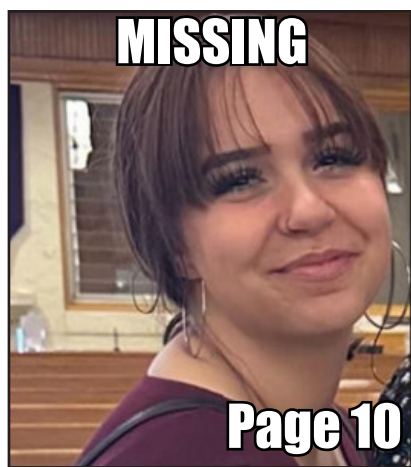




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# THE CENTURION

“The Voice of the Students”



@Centurion\_Bucks

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## The Job of Being a Parent While Earning Degree

**Christian Grosso**  
Centurion Staff

It was 2003, and Alyssa Mangeri was a 16-year-old sophomore in high school. It’s a time of life when most people are keeping up with the latest trends, figuring out who to ask out for prom, and studying with friends.

But Alyssa’s experience was different. She had just dropped out of school and was studying for the GED. She was forced to make this drastic change because she just had a baby.

“I found out I was pregnant and sort of took it as a call to duty. It was now my responsibility to make sure that I raised a proper child and a contributing member of society. So, I dropped out of high school, got my GED that summer and then started my first year of college,” she said.

And she isn’t alone. Take Emilee Alexander, who has a 10-year-old daughter. And Mackenzie Schatzan, who



took a few semesters off a few years ago to give birth to her daughter.

Alyssa, Emilee and Mackenzie are among the many students nationwide who have taken on the tough task of being a parent while in school. Around the U.S., it is estimated that over 22 percent of all undergraduates are parents, according

to a 2016 report from the National Center for Education Statistics. These students have to juggle the needs of their children and the demands of a college education.

But the challenge isn’t for everyone, as statistics show that nearly 52 percent of student parents drop out of college before earning a

Photo Courtesy of Christian Grosso

degree, per a report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office.

All three of these women nearly fell victim to the statistics when they dropped out due to the added stresses. But in one way or another, they all made their way *Read more on Page 5 ...*

## Working Students Facing Delayed Graduation Track

**Cristopher Ramirez**  
Centurion Staff

With the large amount of work juggling a job and college can be, some students decide to take college at a slower pace to alleviate stress.

Bucks Student Daulton Parry is one such student. Parry says, “I took a break after my first semester. I was not prepared to deal with work and school simultane-

ously.”

Parry further states, “The main reason I choose to be part-time is because I can earn money for whatever I want to do currently but also I did not work hard in high school, so I needed to take classes at the pace I wanted.”

Bucks Economics Professor Lawrence Sorace said that taking longer to graduate can delay your career, but can also “defray

some explicit costs.”

Sorace says, “Two years at a potentially higher salary would be a cost of graduating later. An example would be working part-time, taking longer [to graduate], and making \$20,000 a year while getting your degree. However, by graduating earlier you could’ve started at \$50,000 working full-time. The explicit costs [loss] of those two years at a lower

salary could be \$50,000 to \$100,000.”

“On the other hand, if you graduate earlier by not taking a part-time job and taking on more schoolwork, it might be harder to find a job. The reason being that, even though you have the degree, you have no work experience,” Sorace continues.

Fortune.com reports that on average, working students take on around one less credit per semester than students who do not have a job.

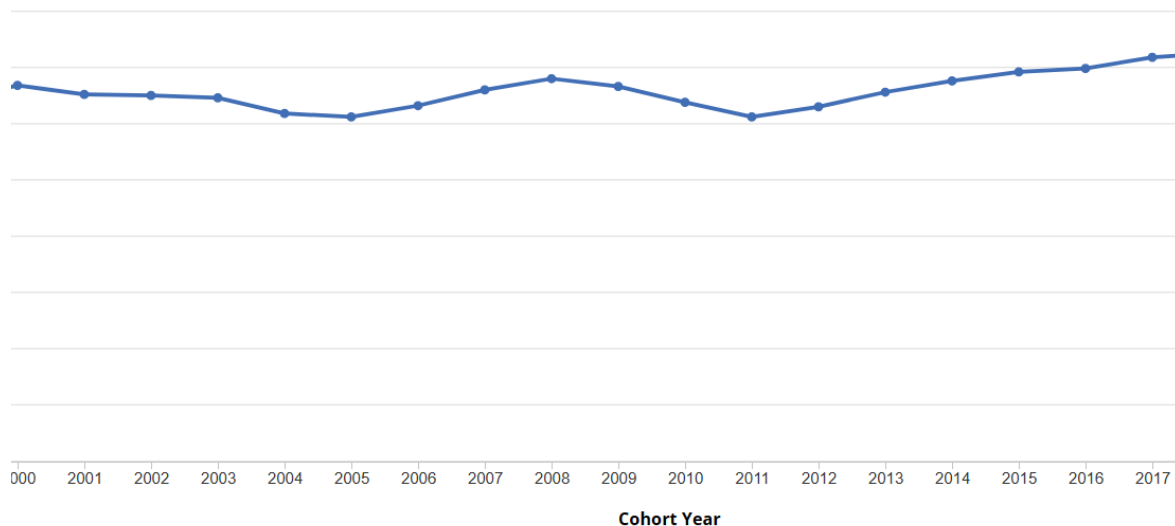
Sorace detailed the costs of graduating earlier, “There can also be implicit costs to trying to graduate earlier. This could be in the form of more stress, less free time, less friendships, and less socializing. Taking longer may be less stressful, give you more free time, and allow for more socialization experience and networking.

*Read more on Page 3 ...*

Graphic Courtesy of the National Center for Education Statistics

Graduation rate within 150% of normal time at 2-year postsecondary institutions

Line | Bar | Table | [Modify Years](#)



## Upcoming Events



**5/3**  
**Star Wars Day Celebration!**  
1 - 3 p.m.  
Newtown, Rollins Center

**5/4**  
**Bucks County High School Poet of the Year Reading and Reception**  
1 - 3 p.m.  
Newtown, Tyler Hall 142

**5/6**  
**The Philadelphia Gay Men’s Chorus Concert**  
9:15 - 10:15 p.m.  
Newtown, Links Pavilion

**5/6**  
**Student Activists Coalition Bake Sale for Palestine Children’s Relief Fund**  
Newtown, Front of Starbucks

**5/7**  
**You Are Not Alone**  
12 - 1 p.m.  
Zoom

**5/8**  
**Bridgerton Inspired Afternoon Tea**  
12 - 1 p.m.  
Newtown, Rollins Center Dining Area

**5/8**  
**Stitch-In**  
12 - 1 p.m.  
Newtown, Library Second Floor & Zoom

**5/8**  
**Civics Education Course: So, You Think You Know Your Government?**  
6 - 7:15 p.m.  
Newtown, Gallagher Room

# Working Students

## Should Students Be Picking a Major for Passion or for Salary?

**Raeanne Raccagno**  
*Editor-in-Chief*

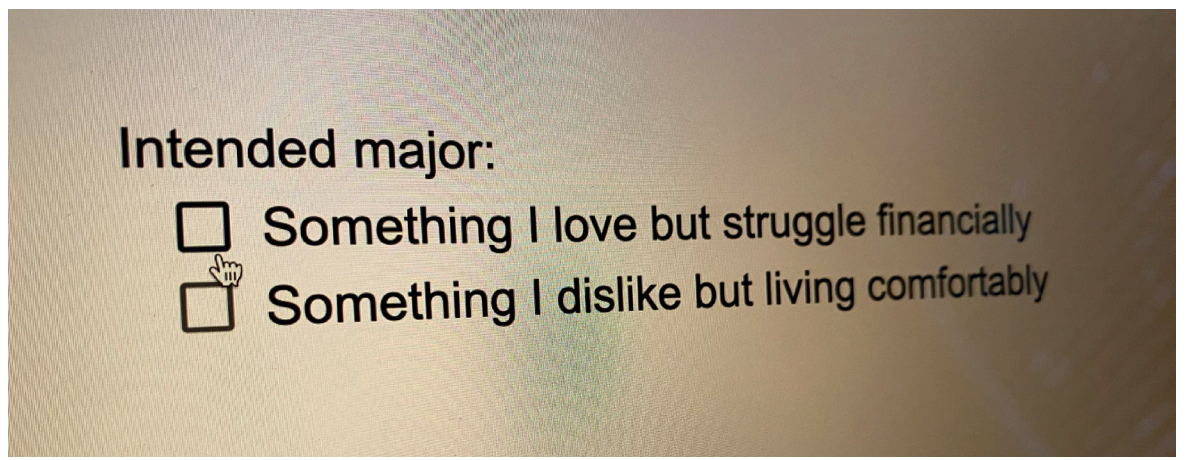
Children grow up fascinated by the world. Some of these enchantments may stick with them for years like the bizarre speed of computers, how notes sound while hitting a chord or being amazed by the structure and design of buildings. When should kids start taking their interests seriously as a possible career path? And how much should they consider future potential salaries?

College has been viewed as the stepping stone into the real world but students are faced with many choices that can quickly overwhelm the decision-making process, and make you feel like you're nowhere near ready for adulthood. One of the most crucial is what you choose to spend your time studying.

"I encourage students to choose a major that they will enjoy," said Rhonda Cohen, career coach for occupational majors at Bucks. "In addition, I recommend that students think about their future goals. They can research different careers and see what majors might best prepare them to get a job in their desired field."

While any student would love to hear this advice there's also the voices inside Gen Z's heads that causes them fears about being secure in the future. According to a survey by Bank of America, 53 percent of Gen Zers express that costs are a barrier to their financial success. Costs of climbing food and housing expenses, both millennials and Gen Zers are facing more money problems than their parents when they were young; their wages are lower and the debt or cost of education is far greater.

Kira Abendroth, a 19-year-old Business and Marketing Major from Southampton, said, "I am slightly worried about financially supporting myself in the future, I plan to move to New York City and it is easy to be lost in a sea of people in such a large city. They



don't call it "starving artist" for nothing." She continued, "I absolutely considered my salary when picking my major. I know there is a large demand for people in marketing, so with enough time and experience, I do believe I can make it past the worrying stage and get a good job."

Cohen said, "I meet with many students who bring up the importance of finding a job that will provide them with financial security." But students also "want to find a job that they will enjoy and that they will find fulfilling and meaningful. They want to be excited to go to work every day."

Jimmy Cartin, a 19-year-old music major from Bensalem focusing on the piano said, "If I didn't pick music I feel like I would be wasting my time." Cartin started music in high school and realized that his newfound love was not just a months-long obsession but something he knew he was going to be good at.

"Pretty much my entire life I've been below the poverty line and I'm really lucky that my parents, especially my mom support me because most people in general would be like 'You're wasting your money on a music career?' There are times when I'm like damn if I did something else or had a job then I could afford to get more food. But then I think about it, I'm physically hungry but I'm also hungry to live the life that I want to lead on my own terms, so it reminds me why I'm doing this," Cartin said.

According to the Pew Research Center, workers with higher incomes are more likely than those with middle or lower incomes to

say they are extremely or very satisfied with their job overall, from a national survey of 5,902 U.S. workers, 714 who are self-employed, in February 2023. The same survey found about four in 10 workers, around 39 percent say their career or job is extremely or very important to their overall identity; 27 percent say it's not too or not important at all.

"Most of the time I will be happy because I might not like my job, but I can enjoy life and spend money without financial burden. However, I worry that I will be stuck in a place I did not intend to and won't be able to get out because my plans did not go the way I wanted them to," said Riya Varghese, 18-year-old dual enrollment student from Council Rock South who plans to major in Neuroscience. "In general, I am worried about supporting myself financially. At the beginning of my career, I would be in a lot of debt because of my education; however, it would be considered an investment because if I do achieve my goal of becoming a neurosurgeon, I would no longer have financial worries."

Cohen said, "It is up to each individual student to think about their values and determine what is most important to them when they choose a major and career. In addition to earning potential, it is a good idea for students to consider other aspects of a job, such as the educational requirements, work schedule, work environment and employee benefits."

No matter the choice, for money or for passion, there are uncertainties that cloud everyone's judgment of the future. But what about stu-

*Photo Courtesy of Raeanne Raccagno*

dents who struggle to pick between two desires?

Madhu Karri, an 18-year-old engineering student from New Hope said, "I have always liked buildings, houses and construction. I do have a passion for construction engineering but along with that I have also always had a passion for dance." Karri chose to come to Bucks so she could continue dancing. Being a full-time student and a full-time rookie professional dancer, time management is an essential tool for her. "I have a passion for both but if I ever have to pick one I would probably say dance but at the same time dance does not give as much financial stability as engineering does which is why I never wanna stop doing engineering also."

"Students should keep in mind that Bucks offers both occupational and transfer majors," Cohen said. "Occupational majors prepare students to work in entry-level positions after completing their degrees. Transfer majors prepare students to transfer to a four-year school to complete a bachelor's degree. Students can ask themselves: How much time do I want to be in school?"

Career Services offers students Career Cruising at [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com). Students can log into Career Cruising to learn about different careers, including job descriptions, earnings, educational requirements and much more. The username is buckscc and the password is newtown.

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### Letters to the Editor:

Email your letters to: [buckscenturion@gmail.com](mailto:buckscenturion@gmail.com)

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.

### Weather

<b>Thursday</b>	5/2		H: 80 L: 53
<b>Friday</b>	5/3		H: 72 L: 48
<b>Saturday</b>	5/4		30% Chance H: 62 L: 48
<b>Sunday</b>	5/5		60% Chance H: 63 L: 53
<b>Monday</b>	5/6		H: 75 L: 55
<b>Tuesday</b>	5/7		H: 77 L: 58
<b>Wednesday</b>	5/8		30% Chance H: 71 L: 56

8-14 Day Outlook: 5/7-5/13

Temperatures: Above Normal

Precipitation: Above Normal

Forecast for Newtown, PA courtesy of [weather.com](http://weather.com), valid 4/29/2024 at 8:40 PM EDT.

8-14 Day Outlook courtesy of NOAA National Weather Service, issued 4/29/2024.

[www.Bucks-News.com](http://www.Bucks-News.com)



Join us in the Zlock Performing Arts Center for a night of comedy, as the Drama Club presents its One Acts Production. This show is occurring on May 1, 2 and 3 so don't miss this opportunity. Admission is free, and anyone is welcome to attend. Come out and support your fellow classmates and actors for this exciting night of theater. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show will begin at 7:30 p.m. for each show night. Free and Open to the Public. Information and picture courtesy of BCCC website.

## Goodbye and Good Luck on your Next Journey, We'll Miss You!

**Raeanne Raccagno**  
*Staff writer, managing editor, editor in chief*  
Continuing her undergraduate degree in journalism at The College of New Jersey.  
Go Lions!

**Christian Grosso**  
*Staff writer, editor, weather columnist*  
Continuing his undergraduate degree in broadcast journalism at Temple University.  
Go Owls!

**Arianna Keith**  
*Graphic design manager, staff writer*  
Continuing her undergraduate degree in Graphic Design.  
Bound for amazing things!

**Jesse Fischer**  
*Staff writer, editor*  
Continuing his undergraduate degree in Communication with a focus in journalism at Millersville University.  
Go Marauders!

## Working Students

# How Does Working Affect Students' Academic Success?

**Jesse Fischer**  
*Centurion Staff*

Many students hold jobs over the course of their time at college and it's no wonder why. Often students need jobs to support themselves, pay for school, and at times support their families. But it isn't easy balancing two things at once. That leaves the question, how do students' jobs affect their grades?

Bucks has no shortage of students balancing work and their studies. This isn't any different compared to other community colleges as well. According to a study from the University of Pennsylvania, for students who enroll in a two-year college program, almost two-thirds spend more than half of their time in college working twenty or more hours per week in outside employment. For students who enroll in a four-year program, that number drops to about two-fifths.

Jenna Lowenthal, a Bucks student, is one of these people. "Balancing college and work can be difficult for me to balance" she says. "I get used to the feeling of working under pressure, which can happen a lot if you are trying to make time for multiple things. I'll say I can do it later, but by the time I get

to do it, I stress myself out, which leads to not applying myself as much as I wanted to."

Journalism student Raeanne Raccagno, 20, spoke of her schedule saying, "I babysit so a good amount of my hours is happening in the morning before classes, so I will be late by a couple of minutes, but thankfully my professor is understanding."

Raccagno talked about how babysitting is the only thing that works for her due to her busy schedule with school and extracurriculars. "I don't have time to do homework while babysitting in the afternoons and it can be pretty draining, sometimes that leads to a lot of procrastination and then I feel like I'm not handing in my best work" she added.

American State and Local Govt. Professor Diane Rice also took note of things she's seen from students in her class who work. "There's a lot more pressure on students now than before" she says. Rice reflected on previously being able to play videos in class and hold discussions about them afterwards. "Now we have to watch it before class and not in class because of student headspace," she added.

There was also a discussion about whether work-



*Photo Courtesy of Unsplash*

places take student's time for community college seriously. "There's still a stigma about community college and it's not being taken as seriously as it should be," Rice says. She talked further about student's family and job responsibilities taking away from focus on school, hurting students' grades in the process. "I hear about students being heavily busy in family life where there's a second marriage and younger siblings needing to be

taken care of," she added.

Both students and professors agree that it can be difficult to focus on handing in their best work with so much outside noise from a job. This can harm students' grades and take their mind off learning.

The research also backs this. The UPenn study also found that for students attending two-year colleges, students who work every month receive on average 0.24 standard deviations

lower GPAs. put this into plain English.

Lowenthal positively reflected on her experience working and helping her grades by saying, "A positive is it makes me want to take time management more seriously because structure is important when it comes to balance." This is something that other students may have to begin thinking about as well, if they want to further enhance their grades.

## Working Students Facing Delayed Graduation Track

*Continued from Page 1 ...*

Justin Ayala, an 18-year-old computer hardware major, who has been 50-50 on deciding whether or not he should delay his graduation said, "I think you should take your time and do what you can because rushing the process [graduation] adds more stress."

Health science major, Tristen K recalls how stressful it is for her to be a college student and work at the same time. She says, "I have to admit I lose motivation for school when I realize the time I dedicate to school I could be at work earning money. Sometimes studying feels unproductive when I could be at work picking up extra shifts. I'm a pharmacy technician and the pharmacy is always busy, I could always be helping out my colleagues at work and patients."

"The irony is how expensive school is, even with financial aid, a major portion of my paychecks for work go to school. I've had urges to quit school and work full time but I'm still here trying, so hopefully, I keep that positive mindset to get through it," Tristen adds.

According to NBC News, only about 45 percent of college students graduate



*Photo Courtesy of BCCC website*

within four years

and the amount of college students who finish their degree within six years is not much better. Less than two-thirds of college students are able to complete their degree within six years.

Sorace reassures students that the length it takes you to graduate does not matter. He states, "As someone who ran their own business, it would not bother me a bit if somebody had just graduated at 22, 24 or 25, It's not a race. All things being equal, I might even be more inclined to hire the person who worked while getting

their degree."

"My advice to students working their way through college: Keep going. Don't quit. Don't give up. The only way to lose this game [college] is to quit. You're not in competition with anyone but yourself. Do the best you can. In the end, your diploma will say the same thing as someone who graduated in four years," Sorace further adds.

Tristen mentions how working has helped her in college. She says, "I learn so much as a health science major working in a pharmacy. Not even just helping patients, but learn-

ing about drug interactions and effects on the body, it helps me remember things will benefit me in my field. Even my anatomy class felt easier since I knew so much from my pharmacy tech experience."

If you need any help with your academic progress or juggling work and school, you can make an appointment with a Bucks counselor by emailing [counseling@bucks.edu](mailto:counseling@bucks.edu).

# Working Students

## Mental Health Gets Pushed Aside as Students Balance Classes and Work Shifts

**Parker Destefano**  
Centurion Staff

Waves of exhaustion rolled over Emily Albert as she flopped down onto her bed, the constant motion of the day finally coming to a quiet standstill. She sighed, ready for sleep. Then it hits her, “oh no, I have a paper due tomorrow for my English class.” Her eyes flew open. She thought to herself, “how am I supposed to do this assignment at 10 p.m.? How am I supposed to juggle school and work and all the other things going on in my life?” Dread set in as she stared at the clock, time slowly tick tick ticking by as she pondered what to do.

According to Mental Health America (MHA), roughly 50 percent of full-time students have jobs outside of school. The number rises even higher to 80 percent when it comes to part-time students. One could wonder how working, going to school and juggling personal lives on top of all that could affect students’ mental health.

Albert, 20, a Criminal Justice major at Gwynedd-Mercy University, said, “I think I am constantly stressed



Photo Courtesy of Unsplash

out, like all the time. Sometimes my teachers are very light with assignments. I can go to school, go to work, I’m fine. Sometimes they just pack it on, like there’s a paper due the next day and I’m working all day, so I have no time to do the paper.”

She added, “Take this week for example, I have an assignment due every day. I have to take care of my sister, and work, and get my homework done. I don’t

think teachers really factor in students’ personal lives. Like they don’t consider the fact that some students have to work to pay for everything for school. I go to school in a nicer area where some of the kids either got scholarships or their parents pay for school, like we have a lot of athletes so a lot of them are on athletic scholarships.”

According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America, 80 percent of

students report feeling stressed sometimes or often. All of that stress can seriously affect a student’s ability to perform well not just in school, but in their everyday lives outside of school as well.

Professor Wilma Starr, a psychology professor at Bucks said, “When you feel stressed, you start getting sick. Lots of students start coughing and/or developing colds or tension headaches and it’s not unusual for students to experience some stomach issues as well in the last month of the semester. College is the ‘perfect storm’ for creating stress.”

Starr also listed some examples of stressors that could lead to these overwhelming feelings.

- 1) Unpredictability (some teachers don’t put due dates on tests/papers/projects, so students find themselves doing a crazy amount of work in a very limited period of time)
- 2) Repeated stress (going to a class you don’t like/ understand twice a week for 15 weeks)
- 3) Increased stress (the last month of a semester is when teachers generally assign capstone projects so there is very little time for students to relax)
- 4) Lack of control over when deadlines are sched-

uled (students LOVE taking tests on their birthdays).

This “perfect storm” as Starr put it can lead to students underperforming in their classes, which in turn leads to poor grades, producing more stress.

So how are students supposed to juggle all of their responsibilities?

Starr lent some insight into this, “Working 12 hours or less is comparable to playing on a sports team as a college student: You schedule your study periods since you are balancing a lot on a daily basis. As a result, you are VERY focused on your schoolwork in the limited time you have scheduled your studying, so grades are generally good.”

Starr added, “If students work more than 20 hours, this is when students’ mental and physical health start to go downhill, especially during the last month of a semester.” But not all students can work fewer hours.

If you or someone you know is feeling a decline in their mental health, contact Bucks’ counseling services. Students can reach them at 215-968-8189 or email at [counseling@bucks.edu](mailto:counseling@bucks.edu).

Students can also call or text 988, the national Suicide and Crisis Lifeline if an emergency arises.

**ONE  
MOVE  
CLOSER  
TO LANDING  
YOUR DREAM  
JOB**

**On-campus Transfer Friday:**

**MAY 3** (11:30 a.m.–3 p.m.)

Learn about the transfer admission process, programs of study, credit evaluation, financial aid, campus housing, dining, student life, and more. Includes a campus tour.

**KUTZTOWN**  
UNIVERSITY

[www.kutztown.edu/transfer](http://www.kutztown.edu/transfer)



# Working Students

## The Job of Being a Parent While Earning a Degree

*Continued from Page 1 ...* back to college. In Mangeri's case, she decided to enlist in the military shortly after dropping out, which took her around the country, and gave her an idea of what she wanted out of life. And now, 20 years later, she has returned to college as a psychology major, escaping the plight that many dropouts experience.

Samantha Gross, the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Bucks, did her graduate school research on parenting students. She explains the multitude of issues these students face.

"Nationally, the three biggest obstacles for parenting students are access to quality, affordable childcare, basic needs insecurity, and time poverty. Time poverty is a concept that sees time as a resource; parenting students have more demands on their time," she said.

Kyrsten Accardi-Howard, a psychology major at Alvernia University, is one of those who struggles with time poverty, especially since she has five children. "Scheduling classes with

kids is very hard. Especially classes that are only offered once a year and at one time. Kids take up a lot of time so juggling that can be hard and has caused me to graduate much slower than I would have due to the order some classes are offered versus when they're needed."

As for Schatzan, the lack of childcare has hindered her ability to study. "I don't usually have anyone available to help watch my baby while I study or do homework so I can only really set aside time when my child is asleep, which sometimes isn't enough."

Her situation is made worse by an ongoing shortage of childcare workers made worse by the COVID pandemic. In 2022, there was a shortage of 8.7 million slots in daycares in the US, according to Rasmussen University. This has led to a 32 percent rise in average childcare costs in the US between 2019 and 2023, meaning the average family now spends \$987 per month on childcare in Pennsylvania.

But despite the odds

stacked against them, these women still returned to school. For students like Alexander, the thought of them being 'too old' for college held them back from enrolling. But over time, she found this to be untrue.

"I decided to coach my daughter's soccer team and loved it. This got me thinking about going back to school to switch careers from nursing to teaching. Once COVID hit, I took all the neighborhood kids and created a classroom to help them continue their education as they were too young to be able to maneuver Canvas/Zoom by themselves. When I truly thought about it, I realized I could have my own classroom by 35-which is definitely not too old. This solidified my decision to go back to school to become a teacher."

And schools around the country have taken notice of this by providing resources for parenting students. Here at Bucks, Gross said that the school has "a pre-school on the Newtown campus. All students are eligible to apply for help from the emergen-

cy fund and use the food pantries. There are food pantries on all campuses."

Alexander has surely been appreciative of the resources the school offers. "Abigail and Lauren in the Academic Support Center are so supportive of me and my goals and seem genuinely happy when I accomplish my goals."

But there's still more the school could do. Schatzan recommended a wider variety of Saturday classes.

Much of this support wasn't the norm as recently as two decades ago, when being a parent in school was stigmatized. "Back when I had my daughter 20 years ago, being a parent wasn't accepted; it was viewed as a negative for someone so young to have a child while still in school. But I think now as we've developed as a society it's become more accepted, so services are available to people now that weren't available to people like me," says Mangeri.

These experienced mothers were asked a hypothetical question; What would you do if you met an

18-year-old student who just had a baby?

Schatzan said that they need to get comfortable with being uncomfortable. "You have to make a lot of sacrifices while in school and having a baby. You have to sometimes sacrifice sleep and self-care. The goal is to provide a better life for you and your family, and this path will help you achieve that goal so don't give up when it gets hard, because it will get hard."

"Keep going to school, you don't have to know what you want to do right now but keep going. It's worth it for their future and for yours. Don't be a statistic. Be a survivor of your circumstances not a victim," says Accardi-Howard.

And Mangeri says not to lose focus. "Your child is important. You now have a new job and the title of parent, and you need to be a good example. But take priority in yourself and show yourself love. Because your child will see that and be motivated to do better for themselves."

## Blazer Bar Blocks Students' Worries for Professional Attire

**Raeanne Raccagno**  
*Editor in Chief*

Trying to find accommodating and affordable attire for your first job in the courthouse on a starting salary is not an easy task Brenda Seibert found young in her career. Flashbacks of her rummaging through clothes racks came to mind as she began her teaching job at Bucks around 10 years ago meeting and instructing students who were venturing in their job fields. Now her aspirations of helping the process become less stressful for students have become a reality with the start of the Blazer Bar in the spring 24' semester.

Seibert, a paralegal professor and advisor to the paralegal club, had the idea of having blazers available for students on campus, with no charge at all, since she first arrived. With the support of her department, assistance in obtaining federal grants and a bountiful amount of donations from Facebook moms all over Bucks County she has made that happen.

"Last summer I would put my little kids in their car seats, and we'd drive around picking up the blazers that were donated," Seibert said. "Like a lot of other moms, I'm on a moms' Facebook group so I posted it there and it got a really overwhelming response."

There was one crucial point she stressed in her donation posts, "I wasn't



gonna do it and wasn't gonna say that we were ready to do this unless we were size-inclusive. That's a big deal to me," Seibert said. The Blazer Bar lines the upper floor of Grupp Hall with fashions ranging in every size and gender to accommodate everyone.

The BB also has different styles to fit every job description with attire, "for a conservative law firm or marketing at Mattel," Seibert joked gesturing to a hot pink pantsuit. She also originally only thought of blazers since they were the most expensive piece of clothing and not easily found. Donators generously gave matching pants, dress shirts and their first tie, thanks to a recent student donation.

"I get a lot of joy looking at every single article of clothing here and there was a person who either knows me personally or saw what I was doing and they took the time and effort to get it to me."

Seibert runs the BB on the honor code but it's also "whatever they need." There is no charge, no sign-up sheet, rental or return policy. Each piece also comes with a note of "the lack of expectations." The note also includes Seibert's contact information offering interview prep, time and stress management, advice on getting a promotion, getting your first job or negotiating salaries.

She assists students with how professional clothes should fit and inexpensive

ways to tailor. Suggesting fashion tape to hem pants, or a tool that tacks fabric together as a hem. "Blazers don't have to be perfect," Seibert says explaining it's alright if the sleeves are a little long because you can always roll them up.

Spring semesters can be filled with internships and job interviews or graduating and wanting to step into an industry. "One student walked by last week and said 'I have a job interview Monday I was gonna go shopping this weekend' and she took a whole suit," Seibert said.

While some may think dressing up for interviews is old fashioned Seibert says, "I think a lot of students rightfully believe that it should not matter and I

*Photo Courtesy of Raeanne Raccagno*

agree with them but I also want to see people getting the opportunity that they deserve and sometimes that means you have to grab a jacket from a lady standing in the hallways at Grupp Hall."

All clothes have been checked and cleaned. There are lint rollers, a full length mirror and the BB is right in front of the restrooms in case students need to try something on.

The Blazer Bar is occurring every Wednesday until the end of the semester on the fourth floor of Grupp Hall 9 - 10:45 a.m. and 1-2:45 p.m.

# 2024 Keystone Media Awards



Along with receiving their awards students were given tours of the WTF's Public Media Center and go in breakout sessions with experienced journalists for Q&As.

All photos Courtesy of Caleb McCartney at McCal Media



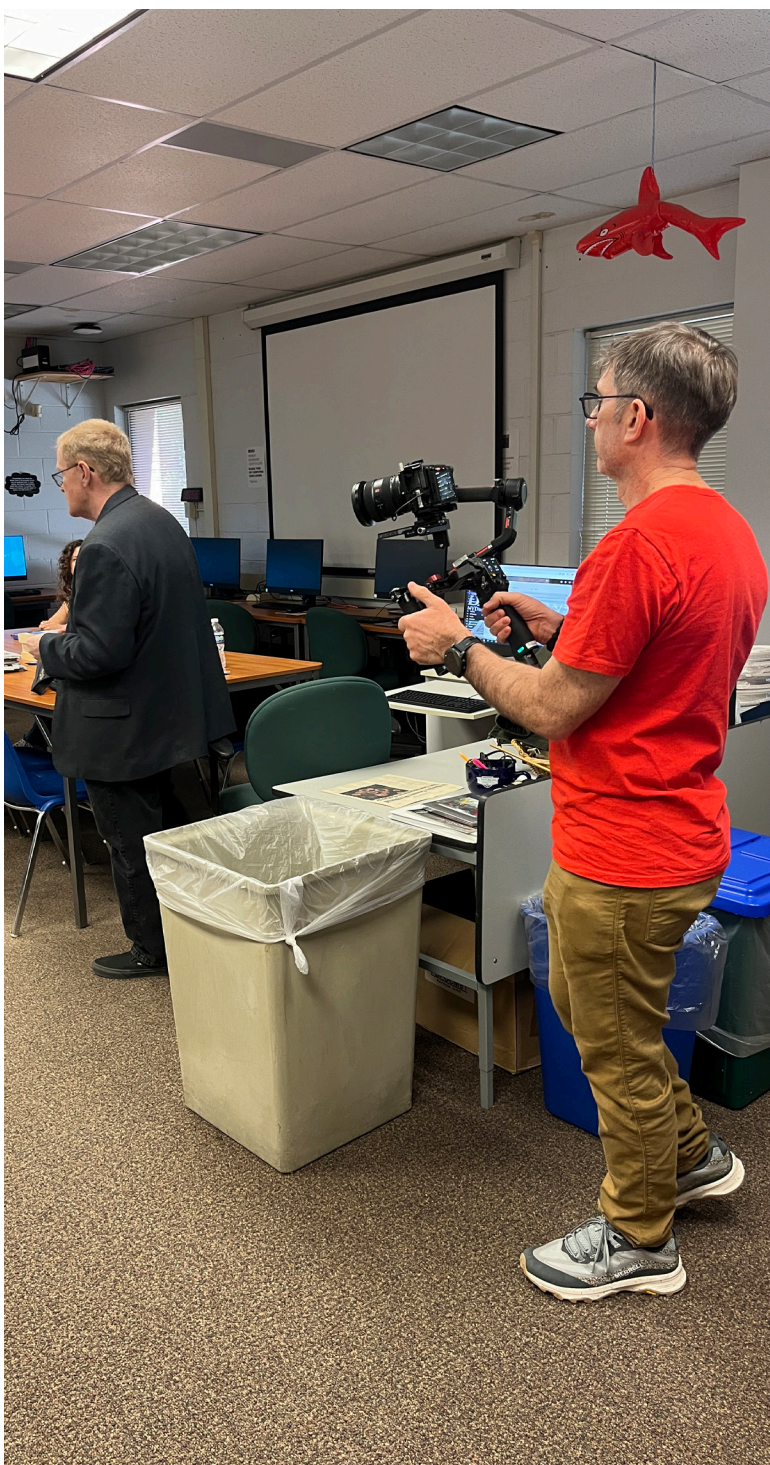
# MSNBC Interview



All photos courtesy of Buck's Marketing and Public Relations Team  
 Group Photo From Top Left to Bottom Right: Ray Varela-Urizar, Madison Kifolo, Jesse Fischer, Abby Palmer, Christian Grosso and Raeanne Raccagno with NBC reporter Morgan Radford



Journalism Professor and The Centurion Advisor Tony Rogers being interviewed



# News

## Gen Z Bucks Students Put to the Test: MSNBC Interview With Morgan Radford

**Madison Kifolo**  
*Managing Editor*

Six Bucks Journalism Students were chosen to be interviewed by MSNBC for a really cool news story that we can't talk about yet.

On April 23, the students were put to the test. Abby Palmieri (21), Christian Grosso (22), Ray Varela-Urizar (26), Raeanne Raccagno (20), Jesse Fischer (20) and I (22) were interviewed by the "Morning Joe" team from MSNBC.

We were placed on a panel and interviewed by Morgan Radford. This whole opportunity was such an honor. We were all intimidated to start, but once the interview started, the energy in the room became so calm and respectful.

We were asked some really complex questions, and were tested on certain topics, but we had such a

beautiful discussion because of it.

Jesse Fischer said, "I was definitely a little nervous, it wasn't bad actually doing it though. Once Morgan came in it eased me a bit more, and once we were in the thick of it I was fine."

Radford was a great professional example to us as students. She made sitting under the bright lights feel like nothing and created an environment where we felt safe to express our opinions.

Ray Varela-Urizar said that going into it, "I was excited, I was ready to talk and I was excited to give reasons as to why I think the way I think, but also to hear opinions from those at the professional level."

Fischer agreed that it was a hefty position to be in but was proud of our responses. "I mean it feels good, I feel like we all did a good job

representing our age group. We have a really smart class with a lot of opinions that are worth listening to."

Varela-Urizar said that it "definitely felt surreal, especially because sometimes we can get so lost in our head instead of what's reality. We will be the leaders of the world one day, so it's important to do this work."

Journalism Professor and Advisor of "The Centurion," Tony Rogers was watching us on the panel with pride.

He said, "I think they were amazing; I think they did well on the test, but even more: they were articulate, composed and well-spoken when it came to the interview questions."

"The students showed that community colleges have bright and thoughtful students who can stand toe to toe with any other 4-year college student. It was

one of those moments that makes it all worthwhile as a teacher. This is what it's all about. I am very, very proud," Rogers said.

"Nicole Tracey (Dean of the Lang and Lit Department) and I were practically doing high fives. We were so impressed by how they were doing," he added.

We were also incredibly impressed with the process and professionalism of the NBC crew. They made it so easy for us as students, and answered any questions we had about careers in journalism.

Rogers said, "I thought it was interesting to see the process too, the dynamic between the reporter and the producer was really fascinating to watch. The tech guys were in there at like eight in the morning, two hours before it began to set up the cameras and the

lights."

He continued, "You can tell the people at NBC really pay attention to their craft, they have a very high standard set, and you can see the work they do in maintaining that standard. It's rare to see the behind-the-scenes process. It was a really fascinating look into network TV being created. Very valuable."

Fischer was impressed too, "I will say for one that it was really interesting to see what goes into a segment like that, and all of the setting up they did, all of the lights and tech they had."

You can watch us up on the big screen in early May 2024. We will be on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" segment. We are excited for everyone to find out what we discussed, and the implications it has for all of our futures.

**CENTURION  
STUDENT  
NEWS PAPER**

**Contact our new  
Editor-In-Chief for  
2024-25 academic  
year Madison Kifolo  
at kifolom84607@  
live.bucks.edu or  
our advisor Tony  
Rogers at Tony.Rog-  
ers@Bucks.edu for  
information about  
joining!**

## WHO ARE WE?

**-We are a Bucks Student Organization  
interested in all things truth**

**-We produce a print paper for all students  
on campus to enjoy for free**



## What's New in the News?

**Ava Grimm**  
*Centurion Staff*

A student at Bucks Newtown Campus recently remodeled the Centurion website bringing it up to date with the modern world and giving it an inspiring new look.

Christian Grosso is the 22 year old student at Bucks majoring in journalism and staff member of The Centurion, who completed the remodel. The website was originally created by Journalism Professor Tony Rogers, the original website possessed red and yellow coloring, outdated formatting and some minor glitches with headline formatting according to Grosso.

The idea of updating the website came about at the beginning of the fall semester but took indication throughout the spring semester. Although the original idea was to simply update the colors to Bucks blue and white, the staff and students of The Centurion pushed further to make it a better user experience.

After discussions with the editor, Raeanne Raccagno, and other admin such as

Professor Rogers throughout the Centurion Staff Meetings movement took a way to remodel.

Grosso and other members of the Centurion staff had to figure out how to access editing privileges for Grosso. This pushed the project back 3 months until Professor Rogers was able to create an administrative account. Grosso's only promise to Professor Rogers was to not break the website.

Once Grosso gained access to the administrative account he completed the updates within a 10 hour span in one night only about one day after getting the account.

Throughout the remodel he states he fixed, "school colors, organization of the page, outdated formatting and updated to the legacy format, made it mobile compatible and fit for wide screens."

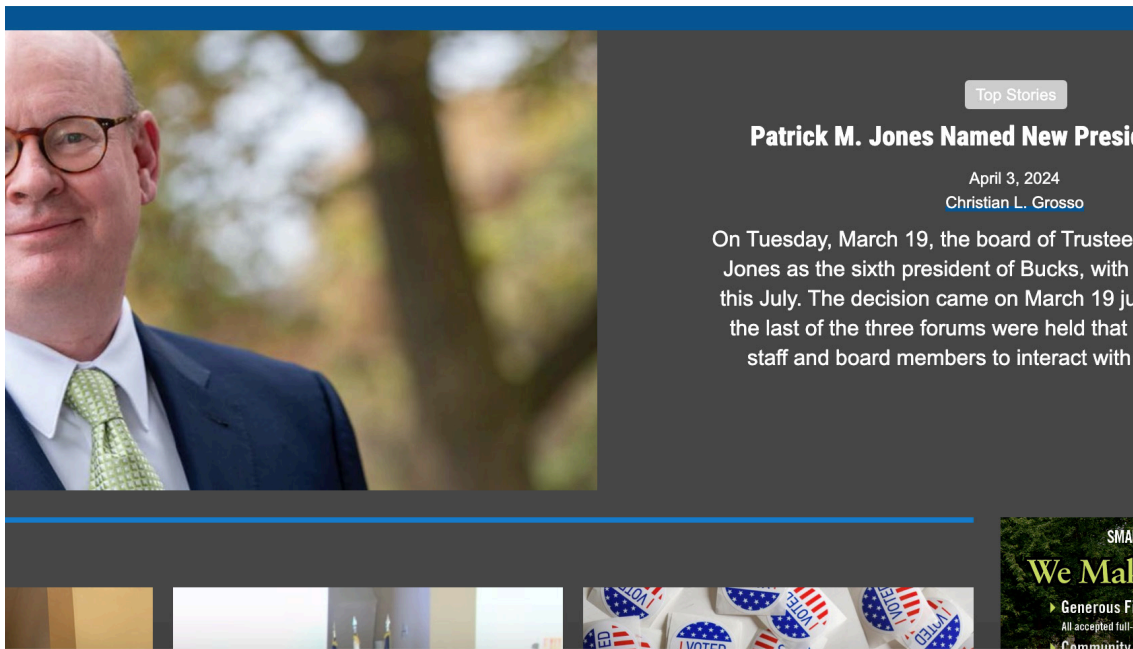
This was a huge step for The Centurion giving their online media a fresh new look.

Grosso quotes, "The website looked like it was from 2010, but now is up to modern day 2024 standards."

The Centurion website



News Student Life Features Arts & Entertainment Around Bucks Sports Video More



gives the students and staff of Bucks and the public a center to get local written and video news by young journalists who are passionate about writing truthful, well-written news.

Grosso highlights the importance of The Centurion stating, "Journalists are some of the last people who really have the skills to check and ensure media and information is accurate, especially in a world where fake media is everywhere. We are able to report what is going on in the community so people can better under-

stand the world around us."

From opinion articles, comics, arts and entertainment, politics, sports and local and global news The Centurion has students writing. Any student can be a part of The Centurion Staff or write for The Centurion especially with interests in writing, editing, layout, digital photography, or web design according to The Centurion website.

For more information about joining The Centurion, you can attend meetings normally every Thursday at 12:30 p.m. in Rollins 127.

For more information contact raccagnor@live.bucks.edu or kifolom84607@live.bucks.edu.

The Centurion is a student paper written by students, for students. Students and staff can now view the new updated page on mobile and wide-screen compatible devices. You can view the modern-made page at - <https://www.bucks-news.com/news/special-report-metoo/2018/04/26/bucks-student-faces-creeps-on-campus/>



# News

## Tyler Garden Hosts Another Successful Salute to Mothers Scholarship Tea

**Raeanne Raccagno**  
*Editor-In-Chief*

Ladies hitched their best fascinators on for Bucks' 17th annual Salute to Mothers Scholarship Tea where guests filled the tent below Tyler Gardens with affection for the mother recipients of the awards.

The Salute to Mothers Scholarship Tea started with Betty Tsai, a Bucks professor who retired in 2007 after a 36-year career, being described as "the college's ambassador to the world." Her colleagues wanted to start a scholarship fund in her name, which she politely declined, but she still wished to do something for Bucks students.

While Tsai pondered on a solution, memories of her students who juggled parenting with gaining an education came to her mind. Hoping to do something memorable for her students the creation of the Salute to Mothers Scholarships and tea was created.

On April 19 from 1 to 3 p.m. guests of the scholarship tea came together to celebrate students, who are also mothers, working towards their education for themselves and their families. The tea also dedicates its afternoon to raising funds for more scholarships.

Guests entered to friendly faces directing them to their seating assignments as Violinist Claudia Pellegrini's beautiful performances danced in their ears. As attendees mingled and settled into their chairs the event was started by Julianne Theodoropoulos, Bucks' Coordinator, Scholarships and Stewardship with Foundations and Alumni Relations and Dr. Constance "Connie" Corrigan, dean of health sciences & kinesiology and sports studies.

As they warmed up the crowd with jokes, memories of past teas, admiration for hard-working mothers and fondness towards its founder and donors, they invited



*Photo Courtesy of Eric Parker*

Diana Fegly and Jennifer Hipp to speak.

Diana Fegly spoke in honor of her mom Carolyn L. Fegly who passed in 2018. Fegly recalled how hard-working her mother was and how much "she loved being a mom." She said that one of her mom's biggest desires was for her and her two sisters to receive a college education. The family started the Carolyn Fegly Memorial Award last year to benefit student mothers and carry on Carolyn's memory.

Jennifer Hipp, a Bucks nursing student, received the Salute to Mothers scholarship for the second year in a row. She told the crowd of her struggles raising her daughters as she worked and attempted to go to school also while caring for her daughters' wellbeing and education.

As she was working the desk at a doctor's office she realized that she only liked her job because she was fond of her boss, who was retiring, and she didn't actually enjoy the work she was doing. This inspired her

to start pursuing her own education again and she enrolled in the Bucks nursing program.

Hipp will gain her nursing degree after the spring semester. She ended her speech by telling the crowd how proud she'll be "when my daughters can tell their friends their mom is a nurse," she said her voice breaking bringing tears to her own and the crowd's eyes.

The rest of the afternoon was filled with casual mingling and laughter as guests rushed to the raffle basket table to play their odds at winning and contributing to a worthy cause. Tables were decorated with delicious tea sandwiches, charming desserts by the Bucks culinary students and an assortment of teas.

The tea has grown greatly from a humble beginning when the event was held in the Tyler Music Hall Room where the committee members would make sandwiches to go along with desserts donated by local bakeries. This year a total of 225

guests attended raising a gross amount of \$40,878.

Since its establishment in 2007, the foundation has been able to provide over 220 scholarships totaling \$315,000 in scholarship funding.

This yearly event is coordinated by the Bucks County Community College Foundation board along with the Salute to Mothers Tea Committee which meets throughout the year to be involved with the planning of the event, invitations and the raffle baskets.

Members of the committee include Mary Ellen Bornak, Susanne Derby, Jennifer Frost, Samantha Gross, Mary Jane Leonard, Amy Masgay, Karen Meadows, Nereida McCulley-Breustedt, Pam Ottenheimer, Susan Pfizenmayer, Marilyn Puchalski, Betty Tsai and Carole Williams.

Sponsors of the event included: The First National Bank & Trust Co. of Newtown, Parx Casino, Shelly Law Offices, LLC. and Mignoni Jewelry.



*Betty Tsai, founder of the Salute to Mothers Scholarships  
Courtesy of Eric Parker*

## Young Bucks County Singer Gains Traction After Success on "The Voice"

**Emily Saab**  
*Centurion Staff*

A young Bucks County native, gained traction in her full-time music career putting on her first concert after a four chair turn on the popular talent TV show, "The Voice."

Laura Williams, a 20 year old Christian contemporary musician from Quakertown, was a fan favorite from season 24, hosted by Reba McEntire, John Legend, Gwen Stefani and Niall Horan.

Williams grew up her whole life singing, and when graduating high school, faced a crossroad of deciding between pursuing a college degree, or chasing her dreams of being a singer. Williams said, "I prayed on my roof one day in April when I was super conflicted, I said "God, I put my music career in your hands, whether it's what I want or not." And that night, a Christian based agency discovered me

through social media, wanting to manage me full time for a music career. I knew in a heartbeat that was the path for me, and deferred from college almost immediately." Williams started to post videos on the social media platform TikTok without too much expectation, but to her surprise she got a private message December of 2022 from a NBC Talent agent from "The Voice," inviting her to join in the upcoming season.

Williams said, "I thought it was a scam at first, I was like this cannot be real. I screamed and went to my parents room and told them, they freaked out. From that moment I just felt deep inside me that I was gonna be on the show."

She continued, "I did a series of interviews, some audition videos, b-roll which is just footage of me and my life and then I was presented to an executive board. A few

months after that I got a call that I was officially on the show."

Williams said, "The Voice was the best experience of my life and it literally changed my life," and although Williams was unfortunately eliminated in the battle rounds, she made it through the blinds, even being called a "prodigy" by Reba McEntire, which was a massive compliment in itself.

Williams at the time had chosen Niall Horan as her coach, which meant a lot to her as she grew up listening to his former band, One Direction. She describes working with Horan, as a full circle moment, "You know, I watched him on stage in the back of the arena in 2015, and then I was in front of him, literally doing the same thing he was doing on stage back then."

Since being back home and her audition airing in October of 2023, Williams

has kept busy pursuing a full time music career. She has been expanding her online audience and fanbase, gigging for local restaurants and businesses and working on a lead single.

When deciding what else was next, Williams knew it would be some time before she could release a completed album, and felt called to put on a concert of her own. This would be a step up from a gig, a complete show with a band, setlist/script, tickets and put on in a real venue. Williams also felt that she wanted it to be more than just a performance, and rather an interpersonal connection with her audience.

When debating on what to create, Williams thought about her life experiences, "All my life I've been a deep thinker, a deep feeler. And I truly believe that every single thing I have gone through has led me to the stage, and connecting with

others on shared experiences through my music. Being raw and vulnerable, and not being afraid to be honest."

Through this, and many prayers, came the realization and creation of the idea — Honestly. Williams explained this as being "the preface before you really open up, before you spill your guts. It's what you say right before you tell someone something personal, like 'Hey, honestly, I feel...'"

The concert, now titled Honestly: A Journey In Faith, was a show centered around the human trials and tribulations that many go through, and how Williams's faith has guided her through those experiences. Through music, topics like bullying, grief, loss and heartbreak were artistically and beautifully explored and discussed.

Honestly, took place on Friday, April 26 at 8 p.m., at the Sellersville Theater.

## News

# Teen From Bucks County Still Missing After a Month Investigation

Emily Saab  
Centurion Staff

16-year-old Geyahna Medwatz, who goes by “GG,” has been missing from her West Rockhill home since March 21, 2024.

This case has sparked interest among local police due to the unusual nature of her disappearance. Although they do believe she is a runaway, it was discovered when searching the residence that Medwatz did not take any personal belongings.

In an interview with The Pennridge Regional Police Department, Chief Paul Dickinson Jr. says “her grandmother was very clear that she is very interested in how she looks and her self-image, so she thought it was concerning that she didn’t even bring any makeup.” The only item found missing was Medwatz’s phone, but because it doesn’t have service hooked up to it, they cannot ping its location.

In recently discovered doorbell footage, the camera

shows that around 2 to 3 a.m., a dark vehicle pulls up to Medwatz’s house, and after waiting for a little while, a flashlight appears from her home, walks towards the car, and gets in, with the vehicle driving off immediately after.

The latest information gathered from search warrants on her social media accounts show that she is likely in the Philadelphia area. Additionally, Medwatz has reached out to a few friends of the family to confirm this. Specifics of this information are not being released at this time.

There are worries for Medwatz’s wellbeing. Despite it being speculated that she planned to leave willingly, there is no telling what could occur now. Dickinson Jr. says, “It is my opinion based on what we have that she went on her own; now what’s happened to her since she left, we don’t really know.” He continued, “she’s a 16-year-old girl with no money, no real phone and she’s been missing for a month now.”

In a formal release by the police, they stated “GG has a history of mental health concerns and is believed to not have taken her medication for several days now... There is some concern for her wellbeing based off comments she made earlier in the day on March 20, 2024, while at school about harming herself.” Dickinson Jr. added, “but according to her grandmother and her boyfriend, who she had recently broken up with, she was in good spirits.”

Medwatz had broken up with her boyfriend close to the time of her disappearance, but he and her friends and her school have been incredibly helpful and involved with the police.

In a final comment by Dickinson Jr., he says “The best thing we can do right now is keep it out there... We are still actively investigating and have The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children involved. Her family wants her to come home, we all do. We’ll keep on working on it until we can make that



Photo Courtesy of CrimeWatchPA

happen.”

Police are currently seeking the public’s assistance of those living on Lower and Upper Rocky Dale roads, including homes on Allentown, Thousand Acre, Ridge Valley and other roads in the surrounding areas, asking residents to check security cameras for any vehicles passing through in the 2 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. time period on March 21.

Geyahna Medwatz is

5 feet, 5 inches tall and approximately 150 pounds, with brown eyes and brown hair.

**If you have contact with Geyahna, see activity online, or have footage from that morning, please contact The Pennridge Regional Police at 215-257-5104.**

## National Mental Health Awareness Month



Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

May has been deemed National Mental Health Awareness Month since its origin in 1949 to increase awareness and educate about the importance of mental health and wellness in everyday lives. Bucks offers counseling services in-person, via phone or virtually, on all campuses for students including personal, informational and career decision-making. Bucks has committed to the promise of providing all students with comprehensive and innovative support. To schedule an appointment with a Bucks counselor call 215-968-8189, email [counseling@bucks.edu](mailto:counseling@bucks.edu), stop by the Student Services area or visit [www.bucks.edu/counseling](http://www.bucks.edu/counseling). In times of crisis please refer to the National Suicide Prevention Line at 1-800-273-8255 or visit [suicidepreventionlifeline.org](http://suicidepreventionlifeline.org) or call 988 for immediate help.

## Experts Worry How ChatGPT Will Change Our Writing?

Ava Grimm  
Centurion Staff

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has been a hot topic in the media over the past few years because it threatens life as we know it. AI like Chat GPT specifically targets the future of school English classes, writing professions, and students. What do we know about what the future of AI’s like ChatGPT hold for our society?

The article “High School English Needed a Makeover Before ChatGPT”, written by Daniel Herman of The Atlantic, explores how students learned before and after AI became easily accessible. Many students use it to write their essays and create grammatically correct masterpieces in minutes. Herman wrote, “reckoning with the existence of generative AI may require an absolute transformation in education policy at all levels.”

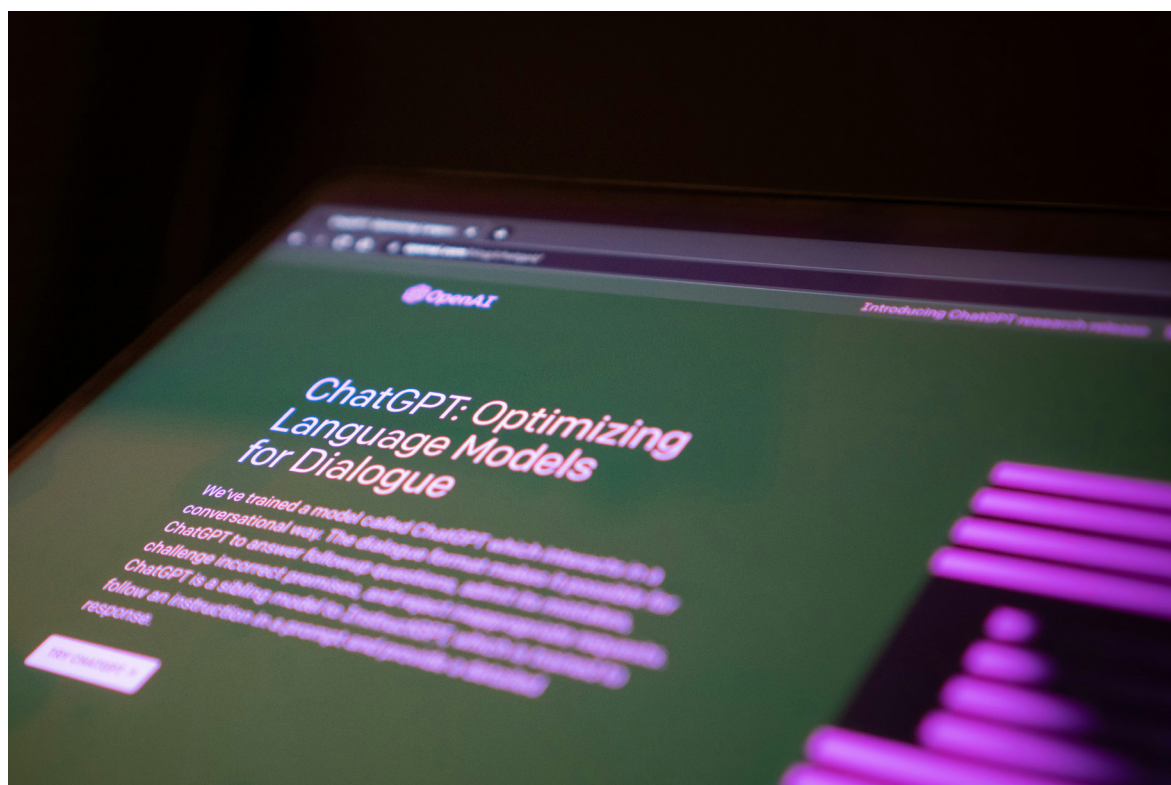
With the increased use and access to AI, there are many fears over how students will write, how teachers will continue instruction, and how

this will affect communication in our society.

Bucks Literature Professor Dr. Stephen doCarmo sees both positives and negatives with the use of ChatGPT and AI in the classroom. He said, “I’m totally ready to accept AI’s usefulness as, say, a tutor in content-dense courses. But I think in skills-based courses like the writing and math we all have to take early on in college, it’s starting to rob us of the practice we’re supposed to be getting at complex and critical thinking.”

20-year-old Bucks marketing student Ava Odenwald also thinks that AI can be useful within the context of studying. She said, “Yeah, I use Photomath to help me study; if I am stuck and not in the tutoring center it can help light a way to find where I went wrong in the problem.”

The use of ChatGPT and AI in the classroom leaves room for the question: How will education change with higher access to artificial intelligence? Dr. doCarmo sees two routes in this path:



We will preserve English and writing and continue to have our students write 5 paragraph research papers, or we will continue to integrate AI writing tools and ChatGPT potentially blurring the lines of where and when we should use this intelligence.

He said, “If we go that second route, we’ll probably tell ourselves that being able to think well enough to prompt ChatGPT or Claude to produce a particular document

we need (a news article, a research paper, a grant proposal, a sonnet, a mystery novel) means we have all the thinking skills we need.”

19-year-old business administration major Cassidy Darcey also expressed concerns over AI in the classroom, saying, “I believe it will limit [students] creativity and ability to reason effectively.”

Students and staff at Bucks have both expressed con-

Photo Courtesy of Unsplash

cerns for the preservation of writing and education against artificial intelligence. While it is hard to accurately predict the future of our education, AI has raised concerns for the future of learners now more than ever.

# News

## Bucks County Community College's Library Staff is Here to Help

**Abby Palmieri**  
*Centurion Staff*

Bucks' library and its attentive faculty serve as a place of retreat and success for all different kinds of students. The library's rich resources, particularly the presence of kind and expert staff, help guide students through their individual academic journeys.

Charlene Pipito, an IT technician at Bucks for fourteen years, is the epitome of the kind of expert-level support offered at the library. She helps students and staff troubleshoot their technology issues, and with her background in secondary education, Pipito ultimately looks to aid students with "organization and time management skills," she says.

Pipito is a Bucks Alumni, working under the Title III Grant and augmenting computers for the school from 1989-1993. At Bucks, she earned her associate degree in business administration. After this, she acquired an organization management degree from Eastern University in Philadelphia, where she would also publish her thesis on technology and education.

After having three children, Pipito became interested in the beneficial relationship between technology, education, and organization. Her interest in tech as well as her creative instincts led her to work with new computer programming, ultimately acquiring very sought-after computer skills.

Pipito would go on to teach both computer and business courses at Nazareth Academy High School.

"In my free time," she says, "I dabble in art": drawing, painting, and photography. She also enjoys writing, which was a catalyst for her learning computer programming. Her published work, often involving elements of design and organization, "was good to have when teaching children."

Andrew Gottesman, the collection management librarian at Bucks, makes "sure the materials for our library are current, accurate and useful". He works with vendors and databases to get the best academic sources available for the school's library system.

Gottesman has worked at Bucks' library for eight years now- three at his current position, and five as an acquisition technician.

Gottesman grew up in libraries. "My mom worked for the Bucks County Library system when I was a kid," he says. Eventually, he would cement his passion with a bachelor's degree in library science from Kutztown University and a master's in library information and science from Drexel.

"Libraries change over time, tech has obviously changed," Gottesman admits. "Striking the balance," though, between different elements- whether it be "print versus online" or the "wide demographic range" of students at Bucks- has always been a defining element of libraries' func-



Photo Courtesy of BCCC Website

tionality.

"Student interaction is very important to me," voices Gottesman. "I try to introduce myself and be as active in the school as possible."

"There's a virtual chat function (in addition to in-person meetings, of course) here at the library that has been really helpful" for students that want one-on-one research support. Also, Gottesman alongside the school's other librarians "are embedded in certain canvas courses" that pertain to their particular areas of expertise.

For Gottesman, the personalization of research and resources especially at a community college is quite significant, stating that his goal as a librarian is to "give everyone things they can utilize."

Shannah Halper and Beth McCaul, both library assistants, can often be seen at the library's logistical and

geographic center, the service desk- helping students check books in and out, taking student ID photos and assisting generally with student inquiries.

Halper's been working at the Bucks' Library since October, expressing that "libraries have always been a safe place for me, so the position made sense. Everyone is so friendly," she says, "The library community is really great."

McCaul, who's worked at the Bucks Library for seven years now, and Halper are eager to let students know of the help and services offered at the library.

Laptop, calculator and headphone loans are available to students all the time, and Halper encourages students to look into the long-term laptop loans available.

There are private study rooms scattered throughout the library building, includ-

ing a presentation room and a brainstorming room.

Both Halper and McCaul emphasize how helpful these rooms have proved to be for students- and they especially encourage those taking the COMM110 Public Speaking class to utilize the presentation room.

To get the quiet brainstorming room to yourself, "you can reserve your spot at the front desk or online," says Halper.

The Newton Campus Library is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Fridays, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays, and 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Sundays. For resources and more information, visit the Bucks County Community College Library page at <https://www.bucks.edu/library/>.

## First Day of Spring Fling Shows Increase in Student Involvement

**Emily Saab**  
*Centurion Staff*

Each Bucks County Community College campus holds an action-packed annual Spring Fling event at the end of the spring semester, and this year has been no exception.

At the main campus in Newtown, the gathering was planned for Wednesday April 24, and Thursday April 25 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The first day of events on Thursday had a great turnout, with many students stopping by to enjoy the festivities. Chris Seifert, Director of Student Engagement and Leadership Development, explains a little bit behind the Spring Fling events, "It's a way for us to gather and celebrate as we head towards the end of the semester and give students a chance to relax, throw an axe, do some Zumba, and just have some fun before we depart."

The first day of events included axe throwing, Zumba, mini golf, a mechanical bull, cornhole, and

some other yard games. In addition to these activities, Thursday's food was free French fries from a Spuddy's Fries food truck, and freshly popped popcorn. There was also a table representing Suitable handing out free prizes and the Bucks Opportunity Council offering pamphlets of information.

Seifert explains that "We are just looking for students to get together and for them to make connections, meet some people, have some fun outside of the classroom, and feel more of a sense of belonging here at Bucks."

Bucks emphasizes the importance for students to experience these events on campus. Hanging around in the quad, attending a workshop, or stopping by something that's happening rather than heading home immediately. Seifert wants Bucks students to know that "there's more to offer while you're here at college than just class."

Naomi Thompson, who works in the student life office with Chris Seifert, agrees that "the goal is to



Photo Courtesy of Chris Seifert

bring people together. We want to send you off with a hoorah!" She said that they just want "to get people out to the next event, we want to build that culture of 'what's next?!' It's been a huge hit today; it seems like people have stayed the longest out of all the events so far."

The second day of events

included similar activities, with a series of live performances by the Bucks Music Society Club.

Many studies strongly support and encourage student involvement on campus, with The American Psychological Association stating, "students are more likely to engage in healthy behaviors

and succeed academically when they feel connected to school."

Next time you see something fun happening around campus, don't be afraid to meet some new friends or experience something new.

# Entertainment

## Entertainment: Movies, Television and Pop Culture:

**Raymundo Varela-Urizar**  
*Entertainment Editor*

For years there has been ongoing allegations about sexual abuse and harassment in Hollywood. This horrible side to the culture of movies and television dates back all the way to the 1930s from Shirley Temple to now in 2024 with actors such as Drake Bell (Drake and Josh, Superhero Movie), Kyle Sullivan (Malcolm in the Middle, All That) and actresses Alexa Nikolas (Zoey 101, Hidden Hills), and Giovannie Samuels (All That, Suite Life of Zack and Cody). They have each come out with their own stories of harassment and assault at the hands of the adults who were supposed to protect them on set. "Quiet On Set: The Dark

Side of Kids TV" is a five-part documentary series that talks about the exploitation of child actors, convicted pedophiles, parental failures, hidden racism, and prejudices against female writers. A lot of the documentary also talks about the accusations against Nickelodeon's "Golden Boy" Dan Schneider, who created hit shows such as The Amanda Show, Zoey 101, iCarly, All That, Drake and Josh, Good Burger, and Victorious. With over 2 million views on HBO and ID, Quiet On Set is a hit.

Beware, you might rethink some of your favorite television shows.

**Directors:** Mary Robertson and Emma Schwartz  
**Producers:** Meredith Russell, Ruth Du, Nicholas



Photo Courtesy of Unsplash

Carlson

**Music By:** Ian Hultquist  
**Cinematography By:** Victor Tadashi Suárez  
**Cast:** Drake Bell, Giovon-

nie Samuels, Alexa Nikolas, Kyle Sullivan, Katrina Johnson  
**Genre:** Documentary, Investigation, Crime

**Rated:** Mature Audiences  
**Release Date:** March 18th

## "Strangers Things" Final Season Coming Next Year

**Raymundo Varela-Urizar**  
*Entertainment Editor*

The Netflix series Stranger Things is getting its epic conclusion in 2025 as teased by creators.

In a ScreenRant interview with Millie Bobby Brown, she said "Everybody's super excited. I just think if you've loved the seasons before, you trust the Duffers. They're geniuses, and they'll bring it like no other. And from what I've read, it is unbelievable, and I'm so excited for people to see it."

Filming is set to be finished in December of 2024, after setbacks due to the SAG/AFTRA strike. Despite the series ending, there have been hints that a

prequel series is also in the works once the main show is finished.

Get ready to go back to Hawkins one final time with Eleven, Max, Nancy, Steve, Will, and Jonathan on one last adventure sure to give us laughs, thrills, gasps, guesses, and maybe some tears.

**Director:** Matt Duffer and Ross Duffer (Directors of the shorts Eater and Hidden), and Shawn Levy (Director of Night at the Museum, Real Steel, and Deadpool 3)

**Series Writers:** Matt Duffer, Ross Duffer, Kate Trefry, Jessie Nickson-Lopez, Caitlin Schneiderhan

**Producers:** Shawn Levy, Dan Cohen, Rand Geiger, Emily Morris, Iain Paterson



Photo Courtesy of Unsplash

**Series Music By:** Michael Stein and Kyle Dixon  
**Cast:** Millie Bobby Brown, Finn Wolfhard, David Harbour, Caleb McLaughlin, Gaten Matarazzo, Joe Keery, Natalia Dyer

**Genre:** Thriller, Suspense, Action, Mystery  
**Rated:** TV-14  
**Release Date:** May-August 2025

## Comics with Connor

