for Christ is presently our love for others. It's a love that must transcend borders and cultures, just as Christ does. Romans 1:4 says, "To the Christ we are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." If Christians truly identified themselves with one another as a part of the body of Christ, would they not care much more for the other members of the body around the world?

Wherever there is a follower of Christ whether in the United States, Sudan, Thailand or Iraq, there is my sister or my brother. Furthermore, regardless of any person's faith, as a Christian I am to have compassion on others, according to James 1:27, "to look after the orphans and widows in their distress..."

Do we do all of this? If we are not informed we will never pray for the "widows and orphans," for the "international topics." As students at Liberty University, we must get involved in the community. In order to feel involved about the international community, it is obvious that we are going to have to make more of an effort. Check out news web sites with in-depth information on the situation, such as the BBC News Web site. World Vision also has a lot of useful information posted online. In regard to Darfur, news outlets can contain an activist page with information about Sudan as well as ways you can get involved.

Once our information is prayed, used and any other action you are able. Remember, our brothers and sisters in Sudan. We are called to acknowledge and care for the discomforted. It's easy to say that we love others, but until we actually know them, we cannot live out the love of Christ. "For Christ's love is proved by our love for others. It is a love that must transcend borders and cultures, just as Christ does., Romans 5:12 says, "So in Christ we form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." If Christians truly identified themselves with one another as a part of the body of Christ, would they not care much more for the other members of the body around the world?

We are one in the spirit. We are one in the Lord. They will know we are Christians...
COMMENTARY

Remembering 9/11 with propriety and sorrow

Five years ago, I remember exactly where I was. I remember everything like it happened yesterday. I remember what the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, was like on the morning of Sept. 11, 2006, when I was at school, starting my chemistry class at 9 a.m. I was sleeping. My host friend and I were both sleeping. Nothing else. Remembering 9/11 with propriety and sorrow to this day. The only thing I remember was that morning.

An announcement over the PA system broke our concentration as our principal instructed each classroom to tune in to their TVs. I was distracted and struggled to grasp what was occurring. We couldn't fully comprehend what was taking place. We had so many questions, so many uncertainties. The one thing we did know was that everything was about to change.

In the years since 9/11, things have indeed changed. For many Americans, the change was life-altering; claiming the lives of loved ones. For others, it has meant the sacrifice of their lives as they battle on the frontlines in which we are now on terror. Almost 3,000 people were killed in the event of 9/11. American continues to pay with human lives through the war efforts of Operation Enduring Freedom, which has lasted 30 years.

This Sept. 11, the fifth anniversary of the attacks that changed our nation will be observed. Through the year, I have visited a memorial tower is in the works, it seems that we are not ready to commemorate it. We will commemorate it in 2012. The memorial will be completed in 2012. The memorial will be opened to the public in 2009.

Yet much more attention has been given to the media, proving that even in our grief, we remain a society that demands to be entertained. Much of the focus has been on the release of two motion pictures, "United 93" and "World Trade Center.

"United 93" recounts the story of the courageous pas­ sengers of United Flight 93. According to the internet Movie Data Base, over six family members of the passengers cooperated to make the film as detailed and true as possible. The film shows the passengers' sacrifice of their lives at the World Trade Center, also conducted extensive research into the lives of the firefighters, that film receives around.

There is no doubt that these films are going to go great lengths to be accurate, but any question that these stories ought to be told (however, it should be noted that United grossed over $31 million at the box office according to figures listed on www.boxscorenow­ to.com). The question is, was this the appropriate time? Five years may seem like a long time, but actually it's not. If I can recall my own account of that day with rela­ tion, or what they were doing. The nation is still healing, and yes, looking back in reflection helps Americans see how far they've come. But the commer­ cialization of 9/11 through the entertainment indus­ try is hardly the way to commemorate our fallen heroes.

I read Kari Mitchell's article and it was very thought provoking. I thought about my own account of that day with rela­ tion. You said, "People should understand we are all one in Christ, regardless of gender or anything else that may make us different from our neighbors," I agree. I agree with your point to some extent. I don't think you can use that passage to justify your argument. If you read the verse in its immediate context I think the verse is talking about our standing before God in our salva­ tion. You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek, neither slave nor free, nor are you all in Christ Jesus. It is God who reconciles us to Christ; then there is no dis­ tinction in your salvation before God and we are all "bore to salvation". I don't think Paul is advocating the view that women can thrive in the work world, yet some jobs are better suited for men because of physical make up.

Not being a Bible scholar, I will not attempt to interpret the verses (1 Tim. 2:11-15 and 1 Cor. 11:5-6) that were used to argue that women have a different role in the church. I don't think any verse is talking about the difference in the roles of men and women, but rather male nor female, for you are all in Christ Jesus. It is God who reconciles us to Christ; then there is no dis­ tinction in your salvation before God and we are all "bore to salvation". I don't think Paul is advocating the view that women can thrive in the work world, yet some jobs are better suited for men because of physical make up.

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Chris Pascarella
Associate Dean of Men, Liberty University
For the Glory of God

We watch documentaries, see photos and read stories from those who have traveled far-off lands, but rarely have we been given such a close glimpse into nations and people leading everyday lives.

From Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, photographs from five artists will be displayed on campus, in the LBRC. The artists, who have worked or are currently working within countries in the Pacific Rim, work under conditions of extreme restrictions.

In countries such as Indonesia, where 88 percent of the population is Muslim, according to the CIA World Factbook, there is much less freedom of a different kind of view.

The artists, whose names must be kept secret because of security reasons, are identified by their initials, DF, DG, BS and DH have all contributed snapshots of what they see in the countries they have been in. From festivals to factory workers, they capture the spirit of nations and the reasons for more people to take interest in the lives of their fellow man.

Sponsored by the Department of Visual Communication Arts and the School of Communication, the exhibition promises to show students a region rarely seen and rarely heard.

"(O)lives take on a social commentary," said David Smith, professor of communications. "We can see a different side of life. The Center for Global Ministry, the goal is to show students the contributions that are being made in these countries and to encourage them to see their talents, whether in photography, art or writing, to help the people in the world they are in."
Flames football incinerates GSC at home

By David Thompson

In the first-and-goal situation, Liberty's offense used a burst of speed, came from behind him and dragged him down at the six-yard-line.

"I pretty much just held a tempo run," McDougal said. "I wanted to just keep it simple in the half, but I'm not really worried about that. I knew [Lindsey] was going to be the guy down. That says it all.

"We know that we have the talent and the ability to dominate, or the whole team coming in and seeing a new level of commitment and ability to put ourselves facing a fourth down. Sometimes you just got to put your nose in it and make a football move."

The Flame's last scoring attempt was a 25-yard field goal by senior kicker Brock Smith, who honored the late Jeff McLoud, the man who began the Liberty football program.

"I think this was a real testament to Coach Handy, to the administration, to Reverend Falwell and Dr. Godwin at our church as well as the student body," said "I pretty much just held a tempo run," McDougal said. "I wanted to just keep it simple in the half, but I'm not really worried about that. I knew [Lindsey] was going to be the guy down. That says it all.

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"I think this was a real testament to Coach Handy, to the administration, to Reverend Falwell and Dr. Godwin at our church as well as the student body," said Handy. "It's not just the level of talent that has Handy confident about our team, but the chemistry we have is amazing. We've got some very talented players here and we're going to make the most of the opportunities we have."
Continued from page B1

"I wasn't going to leave the (first string players) out there tonight, midway through the third quarter, and I wasn't going to do it last week, either. I just don't think it's the right thing to do," said Smith. "What we're trying to do in the second half is really to get the second team experience," said Smith. 

Jennings, like last week's game, saw very little action in the second half. "I get better as I go... I'm looking forward to playing later in the game," he said. To put it in perspective he added, "I'd rather not be in there, that means the score looks better as I go." 

Rocco.

FOOTBALL: Flames start 2-0

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Rocco.
Lady Flames suffer consecutive shutouts

By Jared Pierce

Not to be outdone by the Men's Soccer team, who played top-ranked North Carolina on Saturday, the Lady Flames matched up against a top 25 opponent from the state of North Carolina.

The Lady Flames took on the 20th ranked Wake Forest Demon Deacons at the Virginia Tech Tournament in Blacksburg, Virginia. The game was the third opportunity for Liberty to play a major conference school this season and the second ACC foe.

“We’re definitely not scared,” said Head Coach Jeff Alder. “There’s no pressure on us. All the pressure is on the bigger schools to perform. I think we have come a long way though. A few seasons ago they could have had a bad day and still beat us, but now if we play well we have an opportunity to beat them on any given day.”

Unfortunately, the Lady Flames didn’t catch Wake Forest on a bad day. The Demon Deacons scored on a corner kick in the fourth minute of the game. Quickly down and facing a heavy favorite on the road, the Lady Flames needed to bounce back quickly and gain some momentum.

Wake Forest struck again, however, in the 24th minute and the half would end 2-0 in favor of the Demon Deacons. With a 2-0 disparity in shot total, it is no surprise the Lady Flames found themselves down at the half.

Liberty looked far more better in the second half. They managed to get off only four shots and allowed Wake Forest two more goals. Both came late in the game with the first coming in the 76th minute and the second in the 84th minute.

Starting the weekend with a 4-0 loss was not what the Lady Flames wanted. Senior goalkeeper Katherine Neff, who has been competing with freshmen Michelle Rich for the starting job as goalkeeper, made three saves and allowed two goals. Rich, who took over in the second half, also allowed two goals but did make four saves. The Lady Flames played their second ACC opponent of the weekend in the form of the host Virginia Tech Hokies. Liberty entered early off the second goal in a row. The Hokies scored in the ninth minute and quickly again in the 15th minute. After falling into a 2-0 deficit, the Lady Flames could do little to mount a comeback against the Hokies.

The game ended with the Hokies on top 2-0. With the loss, the Lady Flames fall to 2-4 on the season.

According to Price, the use of both players at goal will end after this weekend. “Our plan was to have a starter in mind before conference play began. They’ve learned about this and are fine with it. Both girls have played well and it is going to be a tough decision.”

The Lady Flames hope to improve that record for the upcoming conference play.

MEN’S SOCCER: Flames hope to rebound in conference play against VMI

Continued from page 81.

Head Coach Jeff Alder said, “We got through the first half of the game and the second half was fantastic until we had a small mistake and Radford was also to credit that into a goal.”

Alder affirms that his defense did not break down, only that Radford capitalized on the few chances they were given by Liberty.

“It’s early in the season and we have had a few games cancelled, which then has given the team and the teams we are facing, this is a learning experience for us,” said Alder.

Liberty offensive line has produced 32 shots in its last two games but netted only two goals. Nevertheless, Alder is optimistic.”The goals will come. We have had chances and created opportunities — now we need goals.” After missing the situation, senior goalkeeper Kevin Malani observed, “We didn’t get it in a good enough effort against Radford, but this is a little bump. We’ve lost together as a team and this should be our greatest season.”

Saturday, Liberty hosted the top-ranked North Carolina Tar Heels in front of more than 2,300 fans.

Though it was not a conference match, the intensity and level of play put out by the Flames was incredibly high. During the first half, the Flames saw numerous chances at goals from the consistent play of Roberts and Lewis — who hit the crossbar in the 8th minute nicked the top of the goal and knocked it wide.

Halfway through the second half, the Tar Heels quickly converted a change of possession into a goal off only eight yards out from the goal. The Flames defense and midfield held North Carolina to only five shots on the half and the first half closed with a scoreless tie. Possession ranged from one end and the playing field to the other in the second half.

The game was another indication that this team has not broken down or folded in loss. liberty has a lot of talent and they played well and created many chances,” said Liberty assistant coach DJ Serafini.

North Carolina head coach Mark Berson said that he was not surprised by the tempo of the game. “liberty’s record is 0-0 and not indicative of their talent — they are a very good team.”

From Alder’s perspective, this game was another indication that Liberty needs one or two of those close goals they saw to get each game to start going in.

North Carolina is a good team and was able to break up some plays that we need to learn how to restart. But we created chances and finished it with some.”

Alder added that after today’s game, Liberty’s upward has not been set to the conference for themselves and they have a good amount of confidence going into their next set of conference games.

On Tuesday, the Flames (1-2) go on the road to face Big South Conference opponent Charleston Southern (0-3) at home on Saturday, September 16 at 7 p.m.

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FOCUS — Senior forward Ashley Braun, who has two goals on the season, and the Lady Flame offense were held scoreless by Charleston Southern.

Price noted there would have to be major adjustments made. The adjustments won’t be made to play down to competitors, but rather to fit the pace of Big South soccer.

The Lady Flames next game is against conference opponent Charleston Southern (0-3) at home on Saturday, September 16 at 7 p.m.

Contact Jared Pierce at jpierce2@liberty.edu.
CROSS COUNTRY: Josh McDougal dominates again

Continued from page B1

"We have a very solid top-five and we really worked together today as a team pulling each other along," Ponder said. "Our goal is to make nationals and perform." McDougal dominated again, winning easy despite this being a 30:05.

BREATHLESS—Junior Josh McDougal set a new course record after having an excellent spring in the 3,000m steeplechase last year where she placed third in the conference championships.

On the women's side and just outside of the top ten, Piper Nolbye was Liberty's first "finisher in a time of 30:58, good for 12th overall. Nolbye is showing great promise after having a thrilling season in the 3,000m steeplechase last year where she placed third in the conference championships.

Early on was Saturday's race by Wake Forest's Michele Siles with a time of 17:29. Trailig 15 seconds behind Nolbye was Sarah Roberts in 17th place overall, in 18:33. Carol Jefferson claimed 18th place with a time of 20:30. Third finisher was Jeffers' last season's conference champion in the 5,000m and 10,000m events.


Continued from page 1

"We really feel like we are the flagship Christian hockey school. Coming from a non-RCC school when you are able to see the value of what it is and be a part of that. I think it is something that we are able to recruit people in the community that we really do have a lot to offer them." With the brand new facility that we have, to the dreams being put that will enable us to fit a 1000 more people into the games, we are a team-focused, telling people that their support is producing results.

When asked what the student body can do to help the team Handy said, "We need your prayers and your support. It's our desire to see the stands packed out for every game. The fan base is key to helping our dreams this year become our reality, they are a part of us accomplishing the vision that we have for this season."

The men's hockey team finishes preparation for the season with a blue-white scrimmage on Friday, September 15. Their first two games are against the University of Maryland Baltimore County and George Washington of the Atlantic 10 Conference.

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Did you know?

A TRIBUTE TO LASTING FRIENDS

by his parents and two sisters.

SAMUEL DANSO

Dr. Yaw Adoo-Gyamfi, typically known as Dr. Yaw, grew his voice with a strong and hàrdable heart. He knew how to be a force in the community with an empowering presence. He was a strong advocate for his family and friends to always be engaged in lastingly meaningful conversations.

By Marcelo Quarantotto

SEPTMBER 12, 2006

LIFE! EDITOR

T

as a young boy, I could never imagine what it would be like to care for and live with someone with Alzheimer's disease.

It was during this time that I began to understand the complexities of caring for someone with this disease. I learned that Alzheimer's is a progressive and debilitating illness that affects an individual's ability to think, remember, and communicate effectively. It can be a challenging experience for both the patient and the care-giver.

The disease disrupts the normal functioning of the brain, leading to memory loss, cognitive decline, and behavioral changes. These changes can be overwhelming for both the patient and their family, as they are faced with the reality of a gradual loss of independence, autonomy, and quality of life.

Despite the challenges, it is important to remember that Alzheimer's disease is a treatable condition. With the right medical care, support, and understanding, people with Alzheimer's can live fulfilling lives for many years. It is crucial to support research and advocacy efforts to find effective treatments and cures for Alzheimer's disease.

If you or someone you know is dealing with Alzheimer's disease, please know that you are not alone. There are resources available to support you in your journey.

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The ancient Thai proverb that labels hunger as a "burning belly" makes me smile. When I step through the restaurant doors, my stomach does growl. The air is rich with the aroma of an extraordinary food culture, and I can't wait to become familiar with it.

Patty Kachornvanich is a native of Thailand who moved to Lynchburg as a high school student. Kachornvanich speaks with a soft Thai accent and wears a pleasant smile. She and her husband Jeff Thai ’99 in Lynchburg as well as two other restaurants in Charleston, Va., of the same name. Encouraged by an older woman she met in Lynchburg while volunteering, Kachornvanich opened Thai ’99 in 1999. The couple moved to Lynchburg in 2003 to open the restaurant that serves authentic Thai cuisine.

As we enter Thai ’99, the ambiance is warm and inviting. The atmosphere is lively and bustling, filled with the sounds of conversation and the aroma of food being prepared. The restaurant is decorated with traditional Thai decor, adding to the authenticity of the dining experience.

We begin dinner with a tall glass of Cha yen, a delicious, unique blend of milk, tea and spice. According to www.thailife.com, "Cha yen is a common blend, served in restaurants and tea shop/leaders all across Thailand."

For an appetizer, I order fresh vegetable spring rolls. The spring rolls are served with a bowl of sweet and sour sauce. The dish is a delightful way to start the meal and features a variety of vegetables. The spring rolls are crisp and flavorful, with just the right amount of sweetness in the sauce.

The main course is Pad Thai, a Thai noodle dish. For an appetizer, I order fresh vegetable spring rolls. The spring rolls are served with a bowl of sweet and sour sauce. The dish is a delightful way to start the meal and features a variety of vegetables. The spring rolls are crisp and flavorful, with just the right amount of sweetness in the sauce.

As the owner and chef, I can't decide what to order. Thai ’99 has a definite top seller, Pad Thai. Patty Kachornvanich admits they have "fixed the scale" to make the food more palatable for unaccustomed American diners. "The main staple of Thai food is rice," says Kachornvanich, "but we can make things not so spicy." Thai ’99 offers a variety of spice levels for any dish, including mild, medium, hot and "that hot." As many of the food levels in the dishes are sometimes hard to come by in Lynchburg, Kachornvanich explains that she grows her own herbs and spices.

"Everything on the menu looks incredible." Sliping as I sip my Cha yen, I can't decide what to order. When I do, I choose a tall glass of Cha yen with a mix of milk, tea and spice, "to make the food more palatable for unaccustomed American diners. "The main staple of Thai food is rice," says Kachornvanich, "but we can make things not so spicy." Thai ’99 offers a variety of spice levels for any dish, including mild, medium, hot and "that hot." As many of the food levels in the dishes are sometimes hard to come by in Lynchburg, Kachornvanich explains that she grows her own herbs and spices.

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