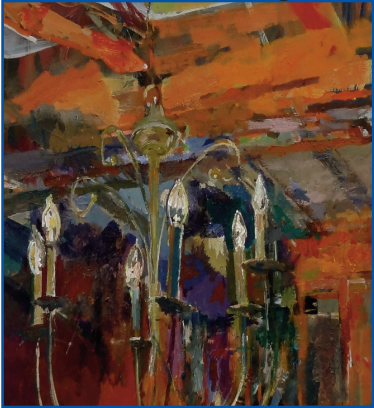




Security steps up equipment



World Suicide Prevention Day

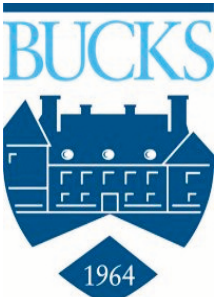


Art show brings some color to Bucks



College Football changing playoffs

# The Centurion



The Award-Winning, Student-Run Newspaper of Bucks County Community College

Volume 52 Issue 1 | Week of Sept 18, 2014 | Bucks-News.com | @BCCCCenturion

## Happy 50th anniversary Bucks

By: Michele Haddon  
Centurion Staff

Bucks is turning 50 this year, and in celebration of its golden anniversary kicking off at commencement in May, several events will be take place throughout the year, including the groundbreaking of a new science building and a commissioned art premier gala.

Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, president of Bucks kicked off the 50th anniversary at the commencement ceremony on May 22. A planning committee made up of 16 students, faculty, staff and retirees have developed an array of activities and events that will take place across the college during the 2014-2015 academic year.

Bucks, which was founded in 1964, started out with just 22 faculty members and 730 stu-

dents. Classes were held in just a single building, Tyler Hall, and “the first graduating class had 121 graduating students,” said Marta Kaufmann, director of marketing and public relations.

The school has since expanded several times over the years with the addition of new

According to the Bucks website, “The college serves nearly 10,000 credit-seeking students and more than 70,000 students in noncredit programs each year.”

Furthering Bucks’ expansion and adding to the celebra-

dean of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), the new building will feature state-of-the-art science laboratories. She also said the design and interior is expected to be innovative and inviting to students.

“It so important that the facilities in which students work and learn be inviting and conducive to learning. Faculty from the areas that will be housed in the addition have participated in the planning process with the building and lab consultants and are very happy with what we expect to be a beautiful lab building that exhibits science,” said Angelo.

Overall, the entire STEM department should benefit from the addition. According to Angelo, once the chemistry, biology, biotechnology, geology, ecology, and neuroscience labs are relocated to the new building, remaining disciplines, such



The first President of the College looks over plans with a worker on the project.  
PHOTO FROM: BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

buildings on its main campus, two additional campuses, a virtual campus offering online learning, and two public safety training centers.

tory spirit, construction of the new science building will begin with its groundbreaking in June.

According to Lisa Angelo, assistant academic

See ‘Anniversary’ on Page 2

## New Provost Announced



Dr. Clayton Railey (seen above) is the new Provost of Bucks County Community College.

By: Michele Haddon  
Centurion Staff

Bucks’ new Provost and Dean of Academic Affairs Dr. Clayton Railey, III was recently appointed, and has resolved to improve Academic Affairs within the college.

Railey officially started his new role on June 16 after being selected for the position following an extensive nationwide search. He is currently working on settling into his position.

“Dr. Railey was the

ideal candidate because of his deep knowledge of community colleges and his strong belief in our mission,” said Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt, president of Bucks.

Railey formerly served as Dean of Communications, Arts and Humanities at Delaware County Community College. He holds a B.A. from Dickinson College in English and Economics, an M.A. from St. Louis University in American Studies, along with a M. Div. and S.T.M. from the Jesuit School of

See “Provost” On Page 2

### College Events

- September 18**  
-Withdrawal Period Begins on all campuses. No refunds will be given.
- September 19**  
-September Modulares: Schedule Adjustment ends.
- September 22**  
- Bucks County Artists: A Cross Section will be held in Hicks Art Gallery located on the Newtown Campus from Aug 27 to Oct 11.
- Proud to Be an American Exhibition will be held in the Gallery at Lower Bucks located on the Lower Bucks campus from Sept 8 to Nov 20.
- September 24**  
-Coffee and Donut Night held by Transfer Services at the Newtown Campus from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm.
- September 25**  
-PTK Chick-Fil-A Spirit Night held at the Newtown Chick-Fil-A from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm.
- Philadelphia Day held at 12:15 p.m. in the Lower Bucks Campus Student Commons.
- September 26**  
-Automatic Grade Conversion from Incomplete to Failure.

### Weather

Tuesday -  
Showers with a high of 50.



Wednesday -  
Storms with a high of 55.



Thursday -  
Showers with a high of 74.



Friday -  
Partly cloudy with a high of 68.



Saturday -  
Partly cloudy with a high of 65.



Sunday -  
Partly cloudy with a high of 67.



Monday -  
Partly cloudy with a high of 66.



WEATHER COURTESY OF THE NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE



# Bucks News

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**From the Editor’s Desk**  
*College Loans*  
By Kelly Armstrong

Thousands of dollars

Hopefully I will see it

Maybe before death

## Honors programs have begun

**By: Alyssa Belardo**  
Centurion Staff

Bucks is starting an Honors @ Bucks program coordinated by Dr. Stephen DoCarmo, which will allow students to earn their Associates degree with Honors. DoCarmo acts as the coordinator for this program, meaning that he captains the team who sets its policies, orients new faculty getting ready to teach in the program, recruits qualified students, and serves as an advisor for students who have joined the program. There are different qualifications for this program depending on whether you are a current Bucks student or a transferring student from high school or another college. For instance, if a student is coming to Bucks from high school, they need to have carried a 3.25 or higher GPA in high school. They also need to have reached college-course-ready scores on their Bucks placement tests. This would mean they have received a “6” on the writing test, a “7” or better on the math test, and a “3” or better on the reading test. Current Bucks students can earn their way into the program by having a 3.25 GPA or better on eight or more college credits. They need to have received the same scores that qualify them as college-course-ready on placement exams or have taken classes that give them scores that

equal the exams. Students who wish to be a part of the Honors @ Bucks program must also fill out an application which includes writing a short essay and getting former teachers to write recommendation letters. “What’s excellent about the honors classes we’ll start running this fall is that they’re small — 18 students,” DoCarmo said. “And they’ll be taught by some of Bucks’ very best and brightest faculty members — people who love teaching and very much want to see excellent Bucks students get to the four-year colleges and universities of their dreams. “Honors @ Bucks courses focus on research-based scholarship, high-order critical thinking, and experiential learning. “We want our Honors @ Bucks students to be out in the world, learning as much from it as they do from their [professors] or their textbooks,” DoCarmo explained. The students who complete at least 18 credits worth of honors courses will receive their Associates degree with honors from Bucks when they graduate. Although it may be too late for students who are already so far along in their college career at Bucks to complete the 18 credits of the honors program, they can still complete the honors courses that they can get into and those will show up on their transcripts

## Provost

Theology, and a Ph.D. from Vanderbilt in English. “I am excited about the strengths that Clay brings to us and look forward to his leadership,” said Shanblatt. Railey said he was attracted to Bucks because of their strong academics, especially the Arts program and STEM program. When asked about the transition Railey said, “It was like drinking water from a fire hose.” Despite getting off to a late start, Railey utilized the remaining summer to learn more about the school by going on frequent walking tours and getting to know the staff. Catherine McElroy, Dean of Academic and Curricular Services and Interim Provost, has been an indispensable guide for Railey. “She’s been fabulous. She’s been my ‘Beatrice’,” said Railey, making reference to Beatrice from Dante’s “Divine Comedy.” Railey faces existing challenges coming into his new role, including a 7 percent decrease in student enrollment since last fall. Railey believes that one of the ways he and his staff are working to address this issue is through their current efforts to improve the Academic Advising Program. “Starting in the spring, the new advising program will be more proactive and broader in scope,” said Railey.

Advisors will be further-trained to guide students academically with issues like picking a major, deciding whether to enroll part-time or full-time, and developing a broader academic plan overall. One of the major changes will require all students including part-time ones to receive advising in order to register, according to Railey. There is also the “Student Planning Module”, a new online advising tool being developed by the IT Department. According to project manager Richard Hartwell, Director of Enterprise and Web Systems, the application is set to launch this academic year. Another priority for Railey is to work closely with the BCCC Foundation to maintain the quality and the affordability of education at Bucks. Railey plans to focus on finding more grant money, not only to keep tuition costs down, but to further improve upon what Bucks has to offer students. According to Railey, the 50th anniversary of the college is a great opportunity to “think big and think new.” “The greatest way to honor the anniversary is to continue in excellence,” said Railey. “As we reflect on the last 50 years, let’s reimagine what Bucks could be like in the next 50.”

For those looking to leave their mark, Kaufmann encourages students and alumni to contribute to the anniversary guestbook which will be launched online following the kick-off. “One of the many ways students can participate is to submit their stories and photos on the guestbook and webpage.” “We want to get students thinking about that Bucks means to them,” said Kaufmann. Kaufmann also emphasized that the committee is looking for volunteers interested in helping or even taking the lead with any of the activities they have planned. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Marta Kaufman at [marta.kaufmann@bucks.edu](mailto:marta.kaufmann@bucks.edu).

## Anniversary

as engineering and mathematics, will gain additional space in Founders Hall. “Our engineering area, in particular, has lots of plans but needs space for equipment and projects,” said Angelo. Enrollment in STEM has increased 12 percent overall in the past five years, according to the June 13, 2013 Board of Trustee meeting minutes. This increase in has led to the development of new programs, such as applied engineering, biotechnology and neuroscience. Another key event marking the 50th anniversary celebration will be the commissioned art premier gala which will be held on Oct. 11. The gala will begin with a concert in the Gateway Auditorium, featuring

music composed and performed by Jeff Baumeister, associate professor of arts and music. Baumeister, accompanied by other musicians, will perform a jazz suite celebrating the history of the music program at Bucks, called check AP stylebook for titles. Portraits from the Pub. Following the concert will be the unveiling of commissioned art work by Mark Sfirri, professor of arts and visual arts; Barbara Korb, professor of computer science; and Ann Geddes, administrative assistant of the STEM department. The College sponsored a competition whose winners received funding to create an original work of art commemorating the event. Sfirri’s commissioned piece is called Building Blocks Totem, a 12-foot

tall sculpture in totem form that has been lathe-turned and carved. Sfirri describes his interpretation as more of an abstract commemoration. “The ‘melon’ shapes that are stacked up on one another can be viewed as building blocks of knowledge and that is the key function that we have at Bucks, to impart knowledge. This is something that begins before a student comes to Bucks, continues at Bucks, and hopefully continues for a lifetime.” Korb and Geddes are collaborating on a project called check AP stylebook for titles. Perspectives of the Cooper Homestead which features a fabric quilt and collage prints. The project was inspired by the Cooper Homestead building on the Newtown campus currently known

as the Faculty Center. This structure is one of the original buildings of the Tyler Estate. “We chose the Cooper Homestead because it is the center of the college and represents the artistic background of Mrs. Tyler, as it was her studio, and it also represents the history of the college,” said Korb. In addition, a series of faculty lectures is also being developed. “It will be an opportunity to showcase faculty excellence,” said Kaufmann. Many other activities and displays are being developed to further celebrate the anniversary: a community day, food drive competition, a service wall exhibiting 50 points of service by staff and students, and custom commemorative Mercer tiles which will be for sale.



# Security upgrades coming

By: Molly Harms  
Centurion Staff

After continued computer theft, Bucks is locking down open computer labs and installing a new surveillance system throughout Penn Hall.

It is not clear whether or not the college is planning on putting cameras in other campus buildings to prevent further theft.

According to Dennis McCauley, the director for campus security and safety, most of the thefts occurred during the fall semester of 2013, but there were a few in the summer semester of 2013, and one monitor during the current semester.

The thefts occurred in the 3rd floor computer labs. McCauley said, “We lost six computers from July through December.”

Other security measures are being taken apart from the cameras. According to McCauley, the computer labs used to be left unlocked for students to use when there wasn’t a class in session. Now, all of the labs are being kept locked between classes.

This security measure has become a nuisance for some students who used those labs in between classes.

Brittany McKinney, 18, a liberal arts major said “One of my classes used those labs once a week.”

McKinney had an hour between her classes. McKinney also said “I understand why they needed to lock them now, but I still wish I could use them be-

tween classes.” McCauley said that at this point in the investigation, there is no motive for the theft. The items stolen include several desktop monitors and keyboards. Michael Keetes, 21, a business major said, “I don’t understand people that would steal from the college. A lot of students use those computers so they are not just stealing from the college, they are stealing from all of the students as well.”

There is not much hope in recovering the stolen computers. According to McCauley, all the computers have a removable inventory tag that identifies them as college property.

According to McCauley, the Board of trustees approved of a budget in January 2014 of \$27,500 for a security camera system to be set up in Penn Hall. The camera system is still in process of being installed. McCauley said he expects the system will be operational within the month.

None of the cameras are going to be installed in the classrooms, according to McCauley. They would be set up in the halls and stairwells. McCauley said, “It is generally felt that putting cameras in the classroom would be intrusive to the education process.”

The March 2014 Board of Trustees meeting noted that the fire systems and security upgrades would be a \$650,000 project. Quite an undertaking, but worth it to protect the college’s assets.

# Simmers case progresses

By: Michele Haddon  
Centurion Staff

A preliminary hearing was set for May 13 for Joseph Romano, 20-year-old Bensalem man suspected in the slaying of former Bucks student Jacob Simmers. Romano waived his right to a preliminary hearing and remains in Bucks County Prison without bail.

Joseph Romano faces seven charges, including criminal homicide, two counts of aggravated assault, and use/possession of drug paraphernalia.

According to the Bensalem Police Department, on March 30 at approximately 2:30 a.m., police responded to a report of a stabbing at Romano’s home on the 1100 block of Kasmir Avenue in Bensalem Township.

Police arrived to find Simmers dead from an apparent stab wound to the upper body. Romano, who was at the residence, was arrested without incident.

Romano was arraigned by Magisterial Judge Maggie Snow and sent to the Bucks County

Correctional Facility without bail. According to mutual friends of Romano and Simmers, the two were friends and they were all at the same party earlier that night. Kellie McCarthy, 18, of Bensalem, and a mutual friend said, “I was shocked to learn Joe could do something like that.” Casey Wright, 19, of Bensalem, and another mutual friend described Romano as a good guy. “He was not of the right mind that night. He is not a monster and we don’t resent him at all.” When asked if they could ever forgive Romano, McCarthy said, “The question of forgiveness hasn’t crossed our minds because we almost feel like it wasn’t Joe, he wasn’t himself.” “Forgiveness was something Jake stood for,” said McCarthy. Romano appeared before Magisterial Judge Leonard J. Brown for his preliminary on May 13. He waived his preliminary hearing and remains at Bucks County Prison without bail.

PHOTO CREDIT: ALYSSA BELARDO



This is the plaque in front of the tree that was planted as a memorial to Simmers

CULINART

QUESADILLAS

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 3

Buffalo Chicken Quesadilla with Blue Cheese-Tomato Salsa

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Grilled Steak n’ BBQ Onion Quesadilla with Salsa Verde

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

Black Bean, Portobello n’ Manchego Quesadilla with Guacamole

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Shrimp, Corn n’ Poblano Chile Quesadilla with Ancho Chile Salsa



# Suicide prevention: information is power

**BY: JESSICA JONES**  
Centurion Staff

Suicide, the deliberate taking of one’s life, is the second most prominent cause of death in America. World Suicide Prevention Day, observed on September 10, is meant to not only create awareness of the deadly side effects of depression and other such mental illnesses, but to hopefully lower the rates as well. In the year 2011, an estimated 1 million people died by suicide. By the year 2020, the expected rate of death by suicide is 1.5 million people.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), for every one successful suicide, there are twenty failures. Some individuals affected by the epidemic have either lost a loved one from suicide, known someone who attempted the act, or even thought of committing suicide themselves. With the staggering number of suicides in the world, it is hard to ignore.

Many people will not fully understand why a

person would commit suicide. Some have even called it selfish, such as the most infamous example Todd Williams from “Different Strokes”, calling comedian and actor Robin Williams selfish for “taking the easy way out.” However, the person who is accused of “taking the easy way out”, feels they are putting an end to their own suffering.

The key to preventing suicide is to realize that mental illnesses are serious diseases, and that they should be treated seriously and immediately. Being diagnosed with a mental illness can disrupt a person’s entire well-being, whether it be changes in their mood, thinking, or daily functions.

Adults aren’t the only ones affected by mental health disorders. Children and adolescents are also affected. The National Institute of Mental Health reports that one in four adults--about 57.7 million Americans, experience mental health is-

sues in a given year. By reaching out to someone with a mental illness, you could be committing a life-saving act. Recognizing some of these warning signs is the first step in helping yourself or someone you care about. Sometimes it just takes support and friendship to save someone that feels hopeless. Spread the word, and remember that suicide is preventable. Reach out to someone today.



Suicide is preventable. This is one of the many images created by those at the World Suicide Prevention Committee.

**What You can do to raise suicide awareness:**

- 1) **Organize a memorial service or a candlelight ceremony in memory of those that have committed suicide**
- 2) **Hold a depression awareness event**
- 3) **Organize walks to political or public places for suicide awareness**
- 4) **Distribute information through pamphlets, on Facebook, or any other way possible**
- 5) **Support suicide prevention by liking the World Suicide Prevention page on Facebook**
- 6) **Create a video on suicide prevention**
- 7) **Light a candle in your window to show support of World Suicide Prevention Day at 8 pm, in honor of survivors and in memory of the people that were lost to suicide**

**Anything to spread awareness and help prevent suicide**

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# Bucks places restrictions on E-Cigarettes

**BY: GRANT SMITH**  
centurion staff

Students who use electronic cigarettes are now subject to the same restrictions as regular smokers, Bucks President Dr. Stephanie Shanblatt announced during the final Open Forum of the academic year.

This announcement came alongside news of changes in policies regarding the children of Bucks faculty and staff.

Under a new college policy, electronic cigarettes would be banned from being used anywhere on campus besides the parking lots, just like regular cigarettes.

“Surely I would rather have the students vape than smoke, but as a new student it is hard to understand where I can and cannot smoke a cigarette when I see people vaping everywhere,” Shanblatt said when asked about the new policy.

Some worry the restriction will force students who are using e-cigs as a way to quit smoking to spend time around regular smokers, making their effort to kick the habit more difficult. As one



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Above is a demonstration of an electronic cigarette. The “smoke” is actually water vapor that contains trace amounts of nicotine as you inhale it. Upon exhalation, the vapor is harmless.

female student who preferred to remain anonymous said, “It’s just water vapor, and doesn’t really smell at all. I know that my friend who vapes finds it hard to be around people who are smoking regular cigarettes and usually asks to bum one from them.”

Jonathan Krejnin, 22, an art major from Holland said, “I think it’s fair, even though its not tobacco, it’s still smoke and it’s unpleasant.”

He added, “It just makes the most sense that way, just make it all types of smoking across the board in the parking lots. If you want to use nicotine you should be subject to the same restrictions as regular smokers, in my opinion.”

Liam McAllister, 24, a business major from Yardley, had similar thoughts. “In my opinion people who smoke E-Cigs shouldn’t have any special treatment because they decide to vape, they are still choosing to smoke in a way, and it looks just as bad. I think it’s best to keep it in the

parking lots with the regular cigarettes.”

McAllister added, “Also all this talk about how there is no second-hand smoke, I don’t know if I believe it. Electronic cigarettes just came into existence; nobody truly knows how dangerous they are yet, so really nobody can say if whether or not there is second-hand smoke.”

Shanblatt also announced a new policy barring the underage children of Bucks faculty and staff from visiting their parents during work hours. This would effectively end the common practice of allowing faculty or staff members to bring their children into school and let them hang out.

Other changes being discussed included the new signs being put up around campus, and a yet to be determined number of foreign exchange students from China visiting campus this summer.

The forum was held on June 4 in Founders 140. More than 50 faculty and staff members attended, along with one student.

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# Entertainment

## Television

**Friday 9/19**  
Running Wild with Bear Grylls - NBC - 9:00 PM  
Shark Tank - ABC - 9:00 PM  
Criminal Minds - A & E - 10:00 PM

**Saturday 9/20**  
Taxi - TVGN - 8:00 PM  
NCIS: Los Angeles - CBS - 9:00 PM  
American Ninja Warrior - NBC - 8:00 PM

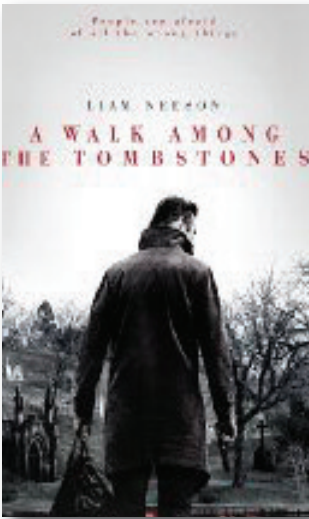
**Sunday 9/21**  
Notting Hill - TVGN - 7:00 PM  
Madam Secretary - CBS - 8:30 PM  
The Simpsons - FOX - 8:00 PM

**Monday 9/22**  
Gotham - FOX - 8:00 PM  
The Voice - NBC - 8:00 PM  
Antiques Roadshow - PBS - 9:00 PM

**Tuesday 9/23**  
NCIS - CBS - 8:00 PM  
Utopia - FOX - 8:00 PM  
Marvel’s Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D. - ABC - 9:00 PM

**Wednesday 9/24**  
The Middle - ABC - 8:00 PM  
Red Band Society - FOX - 9:00 PM  
Law & Order: Special Victims Unit - NBC - 9:00 PM

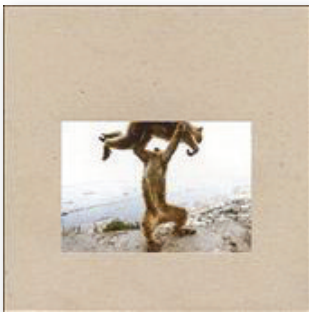
## Movies



**A Walk Among The Tombstones (R)**  
Private Investigator Mathew Scudder is hired by a drug lord to investigate the kidnapping and murder of his wife. This film will feature action-hero Liam Neeson in a brand new revenge drama/thriller.

**Directed by:** Scott Frank  
**Starring:** Liam Neeson, Dan Stevens  
**Release Date:** 19 Sept.

## Music



**Shellac**  
**New Album “Dude Incredible”**  
16 Sept.

**Lia Ices**  
**New Album “Ices”**  
16 Sept.

**Tim McGraw**  
**New Album “Sundown Heaven Town”**  
16 Sept.

## Hicks Art Center presents local art in “Bucks County Artists: A Cross-Section”.

**BY: LUIS QUINTAS**  
Centurion Staff

Currently on exhibit at the Hicks Art Center Gallery on Bucks Campus is “Bucks County Artists: A Cross Section,” which is running from Aug. 27 thru Oct. 11. The exhibit features six local artists displaying multiple artistic mediums including painting, photography, and pottery.

“Every two to three years we reach out to local artists in the community that are not affiliated to the college as former students or faculty,” explains Fran Orlando, Director of Artmobile and the Hicks Art Center Gallery for the past 28 years. “It’s hard to find local artists that are not, or have not been affiliated with Bucks County Community College in some way.”

The title of the exhibit is based on a two-part concept. The first part of the concept is “Bucks County Artists,” which Orlando explains that, “it’s really nice bringing in the community and supporting local artists,” she continues explaining that the exhibit also serves as inspiration for our young aspiring artists, “it provides a model for our student to see artists who live locally and are successful.”

The second part of the concept is “A Cross Section,” which infers that the exhibit is not limited to just one artistic medium. “Each time we do the show we want a broad view of what’s going on [in Bucks County],” Orlando continues, “not just Bucks



Bernstein’s “Chandelier” is just one of the pieces on display. impressionists.” The American Impressionist movement from the first half of the 20th century has been so closely associated to Bucks County because the movement was centered in Bucks County and surrounding areas, particularly the area around New Hope, PA. The Bucks County Artists: A Cross Section exhibit hopes to show that Bucks County artists are not limited to just one artistic movement, style, or medium.

For a chance to meet and converse with the artists whose work is on display in the exhibit, there will be a Panel Discussion with Robert Beck, Diane Burko and Anna Bogatin will be held Wednesday, Sept. 17 from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Music and Multimedia building in room 10 across from the Hicks Art Center. Following the Panel Discussion will be the reception from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. with a Curator’s gallery talk at 6 PM with Curator and internationally known photographer David Graham. The gallery also offers



This piece is entitled “River Wanderings” by Diane Burko. This piece is just an example of the different mediums being used.

## Books

### “13 Hours: The Inside Account of What Really Happened in Benghazi”

**Written By: Mitchell Zuckoff**  
This is a true account of the events that happened during the Sept. 11th, 2014 terrorist attacks, called the “Annex in Benghazi”.

**Release Date:** 9 Sept.

### “Jesus on Trial: A Lawyer Affirms the Truth of the Gospel”

**Written by: David Limbaugh**  
In this book, David Limbaugh applies his legal knowledge to a unique new undertaking. He makes a case for the gospels as hard evidence of the life and times of Jesus Christ. Limbaugh is an attorney and former law professor.

**Release Date:** 8 Sept.

### “What If?”

**Written by: Randall Munroe**  
This is a book written by the author of the popular online comic, xkcd. People visit this website to see comics based on science, technology and language. His fans ask him many questions. This book is required reading for any xkcd fan.

**Release Date:** 2 Sept.

## Local

### Bristol

-Sept 30 to Oct 26: The Bristol Riverside Theater will present "The 39 Steps"- A Monty Python-esque spy comedy that features over 150 characters. Tickets start at \$32 for students.

### Doylestown

-Sept 6 to Oct 26: The Mercer Museum is holding a limited time exhibit called "For All the World to See: Visual Culture & the Struggle for Civil Rights".

### New Hope

-Sept 26 to Sept 28: The Bucks County Playhouse presents the "Oscar Hammerstein Festival". Tickets for the weekend start at \$50 for students.

### Newtown

-Sept 19 to Sept 25: Newtown Theater will be showing the critically acclaimed film "Calvary". The film is rated R and runs 100 minutes.

-Sept 23: Screening of the documentary "Fed Up" will be held at The Newtown Theater at 7:00 pm. Ticket's start at \$10.00.

### Quakertown

-Sept 27 to Sept 28: Harley Hill Farm will be hosting an Alpaca Festival, a free family event with pumpkins, mums and (of course) Alpacas. The festivities start at 10:00 am.



# College News

## Read it and weep: textbook prices continue to rise

*With textbook prices continually on the rise, Bucks students talk about how they save on their books.*

**By: Diamond Schuler**  
Centurion Staff

With college expenses rising at a steady and daunting rate, textbooks are becoming one of the most expensive necessities for financially insecure students, leading to some creative methods to save money on these vital supplies.

A survey from the Student Public Interest Group states that textbook prices have increased by 22 percent in the last 4 years.

According to another survey the average college student spends \$1,200 on books a year.

That's almost \$5,000 over four years. Many students are going into college with very little money to begin with. The textbook situation has quickly become a real problem.

Natalie Smith 18 year old early education major from Yardley complains, "Textbooks are excessively expensive, especially considering how much college tuition costs per semester.

Students are already starting their desired career with massive amounts of debt and textbooks are not helping."



PHOTO FROM WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

In today's day and age it's rare for a college student to graduate without the trail of debt behind them.

Students in most cases are expected to pay back loans about six months after graduation.

To fight back against these rising prices more and more students are going through back doors and other sources to buy books.

In recent years renting

textbooks from the bookstore, as well as ordering them and buying used ones from online vendors such as Amazon.com, Chegg, and Textbooks.com have become popular options.

This is useful for students who won't use the textbooks again after the semester is over. Textbook sites promise students cheaper prices and less of a headache.

However, some students

still do things the old fashion way.

Brooke Foster, 18, from Pipersville, when asked if she went through other sources to buy textbooks said, "No. I bought my books straight from the bookstore because I didn't want to order the wrong ones."

Some teachers are very specific about their textbook requirements and there's no way around it.

"I bought books through friends that had the classes before me and that was one of the best decisions that I made. I saved a lot of money" said Rasheed Douyon, 18 year old Business Administration major from Bensalem explained.

Colleen Gall, an 18 year old Public Relations major from Fairless Hills says when buying her textbooks "I go online to see if I can find the books cheaper. If they're the same price as in the bookstore I'll just buy them there since it's more convenient."

It's important that students realize their options and do their research.

With grants and scholarships there's essentially free money students can use to put towards the pricey costs of books. The textbook industry is a business like any other, but for students that don't want to fall for that business, be a little more careful next time you buy your books and make the smarter choice for you and your bank account.

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# Sports

## Plans for new college football playoffs have sparked debates among fans.

**BY: CHRIS KERSAINT**  
Centurion Staff

After years of following a system many consider to be ineffective and unfair in deciding which team is the best, college football is implementing a new way to determine their National Championship through a new series of playoffs. The playoffs are backed by ESPN and will be aired by them. However, some find these changes unnecessary,

The problem with this is many college football fans believe the two top-ranked football teams do not deserve to be in the National Championship game. This is why the 2014 football year is a very special one. For the first time in years, Division 1A football will host its first four team play-offs, where the top four ranked football teams will be able to battle it out to determine the best in the Division. Last season the championship game was headlined by Florida State vs. Auburn. Even with these two teams being able to qualify to play in the big game, still many believed the wrong teams were playing in the championship. National Columnist Greg Doyle for [www.cbssports.com](http://www.cbssports.com) writes “Give Florida State and Auburn their due, but Alabama is still the best team”. Will having playoffs end discussions such as

these? This is yet to be seen. Football fans see how this whole season plays out and decide for themselves. “I see it as college football trying to get more exposure and money,” said Bucks student Kevin McCleese Jr, 20, a computer science major from Morrisville. When watching sports, sports lovers around the world always want to see a winner come out on top. This was a problem especially when it came to college football in the past. But with the selection committee all coming to an agreement, this will soon change. With all the changes this season, some still find it pointless. “It would be one of the most non smart things that the NCAA has ever done,” says Bucks student Keith Green, 21, a physical therapy major from Yardley. Green goes on to say “I’ll probably change my opinion on it since it’s something that they started this year”. With that being said the only Division 1 football teams known for having play-offs are the FCS schools, notably Lehigh University and University of Pennsylvania. With all of college football about to be even more competitive due to the playoff system there are possibilities the number 1 and 2 ranked teams can be knocked off since every year there are always surprise teams



This is the main building of the University of Texas in Austin, bathed in orange in honor of the championships. Will these kinds of traditions have to change with the times?

creeping up into the top 10 ranking. “This year alone, it’s going to be stupid because of how

much of a powerhouse the ACC and SEC is.” says Bucks student Bobby Antinoro, 21, a Hospitality and Business Management major from Morrisville. ESPN wanted to be part of this new format so much that they announced they would be

having a 12 year deal allowing them use of the home television channel for playoffs and according to [espn.go.com](http://espn.go.com), “The deal goes through the 2025 regular season (2026 bowl games).

### Bucks Sports

Thur 9/18	Fri 9/19	Sat 9/20	Sun 9/21	Mon 9/22	Tues 9/23	Wed 9/24
Women's Tennis						
vs. Mercer 3:30 p.m.		vs. Ocean 12:00 p.m.				
Women's Soccer						
					vs. Union 3:30p.m.	
Women's Volleyball						
vs. Montgomery 7:00 p.m.						
Men's Soccer						
				vs. Williams Trade 6:30p.m.		

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