

Horrific Racist Fliers in Bucks County Spark Outrage Amid a Climate of Renewed Bigotry

GABBY HOUCK
Centurion Staff

Two weeks ago, Professor Shawn Queeney received a letter in his mailbox addressed to “Proud American.” Upon opening the letter Queeney realized this wasn’t a normal letter. This was a letter sealed and sent by a white supremacy group.

The letter contained a hand drawn white male donning a Nazi Confederate flag fusion with the words “white and proud” in elementary-like cursive.

On the back was quote from none other than Adolf Hitler.

Professor Queeney has taught communications at Bucks for 14 years. He resides in Pennsburg in Upper Montgomery county, a pre-dominately white and Republican area according to the Queeney.

When asked what his initial reaction the letter was Queeney said, “When I got that letter, I went door to door down my street just to figure out what was going on...I wanted to see if everyone else had received it.”

They did. Letters were addressed to very specific people. To Queeney, who had small American flags out front of his house, his was addressed to “Proud American.”

To his neighbor who showed support of a new middle school on their lawn their letter was addressed, “Middle School Supporter.”

As for his community’s response, Queeney couldn’t help but feel underwhelmed.

“We held a candlelight vigil the Sunday after receiving the letter. About 400 people turned out and that was positive... but I couldn’t get people from my own neighborhood to go which was frustrating,” Queeney admitted.

“What bothered me the most walking down the street with that letter was the lack of outrage from my neighbors,” he revealed.

“I just wished that the response could have been a little bigger in numbers,” confessed Queeney. “I think some people felt threatened and others didn’t even want to give them (the racists) the satisfaction of acknowledgement.”

“There’s an African American family that just moved in and after they received this letter my neighbor told me that her family warned her not to move out here.”

Their letter contained a drawing of a black man stabbing a white man with the words “welcome to multicultural America.”

In regards to those who don’t want to give the group the time of

day, Queeney said, “I understand where they’re coming from... but personally I feel a lot more confrontational.”

Queeney did confront by calling his state and local government representatives about the matter and according to him the responses were mixed.

“They all came out with public statements along the lines of this kind of stuff won’t be tolerated in our town, and that was positive.”

“But when I spoke to my mayor she had more of an approach of ‘let’s take the wind out of their sails and pay them no attention,’ I just can’t bring myself to think that way about this.”

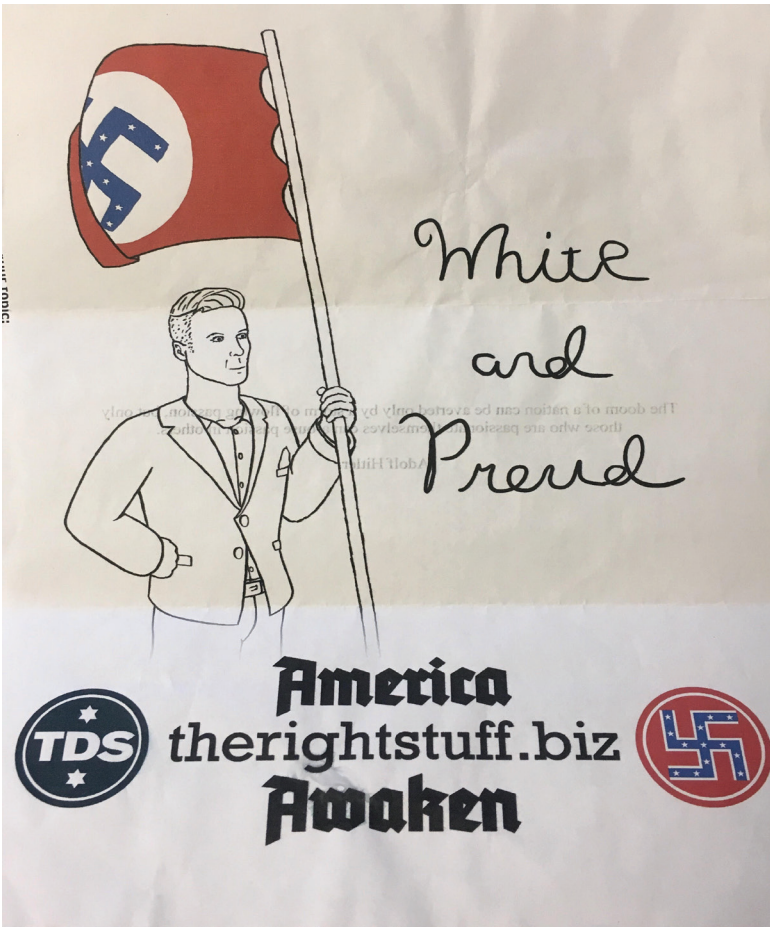
“My wife called the cops, that’s how scared she was,” he added.

“And they said there was nothing they could do because there was no criminal intent, and all [they] were doing were exercising the First Amendment right.”

“I’m a First Amendment nut, but that was cold comfort for me,” Queeney confessed.

In regards to how the situation was handled by local government and authorities, Queeney raised a valid point.

“Had a note shown up at my door saying hail Allah I’m sure an investigation would have been publicly launched, the response



Flier delivered to Professor Queeney

would’ve been much different.”

As to why he’s so passionate about this matter Queeney said, “I feel like we have a family connection to this stuff.”

“Almost everyone has fathers or grandfathers that fought the war to end Nazism and fascism that died in those wars, to end this way of thinking.”

Queeney went on to say “I’m not a unique American because I have this family connection, if our family fought and died to end Nazism, why aren’t we more outraged that Nazis are sending things to our door?”

“I feel we have a moral obligation as people to speak out and an obligation as Americans to stand up against this kind of stuff,” Queeney asserted.

In terms of the First Amendment Queeney warned, “We need to find an effective way of regulating without restricting.”

“I don’t think there is an ounce of value in restricting speech, but people shouldn’t be anonymous-

ly blasting their hatred over the internet.” Queeney declared

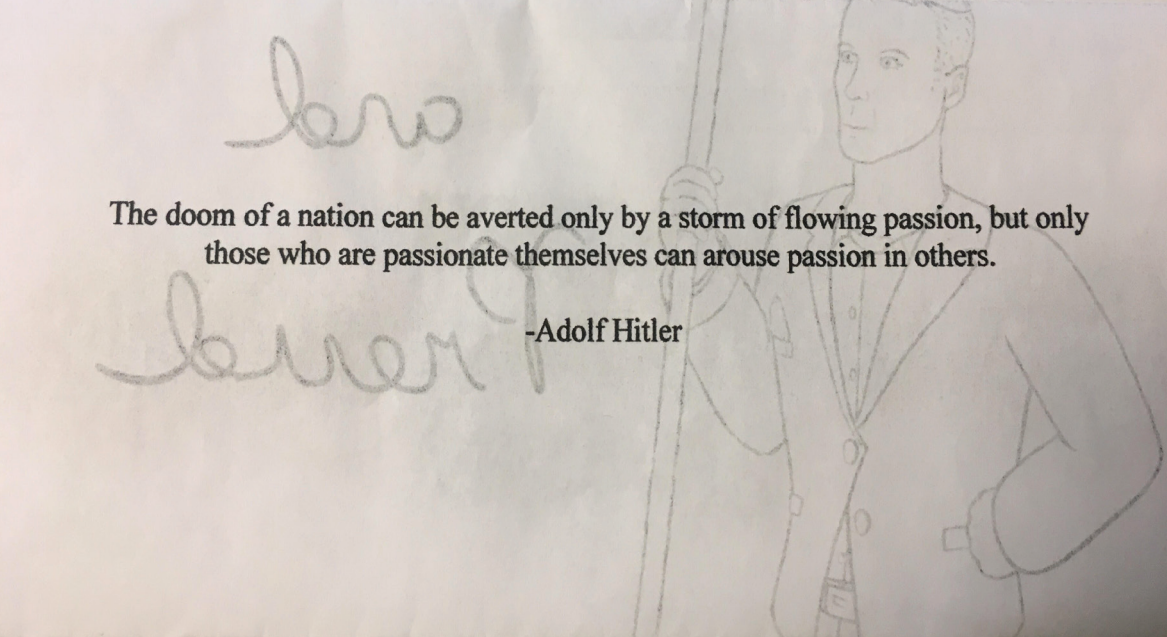
“Let them show up and present their ideals physically in a debate and let the best ideals win.”

As of now, authorities in Pennsburg have still shown little interest in the matter. However, Professor Queeney has an inkling that the culprit is most likely someone he’s already seen face to face.

His reasoning, “It’s a small town, everybody knows everybody, and everyone knows who’s up to what.”

When asked if there were still any lingering feelings about the matter after the time that has passed, all Queeney said was that,

“At the end of the day it’s my neighborhood. It’s where I live, and quite frankly, I don’t want that stuff there.”



Flier delivered to Professor Queeney

Bucks Townships Take On Comcast in Fight for Privacy

HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

Will Americans’ online privacy rights be decided not in Washington DC or Silicon Valley, but in Bucks County?

Three local townships - Middletown, Lower Makefield and Falls - seek to restrict the power of internet service providers (ISPs), such as Verizon, Comcast and AT&T to sell users’ browsing history and other private information to advertisers and other third parties, after the Trump Administration and congressional Republicans reneged on Obama-era rules prohibiting ISPs from doing so in April.

Bucks may be ahead of the pack by a large margin. An ordinance passed on Oct 17 made Falls Township the second local government – after Seattle - in the country to prevent ISPs from sharing personal information with third parties.

If Lower Makefield and Middletown’s ordinances were passed tomorrow, they would be the third and fourth local governments in the country to pass such legislation. Bristol councilman Pat Antonello in Bristol plans to begin a process there as well.

In taking the initiative early, Bucks’ local governments have embedded themselves into a thicket of potential complaints

and even lawsuits by powerful interest groups such as the Association of National Advertisers, who along with four other industry groups has teamed up with Comcast and Verizon to oppose the measures.

“Residents’ personal information...must be secured and free from being shared as the council can find possible,” argued Amy Strouse, the Middletown councilwoman who proposed that township’s legislation.

The moves by Falls, Middletown and Lower Makefield also highlight the increased activism of local governments in response to the deregulatory mood in Washington under Trump.



Continued on page 2

PHOTO CREDIT: WWW.VPNSRUS.COM

This article is Part 2 in a series of reports on digital and cyber issues in Bucks County

INSIDE



Bucks Unveils New Redesigned Website
pg 3



It Can't Happen Here
10/13-10/29/17



Local Play Warns of Populism
pg 6



Students to Reverend: Enough Is Enough!
pg 10



Volleyball Team Wins Valiant Victory
pg 12

Bucks News

STAFF

Editor-in-Chief
Shannon Harrar

Managing Editor
Hal Conte

Advisor
Tony Rogers

Letters to the editor:

Email your letters to :
Centurion@bucks.edu.

Letters should be limited to 500 words. They will be edited for spelling, space and malicious or libelous statements. Letters must be the original work of the writer and must be signed. For identification purposes, letters must include the writer’s full name and telephone number.



The Battle for Diversity on Bucks’ Board of Trustees



DEREK O’BRIEN
Centurion Staff

A push by a group of faculty members for more diversity in Bucks’ Board of Trustees was highlighted by county commissioner Diane Ellis-Marseglia in an October board meeting.

During the Oct. 4 meeting, Ellis-Marseglia pushed back against a move to fill two board positions and requested more time to receive more applications for the two vacancies on the board.

Ellis-Marseglia explained that Bucks faculty had been in touch with her, asking for more diverse applicants to fill the vacancies.

The other two commissioners persisted in filling the applications. One explained that the board was “desperate” to fill the vacancies, but had nothing to say on the reasons to why the situation could not be postponed so they could review more diverse applicants.

The measure to fill the vacancies was put to a vote, passing 2-1 with Ellis-Marseglia voting against. Attempts to contact with commissioner Ellis-Marseglia for a comment were unsuccessful.

Bucks’ Board of Trustees is currently comprised of 13 members, four female and nine male. All of the 13 members are white. The board’s responsibilities are to look out for the well-being of the college and the students that attend it. Some of those responsibilities include voting on school programs courses and budgets. The board also represents the image of the college.

Chairman of the Board, Thomas Skiffington spoke on the issue regarding the lack of diversity on the board. He remarked that the board is indeed diverse: its members consist of women and men from different parts of the

county and with different careers and outlooks. He commented that yes, the board may not be diverse in the sense of people of different ethnic backgrounds but the board is still diverse and encourages diversity.

When asked if they were able to look out for the interest of the students of different backgrounds as there is no one on the board that is ethnically diverse, he responded by saying that they absolutely can look out for the best interest of those students and all students at Bucks.

He stated that they “work and consult with all walks of life” and work on different programs to bring international student to the school as well as donating towards scholarships for ethnically diverse students.

He also said that the vacancies have been there from as far as June and he felt that there was plenty of time for the application process, when asked if the process seemed rushed.

John Petito, a professor of history and political science teacher at Bucks, was one of the faculty in touch with the commissioners in hopes of bringing diversity to the board of trustees.

He explained how important those higher positions can be, and how important it is to have a diverse board so the interests of all Bucks students can be taken into account.

“We have a wonderful board of volunteer trustees who selflessly give a lot of time and effort to oversee the college, but it is unfair to ask them to represent other groups of stakeholders – people of color such as African-Americans, Latinas, Southeast Asians, Asian-Americans... and it is doubly unfair to have people of

color entirely unrepresented on the Board. We do not need to have every possible group represented, but we certainly ought to have at least a few.”

“Here is what a diverse board would do for the college: ask questions. Questions like, why are there so few non-whites in the college administration and on the faculty? Where are we advertising for jobs? Who is serving on our search committees? Are people of color applying for jobs here? If not, why not? Is anyone at the college paying attention to our lack of diversity? Is anyone responsible to make sure we have a diverse college community?”

Petito encourages students to be active in the community. He pointed out that anyone can go to county meetings and leave a public comment. A student could address any concerns in the community, including the concern of diversity within the board.

A member of the board of trustees who does not wish to be named said they could not speak for the board, but did say that steps are always being made to ensure diversity within the board.

The member said that one problem with getting diverse applicants is that Bucks County isn’t the most diverse area and that that board did represent most of the population in Bucks County.

Though the positions were filled with personnel that were not as diverse as many in the college had hoped for, they point out that the battle for diversity is not over, and the community is waiting for its next opportunity to diversify the college.

The audio clip for this meeting and other board meetings can be downloaded at buckscounty.org.

Online Privacy

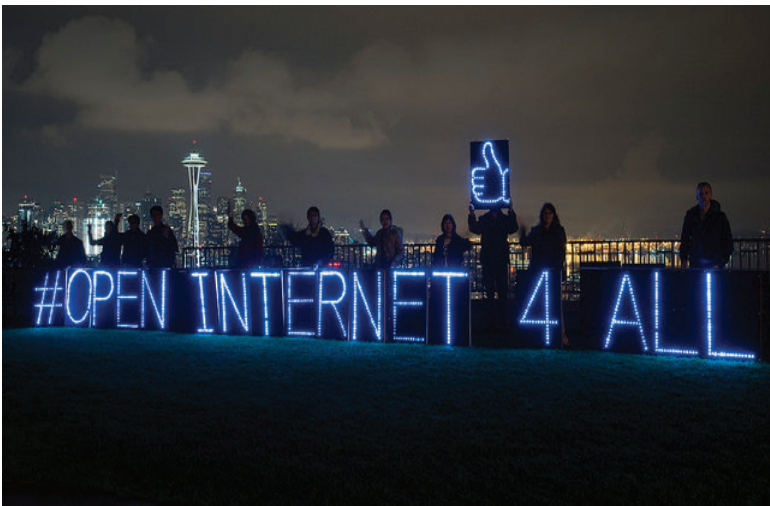


PHOTO CREDIT: RICK BARRY OF BROKEN SHADE PHOTO (CREATIVE COMMONS)

Continued from Page 1

“I think it is important to remember that none of this would be necessary had the law not been changed on the national level,” Strouse added.

“We warned the ISP industry that if they removed the national regulation, the states would step in,” said Ernesto Falcon, a representative for the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an international digital rights group.

In opposing the measure, Comcast, Verizon and other groups claim that if every township were to pass laws requiring some form of internet privacy, they would create a byzantine patchwork of differing regulations across communities that would be difficult for businesses to adapt to.

Additionally, they point out the fact that they do not currently share customers’ personal information.

“At Comcast, we respect and protect our customers’ personal information and have already publicly committed to extensive and legally enforceable privacy promises, including not to share customers’ sensitive information without affirmative, opt-in consent,” said the company’s Vice President of Communications Jennifer Bilotta, in a statement provided to the Centurion.

Strouse believes that if different local governments work together, they can create a relatively consistent set of rules.

“There is room to cooperate more broadly on a regional basis. If we could harmonize regional ordinances more, I think it would be for the good.”

Middletown has therefore carefully studied the ordinances passed in Falls and planned in Lower Makefield. “There is real momentum in lower Bucks County now,” Strouse noted. “Ideally, we can come up with some sort of regional solution.”

Strouse has stressed that she is not an enemy of the cable companies, but she wants to ensure her constituents’ privacy, explaining, “Rather than move forward on our own, we should bring the representatives of Comcast and Verizon to the table so we can work cooperatively and not in an adversarial position.”

Nonetheless, the companies will likely oppose local initiatives that limit their ability to do what they want with their customers’ data.

“Guaranteed, every single cable company and telecom company will throw money at a challenge even if they are illegal. They will argue that they have an interstate product,” Falcon said.

The constitution gives the federal government the power to regulate interstate commerce. However, according to Falcon, townships’ traditional “franchise authority” – which local governments often use to establish local channels for sports and town meetings – would allow them to establish rules protecting the privacy of residents.

At the same time, though, localizing requirements were weakened by the introduction of Fios similar services, Falcon said.

“It really diminished how local companies can control their networks,” he finished.

Despite these potential pitfalls, Bucks townships are pushing forward with their attempts to protect their citizens’ data from third parties. According to USA Today, ever since deregulation was signed off by Trump, ISPs “have the right to track us while we are online and gather private information – including information about where we are, our finances, our health status, and much more – and sell it to marketers without our permission.”

One way to prevent this, Strouse argues, is to create an “opt-out” option for customers to consider when using an ISP service.

“We are currently working to establish a process whereby we can work with our ISPs to create a privacy ordinance that has reasonable, streamlined opt-out procedures,” Strouse said.

Asked about how a potential opt-out method would work, Strouse responded, “we would like to come together to establish a process that is not overly burdensome on either the companies or our township staff, and yet locks into place privacy protections that are currently completely voluntary.”

Falcon explained that township would prefer “something where when you sign into the service, you are given a choice [to opt out]. Once you choose, that’s it.”

Any dispute that reaches court could potentially set a precedent, not just in Bucks County, but for the whole of America. Currently, the Trump Administration is attempting to weaken so-called net neutrality regulations, which prevent ISPs from discriminating among websites or charging money to access portions of the internet.

“We’re in uncharted territory. The federal agency is eliminating all pretense of law,” Falcon said.

The Intercept, an online newspaper, revealed in May that cable companies were writing Republican talking points for eliminating net neutrality, a move that has been violently opposed by websites such as Google, Wikipedia and Twitter, as well as by Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the World Wide Web.

The companies involved say that they do not intend to compromise the privacy of their customers. “Comcast values our customers’ trust and will continue to protect the privacy and security of their personal information,” Bilotta’s statement read.

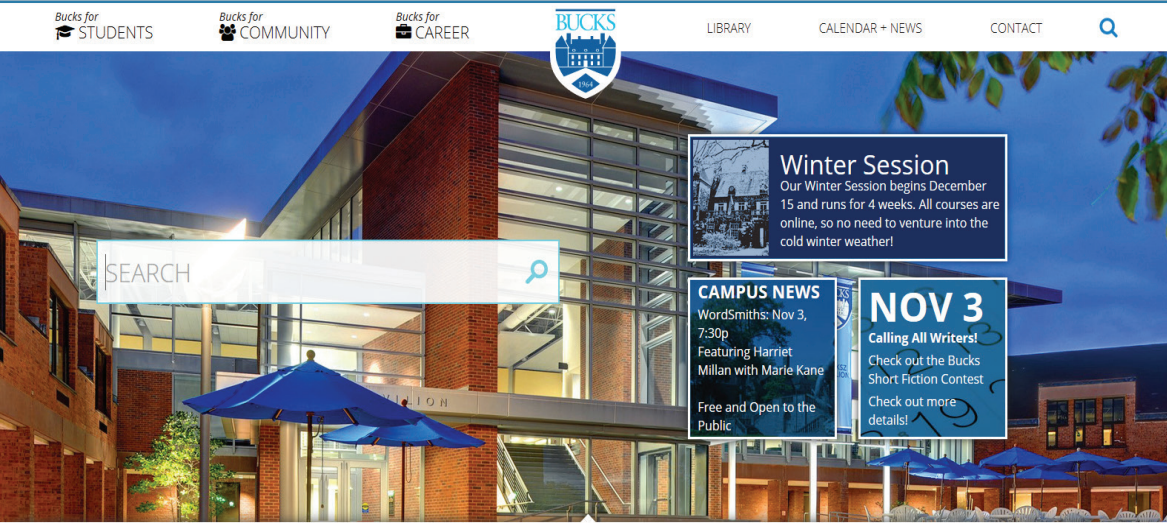
Meanwhile, Falls Township amended their ordinance at the last minute in response to a warning by Comcast and Verizon that a requirement for the companies to immediately comply with the regulations would break the township’s franchise agreement. The ordinance will thus take effect in the end of next year.

“The next three to four months coming up will be tough,” sighed Falcon.

Bucks News

Bucks Unveils Newly Redesigned Website

The Power of Perseverance



Bucks County Community College is a vibrant center for community engagement and learning, providing innovative paths that inspire educational, career, and personal fulfillment.

CONNOR DONAGHY
Centurion Staff

The newly-redesigned Bucks County Community College website is here with a boldly designed website offering easier access to different departments including user-friendly search tools and welcomes a change to the more antiquated looking website that has been the same for over a decade now.

“It was time for a change. The website hasn’t been changed in ten years,” said Brant Steen, Web Systems Developer, at Bucks County Community College.

“It looks more modern and is more user friendly,” he continued. “A lot of testing and research went into this.”

“Obviously not one size fits all, but I think there is a lot of flexibility with the new website,” said Steen. The reception, he said, has been mostly positive from both students and faculty members alike.

Sebastian Avila, 20, agrees. “It’s better suited. I think people will get used to it.”

“I like it. The website looks cleaner and it is now much easier to access things,” said Elizabeth Tomkins, 19.

Melissa Bray, 20, also “likes it a lot” and think it looks “cleaner and up to date”.

Alexandria Quinlan, 19, thinks the new website looks “great” but thinks it may take some time to get used to it as she was “so used to the other site”.

Despite some minor glitches here and there, there have not been any real issues and the transition has been smooth.

One of the new additions, is the large search bar at the center of the page which makes it easier to find exactly what you are looking for when browsing the website.

Unlike the previous design, the new site has larger writing which makes it easier to read and navigate.

The verdict seems to be in favor of the new website as almost all the students interviewed unanimously agreed that they like the new website. The new website brought a nice transition which adds change and color to the site. For those that haven’t been to the site, check it out!

WILL FREI
Centurion Staff

“Normalizing the abnormal is the beginning of the end for you” said speaker Rodney Walker while talking to Bucks students on Oct. 25 about his life and how he turned it around.

Walker, a young man who grew up in the violent neighborhoods of South Chicago and eventually turned his life from failure to getting into colleges like Yale and Harvard, told students about how he kept himself on the path to success. “I had a desire and a will to overcome” he says, talking about how he kept the violence and drugs from becoming normal to him and wishing to help not only himself but his family.

Growing up, Walker’s mother was a drug addict who had her first child at age 13. His father was not around for much of his life, and after the arrest of both his parents, Walker spent the next 12 years in and out of foster care. His life was clearly not normal, and he wanted to change that. At age 17, he ran away from his last foster home, becoming homeless for about six weeks.

He began to rethink his life, seeking answers for why his parents were not there for all those years. “All I wanted was the answers I never got,” he said to the audience when he remembered the time he began to change his life for the better.

Walker got himself a

mentor, someone who he could count on to keep him responsible. His mentor was the dean of his high school, who was watching over detention students when Walker first met him. The dean, as Walker remembers, saw the potential in those students, eventually becoming Walker’s mentor.

This mentor let Walker know that his education was “not about surviving, it’s about thriving” and that if he wanted to succeed he would need a plan. So, Walker created a “vision board,” which he described as a board with pictures of something that need to be accomplished. After a few months, the board should be opened up and anything that was accomplished taken off, anything not accomplished stays, and new goals added.

Walker also stated that “every child is one caring adult away from success,” with his caring adult being his mentor. If it were not for his mentor, he would most likely not be currently attending Harvard University and would not be successful.

“Create high expectations” and embracing challenges is Walker’s advice when it comes to succeeding, especially with his vision boards and accomplishing the tasks he sets for himself.

Walker is currently attending Harvard University as a doctoral student and is an alumni of Yale University and Morehouse College.



Flexible degree programs for women and men including online, hybrid and accelerated options ▶

Learn more about our adult undergraduate and graduate programs and how they can advance your career.

Join us for an Information Session:

November 2, 2017 • 5:45 - 7:00 p.m.
2018 Dates: January 25, March 1, April 5

Saturday Admissions Appointments Available:
December 2, January 6, May 5 • 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



CEDAR CREST COLLEGE

School of Adult and Graduate Education

RSVP online at sage.cedarcrest.edu/events
or call us at **610-740-3770**

Your time. Your terms. Your tomorrow.

Bucks News

Bucks Law Enforcement Event Shows How Criminal Justice is About More Than Just Crime

Sydne Patchell and Connor Donaghy

Bucks was host to some local criminal justice representatives Thursday, October 26, in an event by Professor Sarah Jakub offering advice and information about getting into the field of law enforcement and social working.

Jakub, a professor of sociology and criminal justice, wanted to give students a sense of what it is like to work in the field.

At the panel was Lieutenant Nelson Whitney, Falls Twp. Police Dpt., Bucks County Sheriff, Edward Donnelly, Chief David Metting, Slate Belt Police Dpt., CEO/Founder of Regna Services, Jonice Arthur, and Robert Mancini, a Bucks County district attorney.

“The role of the sheriff is to transfer prisoners, serve civil papers for lawyers, give out arrest warrants, and transport prisoners.” said Sheriff Donnelly. He stated that his job requires a lot of paperwork and he’s always busy.

Sheriff Donnelly has transferred over twenty-thousand prisoners, ordered nine-thousand bench warrants, and handles all the administrative work. Bucks County has fifty-seven deputies who are hired by the Sheriff. A sheriff is elected every year with Donnelly in the running for the next election to be held next month.

Chief Dave Mette described his department of having twenty-one police officers who are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. His department

looks for the “brightest and the best”, he said. Both a written and physical exam are given to those training to be hired as officers.

Jonice Arthur, CEO and Founder of Regna Services, works closely with at-risk youth and visits the Bucks County Youth Detention Center.

Arthur said that “if the emotion is the problem then that’s what needs to be handled.” She continued to state the vast amount of trauma associated with criminals. She stated that “98% of female offenders have experienced trauma, and that 70% of foster children experience trauma.”

“It’s not always easy, you have to have a passion for what you do,” Arthur says. Arthur was inspired by her own background to become a social worker. Growing up in a dysfunctional household, Arthur made it her mission to help those in similar positions after being inspired by the social workers who helped her family.

“You have to teach, share knowledge, be a good public speaker, and passionate about what you do”, Jonice proclaimed. “If you love what you do, you never work a day in your life”, Arthur said.

In her work, she emphasized how important it is to show people you care. For anyone looking into the psychology field, she said that the job is perfect for “Anyone that loves to teach and who loves to give and share knowledge.”



The discussion continued with each professional describing how they work together.

“We need to work closely with social workers”, said Lieutenant Whitney of the Falls Township Police Department. He said that his department works to help improve the lives of mentally ill with the help of social workers.

“I love my job because I can make a difference”, Whitney said.

The discussion then turned to the ongoing opioid epidemic. Bucks County has seen a staggering increase in opioid-related overdoses and the panel discussed how they feel they can reverse this trend and help put a stop to this epidemic.

“People use drugs to cope. Many use drugs to sedate emotional tie, you can beat addiction if you deal with personal feelings”, Jonice Arthur said who battled a cocaine addiction in her youth but now works to improve the lives of those battling with substance abuse problems.

“We need to make sure families stay functional. Everyone has to work together”, Lieutenant Whitney said of the epidemic.

“People need to know the genetic history of addiction in families and limit prescriptions of opioid painkillers. Stop the dealers and work together as a team to get that poison off the street”, said Whitney.

Professor Jakub asked the panel what can be done about the heroin epidemic. She questioned, “How do we get it to stop?” The panel followed with explaining the desire and pull to these narcotics.

“These people have not been heard,” Mancini said. His final thought was, “People do not care what you know until they know that you care.”

The panel concluded with inspirational messages of never giving up and not being discouraged. Many in the panel, had other career plans, but found social services and criminal justice to be their calling and began their careers later in life.

Info Session
Nov. 15, 3:30 - 5 pm

Community Bridge



With an Associate Degree, the path to your career just got faster.

More transfer friendly than ever. Once you’ve earned your associate degree (A.A. or A.S.) from Bucks County Community College, you are now simply required to take courses that are related to your major to complete your bachelor’s degree. That’s Community Bridge. And that means you can start your career even sooner.

Generous scholarship opportunities are available, with on-the-spot credit evaluations being offered to transfer students every day.

At Holy Family University, 30% of new full-time students began their college experience at another institution. Like them, you’ll find nearly 40 programs to choose from, the lowest net cost option among private universities in Pennsylvania, and a truly supportive learning environment. Plus, Holy Family University was ranked by NPR as a top 50 school in the nation for emphasizing upward mobility.*

Join our Family. Learn more at HolyFamily.edu/BCCCSession



Holy Family
UNIVERSITY



Bucks | SMART.
County Community College

The Value of Family

* National Public Radio, September 2015

Arts and Entertainment

When (Neutron) Stars Collide: Secrets of Gravity and Elements Exposed in New MIT-Caltech Study

TYLER CREIGHTON

Centurion Staff

Scientists have for the first time witnessed the astronomically groundbreaking collision of two neutron stars. This is exciting news for Bucks Science Professor Lynn McCarty who has a background in physics and teaches astronomy.

Neutron stars are the densest and smallest stars in the known universe, the result of the explosion of a massive star and gravitational collapse compressing the core down to an atomic level of density. These stars, depending upon mass, will sometimes continue collapsing into black holes.

Binary star systems are systems where two stars orbit around their joint center of mass. Collisions in such systems are the result of each star spiraling inward due to gravitational forces; this is essentially the kind of death dancing and consummation recently observed by research scientists from Caltech and MIT.

The first detection of this merger or “neutron star inspiral” came on Aug 17, 2017 and scholarly

reports have recently been published on the topic in October.

This observation would not have been possible without the Advanced LIGO and Advanced Virgo gravitational-wave detectors. These detectors use lasers to emit signals when detecting passing gravitational waves.

The LIGO (Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory) is located both in Livingston, Louisiana and Hanford, Washington, while its European counterpart, the Virgo detector, can be found in Cascina, Italy.

Like ripples in space-time, gravitational waves move through space as sound moves through air.

This revolutionary observation per Professor McCarty holds weight for two distinct reasons:

1. The observation may explain how the formation of heavy elements could be possible by way of the immense energy released.

2. This is the first time gravitational waves have been observed coming from the same source as light. Previous gravitational wave detections have been due to black hole collisions in which light could not escape.

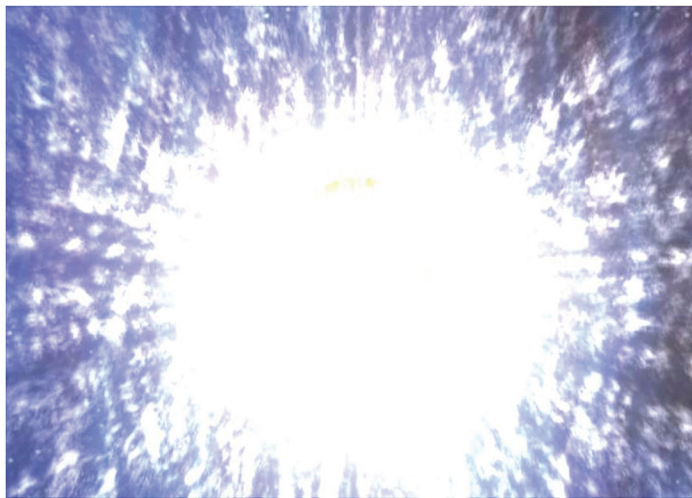
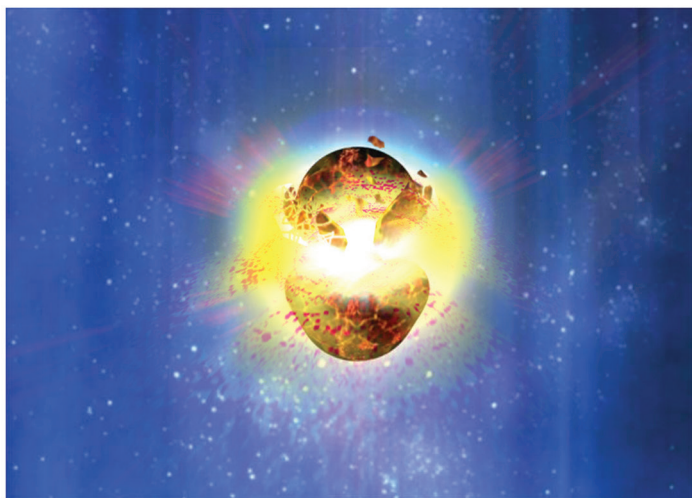
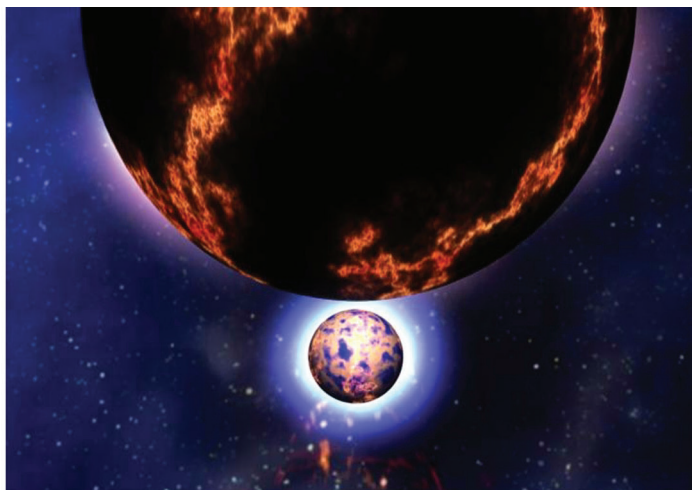
According to the peer reviewed publication, “GW170817: Observation of Gravitational Waves from a Binary Neutron Star Inspiral,” the light emitted from the merger was in the form of short gamma ray bursts, one of the brightest and most energized phenomenon in the Universe. This kind of energy can produce heavier elements such as gold or uranium.

Not only does this uncovering hold weight for the scientific community universally, but for Professor McCarty it holds a bit of personal significance as well, as she had once studied under the tutelage of the late Professor Joe Weber who had been “a pioneer in gravitational wave detection”.

Scientific students who find themselves aspiring to become research scientists intrigued by such topics as gravitational waves or short gamma ray bursts could hope to attain a PhD in either physics or engineering with a specialized thesis. It would also help to complete graduate work at either MIT or Caltech under a scientist currently in the LIGO Scientific Consortium.

NASA images depicting a neutron star collision

PHOTO CREDIT: NASA.GOV



To Attend Video Game Club At Bucks, Just Press Start



LIAM BROWN

Centurion Staff

Did someone say Video games? Those interested in gaming, PC or Console, will be interested in the Digital Gaming Club at Bucks County Community College.

President of the Digital Gaming Club, Luke Delavan, a psychology major, says “the point of the club is to give students a place to relieve themselves of the stresses that come with school and work and provide the good company

of other gamers, playing and discussing video games, board games, D&D campaigns, etc.”

With newer graphic technology, social media marketing, and greater story telling elements, video games are no longer the favorite pastime of only outsiders, but they are shifting into the mainstream as a source of entertainment.

With massive televised conventions like Blizzcon, E3, and PAX Prime attracting thousands of gamers from around the world,

and VR entertainment on the rise, it seems as though millennials are setting the trend for digitally based entertainment as opposed to real life sports.

But why gaming? Why not actual football, surfing, or baseball?

Delavan says that his interest in video games is rooted in being the victim of bullying, “I use gaming as a means of escape from all of the issues in the real world. Gaming is something that also got me through most of my childhood since I was bullied a lot at school

and also dealing with depression.”

It’s the vibrant worlds, and the deep lore that attracts many people to videogames. “The deeper the lore of a game is, the more I grow to love that game even more,” says Delevan.

In regard to prospective gamers interested in this world, Delavan recommends titles such as “The Legend of Zelda”, “Final Fantasy”, “Cave Story”, “Smash Bros.”, “Kingdom Hearts”, and

“Kirby”, which are all story driven games that entice the player into an expansive open world.

The Digital Gaming Club is a place for people to discuss gaming, as well as relieve the stresses of school, work, and life. For those that are new to the subject, this club also serves as a space for the curious to gain knowledge and recommendations about the ever-growing industry of gaming.

Political Cults: America’s New “Horror Story”

TAYLOR MARZI

Centurion Staff

In a time of political frenzy and fanaticism raking the soils of the United States, “American Horror Story: Cult” draws in killer clowns, sex, blood, and fear in order to illustrate the country’s current plights.

Ryan Murphy, director and producer of the AHS series shocks his audience once again, kicking off the first episode with the night of the 2017 election. Ally and Ivy, who are a married couple with a son named Oz whose lives are turned upside down after President Donald Trump is elected. Ally suffers from anxiety and many different phobias that

intensify and become real after President Trump is elected. One of her phobias happens to be a fear of clowns and she finds herself being terrorized by people in killer clown costumes.

While Ally and her phobias are a great part of AHS Cult, Kai is a troubled man who forms a cult of people angry about today’s politics. This cult will take any form of violence to get their point across and believe that making the American people fearful will begin their rise to power.

There are many mixed reviews of AHS Cult, as some people are very uncomfortable and disenfranchised with politics, while others adore the current elements imbued into a horrific TV series.

“Rotten Tomatoes” has given AHS Cult a 74% overall rating, a 6.94/10 which is pretty average. The “Rotten Tomatoes” critics’ consensus reads, “American Horror Story: Cult intrigues with timely, over-the-top creepiness - and lots of clowns - despite being hampered by broad political generalizations and occasional holes in the narrative’s logic.”

The scariest thing about AHS Cult is that unlike the other seasons, there are no supernatural forces to be found. Everything in this season could happen, hence the terror feeling more real than it ever could; this potentially leaves a bad aftertaste for the viewers.

Another great part of this show is that it isn’t biased to one polit-



ical party, as Murphy makes sure to show the ugly in both liberals and conservatives, in the form of playing with the stereotypes of both parties. The extreme liberals are all perceived as sensitive “snowflakes” while the conservatives are all sporting their “Make America Great again” hats and

promoting fear.

“American Horror Story Cult” may not be suitable for everyone, especially the faint of heart and easily offended. But if you have a love for horror and an interest in politics it’s definitely a very thought-provoking TV series that is worth the watch.

Arts and Entertainment

It Can't Happen Here - Or Can It? Bucks Actors' NET Play a Cautionary Tale Against Fascist Rule

MAIA VAN VALKENBURGH
Centurion Staff

Morrisville's Actors' NET whipped up a politically themed, thought-provoking production of "It Can't Happen Here" played on every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from Oct. 13 to Oct. 29 with many Bucks students included in the cast.

This production, directed by Joe Doyle and Andrena Wishnie, was adapted from a 1935 cautionary tale of a populist strongman's victory over Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1936 presidential election.

The demagogic politician, Senator Buzz Windrip, played by James Cordingley, is able to convince the public to support him in a campaign promising to return the United States to greatness and prosperity.

Most of the action is focused around liberal journalist Doremus Jessup, who stands against Windrip and criticizes the candidate's actions through his news articles.

Through the play, Windrip starts taking more control over the public with a brownshirt-like private militia known as the "Minute-men," and establishes concentration camps for those who speak out against his iron-fisted rule.

The play which took roughly five weeks to put together, included performances by several Bucks students, including Sean Costello, Katie Marra and Francesca Arco.

Sean Costello played the roles of Foolish the Dog and a Minuteman. Katie Marra acted as

the character Jamie Johnson, as was also assistant stage manager. Francesca Arco was the stage manager of the play.

Sissy Jessup, the daughter of Doremus Jessup, was played by Jessica Mousley, who has worked at the Actors' NET for several years now, both as an actor and a stage manager.

When asked how she connected with her character she said, "At first I wasn't sure what to think of the character. She seemed like such a wild character based on the few scenes I read during auditions. After getting into rehearsal, I understood her more and now I really look up to her a lot."

Jessica Mousley said her favorite part of the production was getting to know the cast. "It's a blessing to feel so comfortable with your cast mates."

The play, with a run time of approximately two and a half hours with one intermission

According to Mousley, all the performances so far have drawn a crowd that seemed to really enjoy the performance "whether it be because they related to the story in some way of that they simply found it entertaining."

The intense drama of the production captured many audience members including Bucks student Conor Sears, a 20-year-old business administration major from Holland, PA.

When asked about what he thought of the performance he said it was "Incredible." "The best play I've seen all month."

ActorsNET proudly opens its 22nd season with a stage adaptation of a startling political satire from the 1930s

We the People

It Can't Happen Here

By Tony Taccone and Bennett S. Cohen
Based upon the novel by Sinclair Lewis

Oct. 13-29, 2017

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS AT 8
SUNDAYS AT 2

Co-Directed by Joe Doyle & Andrena Wishnie
Stage Manager, Francesca Arco
Assistant Stage Manager, Katie Marra
Set and Costume Design by Cheryl Doyle
Lighting Design by Andrena Wishnie
Sound Design by Joe Doyle
Presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Starring Tom Stevenson & Kyla Donnelly
Co-Starring (alphabetically) James "Jim" Cordingley, John Helmke, Gina Rose Hermans, Tim Irvine, Olivier Leroux, Jessica Mousley, Marco Newton, Ed Patton, Jack Petzko, R.O. Scott, D.J. Tomalin & Hayley Rubins-Topoleski.
Featuring (alphabetically) Francesca Arco, Sean Costello, Joe Doyle, Dee Hamilton, Bonnie Kapenstein, Griffin Kemp, Katie Marra, Rick J. Speer & Ellen Wisnosky

At The Heritage Center Theatre
635 N. Delmorr Ave. (Route 32), Morrisville, PA

Information & Reservations
215-295-3694 actorsnet@aol.com

ActorsNET

Heritage Center Theatre

"It Can't Happen Here" flier.

He especially enjoyed the scene of the political rally where Windrip excites the crowd with the promises of his campaign, including the pledge to give every citizen \$5000 during the start of his term.

Another Bucks student, Derek Esplin, a 22-year-old music major

from New Hope, PA, said he thoroughly enjoyed the performance.

He thought the parallels between the play's fictional scenario and the modern political sphere were interesting, even though any connections were stressed as

unintentional by the cast.

The show closed on Oct. 29, but the Actors' NET has more production in their upcoming season that are available on their website <http://www.actorsnetbucks.org>.

HERITAGE CENTER

HERITAGE CENTER THEATRE

• TRANSFER SCHOLARSHIPS

• CAREER-DRIVEN MAJORS

• TIMELY CREDIT EVALUATIONS

NO LIMITS
TO YOUR SUCCESS

N

U

NEUMANN
UNIVERSITY®
CATHOLIC EDUCATION IN THE
FRANCISCAN TRADITION

Megan Jaid Schroeder, Assistant Director of Admissions
Transfer Outreach and Recruitment

www.neumann.edu/transfer • 610-558-5616

YOUR MAJOR. YOUR PASSION.
YOUR PENN STATE. CLOSE TO YOU.

Transfer easily into any one of Penn State Abington's nineteen four-year majors and experience a world-renowned education at our suburban campus—just minutes away from Philadelphia:

Accounting

American Studies

Art

Biology

Business

Corporate Communication

Criminal Justice

Elementary and Early Childhood Education

Engineering (Multidisciplinary Engineering Design Option)

English

Finance

History

Information Sciences and Technology

Integrative Arts

Letters, Arts, and Sciences

Psychological and Social Sciences

Rehabilitation and Human Services

RN to B.S.N.

Science

Call 215-881-7836 to schedule an appointment with a Transfer Admissions Counselor and we'll waive your application fee.

\$

Transfer scholarships are available for students who sign a letter of intent. Apply today at bit.ly/psua-transfer.

PennState

Abington

abington.psu.edu
215-881-7836

The Centurion



Be Real-World Ready

with Jefferson's (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University)
School of Continuing and Professional Studies



Accelerated Bachelor of Science Degree Completion Program

From application to graduation—our academic advisors are with you throughout your entire education, providing the support you need to stay on track.

Program Features:

- Transfer up to 72 credits as a full-time or part-time student
- 8-week terms, 5 terms per year
- Convenient class schedules, meeting once a week (evenings, afternoons, or Saturday mornings)
- Several online courses offered per term
- Professors with expertise and real-world experience
- Opportunity to earn credits for lifelong learning or professional development

"The School of Continuing and Professional Studies allowed me to graduate in half the time that a four-year institution would have demanded. They were able to work with me so that I could transfer in most of my previous work. I also received an academic scholarship based on my performance at a local community college. The top benefit was the connections that I made—I had professors offer for me to shadow at their workplace and connect me with their colleagues."

JENN KOPSIE '14

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE for
Bucks County Community College
Students who graduate with GPAs
of 3.0 or Higher**

Choice of 11 Majors:

- Accounting
- Business Management
- Behavioral and Health Services
- Health Sciences
- Health Services Management
- Human Resource Management
- Information Technology
- Law Enforcement Leadership
- Leadership in Emergency Services
- Leadership in Homeland Security
- Organizational Leadership

Multiple Locations:

East Falls Campus

4201 Henry Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144

Bucks County Campus

Bucks County Technology Park
4800 E. Street Road, Trevose, PA 19053

Delaware County

Pennsylvania Institute of Technology
800 Manchester Avenue, Media, PA 19063

Contact **215.951.2900** or **SCPS@PhilaU.edu** to request a meeting with an academic advisor, to have your transcripts evaluated for transfer credits, to ask questions and to be invited to upcoming information sessions.



Jefferson

Philadelphia University +
Thomas Jefferson University

HOME OF SIDNEY KIMMEL MEDICAL COLLEGE

→ www.EastFalls.Jefferson.edu/SCPS

Student Life

Bucks Student Trump Supporters Discuss Whether Donald is Worthy of Reelection

ELIJAH PITTMAN
Centurion Staff

President Donald Trump has been in office for little less than a year now and has done nothing he said he would do, besides starting drama throughout the states. On campus, students were interviewed about his presidency and if they will vote to reelect him.

Parker Kelley, 18, a mathematics major at Bucks, is an open Trump supporter. Even as a Hispanic, he has his own reasons for voting for Trump, but is upset with his actions and does not see a bright future for him.

“I don’t think he will be voted back in because he has too much drama surrounding him. He put America through too much already. Even with all his drama he makes me want to get more into politics and voting because I want to know what he is doing because it’s usually something bad.”

Nursing major Christiana Washington, 20, is not in support of Trump and voted against him in the last presidential election. “I don’t think Trump will be reelected because ever since he been elected I think people now see his true colors. They see that he is not fulfilling none of his promises and now they see him differently. Having him in office still won’t make me want to vote and get into politics because the popular vote obviously don’t really matter. I voted for Hillary and she had

more popular vote and still lost.”

18-year-old Dahmier Meadows, a sports management major, is against Trump and wants nothing to do with him. He spoke about how he isn’t a good president and doesn’t do his job, but it does spark his interest in politics.

“Donald Trump is corny and definitely will not be reelected. He doesn’t do what a president is supposed to do. He just wants to be on twitter and talk nonsense. But now he makes me want to look more into politics and see what’s about to change and what’s about to affect me. Also, it makes me want to vote to get him out of office so that someone more qualified can be elected.”

Drew Sanoumnga, 18, a health science major, is not a fan of Trump. As an immigrant he has a personal hatred towards him because of Trump’s treatment towards immigrants.

“I don’t think he will get another term because one he is a bad president, two because he is trying to repeal Obamacare which is helping thousands of people, three he is a horrible leader, and four he worries about issues that a president shouldn’t worry about. Having him as president is very discouraging but you need to stay focused on politics because these people run our government and we should be knowledgeable on what they are doing.”

Even though Donald Trump has been president for a short time,



PHOTO CREDIT:WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

it clear people already want him out. Even his supporters see that he is a fraud and isn’t keeping the promises he made to them. People

only want to get into politics just to see what crazy thing he does next and are just waiting for the next election to get him out.

TAKE THE
NEXT STEP
IN THE
RIGHT
DIRECTION.



CHESTNUT
HILL
COLLEGE

TRANSFER TO OUR DAYTIME PROGRAM

- Daytime classes offered Monday-Friday
- Fall and Spring semesters
- Transfer students make up 1/3 of the undergraduate student population
- Scholarships and discounts available
- Transfer up to 75 credits

TRANSFER TO OUR ACCELERATED EVENING PROGRAM

- Evening and weekend classes
- 8-week accelerated format
- Hybrid and online courses available
- Scholarships and discounts available
- Transfer up to 75 credits

ARE YOU READY TO COMPLETE YOUR BACHELOR’S DEGREE?
VISIT WWW.CHC.EDU FOR MORE INFORMATION.

CHESTNUT HILL COLLEGE 9601 GERMANTOWN AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA, PA 19118 215-248-7001

Student Life

Awesome Mix, Vol, 3: Anything for Selenas

When music is the soundtrack to your life, you don't put crappy songs in the queue. That's why we're giving you *Awesome Mix*, something that is exactly what it sounds like. In every issue, you'll get a unique playlist full of songs that are actually worth getting stuck in your head. Your earbuds will thank you.

NICOLE "NICO" CISNEROS
Centurion Staff

This is a very special *Awesome Mix*, mis amigos, because on Friday, Nov 3, 2017, a legend will get her due. La Reina, La Leyenda, the one and only Selena, will get her own star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

And if you think I'm talking about Selena Gomez, escuchame: Selena is Selena Quintanilla-Perez, a Latina icon whose music, fashion, and life still inspire legions of loyal fans long after her tragic death 22 years ago. She was known as the Queen of Tejano, a remarkable feat in and of itself because Tejano was a male-dominated genre until she took the stage. In fact, she was the first Tejano artist to win a Grammy for the Mexican/American Album in 1994-- though this is only one of the 67 music awards to her name. During her lifetime, she recorded 13 albums, designed a fashion line sold in her two boutiques, starred in telenovelas and children's education programs, and was the face of Coca-Cola. Homegirl was everywhere, but what made us love her was that she was one of us: she had her crazy tight-knit family involved in her career and life, she had relationship struggles she overcame to be with the man of her



dreams, she hustled her butt off, and she ate medium-pizzas all by herself! Not only did we love her for it, but that love was clearly returned. She was humbled by and ever-grateful for the support of her fans, never missing an opportunity to let that shine through.

She and her family had hoped that that loyalty would carry over when she began working on an English crossover album in early in 1995. Unfortunately, that album was never completed. Selena was murdered in her hometown of Corpus Christi, Texas by her fan club manager on March 31, 1995. The few songs she did record in English will always have us wondering what could have been. Still, the enduring legacy of her entire discography continues to inspire those of us who miss her.

And that love is finally getting the mass-media cred it deserves. Selena shirts can be seen on celebrities like Drake; MAC Cosmetics debuted a Selena-inspired makeup line last year; and she got her own Google doodle in early October. Needless to say, we Selena fans see this star as long

Selena Quintanilla-Perez. overdue. May this mix show you why.

Bidi Bidi Bom Bom
IF THIS DOES NOT GET YOU HYPE ABOUT LOVE, NOTHING WILL! This is all about how your heart's reaction to your crush radiates through the rest of your body. Even if you want to deny your feelings, your heart, your dancing feet, and your singing is gonna betray you. Don't fight the feelings!

Baila Esta Cumbia (Dance to this Cumbia)
By now, you should understand that, for Latinos, our priorities are family, food, and dancing. That's our air, water, and earth. We need nada mas. And this song fulfills our desire to dance until 5 am. Join us, won't you?

La Carcacha (The Hoopty)
The literal translation to the title is "The Jalopy," but honestly, hoopty is the same thing. This cumbia is about the hoopty Sele-

na's song boyfriend is driving, and a little about the fact that he's a bit of a hoopty himself. But hey, he treats her like a queen! And the car gets them where they need to go! So quit judging and just dance, people!

Amor Prohibido (Forbidden Love)
Everyone's had that one person (or two, or five) their parents, their friends, their everybody did not want them to date. Well, dear heart, you've got Selena in your corner, so you win. She had to deal with haters when dating the guitarist in her band, Chris Perez. But the two endured, defying everybody by eloping. She meant what she sang here, folks: "El dinero no importa en ti y en mí, ni en el corazón (Money doesn't matter to you or me, nor in the heart)."

I Could Fall in Love With You
One of Selena's rare English singles, this is all about the moment you realize you've gone from "like" to "love". It was the first song released after her death, giving a glimpse at what would have been her first foray into English-language pop music. Between the beats and her silky vocals, it proves she was ready.

Si Una Vez (If Only Once)
And now for something completely different: this is Selena scorned. Be warned, y'all: you screw up with Selena once, there is no second chance. You don't get another opportunity to make her go loca over your mess, she is one and done.

No Me Queda Mas (I Have Nothing Left)
There is, of course, another

side to heartbreak. If you're on that mourning side, then this is your song. You'd swear Selena was about to start crying with each verse. The lyrics are full of anguish, but man, does she make pain sound pretty.

Tu Solo Tu (You Only You)
Then we add mariachi to the melancholy! Tu Solo Tu is an old song that has the singer blaming their lover for their drunkenness, their depression, the darkness in their life. Heartache never sounded so damn artfully beautiful.

Dreaming of You
For years, I associated this song with the final scene of the Selena movie, so I could not listen to it without crying. Then it was played at my Spring Fling dance in high school. I quickly learned how to hold back the tears and sway with the sorrow that day. But those of you free of my baggage of emotional association will hear it as a wonderful slow jam about a crush turning into a relationship.

Como La Flor (Like a Flower)
I was not gonna leave you in tears here, folks! Undoubtedly her most famous song, this was Selena's first #1 hit. You sing this to any Latina, you better be ready for a singalong. This one's deceptive, because it's an upbeat song about heartbreak. Unlike the other lovelorn songs in this mix, though, this one gives you the sense that despite how much it hurts to let someone go, it's all gonna be ok.

Baila esta cumbia with the playlist on Spotify! Search AM#3: Anything for Selenas."

Where Bucks transfer students stop asking “what if?” and start planning what’s next.



East Stroudsburg University has 55 bachelor's degree programs to help you reach your career goals. And our dual admission agreement with Bucks provides a seamless transition to help you fast-track your four-year degree.

ESU offers some awesome scholarship opportunities for full-time students pursuing the STEM fields through a special grant with the National Science Foundation. Or look into other programs including Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing in the University's Stratasy Super Lab (one of the first three in the world), wildlife forensic work in the Northeast Wildlife DNA Lab, Public Health, and Business Management with a new Bloomberg Lab coming this Fall.

Schedule a visit or attend an upcoming open house and see for yourself why you belong at ESU. **For more, go to [ESU.edu/transfer](https://www.esu.edu/transfer) or call 570-422-3542**



Where WARRIORS Belong

Campus Protests



Free Speech
First Amendment
Assembly
Petition
Religion
Internet
Media
Centurion

Why are they here?

The First Amendment to the United States Constitution gives people the right to assemble and speak freely in public outdoor places such as our college campus.

Why can they talk like that?

The First Amendment protects everyone's right to speak freely, even if some ideas might be insulting or hateful to individuals or groups.

What can I do if I disagree with the speakers' message?

- The best approach is to ignore it and walk away. Without an audience the speakers have no reason to be here.
- Bucks' counselors can help students process a variety of concerns in a confidential setting. Call 215-968-8189 or e-mail counseling@bucks.edu

Please know that the speakers were not invited by the college or any campus organization.



Students to Reverend: Enough Is Enough!

JOCELYN PAPPAS AND HAL CONTE
Centurion Staff

Just one day after his previous visit, the Radical Reverend returned to protest on the Newtown campus on October 26 for over five hours, and was met with fiery resistance by huge crowds of students.

Some of the surrounding students shot back at the rhetoric the Reverend was spreading through his megaphone, and others passed by with perturbed reactions.

Amid a carnival-like atmosphere, many of the students couldn't help but be amused, with some male students going as far as to take off their shirts in mockery of the pastor.

"I think it's kind of funny," joked Amanda Young, a multimedia major, who sentiment was shared

by many others.

Others were less amused. "I walked in the Philly Pride parade and I had the same experience. This is pathetic," responded Ashton Wenyon with disgust.

Both the college administration and students alike have made efforts to quell the notoriety the hate group receives when they set up in the courtyard.

Notably, teachers and security staff had scattered around police barriers in order to divert the attention of the students away from the pastor and his associates.

A video published on the hate group's YouTube channel claims that the sect has been using undercover videographers to capture the incidents and the students' reactions to the preacher's verbal abuse.

Some students also claimed that pepper spray was fired during

the protests, though these rumors were unverified by security.

Professor Mehul Shah, who teaches world religion, was one of the teachers on the scene. He walked around telling students, "You're going to heaven."

When asked about how to deal with the Reverend's disturbances of the regular operations of the school, Charlie Groth, a professor in the anthropology program, had much to say. "Experts say the most effective way is to ignore him, and just not be there, and it's really difficult to do, I know. But apparently it works, and we've experienced it here at Bucks, at Upper Bucks," Groth answered.

On the topic of whether or not he was violating the functions of the school as a public intuition, Groth explained, "Absolutely, he cannot do that. The thing is, is now we're talking about legal sys-

tems, so it has to be proven in a court. So, that kind of thing can't be proven immediately on the spot. But we do know, from what faculty have said who are trying to do class around here, that he is disrupting class. That he is disrupting education. So yeah, that's true. That's one of the things; he can't disrupt regular business. But he's doing it, and it's not very easy to prove."

Gina Lutz, a psychology major, met with her classmates to brainstorm solution on how to deal with such a disruption.

"I was talking with Zack Dibbard at the psychology club and we were deciding how to respond," said Lutz. "This is at least the fourth or fifth time he's been here."

Lutz herself was giving out paper signs to people surrounding blockaded area, in hopes to cover

him up with a barrage of the printouts. "I've ordered 24 x 36 fliers to hold up next time he comes," Lutz declared boldly.

Despite the preacher's concurrent visits, many students are still dumbfounded about his actual intentions, and whether he's actually trying to spread a legitimate agenda or not.

"I think he's a terrible person," said Luke Mellus, another psychology major. "I guess he wants the attention. It's hard to just ignore what could be triggering to some people," Mellus concluded.

"We're all brothers and sisters. We should cherish each other," graphic design major Katarina Pak advised.

Groth's advice to students was calm, clear and reassuring. "Keep calm and go away," she chuckled.

For more on this story, go to @centurion_bucks on Twitter



Sports

Women’s Tennis Team Tails Behind 2-7 With New Coach During Fall Season’s Tough Tournaments

MACY MOORS
Centurion Staff

Bucks County Community College women’s tennis team stumbled to a 2-7 record this past season.

Phil Heft, first-year head coach, talked about the toughest win of the season by saying, “As a new coach there were no natural rivalries but we pushed very hard against Lackawanna.” He continued by saying, “When we lost the first time at their place we felt like we could beat them, and when they came to us we did.”

The Centurions played other community colleges such as Northampton, Ocean, Camden, Mercer, Brookdale, and Rowan.

Despite their tough season, Bucks had four of their players advance to the semi-finals showing tremendous progress throughout the program.

When describing about the team’s strengths and weaknesses, Heft answered, “Our strength was our team bonding, especially when you consider the weakness of over half the team never playing tennis prior.” He continued his statement by saying, “Our experienced players helped teach and train, but most importantly supported their efforts.”

Heft also talked about the inexperienced nine-woman squad by saying, “When you consider four of the new women tennis players who were able to win a match during the season, it shows the



Women’s Tennis Team vs Brookdale

PHOTO CREDIT: BUCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE ATHLETICS FACEBOOK PAGE

camaraderie.”

Heft talked about the season by saying, “It was fun to begin with.” He added, “It was a wonderful experience working with the athletic department, opposing coaches and

the women of the team.”

Heft’s goals for next season are to retain and recruit players, “Though it was satisfying to fill roster with willing players, if we are to get better seasonal results,

we will need seasoned tennis players.”

When talking about something people should know about the women’s tennis team, Heft responded, “It is a great sport to

play and the opportunity to be noticed and recruited for the next level.” He finished by saying, “This team is made up of terrific women so come out for the 2018 team.”

KATSU

WEDNESDAYS IN NOVEMBER

Sports

Women’s Volleyball Team Gets Valiant Victory

SYDNE PATCHELL
Centurion Staff

Bucks County Community College women’s volleyball squad finished their season with an outstanding 13-4 record.

The Lady Centurions defeated GSAC opponent and 2016 Region XIX Semifinalist Ocean County College, after never defeating a GSAC opponent in all of Bucks history.

Lady Centurions Head Coach, Stephanie Recklau said, “It was an unbelievable season and I am so lucky to have been able to coach this group of girls.” She continued by saying, “The improvement from past seasons was immense and I can only hope to build on that for next year.”

Lady Centurion, Amie Rickert, of Levittown, proudly stated, “The volleyball team was packed with talent this year so I wasn’t surprised that we made it to the playoffs.” She added, “The journey that we faced together as a team was one that I will always remember.”

Rickert talked about being grateful for the opportunity Bucks and the coaches have given her by saying, “Our coaches Craig and Steph did a wonderful job when it came to developing our skills and bringing us together as a team.”

Lady Centurion, Dana Miller, of Furlong, says, “The season was very memorable and successful.” She continued her remarks by saying, “What made are season so great was our supportive team and coaches.” Miller along with freshmen Krista Hiller were named to the all-region team.

April Neeld was named to the EPAC All-Conference Team after being ranked 13 in the nation for NJCAA DIII Women’s Volleyball with a .370 hitting percentage as



Bucks’ volleyball team celebrates in a huddle.

well as accumulating 38 service aces, 93 digs, and 144 kills this season.

Recklau talked about the postseason loss to Ocean County Community College by saying, “We were unfortunately one game shy of making it to the final four and while that hurt, I think it will motivate the players for next year.”

Lady Centurion, Dana Miller says, “We played our best all the way to the end and worked very

well together as a team and all the hard work paid off.” She continued by saying, “I am happy with the way the season ended except I wish it didn’t fly by so fast.”

In regards to the team captains and sophomores, coach Recklau says, “we are losing an incredible group of sophomores.” She finished by saying, “I was constantly impressed by not only their playing abilities, but also their

leadership and maturity.”

Coach Recklau says “in this league, you have to take it one game at a time and be grateful for the season you just had while looking forward to coming seasons.”

Coach Recklau talked about being optimistic about new recruits and returning players for next season, hoping that this year was a turning point for the program

which hopes to advance further in the playoffs next season.

It is clear that the women’s volleyball team has high expectations in the years to come after a successful season.

Rickert says confidently, “the volleyball program at Bucks will continue to get better every year and other teams in the region better watch out!”

Gallop Forth with the Bucks Equestrian Club



Equestrian Club 2017

LIAM BROWN
Centurion Staff

If you want to test your love for animals and establish the ancient connection of horse and human, then checkout the Equestrian team, the competitive horse-riding sport here at bucks led by Amanda Ernwright.

Ernwright states, that when people think of the sport, “I want people to think of the partnership between the rider and the horse”.

Ernwright got her start

as many riders do and mentions, “I started riding when I was 5 years old and fell in love with it the minute I sat on my first pony.” It was at this young age that the horse left a deep impression on her.

Riders are expected to clean, care, and dress their companions for training, events and competition purposes. It all plays a role with riding and riders become to enjoy it.

However, such a sport does come with some consequences. Much like any athletic activity,

participants will be exposed to the prospect of injury; football may have concussions, and hockey may have fights, but equestrian has the unpredictability of another living being.

Being kicked or hit by a horse is not uncommon during preparation. Ernwright also says that “one of the main facets of the sport that many people are dissuaded from is the danger of falling off. Not to mention telling a 1000+ pound animal what to do on your terms”.

It is these dangers and the reputation of the sport for the danger

of falling and causing irreversible damage that causes many parents to withdrawal the sport from the prospective future of their children.

During a competition, the rider is responsible for directing their horse through different drills that exhibit their control of the animal and the fluidity of their motions. Going a light trot while the rider keeps their back straight, or the well-known course of a horse jumping over bars set at various heights compose several of the competitions in Equestrian. Judge-

es then look at a rider’s ability to control the horse and how smooth they were able to run through the requested activities.

It is not simply the dangers, but also the finances involved with equestrian, that can cause people to shy away from competing or getting into Equestrian in the first place. Many people state that equestrian is “only a rich white people sport.”

When asked what she thinks of this statement, Ernwright says “My first response is me just laughing. I have seen some of the most skilled riders, who don’t have 2 nickels to rub together, be extremely successful.”

There may be a reputation that exists of equestrian being a sport for those who come from more privileged backgrounds. That background does not exempt riders from hard work. “You still need to know how to ride and you need to have the drive to put in the hours upon hours needed to become a successful rider.”

Not every rider needs to have their own stallion or pony that requires a diet of champagne and 5 star imported grains. Hard work does not differentiate from person to person, but instead, is what separates 1st place from 7th place.

Last Spring the equestrian team closed out their last competition with a 3rd, 6th, and 7th place spot. The team is looking to improve their skill, and even take on new members. If you are interested in developing the ancient bond of Human and Animal, and would like to test your skills at competing against other potential riders, then checkout the Equestrian team here at Bucks.

BUCKS ATHLETICS WEBSITE