

CAMPUS NEWS

College  Paper



Volume 19, Issue 2 FREE!

**POLAR VORTEX 2019
EARLY SEMESTER**



BHM EVENTS 13



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Find college success

Prof. John DeSpagna
Campus News

As a community college student, you are making one of the best investments you can make. You are investing in yourself for a successful and prosperous future. The path to completing your degree may not be easy but you have to think long term. Let's spend some time addressing steps you can take to be successful in community college.

Don't work too many hours each week. This can impact your ability to attend all of your classes and keep up with the coursework. While advising students, I inquire about how many hours the student will be working each week. Holding down a full-time job of 40 plus hours per week with a full-time course schedule of 15 plus credits per semester is a challenge. You need time to go to class, study and do homework. Try and have a balance between your work and course schedule.

Please continue reading on page 10

**The keys to staying on track
at a two-year college.**



Here's how to graduate with little debt

OneClass, the online company best known for its business model where students can buy and sell class and textbook notes, sent us numerous infographics pertaining to student debt and how students can get out of it.

Of course, one of these suggestions is to work for OneClass, but even with that shameless plug, the list is legit and useful, so we

thought we'd share their findings here. You can see all of the infographics on our site, cccn.us. Let's go:

The Problem

First, let's look at how student debt is ruining a generation. Whereas debt was a mere \$340 billion problem in 2001, it's now over \$1.3 TRILLION. The average student borrower

racks up \$36,299 in debt. Sixty-three percent of 18-29 year olds have some student debt. Because of this, 40% delay going for additional schooling (no master's degree, for example), and about a quarter put off buying a house or car. Eighteen percent have to live at home with parents because of student debt. Some student debtors avoid starting a business, or even getting

Summer jobs and internships

Make **\$4,668**
a summer from a seasonal job

PRO TIP

Don't forget to use the Tuition and Fees Deduction to reduce your income taxes on money earned

Please continue reading on page 5

LIU Post



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Has winter got you down? Try this.

Leanne Costantino
Campus News

Winter in the Northeast can often leave people with the winter blues. Being stuck inside with not much opportunity to connect with nature can be taxing on those who like to get outdoors. Indoor restlessness can lead to restlessness in the mind, which can have a negative impact on mental health as the winter goes along. It is important to keep the mind, body, and spirit active on a daily basis, especially when typical outdoor movement gets halted by the cold. There are some activities that, if done for even just a few minutes a day, can have very beneficial results for overall wellness.

Yoga and Harmony

Yoga is a great way to remain active and take a step away from technology during your day. “Yoga is known to be an excellent way to keep the kidneys and liver running clean,” said Dana Costantino, Yoga Instructor at Ra Ma Institute New York. “This is key in the winter because it provides the immune system with a much-needed increase in strength at a time when the cold temperatures and germs are on a higher level.” Daily activity, like Yoga, helps to remove toxins from the body and lift mood. “Given that Yoga helps to reduce stress, it is important to practice in the winter because, during times when you can’t get outside as much, stress levels tend to rise,” continued Dana. “There is a certain feeling of being more cooped up than usual. Practicing yoga, even if just for ten minutes a day, can help to calm the mind and keep the body on a healthier track. For people with Seasonal Affective Disorder, Yoga is a powerful tool because it brings an inner peace and helps to reduce anxiety, which is key for people who suffer from changes in mood due to changes in weather. Building in the use of Lemon and Lavender essential oils for uplifting the mood (Lemon) and bringing tranquility (Lavender), I recommend to tie all of the senses together in harmony.”

Reading for Pleasure

Reading develops the mind and is a great daily practice to adopt for mental well-being. Reading helps boost confidence, as learning new information or life lessons



through literature makes the reader feel like reading was time well spent. Reading also helps to increase focus and concentration. Unlike social media, where images and words flash before us, reading is a static mental exercise that forces the brain to focus on one task at a time. This can help develop patience as well.

Daily Exercise

Whether it be Yoga or something else, moving our bodies everyday helps the body feel elevated and euphoric. Some great ways to get involved in indoor activities this winter, while making new friends, could include rock climbing, bowling, kick-boxing, martial arts, fitness classes, or even jumping around at a trampoline park. Whatever you choose, your body will feel rejuvenated and your mind will be sharper and less susceptible to feeling down.

Be Your Authentic Self

Do what you like, and do more of it. Stop waiting for a “better time” or “a better you.”

Very often in the winter time, we hear people say things like “I’m working on my summer body” or “when the weather gets nicer, I’m going to start doing that more.” However, there is no better time to start something than in the present moment. “Too often, I feel like we’re waiting for that eureka moment, said Charles Cornell, President and Creative Director at Cornell Digital. “Then when it doesn’t come, we keep searching for it. I found myself stuck in that loop when I was first starting Cornell Digital. After a while, I found myself looking

back on our progress shocked at how far we’d come without ever finding that ‘light switch.’” Most often, success with something comes after repetitive diligent behaviors. Whatever it is that you love to do, start doing it more regularly now. Working on something habitually will create a sense of direction and purpose.

Gratitude and Spiritual Practice

No matter what your religion or spiritual beliefs are, it is important to stay connected with your soul. Keeping rooted in the things that you value and the person you want to be will keep you feeling good all the time. Very often, people get stuck in the rat race of working, shopping, and helping other people that they forget to reconnect with themselves. “If you’re so deep in ‘the grind’ chances are you’re feeling entirely disconnected spiritually,” said Alyse Brautigam, creator of Raw Alignment. “Because working/doing things nonstop leaves little space for connection to yourself and higher power/God. Feeling disconnected takes away our power and pulls us out of our flow state. Essentially, without connection we are way out of alignment. And THIS is a problem. To experience rapid growth with fitness, business, relationships, mindset, etc., your secret weapon is your spiritual practice.” Even just taking a few moments each day to send a heartfelt message to a loved one or ask someone how they are doing can help you feel connected spiritually.

Remember for the remainder of the winter season to take time to check in with yourself, your body, and your mind. A small daily practice can make all the difference.

Millennials dislike Trump, Twitter and Facebook

Darren Johnson
Campus News

Not only is the President uncool among young adults, but so are two big social media platforms.

The UMass Lowell Center for Public Opinion recently released a poll that said Millennials (ages 18-37) disliked Donald Trump and the platforms Twitter and Facebook in equal numbers. All three scored a mere 37% approval rating in the nonpartisan poll of 1000 younger adults.

It's not that surprising Millennials don't like the president all that much — and even two-fifths of young Republicans say he tweets too much — but the fact that they don't like Twitter and Facebook overall is an interesting add-on to this survey.

"I was surprised to see such low favorables for Facebook and Twitter, given that this generation makes up a huge part of the user bases of both platforms. Younger millennials may be switching to platforms like Instagram and Snapchat, but I think this finding reinforces the idea that while lots of people use these services, they don't make people happy," said John Cluverius, associate director of the Center for Public Opinion and assistant professor of political science, who oversaw the poll and analyzed the results.

These findings show that social media just isn't all that enjoyed by this prime

demographic. Interesting in that marketers trying to reach Millennials have moved their ad budgets to digital. One would think younger Generation Z is even more wary of social media.

Perhaps marketers should think twice about placing their ads in a place their intended audience actually kind of hates. Maybe journalists should reconsider writing stories tweaked for Instant Stories.

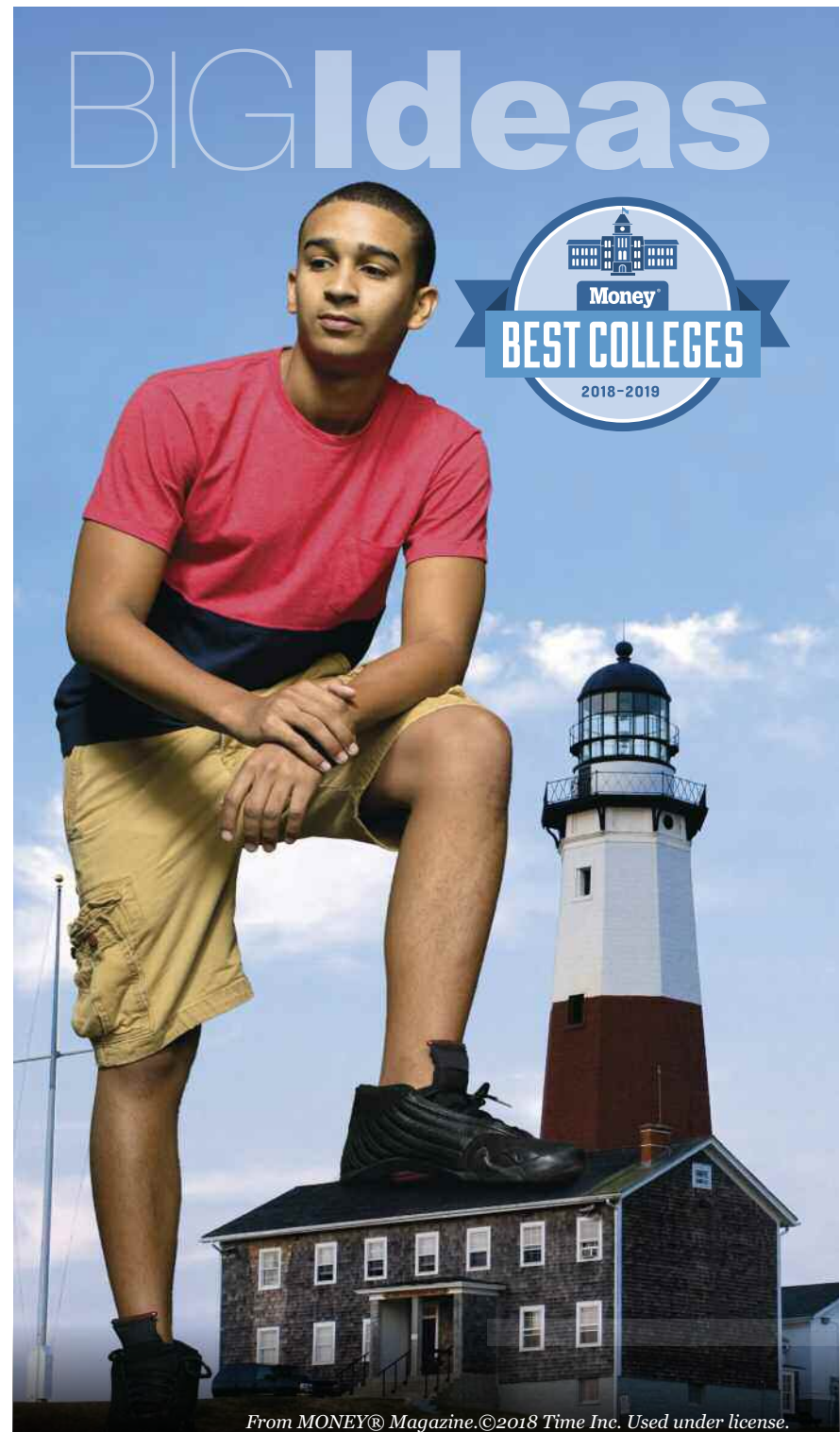
This can't be good news for the social media sites that rely on ad dollars and the perception of a sheeplike grinning

audience with dollars to burn. The younger audience is much smarter than that.

The study is full of other interesting tidbits: Millennials like Bernie Sanders more than any other Democratic candidate, but 54% say they will vote for any Democrat who takes on Trump. They are mostly in favor of more controls on guns, but are more conservative when it comes to immigration — perhaps because they are new to the job market, where immigrants may be seen as competition. You can read the press release on ccn.us.

The report is worth reading. Soon, Millennials will be the largest generation in America, and their views will become more and more mainstream. It's good to know what's coming.

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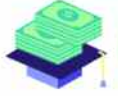
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Graduate with little debt (cont.)

The Student Debt Problem



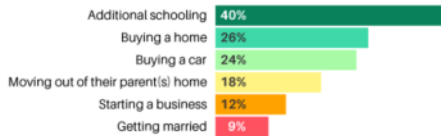
53% of all U.S. adults with a Bachelor's degree have taken on debt to finance their education

Rates are higher for current students and recent grads:

63% of those age 18 to 29 have taken student debt as undergrads

What are the effects of student debt?

Recent alumni delay the following because of student loans under **\$25,000**



Money-related issues are the #1 and #2 reasons students drop out



dropped out to go to work and make money



couldn't afford the tuition and fees

married.

The Solutions

Fill out your FAFSA.

Thirty-six percent of students don't and leave approximately \$3600 on the table.

Get good grades. You may be able to get grade-related grants your sophomore or junior years. Ask your Financial Aid office about this.

Cut housing costs. Become an RA for free room and board. Or move off campus – the typical student who gets roomies and a lease saves \$219 a month. Or live with family – 37% of college students do.

Skip the dining hall. With the typical meal costing \$7.50, you can save \$675 a month con-

verting to homemade peanut butter and jelly.

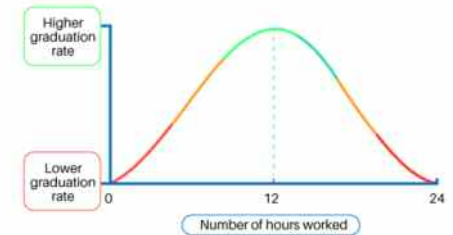
Get a side hustle! Consider using your car as an Uber between classes, sell stuff online or tutor via apps like Solvit, where you can earn \$20/hour.

Or get an hourly job, like work-study or bartending. Twenty-five percent of students report working full-time. However, students who either work zero hours or work more than 14 hours have a lower graduation rate. It seems about 10-13 hours a week is optimum.

Don't drop out. Fifty-four percent of students say they drop out to earn more money working, as opposed to 31 per-

A key part of graduating without debt is actually graduating

One financial aid rep sees a correlation between graduation rates and number of work hours during college



Did not work - Lower graduation rate
Worked 1 to 12 hours per week - Higher graduation rate
Worked more than 12 hours per week - Lower graduation rate

cent who say they can't afford the tuition and fees. But over a lifetime, that degree will be worth a lot more than what you're earning now!

Thanks to OneClass for this info. Visit them at oneclass.com.

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If you're a college student interested in journalism, writing and/or photography or a faculty/staff member with something to say, we can use your help. Consider writing for us!

Stories should be of interest to college students and apply to current trends in the college world. For the print edition of Campus News, specifically, stories should apply to community college students in the Northeast. For the online edition, stories may apply to and use sources from any US college, whether community, 4-year or graduate. While we sometimes publish first-person essays, typically, a story should

be in the standard journalistic style with quotes from students and at least one expert.

For our printed newspaper, we generally pay student writers \$30-35 for an assigned story of 800-1200 words; \$20 for a shorter piece. Some story ideas:

Interesting Courses. Perhaps there is a unique for-credit course at a community college. Let's talk to the instructor and perhaps a student or two to learn more.

Upcoming Guest Speakers/Artists. Here we interview an upcoming community college campus speaker/guest artist for a profile piece. The event should be taking place at least a month in advance of the story's due date.

Good Sports. Let's write about a championship team or star player from one of the community colleges we serve.

Useful Advice Pieces. These stories fuel Campus News. Examples include how to do well on tests, how to study, how to write a better term paper, how to handle stress, how to make friends on campus, how to have work/life/school balance, etc.

To ensure getting into the print edition, be sure to give us your best effort. Proofread! We can't pay for first-person commentary and op-eds but do run them. We also cannot pay non-

student writers, or for stories that only appear online.

Our deadline for the print edition is the 24th of each month.

You may also submit web-first stories. These appear on Google News as well as our own site. This is a great publication credit for a student writer! We may pull some of these stories into the print edition.

We also run stories by faculty, staff, administrators and recent grads. Contact us at editor@ccn.us with your ideas.



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13 degrees for inmates

History was made last month at Greene Correctional Facility, which held its first-ever college commencement ceremony through the Hudson Link for Higher Education in Prison program and Columbia-Greene Community College.

Thirteen degrees were conferred to the Greene Correctional Class of 2019 on Thursday, Jan. 17, including to Class Valedictorian Terrance (last name withheld, pictured), who

served as one of many speakers at the ceremony and reflected on his own educational journey.

“When I enrolled in the Hudson Link college program, I did so with the hope of furthering my education,” he said. “I believed college was the most constructive way to utilize my time. ...Through my studies, I became aware of my capabilities along with my limitations.”

Carson’s BHM exhibit

Suffolk County Community College celebrates Black History Month with an exhibit of paintings by Rani Carson.

One Under the Sun” will be exhibited at the Eastern Campus of Suffolk County Community College through March 2 at the Lyceum Gallery. A reception will be held on Wednesday, February 27, from 4 to 6 p.m. Refreshments will be served.



Rani Carson paints spiritual friends and experiences from within the Jamaican Rastafarian culture. Traveling between her studio in Oracabessa, Jamaica and Riverhead, Long Island.

See more community college BHM events on page 13.

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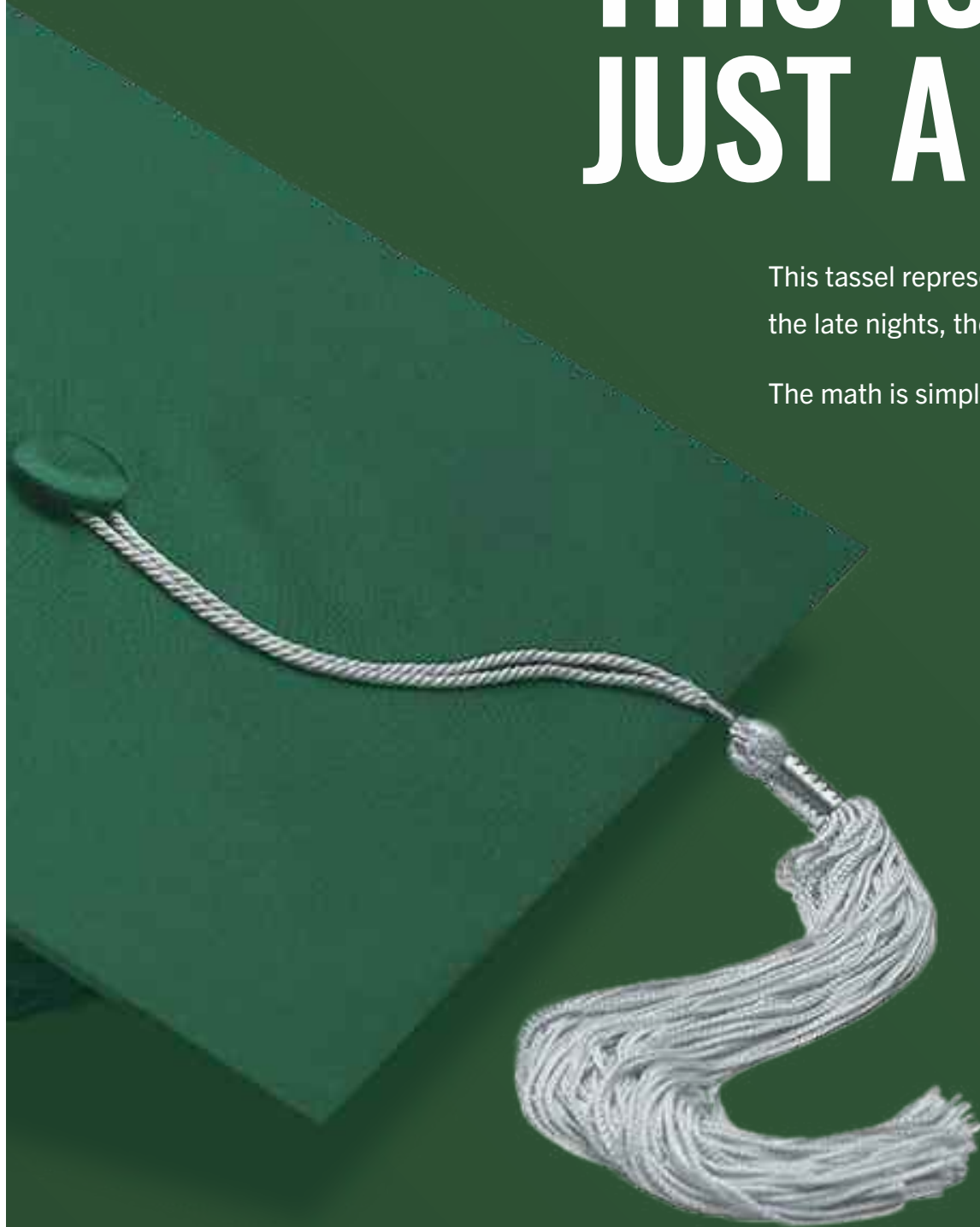
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How to get organized while in college

Telijah Patterson
Campus News

In any given week a college student might need to take a test, submit a research paper, give an oral presentation, read five or more chapters, renew their financial aid, work a double shift, babysit, get their car fixed and the list goes on and on. For community college and non-traditional students who often lack familial support, the list is likely far more extensive. It seems nearly impossible to balance all of these competing responsibilities while also excelling at school. Under all of this pressure, it is not unusual for a student to procrastinate or simply implode, leaving these tasks incomplete.

However, one key element is essential in managing multiple responsibilities without all the unnecessary stress. That element is good organization.

A 2014 study published in the *European Journal of Psychology Education* found that undergraduate students who received time management training, which involved skills in organizing, experienced a decrease in stress and felt more in control of their time after completing the training although demands on their time had not changed. Another study published in the academic journal *Education for Information* that analyzed the task completion of undergraduate students found that time management and lack of organization are the major factors for uncompleted or non-started tasks.

Most college students probably don't need studies or statistics to understand the drawbacks from disorganization and the benefits of being organized such as peace of mind, lower stress levels, greater time management, and increased

confidence! But it is one thing to understand the implications of a particular behavior and another to apply them in one's life. The following tips are not an exhaustive list of ways to get organized, but are an excellent starting point. There are so many different ways to keep yourself organized, so do some research after reading this article and find what works for you!

Use your cell phone. That's right, your cell phone is more than a gateway to social media. You have probably already discovered that most smartphones come equipped with a calendar. Input your class times and also block off time in your calendar exclusively for study. Remember to account for transportation time; it is always best to give yourself buffer time. One trick is to input appointments into your calendar 15 minutes before or so before their actual start time. Color code by each class and event type (work, meetings, social, etc.) you have on your cal-

'The results of being more productive are totally worth the effort!'

endar to help keep everything straight. Lastly, connect your calendar to your email account so that in the unfortunate case that you lose your phone you can easily retrieve your appointments online and have them available on different devices.

Use your course syllabi. Look at the schedules from all your syllabi and mark assignment due dates and testing dates on your calendar. With these important dates on your calendar you can easily identify your busy weeks and if you have extra time, get ahead of coursework.



Review your calendar for the upcoming week ahead of time so that you can make adjustments if there are any conflicting appointments. This is best to do on the same day each week. Many people choose to do this on Sunday. It is also helpful to review your schedule briefly when you start your day. Create a daily to-do list and check off tasks as you go along. Google Sheets has an excellent to-do list tracker template. You can even download the Google Sheets app to use on various devices.

Have an agenda. If tech isn't your thing, this might be. You can do this in conjunction with a cell phone calendar or in place of it. Most schools provide agendas, but don't worry if your school doesn't; you can easily find them and they're very affordable. After each class, write down each homework assignment and due date. At the end of the day, you should have all of your homework written down in the agenda.

Time yourself. It can be easy to get lost in an assignment especially if you are determined to make a good grade or you are passionate about the subject. To circumvent this give yourself a

reasonable time frame to complete it. Set an alarm clock or timer to alert you once the allotted time is up. While you're at it, if possible turn your cell phone to airplane mode to minimize distractions from text messages or push-notifications.

Don't waste time. Start projects as soon as you get the assignment even if that means starting a word document with the assignment title and an introductory paragraph. Or if it's a science or math course, solve that first problem immediately after class is over. Rather than procrastinating until the night before an assignment is due, begin working on homework and other projects as soon as you know what the assignment will be. Knowing that you have already started will motivate you to complete it!

Use folders. Color coded folders will do wonders to help you keep paperwork from each class organized. In one pocket place all of your upcoming assignments and in the other place class handouts and relevant materials.

With the Spring semester riding at our heels, now is a good time to prepare for the inevitable, a new semester with

continued on next page

Success at community college (cont.)

Another concern is trying to take 18 or more credits in a semester. This is a lot of coursework to do. Trying to rush through the degree taking so many credits in a semester is a challenge. This also may be a case of trying to do too much and may have an impact on your GPA because you are trying to do too much.

Your college has many resources available to help you. At Nassau Community College, we have dedicated resource centers. These include Learning Centers in Math, English, Accounting and Business. Go to these Learning Centers for extra help and tutoring. They are there to help you with dedicated professionals. Check with your college and see what type of extra resources are available to help you.

Research has shown that taking a First Year Experience course at your college helps to increase retention and academic success. Your college may require you to enroll in one of these classes or it may be an option. These classes are designed and offered to help you through your first year in a college. Take a look into the offerings at your college and consider this as an option. These classes are helpful to future success.

As the semester continues on, you will face many demands on your time. Time management is very important and you simply need to prioritize how to spend your time. Don't try to do too much and stay focused. Try and write out a weekly plan on how you are going to spend your time in-

cluding plenty of time for your studies.

It is also important to go and talk to your professors. We have office hours set up to meet with students to try and help you. You can clarify something you do not understand in class, ask a professor about a subject you are not sure of or learn about career opportunities in your field. Go and see your professors so they can help you.

I cannot emphasize the importance of going to see an advisor to make your class schedule. An advisor will go over your program and help you select the ap-

'It is also important to go and talk to your professors.'

propriate courses in your degree program. This can avoid the possibility of you taking courses that are not going to count toward your degree and may not even be covered by financial aid.

Your program will probably allow you to take some free electives. Try taking some electives that you have an interest in. These may be a course that could allow you to explore a career opportunity.

As you are going through your first year of college, why don't you challenge yourself? Many community colleges offer an Honors Program. These are enriched programs that allow you to be exposed to



something different. When you apply to a four-year college and your transcript shows that you have participated in an Honors Program, you are enhancing your credentials in the admissions process.

To be successful, you need to work hard and be motivated. Success at a community college is no different. Be passionate about your college work to help set the foundation for a successful community college experience and success later on in life. You are investing in yourself!

John DeSpagna is Chair of the Accounting and Business Administration Department at Nassau Community College in Garden City, N.Y.



Get organized (cont.)

new challenges. It may seem overwhelming to try all of these tips at once, so perhaps focus on one of the tips or one particular area of organization a week or whatever time frame works best for you! By then, you should be in the swing of things and you can focus on improving in other areas. Do more than get yourself organized – find someone to hold you accountable. You can do that by letting those who care about you, like your college advisor, your parents, or your friends, know what your goal is and setting up dates to check-in with them about what they think of your progress.

If you want to take it a step further, why not help a friend to get organized or once you feel comfortable in your master level organizing skills, coordinate a workshop at your campus giving tips to students about how to stay organized; the campus life office is a great place to get advice on how to facilitate such a workshop. You'll expand your network and experience a sense of pride. Not only will having a goal to work towards guide and focus you, but it will also help you to become more self-aware and reflective, which is great experience for you to draw on in a college admissions or job interview to

the common question "Tell me about a time you overcame a challenge."

Always have a deadline for yourself. It has often been said that a goal without a deadline is just a dream and while college students have dreams of living a better life, we want that dream to come to fruition, so quantifying your goals will help you to do just that!

Getting yourself organized will not happen overnight. For many of us it takes a few years to master the skill, which makes sense as to why it is highly sought out by employers. The results of being more productive, more efficient, and an increased ability to meet deadlines are totally worth the effort!

The English major: to be, or not to be?

Darren Johnson
Campus News

Oh, woe is the English major – but, frankly, I’m sick of seeing essays in higher-ed newspapers by disillusioned faculty that read like obituaries for the field. How does such griping inspire students — who may love books and creative writing — feel better about this major? How does the whining make parents feel about shelling out \$50,000 a year for such study; will they instead steer their children into other fields?

Because English can be a great major – just it has lost its way in recent years. Here’s what went wrong, and how to fix the major – before it’s too late.

First a little history – around the turn of the last century, English departments, facing shrinkage, brought writing courses into their realm. By the free-love 1960s, these courses

grew to become more creative in nature. A schism occurred – English departments became a mix of introverted booklovers with a Literature concentration, and their less academically inclined distant cousins, Creative Writing concentrators, who aspire to be on the Bestsellers List.



The only real connection Lit and Writing concentrators have is that the latter group *should* be exposed to classic books. However, what are the odds some 22-year-old is going to write a classic? Why not put the



creative writers, instead, in the Business Division, then; because if not critical acclaim, maybe at least they’ll learn to market their work until – decades from now – their genius is discovered by the Lit concentrators of tomorrow?

And that’s the reality English departments need to face – neither Lit nor Creative Writing offers immediate rewards. Studies say these majors start to kick in salary wise around “mid-career.” But what are they doing for their 22-year-old graduates? Students who have piles of educational loan debt?

When I was a BA in English (Writing concentration) student back in the late 1980s and early 1990s, I took elective courses in Journalism, PR Writing, Technical Writing and other practical forms. I also wrote for the school paper.

At the turn of this century, Communications Departments at most colleges started becoming

serious – they no longer were satisfied providing a soft, generic major for the football team – and they took over these practical courses. English departments started to shrivel, to the point where only about 4 percent of graduates today earn an English degree (the number was twice as high last century).

‘Only 4 percent of students pursue this major.’

Students in Communications are not only learning Journalism and PR Writing – they also are learning how to present their work via New Media.

They also run the school paper now – school papers used to be a staple of English departments, who dropped the ball with these practical writing laboratories.

The typical professional novelist doesn’t hit until age 40 or so. They certainly don’t hit at age 22. How does the young English grad buy time until then? If he or she has practical training, there’s nothing wrong with being a newspaper re-

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continued on page 30

Tales from an Upstate hair salon

Kaylee Johnson
Campus News

Every eight weeks I spend three hours at a small hair salon in Upstate New York getting my dark brown hair bleached. A few months ago, I dyed my hair black during a nervous breakdown fueled by rejection and art. The salon is the downstairs of the owner's house, and it reeks of cat urine and cherry blossom scented Febreze. For the past six years I have been getting my hair done by a tall, lean, fifty-something woman we'll call "Corrine" who loves gossiping, as most hairstylists do. But what I have noticed about Corrine is her exquisite communication skills; she knows the art of timing and juicy conversation, a skill I have never perfected.

Usually, my mother tags along with me to get her grays covered up, and she loves Corrine because the woman is willing to listen to her nonsensical ideas about beauty and plight, and everything in the middle. I enjoy when my mother comes too, for then I can sit back and observe instead of engaging in wasteful small talk; feeling numb and traumatized. I find myself trying to get high off of the bleached chemical fumes to take the edge off of the imaginary tension between me and the hairstylist. But my mother is as graceful as Corrine; a poised socialite.

Corrine's social skills are just as important as her ability to style hair nicely. Her paycheck depends on those two qualities. I know that if I were a hairstylist, I would make backhanded comments to balding men and lice-ridden children, and certainly not get repeat customers. The truth is, I have never worked a customer service job; I

have never dealt with belligerent middle-aged women trying to return wine and blood-stained tunics, or sixteen-year-olds trying to purchase lower shelf vodka without ID, or college students who happily allow a Sephora worker spend thirty minutes doing their makeup without any intention of purchasing any of the products used. I am a junior in college without any customer service skills, and when I see them being used by professionals, I marvel at their phoniness and raw ambition.

Phoniness, that is what the phenomena is. If I were to crack Corrine's bright smile with a sledgehammer and look at the pieces under a microscope, I would find nothing but pieces of dirt and fool's gold; and I would

'There is an art to her suave communication.'

come to the perplexing realization that all this time I was marveling at her acting skills rather than her sincerity. Yet, even though her words have no depth, there is an art to her suave communication; I wonder how many years it took her to acquire such confidence and vigor.

Corrine does not know I am a writer. She knows very little about me, because I am always too enveloped in all of the sensations going on around me to talk. My mother tells her everything, and fails to look beyond the hair dryer for meaning. There is a lot to analyze in that small wood paneled salon; things my mother would never see. Maybe I should just let my coffee-colored roots grow out; I



'Steel Magnolias'

would not want to be another honey hued phony, who talks of emotional freedom but writes from her own mental dungeon.

I challenge you to look into the orbs of your hairstylists and search for authenticity. You probably won't find any; they have been trained to act in a robotic fashion to maximize customer service skills. They won't tell you if your shirt is too tight or if you smell of BO. They only know how to talk about shoes, Meghan Markle, and hosting parties. So, I suppose hair salons are not all that different than they were in the fifties and

sixties. One of my favorite films growing up was "Steel Magnolias" and much of it takes place in an intimate southern hair salon run by Truvy Jones (Dolly Parton). In that salon women gossiped, laughed, and shared secrets. At seven years old I thought womanhood would be full of hair appointments like that; utterly domestic and posh. A hair salon is still a symbol of beauty, womanhood, and unattainable standards. Yet, we keep getting our roots colored. There are words written on our silver strands; you just have to dilate your eyes to read them.

We are seeking writers and artists

Some day, perhaps far in the future, you will find an old and yellowed copy of Campus News in an attic, amongst your past essays and algebra homework. You had once grabbed it in between classes and it got mixed up with your papers. You may be a parent or a grandparent or a great relative, and here's something tangible you will be able to show the students of tomorrow.

Will your writing or art be in this future copy of Campus News, archived for posterity for current and future generations to ponder over and enjoy? This is deep stuff to think about, and we're running out of space in this little box. In short – leave a legacy! Get your work in print.

Contact us at editor@cccnews.info!

Black History Month on your campus

Every campus in our region is hosting Black History Month events this February.

“In the words of Lonnie Bunch, Founding Director of the Smithsonian’s NMAAHC, ‘African American History — and its celebration throughout February — is just as vibrant today as it was when Carter G. Woodson created it over 90 years ago. There is no more powerful force than a people steeped in their history. And there is no higher cause than honoring our struggle and ancestors by remembering.’ Let’s continue remembering and celebrating the lives and contributions Black and African Americans have made in this country and in the world,” said Lorraine Lopez-Janove, Chief Diversity Officer at SUNY Ulster.

So make it a point to attend at least one Black History Month event this February. Here are some highlights that we received as of press time:

At **Schenectady County Community College**, there will be a Gangstagrass Performance and Q&A on Wednesday, Feb. 20, at 12 noon in the Carl B. Taylor Auditorium. New York City musician and beats producer RENCH imagined what bluegrass and hip-hop combined might sound like. Hear the results. The event is free but you must register by going to sunysccc.edu.

At **Queensborough Community College** on Tuesday, Feb. 19, all day, in the Student Union Lounge, the Student Government Association will host the “Black Inventions Exhibit.” This is a multimedia presentation that pays tribute to African-American inventors and innovators. The exhibit reveals many surprising facts, and highlights the accomplishments of African-Americans in

the fields of science, aerospace communication, health care, agriculture, transportation and engineering. Over 150 authentic artifacts are represented in the collection: patent designs, personal letters, rare photographs, brief biographies of the inventors and documentaries.

Mohawk Valley Community College will host “History of the ‘N’ Word and the Origin of Antisemitism” at its Utica campus at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21. The lecture will cover the history of racism and antisemitism in the United States and Europe and the implications of using racial slurs on individuals and greater society. The presentation will be followed by a moderated question and answer session.

Westchester Community College will host two Black History Month events on Tuesday, Feb. 19: “Inspiring Author’s Café,” featuring Randall Toby and Shannon Holmes, in the Classroom Building Room 100 at 11 a.m.; and the event/play “Of Ebony Embers Vignettes of the Harlem Renaissance” with Heather Ostman in the Davis Auditorium at 2 p.m.

At **Nassau Community College** on Wednesday, Feb. 27, at 11 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room, CCB, the BHM Keynote Speaker event will feature “A Conversation with the Honorable Andrew Gillum, Former Mayor of Tallahassee, Florida and 2018 Florida Democratic gubernatorial nominee.” (Pictured, cover.)

At **Suffolk County Community College’s** Ammerman Campus in Selden on Tuesday, Feb. 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., in the Babylon Student Center see “The Black History Artifacts Exhibit.” The historical collection of Long Island’s own “Unspoken History Treasures” will be on exhibit again this year.



The collection consists of historical materials that document the African-American experiences.

Rockland Community College all month long will host “African American Contributions to History & Science,” an exhibit in the Library, second floor.

At **Springfield Technical Community College** in Massachusetts all month long see the works of renowned artist Brian Gaither in Building 28/Amy H. Carberry Fine Arts Gallery. Also, on Wednesday, Feb. 27, hear Dr. Raja Staggers’ “Health Disparities in the Minority Community,” 11:15 a.m., Scibelli Hall, Rooms 703-704.

At **Borough of Manhattan Community College**, hear a staged reading of Stephen Adley Guirgis’ “Our Lady of 121st Street” with a post-reading discussion facilitated by Professor Jermaine Rowe (LaGuardia Community College, Broadway and West End Performer) on Tuesday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. on 199 Chambers St., room N-451. The reading looks at African heritage as it pertains to notions of behavior in the community, ideas of forgiveness and honesty, and how the church and the idea of “God’s love” intersect as well as clash.

At **LaGuardia Community College** stop by the “Black Heritage Awareness Program” on Wednesday, Feb. 13, at 1 p.m. in E-Building Room 111. Celebrate and honor great achievements by African-Americans. There will be a presentation and song by the children of the college’s Early Childhood Learning Center. Following the children’s presentation will be a Q&A with refreshments.

At **SUNY Ulster**, Joakim Lartey will perform African drumming and storytelling on Wednesday, Feb. 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Student Life Dining Hall. Joakim was born in Accra, Ghana. He studied at Prempeh College in Kumasi, Ghana and then at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie and The Creative Music Studio in Woodstock. Joakim has performed with Natalie Merchant, Jack DeJohnette, Baba Olatunji and John Hall, among others. He cofounded and was the lead singer of critically acclaimed Worldbeat/Afro-funk band Futu that performed at Woodstock ‘94. He teaches drumming and rhythm to individuals and groups.

More events will be added to our web site, www.cccn.us. Send your listing to BHM@cccn.us.

Is cruising really authentic travel?

Rick Steves
Tribune Content Agency

Recently, I was on a massive cruise ship with 3,000 passengers blitzing the great ports of the Mediterranean - and having lots of fun. No, I'm not suddenly abandoning my independent travel principles and becoming a huge proponent of cruising. But I am impressed by the economy, efficiency and popularity of this kind of travel ... and, to be honest, I enjoy cruising.

I'm the first to admit that cruising doesn't appeal to everyone. For some, it's anti-travel. For others, it's the perfect vacation.

On our ship, I met people who seemed to be having a great time ... most of them veterans of many cruises. I also met lots of budget-conscious travelers who told me that a cruise (which includes transportation, lodging and food for one discounted price) is a wonderful value.

The per-day base cost for mainstream cruises beats independent travel by a mile. For a weeklong European cruise, a couple can pay as little as \$100 per person per night - that's less than most hotel rooms in London or Paris. To link all the places on your own - with hotels, rail passes, boat tickets, taxi transfers, restaurants, and so on - would add up fast. And you can't beat the convenience and efficiency of sleeping while you travel to your next destination.

There are some negatives. There's no denying that the cruising industry contributes to water, air and marine-noise pollution - but technology and consumer pressure are helping a bit. Environmental responsibility is such a hot topic that all the large cruise lines have website sections where you can evaluate their efforts. (Just keep in mind

that this info is also intended to help market their cruises.)

And what about the impact on local economies and communities? Cruising can trample towns with sightseers who leave almost no money (since they eat, sleep and buy their tours on-board). On the other hand, most of those communities view cruise ships as an economic boost - which explains why so many ports are investing in cruise-worthy piers and terminals.

Then there are issues of economic justice. Critics point out that the industry is built on rich tourists being served by crew members from poor countries. But I've talked to many people who work on cruise ships, and they've told me that the income they earn on a ship is far more than any employment prospects they have back home. And the remarkable loyalty of numerous crew members (working many, many years for the same cruise line) says a lot about this working arrangement. There's also diversity to this style of travel.

Cruising can accommodate a family with vastly different travel philosophies. It's possible for Mom to go to the museum, Dad to lie by the pool, Sally to go snorkeling, Bobby to go shopping, Grandma and Grandpa to take in a show ... and then all of them can have dinner together and swap stories about their perfect days. (Or, if they're really getting on each other's nerves, there's plenty of room on a big ship to spread out.)

Cruising is especially popular among retirees, particularly those with limited mobility. Cruising rescues you from packing up your bags and huffing to the train station every other day. Once on land, accessibility for wheelchairs and walkers can vary dramatically - though most



cruise lines offer excursions specifically designed for those who don't get around well.

And yet, I still have reservations. Just as people trying to learn a language will do better by immersing themselves in that culture than by sitting in a classroom for a few hours, I believe that travelers in search of engaging, broadening experiences should eat, sleep and live Europe. Good or bad, cruising insulates you from Europe. If the taxi drivers in Naples are getting a little too pushy, you can simply retreat to the comfort of 24-hour room service, American sports on the TV and a boatload of people who speak English. It's fun - but is it Europe?

Cruising might not be for everyone. But neither is my style of travel. And at least cruising gets people (who might otherwise stay home) out interacting with the world. Frankly, many of the people I met on my last cruise were enjoying (and benefiting from) the chance to broaden their perspective through travel ... even if tethered to a big floating chunk of America.

Let's face it: Americans have

the shortest vacations in the rich world. Some choose to dedicate their valuable time off to all-inclusive, resort-style vacations in Florida, Hawaii, the Caribbean or Mexico: swimming pools, song-and-dance shows, shopping and all-you-can-eat buffets. Cruising lets you toggle back and forth between the floating American-style resort each evening and a different European adventure each day. If you know how to use your time on shore smartly, it can be the best of both worlds. Bon voyage!

Rick Steves (www.rick-steves.com) writes travel guidebooks to the cruise ports of the Mediterranean and Northern Europe and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@rick-steves.com, follow his blog on Facebook, and watch for his TV special "Rick Steves' Cruising the Mediterranean," coming to your local public television station this month.



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The band Queen was bigger than a film

Chris Willman
Variety

“Bohemian Rhapsody” is, by any measure, gargantuan. It’s at the \$195 million mark at the U.S. box office and just got a turbo boost heading toward the magic \$200M mark, with a post-Golden Globes expansion back into 1,300 theaters set for Friday, including a new “sing-along” version set for more than 750 screens. Its foreign grosses sit at \$553 million. That’s big - bigger than the robot on the cover of “News of the World.” Bigger than Brian May’s stacks of Vox amps. Bigger than Rami Malek’s dentures. Big, we tell you.

But you know what’s even more behemoth than “Bohemian”? Queen.

Maybe that seems like an obvious point, but maybe not. There is a fair amount of myth-making in “Bohemian Rhapsody,” as detractors focused on ways in which the story departs from the historical record have pointed out. But there are some myths around the film itself, and one big one is that the movie somehow put the band back on the map. There are those who can’t imagine even the most popular musicians in the world being terribly relevant unless they’re being legitimized by the movies or television - let’s call them medium-ists - which results in a false narrative developing about Hollywood raising a moribund band from the dead. The other day I even ran into someone who said that no one should care about the complaint that the film short-changes some of the band members because “no one could name anyone but Freddie Mercury anyway.” If classic rock is one big background din in your mind, maybe it’s easy to look at the grosses and say, “Who knew?” ... and wonder if someone should be green-lighting “Styx:

The Motion Picture.”

As a matter of fact, somebody probably should make a movie out of the Dennis DeYoung-Tommy Shaw wars, but on pure artistic merit, not because it’s going to make \$200 million. Maybe no other potential rock biopic could. What the upcoming “Rocketman” film could do is anyone’s guess, but there’s an argument to be made that Queen has loomed even larger in the rock imagination than Elton all these years, despite the frontman’s death putting a 28-years-and-counting crimp in their recording career.

The answer to “Who knew?” is: Anyone who’s seen or even heard much about the appeal of Queen + Adam Lambert on tour. (The plus-sign punctuation is theirs; they’ve been canny about how to make the “fill-in” singer’s name a full-disclosure addendum, even when it was Queen + Paul Rodgers for a spell in the 2000s.) The modern incarnation of the group doesn’t play a lot of gigs, but when they do, they usually play at 100 percent capacity. Pollstar has the numbers. The trade publication’s records show that from just 97 box-office reports they have on file for Queen + Adam Lambert from 2014 to the present - a relatively leisurely number of shows, indicating how little these veteran musicians need to tour - the group grossed \$127 million. Their most recent arena show in Dublin, Ireland on July 8 brought in \$1.3 million. Their most recent residency show at the more intimate Park Theatre in Las Vegas on Sept. 22 raked in \$824,000, from a little more than 5,000 attendees. And you could ascribe these numbers to anticipation created by trailers for the movie, except for the fact that they were easily selling out Madison Square Garden on the east coast and the Forum on the



west in 2014, back when a Queen biopic was just a twinkle (soon to turn to a tear) in Sacha Baron Cohen’s eye.

Yes, the film has boosted the band’s profile immeasurably, and their agents would be foolish not to have at least tested the waters for a Dodger Stadium or Rose Bowl-sized show. But the fact is, Queen was always big, and it’s the pictures that got bigger to meet them (to mis-paraphrase Norma Desmond).

And fans don’t just come to honor Mercury. Brian May was arguably always almost as big a draw for the rock crowd, and a smaller but sizable contingent - hand raised here - would walk away disgruntled if Roger Taylor did not take his spotlight moment to sing “I’m in Love With My Car.” But in former “American Idol” king Lambert, the surviving members have found the perfect balance of foil: someone who’s part nimbly operatic impressionist, part flamboyant-in-a-different-way draw in his own right. Mercury is obviously irreplaceable, and also, in a very

practical way, replaceable - and of the maybe half-dozen or fewer people in the world you could imagine are well known and gaudy and huge-voiced enough to fill that role, Queen picked one of them. It is a happy fate that did not befall the Doors, Nirvana or any other loss-stricken megaband you could think of. It also did not hurt that they waited a decent interval to soldier on.

And during that decent interval, there was licensing. Lawdy, was there licensing. There should perhaps be an asterisk put on claims for Queen’s enduring popularity for a fade of sorts in the late ‘80s and early ‘90s, but any lull ended in 1992 with the head-banging sequence in “Wayne’s World,” and then it was off to a day at the races. Prior to that, beyond Mercury’s illness-based fade from public view before his death in 1991, there were the repercussions of some more synthetically inclined late-period albums that left the group’s rock ‘n’ roll base cold. And, contrary to what the movie maintains and conventional wis-

Yikes! I'm a feminist who watches this!

Kaylee Johnson
Campus News

I am a feminist that religiously watches the ABC mega-hit reality show “The Bachelor.” I don’t put it on as background noise while I write poetry or indulge in literature; I am *glued* to the screen, wondering why the show isn’t on every day of the week. I am embarrassed to confess that I am so devoted, as it goes against everything I believe in. Yet, it is the only thing that I look forward to on dreary Monday nights, and I find myself yelling at the inarticulate blondes polluting my television screen with their backhanded comments and push-up bras. This season Colton Underwood is the first virgin bachelor, and ABC has been pushing the sex jokes a little too far. Of course, everyone is wondering how the blue-eyed hunk persevered his virginity; religion, childhood abuse, physical issue, disease, or simply old-fashioned values? This could also all be a lie in an attempt to increase ratings; Colton does seem like the type that is starved for stardom at any cost. Here are a few observations I made while watching Mr. “They called me a !#@% because I have never seen one’s” season of “The Bachelor”:

- Colton kisses like my dog licks peanut butter out of her marrow bone. Host Chris Harrison, please take him to an Applebees bar full of eager people and let him practice. If you can’t do that, take him to an fore-closed Sears and let him go to town with the abandoned mannequins.

- One day the young bombshell twenty-somethings calling the thirty-year-old women “cougars” will tragically hit the wall and move into a dirty trailer park on the outskirts of Orlando or some other depressing resort area.

- Please stop making country musicians that nobody has heard of show up on dates. The face licking is awkward enough; we do not need to see Colton attempt to waltz like an acne ridden sixteen-year-old at junior prom.

- I wonder if ABC will ever cast a semi-intelligent Bachelor who can finish a sentence without saying “like,” “you know,” “at” or “totally.”

- The best part of watching “The Bachelor” is mocking grown women who just came to the realization that their manic episode



didn’t pan out as they cry in a limo with cameras in their faces.

- How are these women weightlifting with barrel curls and faces full of makeup? I can barely exercise with no makeup and a greasy ponytail.

- I can’t wait for the day when a woman says no to a bachelor who asks her “Can I walk you out?” I have never understood that painful walk and side hug; as if being dumped by a reality star who has 30 other girlfriends isn’t humiliating enough, now you must be walked to an eerie van that will drive you to the airport, because honestly, you are just not his type.

‘The job descriptions for these women are ludicrous. One is “Never Been Kissed.”’

- How bad does your love life have to be that you decide to go on “The Bachelor” and make an entrance dressed as a sloth? One woman donned such a costume.

- The job descriptions for these women are ludicrous. One woman simply has “Never Been Kissed” in bold under her name.

- Every single woman on the show is in a

constant state of wine drunkenness and delusional narcissism. I can only imagine the kind of conversations that they have; I highly doubt they involve Kant and the difference between ethics and morals.

In the Me Too era, “The Bachelor” seems backwards, but women are still tuning in; they are hooked by the trashiness of the characters. Just because I spend two hours of my life every week watching one guy make out with 30 women does not take away from my devotion to female equality and fight to abolish patriarchy. I spend my days writing, attending classes, and managing my schedule, so if I want to watch mindless reality TV at night, I should not be filled with shame, and neither should you. I have a friend on Facebook who claims that her favorite show is “God Friended Me,” so one’s taste in television could always be worse. Now go get that rose; you are not here to make friends!

Kaylee Johnson is a junior Education major with an English concentration at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, N.Y. She someday hopes to get a Master of Fine Arts degree in Writing.



'America's Got Talent' magician at MVCC

Magician and entertainer Steven Brundage from NBC's "America's Got Talent" will perform as part of the Mohawk Valley Community College Cultural Series at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 15, in Schafer Theater, Information Technology Building, at MVCC's Utica Campus. Tickets are \$10 general, \$5 for MVCC employees, at/www.mvcc.edu/tickets.

Brundage has been performing for millions of people around the world and is known for his Rubik's Cube magic. His unique act is the embodiment of modern magic — hilarious, shocking and full of new and original tricks that you will not see anywhere else.



Timmons named VP

George Timmons, Ph.D., of Schenectady, N.Y., has been appointed Vice President and Dean of Academic Affairs at Columbia-Greene Community College.

Prior to accepting the position, Timmons served in several capacities at Excelsior College in Albany, N.Y., including Founding Dean of Online and Learning Services, Associate Provost of the Center for Online Education, Learning and Academic Services, and most recently as Dean of the School of Liberal Arts.

In the course of his career, Timmons has volunteered for several professional boards and community organizations, including the Capital District YMCA and as a mentor with the Sponsor-A-Scholar program of Albany. He is also an active member of the Middle States Commission on Higher



Education — a non-governmental association that conducts accreditation activities for institutions of higher education. He holds a bachelor of science degree in Financial Management from Norfolk State University, a master of science degree in Higher Education — Student Affairs and Counseling from Old Dominion University, and a doctorate in Higher Education Administration from Bowling Green State University.

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The Trump speech and the response

Cal Thomas
Tribune Content Agency

Despite advance billing that President Trump's border wall speech would break news and contain new information, it was mostly familiar rhetoric: criminals and drugs, rapists and murderers are coming to America and the wall is the only way to stop them.

The president named families who have lost loved ones at the hands of undocumented immigrants. A case could be made, though, that American citizens are killing each other at higher rates during an average weekend in Chicago and other big cities than are killed by immigrants.

Whose facts to believe? There are plenty on both sides of the argument. Raul Ortiz, the deputy chief of Border Patrol agents, says his agents are arresting up to 641 undocumented immigrants every day. Other sources say arrests and border crossings have substantially declined in recent years.

What frustrates average Americans is the flip-flopping by politicians who were for a border

wall and holding people who broke our laws accountable before they were against it.

These include Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama and Chuck Schumer, all of whom once championed stronger border security. When he was a senator from Illinois in 2006, Obama said: "Those who enter our country illegally and those who employ them disrespect the rule of law. And because we live in an age where terrorists are challenging our borders, we simply cannot allow people to pour into the United States undetected,

'In the end it is going to be a battle of images.'

undocumented, and unchecked. Americans are right to demand better border security and better enforcement of our immigration laws."

Those remarks are in line with what President Trump is now saying.

The president tweeted a comment Hillary Clinton made as recently as 2015 to underscore

his claim of hypocrisy by Democrats: "I voted, when I was a senator, to build a barrier to try to prevent illegal immigrants from coming in."

The major media and their Democrat allies claim that the decline in the number of people crossing the southern border is proof that a wall or other barrier is not needed. But a case could be made - and the White House made it in a statement - that walls already in place are proof that barriers work.

Since San Diego built its wall in 1992, the statement notes, apprehensions of illegal aliens have declined by 92 percent; El Paso, Texas erected a wall in 1993 and illegal border crossings dropped 72 percent the first year and 95 percent over 22 years; Tucson built its wall in 2000 and apprehensions dropped 90 percent over 15 years; Yuma's wall went up in 2005, contributing to a decline in crossings of 95 percent over nine years.

Yes, many went to other places where they could cross more easily, but that's an argu-



ment for expanding the wall or constructing other barriers.

Schumer and Pelosi challenged the president in a sleight-of-hand deal to re-open the part of government that is closed and then continue the debate about a wall. That reminds me of the "deal" offered to President George H.W. Bush by then-Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas). Wright said Congress would cut spending if Bush would OK a tax increase. Bush was blamed for the tax hike, never got the spending cuts and lost his re-election bid.

In the end it is going to be a battle of images. One image is of people trying to cross the border illegally, throwing rocks, a few engaging in criminal activity; the other image is of 800,000 suffering federal employees going without paychecks. Which side will win is less important than what is best for America. If only more politicians cared about that higher goal.

This year marks Cal Thomas' 35th year as a syndicated columnist. Readers may email Cal Thomas at tcaeditors@tribpub.com.



Be a better brewer

Mohawk Valley Community College is hosting a seven-week Brewing Series of workshops aimed at new industry professionals, people looking to become professionals, and advanced home brewers. The series begins on March 19 and runs 6 to 9 p.m. every Tuesday until April 30. Courses will be taught by industry professionals: Rich Michaels of Frog Alley Brewing, and Joe Kinney and Scott Grenier of F.X. Matt Brewing. Individual courses are \$49 or registrants can sign up for all seven courses for \$299.

Courses will have mixed lectures with hands-on learning and opportunities to work with ingredients and apparatus, and will cover topics including barley, hops, water chemistry, yeast, quality, off flavors and characteristics, and a general overview of the brewing process. Participants also will learn how these principles can apply to wine, cider, and distilled spirits. For more information and to register, visit mvcc.edu/cced or call 315-792-5300.



Campus Puzzle

(solution page 24)

Across

- 1 Books in which each sheet of paper is folded into eight leaves
 8 Factions
 13 See 2-Down
 16 Not likely to miss much
 17 Politically active fowl?
 18 Eyelashes
 19 "A Chorus Line" number
 20 Goddess with a throne head-dress
 22 Become clear
 23 Flair
 26 Easily bent
 28 Clever insect?
 32 Comfortable with
 33 Dresden's river
 34 Takes in
 37 Big hit
 38 Subside, with "down"
 39 Doozy
 41 Loan fig.
 42 "The Little Mermaid" prince

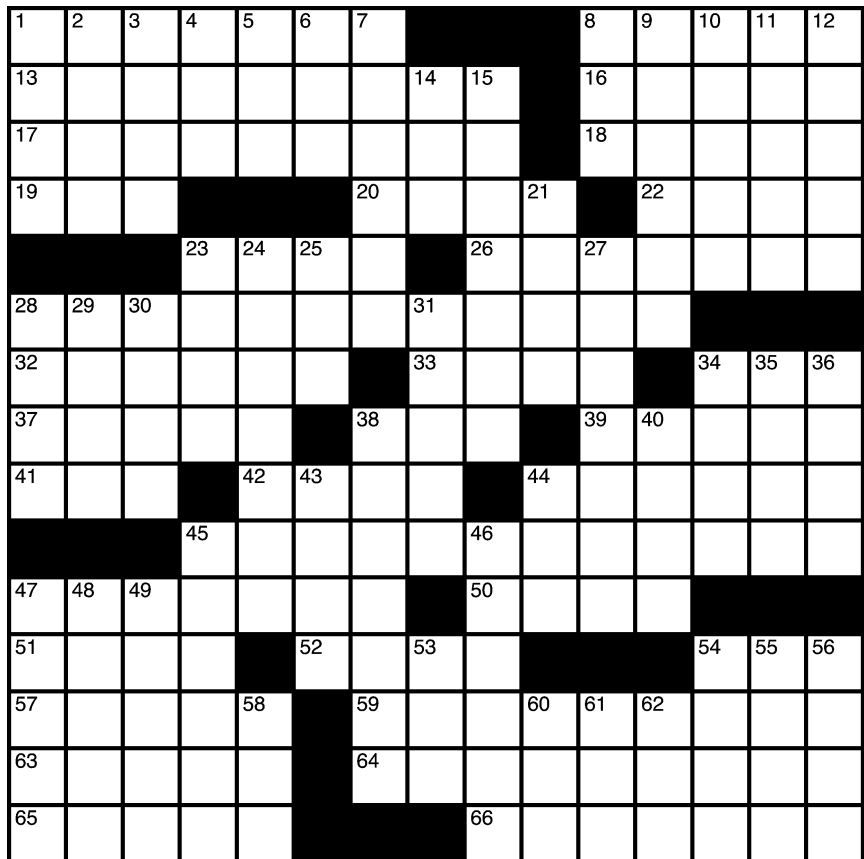
- 44 The kiwi is the smallest one
 45 Embarrassed avian?
 47 Fake it, in a way
 50 Pageant accessory
 51 Sandy's home
 52 Puts in place
 54 Achievement of many a CEO
 57 Get rid of
 59 Street-wise amphibian?
 63 Birch of "American Beauty"
 64 Require help

Down

- 1 Anne Frank's father
 2 With 13-Across, Mexican restaurant choices
 3 Loyal

- 4 20s dispenser
 5 Bigwig
 6 Dated
 7 Swinging about
 8 ___ fly: productive MLB out
 9 Hebrew prophet
 10 Star
 11 Operatic vocal effect
 12 Dated
 14 Coolers, briefly
 15 Balancing aid on the slopes
 21 Piece at the butcher shop
 23 Goals
 24 In a supple manner
 25 Mayo is in it
 27 Swell applications
 28 Edge
 29 Letters at N.C.'s Camp Lejeune
 30 Drink order
 31 Clinton's first Labor secretary
 34 Locks often

- gray
 35 Aries or Taurus
 36 Brood
 38 Make out
 40 Make an impression
 43 Hose problems
 44 Stranded messenger
 45 C equivalent
 46 Time units
 47 Hungers (for)
 48 Raring to go
 49 Given orally, as evidence
 53 Golf club part
 54 Complain
 55 Thorn in one's side
 56 Dely. destination
 58 Half a tuba sound
 60 Econ. yardstick
 61 One-tenth of a Vietnamese dong, formerly
 62 Even if



Campus Sudoku

(solution page 28)

		7				6		
9					7			5
	6	4					1	9
			4		1			
3	7		2		6		8	1
			7		5			
7	8					5	6	
5			6					3
		3				9		

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

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Former Westchester president passes

Westchester Community College regrets to announce that former president Dr. Joseph N. Hankin passed away on Wednesday, January 16. The college community is saddened that we have lost Dr. Hankin, who led this State University of New York institution since 1971 and was the nation's longest serving community col-



lege president. At the time of his retirement in 2013, he had served in the role of president for 42 years.

“Assuming the mantle of one of the most admired community college presidents presented a unique opportunity to extend his legacy of service to students and community,” says Westchester Community College President Belinda S. Miles. “He made monumental contributions to the community college field as our institutions became increasingly important pathways to high-quality and affordable higher education, and he did it with an exceptional team of faculty and staff who cared deeply about the college and surrounding community,” she adds.

College Board of Trustees Chair John Nonna says “Dr.

Joe Hankin shepherded Westchester Community College from its infancy through its growth to the stature it enjoys today as one of the nation's premier community colleges. His vision continues to guide us, and his contributions will never be forgotten. Together with the entire college community, the Board of Trustees mourns his passing.”

Dr. Hankin was a significant member of the team that expanded the Westchester Community College Foundation, which has raised substantial resources in support of faculty and staff. Millions were raised for student scholarships with approximately \$2 million now distributed annually. Additionally, the enrichment of many academic programs and the development of infrastructure improvements were largely the

result of Foundation funds. The growth and evolution of the Foundation has been critical to the success and expansion of the institution.

Westchester Community College Foundation Board of Directors Chair Susan Yubas says “Dr. Hankin recognized that community support was vital to student success and he took a leadership role in the founding of the Westchester Community College Foundation, supporting its development for over forty years. His partnership through multiple major fundraising campaigns and commitment to providing students with scholarship opportunities contributed to the growth of the Westchester Community College Foundation, which is now recognized nationally. The Foundation is indebted to his extraordinary legacy of leadership.

Rockland ranks high for adult learners

Rockland Community College has been rated the top public two-year college in New York State for adult learners in Washington Monthly's 2018 College Guide and Rankings. For the second straight year, RCC also ranked #28 nationally out of some 1,500 two-year colleges.

The Washington Monthly survey, in its third year, caters to students 25 or older, a segment that constitutes 30 percent of the country's college student population. The publication used data from two federal government sources and the College Board's annual survey of colleges. It then combined the data into eight measures of colleges' openness and responsiveness to adult students and how well those students fared once they left.

The measures are: ease of

transfer/enrollment; flexibility of programs; services available for adult students; percentage of adults students at the college; graduation rate of part-time students; mean earnings of adult students 10 years after entering college; loan repayment rates of adult students five years after entering repayment; and tuition and fees for in-district students. RCC achieved the maximum score in the categories of ease of transfer/enrollment and services for adult students, and was one point shy of the maximum for flexibility of programs. More than 25 percent of RCC's 7,000 full- and part-time students are 25 or older. The national ranking underscores RCC's commitment to its adult student population, as reflected in the recent rollout of its Middle

Skills Academy initiative.

“Here at Rockland Community College, we are deeply committed to providing a purpose-driven education for our adult students so that they can positively transform their lives and their communities,” said RCC President Dr. Michael A. Baston. “It is in this work that we are proud to announce the creation of the Rockland Community College Middle Skills Academy. Within our academy, we will be able to create direct pipelines from our institution to industry partners in the healthcare, IT, energy and other sectors for jobs that pay a family-sustaining wage but for which certification can be achieved in less than one year.”

“The Middle Skills Academy was created with adult learners

in mind,” said Dr. Penny Jennings, interim executive director of Extension Sites and Community Partnerships. “Our motto, ‘Less than one year to career,’ is deliberate. At RCC we realize that adult learners are interested in short-term programs that provide them with the skills to earn good pay in an industry with advancement opportunities.”

In the Washington Monthly survey, RCC ranked No. 2 for adult learners among two-year colleges in the state, behind St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center School of Nursing, a private nonprofit in Syracuse, N.Y.

For more information about RCC's Middle Skills Academy, contact Dr. Penny Jennings at pjenning@sunyrockland.edu.

Campus Word Find

By Frank J. D'Agostino

(solution page 30)

Find these words that are associated with a college tour:

- Admissions
- Auditorium
- Bookstore
- Campus
- Chapel
- Classrooms
- Dining
- Dorms
- Faculty
- Field
- Fraternity
- Grounds

Guides

Lecture Hall

Library

Lounge

Mascot

Paths

Professors

Sorority

Student union

Tour

Find Mr. D'Agostino's puzzle books on Amazon.com.

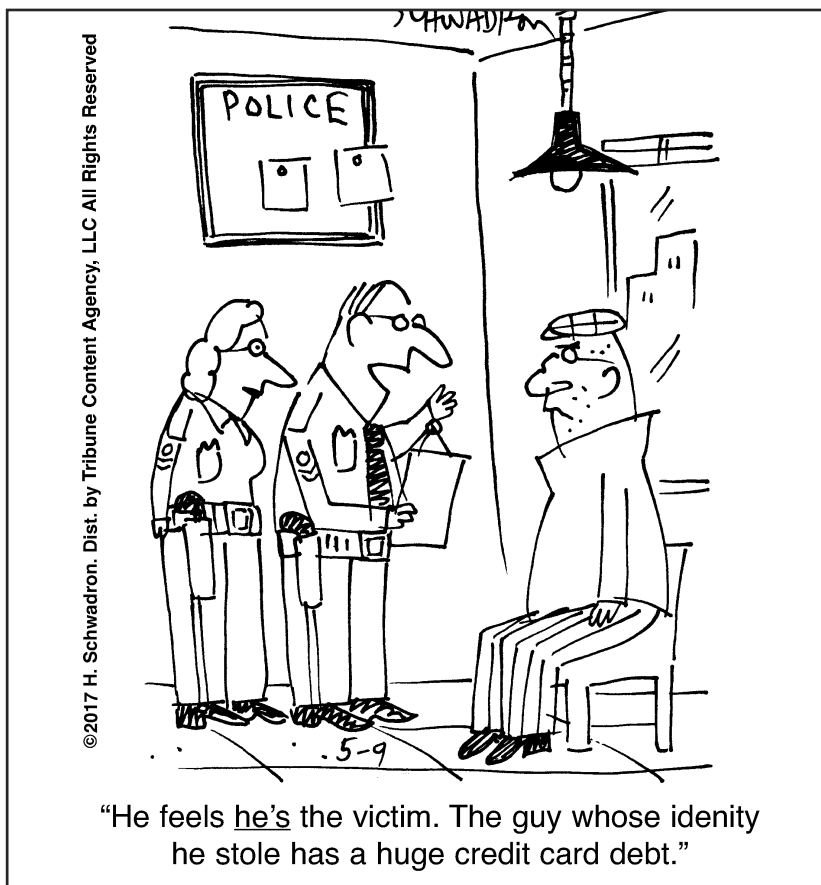
C L A S S R O O M S G B G
 D S T U D E N T U N I O N
 F O M Y D C H A P E L O I
 A R C R T I I A L N L K N
 D O A E O L T O I G A S I
 M R M T W D U O B M H T D
 I I P R E N G C R T E O L
 S T U T G R C W A I R R E
 S Y S E O T N P R F U E I
 I C A U M I H I Y O T M F
 O L N M A S C O T R C T T
 N D L S E D I U G Y E B E
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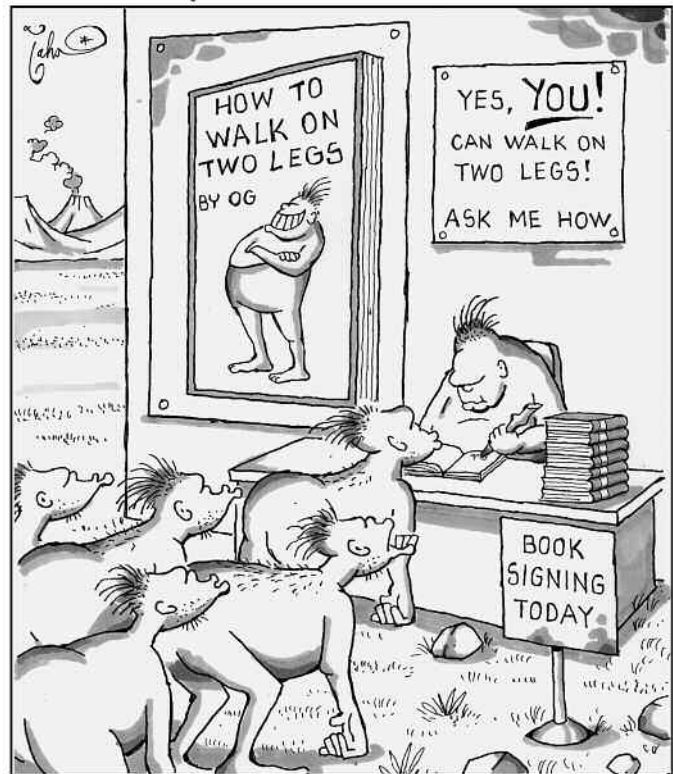


Contact editor@cccn.us.

9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron



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Og signing copies of his best-selling new book.

Caldwell offers Transfer Tuesdays

Many students transfer from community colleges to institutions that grant bachelor's degrees. To help ease this process Caldwell University has developed Transfer Tuesdays – a no appointment necessary opportunity which will make is easy and efficient to transfer credits and enroll for the summer or fall 2019 semester.

Transferring Credits to Caldwell University

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The best way to start the process is to sit down with ad-

missions counselors at Caldwell University and map the quickest path to graduation. Caldwell University offers on the spot preliminary credit evaluation and ease of transfer for students from community colleges. A student with 12 or more college credits can apply to transfer credits to Caldwell University. Caldwell's transfer policy awards credits for any credit-bearing course in which a grade of C or better was received from an accredited institution. Credits will be allowed only for courses appropriate for the curriculum chosen at Caldwell University. A maximum of 90 credits can be transferred to Caldwell. Learn more by visiting caldwell.edu/transfer. Caldwell accepts transfer credit for standardized exams such as CLEP, AP, DSST, etc, military training, and police, fire, and corrections training.



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Learn more about Caldwell University's 29 nationally acclaimed undergraduate majors and 30 graduate and Ph.D. programs by visiting caldwell.edu. To learn more about Transfer Tuesdays and transferring to Caldwell University, visit www.caldwell.edu/transfer. If you have any questions, please call the Office of Admissions at (973) 618-3500 via email at Admissions@caldwell.edu.

Queen (cont.)

dom has adopted as gospel, Queen's Live Aid performance in 1985 did not change the world or even get universally hailed as something that obviously eclipsed anything else that transpired that day. There was a bit of reputation damage from the disco-forward years (except maybe in the UK, where even a polka album would have stood in the way of their being a sacred totem). But once Mike Myers literally flipped his wig, the world was reminded not just of the greatness of "Bohemian Rhapsody's" multiple middle-eights, but that there was such things as "Queen II" and "Sheer Heart Attack." And all the love kicked back in.

Especially among music supervisors. A look at their list of credits in films and TV shows this is no fresh resurgence. Edgar Wright wins the Most Valuable Director award among Queen fans for using "Don't Stop Me Now" and "You're My Best Friend" in "Shaun of the Dead" and "The Ring (Hypnotic Seduction of Dale)" in "Scott Pilgrim vs. the World" before getting to "Brighton Rock"

as a car-chase orgasm in "Baby Driver." But few supervisors or directors have been able to resist the temptation to cast "We Are the Champions" for triumphant moments, real or mocked, or "Another One Bites the Dust" for scenes in which someone or something is biting the dust, or "Under Pressure" when a character is... wait for it... under pressure. There are less obvious tunes that found appropriate homes, like "Moon Cycle" for Bill Nye the Science Guy. "I Want It All" accompanied a Trump documentary all the way back in the '90s. You heard and loved (or were distracted by) their music in "Married With Children," "Malcolm in the Middle," "Big Bang Theory," "Grand Theft Auto IV," "King of Queens," "The Sopranos," "South Park," "Iron Man 2," "Cold Case" and "Stranger Things," among untold dozens and probably hundreds of placements.

And the covers. Panic! at the Disco has had a small side career with their "Bohemian" cover, as featured on tour and in "Suicide Squad"; "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" has been recorded by Michael Buble, Dwight Yoakam, Fantasia, Diana Ross and the Chipmunks; "Weird Al" has gotten to both "Bo-

hemian Polka" and "Another One Rides the Bus"; Metallica won the 1991 Grammy for "Stone Cold Crazy," a year after true Queen-loving pioneer Trent Reznor did an industrial version of "Get Down Make Love." There is a Queen song for every occasion, including "Thank God It's Christmas" (a song so ubiquitous in Europe it inspired Sparks to record "Thank God It's Not Christmas").

All of which is to say: Let's not kid ourselves. Hollywood has been good to Queen, but in looking for credit where credit is due, it's clear that, in this instance, Queen was good to Hollywood. The difference may be boiled down to only half of the nation's marching bands having a Queen medley in their set prior to 2018, versus about 90 percent of them now (hi, Ohio State). The passing on among generations is a given thing, because children demonstrably like Queen: Who doesn't respond to those stacked vocals, as something cartoonish, if you're a kid, or symphonic, if you're a tad older? As strong as it is at helping instill mania, in the overall scheme of things, the movie is like a booster shot in the fat bottom of a group that was never in danger of going away in any of our lifetimes.

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BATH REMODEL - Low Cost



By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



INSTRUCTIONS: Find as many words as you can by linking letters up, down, side-to-side and diagonally, writing words on a blank sheet of paper. You may only use each letter box once within a single word. Play with a friend and compare word finds, crossing out common words.

BOGGLE POINT SCALE
 3 letters = 1 point
 4 letters = 2 points
 5 letters = 3 points
 6 letters = 4 points
 7 letters = 6 points
 8 letters = 10 points
 9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE RATING
 151+ = Champ
 101-150 = Expert
 61-100 = Pro
 31-60 = Gamer
 21-30 = Rookie
 11-20 = Amateur
 0-10 = Try again

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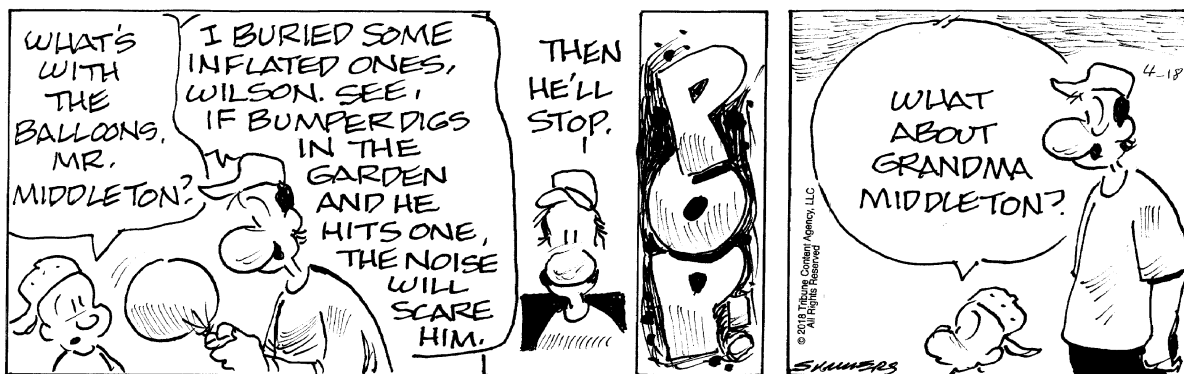
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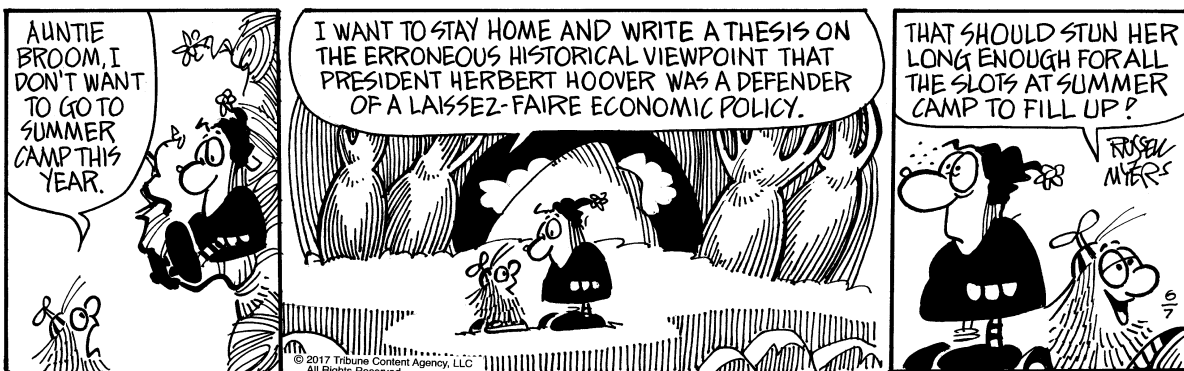
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Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers



Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



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A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	G ₂	G ₂	P ₃	D ₂	1st Letter Double	_____	RACK 1
A ₁	E ₁	O ₁	O ₁	M ₃	R ₁	T ₁		_____	RACK 2
A ₁	I ₁	Y ₄	D ₂	N ₁	K ₅	L ₁	Triple Word Score	_____	RACK 3
A ₁	E ₁	N ₁	N ₁	T ₁	P ₃	D ₂		_____	RACK 4
A ₁	E ₁	P ₃	T ₁	T ₁	M ₃	T ₁		_____	RACK 5

PAR SCORE 255-265 **FIVE RACK TOTAL**
BEST SCORE 340 **TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN**

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions at right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All the words are in the Official SCRABBLE® Players Dictionary, 5th Edition. **SOLUTION PAGE 30**

For more information on tournaments and clubs, email NASPA-North American SCRABBLE Players Association info@scrabbleplayers.org. Visit our website www.scrabbleplayers.org. For puzzle inquiries contact scrgrams@gmail.com

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

RAYIN

LADVI

TARORO

VTELEV

A: _____



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: HE PRACTICED THE HIGH JUMP — OVER AND OVER

Jumbles: RAINY VALID ORATOR VELVET

O	C	T	A	V	O	S	S	E	C	T	S		
T	O	R	T	I	L	L	A	S	A	L	E	R	T
T	R	U	M	P	D	U	C	K	C	I	L	I	A
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E	L	A	N	P	L	I	A	B	L	E			
C	U	N	N	I	N	G	R	O	A	C	H		
U	S	E	D	T	O	E	L	B	E	H	A	S	
S	M	A	S	H	D	I	E	B	E	A	U	T	
P	C	T	E	R	I	C	R	A	T	I	T	E	
B	L	U	S	H	I	N	G	C	R	O	W		
L	I	P	S	Y	N	C	S	A	S	H			
U	T	A	H	S	E	T	S	M	B	A			
S	C	R	A	P	R	O	U	G	H	T	O	A	D
T	H	O	R	A	N	E	E	D	A	H	A	N	D
S	Y	L	P	H	S	P	O	O	N	E	R		

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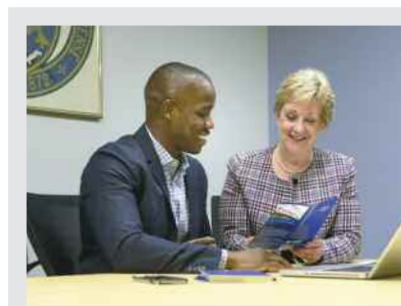
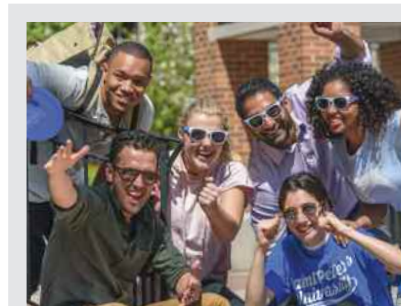
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1	5	7	8	4	9	6	3	2
9	3	2	1	6	7	8	4	5
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3	7	5	2	9	6	4	8	1
4	1	8	7	3	5	2	9	6
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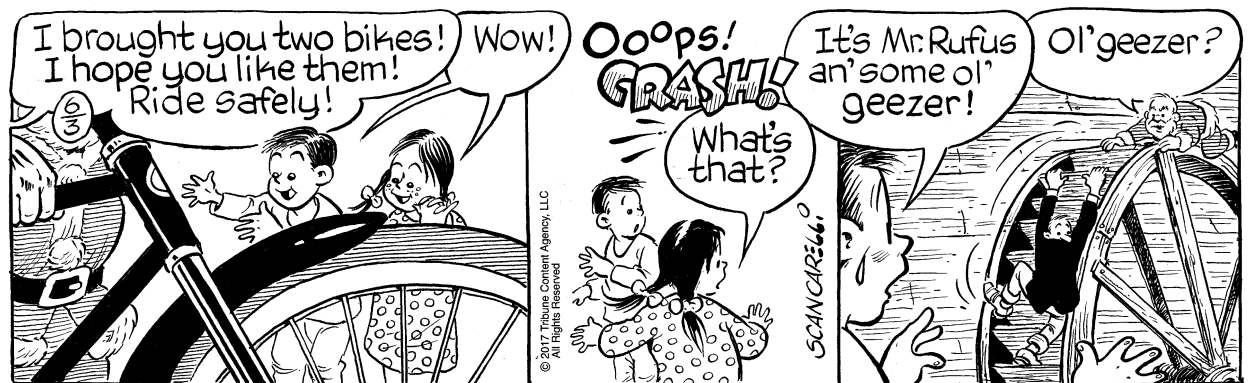
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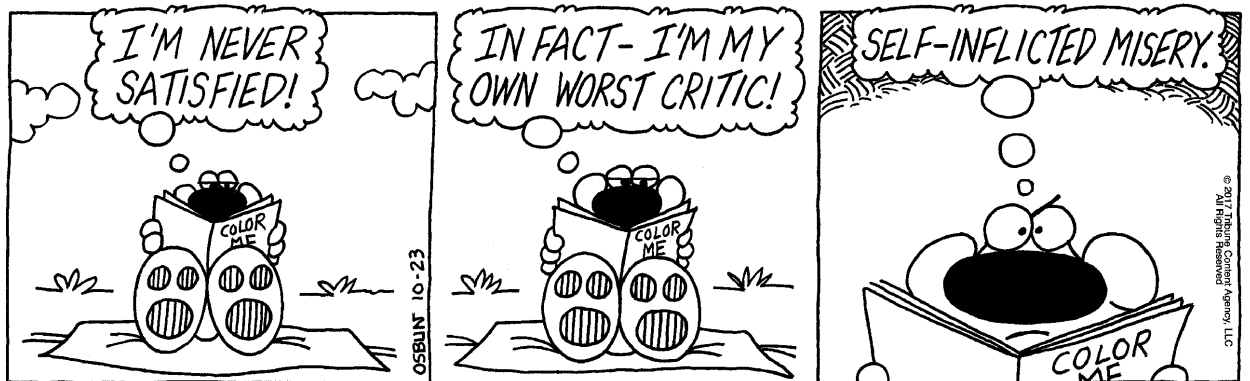
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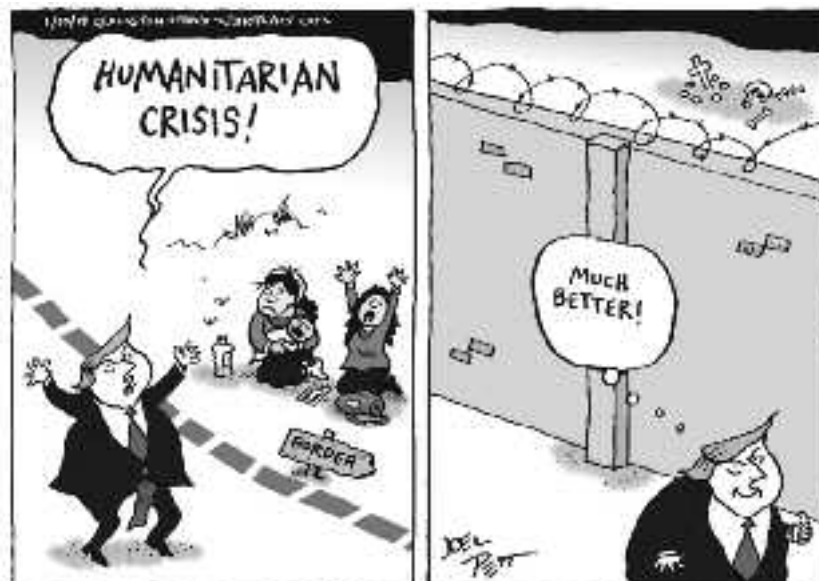
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OSBLIN 10-23

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Political Cartoon of the Month by Joel Pett



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New novel, 'Prof. Mule,' free on the 21st

"Prof. Mule" is a scintillating new novel both literary and fantastic, a hybrid of crime and college fiction, by award-winning writer Darren Johnson.

The Kindle version of book is available for **free** on February 21 and March 21 via Amazon or by going to ProfMule.com. **You don't need a Kindle device to read it** – any smart phone, computer or tablet will do.

The e-book is \$8 otherwise. Paperback copies of the book are \$28.

The novel takes on the "plight of the adjunct" – low-paid hourly workers increasingly used to teach college classes, serving

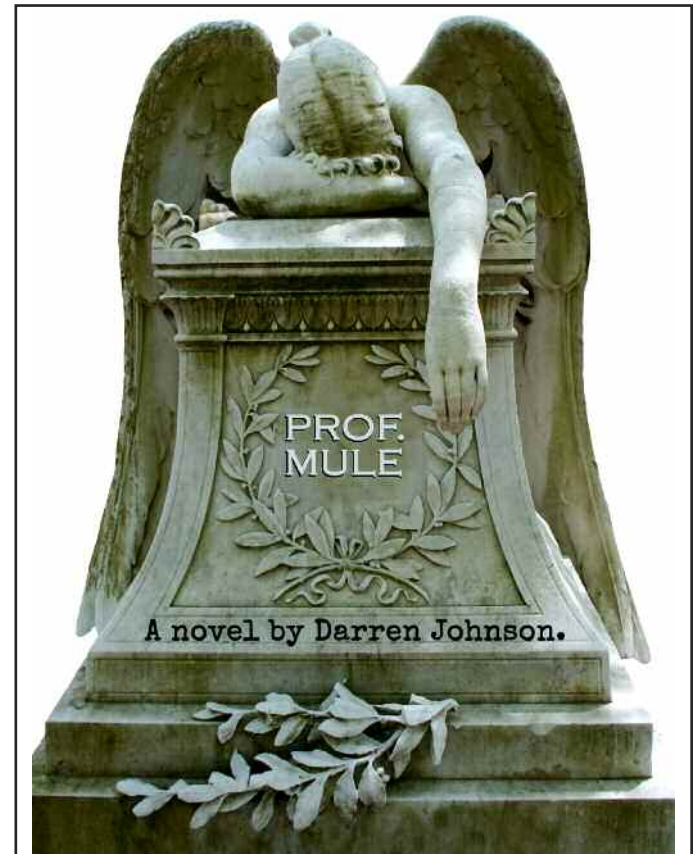
without basic benefits. But our adjunct protagonist, Craig Fortran, 32, needs benefits after his wife, Laura, loses her job, sinking deep into drug-addiction and mental illness. He loves her and will do anything to help.

The three colleges he teaches for – two in Upstate New York and one in New York City – won't consider him for a full-time position. They are riddled with ridiculous and oftentimes hilarious politics. But a former college roommate he reunites with offers a new possibility for Craig: Mule a new smart drug to Manhattan elites for some added cash.

Craig has to meet up with the drug's "runner," Rebecca DiCarlo, 36, an alluring Manhattanite with all the right connections. Laura can't know about any of this; especially when Craig unwittingly crosses into a cartel's turf, and they become angry ... really angry.

Johnson is a former New York Press Association "Writer of the Year." He has an MFA in Writing and Literature from Southampton College. Also, like his protagonist, he has adjunct-taught for many years at several New York colleges. He is owner of Campus News.

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Can the English major be saved? (cont.)

porter, technical writer, copy-writer or PR flack until that novel finally finds an audience. But English Departments, largely, no longer are teaching such real-world skills. They used to, once.

Another issue is the homogeneity of English faculty. The basic requirement to teach full-time in the field now is a Ph.D. in English. I've noticed this trend scanning help wanted ads over the years. (I later earned an MFA in Writing and Literature, which used to be billed as a "terminal degree" on par with a doctorate. It's not usually treated that way, in reality, when it comes to faculty searches.)

Someone who has a Ph.D. in English – God bless them – may be a great student. He or she may have come from a middle- or upper middle-class background. He or she may be white. At the very least, such a graduate is a "type," but more types of teachers are needed. Perhaps some gritty instructors who weren't typical students, who feel the words they write. Who

know how difficult the business really is. MFA students are more often like that – acceptance into such programs is based more on one's creative portfolio than academic conscientiousness. The MFA needs to again be treated as an equal to

'As a discipline, it began as the study of entertainment.'

the Ph.D., just to help diversify departments.

I see movies where an English/Writing professor is the protagonist, say Hugh Grant in "The Rewrite" or Michael Douglas in "Wonder Boys," and they are portrayed as a bit degenerate, though very passionate about their fields. The archetype of the nonconformist writing instructor used to ring true, more so last century. But such people usually aren't going to come out of a Ph.D. program. They'd be bored silly in such surroundings.

As far as subject matter goes, we need to read more books from the 20th century and less from previous centuries; just because a book is old doesn't mean it's necessarily better than books that came after it. The 20th century has spectacular, relatable works that need to be more fully explored.

English as a discipline began as the study of entertainment. That's what books and plays and poems are meant to be – *entertaining*. But somehow so many departments got stuffy and boring and dry. It seems English no longer is a celebration of quality, exciting writing but, instead, a joyless critical dissection of such works.

English as an academic major can save itself by, once again, becoming interesting.

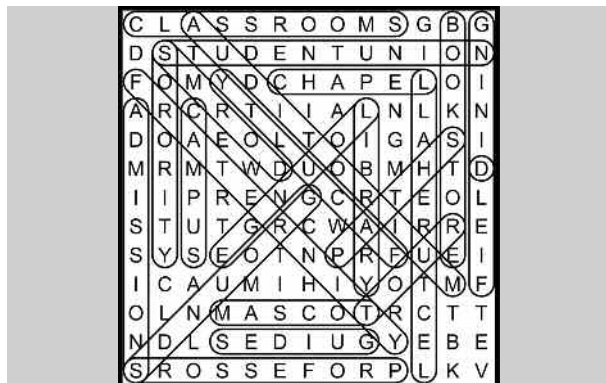
Students can make the most of this major by taking practical writing courses as electives. Read and write, read and write – that's the only way to get better. And write in all styles. And

write on deadline. And write for New Media.

English should be the study of exciting works of writing – and about you, as a student, being inspired by such works and perhaps attempting to create even better works of your own. The major can be all that; but, meanwhile you should also take some practical writing courses – to pay the bills, in a practical way, 9-to-5, as you read and write creatively nights and weekends. Because there are lots of practical writing jobs out there, for those properly trained.

Let's save this wonderful major. Instructors can add some new books to their reading lists and tie coursework to related jobs. But there's also room to dream. Why can't the English major be both practical and fantastic?

Darren Johnson's novel is available on Prof-Mule.com.



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T ₁	E ₁	A ₁	R ₁	O ₁	O ₁	M ₃	RACK 2 =	59
L ₁	A ₁	D ₂	Y ₄	K ₅	I ₁	N ₁	RACK 3 =	95
P ₃	E ₁	N ₁	D ₂	A ₁	N ₁	T ₁	RACK 4 =	60
A ₁	T ₁	T ₁	E ₁	M ₃	P ₃	T ₁	RACK 5 =	61
PAR SCORE 255-265							TOTAL	340

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