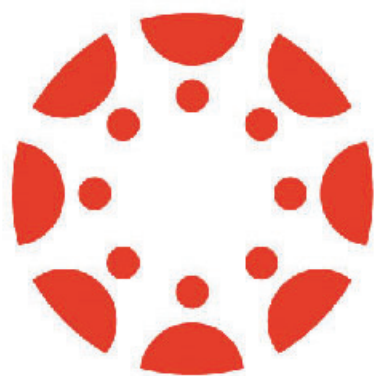


The In's and Out's of Canvas Learning System



canvas

KAYLEY NAGLE

Centurion Staff

Over recent years, Professors across Bucks have been using Canvas, an online education site, to interact with their students through assignments and updated grades, which has benefitted students immensely.

Canvas was founded in 2008, and was then officially launched as a network in 2012. It is a learning management system that is used by over 200,000 institutions and by over 18 million students across the world.

Canvas provides students with a gradebook, where they can view

their grades for each assignment as well as a calendar and course outline to help organize the student and prepare them for each class.

This program also opens a door to communication between classmates, giving students an opportunity to discuss their work through message boards and allowing them to speak to their professor about a certain issue if necessary.

Shawn Queeney, an Arts and Communication professor, believes this online system improves student's behavior, "The bottom line in this is if we want to change – ideally, improve – performance then students need all of the feedback and data they can get.

My job is to provide that feedback and data in a timely manner and Canvas helps me do just that.", Queeney said.

This system also gives students a greater chance at success, "I have seen many students give up in a course in the 12th or 13th week because they, incorrectly, assumed that there was nothing they could do to pass the course. One of the best things about the Canvas Gradebook is that it allows you and any student to plug in 'what if' grades for remaining assignments and see exactly what you need to do to reach your goal." Bill Ford, a Psychology Professor explained.

Not only do professors feel

strongly about this, but students are also in favor of Canvas, "Knowing my grade helps me stay motivated to come to class if I feel that it's definitely going to be beneficial to me, therefore giving me control over my grades." Said Taylor Sole, 19, a Journalism major from Doylestown.

Some even feel frustrated that not all of their professors have taken advantage of the system, Anthony Menard-Gill, 19, an Engineering major from Levittown explains "Some professors do not effectively use Canvas to its full potential. Some use it to solely put up assignments, while others simply do not use it at all. The problem I've encountered is hav-

ing to ask my professors for my grades, or having to keep track of the grades myself."

Though some professors may feel that an analog approach is the correct way to teach, students feel that instant gratification to viewing and understanding their status in the class is imperative.

Canvas clearly is a program that can improve student's work ethic and their overall attitudes to learning and succeeding in class. It also benefits Professors, giving them the opportunity to help their students rise to their full potential.

SCA Event Shows Students How to Find Scholarships Online



JOCELYN PAPPAS

Centurion Staff

The Student Government Association held an event from Feb. 14 -15 in the cafeteria in order to show students how to easily apply for scholarships using Bucks' online matching feature.

Students were shown that they could find the perfect match of scholarship with a few clicks of a button. The staff and students helping to run hoped that the event would get more students to apply, once they knew what to do.

Currently, there is a wide variety of scholarships that can be found for Bucks Community Col-

lege, with new ones now available this semester.

Of the scholarships currently available, mothers might be interested in the Salute to Mothers scholarship, while those interested in starting up a business or entrepreneurial dealings might want to try the Emerging Entrepreneurs scholarship.

The scholarships aimed at single parents is found to be a common choice among students applying for scholarships.

There are also scholarships based upon outstanding academics such as the Charles W. Beem Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship, or for disabled students, like the Neuber Endowment for the Ad-

vancement of Physically Disabled Bucks County Residents. Some scholarships are also based upon how many credits a person has completed during their time at Bucks.

Jennifer Salisbury, a public relations staff member the Newtown Campus, has indicated that there is a total of \$250,000 awarded each year to students who apply.

Previously in the 2016 fall semester, there were 268 students that had received scholarships.

At the event, Salisbury stated, "I think that it is a vote of confidence for them," in regards to students getting the scholarships.

Although every semester at Bucks, there are chances for

students to try for different scholarships, not all potentials students are taking the chance to get scholarships.

However, Salisbury presumes that the one important factor is because students have doubts, especially regarding the essays.

She encourages students to try their best regardless, as there are many resources can help with the writing portion of the process, such as the Newtown campus library.

Besides doubt, another reason for students not applying for scholarships could be the lack of awareness.

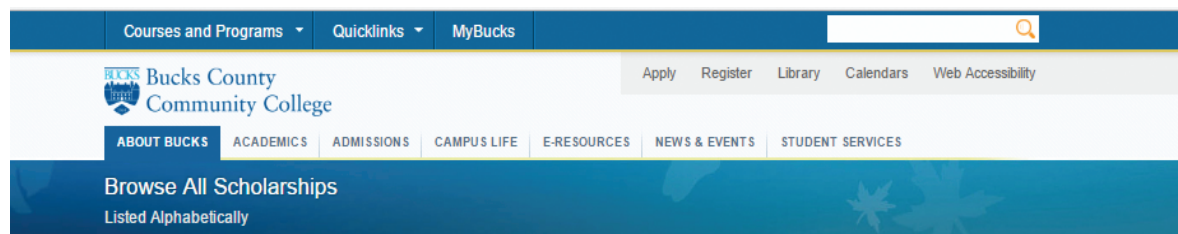
With this event, Salisbury hopes that the event will reach out to

students who might not be fully aware of these resources that are available to them, should they be struggling with finances.

Other colleges in the area, such as Montgomery County Community College, have different systems in distributing scholarships.

When asked about other college's methods of giving scholarships, Salisbury was confident that Bucks had a good system.

Students may try for spring semester scholarships until April 1. For more information, students should visit www.bucks.edu/scholarships. From there, they are able to use the match feature to help them find a scholarship for their demographic.



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Note:

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Applicants must meet the following requirements at the time of application: Enrolled in a minimum of six (6) credits in one of the College's academic departments. Intend to re-enroll at BCCC in a minimum of six (6) credits in the following fall after the award is made in the spring. Completed at least thirty (30) credits toward their associate's degree, and possess a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Note:

- Since this scholarship requires financial need, you must have completed next academic year's Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the

Bucks News

Sharon Katz & The Peace Train Comes to Bucks

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Sharon Katz & The Peace Train on Tour

TENAE GENTNER
Centurion Staff

Are you ever sitting at home with nothing to do on a weekend while all of your friends are out at work or are just too busy to come chill?

Well, Bucks has a solution for you.

In honor of Black History Month, Bucks will be hosting a concert for your entertainment. Sharon Katz and The Peace Train will be performing live at Zlock Performing Arts Center on Saturday, Feb 25.

Tickets are available through calling the African American Museum of Bucks County 215-

760-1205. Adults tickets are being sold for \$40 and student admission is \$25. The event will be held from 2:45 to 4:00 pm.

Now for a little background information on Sharon Katz and The Peace Train. Sharon Katz, a Caucasian woman, is from South Africa, in a place now called Nelson Mandela Bay. After her “Peace Train tour” in 1993, she gathered 150 performers to perform with her around the nation.

Together their goal was to influence people from all around the world to stop violence and come together as one. This is when those 150 people became known as The Peace Train. After being on CNN, the Independent Electoral Commission asked Katz

to write and perform songs to help teach people how to vote. This was all because Nelson Mandela was to become the first democratically elected President in South Africa.

They wanted to show ways to transition to a new a peaceful democracy.

Bucks is more than thankful that Sharon Katz is willing to come out to the school and provide us with the soulful entertainment. Especially right after The Peace Train 2016 tour. The tour was designed due to all the problems that the world is currently facing.

Sharon Katz main goal is to unite youth and adults from all cultures and continue Nelson Mandela’s dream.

PHOTO CREDIT: SHARONKATZ.COM

More information on Sharon Katz and The Peace Train can be found on their website sharonkatz.com for anyone who is interested.

This could be a once in a lifetime experience so you wouldn’t want to miss out on a great performance. Come out and support.

Bucks Community College is always finding ways to celebrate culture throughout every month. What better way to celebrate Black History Month than by attending a concert?

So come out with your friends and family for a great live performance. You won’t want to miss it.

For any additional information about this event, please contact peter.chiovarou@bucks.edu.

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The Value of Family



* National Public Radio, September 2015

Bucks News

Celebration of Harlem Renaissance Looks at Race Relations

ALI GISH
Centurion Staff

Enrich your life with a little culture from a city where African-American musicians, artists, writers and dancers battling segregation in the 1920s came together to raise awareness of Harlem, a city within a city, and gained widespread recognition in the process.

In a recent event at Bucks, Harlem Renaissance Speaker Margaret Montet spoke of the struggles and successes of those who participated, including renowned performers such as Duke Ellington, Aaron Douglas, The Nicholas Brothers, Zora Neale Hurston, and Langston Hughes, and The Cotton Club.

The event was held Thursday, February 16th in the Zlock Performing Arts Center. Montet presented a series of poets, artists, musicians, and dancers who through their craft aimed to embrace African-American culture and reduce separation between whites and blacks.

Margaret Montet is a librarian at Bucks who previously studied at Temple University. Throughout the presentation, Montet displayed various black and white videos which showcased the excitement and energy that went in to the Harlem Renaissance, as dancers performed with exceptional flexibility and musicians exhibited broad vocal ranges. Performers wore extravagant clothing and often sang tunes with powerful meaning through the calming melodies of blues and jazz.

At the beginning of her speech, Montet reminded the audience of the extreme level of racism during the early 20th century, a shocking discovery to many, admitting that in many areas “It was illegal for a black man and a white man to sit and play checkers.” While segregation forced control and

isolation among a society, in 1919 the onset of the Harlem Renaissance promoted freedom and integration by educating whites on African-American culture and fought to bring blacks and whites together during this disconnected period in American History. The term “negrotarians” was used to describe white people who supported blacks.

The Harlem Renaissance occurred during the Great Migration, the movement of 6 million African-Americans from rural southern areas into the urban Northeast, Midwest, and West. Two influential thinkers of this time were W.E.B. Du Bois and Alain Locke, who Montet claimed was more free-thinking than De Bois. Montet also stresses the importance of the author William Harmon, who created the Harmon Foundation, an organization that supported African-American artists such as Carl Van Vechten, Aaron Douglas, and Augusta Savage.

A significant aspect of the Renaissance was the Cotton Club, a Harlem Jazz club which was mainly attended by rich whites. The lineup would consist of a comedian, followed by a featured act, chorus line, and then a big band. Duke Ellington, a major jazz composer, was among many artists who performed at the Cotton Club. Ellington commanded respect, valued his charm, and preferred to keep his secrets unknown. Ellington was an instrumental artist until he met singer Ivie Anderson and formed a collaboration through the Cotton Club. Cab Calloway, a jazz singer, was also a regular attraction and had a reputation as an energetic performer.

Another vital aspect of the Renaissance was dance, which many enjoyed at the Savoy Dance Club. At Savoy, both blacks and whites danced together in an elegant ballroom where bands played



Duke Ellington at his piano

back to back. Popular drummer Chick Webb performed with jazz singer Ella Fitzgerald at Savoy, in addition to the well-known “What a Wonderful World” singer Louis Armstrong. A star with an interesting story, Ethel Waters was put on the streets because of an abusive boyfriend but rose to fame through street performance. Performers were also brought together through house-rent parties, where tenants hire a band and pass hat to raise money for their rent. These events had a

significant effect on jazz and blues development.

Jazz poet Langston Hughes was known for “The Weary Blues” during which Hughes uses language, rhythm, and accompaniment to convey the blues. Hughes collaborated with Zora Neal Hurston, a famous novelist, who Montet notes “wrote in a rural florida dialect that was innovative for her time.” The two collaborated on a play called Mule Bone, which incidently caused them to sever their relationship as they

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



believed the play to be a mistake. Through literature, art, music, and dancing, the people of the Harlem Renaissance were able to defy the social norms of the time and the segregation which separated people who discovered they weren’t so different. The energy surrounding African-American culture inspired many whites to take interest in the story which blacks had to tell through entertainment which served as an escape from the harsh realities of the time.

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Bucks News

Performer Keith Spencer Discusses His Career

SUNSHINE KARNS
Centurion Staff

The baritone vocalist and concert entertainer, Keith Spencer, who recently performed at the Zlock Performing Arts Center, goes in depth about his work as a cultural performer.

A versatile vocalist and performer, Spencer hit the Bucks stage with his “Songs from the Civil Rights Movement” earlier this month, featuring songs and calls that embody the experience of African Americans during the mid-1900s. From Broadway tours to guest appearances in the Quakertown Concert Band, Keith has devoted his lifetime to music, and has found himself taking on a variety of roles that have shaped his current devotion to culturally based performance.

A proud resident of Pennsylvania, Spencer has a history of interest in performance that portrays African American culture and pride, reflecting that this attention to his culture sprouted at a young age, he provided details about how he became interested in his area of focus.

“My family always had a keen respect for our culture and heritage. From my early days as a young man reading comic books about Benjamin Banneker and Harriet Tubman, my mother emphasized the importance of honoring and remembering the giants that came before us. Celebrating the importance of Martin Luther King Jr. and several others was an important part of my upbringing.”



Keith Spencer on Stage

Recently launching a concert program focused on Negro Spirituals, Spencer now focuses his entire matured career on his culture, stating that “from the stage, one voice I’ve always felt compelled to share was anything that celebrated African-American heritage, progress and achievement.”

His current tour, “We Shall Not Be Moved,” is a unique addition to his career as it presents the views of people of all colors who supported equal rights, straying from a strictly black culture-based show.

Spencer goes in depth about what makes his show so unique, “in my opinion, to truly appreciate our nation’s progress and appreciate our opportunity, you need to contrast today against the past. What makes We Shall Not Be Moved unique is that it presents the very songs which inspired people during the movement in the 50s and 60s... and even earlier...and sets them in context of what was happening at the time.” Spencer designs his shows to remind the audience how far the nation has come along in respect

to civil rights, and at what costs.

Society today still witnesses the fight for equal rights, both nationally and internationally, leaving Keith Spencer’s performances a historical reminder of the progression of rights in the nation as well as a continuation of the fight for equality.

He commented, “the Civil Rights Era” was a bookmarked chapter in our nation’s history. However, the impact and ripples from that time still are felt today. All of us in one way or another feel gratitude for more difficult

PHOTO CREDIT: KEITHSPENCER.COM

times past, but are well-reminded that in areas in our own country and in others around the world, human and civil rights are still not recognized equally.”


Intending to use his voice as a reminder that we all can play a role in equality, Spencer will continue to make music as he feels it has the power to “unite hearts and minds.” To learn more about Keith Spencer or find information on his upcoming shows, you can find him on Facebook or visit his website, keithspencer.com.



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Bucks News

Bucks Professor Rubin Publishes First Book

JACOB FISHER
Centurion Staff

“Writing gives me a reason to get out of bed in the morning. Ironically, I don’t like getting out of bed.”

That’s what Bucks Assistant Professor of Language and Literature Alan Rubin says when talking of his first book published last December, entitled “Mr. Stomach Gets Upset.” He discussed the creation of the story and his own personal writing process. “Mr. Stomach Gets Upset,” the first book in the “Corpus Hollow” series, is a fictional tale centered around personified human organs and their lives in Corpus Hollow.

Impressively, the story is almost entirely written in verse and was written, illustrated, and published by Rubin. Rubin, born in Flemington, New Jersey, talked about his childhood experiences and what led him to pursue literature.

“I’ve always dreamed of not needing to have a job. That was always my dream job. But working at Bucks is a close second,” he said.

Writing was not his first plan for a career, as Rubin explains: “I didn’t always want to be a writer. In fact, for a long time I wanted to be a professional basketball player, but I suffered a serious knee injury in high school. That, and the fact that I’m five-foot-six, prevented me from trying out for the Knicks. So I decided to pursue writing.

Reading, while a hobby, was merely “incidental” to keep from being bored, as Rubin puts it. “I had no particular hobbies, other than staving off boredom. That was my primary concern.”

Jokingly, he says, “I’m afraid of what would have become of me if Angry Birds had been around back then. Maybe I’d be an ornithologist now.”

The story was started on a whim. “At some point, many years ago, it occurred to me that “Mr. Stomach Gets Upset” would be a funny title for something. So I dared myself to write something called “Mr. Stomach Gets Upset.” Of course I couldn’t back down,” Rubin says.

Many students and writers struggle when it comes to actually getting their thoughts on paper, and Rubin is no exception. When asked about his writing process, and the difficulty of writing in verse, he stated “It’s different for everyone. My process includes walking around in a circle and wondering how many words could credibly rhyme with “stomach.” Another part of my process is trying to avoid snacking. For me, writing is 1 percent inspiration, 99 percent perspiration, and two family-sized bags of pretzel sticks.”

Rubin already has future installments in the works. “I do plan to make Corpus Hollow into a series. In fact, I’ve already written the second book, called “Hardy Heart Gets Burned.” I’m planning on publishing it this spring.”

When asked his final thoughts, and if he had any advice for nov-



PROFESSOR RUBIN SIPS ON PEPTO

PHOTO CREDIT: JACOB FISHER

elists-to-be, he said, “I’m more comfortable asking for advice than giving it. Do you have any advice for me?”

“Mr. Stomach Gets Upset” is available to purchase online either through Amazon or through the “Corpus Hollow” website: <https://www.createspace.com/4417634>

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Music for Studying: What Genre is Best?

Centurion Staff

PHOTO CREDIT: ALI GISH



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Music Review

Red Hot Chili Peppers Light Up The Wells Fargo Center

SCOTT KEOUGH
Centurion Staff

Red Hot Chili Peppers rock the Wells Fargo Center on their 35th anniversary on Feb. 13 with an incredible performance and light show to go with it.

It is always a special moment when the Red Hot Chili Peppers are in town but this time it was extra good. The rock band took the stage exactly 35 years from the first time they had ever played together and gave the crowd something truly special to remember.

Jeff McDonald a 22-year-old second year student from Warrington who was in the crowd that night was quoted, when asked about his experience at the concert said “unreal, I could talk for hours about it.” He went on to say, “nothing is as iconic as the Chili Peppers and they were truly in their element tonight”.

McDonald has been listening to the Red Hot Chili Peppers since he was in seventh grade but this was the first time ever seeing them live and it certainly lived up to his expectations.

Ray Kent a 21-year-old student at West Chester said something similar when asked about his experience. “It was incredible they really put on an amazing show, it was certainly worth all the hype.”

“There aren’t many concerts you go to where you can sit in the nosebleeds and still feel like you’re right on stage with the band rocking out but this was one of them,” Kent added.

The feeling at the Wells Fargo Center that night was something special. After about two hours of nonstop rocking out, the Chili Peppers left the stage with what

seemed to be an hour of standing ovation from the entire crowd which warranted an encore from the band.

After a total of two hours and 45 minutes of incredible performance the band left the stage to the crying of thousands of die-hard fans wanting more.

“It was the best night of my life, hands down,” Kent added before getting up to leave after the performance.

That seemed to be the general consensus from everyone in the crowd, newcomers and die-hard roadies alike, the 35th anniversary concert was unlike any performance ever experienced.

No one is sure how much longer the band will be around and touring, but if this was the last taste of the Chili Peppers Wells Fargo will ever receive I think everyone will truly be satisfied and thankful for their time and effort that band has given Philadelphia over their long 35-year career.



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS

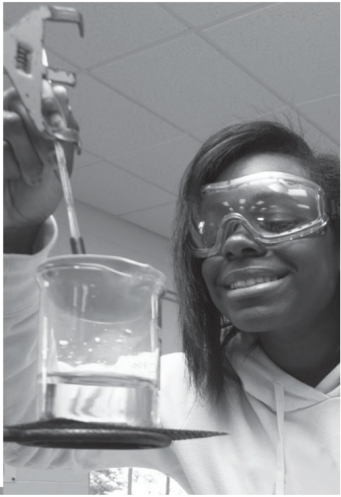


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Arts & Entertainment

Shyamalan Makes A Comeback With “Split”

KAYLEY NAGLE
Centurion Staff

M. Night Shyamalan, a director most popularly known for his work of “The Sixth Sense” and “Unbreakable”, has brought yet another psychological thriller to life this winter. Racking in 149 million dollars in sales thus far, “Split” has left millions gasping for air.

“Split” is set and filmed in modern day Philadelphia, following the story of a man with dissociative identity disorder who kidnaps three teenage girls, locking them in a basement and leaving them to search for a way out.

This man, commonly referred to as Dennis, has 23 personalities, ranging from all different ages and characteristics, some much more harmful than others.

The film follows the journey of Claire, Marcia and Casey who must learn to recognize the different identities, realize who is dangerous and who can give them information, while also trying to escape.

James McAvoy, the lead role, does an incredible job of accurately portraying a man with mental illness, he executes the character with conviction and dedication, giving the audience a true sense of what it is like to be in the presence of a man with D.I.D.

“Split” is a must-watch, it gives a true and honest depiction of a man’s life struggle without glorifying mental illness, while also dousing the audience with an

exhilarating rush. Throughout the movie, Casey, played by Anya Taylor-Joy, is the character worth rooting for. With her powerful intelligence and survivalist mindset, she captures the hearts of the audience with her fearless attitude.

This is a breakout role for Joy, who is absolutely captivating to watch on screen. She conveys her character with such elegance and communicates such powerful emotion to the audience, giving them an honest perspective of how it feels to be kidnapped and left to survive.

Much like Shyamalan’s other films, “Split” catches the attention of the viewer by providing elements of mystery and suspense, keeping the audience on their toes until the last few seconds.

In contrast to many horror films, this movie is not out in the open scary, with pop out monsters or zombies. It is mentally terrifying, mostly because it hones in on societies deepest fears.

For the lover of more classic thriller films, “Split” also incorporates a slight supernatural aspect. Because of this, this film is universally pleasing, providing an element of horror for everyone to enjoy.

This hair-raising film also allows the audience to tap into the world of the unknown, a world of mental complexity that is beautifully complicated and often left untouched. Since many have not experienced D.I.D, this film gives them the chance to do so in a captivating way.



Though this film incorporates mental illness, many must remember that it is not an exact portrayal, it just uses the foundation of the disorder to create a haunting

world for a kidnapping mystery. “Split” is a movie that is worth watching, taking the audience on a ride of several twists and turns, leaving them speechless by the

end. It is a movie that will not only capture your attention in the moment, but will leave you mind blown long after the screen goes black.

A Preview of the Upcoming Oscars

CHERRY KIVUMBI
Centurion Staff

The Oscar awards are approaching soon and students are eagerly awaiting, especially one Bucks student Michael W. Doane who is a film major and has input on of the leading productions that made The Oscars this year.

The Oscar awards is an extremely prestigious ceremony that airs every year awarding the finest movies and productions that year. According to Oscars.org, the first academy awards were held May 16th 1929 as a private dinner. This private dinner subsequently took place at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, which consisted of 270 people.

The price of admission into the prestigious event was \$5, which translated to \$70, in today’s currency. Instead of the ceremony being hours long it was roughly 15 minutes when it originally started.

According to a popular urban legend and hollywoodreporter.com, it is revealed that before The Oscars got its title, it was originally called “The Academy Awards”. However, librarian Margaret Herrick though The Academy Award trophies looked like her uncle Oscar, and ever since then the staff referred to the award as an Oscar.

Many of the films that came out were diverse and different, but only the best make it into The Oscars. Doane has a lot to say about The Oscars coming up this year.

Doane is a 19-year-old student that attends Bucks as a cinema film major, residing in Levittown. Movies and film became his passion when he was in high school and took a class that changed his passion in life forever, which was video production. This made Doane an avid movie watcher and also take pride of the different



attributes movies have. The Oscars has many movies that have nominations but a few of the big ones have been “La La Land”, “Manchester by the Sea”, and “Arrival”. Out of all of them Doane has only seen “La La Land”; however, he has heard of the other two films.

Out of all of the films he feels that “La La Land” should have the most award nominations. “La La Land” has 14 nominations, which is exactly how many the “Titanic and “All About Eve” had. Doane feels that “La La Land” was an ideal pick for most nominations due to the fact that the production value was great and it showed a little bit of nostalgia towards classic Hollywood. Doane adds in, “It pretty much pats Hollywood on the back, by showing the great sides and ideas within the industry.”

Doane feels that “La La Land” should win the most awards because he feels that some movies have a great plot, great directors or great actors, but none are strong in all categories. Doane feels that “La La Land” consistently delivers in several categories which is why he feels it got the most nominations in the first

place. A movie that Doane expressed his passion for is the movie “Arrival”, which is also nominated for many awards as well in eight categories. He feels that “Arrival” takes on the sci-fi genre and breaks the stereotypes of the typical science fiction movie. Instead, he mentions how the movie is about aliens but the typical characteristics of an alien movie does not occur.

Instead of “Arrival” depicting violence and action, it depicts humanity, language, and working together. It takes a positive spin on an alien movie, showing all of us that we are all living creatures that just want the same things and that we may not all be so different after all.

The Oscars is a program that Michael Doane looks forward to every year. He says, “It is a great way to reward hard work and give people recognition. Not just the actors but also the people behind the scene that make the movie happen. It is like a movie appreciation day.”

Doane gets a large thrill out of The Oscars for the mere fact that it is friendly competition and a great way to see who de-

serves what awards, and who you feel should win.

For anyone that has little interest in the awards show, he says, “Honestly, it’s okay if you don’t like The Oscars but they are exclusive and you get recognized and it’s great to see people you would not normally see in a room together.”

As a cinema film major, Michael Doane is driven by the pure fact that he enjoys filming and what he does with it. He feels it is a great way to tell a story through a different medium other than print.

The 89th annual Oscar awards air Feb. 26th 2017 at 8:30pm. The event is hosted by late night talk show host, Jimmy Kimmel, and will be awarding 24 categories from the Dolby Theater in the Hollywood and Highland Center.

Arts and Entertainment

Nintendo Switches it Up with New Console

BRYAN FRANKOWSKI
Centurion Staff

Video games are a fun and exciting way to escape your real world troubles. There are many systems to choose from, like the Playstation 4 from Sony, the Xbox One from Microsoft, and the Wii U from Nintendo.

Ever since the announcement of Nintendo's new and upcoming console called the Nintendo Switch, fans all over have been talking about it nonstop. If you've gone on Facebook lately, you might have seen that the Switch has been a hot topic in the news.

It is said to be released this coming March, confirmed by Brendan F., a high schooler who plays video games often and who has seen that general release date on multiple websites. Also according to Brendan, who has done a decent amount of research online, many people seem to love the idea of a system that you can either play on your TV or switch it over to a mobile tablet. With a price point of \$300, Brendan, along with multiple other people online have been saying things like, "If I can afford it, I'll be buying it opening day." or "\$300 is pretty fair price for what you get." Things are looking good for Nintendo's future.

Nintendo is known to switch things up in the video game department. Starting with the Wii in 2006, which used motion controls instead of a standard controller, followed by the Wii U in 2012 which used motion controls and a tablet, Nintendo has definitely

been doing things differently than Sony, Microsoft, and so forth. People like diversity, and Nintendo isn't afraid to bring change to the table.

The Nintendo Switch is said to be geared more towards mobile gaming. The tablet it comes with has the processing power of a tablet computer and has 6 hours of battery life. Most people

haven't looked into all of the specs yet, like Tyler Rickert, a college student who has owned previous Nintendo consoles. When interviewed, he mentioned that Nintendo is known for using gimmicks to get people to buy their consoles, like motion controls and playing games with home console power graphics on the go. In his opinion, the Switch

isn't going to sell unless it comes out with a decent amount of solid games.

Tyler thinks that a lot of people will get over the gimmicks of the new console quickly and only continue to be hooked if good games become readily available. He isn't one to jump on the bandwagon and buy it when it comes out like some people may do.

Tyler thinks that waiting and seeing what Nintendo and third-party developers have up their sleeves is better than buying it and having nothing to play on it. Tyler, like other Nintendo fans across the internet, think that the Switch is a good idea and may sell well if the game lineup is strong. Only time will tell.

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Beyond Bucks

Bucks Students Defy DeVos

Taylor Sole
Centurion Staff

Public school students, including some who attend Bucks, are exceptionally worried as Michigan Republican Party’s Betsy DeVos takes office as Secretary of Education under President Trump. DeVos’ controversial opinions regarding the place of public schooling have gained attention from public school students who typically oppose her plans to reunite the church with the state in public schools across America. DeVos, notorious for her opposition to federal public school funding and clear favor towards Christian private schools, is an ideologue for replacing our democratically controlled public school system with vouchers that will prioritize private, preferably Christian schools over public. With over 90 percent of America’s schools being public, the nation, and especially students attending public colleges, seem extremely opposed to DeVos and her goals as secretary of education. DeVos was a controversial candidate, winning only 50-51 as voted on by the Senate, for Secretary of Education based on her lack of experience in public schools. Frankly, she has no experience with the public school system, (she did not attend a public school, neither did her children) yet wants to “drain the public system of the dollars it desperately needs,” as quoted by Randi Weingarten, president at the American Federation of Teachers. DeVos has zero teaching experience, let alone an education degree, and has a strong preference towards for-profit/charter schools. Kayley Nagle, freshman at Bucks is particularly distraught about DeVos’ lack of experience,



PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIMEDIACOMMONS.ORG

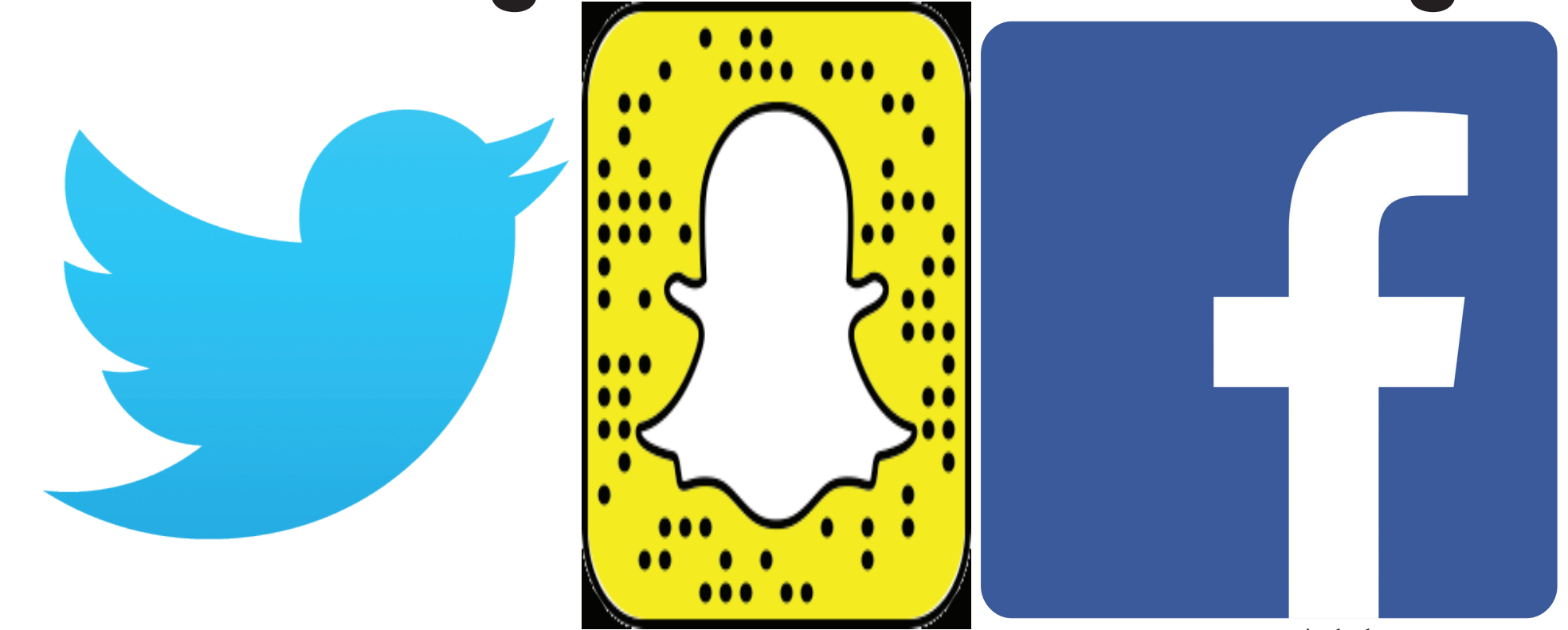
and finds herself doubting America’s entire public school system. She particularly questions what will happen to schools like Bucks that are public colleges, saying, “I am a product of twelve years of public school, it has gotten me to where I am today and I want someone in office that will move us forward, not push us back. I worry on Bucks’ behalf, because I worry that it will not get the funds or attention that it deserves.” Public schools are already very underfunded with less than 10 percent of funding for kindergarten through twelfth grade schools controlled by the government, and it’s quite possible that DeVos’ vouchers have the potential to completely defund public schooling altogether. Although this is a stretch, and it is very clear that America’s federal role in educational funding is fairly limited,

DeVos takes controversial stands on issues that will surely impact students particularly in public colleges. DeVos claims that it would be “premature” to stand by Title IX, an educational amendment that protects against discrimination of students based on sex under educational programs or federal loans. This is unsettling to female college students in particular, who are a part of the 69 percent of all college students that receive federal loans to pay for tuition every year. Even more unsettling is that DeVos has claimed to never have taken out any kind of student loan for herself or for her children, let alone even attended a public school. DeVos is particularly despised by the LGBT community and supporters due to her parents and husband’s parent’s donations of

hundreds of thousands of dollars to anti-gay corporations that support conversion therapy, calling homosexuality “preventable and treatable.” She claims to be separated from her parents’ views, claiming to have no part of her parents’ foundation, the Edgar and Elsa Prince Foundation, which has donated large sums of funds to anti-LGBT groups in previous years. Yet, she is listed on tax forms for the foundation, and just recently filed paperwork for her name to be removed from the forms after this speculation. With this, LGBT students worry about their safety in public schools under Betsy DeVos as secretary of education. Bucks isn’t the only public school that has students that expressively oppose Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education. Just this past week, students at Jeffer-

son Middle School Academy in southwest Washington prevented DeVos from entering their public school, holding a protest against her place in America’s educational system. The protesters greeted her at the entrance to their school yelling “Go back! Shame, shame!” until DeVos eventually left the premises. Acts of student defiance such as this protest have been seen nation-wide since DeVos was elected last week. College students are typically using the word “terrified” when explaining their outlook on what Betsy DeVos could potentially do to public schooling, and it’s no doubt that DeVos is under qualified to be making judgements on the functionality of public schooling and what it has to offer for 90% of students in our nation.

How Getting Our News Has Changed



Mike Vigilante
Centurion Staff

When it comes to the news the way Americans, are consuming it is changing. More and more people are turning to digital outlets or relying on those close to them to get their news. According to the PEW Research Center, 2015 was the worst year for newspapers since the recession in 2010. A major adjustment of newspaper companies has been the shift from print to digital formats, where they can offer a subscription service and deliver the news to your phone or tablet every morning. But while this

could prove to be cost effective, it’s also changing the way we find and consume news. “We consumers are used to ‘pulling’ or seeking out the information we want,” said Shawn Queeney, associate professor of communication studies at Bucks. “We don’t wait for it arrive on our front doorstep on print and we don’t want to wait until it is covered in the 6 o’clock TV broadcast.” But can people really be unbiased when choosing which news articles they will give credence to? A recent study from Ohio State University found that people do, in fact, tend to pick news that fits their views.

After observing how 156 college students spent five minutes reading various magazine articles, they found that students spent 36 percent more time reading articles that agreed with their point of view, and that they ultimately had a 58 percent chance of choosing articles that supported their views. How often have you seen a political post you disagreed with on Facebook and flirted with the unsubscribe button? What about if you agreed, did you “like” it? Sharing is one another way that the digital era has changed our media habits. Subscriptions to reputable outlets like the New York Times or the Philadelphia

Inquirer must now compete with the fast moving brush fire of social media. “We are more inclined to ‘follow’ or ‘like’ and share information than wait for a news outlet to provide it for us,” said Queeney. “I think this is how so much ‘fake news’ has proliferated over the last year or so. Coupled with our need for immediate gratification, and it makes sense that subscriptions will drop.” The PEW Research Center also found that only about 18 percent of Americans trust the information they get from national news organizations, yet two out of three Americans still believe that news organizations keep political lead-

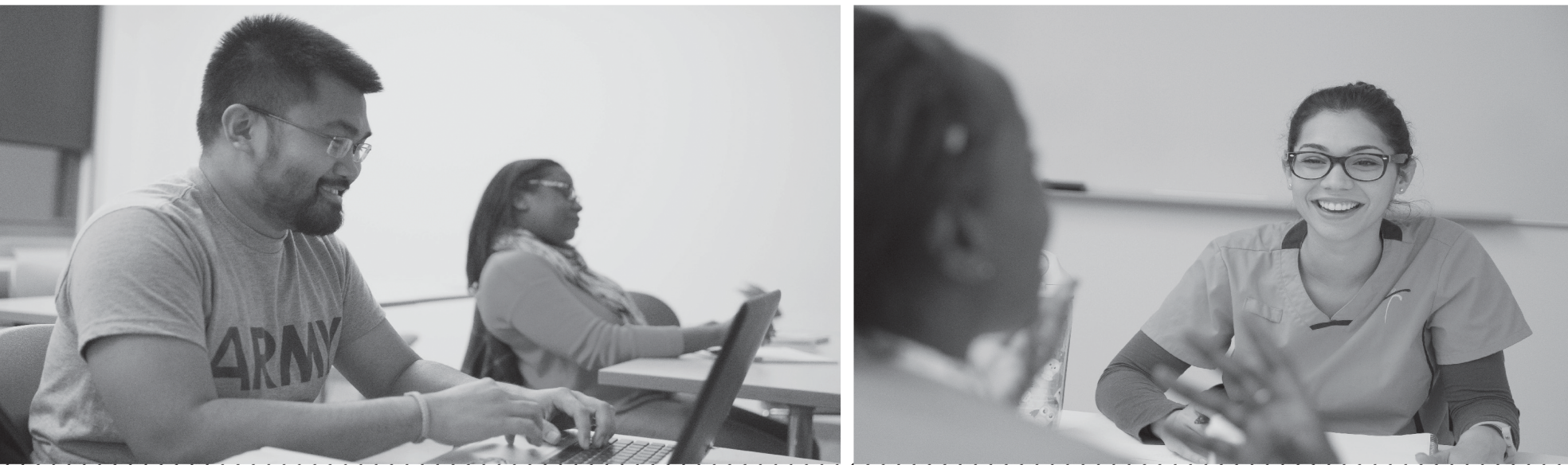
ers in check. At the end of the day, being a responsible news consumer in 2017 means being more diligent and careful about where and who our news comes from. “I think the opportunity and work we have as citizens and consumers is to build critical media literacy skills and become accustomed to doing more work, such as research and verification” said Queeney. “The means are certainly available to us in a college setting and there is no reason why we cannot build these skills while we are students here at Bucks, so we can share what we learn with those around us in our communities and families.”

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JENN KOPSIE '14

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Sports

Bucks Baseball Team Gears Up For Spring

SCOTT KEOUGH
Centurion Staff

Bucks Baseball team sees resurgence in interest through Coach Robert Fravel going into his third season as head coach.

Bucks has never been seen as an athletic powerhouse, but as for any program, progress towards the right direction is something that not only the players want to see but also the students.

Under head coach Robert Fravel the team has seen a steady rise in their field production going from 2-18 in his first season to 9-17 in his second tenure. As a result, a rise in interests on all levels is being noticed.

When asked if he could see this rise in interest Fravel said “yes without a doubt, the athletic department is more involved than ever, and the turnout for fall ball has been increasing drastically”.

Fravel went on commenting on the teams new found success. “It’s a different mindset, and we are trying to get these guys to change their attitude towards the game away from feeling like it is just an intermural sport into the feeling they are playing for an actual college program.”

It is no surprise that Fravel has his hands full when trying to bring new talent to the program. Ryan Harold a 19-year-old second year player from Southampton said, “it’s tough there isn’t a lot of talent coming through the program because it is hard to convince someone to come play at Bucks.”

Although Fravel said that it can be turned into a positive recruiting tool saying, “we can fly the



PHOTO CREDIT: TOP, BUCKS.EDU
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banner of being a school that is not only affordable but can get these players to the next step both academically and athletically.”

When asked what his expectations were going into his third season as the head of Bucks baseball he said, “steady improvement, we want to keep the trend going up. We won some region games last year so we want to keep that success moving forward.”

The baseball team looks to keep building on their success at their home opener on Thursday March 9 against Williamson Trade at 3:30p.m



The In’s and Out’s of the Bucks Equestrian Team

TATIANA GORDON
Centurion Staff

Hickory Run Farm-Newtown, PA Amanda Enwright teaches lessons at a farm that provides horseback riding lessons for all ages at any time that is convenient. Horseback riding is a sport or a hobby that can be a competitive sport or used for mere enjoyment. You get to pick the schedule and the lesson that suits your experience level.

Enwright has been teaching horseback riding lessons for a good 15 years and says, “teaching is a rewarding job that is full time and has been a passion for me all of my life.” Enwright teaches eight people at different times

for the equestrian team. These team members have the option to choose whether they want to ride for an hour which would cost them \$25 a lesson or half hour for the same price.

19-year-old Dominique is a nursing major at the Newtown campus at Bucks. She is one of the students at Hickory Run farm who just started riding and is new to the team since the beginning of last semester. She says, “the best experience of being part of the team is meeting new friends that enjoy the same activity.”

Domonique rides at Hickory Run farm two or three times a week but anyone that joins this team doesn’t have to ride that many times a week. She states, “I always wanted to ride and be part of the equestrian team and it really sets you up nicely. You can



PHOTO CREDIT: BUCKS EQUESTRIAN TEAM



be a part of the team even if you have no experience at all because one of the coaches will lead you into what you have to do.”

Before you begin riding, you would need the proper gear to ride. There are different saddlery shops, the closest being Riding Saddlery Tack Shop in Newtown. Their address is 2324 Second Street Pike, Newtown, Pa 18940. It is a ten minute drive from the college.

Another saddlery shop is a bit further than the Riding Saddlery Tack shop and is called Do Trot in Tack Shop. The address for this one is 2539 York Rd, Jamison, Pa and it is a good 20 minute drive from Bucks.

The type of gear to look for is used gear because it is cheaper in price but not necessarily lesser in quality. You would need specific riding pants, boots, helmet, and

specific riding gloves in the winter. Individuals that are huge fans of horseback riding can spend hundreds and hundreds of dollars on the gear alone let alone the lessons.

The first lesson will be the basics. The coach will teach you which tools to use to brush your horse, how to groom your horse, how to tack up the horse and obviously how to get on the horse to begin riding. Next, your coach will teach you how to get your horse going into a walk at a nice pace.

If you are interested in joining the equestrian team you can contact Amanda Enwright at 267-304-5228