

YELLOW

MAGENTA

CYAN

BLACK



THE HOLCAD

THE WESTMINSTER COLLEGE STUDENT NEWSPAPER

HOLCAD PERSPECTIVES ~ NEWS ~ FEATURES ~ ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT ~ SPORTS

VOLUME CXXXVI

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2019

A Beautiful Soul in the Neighborhood Westminster's Connection to Mister Rogers

Charlotte E. Shunk

A&E Section Editor



Westminster College adjunct professor Todd Cole and children's television host Fred Rogers were pen-pals with one another for years, writing over 100 letters to one another. Credit: Photo of photo by Charlotte E. Shunk, Original Credit Unknown

Fred Rogers, the host of the children's television program Mister Roger's Neighborhood, wrote hundreds of letters to hundreds of pen-pals, his friends, during his lifetime. One of his pen-pals was Westminster College adjunct professor Todd Cole. Cole is known widely across Motherfair as our own Mister Rogers. He teaches, sings, writes books for children, and almost always wears the signature Mister Rogers-esque sweater.

Cole is a member of the WC class of 1983 for his Bachelor's Degree, and class of 1991 for his Master's degree. After graduating from WC, Cole taught for 34 years at Laurel Elementary School in New Castle, PA. Of his 34 years of teaching the next generation, he spent 25 instructing First Grade and nine instructing Fourth Grade.

Cole first became acquainted with Rogers during his stint in First Grade. He assigned his students to write letters to Rogers throughout each school year. Rogers would write back to each of the kids, beginning the cycle of ongoing communication and relationship between Rogers and Cole.

"I don't think he knew me [specifically] until an event in my life," Cole said, "One of my students died of meningitis and [Rogers] caught wind of it. He left a message on my machine telling me how special it was that [the student] had me in his class. I wrote back and we started a lifelong friendship from then on through writing but also through his Land of Make Believe."

Rogers wrote to Cole on stationery personalized with an image of the trolley car that moved through his Land of Make Believe.

The two wrote to each other about everything.

"There was a time I told him I longed to be married and have children. He very quickly wrote back and said some of his favorite neighbors were unmarried and had very fulfilling lives. He wrote, 'I felt that was something you needed to hear,'" said Cole.

Cole got to help with the taping of Mister Rogers's Neighborhood on some occasions. On one such occasion, after taping, Rogers found a dime lost in the chair Cole had sat in. He taped the dime to the inside of a letter, and mailed it to Cole, returning it.

On another occasion, Rogers mailed a feather to Cole. Both Rogers and Cole loved the ocean. While walking along the beach one day, Rogers found the feather and felt "it wanted to be with [Cole]."

Rogers first began his television program because he didn't like the manner in which television was being used to connect to children. He did not find guns or physical comedy humorous or constructive. Instead, he felt the need for TV to communicate with kids.

He spoke about divorce, war, anger and sadness, assassination, death, loss of pets, and other difficult subjects.

"When you see him talking to kids on TV, it is an instrument of grace," said Cole.

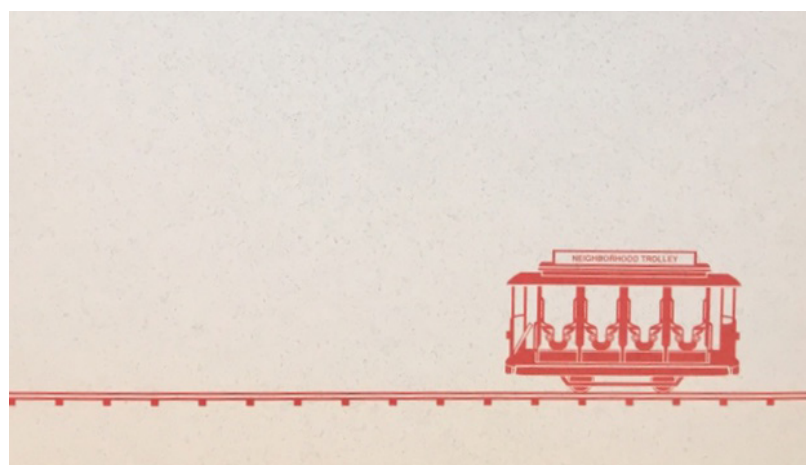
Rogers's favorite quote was "There are three ways to

ultimate success: the first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind." After proclaiming this in a Baccalaureate speech for WC, Rogers said he felt as though Cole could have been the first to say it because he embodies it so well.

Cole continues to live out Rogers's messages. He hosted a children's storytime on Thursday, Nov. 21, speaking about Mister Rogers, reading to kids, and instructing a craft project. He even wore a pin of Rogers's iconic trolley.

Cole said, "I'm much more conscious of how all of us should emulate his message. We all want to have a vocation or a passion for something in life. Whatever that is, I'm certain [Rogers's] message for us would be to be a kind person while doing it."

Copy edited by: Nyna Hess



Children's television host Fred Rogers used personalized Mister Rogers's Neighborhood stationery to write to his pen-pals. Credit: Charlotte E. Shunk

MORE PHOTOS ON A4



NOW HIRING

Correspondents/Copy Editors/Photographers

Send/receive your application
roacse22@wclive.westminster.edu

Quote of the Week:

"Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit." -Conrad Hilton

NEWS

A2

Reach for the Stars

SPORTS

A3

Rosanne Scott

FEATURES

A3

Westminster in London

FEATURES

A4

Mister Rogers Photospread



The Holcad



@theholcad



@theholcad



WEEKEND WEATHER

FRIDAY



High: 38°
Low: 20°

SATURDAY



High: 36°
Low: 25°

Sunny

SUNDAY



High: 48°
Low: 41°

Mostly Cloudy

The Holcad

357 McKelvey Campus Center, Box 157
New Wilmington, Pa., 16172

holcad@westminster.edu

Advisors
Dr. David Barner, Brad Weaver

Layout and Design Consultant
Kandice Hartner

EDITORIAL STAFF 2019-2020

Editor-in-Chief Sydney Roach
Layout Editor Erica McNatt

SECTION EDITORS
Danielle Grady, Charlotte E. Shunk,
Mason Flanigan, Alexis Briggs

CORRESPONDENTS
Victoria Lisbon, Anthony Esposito,
Dillon Story

COPY EDITORS
Gianna Collins, Nyna Hess,
Jasmine Woodings

PHOTOGRAPHERS
Victoria Lisbon

General Policy - The ideas, beliefs and opinions expressed in the columns, articles belong solely to the writers. The views expressed in these sections are not necessarily the views of Westminster College or The Holcad itself.

Editing Policy - The Holcad reserves the right to edit any submission it receives for proper grammar, appropriate structure and accurate content.

Advertising Policy - The printing of advertisements for products or services in this publication does not imply endorsement by Westminster College or The Holcad staff. For advertising information, email holcadads@gmail.com.

Want to write a Letter to the Editor?

WRITING GUIDELINES

- Letters to the editor are published weekly, as space permits.
- The Holcad reserves the right to reject any letter.
- All letters must be less than 400 words, typed and include the author's name.
- Letters must be free of offensive language, personal attacks and libelous or potentially libelous statements.
- No letter will be edited when factually incorrect or in need of contextual clarification.
- Grammar and spelling errors will also not be corrected.
- Opinions expressed are those of the author.
- The Holcad will not print anonymous letters.

SUBMISSION

All letters must be submitted by 12 p.m. Monday to make the Friday edition.
E-mail: holcad@westminster.edu
Mail: Box 157

INTERESTED IN WORKING FOR US?

Great news! The Holcad is now accepting applications for Correspondents, Photographers, and Copy Editors.

Applications must include a resume and three (3) writing samples as well as a cover page with the applicant's name, year in school, major, cumulative GPA, phone number, and mailbox number.

Please submit all applications to roacse22@wclive.westminster.edu

Reach for the Stars

Final Planetarium Shows of the Year

Danielle Grady
News Section Editor



Planetarium Banner
Credit: westminster.edu

As the semester winds down The first of two holiday-themed showings, “Mystery of the Christmas Star,” will follow at 6:30 p.m. The program journeys back 2,000 years to Bethlehem, as it seeks to discover a scientific explanation for the Star that the wise men followed to find baby Jesus. In doing this, the show will investigate possible dates for the birth of Christ and consider recorded sightings of significant astronomical events during the time frame. Viewers will see which of these signs in the sky could have been remarkable enough to cause the wise men to travel across the desert from Babylon to Bethlehem just to

see a newborn King.

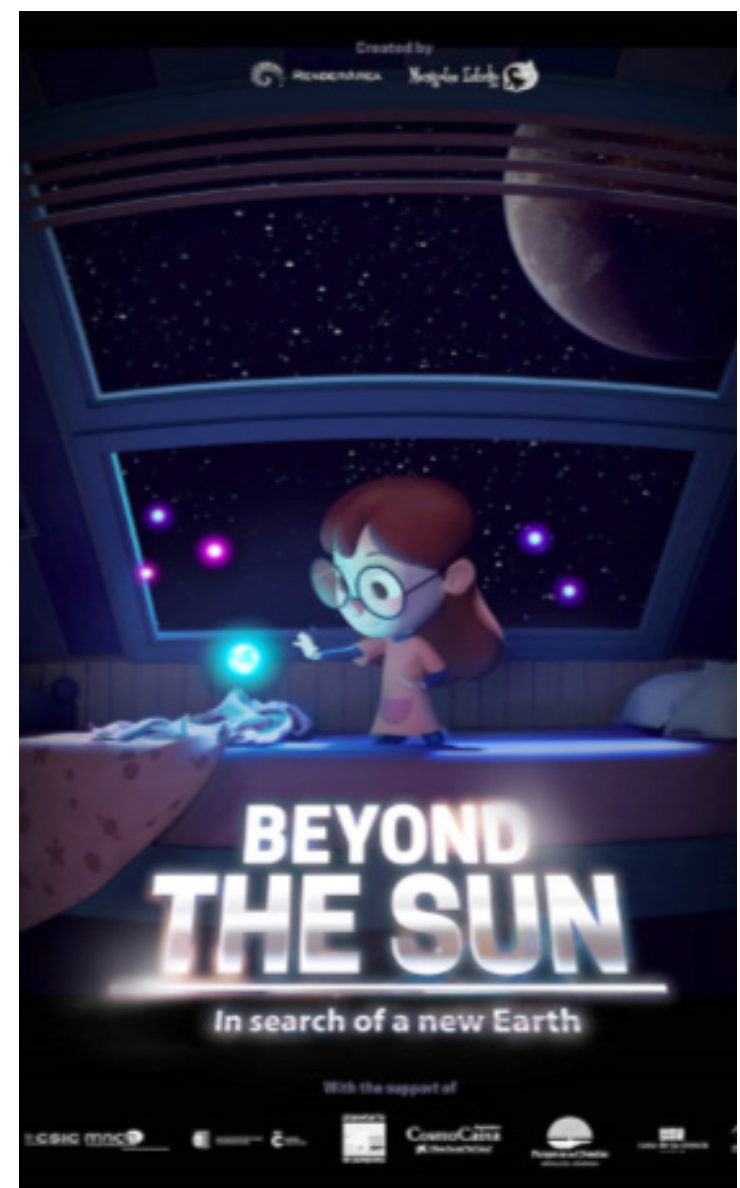
The evening in the planetarium will conclude with a purely entertaining show, with no narration or scientific theme. “Let It Snow: A Holiday Musical Journey” will begin at 8 p.m. The musical show features a variety of festive Christmas songs visually enhanced with theatrical animation and scenery. Viewers will experience everything from classics by Frank Sinatra to a multimedia finale by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra. Nutcrackers, snowmen, reindeer and candy canes will dance overhead throughout the show.

After each showing, weather permitting, attendees will be led outside to look at the actual night sky. During this time, they can see some of the constellations pointed out earlier in the planetarium dome, and they can look at the moon through a small telescope.

Reservations for these shows are necessary due to limited seating and can be made by completing the online form at www.westminster.edu/planetarium.

Westminster’s planetarium is located in the campus’s Hoyt Science Center. Though these three shows wrap up the planetarium’s fall season, new shows will be introduced in the spring. Students and members of the public can request private planetarium shows by visiting <https://www.westminster.edu/about/community/planetarium/index.cfm>.

Copy edited by: Jasmine Woodings



Covers for each planetarium show
Credit: westminster.edu

Scott Wins 200th Career Game as Women's Basketball has Hot Start

Mason Flanigan
Sports Section Editor



Credit: Westminster Athletics

The Westminster College women's basketball team defeated non-conference opponent, Penn State Beaver, by a score of 66-48 on November 30th. After downing the Lions, 18th year Head Coach Rosanne Scott won her 200th career game at the helm of the Titans. Coach Scott is the only coach in program history to accomplish this feature.

A 6-0 run to start the season has been the best start since the Titans did so in the beginning of the 1988-89 season. The Titans matched up with a battle of undefeated teams on Wednesday night on the road against Chatham for the Titans first conference matchup of the 2019-2020 season. Both sides of the matchup featured all of the PAC weekly award winners

so far in the season. Kaitlyn Fertig recently tabbed player of the week honors for the Cougars, after her teammate Emily Ondo taken the first two. For Westminster, First-Year Camden Hergenrother has become a key addition to the Titan team snagging back-to-back PAC Rookie of the Week honors, as Chatham's Riley D'Angelo claimed the title on Nov. 18th. Full results of this game can be found at athletics.westminster.edu.

Senior Forward Emily Fromknecht continues to ascend towards becoming the eighth player in program history to score over 1000 career points, recently bringing herself within fifty points of the mark on Wednesday.

Copy edited by: Erica McNatt

Westminster in London: London Bridge Terrorist Attack

Tori Lisbon
Correspondent

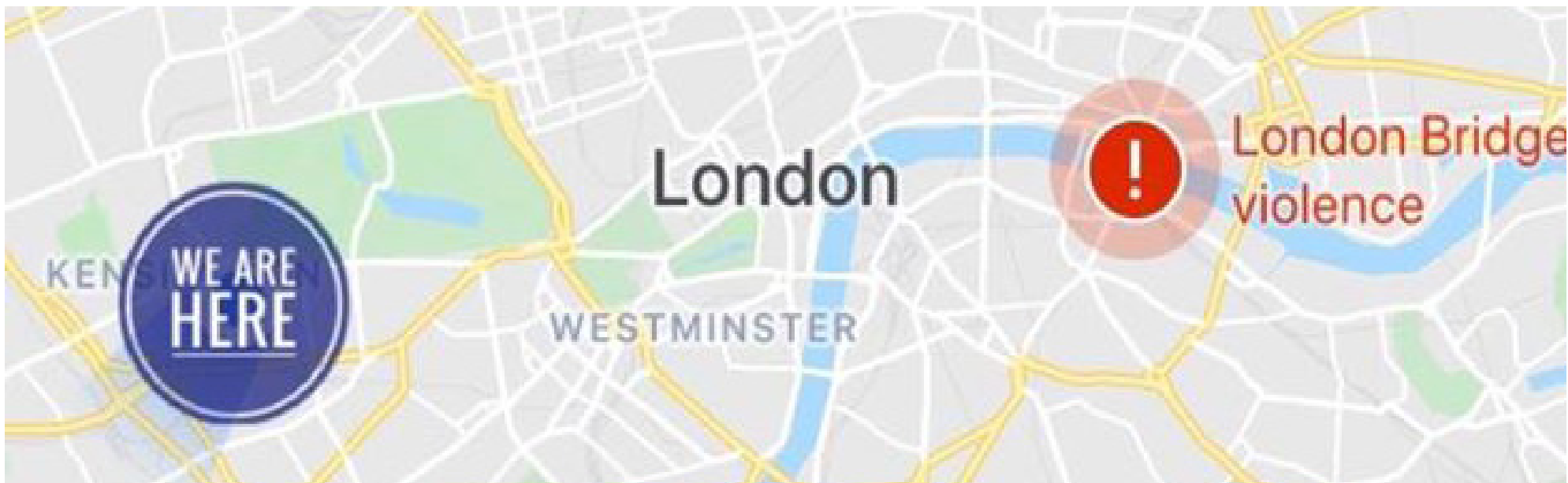


Image of University Location 5 Miles Away From the Attack
Credit: Google Maps

The word terrorist is scary, but combined with attack it becomes your worst nightmare. At least that is what you think it should have felt like. I learned about the attack a few hours after it had happened. At first I was under the assumption, along with a few others, that there had been a shooting at the London Bridge. With London Bridge only 5 miles away, as well as a place where many of us had already been to, you would think I would have been afraid. Afraid I was no longer safe, or afraid it could have been me. I wasn't though, and neither has anyone else I encountered. We still felt safe.

As more news rolled in about the attack, things were cleared up. The attack was an act of terrorism. The man responsible had recently been released from prison. His previous offenses were planning to bomb the London Stock Exchange and intentions to make a terrorist training camp. The attack was not a shooting but a stabbing, which resulted in police shooting the terrorist because he was wearing a bomb vest. Afterwards, the vest was discovered to be a fake. During the stabbing two people were killed, now known to be Jack Merritt, 25, and Saskia Jones, 23, as they attempted to stop the terrorist who held two knives, one of which was taped to his wrist. The attack started at Fishmongers' Hall after the terrorist attended a prisoner rehabilitation event. After becoming outnumbered the terrorist fled towards London Bridge. There, other members of the public were able to subdue him until the police arrived. There are a lot more nuances to this event, with the acts of heroism shown by the people at the event and on the street. There are also odd details as well, such as the man who used a narwhal horn as a weapon.

Once the full story had come to light everyone still felt safe, and nobody changed their plans and went about their lives as normal. A lot of people from back home were more worried about it than we were. Apparently what had happened was all over the news. I took some time to watch a few news clips from CNN and Fox News on Youtube, which made me understand why people would be that concerned. One very concerning thing that came to light was in the comments. Many of the top ones were showing support for the victims and the brave public who subdued the

terrorist, but many more used this as an opportunity to reinforce their idea that allowing refugees and immigration causes these situations. After living in London for four months I strongly disagree.

London has a large Muslim population. Everyday I see Muslim and Middle Eastern people in public going about their day, buying groceries with their families and pushing around their babies in strollers. I have seen women in these situations wearing hijabs or burkas, which I know many people find scary back home. Here, it is a normal everyday thing. Nobody feels threatened and I have met some very nice people whose treatment back home I dread to think about. We talked about this in class, during which a lot of us agreed that the people we have encountered here are people not terrorists. Another thing we talked about was how safe we felt here. The London Bridge Terrorist Attack has been the first major act of violence we have encountered here, while back home there have been at least four public and school shootings. It is bizarre that we felt safer in a foreign country 5 miles away from a terrorist attack than we do back home. Another thing, what I would call disturbing, is that a day before the stabbing we were approached by a group raising awareness for the many stabbings that happen in poor and minority communities. The UK's knife violence is equivalent to America's gun violence to some extent. Yet so much of the importance of the issue was never raised and even felt veiled by the man being a terrorist, similarly to how many people view the news using mental illness as a scapegoat to productive gun violence conversations.

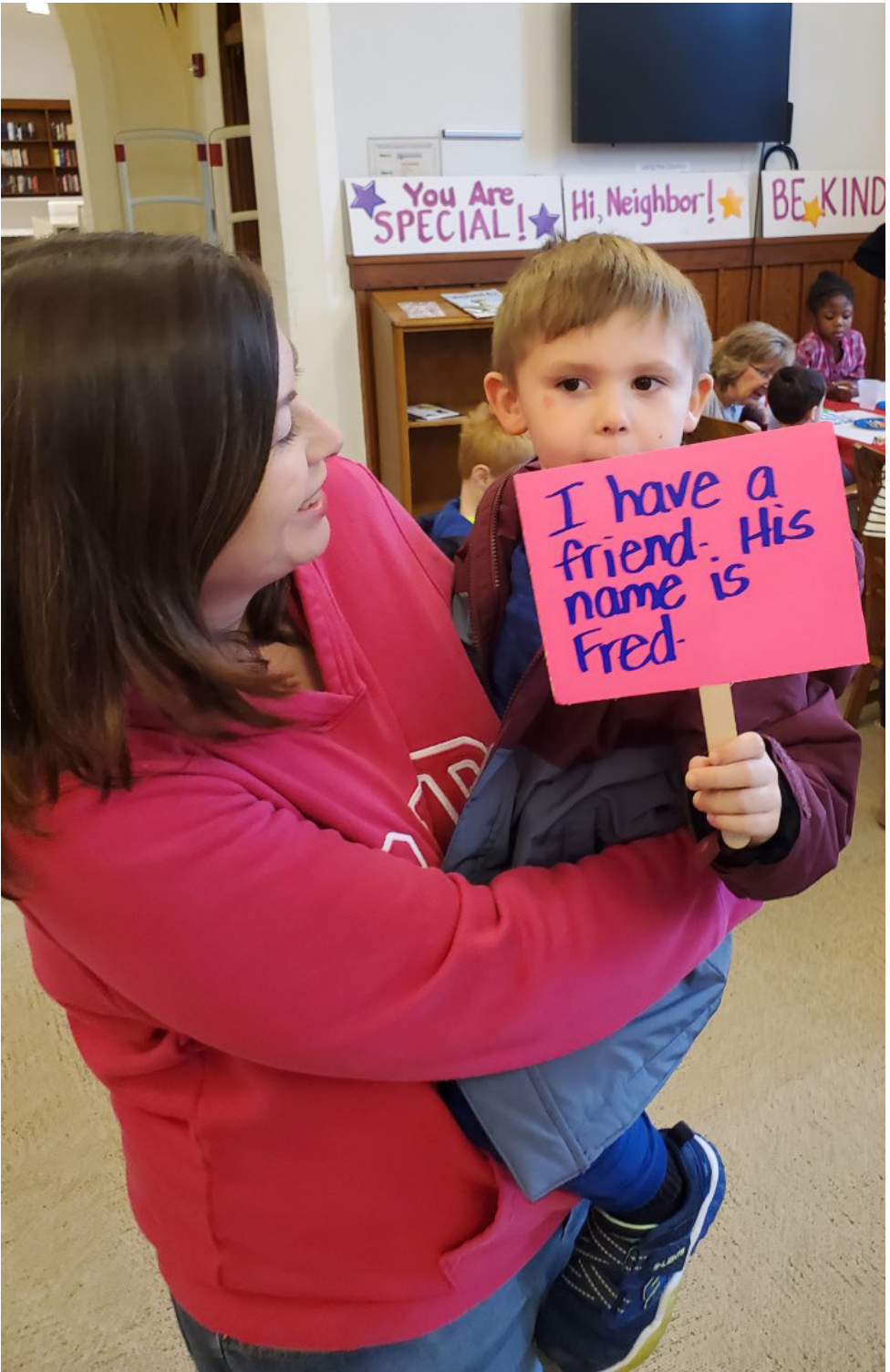
I really wish I could have gone with my original plan of having my final Westminster in London article be a compilation of everyone's favorite experience, but I feel that this is a more important topic. Being on the side where an event happened and then seeing a knee jerk reaction from people who were not there needs to be addressed. It is not for the excessive concern shown, but the response towards innocent people that is troublesome. To everyone out there reading this: we found people here, not monsters.

Copy edited by: Erica McNatt

A Beautiful Soul in the Neighborhood



Children who attended Cole's storytime Nov. 21 learned the positive messages Fred Rogers shared on his television show, Mister Rogers's Neighborhood.
Credit: Todd Cole



Dear Todd,
Thanks so much for
your 10/26 letter AND
the beautiful calligraphy
greeting for "Make A
Difference Day." You
have so many talents.
Bo Lozano says that
one of the greatest problems
of our day is that "human
beings are very deep and
our predominant lifestyle is
not." Obviously you, Todd,
recognize the great value
of silence (you talked about driving
and thinking - taking the time
to think :) I'm wondering how

we can help children discover that
important part of their life.
How can we help them understand
that nourishing their souls through
silence is a very important ... very
deep thing to do !? !?
Thank you for all you do
and are in this journey.
Again my thanks for your
great thoughtfulness
Fred
Family Communications 4802 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD

This is one of over one hundred letters written by children's television host Fred Rogers to Westminster College adjunct professor Todd Cole.
Credit: Charlotte E. Shunk