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## Homeschool, then college

### Not every student is from a traditional K-12 setting

With the COVID-induced lockdowns of 2020, many parents in the US turned to homeschooling as an alternative to online classes taught by their children's public or private school teachers.

But for homeschoolers, parts of school buildings may be foreign concepts to them, such as an art room or a computer lab.

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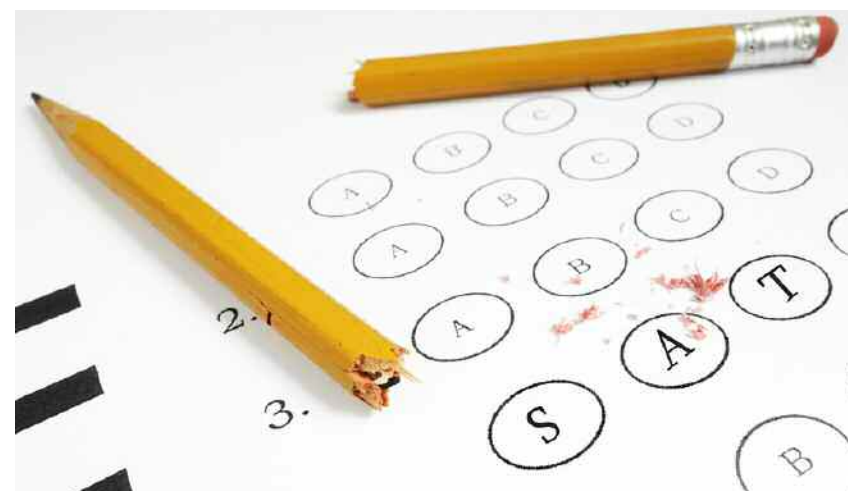


Teresa and Abigail Loos -dp photo

### Is the SAT still a thing?

Standardized tests are largely optional during this extended pandemic. An expert tells us: "Long gone are the days where you can rely on a 4.0 and a perfect 1600 SAT score, and we are unsure when those days will come back, or if they will ever come back."

Please read more on page 4



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# Homeschool students find success in college

**Dave Paone**  
*Campus News*

With the COVID-induced lockdowns of 2020, many parents in the US turned to homeschooling as an alternative to online classes taught by their children's public or private school teachers.

Many parents got a first-hand look at how classes were being taught and didn't like what they saw. Hence a surge in homeschooling.

However, homeschooling has been around for decades and many students who are in college today spent their childhoods learning academics from their parents while seated at their kitchen tables.

Siblings Ruth and Greg Moreno attend Hillsdale College in Michigan but were homeschooled by their mother, as were their older brother and sister (although at various times all of them attended traditional schools).

Ruth is a senior majoring in politics and minoring in art; Greg is a freshman and has not yet declared a major.

Both Ruth and Greg "dual enrolled" and took college-credit classes at Hillsdale while still in high school. So they actually attended classes on a college campus while never having attended them on a high school one.

For homeschoolers, parts of school buildings may be foreign concepts to them, such as an art room or a computer lab. Greg attended a few sporting events at Hillsdale when he was in ninth grade and saw a gymnasium for the first time. He thought to himself, "This is way nicer than the driveway."

"There's actually a lot of students at Hillsdale who were also homeschooled," said Ruth.

She estimates up to a quarter of the student body were homeschooled for a "significant portion" of their prior education. "So it's not too weird here," said the 21-year-old.

Often parents of special needs children opt for homeschooling because they believe their children will get the one-on-one attention many of them require that traditional schools can't provide.

At age four, Abigail Loos still wasn't speak-

ing. "She was just kind of babbling," said her mother, Teresa Loos. "She could repeat what you said, but she wouldn't remember how to use a sentence or how to describe something that she saw."

She was later diagnosed with auditory processing disorder.

To ease Abigail's frustration and anger of not being able to communicate, Teresa started teaching her sign language. A new neighbor, who was homeschooling his daughter, explained to Teresa that what she was doing was actually homeschooling.

Teresa ran with the idea and homeschooled her only child for her entire time in grade school.

As did the Morenos, Abigail started taking college-credit courses while in high school, earning credits on both levels.

At the end of 10th grade, at age 16, Abigail graduated from high school. The following September, she started taking online college classes. With her disability, these suited her better than in-person classes.

Abigail earned an AA degree in animation from Thomas Edison State University.

In her second year of homeschooling Abigail, Teresa started a support group with two other homeschooling-families in her community on the south fork of Long Island.

That group, called Homeschool on Long Island, currently has a membership of about



**Teresa and Abigail Loos -dp photo**

1500 families, with about 5800 homeschooled children, and covers all of Long Island. (One family has 13 children.)

For quite some time, homeschooling was often associated with religious fanatics.

As members of a cult, Cathy Ledesma's parents would go in that column. She and her 15 siblings were born into The Children of God (also called The Family), and all of them were homeschooled, along with other children in the sect.

(At one time or another, other children in the group included River and Joaquin Phoenix and their siblings, Rose McGowan and a few other celebrities.)

For the most part her father was her teacher from kindergarten through 12th grade, although her older brother likes to brag that he taught her fourth grade.

"My mom did teach us for a short stint, but that wasn't a very good idea," she said. She

**continued on page 13**

# Do you still need to worry about the SAT?

Darren Johnson and Felicia Reich  
*Campus News*

As college admission deadlines quickly approach, it's more important than ever for applicants to understand the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on standardized tests and the role these tests play in the application process. Due to the pandemic, many students were not able to take the test or suffered severely lower scores than expected. In response, many schools have adopted a test-optional policy to account for these changes, but are these changes here to stay?

College admissions expert and founder of College Shortcuts Neha Gupta weighs in: "The biggest shift in admissions was due to the fact that last year, GPAs and SAT/ACT scores were thrown out heavily during the admissions process due to the pandemic. Students went to virtual learning and many of their high school grades suffered the consequences, which resulted in admissions officers looking beyond the scores."

Amidst these changes, how relevant are standardized tests? For some who excel at test-taking, even if your college of choice doesn't require a test, including your scores in your application can only help. "Seventy-one percent of universities are test optional, but if you do have a solid score that is within the median to high range of scores, you should submit them." Even if the university isn't requesting it, Gupta encourages those who score well to still send the results.

For students who do plan on taking the test, Gupta advises to wait to receive the results before sending their scores to their preferred schools. "Only after you have seen your own results should you send the scores. You should also triple check that your high school doesn't automatically submit scores as well and speak with your counselor regarding this at school."

If a student historically is not a good test taker and is applying to a school that doesn't require scores, their time and energy would be better spent working on their essays and creating a compelling narrative around their interests and extracurricular activities.

Whether or not a student plans on sending their scores, the essay plays a crucial role. Gupta  
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emphasised, "Even if you have a perfect GPA and SAT score, if your essay is not on point, you won't get in... Students have to have the best story when it comes to their admissions process."

When it comes to standing out in the admissions process, your application angle is key. This is where the essay comes in: "Long gone are the days where students can apply undecided; today's student needs to have a clear path of what they want to and where they want to go and why. The essays that are most successful are the ones that have the strongest hero's journey going from failure to triumph."

The admissions process has become increasingly more competitive since the time when the parents of applicants applied. "Admissions officers are trying to find students to create a diverse student body, and most parents applied during a time where the acceptance rates into some Ivy League schools or top 25 universities had acceptance rates of over 30-40%... Today's parent struggles already on managing and navigating their teenager through high school, let alone, a process that has completely been turned upside down."

With that being the case, where are students supposed to turn for guidance through this important time? Gupta urges students to take advantage of their high school's college application resources such as a college advising counselor or independent college admissions companies like College Shortcuts to get support on the application process, and, in particular, on writing their essays.

"Today, students who apply to competitive universities, over 85% of those students are having



their essays reviewed. Students who do not get that type of assistance will not have the competitive edge to get in, and unfortunately, are competing against students who know the power of packaging and finesse."

Despite colleges and the testing companies adapting their policies to meet the needs of students in the pandemic, Gupta says that universities will eventually go back to requiring the test in their admissions. "SAT and ACT exams will still be administered, and they will continue to do so in the future as colleges will eventually go back to taking those exams."

With many colleges and universities again requiring scores, standardized testing will make its return to the college admissions process. However, the college admissions landscape has undoubtedly changed. "We know that [colleges] are looking for students who stand out with a specific angle, are creating capstone projects to follow their passion, and finding unique extracurricular experiences to write about in their essays. Long gone are the days where you can rely on a 4.0 and a perfect 1600 SAT score, and we are unsure when those days will come back, or if they will ever come back."

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pitch. What will you write about?

Remember, Journalism stories usually have a timeliness factor, and require interviews, so pitch a story you can actually accomplish.

Also think about audience: College students in the Northeast; some faculty and staff, too. You can't be too specific – a poetry reading at one campus may not be of interest to students at 28 other campuses. But you can't be too vague either. Try not to write a story that has been done before.

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## Part-time profs and ‘The Great Resignation’

**Darren Johnson**  
*Campus News*

I belong to a few adjunct gripe groups on Facebook, and every now and then someone will come on and say – *HEY! HEY! If us adjuncts have it so bad (with low pay, no benefits and little job security), why don't we all quit? What can they do but acquiesce to our demands!*

It's kind of a childish way to look at workplace economics.

Their gist is, adjunct instructors are cheap scabs manipulated by college administrations to save money. Typically, an adjunct might cost the college a fifth as much per credit hour compared to a full-time professor with benefits.

So if all the of adjuncts suddenly quit, the administration would be screwed, the gripers think.

They (the administration?) would have to cave in and give adjuncts some hidden pot of gold.

Yeah, except whenever adjuncts try to strike, they are the ones who always end up caving.

The problem is, adjuncts really *are* expendable.

The minimum qualification to be an adjunct usually is a master's degree. Thirteen percent of Americans have at least that. In towns with colleges – where adjuncts are hired – the number is even higher.

So, while it would be painful for a college to suddenly lose all of their adjuncts, it would not be catastrophic, because:

- Full-time faculty could pick up the adjunct courses as overtime. I was a full-time instructor for a couple of years, and it was easy for me to pick up extra hours. The added pay was on par with what an adjunct would get for those hours.

- College administrators themselves could pick up adjunct courses. I did this a lot when I was a college administrator. I'd use the extra money for family vacations.

- Professionals in town – say MBAs, lawyers, doctors, etc. – all have advanced degrees and would love to pick up a course just to brag to their cohorts about “giving back.” A lawyer could certainly teach political science. A doctor, biology. A newspaper editor, freshman composition.

I got my first adjunct gig when I was a reporter at a small town newspaper. The college in the town put a simple ad in a different local paper looking for a Writing With Computers instructor. Three credits. A couple of grand. Sure, why not? I just fit it into my regular schedule.

And now with Zoom being more accepted, adjuncts have even less leverage. A college could find temporary instructors from anywhere in the world!

That being said, colleges really don't want to lose their adjuncts and start over. The adjuncts already are vetted – they have had years of decent student and peer reviews – and know the culture of their school well enough to not really cause many issues.

And, during this pandemic, local adjuncts have been more willing to teach in-person classes than full-time faculty, it apparently seems, and it's the in-person classes that give students that “col-

lege experience” promised in glossy brochures.

So, while the nation talks about “The Great Resignation” – people leaving their low-paying, headache-causing jobs *en masse* – it might be wise for colleges to throw a few bones to the adjuncts to keep their interest.

Let me suggest:

- **How about offering adjuncts a guaranteed two full courses each per semester?** Even if there are only a few students who sign up for that course? One of the most precarious things about being an adjunct is that courses can be cut, and the adjunct loses that expected revenue stream, but doesn't have time to pick up a different course at a different college because of the late notice.

- **Tuition remission for whole families.** Many colleges offer tuition remission for the families of full-timer faculty and staff, but most not for adjuncts. A college I adjunct for offers some tuition remission for the adjunct only – but that school only goes as high as a master's, and adjuncts already have one, by definition. Offering this perk for the immediate families of adjuncts wouldn't cost the colleges much, and would help them better retain these adjuncts.

- **Fully paid health benefits.** This should be a God-given right, especially in a prosperous nation like ours, but adjuncts usually don't get any health benefits. Some colleges will offer adjuncts these at an exorbitant rate. As the economy becomes more “gig” based, many adjuncts have side careers like writer, actor, musician, that also don't carry benefits. Someone has to look out for them – why not the Ivory Tower?

If you're an adjunct – or a concerned student, faculty or staff member – send this article to your college president. Write a letter to your school newspaper, as well. It's the least the college can do for these beleaguered, underappreciated instructors – who lend their talents to improve the college, if not their own financial best interests.

*Darren Johnson is publisher of this newspaper, and also teaches a couple of sections of Journalism at a small liberal arts college Upstate.*



### Less on student loans, more on car loans

For many, having both student loan and auto loan debt is often a necessity; they need student loans to obtain a higher education and auto loans to commute. LendingTree analyzed 343,000 anonymized credit reports of student loan debtors to better understand how student loan debt compares to auto loan debt. They found:

Of the Americans who have student debt, 23.7% also carry auto loan debt.

Most of these dual-borrowers owe more on their student loans than their auto loans, with a median balance of \$21,177 on their student debt, compared with \$14,231 owed on their vehicles.

However, student loan borrowers with smaller balances may take on more auto debt. For the 8.4% of dual-borrowers who owe more on their vehicles, the median student loan balance drops to \$7,114, while auto debt creeps up to \$18,242.

## Is owning a franchise in your future?

**Prof. John DeSpagna**  
*Campus News*

Have you ever thought of owning your own business? You will have the freedom of not having to work for someone and you can rely on the past experience and expertise of an organization. Well, if that is a path you have on your mind, you may want to consider the benefits of owning a franchise.

When I think of a successful franchise, the franchise that comes to mind is McDonald's. The company was established by the McDonald brothers and then they sold out to Ray Kroc who built an incredibly successful organization. The product and service are a model of consistency and these are important components to their success.

Many people start a new business with a tremendous amount of enthusiasm but do not have a high level of expertise in their business. This is one of the many reasons why someone may want to look into the franchise option.

Some of the fastest growing franchises include household names such as

McDonald's, 7-Eleven, Taco Bell, Subway and Dunkin' Donuts. Let's take a look at some of the benefits of these franchisees.

Working as a franchise is beneficial due to the support you receive from the parent company. If you want to own a McDonald's franchise you have to go through their training program and Hamburger University. The training is considered to be excellent because they want you to be successful. When you have questions or challenges, they are there to support you. How often have you seen a McDonald's close down?

A franchise will also give you instant brand awareness. If you're travelling and see a Subway, you know what type of product you will receive and they maintain their quality and consistency guidelines.

Risk is an inherent part of our life and you take on risk when you walk out the door in the



morning. Many new businesses go out of business but the success rate of franchises is much higher. They have a proven business model so you can have a higher chance of success when you are your own boss.

Just as there are advantages to owning a franchise, we have to realize that there are also disadvantages. The first disadvantage that comes to mind is the restrictions that

you have placed in your contract. The franchisor has control over your hours, signage, prices and quality control measures.

The franchisor also needs to get compensated and earn a profit. You will normally have some type of start up fee. Once the business is open, you then have to deal with fees that are in the contract. You may have to pay a fixed amount of sales revenue to the franchisor and

this could be a significant part of your revenue.

Territory. This is an issue you have to deal with. You may have a protected territory another franchisee of the same company cannot open a location within a fixed distance from your location. Sometimes, you may have no territorial protection and someone can open up a location across the street from you. This also moves in the direction of potential legal disputes that could arise.

Owning your own business is a dream of many so you can control your destiny. A franchise is certainly an option and something you may want to consider. To learn more, take a look at the course offerings in your college for a Franchising or Entrepreneurship course.

*John DeSpagna is a business professor and Chair of Accounting and Business Administration Department at Nassau Community College in Garden City, New York.*



**'They have a proven business model, so you have a higher chance of success.'**

## Coping mechanisms to survive Turkey Day

**Cody Fitzgerald**  
*Journal & Press*

Imagine if some guy drove his massive boat onto foreign land that he had no claim over, pretended he was the first to discover it and the genocided all of the native peoples living on said land. Now imagine the United States based two holidays around this man. Now imagine some privileged, bratty, direct relative of some of the people on this boat sitting arms crossed on his comfortable couch complaining about how he doesn't like any of the food served on these holidays. Welcome back.

Thanksgiving sucks. It's getting cold, the days are getting shorter and you get to listen to your uncle ramble on about how the COVID vaccine is actually droplets of aborted fetus juice and liberal blood designed to turn us all into mindless, fetal, socialist soldiers fighting to raise gas prices around the world. Hopefully today I can share my expertise in avoid (or enjoying) political conversation and being able to have the best meal possible on

Thanksgiving.

- Shut off *A Christmas Story*. It's too early and you don't need that negativity in your life
- Discuss religion
- Wear a mask probably
- Go vegan for an 8 hour period to avoid your aunt's burnt and probably 3 year old turkey
- Remember that Kraft Mac and Cheese is always a safe, acceptable option
- Think about the impending doom of Black Friday
- Think about the impending doom of Christmas
- Think about the impending doom of the universe and how the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has reported that it is officially too late to save the universe from global warming
- Watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and realize why you hate capitalism
- Shout "Biden's America!" in response to every slight inconven-



ience, regardless of whether or not it is involved with politics or is simply something like stubbing your toe

- Question why you were ever upset you got out of doing this last year
- Be thankful that you don't have to do this for another year

Be sure to drink your ovaltine.

*Cody Fitzgerald is a 2021 Schuylerville High School grad satirizing anything and everything he can get his hands on. Aspiring to become "one of the cool" High School English teachers, he now attends Siena College and hopes to share this outlook/coping mechanism with future generations.*



## SCCC signs athletes

Three outstanding high school student athletes, women's basketball point and shooting guard Gemma Mendola from Babylon High School and women's softball players — both from Lindenhurst High School — Keelynn Kelly and Kaylin McDonald (pictured, L-R) have signed letters of intent to attend Suffolk County Community College next fall.

"By signing a letter of intent," explained Suffolk County Community College Athletics Director Neftali Col-lazo, "these student athletes are com-

mitting to Suffolk for the academic year, just as Suffolk is committing to these outstanding young ladies. We are committed to both their academic and athletic success and proud to call them Sharks!"

**Gemma Mendola** is an all-league point and shooting guard who plans to enter Suffolk's Emergency Medical technician program. Mendola said she plans to "excel both on and off the court."

Lindenhurst softball player **Keelyn**



**Kelly**, a League II 2019 Rookie of the Year and 2021 All Division, All County and All State 4th Team player, said she's excited to play college softball. Kelly said she intends to major in criminal justice.

Lindenhurst's **Kaylin McDonald**, a centerfielder, middle infield and utility player plans to major in liberal arts and general studies at Suffolk and said she is excited to continue playing softball and start her future.



# Become a millionaire – skip Starbucks

**Darren Johnson**  
*Campus News*

Think about this. If you cut out that \$6 Starbucks drink every day and put that money into some kind of account that earns 7% interest – say blue-chip stocks like Apple and McDonald's (or even Starbucks) – you'll have over \$1 million dollars in 50 years.

Fifty years may seem like a long time off, and maybe you don't buy a \$6 drink every day, but you get the idea. If you can cure one money bleed in your life and simply put that money consistently into a bank account, you will be rich someday.

Why did I pick \$6? That's the cost of the average Starbucks drink. And Starbucks is truly addictive. But what if you could make those same drinks for pennies on the dollar?

A brand new report by Uswitch – a British price comparison company – has delved into how much it actually costs to make some of your favorite Starbucks iced coffees.

Looking at recipes from Google News and average price points of ingredients across three different supermarkets, the experts reveal the drink that will save the most money by making it at home, is the the iconic Coffee Frappuccino.

One of Starbucks classics, the iced coffee will cost you just \$0.12 per serving to whip up yourself, instead of setting you back \$5.62 every time.

The drink contains just a small number of ingredients

including coffee, ice, milk and sugar, and would allow you to make 26 drinks for the price of one in Starbucks.

Placing second was the Mocha Frappuccino, costing you just \$0.24, to make at home. All you need is coffee, ice milk, cocoa powder and chocolate sauce and you will save yourself \$5.38 every time you want the sweet beverage.

Caramel Frappuccino, Iced Mocha or Iced Chai Latte? The Uswitch report reveals how cheap it is to make some of TikTok's most viral Starbucks drinks. Here are some examples:

## Coffee Frappuccino

Cost to make at home – \$0.21

Cost to buy in Starbucks – \$5.62

Total amount saved – \$5.41

### Ingredients:

Instant Espresso Coffee – 4.2 grams / ½ cup

Milk – 60ml/ ¼ cup

Sugar – 26 grams/ 1 ½ tsp

Ice – 100 grams/ 1 cup

### Method:

*Prepare the espresso and then chill it until completely cooled down.*

*Next, combine the espresso, milk, sugar and ice in a blender.*

*Then, begin to blend on low speed, slowly increasing the speed to high, and blend until smooth.*

*Pour into glasses and serve*

*straight away.*

## Mocha Frappuccino

Cost to make at home – \$5.62

Cost to buy in Starbucks – \$0.24

Total amount saved – \$5.38

### Ingredients:

200g ice cubes

2 tbsp instant coffee, dissolved in 60ml boiling water, cooled

400 ml skimmed milk

4 tbsp chocolate sauce

1 tbsp cocoa, to dust

### Method:

*Put the ice in a large blender.*

*Add the coffee, milk and chocolate sauce and blitz until smooth.*

*Pour into glasses and dust with cocoa powder.*

## Java Chip Frappuccino

Cost to make at home – \$0.41

Cost to buy in Starbucks – \$5.62

Total amount saved – \$5.22

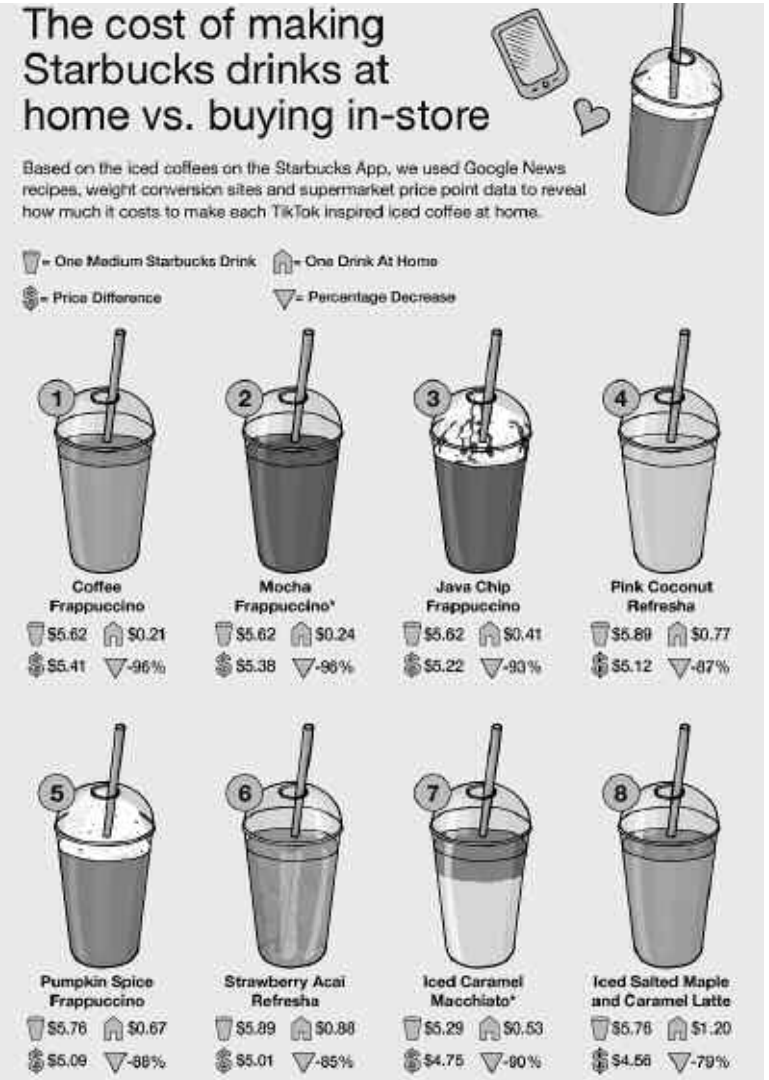
### Ingredients:

1 cup/ 100 grams strong brewed coffee chilled

2 cups/ 100 grams of ice cubes

1 cup/ 240 ml milk whole fat for the best results

4 tbsp/ 14 grams chocolate chips



4 tbsp/ 14 grams chocolate sauce or chocolate syrup

Whipped cream (optional)

### Method:

*Prepare your coffee roast (brewed or instant coffee) and let it chill in the fridge.*

*Loosely drizzle chocolate sauce inside of each glass and set aside. Place the drizzled glasses in the freezer.*

*Add ice, milk, coffee roast, chocolate sauce, and chocolate chip into a blender.*

*Blend on low speed for about 30 seconds, and then on a max speed for around 20 seconds or until the mixture*

*is evenly smooth.*

*Pour into individual glasses and top with whipped cream. Drizzle with chocolate sauce.*

*Serve and enjoy.*

Find the full report (with videos on how to make these Starbucks drinks and others) [here](https://www.uswitch.com/mobiles/the-cost-of-making-tiktok-coffees):  
<https://www.uswitch.com/mobiles/the-cost-of-making-tiktok-coffees>.

Make your own fancy coffees and save a ton! Don't worry – Starbucks will still be fine without your \$6.

# How about the 77% who are moderates?

**Darren Johnson**  
**Felicia Reich, Editor**  
*Campus News*

Seth David Radwell visited my Advanced Journalism class last month via Zoom to discuss his newly released book, “American Schism: How the Two Enlightenments Hold the Secrets to Healing Our Nation.” In it, the career business leader takes an investigative look at why people are so politically divided, discusses the new restrictive voting laws put in place in 18 US states and the importance of data when it comes to making informed decisions.

“The 18 governors who signed these [new voting laws] did so under the premise of needing more election security,” he said.

But Radwell believes that’s a false premise. “The data don’t point to a real problem with election security. What I think has happened is some political actors are very afraid of how much elections were based on paper ballots and absentee voting in last year’s elections.”

Historically, “there’s no question that voting regulations have been used extensively through our history as a way to suppress voting,” he added.

Referencing pre-Jim Crow-era voting laws, he said, “There’s been a big history of using poll taxes and other requirements for voting that have suppressed voting. It’s really important to understand these 18 new state regulations in the context of that history.”

And who will these new voting laws affect the most? Working class people, Radwell said. Making it easier for this demographic to vote, for example through early voting, Sunday voting, and absentee ballots, is usually beneficial. However, all of those voting options in different forms are restricted in these new laws, Radwell added.

And everyone seems so angry now.

He added: “I noticed that across my network of business contacts, over the past couple of years it’s gotten increasingly hard to discuss political issues. If we’re going to be successful at handing democracy over to our children, we’re going to have to be able to talk about civic issues.”

A business leader, Radwell has built his career on understanding problems and recommending solutions. In his book, one of the solutions he recommends to heal America includes term limits: “In the private sector when you’re developing talent for an organization or a business, usually no one stays in the same job for more than a couple of years. After they get complacent at what they’re doing and good at it, they move on to a different challenge. ... I think the problem in the public sector is we don’t do that enough.

“The political industry has become a sort of cronyism where there’s a political infrastructure that is supported by lobbyists and ... the main thing they worry about is not to solve

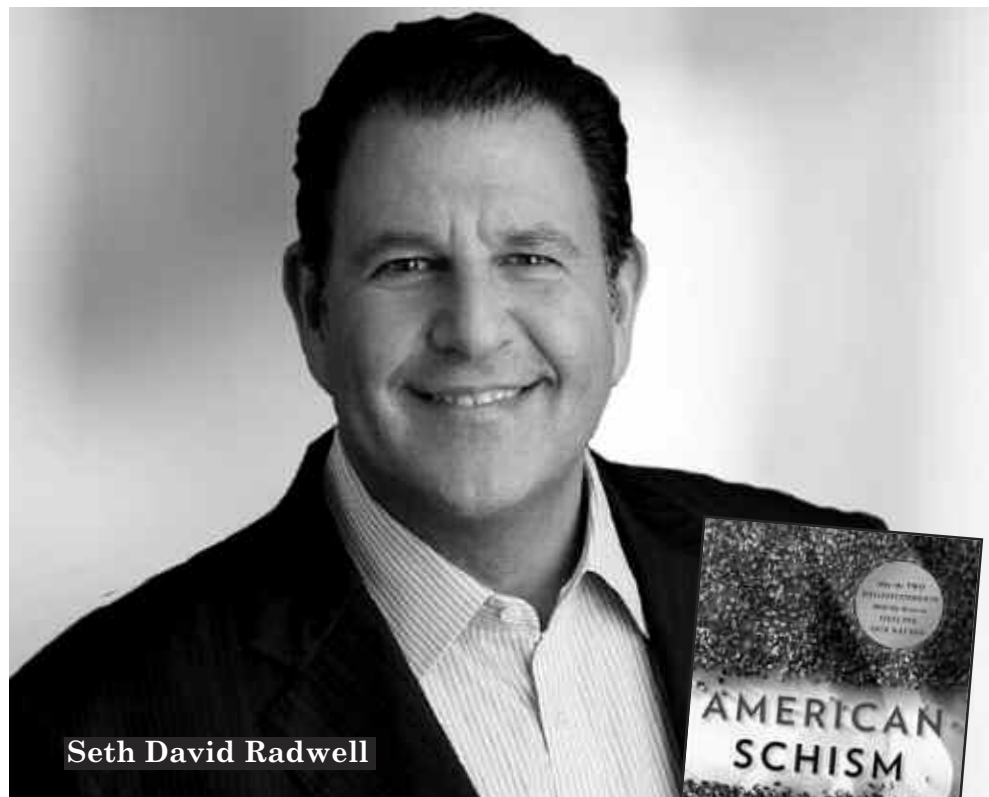
## ‘Let’s talk about substance. Data matters.’

public problems but to get reelected. And they spend almost all their energy and money on that.”

In America today, party lines have become so polarizing that people often fail to consider the point of view of a person outside their party affiliation.

But the angriest people are not the majority. They just seem to dominate by flooding the Internet and the airwaves with divisive content.

Radwell addresses this in his book: “My research shows 77% of



**Seth David Radwell**

Americans are a part of what I call the Frustrated Majority. They’re frustrated because their voices are continually crowded out by those on the extreme.”

Another solution in Radwell’s book relies on the 77% of Americans in the Frustrated Majority reclaiming the political conversation. “Let’s talk about a specific issue, and let’s talk about the substance of the issue, because data matters.”

Having appeared on both “Tucker Carlson” and NPR, Radwell speaks to bridging the political divide in the media. Getting information from different sources, and therefore hearing different perspectives, is fundamental, according to Radwell, in breaking out of partisan bubbles. “My goal is to break through these partisan echo chambers, so I go on shows on the right and the left.”

Radwell goes on to talk about the state of media today: “I think it’s important to have ... an objective set of facts about what is happening in the world. It feels like news has gotten away from that, certainly in the

broadcast and cable arena.”

On his motivations for writing this book: “I’m worried about the future of our country,” Radwell said. “I’m worried that rational thinking and fact-based analysis have been crowded out by passion, and rancor, and acrimony. I want [the next generation of American citizens] to be able to inherit a democracy, but I think it’s slowly slipping away.”

With his new book now available on Amazon, Radwell says speaking to young people has been the most rewarding part of writing his book. “I believe younger people are less set in their ways and are open to ideas.”

What about the future of democracy? “In many areas of education, especially K-12, the focus on STEM skills has crowded out civic-based skills like writing, making arguments and evaluating evidence... for democracy to work you need an informed citizenry.”

# Gift guide: A pasta package

Welcome back to our College Gift Guide. Here, we physically review various items that may make good gifts for students going off to college (or buy these for yourself!). This isn't a promotional guide – we really handle the items and try them out in real situations. Our final verdict is to help you decide. Maybe you'll get some good ideas from this listing. Let's continue...

**Item:** Pastene Campus Survival Kit.

**Our Verdict:** Highly Recommended.

One of the favorite items we've ever received here at Campus News for our gift guide is this – **the Pastene Campus Survival Kit**.

The one thing I learned in college, outside the classroom, anyway, is how to cook Italian food, and I learned early on that the pasta from a company like Pastene is usually \$1 or so more than the budget brands, but totally worth it. When buying the better pasta, there's less texture problems and less of a racy after feeling because of the better ingredients used in better pastas.

So, for only \$24.99 (and get 10% more off if you

use the code “campusnews” through the holidays), you can have the following sent to that special someone. The box contains:

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- \* Rigatoni 1lb
- \* Diced Tomatoes with Green Chilies 10 oz
- \* Pizza Sauce 15 oz
- \* Tomato Basil Sauce 24.5 oz
- \* Tonno 3 oz

A lot of this stuff you can cook in a dorm with a hot plate and toaster over. What you don't like, donate to the campus food pantry – or give to that weird guy up the hall who “will eat anything.”

It's still a great deal, even if you don't use everything here. Pick up some ricotta and mozzarella and turn that rigatoni into a baked dish. Get some English muffins and mozzarella and use the pizza sauce to make mini pizzas. The grated parmesan can add to any meal.

This is shipped by FedEx, so it will arrive quickly. That adds a bit to the price, but, even so, we're still talking only about \$4 per item if you use the promo code. And it comes in a classy,



How the box arrives



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well-packed box worthy of gifting.

To order this delicious package, go to [www.pastene.com/product/campus-survival-kit](http://www.pastene.com/product/campus-survival-kit).

## College is still worth cost

A recent article found that the cost of college has increased by 169% since 1980, but income for recent graduates has only increased 19%. One higher education expert shared why college is worth the investment: “I would argue that college is a worthwhile investment, and not only because studies show that the typical college graduate will earn 84% more over a lifetime than those with only a high school diploma. The real value of the college experience is in the holistic development that occurs over the 4 or 5 years it takes to earn that degree. College is a time to develop a sense of identity and to refine one's values. It is a time to develop interpersonal skills, communications skills, and leadership skills. Studies show that college graduates are more civically engaged; they vote frequently and get involved in local issues. Indeed, today's college graduates are tomorrow's global leaders.

“As the cost of education continues to rise, students need to pay more attention to the cost of education and seek ways to avoid debt. Strategies include attending in-state schools, working part-time, and applying for private scholarships,” said Debra Geller, Ed. D., and expert at Intelligent.com.

## Are you a Journalism prof?

If you are a Journalism professor, why not consider making Campus News a part of your class? Publisher Darren Johnson – an adjunct Journalism instructor himself – is happy to Zoom in to meet your class. Johnson is well-respected in the college Journalism world and regularly presents at national student media conferences.

Student stories can be posted on the Campus News web site for thousands of people to see. Some stories might even make it into this print edition, which travels all over the New York Metro Area.

Perhaps offer extra credit to students who actually get clips via Campus News. It's a publication credit that certainly would help their resumes.

And instructors can write for us, too!

If you really want to go nuts with this, make Campus News a club on your campus. Talk to your Student Activities team to make that happen.

Contact us at [editor@campus-news.org](mailto:editor@campus-news.org) or 518-507-6370.



## Work 2 days/wk., get \$17/hr. and free tuition

Finch Paper is no exception to employers struggling to find workers nationwide, but the manufacturer's plan to remedy its labor shortage is exceptional: The iconic Glens Falls company is offering tuition reimbursement for SUNY Adirondack students who work two shifts a week for a semester — while also paying an hourly wage.

“Since SUNY Adirondack is already among the most affordable colleges in the state and offers generous financial aid, this is an incredible opportunity for students to graduate with little to no debt, earn money, gain job skills and build relationships in the community,” said Kristine D. Duffy, Ed.D., president of the college.

Students who work 27 shifts per semester are eligible to be fully reimbursed for tuition

and fees, up to \$2,625. According to the agreement with Finch Paper, participating students must pass all their courses and be in good academic standing to receive the tax-free payment at the end of the semester.

“We are excited by the prospect of hiring SUNY Adirondack students,” said Dennis Gazaille, Employee Relations manager at Finch. “Sure, we need to hire, but we also see this as a great way to help students pay for their education, further strengthening the community and economy we have been part of for more than 150 years.”

Students can choose from shifts of 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday, or 3 to 11 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, earning \$17.18 an hour as a floor hand/laborer. Job duties include house-

keeping, transporting and processing off-quality paper, emptying bins, cleaning with high-pressure hoses, assisting production teams, and performing other duties to increase operation efficiency.

Applications are available at [finchpaper.com/careers](http://finchpaper.com/careers); interested students are encouraged to fill them out before attending the event. Students who want to begin work immediately will receive a prorated tuition reimbursement for the fall semester.

Those interested in this opportunity who are not yet students can apply for the Spring 2022 semester at [connect.sunyacc.edu/apply](http://connect.sunyacc.edu/apply). The spring semester starts Jan. 24.

## WGU scholarships for NYS teachers

Western Governors University's (WGU) Teachers College will mark the National Education Association's (NEA) 2021 American Education Week Nov. 15-19 by announcing its WGU Loves Teachers and Become a Teacher scholarship programs, together totaling \$6 million, for current and future education professionals who wish to pursue bachelor's or master's degree programs in the Teachers College.

Each WGU Loves Teachers and Become a Teacher scholarship is valued up to \$4,000 and designed to help current teachers improve their skill set in the classroom or move into administration, or to assist professionals in obtaining the required credentials for a rewarding future career as an educator. The nonprofit's diligence in maintaining lower costs reduces the need for student borrowing, resulting in average graduate debt that is about half the national average. These scholarships will provide students with significant assistance as they pursue an affordable, high-quality education degree.

“At WGU, we educate teachers and leaders who are passionate about being engaging, caring, and difference-making educators for their students,” said Dr. Mark Milliron, Senior Vice President and

Executive Dean of WGU's Teachers College.

According to data sourced from the U.S. Census Bureau and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), all states and the District of Columbia collectively report an unmet need of approximately 410,000 teachers for the 2021-22 school year, including elementary, secondary, and special education. To help respond to this need, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic, WGU's Teachers College has graduated more than 16,700 students nationwide between March 1, 2020 and September 10, 2021 who have gone on to become licensed teachers or advanced in their school-leader roles.

Recruiting for the educator pipeline is crucial in New York state, which currently has an unmet need of 23,000 teachers, according to Census and NCES data. The New York State United Teachers (NYSUT) union recently reported a 50.4% decline in teacher educator programs statewide. And with more than one-third of teachers soon eligible for retirement, the state's districts may need to hire 180,000 educators in the coming decade, according to NYSUT. WGU has graduated 211 students in New York State since March 2020, which helps to fill the teacher shortage. The university's licensure-

eligible programs in the state include special education, sciences and social studies, all of which have been identified by the U.S. Department of Education and New York State Education Department as subject shortage areas.

“New York state's children deserve strong, diverse teachers in core disciplines throughout their K-12 experience,” said Rebecca Watts, Ph.D., who oversees New York state as Northeast Regional Vice President of WGU. “Too often, tuition costs and life circumstances — including work or family obligations — can be barriers to the profession for talented would-be teachers. WGU helps provide a path for those students, and we are glad to offer increased tuition assistance to New Yorkers through these new scholarships.”

The college currently offers 11 bachelor's degree programs and 20 master's degree programs for teachers and leaders in K-12 and higher education.

New and enrolling WGU students may apply for the WGU Loves Teachers scholarship now at [wgu.edu/wguloveteachers](http://wgu.edu/wguloveteachers), and for the Become a Teacher scholarship through December 31, 2021, at [wgu.edu/becomeateacher](http://wgu.edu/becomeateacher).

# Homeschool (cont.)

knows her father was often learning the material right before he taught it.

Homeschooling suited their missionary lifestyle. Cathy lived in three states (in four cities in Texas alone) as well as three cities in Mexico.

Being homeschooled, Cathy wasn't aware of school-related vocabulary that's commonly understood by every other student.

"I probably still couldn't tell you what a pep rally is," said the 30-year-old. "I didn't even know what a semester was. Junior, sophomore, senior... I didn't know any of that."

In an ironic twist, Cathy, who had never set foot in an elementary school, earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Texas with a teacher certification, early

**'I couldn't tell you what a pep rally is. I didn't know what a semester was.'**

childhood through sixth grade. She worked as a fourth-grade teacher in a public school for three years followed by a year as a third-grade teacher at a private school.

## Sell ads for Campus News

Are you looking for a side gig with very flexible hours and potentially nice returns? Help Campus News sell advertising over the spring and summer. The job would entail you contacting potential advertisers and

Ruth achieved a GPA of 4.0 in the first semester of her sophomore year and again in the second semester of her junior year.

"One boy [from the support group], he was 15 when he entered college. They didn't realize how old he was. He had the highest score of anybody that took the test that year," said Teresa.

According to the National Home Education Research Institute's website, "Home-educated students typically score above average on the SAT and ACT tests that colleges consider for admissions," and "Homeschool students are increasingly being actively recruited by colleges."

While the pandemic is responsible for the recent surge, homeschooling was already alive and well throughout the country.

According to Steve Duvall, director of research at the Home School Legal Defense Association in Virginia, its growth is not slowing down anytime soon.

If that plays out, in several years there could be college campuses filled with students who have no idea what detention is.

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## Review: 'Friends! The Musical Parody'

Kaylee Johnson  
Campus News

Located in the center of Downtown Schenectady and Jay Street, Proctors Theater still remains the most charming house of art, community, and whimsy in the Capital Region of New York. Though it was shut down during most of the pandemic, it is back with an impressive lineup of upcoming shows and touring productions, including "Come From Away," "Waitress," "The Prom," "Rent 25th Anniversary Farewell Tour," "Dear Evan Hansen," "Cats," "My Fair Lady," "Harper Lee's To Kill a Mockingbird," "Mean Girls," and classic symphony and ballet performances throughout the year. As someone who is actively involved with theatre and stage culture, I know that small scale theaters can put on some of the most stunning shows.

Recently, I saw "Friends! The Musical Parody" at Proctors. Going into it, I had only seen one episode of "Friends," 10 years ago, in passing. It was a show that I always dismissed because it seemed like a watered down version of "Seinfeld" and the people who talked about it were always gum chomping, hair flipping, pyramid scheme participating women I went to high school with. Yes, I know the show was popular, making million of dollars per episode, but it was before my time, and the

only people who watch it now are the nostalgic types and the retro hipsters – I try not to fall into either of those categories. With that being said, the return of live theatre was exciting to me, so I decided to attend, knowing nothing about the show, riding fully on spontaneity and a passion for slapstick humor.

The show was in the smaller GE Theater within Proctors, and it was the perfect environment to have such a boisterous show. It is always personable when a performance lacks a traditional stage – it makes a more immersive experience and allows the audience to feel in tune with the actors. Knowing close to nothing about one of the most famous American sitcoms of all times, I still found myself rooting for the Monica character and tapping my feet to the comedic songs.

The show poked fun at "Friends," but also the self-indulgence of sitcoms in general. One of the songs questioned how all of the characters could afford their lavish apartments in New York City with no real jobs. Another made a playful jab at the fact that the characters are co-dependent and spend all day at Central Perk Coffee Shop and all night on first dates. I appreciated the cynicism and sarcastic nature of the script and characters, and how they were able to pay homage to a classic show while also completely bastardizing it and making a mockery of its superfans.

Speaking of superfans, all of the people in the audience had apparently seen all 10 seasons of the show numerous times and could quote any episode if quizzed. There were two moms sitting in front of me with embroidered "Friends" varsity jackets on and others were dodging security just so they could take photos on the stage couch, like Monica and Phoebe, or whatever their names are. The fans made the show more exciting, as



they had this passion for the 90s that I have only ever seen at a Limp Bizkit concert I stumbled across once. One hit wonders from the early 90s played before the show and during intermission and the fans sang along with glee. Never have I seen a group of people so excited to sing "Graduation" by Vitamin C.

Despite not knowing what was going on during a decent portion of the performance, the actors were talented, and the songs were catchy. I would suggest watching at least a few episodes of "Friends" before seeing the parody though, or else you

will feel like an outcast amongst the superfans.

While "Friends! The Musical Parody" was goofy, airy, and full of sitcom-esque humor, it was the perfect way to return to live theater after such a long, dark hiatus. People need comedy, lightheartedness and something as comforting as a classic sitcom right now. It was so beautiful to see people laughing and talking in a theater again. That alone, was the highlight of the evening.

*"Friends! The Musical Parody" tours well into next year. Find a show*

## Mental health opinions

A recent Intelligent.com survey found that 8 in 10 Americans support giving college students with mental health issues accommodations such as extra absences, extended deadlines, and more time to take exams.

Additional findings include:

- 86% of Americans who support these accommodations say mental health challenges can make it more difficult to perform to the best of one's ability
- The plurality of Americans say depression is the number one mental health condition that should qualify students for accommodations
- 54% of Americans who don't think students with mental health issues should get special accommodations say it's because students must learn to cope

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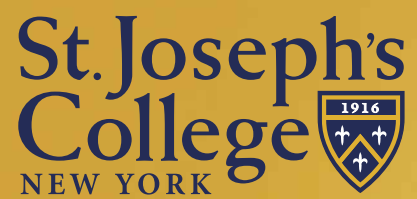
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# CUNY students graduate in record numbers

In the midst of a global pandemic and the extraordinary challenges it presented, the City University of New York achieved a new benchmark of academic success. CUNY conferred a record 59,295 degrees in the 2020-2021 academic year, the most in the University's nearly 175-year history. For the students and instructors who conducted classes almost exclusively online in the solitude (or, for many, the hubbub) of kitchens, bedrooms and living rooms to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, the accomplishment affirms the vitality of CUNY's mission as well as the perseverance of its students, faculty and staff.

"The members of CUNY's Class of 2021 will forever be associated with the words 'determined,' and 'resilient,' and that is with good reason," said Chancellor Félix Matos Rodríguez.

"No matter the challenges or hardships, the Class of 2021 remained focused and kept their eyes on the prize. And make no mistake: This cohort of CUNY grads won't stop with this historic achievement. They will bring that same commitment to excellence to help power New York's economic recovery and drive the city's workforce into a bright future."

Over the past 10 years, CUNY has bestowed more than half a million degrees, 516,217, proving that New Yorkers are hungry for the University's blend of quality and affordability and will stay the educational course in spite of obstacles. The record-setting number marks an increase of 3.8% over the 2018-2019 academic year, when CUNY awarded a then-record 57,139 degrees. The number dipped only slightly to 56,527 degrees in 2019-20, during the pan-

demical onset and severe initial surge, before this year's increase of 5%.

Graduates this year were sustained by the range of support services offered by the University to help them maintain their academic momentum during the pandemic. During the transition to remote learning in Spring 2020, the University provided 30,000 laptop devices to students who needed them and expanded wifi access through the allocation of 4,000 hotspots, among a host of other efforts. More than 95 percent of the University's 50,000 class sections were quickly adapted to digital platforms. This fall, after 17 months of mostly remote learning, CUNY opened its campuses to its students, faculty and staff.

Previous supportive actions have included the University's timely distribution of \$236 million in two

rounds of federal emergency relief grants. CUNY distributed \$118 million in CARES Act funds to nearly 161,000 students in the early months of the pandemic, with an average award last year of \$736. Beginning this May, an additional \$116.2 million was distributed to about 161,600 students, with grants averaging about \$720 per student.

To further support students, CUNY established the Chancellor's Emergency Relief Fund and has raised more than \$10 million from philanthropic organizations and individual donors. The Fund helped more than 12,000 students weather the economic impact of the pandemic, including undocumented and international students who were initially excluded from receiving federal aid, and CUNY colleges raised more than \$8.6 million to further aid students.

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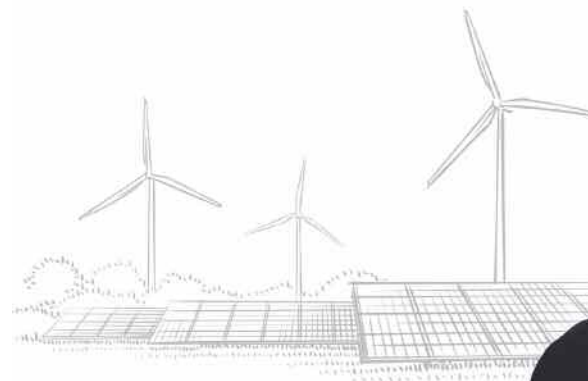
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# STAC's new president

St. Thomas Aquinas College (STAC) held a Presidential Inauguration Ceremony for Ninth President, Kenneth D. Daly, in October at the Sacred Heart Chapel in Sparkill, NY. The College's Board of Trustees, Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, special guests, and members of the STAC community came together on a beautiful fall day to commemorate the official — and long-awaited — ceremony to mark this historic occasion.

Kenneth D. Daly assumed his position as the ninth President of St. Thomas Aquinas College on July 1, 2020. He led the College through the COVID-19 pandemic and held off on his Inauguration Ceremony until the campus was safeguarded. President Daly and his wife Laurie entered the

beautiful Sacred Heart Chapel in procession with delegates from academia, STAC Deans and faculty members, the College's Board of Trustees, and Inaugural Speakers leading the way. Alumni and members of local government and community were also in attendance to witness the ceremony. Chairman of STAC's Board of Trustees, Peter Skae, presented President Daly with the College's Charter, followed by President Emerita Margaret Fitzpatrick bestowing the College medalion to officially mark the Inauguration. To close the Ceremony, President Daly gave his Inauguration Address, remarking on his journey to the College and vision for the future.

Following the ceremony at Sacred Heart Chapel, guests processed

through the grounds and were greeted by the founding Dominican Sisters on their way back to the STAC campus to enjoy a reception with refreshments at the newly renovated Romano Student Alumni Center. Employees, guests, and members of Ken's family mingled on campus and celebrated the occasion into the early evening. Hundreds of STAC students then kept the celebration going into the later evening for President Daly's Inauguration "Student-Afterparty" with food, fun, and a live DJ.

As the new President, Daly is committed to helping students navigate current societal challenges by provid-

ing access to affordable education to prepare them for college, community service, and careers. His vision for the future truly aligns with the College's Mission Statement — "St. Thomas Aquinas College seeks to challenge, guide, and energize each student to realize and create their own path to success and commit themselves to making a profound difference in the world."



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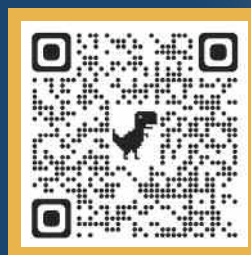


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# Esports take off at one SUNY college

SUNY Canton's new Esports Wing has become a home away from home with student residents building friendships based on a love of video games.

The college unveiled the latest themed housing option at the beginning of the fall 2021 semester in Heritage Hall East. The wing features 36 newly renovated double-occupancy rooms with black-stained wooden loft beds and desks tucked under each bunk, capable of housing students' custom gaming machines. Walls are painted in SUNY Canton blue and gold, mirroring themes found in the college's Esports Arena.

Approximately 70 students currently live in the wing and there is a waiting list for those who want to move in. The newly furnished residence rooms designed for individual gaming attracted students to the space, and then the camaraderie they developed with their peers clinched the experience of living on campus. Andrew J. Lukan, a Game Design and Development major from Beacon, described life in the wing as an exceptional experience that has allowed him to build new relationships.

"Having an assumption that the other people around you are in the same demographic and like the same things as you make it much easier to approach everyone and strike up a conversation," Lukan said. "I was able to talk to everyone who came outside to the lounge, and I've made a lot of good friends here."

Lukan is on the Guilty Gear Strive esports team. He said on his second day he met up with another player, Cooper J. Hewison of Delmar, who played the same games. "The genre is very niche, so it's always an amazing feeling to find someone in person you can play

with," Lukan said. "He's become a good training partner and one of my best friends here on campus."

When students aren't in their rooms, they are typically enthusiastically playing around the large circular gaming space in the common area. The college outfitted the wing with 10 Dell Alienware gaming PCs and gaming chairs. "We designed the space as a secondary competition location for when we have more games than computers available," said SUNY Canton Esports Coordinator Charles W. Murray. "Students can play 11 games in the SUNY Esports League, the Eastern College Athletic Conference, in addition to other collegiate gameplay, so we have a very full schedule."

SUNY Canton was the first SUNY college to offer varsity esports and one of the very first to create a dedicated arena. Based on the continuing popularity of video games, the college also created a four-year academic program in Esports Management. "Our students have led the way in every aspect of developing our esports program," said Randy B. Sieminski, SUNY Canton Athletic Director. "I wouldn't say we are innovators; I'd say we simply listen to our students' ideas and requests. By listening to our students, we continue to build and create great things in Esports. The new Esports Wing is the latest aspect to become wildly popular right from the start."



**An Esports table at SUNY Canton**

Not every resident of the wing is involved with esports. Lexa L. Leach, a Graphic and Multimedia Design major from Naples, said she plays Minecraft, and has begun playing League of Legends and Sea of Thieves with her friends, but does not play on a team.

"I came to Canton not playing a lot of games, I never even had a good PC to play on," Leach said. "People here are quick to recommend games if you don't know what to play."

She said she was surprised to learn how active her area would be in Heritage Hall. "I certainly didn't think that the East Wing would be the most social out of the three, but hey, I'm glad to have lots of people to talk to," she said.

Matthew M. Hodgdon, an HVAC Trades student from Hammond, is

an avid video game enthusiast who enjoys a variety of team-based and independent games. He said he doesn't play on an esports team but likes to play competitively on his own or with his friends. He echoed the thoughts of his neighbors from Heritage East. "Living in the Esports Wing is awesome and its full of really friendly people" he said. "The people here can push you to become better at gaming."

The Esports Wing was a team project spearheaded by Residence Life, the Physical Plant, Information Technology, and the Athletic Department. It is the newest of several themed housing options available in the college's residence halls. The Pet Wings in Mohawk Hall allow more than 100 students to live on campus with their animal companions.

# How social media affects the workplace

**Daneen Skube**

*Special to Campus News*

**Q:** *New reports from whistleblowers about social media platforms make me wonder how social media affects my workplace. How can I take charge of how I use social media? Also how do you think government will respond to make social media more beneficial?*

**A:** You can take charge of your social media interaction by realizing social media platforms often use anxiety to make you click. In addition, before posting anything on social media consider how it will affect you if future employers see your posts.

Using fear to keep consumers engaged is nothing new. Many news programs habitually start broadcasts with a house fire to scare watchers and make them wonder what other dangers are lurking.

What's new is our pervasive engagement with social media. Studies show that social media can be especially damaging to teens. Some research shows that the more time teens spend on Instagram the worse they feel about themselves. However, teens also fear being rejected if they're not on Instagram.

Leaders within social networks are unlikely to be plotting the downfall of society. The trouble is the artificial intelligence that powers social media sites knows that more clicks mean more profit. Most businesses will choose profit over social benefit.

Now industry and government are brain-

storming how to change programs used by social platforms so they don't encourage fear, self-loathing, and misinformation. I'd predict we'll see more government boundaries. Free speech is already limited to avoiding social damage i.e. you cannot yell "fire!" in a crowded theater.

If you're conscious that social media can use your anxiety or negative judgments about yourself to keep you clicking you can be a savvy user. Netflix has a documentary, "The Social Dilemma," that helps explain how to be a discerning consumer.

Obviously staying up all night clicking because you're anxious or feeling bad doesn't make you productive. You have a right to be as choosy about your media consumption as you are your diet. Junk food and junk media consumption both have negative effects.

Also think carefully before you post personal data, opinions, or personal photos. Unlike Las Vegas what happens on the internet does not stay on the internet but is available to everyone forever.

I recommend my clients take on the job of being their own public relations company. If you had an adviser looking out for your privacy or professional reputation would she or he encourage you to post what you habitually post?

There's has been a great deal of national coverage about our lack of privacy. Then again many of us, give away our personal data to loyalty programs, post when we're out of town for burglars, and undermine professional reputations with pictures or opinions that cost us opportunities.

Just as we need to become good consumers of media, we have the same responsibility to become good creators of media. Social networks are a tool. Just as with a hammer the tool can build a house or damage you or others.

Sociologists have pointed out that people, especially teens, are becoming less empathic. When they post a cruel

remark on social media they cannot see the hurt in someone's eyes. The lack of feedback when we're hurtful encourages people to use social networks with no thought of the emotional consequences.

As a culture we consider kindness important. However, the anonymity of social platforms makes verbal cruelty seem victimless. Then we may use the same trolling language on the job.

The likely outcome will be better computer programs considering social impact. However, don't wait until the government legislates new rules. Take a look at whether you're using social media or whether it's using you. Change your social network consumption to content that's accurate, empowering, and promotes your well-being.

**Q:** *I feel like I have to do it all at work. I work late, come in early, and solve most work crises. I also feel resentful. Is there a better way for me to avoid burn out?*

**A:** Yes, avoiding vulnerability and resentment are emotional twins. The solution is to admit your limits and start asking for help.

**Q:** *I used to feel like my path to career success was clear now I feel lost in a forest with no path. Is there advice you give clients when they feel lost?*

**A:** Yes, if the path before you is clear you're probably walking on a well-trodden path but if the path you walk has not been cleared congratulations you've found your own unique journey. You'll also make your own unique contribution as you clear a new path for others.

*Daneen Skube, Ph.D., is an executive coach and appears on FOX's "Workplace Guru" each Monday morning. You can contact Dr. Skube at [www.interpersonaledge.com](http://www.interpersonaledge.com) or 1420 NW Gilman Blvd., #2845, Issaquah, WA 98027.*



## HVCC gallery is open

"What We Looked At," an exhibition of work from the collections of Fine Art and Digital Media faculty members, reopens the Teaching Gallery at Hudson Valley Community College that's offered only virtual exhibits since the pandemic-mandated closing in March 2020. "What We Looked At" opened Oct. 22 without a public reception and runs through Friday, Dec. 2. Gallery hours are open free to the public and visitors are required to wear masks while indoors on the Troy campus.

# Mastodon returns with a double album

**John Frechette**  
*Campus News*

Atlanta heavy metal titans Mastodon released their eighth studio record, *Hushed and Grim*, on October 29<sup>th</sup>. Having not released an album since *Emperor of Sand* in 2017, the band clearly had built up a large amount of material, releasing a double album.

**Pain with an Anchor:** Opening with a drum intro reminiscent of “Hot for Teacher,” Brann Dailor and Troy Sanders trade off vocal delivery duties for the beginning ideas of the song. Just when the song starts to feel repetitive, the band transitions into a thrashing end which harkens back to “Toxic Garbage Island” by Gojira.

**The Crux:** After “Pain with an Anchor,” we are thrust into Leviathan-esque riffage, led by drummer Brann Dailor’s trademark fill-heavy drumming. The melodic comes back for the middle of the song, with lead guitarist Brent Hinds and vocalist Sanders trading the spotlight, before a thrashing outro to wrap “The Crux” with a bow.

**Sickle and Peace:** Not to be outdone by his contributions on the last track, Hinds has a face-melting solo at 4 minutes into the track which is absolutely the stand-out of the track. After “The Crux,” most of “Sickle and Peace” seems to meld together with the track before.

**More than I Could Chew:** After being lulled by the previous tracks, “More than I Could Chew” demands attention with a standout opening riff and a pulsing chorus. The track, again ends with a show-stopping solo by Hinds, though at almost seven minutes, the track begins to lose its punch.

**The Beast:** With an intro which would feel right at place with fellow Georgia rockers The Allman Brothers, the band marches into their first down-trodden song of the record. “The Beast” is a change of pace from what comes before on the record, but after 20 minutes of runtime, it’s certainly welcomed.

**Skeleton of Splendor:** With another slow song, Mastodon seems to be getting into the traditional middle of the album lull. What is remarkable is how softer songs like this and songs like “The Crux” exist on the same disk.

**Teardrinker:** Just when something softer is expected, “Teardrinker” comes with a pounding power metal riff. Synthesizers give the second

half of this a unique flavor compared to what came before, only to follow that up with an absolute gut-punch of a solo by Hinds.

**Pushing the Tides:** Mastodon ends the first disk with its most poignant song so far. With riffs that will be loved by older fans, the 3-and-a-half-minute track feels like a natural closing to things, but a complete other disk remains.

**Peace and Tranquility:** The second disc starts with “Peace and Tranquility,” which is fairly similar to many of the opening tracks from the first disc. It remains to be seen if there is much that differentiates this from the previous disc.

**Dagger:** Just when a fear of fatigue from the first disc is beginning to set in, “Dagger” closely skirts the edge of being too soft, but still having an incredibly active instrumental. The track also pulls the wandering listener back in

**Had It All:** The true ballad of the album, “Had It All” evokes emotion in a way different to anything heard before it. Kim Thayil provides a solo for this track that rivals anything he produced during his time with Soundgarden. Sanders’ vocal performance on this track clearly shows the vulnerable side which rarely shows through Mastodon’s music.

**Savage Lands:** Instead of building on “Had It All,” Mastodon throws out the map, instead of coming next with the thrashy “Savage Lands.” The band then slams on the breaks for a final two minutes which sound at home on *Contradictions Collapse* by Meshuggah.

## ‘Sanders’ vocals show his vulnerable side.’

**Gobblers of Dregs:** For an eight-minute track, the first half of the track is rather lackluster. At about the 4-minute mark, the music changes starkly. Sounding like it had been ripped off of *10,000 Days*, the second half of “Gobblers of Dregs” is absolutely the stand out performance of the entire album.

**Eyes of Serpents:** Following up “Gobblers of Dregs” was always going to be a tall task. Fortunately for Mastodon, they had been concocting “Eyes of Serpents.” Weighing in at seven minutes, the song flows from idea to idea faster than



they can be realized. The song seems like a worthy album-ender, the only question left being whether “Gigantum” could hold up.

**Gigantum:** While “Eyes of Serpents” is comparable to a bottle rocket, “Gigantum” is a smoldering burn at the end of a mammoth experience which is *Hushed and Grim*. If Hinds had not already impressed with his solos on previous tracks, he certainly ends the album on a high note with possibly his best solo yet, only rivaled by Thayil’s on “Had It All.”

The main problem with *Hushed and Grim* is one which plagues the majority of double albums, which is the sheer amount of material to digest at once. At an 85-minute runtime, listening to *Hushed and Grim* is more akin to a college lecture than a record. With only 15 songs, only two totaling less than five minutes, each song does begin to drag as well. There is no filler on these discs, however, and the discs hold great replay value on their own in smaller, more digestible pieces. The two discs actually benefit from this approach, as each song is given more space to breather, and similar ideas would not seem to blend together. *Hushed and Grim* is a collection of 15 masterfully constructed tracks, none of which prove skippable when in a shuffle setting, but the collection comes across as tedious when listened to as a whole, detracting from the experience.

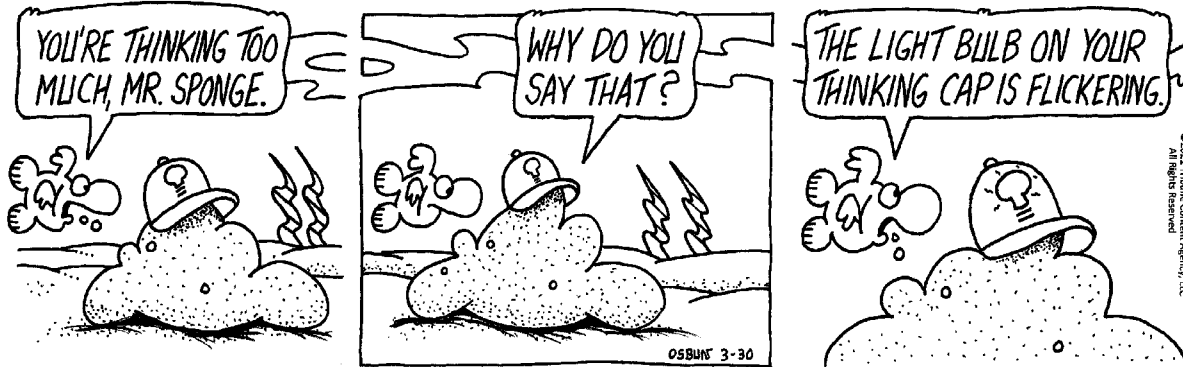
**FINAL SCORE:** 7.5/10

*John Frechette is a musician earning a master’s in social work at SUNY Albany.*

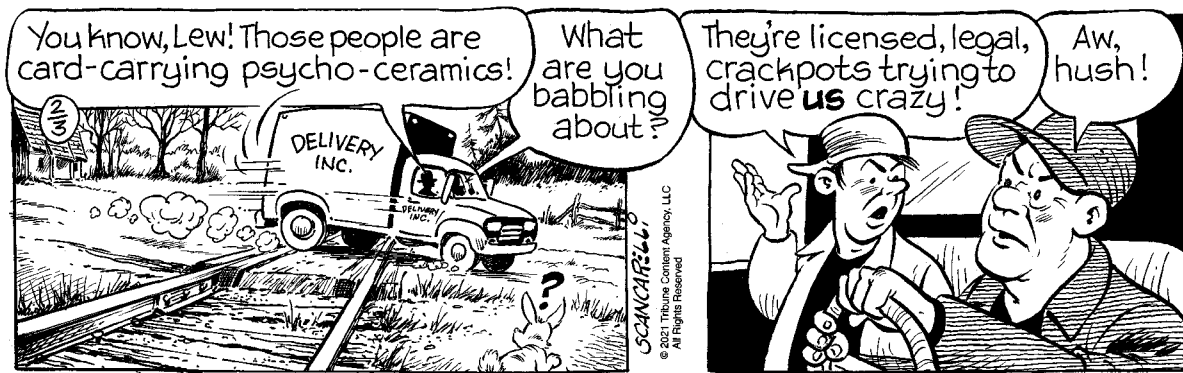


# The Funny Page

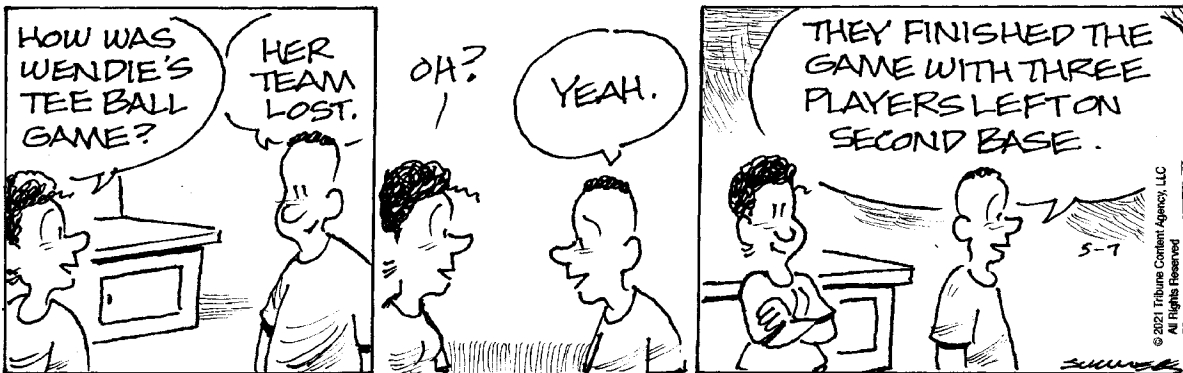
## Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



## Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



## Bound & Gagged by Dana Summers

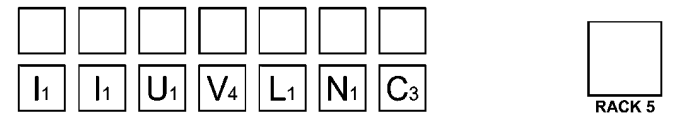
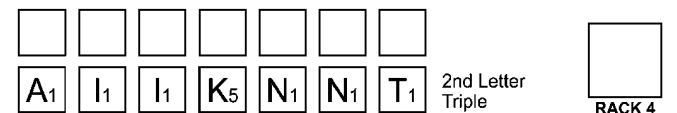
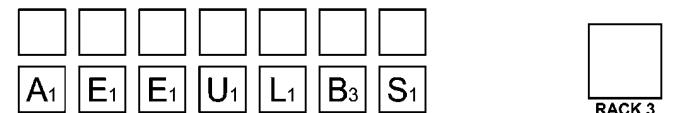
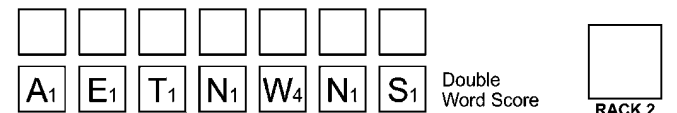
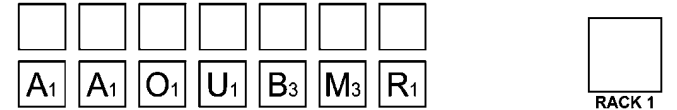


## Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



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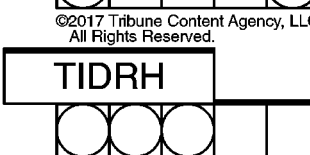
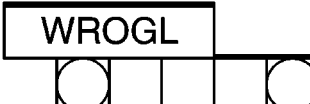
PAR SCORE 255-265  
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FIVE RACK TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

## JUMBLE

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

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Puzzle  
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Page 30

# Practically all SUNY students are vaccinated

State University of New York Chancellor Jim Malatras last month announced that SUNY students are nearing full compliance with the New York State Vaccine Mandate, reaching 99.5 percent compliance, allowing SUNY students to enjoy a more normal on-campus college experience this semester after a difficult past year and a half.

Following months of aggressive student-driven awareness campaigns, and thanks to campus leadership and staff for establishing student friendly, safe, and easily accessible options for students, just 1,592 students remain in noncompliance—mostly commuter students from a handful of community colleges. Campuses are working one-on-one with those students to get to 100 percent compliance. When campuses first began notifying those students out of compliance on the September 27 deadline, about 10,000 students were at risk of being deregistered.

In order to reach compliance, students had to have received one

or more doses of an FDA-approved vaccine, or been approved for a medical or religious exemption. SUNY student vaccination rates are significantly higher than the national rate of 64.8 percent of most college age students (ages 18-24) with at least one dose. SUNY is the largest comprehensive system of public higher education with preliminary fall enrollment of about 375,000 students, and its student vaccination rate leads many of the larger colleges and universities—about seven percent higher than Michigan State University (90 percent), 12 percent higher than University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (85 percent), and 14 percent higher than Penn State (82.9 percent).

“There is a new energy on our campuses this semester because we have fully reopened, and the main reason we’ve been able to do this is because our students have stepped up and have gotten vaccinated. Our students have told us they wanted to get back on campus, return to the classrooms, reconnect with their friends, and



participate in live, on-campus events, like athletics and the arts,” said Chancellor Malatras. “Today’s result is a testament to our students’ determination, and we

thank them for doing the right thing, setting an example for public health, and once again proving there is no safer place to learn than at a SUNY campus.”

## An Artist’s Take

Political Cartoon of the Month by Joel Pett



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## Who Are You? –Pete Townshend

Annie Miller  
*Campus News*

More and more as Americans, we are feeling obliged to declare, “This is who I am and this is what I believe.” We are encouraged to think in terms of unshakable values based on deeply held beliefs that, ultimately, define our identities. But what if we, meaning all humans, are not who we think we are?

As a reader, I have always made an effort to range widely. For a long time, on any visit to the library, my system was to choose one genre fiction (mystery, SciFi etc.), one literary and one nonfiction book. As I moved a lot of my “reading” to audio, I began to pick audiobooks based on the level of attention demanded by the activity. I’ve recently been gardening to the clever and amusing *Rivers of London* series by Ben Aaronovich. The reader is fantastic - doing all those British accents better than I ever could and making the cheeky magician’s apprentice/ police detective who knows a heck of a lot about architecture and history someone I can’t wait to hear from again. A week of household chores was lightened nearly to the point of sublime by Natalie Haynes’ *A Thousand Ships* and her reader who brought the female voices of the Trojan War mythology to life. And

### WCC vax rate

Westchester Community College announced that it has reached a COVID-19 vaccination rate of 97% among its undergraduate students taking in-person classes and 97% among its on-site employees. The exceptional cooperation by WCC’s students and employees follows an aggressive outreach program that included a persistent communications campaign, convenient vaccination drives, and information sessions featuring Westchester County Department of Health officials. As a result of enhanced health safety protocols, the COVID positivity rate at WCC has remained at or below 0.5% during the fall semester, well below the state average range of 2.4% to 3.3% during the same period.

then there are the “long walk” books, the ones that require a level of concentration only possible by devoting a solid chunk of time to pounding the pavement or meandering the back roads.

My current long walk book is Anil Seth’s *Being You: A New Science of Consciousness*. Dr. Seth is a professor of Cognitive and Computational Neuroscience and, as such, has the potential to write the most impenetrable techno/academic babble imaginable. Fortunately, he is a master at explaining the complex and, literally mind-blowing ideas, thought processes and experiments that are shaping the understanding of who we think we are and who we may actually be. In a very simplistic nutshell, he takes us on a journey from Popeye’s “I yam what I yam.” to Poe’s “All that we see or seem is but a dream within a dream.”

### ‘What we see is affected by what we expect to see.’

Drawing on philosophers from ancient to modern times, psychological and sociological experiments and the discoveries of neuroscience, *Being You* systematically deconstructs the notion of the self as a fixed and identifiable observer of and actor in the world. These are such challenging assertions that, even with the luxury of uninterrupted thought while my body is otherwise occupied, I have had to rewind and re-listen numerous times to progress from one chapter to the next. Since this is a book intended for the general public, however, the author provides us with lots of examples that we can use as handholds to keep from falling off the rather sheer face of this existential ascent.

One of the most recognizable to anyone who is familiar with social media is “The Dress”. In 2015 a photo of a dress went viral because some people saw it as black and blue, while other saw it as white and gold. Even knowing that there were two possibilities did not change how any individual saw the picture. It was a reminder to us all that even something as basic as color is subject to interpretation within our brains. (Being a social media thing, however, most people saw it,

not as an opportunity to wonder at the range of human experience, but as chance to tell other people how wrong and stupid they were.) While listening to this, I was reminded that colors, one of the first things we teach children, are not equally described or, even, equally present in all languages and that the way we experience color also depends on what language we speak.

What we see is also affected by what we expect to see. Years ago, my husband and I were mountain biking in Alaska. We were on a paved road approaching Juneau and my husband was about 20 yards ahead, when I saw a large black dog come out of the woods and approach him. Rather than keep on going, he turned around and headed back towards me. I am a bit skittish around dogs when biking and I was grateful that he was going to ride with me past this one. It was only when he got close enough for me to see his face clearly, that I realized he was mouthing, “BEAR!”. Suddenly from the same distance and angle, I saw, not the large dog that my previous experience of four-legged furry creatures of that size and shape had defined for me, but a small bear. Near the beginning of the book, Seth presents us with a discussion between the philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein and his biographer about the way the Sun rising in the east and setting in the west makes it appear to revolve around the Earth, even when we know that isn’t the case. Wittgenstein then asks the question, “What would the Earth revolving around the Sun look like?” Hmm...

*Being You* moves the reader steadily from such simple examples and thought experiments to discussions of mind-benders like “What is the self that identifies the self?” along a route that is rewarding, even if you need to stop on the steepish parts to catch your breath. Along the way, we are asked to consider the possibility that we have no idea who we are. In these days of prideful self-certainty and scorn for the opinions of others, it is a journey that we should all consider taking.

Annie Miller is a recently retired librarian who suggests you Google “monty python she’s a witch” for more insight into politics and logic.





# Metallica is going to help me start a band

**Greg Schwem**

*Special to Campus News*

If there is one thing the pandemic has taught me, it's that it's never too late to learn a new skill, even one you will probably abandon when it's safe to go outside.

One month into quarantine, I downloaded a guitar "how to play" app, borrowed a relative's six-string, and convinced myself the instrument I discarded when I was 14 would return to my life and I would eventually sound like James Taylor. True, James Taylor doesn't stop in the middle of "Fire and Rain" to check his iPhone and make sure his fingers are in the correct positions when strumming a C chord, but I figured that would be temporary.

My second guitar career lasted about as long as a James Taylor concert.

I had more success with other ventures. My editor and web designer Brett, along with numerous YouTube teachers, taught me the basics of the popular video editing program Final Cut Pro. When I say "basics," it means I learned enough to know that editing video on your computer makes said computer run so slowly that you have time to teach yourself how to play guitar while a 30-second Instagram video uploads in the other room.

But now, as cold weather returns and I'm staying inside more, I have

decided to start a band. Yes, my guitar skills are limited, and I can only sing in one, still yet to be defined key, but I have found four online instructors who will help me fulfill my dream.

Metallica.

I didn't seek out, nor do I have any connection to, the insanely popular thrash metal band. No, they came to me via a Facebook ad. A picture of the four guys, with looks ranging from "We will physically beat up any struggling student" to "We don't really need the money, do we?" accompanied by the tagline: "MasterClass | Metallica Teachers Being a Band," was too intriguing to pass up.

MasterClass often enters my Facebook feed. Defined on its website as "the streaming platform that makes it possible for anyone to watch or listen to hundreds of video lessons taught by 100+ of the world's best," the site also features comedy classes

**'Right now, my biggest problem is assembling the band.'**

courtesy of Steve Martin and Judd Apatow, cooking via Gordon Ramsay and ukulele taught by renowned ukulele expert Jake Shimabukuro. Yes, some classes do require Googling the instructors first.

For the record, I own no Metallica



**Metallica's James Hetfield -TCA**

albums, could not name all four band members, and probably could not identify a single Metallica song. Several years ago, I watched a Netflix documentary, "Metallica: Some Kind of Monster," that mostly featured the band members screaming at one another while simultaneously writing new songs. I have yet to discover whether that lesson is featured in MasterClass.

So far, I have only watched the class's trailer, which features bassist Robert Trujillo saying communication is key among band mates. "When you have a problem, talk about it with a level head," he implores MasterClass students.

Right now, my biggest problem is assembling the band. My physical therapist plays drums, and I believe his son plays bass; so that's two possibilities. Oh, and if he decides to take a break from his food marketing role, a neighbor plays guitar. If they play loud enough, my marginal vocals will suffice.

We will also need a rehearsal space. My kids are grown, so I can move their bikes and scooters out of the garage and use that. Yes, my garage faces a townhome develop-

ment, mostly comprised of seniors, but with Metallica behind my new band, my elderly neighbors may hear and witness greatness in its infancy. Provided they can stay up past 8 p.m.

I don't expect immediate success; it took Metallica five years and three albums to achieve commercial recognition. But, 40 years later, they are still together. It's nice to know I'll have a pastime that will accompany me into my late 90s.

After that, I'll probably be ready to purchase neuroscientist and psychology professor Matthew Walker's MasterClass:

"The Science of Better Sleep."

*Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of "Text Me If You're Breathing: Observations, Frustrations and Life Lessons From a Low-Tech Dad" and "The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian," available on Amazon.com. Visit Greg on the web at [www.gregschwem.com](http://www.gregschwem.com).*



## Study at Ulster CC

Registration for the Spring 2022 semester will begin on November 1 at SUNY Ulster. The majority of classes will be taught in-person on the Stone Ridge campus and the Kingston Center with an array of online and remote options, as well.

For those interested in attending SUNY Ulster this spring, there is still time to apply. Visit [sunyulster.edu/admissions](http://sunyulster.edu/admissions).

# Will Ridley Scott be an Oscar record-breaker?

Clayton Davis

Variety

Special to Campus News

Directors can be considered a longshots until they begin showing up on multiple nomination lineups at various award shows. Ridley Scott, a four-time Academy Award nominee, is one of the greatest living filmmakers to never win an Oscar, despite one of his films taking home the best picture prize. However, with two distinct features this year -- "House of Gucci" and "The Last Duel" -- Scott's industry clout and overdue narrative could bring him to one historic nomination (or possibly two?).

Scott will turn 84 on Nov. 30, and if he manages to be nominated for director, he'll surpass John Huston as the oldest nominee in the category's history. Huston was 79 when he was nominated for "Prizzi's Honor" (1985). No filmmaker has ever been nominated in their 80s, though this conversation is sure to come back up next year for Martin Scorsese's "Killers of the Flower Moon."

A respected veteran in Hollywood, Scott's career spans over 40 years, with classics such as "Alien" (1979) and "Blade Runner" (1982). His history with the Academy has been fascinating to analyze at a macro level. His first nod came as a director came for the female road flick "Thelma & Louise" (1991). Debuting out-of-competition at Cannes, the film was a summer release and a box office hit. It also serves as the last movie with two leading ladies, Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon, both recognized as best actresses. He received another nod for the war film "Black Hawk Down" (2001), but his closest moment to gold was one year prior with "Gladiator" (2000).

Scott is one of the few filmmakers in the aughts that married critical prestige and consumer box office with the Russell Crowe film. A summer movie that captured the attention of mainstream audiences, it went on to win five Oscars for best picture, actor (Crowe), sound (Scott Millan, Bob Beemer, Ken Weston), costumes (Janty Yates) and visual effects (John Nelson, Neil Corbould, Tim Burke, Rob Harvey). So how did Scott lose the directing prize? What's interesting is, in hindsight, his loss isn't

surprising. He didn't win any essential precursors like the Golden Globes, Critics Choice, DGA, or BAFTA.

Moreover, he would eventually lose to Steven Soderbergh, the last person who was double nominated for directing two films, which Scott's campaign team surely wants to mimic this season. Soderbergh made the shortlist for "Erin Brockovich" and won for "Traffic." The only other double-nominated filmmaker was Michael Curtiz, nominated for "Angels with Dirty Faces" (1938) and "Four Daughters."

The polarization of Scott's two current films will indeed present obstacles. Still, at this point in other respective awards seasons, I don't think many pundits had deemed Todd Phillips ("Joker"), Mel Gibson ("Hacksaw Ridge") or Terrence Malick ("The Tree of Life") definitive contenders in the race. Perception can be reality, but the narrative that "The Last Duel" is critically divided has occupied conversations surrounding it. However, with an admirable 86% on Rotten Tomatoes, why are many of us writing the 20th Century Studios film off? With standout performances from stars Jodie Comer and Ben Affleck, the two could be one of those seemingly "dead in the water" contenders that come roaring

## 'The reactions for his outing with Lady Gaga on "House of Gucci" are all over the place.'

back for the first half of the precursor season (i.e., Emily Blunt in "The Girl on the Train" or Daniel Bruhl in "Rush").

The reactions for his outing with Lady Gaga on "House of Gucci" are a bit all over the place, but official reviews won't drop until Nov. 22, two days before its release in theaters. Does that mean that distributors United Artists Releasing and MGM may be expecting a lower-than-expected number? Probably, or maybe by that point, a massive box office will drown out any critical divide for the crime drama. The savvy campaign is undoubtedly putting Gaga near the forefront of best actress, along with supporting actor Jared Leto and costumes and makeup.

The narrative for overdue directors doesn't



Lady Gaga -TCA

typically catch onto the awards enthusiast zeitgeist the way actors do. It was somewhat present when Scott helmed "The Martian" (2015), but it wasn't enough to stop Alejandro G. Inarritu from winning back-to-back statues. The social media and industry campaign to get Martin Scorsese his Oscar picked up significantly with "Gangs of New York" (2002), and carried him through to another nom for "The Aviator" (2004) and eventually to his first Oscar win for "The Departed" (2006), which was bestowed on him by his "three amigos" -- Francis Ford Coppola, George Lucas and Steven Spielberg, one of the best Oscar moments in modern history. That type of campaign doesn't happen too much anymore.

In 93 years of the Oscars, countless auteurs have failed ever to make it to the Oscar podium. For example, Orson Welles, who directed "Citizen Kane" (1941), which many consider the single greatest movie ever made, left the world without an Oscar in hand. Coincidentally, he lost his "Kane" Oscar to John Ford for "How Green Was My Valley," which marked his third (of his eventual four) career wins. Add other masters of cinema like Alfred Hitchcock, Sidney Lumet and Stanley Kubrick, and you can find shock by the list of names that have never made their trip to the Oscar stage. If this year doesn't work out for Sir Ridley Scott, perhaps it's time to give him an honorary Oscar.

# Two Missouri inmates, two tales of justice

**Mary Sanchez**  
**Tribune Content Agency**  
*Special to Campus News*

Once an innocent person is entangled in the criminal justice system, it's damningly difficult to wrench them free.

The public is only vaguely aware of this. After all, that's the point. Someone sentenced to prison is out of the public eye. Out of sight, out of mind.

Yes, in recent years there have been highly publicized cases where inmates are exonerated, found to be completely innocent of a crime that they've been serving prison time for. Those cases take years of painstaking legal work. Years as in decades, as a rule.

My city, Kansas City, is in the glaring media spotlight currently because of such a case.

Kevin Strickland, 62 has served time for three 1978 murders that a widening swath of legal experts believe he did not commit. He was 19 when he was convicted.

The state of Missouri, via the attorney general's office, is fighting Strickland's release at every turn. Despite a key witness reportedly attempting to recant her id of Strickland. Despite the insistence of his innocence by others involved in the case. And despite the current county prosecutor's investigation and declaration that Strickland is innocent.

The legislature had to pass a new law giving the county prosecutor the ability to take the case back to court. That's happening now with an evidentiary hearing.

For sure, Missouri's stand is heavily politicized. It's about sounding tough on crime, pleasing a GOP line scripted for future political advertisements, over an honest assessment of the facts.

If Strickland's story isn't embarrassing

enough for the state, there is a lesser-known case, one that's equally damning on Missouri's commitment to justice.

This is not a story about innocence. It's one of fairness and humanity.

Bobby Bostic should have walked out of a Missouri prison years ago.

But when a judge sentences you to serve 241 years at the age of 18, for crimes committed at the age of 16, the concept of walking free is swallowed by reality.

Until now. A new law, written to manage the complexities of Bostic's case, is allowing him to go before the parole board early in November.

It would be disingenuous to claim that Bostic as a juvenile offender simply made some poor choices. He went on a drug-addled crime spree of robberies, targeting good Samaritans that were delivering gifts to impoverished families in St. Louis.

He committed serious crimes, threatening the victims with a gun. But the bullet that was fired, thankfully only grazed a man.

No one was murdered. No one was even seriously injured, at least not in the outward physical sense. The trauma he and his older accomplice inflicted could very well have caused lifelong complications of PTSD. Especially for the woman they kidnapped, and whom the older man of the duo sexually assaulted.

At Bostic's sentencing, the now retired judge Evelyn Baker tossed a verbal bullet. She told the young man that he'd "die in the Department of Corrections."

Baker regrets the remark and the judicial ignorance that caused her to pile on years of time. She's admitted to many in the media that back then, she judged the crimes of the child before her as if he was already an adult, fully able to reason and contemplate the consequences of his actions.

We now know that a 16-year-old boy's brain is not fully developed. Conversely, that reason for leniency at a juvenile's sentencing, also begs to consider Bostic's capacity for rehabilitation. He's had time to mature.

The judge was Black, as is Bostic. In fact, Baker was Missouri's first Black female judge at the circuit court level.

At the time, the idea of juveniles as "super predators" had taken hold, causing some to see violent youth as utterly incapable of redemption.

Through the years Bostic has drawn a fair level of support. His story has been retold by major newspapers, television stations local and national.

The ACLU of Missouri has helped spread the word, not only to Bostic's case specifically, but to the changes necessary to the law and attitudes so that his situation won't be repeated. There are no guarantees in how he'll be judged by the parole board.

Somehow, the secret sauce of just the right amount of media attention, the building of political and social pressure has just never coalesced around Bostic.

Kim Kardashian has not called. Nor has any number of celebrities who have attached themselves to the causes of people incarcerated who are believed to be innocent.

Probably it's because he's a convict, a St. Louis man from a poor family with few resources, a fact that is only exacerbated by the amount of time he's already served.

At 42 years old, Bostic has served longer than many people who commit far more serious crimes, even murder.

That fact alone, deserves deep scrutiny.

Often, there aren't legal levers in place to argue a new hearing or trial. Witnesses die. There's a changing of the guard in prosecutor's offices and within police departments. And always, there are new crimes being committed by others, the daily hum of violence that absorbs the attention and time of everyone in criminal justice.

Stopping to look backward, or even directly at those who are imprisoned under questionable evidence or for unfair sentences, is just not the norm.

*Reach Mary Sanchez at  
msanchezcolumn@gmail.com  
and follow her on Twitter*



**'The secret sauce of media attention has not coalesced around Bostic.'**

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# Campus Crossword

(solution page 24)

## Across

- 1 Hard to rattle  
6 Easy-to-read sign  
10 Two-time Cy Young winner Jacob deGrom and teammates  
14 "The Metamorphosis" author  
15 Big show  
16 Miami Heat coach Spoelstra  
17 Gather  
18 Difficult golf shot?  
20 Liftoff approx.  
21 Approximately  
23 "\_\_\_, right?!"  
24 Breakfast spot for golfers?  
27 Deck chair wood  
28 Sports standout  
32 Ophthalmology concerns  
34 Dismissive sound  
37 Tool that only works in water  
38 Low-quality golf equipment?  
42 Nømero peque-o
- 43 WNBA broadcaster  
44 Fretted fiddles  
45 Easygoing folks  
48 Desk set  
49 Golf simulator shot?  
55 State in two time zones  
58 Wide variety  
59 Italian diminutive suffix
- 60 Place to meet single golfers?  
62 Soup veggies  
64 Sporty Camaro  
65 "That Is NOT a Good \_\_\_!": Mo Willems children's book  
66 Food pkg. info  
67 Like dungeons, typically  
68 Support at sea  
69 Makes more bearable

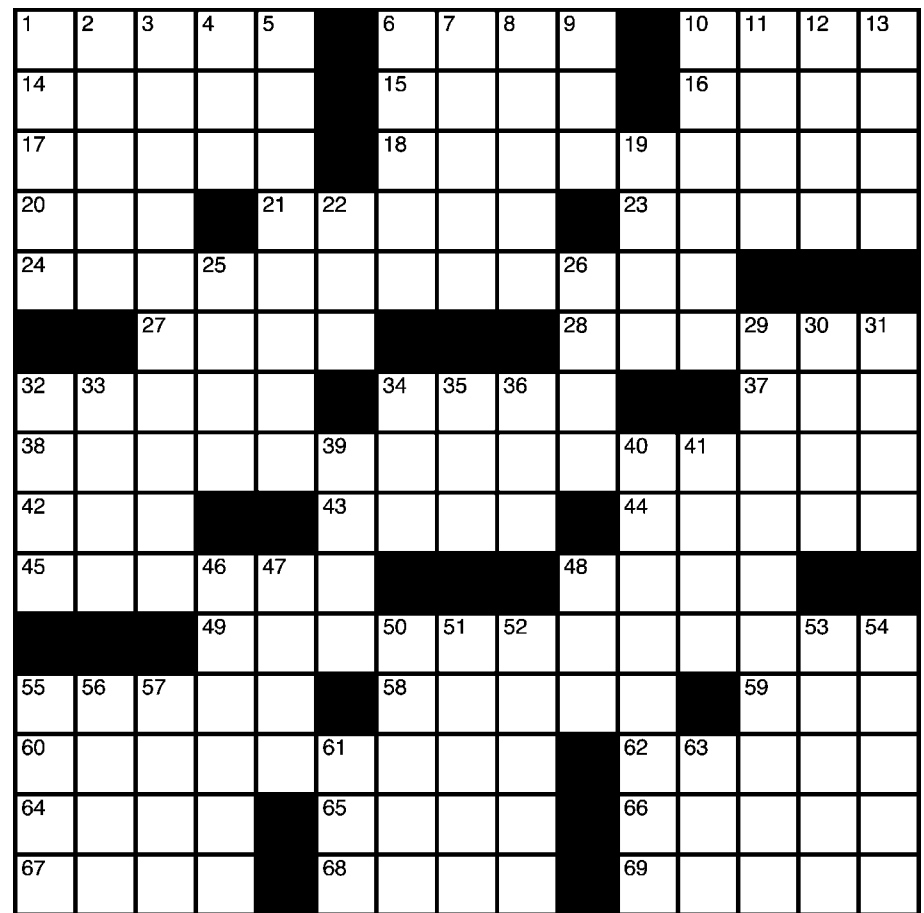
## Down

- 1 Made tracks?  
2 Non \_\_\_: not so much, in music

- 3 One working a security detail, perhaps  
4 Mike and \_\_\_: candy  
5 "Fast & Furious" staple  
6 Indira Gandhi's father  
7 \_\_\_ change  
8 Harpo Productions CEO  
9 Go-ahead  
10 German chancellor since 2005  
11 "The Night Circus" novelist Morgenstern  
12 Record for later  
13 Slant  
19 Pickle herb  
22 HP product  
25 Nerdy type  
26 Stable supply  
29 Top choices  
30 Fidel's successor  
31 Golf balls, e.g.  
32 Salacious stuff  
33 Lilliputian  
34 Indian VIPs  
35 Clotheshorse

- 36 First answer in the first-ever published crossword  
39 Polite assent  
40 All of us  
41 POTUS, per Article II, Section 2  
46 Payment option  
47 Uncultured one  
48 Soup veggie  
50 \_\_\_ Express: fast-food chain  
51 Impulses  
52 Pick up the tab  
53 Dazzled  
54 Formally records, as a golf score  
55 "Look what \_\_\_!"  
56 Uber CEO Khosrowshahi  
57 Oodles  
61 Asset in darts  
63 Mauna \_\_\_

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26.



# Word Find

By Frank J. D'Agostino (solution page 30)

Find these words that are associated with Thanksgiving break.

Break  
Buses  
Corn  
Cranberry  
Dinner  
Drive  
Family  
Flight

Football  
Get-Away Day  
Gravy  
Green Beans  
Mushrooms  
Parents  
Peas  
Pecan Pie

Pickup  
Potatoes  
Pumpkin  
Squash  
Stuffing  
Thanksgiving  
Travel  
Turkey

Turnips  
Yams

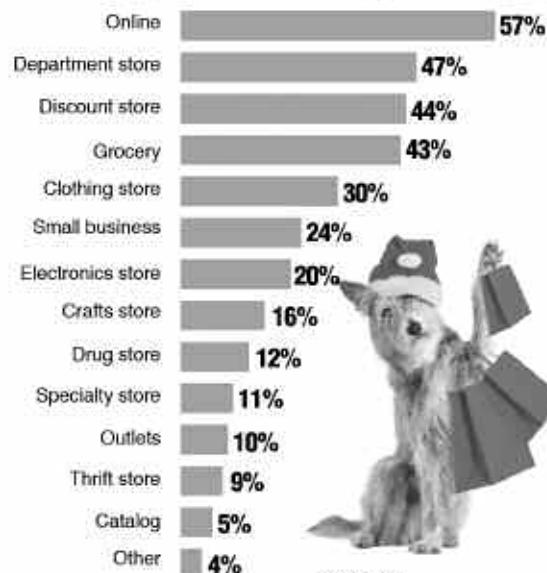
Find Mr. D'Agostino's puzzle books on Amazon.com.

9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron

## Fast Facts

## Holiday shopping destinations

Where consumers plan to make their holiday purchases



Source: NRF  
Graphic: Staff, THS



# Investing: ‘Keep It Simple, Stupid’

**Jill Schlesinger**

*Special to Campus News*

When it comes to investing, I have long adhered to a simple acronym: KISS, which stands for “Keep It Simple, Stupid.” As a result, when I receive questions about how to select the “right” portfolio allocation, I usually end up recommending a mix of index funds or index-based exchange traded funds (ETFs), which track an established stock, bond, real estate or commodity index. Indexing allows investors to diversify their risk for a fraction of the cost that managed funds charge.

Though I have been a fan of indexing for decades, I did not know the origin story until I interviewed Robin Wigglesworth, the Global Finance Correspondent for the Financial Times and author of the new book, “Trillions: How a Band of Wall Street Renegades Invented the Index Fund and Changed Finance Forever.”

According to Wigglesworth, the elegant investment solution that index funds provided can be traced back to a time before Vanguard founder Jack Bogle’s 1976 Vanguard First Index Investment Trust, or Charles Ellis’ 1975 article, “The Loser’s Game,” the famous missive that quantified active managers’ disappointing results versus passive investments. Wigglesworth explores the index fund’s roots all the way to a Depression-era analyst named Alfred Cowles III, a student of speculation and financial markets.

Building on the research of a turn-of-the-twentieth century French mathematician named Louis Bachelier, Cowles’ released a fundamental building block for the advent of indexing. His 1933 article was titled “Can Stock Market Forecasters Forecast?,” and the answer was “a terse, brutal three-word abstract: ‘It is Doubtful.’” Wigglesworth notes that Cowles’ calculations “indicated that only a minority of prognosticators managed to do better than the stock market as a whole, and blind luck might explain those.” Nearly 90 years later, the results are eerily consistent.

Wigglesworth told me that “the math around indexing is irrefutable,” a notion that S&P, the company that licenses its indexes to various fund families, echoes in its annual analysis. While in any given year, a managed fund might beat its relevant index, over longer time horizons, those that survive rarely beat their benchmark marks.

When I have trotted out that kind of data to managed fund adherents, they have warned that the proliferation of index funds and index ETFs would mean that all investors would be subject to a dangerous and risky herd mentality. The theory was that when investors are riding high amid the good times, few would worry about being in a crowded trade. But the fact that so many would have piled into the same index could turn disastrous during a market collapse, as the once-confident herd of bulls would charge for the exit at the same time.

“The worry among some skeptics,” says Wigglesworth, is that struck with a barrage of withdrawal requests, especially in the more thinly traded bond market, an ETF sponsor “might be unable to sell its holdings to meet them, and collapse. That could in turn spark fears over fixed income ETFs at large, leading to a frenzied rush for the exit that triggers a broader bond market collapse.”

This fear was put to the test amid the early days of the pandemic. March 2020 was perhaps the closest thing we have had to a stress test for passive investing. Instead of withering amid extreme volatility, Wigglesworth said that ETFs acted as a “shock absorber” to the system, not a trigger for collapse. “The turmoil in the broader bond market would likely have been worse had ETFs not existed to absorb the selling spree.”

The investment industry has long reacted to indexing with “a mix of indifference, snickering, snark, and outright hostility,” says Wigglesworth, which makes me a bigger fan of the strategy than ever.

*Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. She welcomes comments at [askjill@jillonmoney.com](mailto:askjill@jillonmoney.com).*



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## Why did you pick *that* major?

A new survey from BestColleges.com explores college students’ motivations for choosing their current field of study. Most college students agree that it is important to love what you do for a living (86%) and what you are studying (83%), but only 40% of undergraduates are currently pursuing their passions.

Find the results at: [www.bestcolleges.com/students-believe-in-studying-what-you-love](http://www.bestcolleges.com/students-believe-in-studying-what-you-love).

Students’ most popular reason for pursuing their current field was career interest (42%). Still, only 34% say they are currently studying with a dream job in mind.

85% of undergraduates are satisfied with their current field of study, with 74% reporting it will help make their dreams a reality.

About 1 in 4 (23%) of college students say they switched to their current field after entering college pursuing something else. Popular reasons for leaving their former field include that it was not their passion (39%) and that it was too academically challenging (36%).

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## Answers

**Boggle:** TIN IRON ZINC LEAD GOLD NEON ARGON RADON CARBON COPPER

**Jumble:** GROWL THIRD FRUGAL FLAVOR  
**Final Jumble:** "FRIGHT-FULL"

## Subway Sudoku

(solution below)

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

**Filbert** by LA Bonté



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M <sub>3</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	RACK 1 =	<u>61</u>
W <sub>4</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	RACK 2 =	<u>70</u>
U <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	RACK 3 =	<u>59</u>
T <sub>1</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	K <sub>5</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	RACK 4 =	<u>63</u>
U <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	V <sub>4</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	RACK 5 =	<u>62</u>

PAR SCORE 255-265

TOTAL **315**

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BUPH  
WOIS  
GOKE  
AGLM

**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.

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- 4 letters = 2 points
- 5 letters = 3 points
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- 7 letters = 6 points
- 8 letters = 10 points
- 9+ letters = 15 points

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- 151+ = Champ
- 101-150 = Expert
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- 11-20 = Amateur
- 0-10 = Try again

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



**Boggle BrainBusters Bonus**

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST 10 ELEMENTS FROM THE PERIODIC TABLE in the grid of letters.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle BrainBusters:  
MOOSE MOUSE HORSE CAMEL HYENA ZEBRA KOALA TIGER

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

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

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