

Political Club Opens Floor For Abortion Debate



RAEANNE RACCAGNO
Centurion staff

Bucks new “Political Club” holds a public discussion contemplating if “abortion is murder” to promote weekly civil discussions on uncomfortable political topics.

On Feb. 1 the Political club set up a table with a sign that said “abortion is murder” outside of the Starbucks in

the gateway center from 11:00 - 12:00. The purpose of this event was not to promote an angry altercation, like society is used to, but instead a peaceful discussion.

For some, growing up in today’s culture means being surrounded by political figures who make outlandish videos to defame their opponents instead of shaking

their hands. The students at Bucks have grown tired of these antics displayed by our “role models” and the general public.

As the next generation of leaders, Mark Francis and Drew Scafer, co-ed presidents of the political club, decided to take the matter into their own hands.

By establishing a club that welcomes both viewpoints and encouraging weekly public political discussions so the younger generation can practice, become informed, and be the next set of role models to promote respect toward each other.

Schafer, a 24-year-old undecided major from Abington explained how “The goal of today was to get people talking rationally on subjects that are typically not handled in a rational matter. To justify your viewpoint civilly so we can get a polite discourse going.”

As students walked by the table the two presidents engaged and explained their cause to others, causing surprised, impressed, and even excited reactions from most.

Ralph Varvel, a 25-year-old journalism and marketing major from Warminster, expressed his thoughts on the event, “I honestly think

it is very healthy. We need questions and discussions, obviously, we don’t need to go at each other’s necks or be mean. Just a civil conversation of pure discussion where we ask questions remain calm and try to see the other point of view.”

By addressing hard topics, intense emotions will obviously be brought up. These topics, especially abortion, can be somebody’s trigger.

Park Gallery, a 21-year-old criminal justice major from East Falls, originally came because he “came here today to use a good argument against them.” However, instead of finding Gallery and the two presidents in a heated discussion, the three participants were sitting down and engaging with each other.

After their sit-down, nobody stomped off in frustration but instead, acquaintances were made and thoughts, feelings, and solutions were talked about in a peaceful exchange.

Gallery then shares his feelings about the event afterwards, “It make Bucks feel like other 4-year universities and I think it’s valid, it’s the first amendment right.”

Not only can these events promote students talking about their beliefs but it can

also get them more informed about politics present today.

With the younger generation it seems there are either two sides when it comes to politics. Not right or left, but the those who choose to be informed, use their voice, and vote. Then there’s the other side who chooses to ignore the politics because it’s too “annoying” and “does not matter.”

“I believe that everyone should be informed and involved with politics. When I was younger, I didn’t care much but now that I’m older I see politics all around me,” says Francis a 30-year-old paralegal major from Langhorne.

The two presidents hope for the club is to getting people talking again. “I think way too many people are yelling at screaming at each other,” expressed both presidents.

These open discussions will now be a weekly occurrence 11:00-12:00 on Wednesdays in front of the Starbucks. The Political Club is active and looking for new members no matter their viewpoint.

Photo courtesy of Raeanne Raccagno

Bucks’ Tyler Literary Society Returns

ALLISON BRIDGEWATER
Centurion staff

At Bucks, most school clubs suffered due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and now clubs like the Tyler Literary Society are trying to make a comeback.

Bucks’ Tyler Literary Society fosters writers and those interested in literature. It is held at the Newtown Campus at 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays in library room 310. It will run all year, and you are welcome to join!

The club’s president, Zion Gelora believes: “Everyone has something to share, if they are into writing or reading, they should join. Everyone has something they’re interested in, like the art of communication, everyone needs to have the skill if they want to communicate their ideas. It’s their opportunity

to do that on their own terms, instead of essays, they can write whatever they want.”

The staff advisor for the club, Jesse Isadore, explains why you should consider joining.

Jesse says: “Literature is important for two reasons, escapism, and validation. The world is a difficult place to live sometimes, so focusing on stories and characters can inspire us and make us feel things. Seeing yourself in character, overcoming obstacles, and doing things you did not think you could do, are all validating.

”The club wants to hear what YOU like and want to create. Those interested in joining should contact jesse.isadore@bucks.edu or cerrutis@live.bucks.edu.



Photo courtesy of Unsplash

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Email your letters to :
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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.

BRIAN KARTMAN
Centurion staff

The Kevin and Sima Zlock Performing Arts Center has gone through plenty of notable changes these last semesters, from the variety in the lineup to a revamped pre-

Spring Lineup for Zlock Performing Arts Center





**Bucks County
Storytelling Series**
with DC Benny

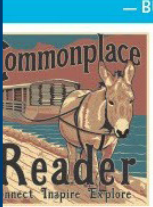
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around you as you experience the same!” – says Chiovarou.

The various events on offer over the next four months range from musical acts like the Bucks Jazz Orchestra and Rick Estrin and the Nightcats to an appearance from comedian Tom Cotter, runner up and frequent subsequent guest of “America’s Got Talent” and “The Tonight Show”, “Last Comic Standing” and “Comedy Central Presents”. Peter is hoping to keep the momentum going from the success of the fall semester shows.

“I love the variety of the whole spring season! We have a little bit of everything this season.. from big names in comedy, blues music, amazing local singers and actors to shows for kids and the family as well as the new Bucks County Story Tellers Series. With such a wide variety of shows [it’s] guaranteed to have something everyone can enjoy!” – says Chiovarou

If one were to go to a show in the fall, the lobby bar may have been one of the most immediate standout changes, and the spring semester brings more options in the form of snacks in addition to the beverages on offer.

The reaction has been very positive, and it seems getting a license to serve alcohol has paid off.

“The ZPAC lobby bar has been an [absolutely] wonderful addition to the Zlock Performing Arts Center. We are now able to offer our patrons an added value to the shows and the ability to enjoy a beverage - (both non alcoholic or alcoholic) and a snack before and during shows! It also livens up the lobby area adding more to the community experience of our shows. And hey you never know... sometimes the artists come out to hang before shows and many times after the show to sign autographs at their merchandise table.” - says Chiovarou.

The Zlock Performing Arts Center can be found in the Gateway Center, next to the library, and a list of upcoming shows as well as links to buy tickets can be found at www.bucks.edu/tickets. Additionally, any current Bucks students have one more benefit: “Current Bucks students receive one free ticket to performances! Students can visit the Box Office and show their ID and get their free ticket for a show.

Bucks Honors Club Recruiting Members

MEGAN PIZARRO
Centurion staff

If you’re looking for a club to join at Bucks County Community College try looking into the Honors Club!

While Bucks does have an Honors Program, that any student can apply to, the club is open to all. A student does not have to be in the Bucks honors program to join the honors club where students can gain access to many opportunities.

Honors at Bucks is a student-led organization that focuses on bringing students of similar academic levels and interests together. “It is a great way to meet new people who are also in the honors program, but may not be in any of your classes!” said the current President of Honors

at Bucks Lydia Devlin.

The club offers many opportunities such as volunteer projects and student oriented events. Not to mention they have a lot of benefits if you happen to be interested in furthering your education after Bucks.

As for current events, the Honors program has started working on a long-term community service project at the Churchville Nature Center.


The Honors Club is not a time-consuming organization either with its monthly zoom meetings and prospective events that students can attend according to their schedules. Occasionally they will team up with the Phi Theta Kappa club and others for events.

Students in the honors pro-

gram who are earning their honors associate degree can make easy honors-to-honors transfers to several universities including Rider University and Delaware Valley University. There are many options when looking to switch honors programs from Bucks but those specific colleges are not needed if they do not interest you.

Stephen doCarmo, the Honors program coordinator and club advisor informed how “even honor students who are not interested in one of those schools will still be getting coursework onto their Bucks transcripts – and this makes them more desirable to admissions offices at all four-year colleges and universities when they’re ready to trans-

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On-campus Transfer Information Session (4 p.m.):
March 28 Highlights the process of transferring to KU. Includes a campus tour.

On-campus Transfer Friday (11 a.m.):
Feb. 17 Learn about the transfer admission process, programs of study, credit evaluation, financial aid, campus housing, dining, student life, and more. Includes a campus tour.

Virtual Transfer Information Session (4 p.m.):
Feb. 20 Provides an overview of the process and timeline for transfer students.

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fer.”

While the Honors club has about 20 active members at the moment they are always looking for new recruits and have a prediction of club enrollment rising for the Spring.

Students can send an

email to the club president Devlinl@live.bucks.edu stating their interest in joining the honors club. Students can also email the club advisor Stephen.docarmo@bucks.edu for joining the club and more information.

Sports

Eagles Claim Victory Over Giants and 49ers



Photo courtesy of Raymundo Varela-Urizar

RAYMUNDO VARELA-URIZAR
Centurion staff

The Philadelphia Eagles claimed victory over the New York Giants on Saturday, January 23rd with a score of 38-7 in the National Football Conference (NFC) playoffs at home stadium, Lincoln Financial Field.

Philadelphia Eagles fan, Tim Dischert (Doylestown) says “I was very surprised that it was going to be a stomp. I was hoping for a closer game but I’m just really happy that we won. It was probably one of our best games. We had great team-work, the coaching staff did really good, and we played great defense. We allowed seven teams.”, Says Dischert.

Bucks County Community College student and Eagles Fan Matt says “I’ve had to say Jalen Hurts but I think Jalen’s done a great job this entire season and he’s gonna probably do a great job against San Francisco on Sunday when we face them.” says Matt. “I think our offense was pretty good. The defense played obviously wonderful a lot on their fourth downs. (Defense) worked on their timing a little bit but other than that it was ok. I’m just gonna let the game play and either Cincinnati or Kansas City and I’m ok with whoever it is. It’s

gonna be a good Super Bowl whoever gets in there. I’m hoping we can get in there.” ends Matt.

You can bet that the Chickie’s and Pete’s, Buffalo Wild Wings, and anywhere where they have cheesesteaks, nachos, and cold soda will be packed with die-hard fans ready to find out whether or not they truly are on the road to victory.

Green and White fan Dan (28) of Bucks County with a prediction had this to say: “Solid front of people. I just love how Miles Saunders does his job. I love how Boston Scott does what he does as well as our third running back. Also, for the offensive line, they are awesome. It’s going to be tough to replace them, especially with free agency coming up.” Says Daniel

“It’s gonna be interesting to find out who we’re gonna be facing in the Super Bowl. God bless Nick Siriani and his ability to coach the team and educate his team, trusting in his staff. It will be a couple of years wait until we get something rolling again”, ends Dan.

Be sure to get to the sports bars early and order your pepperoni pizzas in advance because this game will be a nail-biter.

The Eagles soon after

claimed victory and were officially on the way to Arizona for the 2023 Super Bowl. Sunday, Jan. 29th, Lincoln Financial Field was packed with Green and White enthusiasm. Alongside packed subway trains and filled sports bars, Birds fans were celebrating down City Hall, climbing greased lampposts in celebration.

The Eagles beat the San Francisco 49ers 7-31, opening the game’s drive with a six-yard touchdown by Miles Saunders and a grab by Devonta Smith for a twenty-yard gain.

The 49ers only had 164 total yards, first downs by eleven, and a two out of eight conversion rate on third down.

The Philadelphia Eagles are set to play the Kansas City Chiefs also known as the team coached by former Philadelphia Head Coach Andy Reid on February 12th. The exciting game will also have Eagles player Jason Kelce and Chiefs Player Travis Kelce going head to head as enemies on the field but brothers off the field.

Be sure to grab your jerseys, face paints, confetti, and all the attire because this game will be history!



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Sports

Men’s Basketball Perseveres Despite Hardship

RAEANNE RACCAGNO
Centurion staff

The Bucks County Community College men’s basketball team dribbles over adversities and grows more potent as a team and family after each obstacle as they continue to have a strong season.

The Centurions were facing uncertainty as their season approached with no new coach until the recent hire, Farrad McLaughlin, was employed late in the season. Prior to Bucks, McLaughlin has 8 years of experience coaching college basketball at Cairn and the Indian University of Pennsylvania. McLaughlin also currently teaches special education in Philadelphia when he is not with his team.

Coach McLaughlin had to face a late season by holding tryouts instead of practice the first week, as well as handling their first game of the season with no assistant coach.

A month later, new assistant coach Brian Tumpowsky was hired to join the Centurions. Before joining the team, Tumpowsky was the founder, director, and head coach of PG Hoops, which is an AAU program located in Central Jersey.

Despite the shaky start, coach McLaughlin is most

proud of building trust with his players in such a short amount of time. “They listen to me during gameplans and trust me. My players are like sponges, they want to learn and change their mindsets for better performance.”

Coach McLaughlin not only brings advice to the court for his student athletes, but also chooses to stay transparent with his background and personal life to set an example. Through his guidance, the Bucks men’s basketball team has been using any available time to further their relationship as a team and strengthen their skills.

McLaughlin believes in building a framework for the team to set a structure. “I like to form the foundation first - the basics, like going over plays.”

Components of the framework also include having points and principles as well. The team focuses on principles the most where they might discuss factors such as defensive skills.

The players adapted to their new coaching system well and realized how everyone has their specific role that is important for their triumph. The coaches recognized how the team “began to flow with each other” in quick time.

Outside of training during practices, the team will meet



Photo courtesy of BCCC Website

together in the study halls for academic responsibilities and hold team meetings, but McLaughlin talked about how most of the bonding happens during their team meals.

“Stopping at some of our favorite places after games like WingStop, Chick-Fil-A, or Wendy’s is when we can sit down and really get to know each other.”

Not only has the team been taking the time to work on themselves, but they also see the importance of giving back to the community. On January 16, the men’s basketball team collaborated with the women’s basketball team by holding a “Drills and Skills

Event” for the public.

During the event, local kids were encouraged to come onto campus to learn some new basketball skills. Coach McLaughlin saw this not only as an opportunity for the team to give back to others, but also to give the athletes experience with coaching.

While the road to victory looked bumpier in the beginning the team is conquering their conference playoff with a record of 3 wins and 1 loss so far. Their game plan for the rest of the season is to “get better every day by being the best we can be” as they strive to play in the championship.

Coach McLaughlin is excited for the rest of the season as they aim for their goals and continue to watch his players grow. McLaughlin has high hopes for the players since they play numerous 4-year universities - which also serves as scouting opportunities in the program.

McLaughlin respects his players for their ability to play basketball at the junior college level “which is always a grind no matter what.” The team is always looking for recruits in the local Bucks or Philadelphia communities.



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