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# CAMPUS NEWS

College  Paper



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## Welcome to a new year!

**Wow, a lot happened over the break. We help get you up to speed with this issue.**

Covid is hopefully winding down, and we're in a post-Roe v. Wade world now. Elections are brewing, and we're hoping student parking lots fill up again. And you, as a student, are expected to be much more entrepreneurial. The pressure! We hope this issue helps you make sense of everything.

**Please read more throughout this issue**

## It's about consent

Dr. Laura McGuire, whose research and advocacy work on sexual trauma, LGBTQ+ identities, and consent has earned them international recognition, spoke with us about the importance of addressing these issues and ways to overcome them.

**Please read more on page 11**



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# Welcome to a new academic year!

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Very few official college newspapers exist in print anymore, but we do.

We're Campus News, founded 13 years ago and surviving the rise of social media and a global pandemic.

## What are we about?

We're a companion for students on their educational journeys. We offer academic and professional advice, and also some laughs. We also offer the top news from various colleges on our radar.

## How do we distribute?

Two ways. We have had racks at community colleges in New York and border states since our beginnings. That was the original idea – community colleges were the first to lose their newspapers as the world changed, so we filled that void.

Second, we are available on the streets of New York City via kiosks and news

boxes. We have permits, insurance and everything for that. It's a crazy way to distribute.

## Do people still read newsprint?

Sure. Why not? You are doing that right now.

We wouldn't print these if people weren't picking them up. You've joined an elite community by grabbing this paper and loving it. (You do love it, right?)

We also know that a lot of faculty and staff – even fancy college presidents – read this thing.

You have joined a great family. The Campus News family. Contact us about anything at [editor@cccnews.info](mailto:editor@cccnews.info) or [@campus\\_news](https://www.instagram.com/campus_news).

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## Grad salary over \$50K

The overall average salary for Class of 2021 college graduates who earned bachelor's degrees is \$55,911, which is 1.2% higher than the that for the Class of 2020 (\$55,260), according to a new report from the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE).

“The fact that the increase in starting salary is small may simply be a case of timing as the Class of 2021 was still experiencing the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the job market,” says Shawn VanDerziel, NACE executive director.

“Vaccines were not readily available to the public until early 2021, so the job market for new college graduates was not as robust as it currently is.”

For example, NACE research shows that employers planned to hire 7.2% more

graduates from the Class of 2021 than they did from the Class of 2020. Just one year later, the planned hiring increase for the Class of 2022 exceeded 30%.

In terms of salaries for the Class of 2021's categories of majors, computer and information sciences are the highest paid with an overall average salary of \$81,202. However, this overall average starting salary is up by less than 1% compared to last year.

The overall average salary paid to engineering graduates moved in the opposite direction, as it fell from \$72,115 to \$71,516, for a drop of less than 1%. The remaining three fields—math and statistics, business, and health professions—show higher overall average starting salaries, ranging from 1.4% to almost 3%.

# Area CC students are Kaplan Scholars

The Kaplan Educational Foundation (KEF) celebrates the latest college acceptances from their 15th cohort of scholars in the Kaplan Leadership Program.

Established in 2006, the Kaplan Leadership Program helps high-potential, low-income and underrepresented community college students complete their associate's degree, successfully transfer and go on to earn a four-year bachelor's degree at the nation's most highly-selective schools. The program focuses on a holistic approach – providing extensive tutoring, academic advisement services, leadership and career training, stipends for living expenses, and other resources and support to help them expand their personal goals, and eventually attain leadership roles in their professions and communities.

The 2022 Kaplan Leadership Scholars and their college acceptances:

- Marlon Arteaga, Union County College - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Elhadj Barry, Bronx Community College - Brown University
- Angel Beebe, Hudson County Community College - Smith College
- 

- Fambougouri Diane, Bronx Community College - Tufts University
- Aïssata Diop, Bronx Community College - Smith College
- Sybel Francois, Union County College - Claremont McKenna College
- Raquel Hernandez, Borough of Manhattan Community College - University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Quiana James - Borough of Manhattan Community College - New York University
- Belicia Kensah - Union County College - Rutgers University - New Brunswick
- Gabriel Morillo - Bronx Community College - Haverford College
- Ndongo Njie - Hostos Community College - Princeton University

Students also received acceptances from Pomona College, Mt. Holyoke College, Occidental College, University of Rochester, University of Michigan, and Wellesley College.

Since KEF's inception, Kaplan Leadership Scholars have been accepted to the country's most competitive schools. This year, KEF has its first acceptances to Princeton University and Haverford College. Eighty-seven percent of Ka-

plan Scholars earn a bachelor's degree.

“While COVID-19 continued to create challenges for our scholars, given the fact that the diverse and resilient talent that the nation needs to fuel the economy can be found in our community colleges, we felt it was particularly important that we remain committed to our mission and celebrate the achievements of our students at this time,” says Nolvía Delgado, Executive Director of KEF. “This year's cohort continues to represent the wide diversity that exists in U.S. community colleges, including non-traditional age students, recent immigrants, first-generation and ESL learners, and others pursuing degrees in education, STEM, computer science, medicine, law and other fields. We're excited to continue to remove barriers and provide greater access to higher education for talented, motivated individuals.”

For more information on the Kaplan Leadership Scholars and how to apply to be a scholar: <http://www.kaplanedfndfoundation.org>.

## Debt relief for ITT students

New York Attorney General in August announced that as part of the U.S. Department of Education's group discharge for borrowers who attended for-profit colleges run by ITT Educational Services, Inc. (ITT) between 2005 and September 2016, over 4,400 New Yorkers will have their federal loans cleared. ITT had college campuses in Albany, Buffalo, and Syracuse, and thousands of New York students who attended these programs will have over \$78 million of federal student loan debt discharged.

These borrowers will have the federal student loans they received to attend ITT discharged without any additional action on their part. Attorney General James joined with other states to file a group discharge application in 2021, which led the U.S. Depart-

ment of Education to act and achieve funds for these former students.

“Students pursuing an advanced degree to open up new possibilities shouldn't be seen as cash-cows by disreputable, for-profit colleges,” said Attorney General James. “ITT Educational Services, Inc. fleeced hundreds of thousands of students, including over 4,400 New Yorkers at their Albany, Buffalo, and Syracuse campuses. I applaud the U.S. Department of Education for helping to secure these funds to help make New York students whole. I will continue to work with my partners in local, statewide, and national government to hold bad actors accountable and to stand up for the rights of New Yorkers.”

## MVCC covers \$1M student balances

Mohawk Valley Community College has erased \$1,070,0370 in unpaid balances for 809 students, thanks to the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF).

The forgiven debt covers outstanding balances for the Spring and Fall 2020 semesters, as well as the Spring and Fall 2021 semesters, when the pandemic imposed unprecedented challenges that disproportionately impacted students, especially low-income students attending community colleges.

“Covid has affected our students' physical, emotional, and economic well-being,” said MVCC President Randall VanWagoner. “Using these funds to help clear their outstanding college debt is one way MVCC is removing barriers and providing opportunities for these students to move forward with their education and pursue their career goals.”

HEERF, established by the federal government under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, allowed MVCC to provide emergency grants to students experiencing financial hardship.

# Essay: Poems for grandmothers

**Kaylee Johnson**  
*Campus News*

My wildly eccentric public speaking professor says I remind her of herself; uninhibited, offbeat, intense. It's not a compliment. She has been married five times and has become increasingly bitter about society and men. Her last husband divorced her for practicing witchcraft, but she shrugs while telling the story and says, "I am much more turned off by the living than the dead." And in some subtle way I would like to embody this woman who has read my tarot cards and says I'm headed directly into the hungry face of destruction and finality. She's unafraid of preconceived notions and her own likability. "%\$@#! the mainstream," she says, hands on her hips.

It's two o'clock on a Monday in her class and the first honey haired woman steps up to the podium to share her poetry. I am sitting in the back of the room next to my friend, Leila, who reeks of marijuana and cheap shampoo. The honey haired woman looks at us blankly before taking an exaggerated breath, something she has observed others do. "This is a poem that captures the essence of who my grandmother was." I look at Leila and roll my eyes. We have seen this archetype over and over again; girl who has never written poetry writes a grossly literal poem about who her grandmother was during the best parts of her life, ignoring the teacup breaking, diaper wearing, chain smoking, dementia infused last days. The professor will clap dramatically and some soulless friend will dab her eyes and pat her back when she returns to her seat. It's a formula that wears on writers who have a tendency to write about bloodlust and ruin.

I think about myself, manic,

hair tied on top of my head, wearing a paint stained "I Love Pope Francis" shirt I bought at a Virginia rest stop to be ironic about my denounced Catholicism, writing poetry about sex and rage and everything except harmony; for it does not exist within the ravaged, enigmatic mind of a woman like me. It's mid July, 3 a.m., and I am awake with buoys under my eyes, begging a man not to hold on to them, and vehemently typing a paranoid poem about how my entire small town feels like a sound stage. Pondering where the line is drawn between surrealism and realism, and why we need to use these snobbish, jumbled words in the art world to sound official. Why must everything be so damn opaque?

"I believe Sundays are for not one, but two cups of coffee in bed," the honey haired woman says in a gutless tone that mothers in seventies sitcoms use to comfort their hard working husbands, even though the wives are probably

## 'The honey haired woman snuffles as she reads the last line.'

spending off hours with the neighbor with the rider mower. But I like this woman, the way she speaks matter-of-factly; there's a translucence that I almost never see at journalism events where smarmy writers waltz around while getting wine drunk and name dropping. She really does believe Sundays are for coffee in bed; she's not experimenting with her personality or trying to be a caricature, this is who she is and always will be. One day she will be a wife who brings a man coffee in bed, and a mother who brings her child warmed milk when they



wake with night terrors. While she's living in suburbia, I will be lying on the floor of a flat in Chelsea with a notebook between my legs; a perpetual creative degenerate.

The honey haired woman snuffles as she reads the last line, a sentiment about karma and kindness, before walking back to her seat where she is comforted by women with ulterior motives and disingenuous dispositions. Formulas.

Leila reads an outrageous poem she wrote when she was high and drunk about her lack of identity, and the honey haired woman looks at the wall. She's visibly uncomfortable with the notion of life being multidimensional. But Leila continues to curse and scream and expel her obtuse trauma onto a class full of women with eyes rolled to the back of their heads, and one soft spoken army veteran who only speaks in cliches, but

means well.

I try to think about how these two women and their poems are similar, where the line is drawn between realism and surrealism; how they are both indulging in their own warped realities. It could be that they are similar in the same way my deluded professor and I are, in a sort of nostalgic, existential way. Perhaps the honey haired girl drinks tea, not fictitious coffee and the enigmas lie within the two dimensional mundane. Perhaps I should write a poem for my grandmother, the degenerate gambler. "%\$@#! the mainstream.

*Kaylee Johnson is finishing up her master's degree at a small college Upstate. This was written her senior year.*



## Two-year colleges lose their ‘community’

**Darren Johnson**  
*Campus News*

In my state, New York, many of the two-year colleges have ditched the word “community” from their names; so instead of the school being called, say, XYZ County Community College, they are being rebranded SUNY XYZ.

I could see getting rid of the word “county.” The original plan for two-year colleges in this state was that a third of their funding was supposed to come from their host counties, but most counties keep cutting their educational budgets to the point where the county contribution is often in the teens or even single digits.

But cutting the word “community” may have had unintended consequences.

It’s not a secret that two-year college enrollment is dramatically down, especially in New York, despite that a relatively new Excelsior Scholarship makes them free for practically anyone. The “free college” initiative showed no marketing boost — enrollment kept decreasing. And then Covid hit. The four-year public colleges are largely rebounding from that, but the two-year colleges continue to freefall.

Dropping the word “community” perhaps was a bit pretentious, telling the world that the credits

gained at a two-year college are just as good as credits earned at a four-year college. That may be true, but it miscalculated the audience.

Not all students simply want easy transfer credits, to go somewhere far away in the future. Some want to be a part of a community, here and now.

I recently was on a two-year college campus where I used to be an administrator. It was a school day. The initial entryway leads to a large lobby where scores of students used to be hanging out, laughing, playing cards, making plans. Many were boisterous. Some were studying, some eating, some playing video games as a

**‘The parking lot used to be jam-packed. Now it’s three-quarters empty.’**

group.

It was a *community* college.

Now, that big room is empty. The parking lot used to be jam-packed; now it’s three-quarters empty. People talk in hushed tones. Yes, the pandemic moved many students and professors to online LMSes, but there’s still the feeling that a tangible *community* was lost.

My daughter taught in a poor local K-12 school dis-



trict a year ago, the kind of district that would eventually feed a community college like the one I worked for. The kids had no technology at home aside from TVs; the district tried to give them computers during the pandemic. That initiative largely failed, and the anecdotal stories I’ve heard as to why are heartbreaking.

There’s no time to be snooty. These are real students who need real people around them. They need a learning *community*.

Two-year colleges that still are mostly virtual for the fall are missing an opportunity to bring

back these students.

Changing the name of a college is not just a branding exercise; even with the name change, the original mission remains.

A two-year college can be a safe space — a place to come and learn — for the whole community. Not just those with the latest gadgets, who are planning to transfer easy credits to a four-year college.

That human element is what made community colleges special, and a big reason as to why they boomed in the early 2010s; and the lack thereof is why they are withering now.

### Interns wanted

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# Three things I learned about academic success from a guy on Instagram

Nancy M. Scuri  
*Campus News*

One of the best pieces of advice I'd ever gotten was "Don't be the smartest person in the room." It doesn't mean you should dumb yourself down, of course. Instead, look for people who are experts in their field, so you can learn from them. Now, I'm nobody's financial advisor, so I look for people who do that sort of thing for a living, then take what works for me. In this case, I came across Ramit Sethi. He's great at breaking things down into simple concepts and helping people work out their own solutions.

In one Instagram post, he discusses how not planning ahead can lead to financial ruin. Specifically, he talks people who will buy a house, change jobs, then buy a car in the span of a year. It sounds great, until a small setback turns into big problems. He does say that if you lose your job or your car dies, do what you have to do, but if you can avoid chaos, why not? Why not, indeed. We don't "do all the things" with just money, either. Think about last New Year's. What were some of the resolutions you heard? "I'm going to get in shape... I'm getting organized..." So, what happens? The gyms and office supply stores are packed with people in January, but by March and April, the workout gear and all the rest are gathering dust. Everyone comes in with good intentions, but it's easy to pile on too much, get overwhelmed, and quit out of frustration. Fortunately, there's an alternative. Like Ramit says, the key is to plan. Treat the new school year like it's a smarter version of New Year's. You can do this in a few different ways. One is to focus on a single major issue. Perhaps you hadn't given yourself enough time to complete assign-

ments in the past, so for one semester, just concentrate on starting early and giving yourself time to finish before the deadline. Once this becomes second nature, tackle another issue, like scheduling regular visits to the tutoring center. Another is to take small bites out of a few things you want to work on. This could include taking ten minutes before each class to review your notes and reading assignments, finding a study group for a challenging subject, or listening to podcasts related to your major when you're in your car. Take time to figure out what your biggest challenges are and think about sustainable ways you can address them.

Secondly, don't undervalue psychology. In finances, Ramit advises not to look to a "magic number" or situation as a condition of happiness. His example is a couple who make six figures, have no debt, and have hundreds of thousands of dollars in the bank, but they won't go on vacation or invest their money, because

**'Living a "rich life" means you cut out what does not add to your happiness.'**

they are afraid that they do not have enough and will lose everything they've worked for. As a result, they keep every available dollar in the bank and cannot bring themselves to enjoy any of it. Swap out dollars for grades, and you can see how easy it is to get caught up in overvaluing one aspect of college life over everything else. This is NOT to say that grades are unimportant. It would be like telling someone that savings isn't important, and that would be silly. What I am saying is that while grades have their place in regard to



academic progress, access to financial aid, and all the rest, it's not the only thing. Everyone knows that one student who is completely wrapped up in their grades. They take up residence at the library, cram in every available extra credit assignment, and live and die by their GPA. You need to have balance. Work the mind, absolutely, you're in school to

learn. If you don't pay attention to your physical and mental well-being, however, it will catch up to you in ways that you will not like. Celebrate your successes, take the lesson when things don't go as planned, and keep moving forward. A perfect GPA is wonderful, but it's not the only thing.

Finally, there is living a rich life. What that means is that you cut out what doesn't add to your happiness, while getting the most enjoyment from what you have right now. Ramit talks about streamlining your finances, so you can focus on whatever helps to make your life better. One of the things I regret from my time as a student, undergrad and

graduate, is that I didn't spend enough time appreciating what was available to me. I'd take my classes, go to the library to work on assignments, then run to my day job. I never attended games, went to events, or even enjoyed down-time with my classmates. It may seem silly now but having great experiences and making life-long friends is never a waste of time.

So, what's next? Take the first week or two of the semester to figure out what to focus on and look for ways to do it while having fun. Doing a little bit on a regular basis is better than trying to get it all done at once. Also, don't forget to enjoy the process and stay in the moment. Nothing is ever perfect, but no matter where you are, you can always find something amazing. It all starts right now.

*Nancy Scuri is a freelance writer and editor with over fifteen years of teaching experience at the college level. You can reach her at [www.nmscuri.com](http://www.nmscuri.com).*



# 'Hacks,' 'Maisel' spotlight standup comedy

Scott Huver

*Variety*

*Special to Campus News*

In earlier sitcom eras, the stage personas of seasoned real-world stand-up comics made for reliable main characters, but rarely were they actually performing jokes professionally onstage. Only later would supporting characters dip into the standup arena -- think "Full House's" Dave Coulier or "Facts of Life's" Geri Jewell -- until finally Jerry Seinfeld and Garry Shandling took their funny-men and, to varying degrees, their craft, center stage on "Seinfeld" and "The Larry Sanders Show."

Today, however, two widely admired, multi-E Emmy-nominated comedies -- "Hacks," set in contemporary times, and "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," at the midcentury dawn of a new style of comedy -- are taking deep, hyper-detailed and subtly nuanced dives into the stand-up world, both looking uniquely thorough a female lens.

Ironically, both series are headlined by actors known for their stage, film and TV work without any stand-up background -- Jean Smart as Deborah Vance on "Hacks," Rachel Brosnahan as Midge Maisel on "Maisel" -- as well as supporting actors with genuine experience in the stand-up spotlight, though playing non-stand-up characters -- Hannah Einbinder and Alex Borstein, respectively.

With each of the four actresses vying for Emmys this year, it's clear that audiences are finding more than just laughs in nightclubs and showrooms; they're finding drama, pathos and richly drawn characters, too.

"It's really a difficult subject, profession, ego, etc., to do justice to," says Einbinder, who's touring her own stand-up show around the country. "A lot of comedians tell me how much they feel that [the fact that] 'Hacks' has accurately depicted stand-up was a shock to them and has been really rewarding. Because it is not something that you can really write about if you haven't experienced it. And a lot of our writers have a performance background."

Borstein, a seasoned improv performer and comedy writer, also tried her hand at stand-up early on and recently recorded a forthcoming stand-up special, which she calls "deeply personal and wildly fictitious."

Although her "Maisel" character, Susie, remains behind the scenes as a manager, Borstein remembers well what lured her to try stand-up.

"It was the quickest way to get on stage," she re-

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Marin Hinkle, Michael Zegen, Rachel Brosnahan and Alex Borstein are seen at the film set of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel"

calls. "You could just go get in front of an audience to see if you are funny and try exploring."

"Hacks" executive producer Jen Statsky, who dabbled in stand-up early in her career, says that there's something authentic, captivating and unfiltered about a person on stage.

"It's just that person being pretty vague and raw standing on stage, talking directly to an audience,

## 'That's the most direct artist-to-audience connection that can exist.'

and that's the most direct artist-to-audience connection that can exist," she says. "It's really an incredible thing to witness, because it's really scary, and, honestly, brave to do it."

The stand-up element is "one of the trickier parts of the show," adds executive producer Paul W. Downs, given Deborah's overarching journey to break out of her successful but safe and predictable Vegas act.

"Deborah joked about attributes of her own person that weren't necessarily true, but she made herself the butt of the joke," Downs adds of the Season 2 arc. "We wanted her to talk about some of the actual stuff that's true to her life and make fun of that."

Executive producer Lucia Aniello notes that

Deborah's act is "not really about the stand-up jokes," but why she's telling the stories she is: "They're not always supposed to be the funniest jokes. Sometimes they're supposed to say something about how the character's feeling about themselves or the world."

The "Hacks" team, overall, are constantly impressed by Smart's facility to portray a top-flight stand-up comic.

"When we met with Jean, she said always wanted to be a stand-up," Downs says. "It was so kismet and wild that she was like, 'When I was 10, I went to a Halloween party and everyone was dressed as princesses and witches, and I dressed as Phyllis Diller, and other 11-year-olds did not, necessarily, know who that was.'"

Einbinder adds that, in a way, Smart's been doing standup her whole career since she is a stage performer.

"In conversation or in a group, she's an amazing storyteller," she notes. "When Jean starts a story, everyone gathers around and listens, and it's really a beautiful thing to witness. So many elements of Jean's natural charisma translated into Deborah's stage performance. It felt like such an organic transformation."

Now, Einbinder recognizes her "Hacks" profile has earned her goodwill with her stand-up tour audiences and is fully in touch with the surreal nature of her current existence. "I'm certainly no Deborah Vance, and we're very different comedians, but I'm experiencing all these things in a re-



# 'Beast' review

Zack Sharf

Variety

Idris Elba stars in "Beast" as a father trying to protect his two daughters from a ferocious lion on a South African nature preserve. It turns out Elba's 20-year-old daughter auditioned to play one of his character's daughters in the film, but she failed to land the role because her chemistry with her father "wasn't right." According to Elba, she stopped speaking to him for three weeks after she lost out on the role.

"She wants to be an actress and she auditioned," Elba said on "The Breakfast Club" (via Insider). "And you know, it came down to chemistry in the end. You know, my daughter, she was great, but the relationship in the film and the relationship with my daughter was -- the chemistry wasn't right for film, weirdly enough. My daughter didn't talk to me for about three weeks."

"Beast" producer Will Packer said Elba's

daughter was "very good" in the audition and "very close" to landing the role in the movie, but he added, "Idris is right, some of the nuances of that real-life relationship sometimes doesn't translate on screen." Packer stressed that Elba's daughter was "very gracious" about not getting the part. She later attended the premiere of "Beast" alongside her father.

"I'm really proud of her to go through that, you know what I mean," Elba said. "And then not get the role, but still come to the premiere."

Relative newcomers Iyana Halley and Leah Sava Jeffries play Elba's daughters in "Beast," and they recently championed their roles in the film during an interview with Variety.

"We're both brown skinned, dark-skinned girls and we're leading a movie, and it's not anything that's degrading," Halley said.

"I want to see more Black girls

get parts that aren't just the sassy [friend] or live in the hood," added Jeffries, who also has a starring role in Disney+'s upcoming "Percy Jackson" series. "I want to see them smart and the number one lead."

"Beast" is now playing in theaters nationwide.



## (cont.)

ally meta way," she says.

Nevertheless, she's there for all of it. "What I love about stand-up is when I get on stage, I have completely fine-tuned every layer of every intention of everything that I am saying," she says. "And it feels like the best version of myself, this ideal ver-

sion of myself that would be collected and poised in a way that I maybe am not always, when I'm sort of just free-balling it in the world. I think that's kind of my favorite part."

"Maisel" executive producer Amy Sherman-Palladino, meanwhile, built her show from a personal perspective: her father was a professional stand-up in the era of Catskills nightclubs and cafe society.

"I grew up with those fairy tales -- and I only say they're fairy tales because I wasn't there; I grew up in the San Fernando Valley, nothing good ever happened there," she says. In her father's telling, "everything was smarter and faster and funnier and more colorful and lively, and there was just energy everywhere."

When launching the show, she chose to have the lead be in a woman simply because she "thought it would be more fun" and she likes dresses.

"So, sorry, Dad, you're a woman," Sherman-Palladino quips. "It was put at a time when comedy was sort of starting to shift a little bit, going from the '50s into the '60s, the comedy became more about looking at the world around you, commenting on the world around you, commenting on politics, looking at social norms, looking at all the things. In the '50, it was a little bit more,

"Take my wife, please."

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The boundary-breaking real world standup Lenny Bruce, who subsequently became a recurring character in the show, set the template for the path Sherman-Palladino saw Midge following.

"Midge, at her heart, at her core, she's an emotional comic," says Palladino.

"She has a tight 10 [minutes] planned and two minutes before she walks on stage, something happens, she has a conversation or she sees something, and all of that goes out the window and she just speaks from her brain and her heart and what's going on."

Executive producer Dan Palladino still marvels at how Brosnahan, a dramatic performer, auditioned for the series with literally no comedy credits whatsoever.

"No one had given her any kind of chance on comedy, so we thought it was very ballsy that this accomplished actress was willing to come in and audition for us playing a standup comic," he recalls. "And that's what stand-up comedy is: it's like you stand naked in front of a bunch of people."



# Congressional inaction on gun violence

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

From Georgia comes a hopeful reply to the underwhelming news that the U.S. House passed an assault weapons ban.

It was the first such ban in 30 years, dating back to Bill Clinton's presidency.

Yet within the first few lines of every news story covering the bill, came the necessary disclaimer that the legislation has zero chance of becoming law in the evenly-divided Senate.

No, not on the Senate's watch, right-wing members of which continue to preach undivided loyalty to the Second Amendment.

Here's how The Washington Post put it: "The bill faces virtually no chance of passage in an evenly split Senate. The passage of an assault weapons ban is a significant feat for any chamber of Congress."

It's a necessary statement for context, followed by an acknowledgment that even getting this far deserves a few fist bumps. Let's grade it an E for effort!

The House vote was 217-213 along party lines, except for the defection of two Republicans who cast "yes" votes.

But a few days later, organizers announced that a more than 25-year-old music festival in Atlanta won't

happen this year largely because Georgia's conservative lawmakers recently passed legislation making it difficult to legally prevent people from toting guns at the two-day event.

It's an example of how Republican zeal for the Second Amendment will start to crash against what happens locally. The result? Economic and touristic fallout.

Jack White, Future and Fall Out Boy will not be performing in Atlanta this fall.

Georgia has a law similar to those in other Republican-led states, which have increasingly moved to lessen restrictions on gun ownership, as well as where weapons can be legally carried.

Music Midtown drew 50,000 people in 2021, according to the Atlanta Journal Constitution and through

## 'People of all persuasions are becoming more fearful of the proliferation of guns.'

the years has included big-name acts like Pearl Jam, Foo Fighters, Coldplay, Eminem, Van Halen, Post Malone, Bruno Mars and Miley Cyrus.

The city-owned Piedmont Park was the venue. The location became problematic for organizers who realized they might have to fend off law-

suits challenging any firearm ban they try to impose. That's due to a 2014 state law allowing firearms on public land.

Somebody -- or more likely the marketing and legal teams behind organizer Live Nation -- hedged their bets and decided that going forward with the September event wasn't worth the potential legal headaches.

That decision can't be pleasing to fans or businesses counting on revenues from the event, or the city, which capitalizes on the vibe of Atlanta as a music metropolis.

Here's how a very healthy push-back to Republicans will start:

Increasingly, insurance groups are requiring that organizers ban weapons at similar big-draw public events. And recording artists are putting such safeguards into their contract agreements.

Those pressures, especially coming from the powerful insurance lobby, could begin to make a difference where

Congress is not.

People of all persuasions are becoming more fearful of the proliferation of guns in America. Parents agonize over the possibility of a mass shooting at school. Shoppers warily make a mental note of the exits when they enter malls.

Many still say, "We didn't think it could happen here," after every high-profile incident. It's almost reactionary, just something that spills out during anguish and mourning.

But they also report feeling the opposite. Rather than thinking that their neighborhood, grocery store or place of worship is immune from gun violence, they wonder when they'll be the next victims.

Atlanta is just one city. Music Midtown is just one lost festival. But



it's illustrative. These implications will begin to occur elsewhere, with a multiplier effect.

Republicans have all but perfected the verbal gymnastics it takes to profess a toughness on crime, while also ensuring that those same bad actors will be virtually unencumbered in gaining access to firearms, even military-grade assault weapons.

Keep that context at the forefront while absorbing the fleeting headline that the House passed a ban on assault weapons.

There are ramifications to congressional inaction, as well as to the inaction of their like-minded handmaidens at the state government level.

Congratulations, Congress. You've dawdled long enough on addressing gun violence in substantial ways. The payback is brewing. And it's starting at the local level.

Readers can reach Mary Sanchez at [msanchezcolumn@gmail.com](mailto:msanchezcolumn@gmail.com) and follow her on Twitter @msanchezcolumn.



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# Sexual misconduct identification and consent

**Meesha Ryan**

*Campus News*

Questions of consent and boundaries arise in nearly every aspect of our lives, and for many young adults, facilitating these conversations can be daunting. Dr. Laura McGuire, whose research and advocacy work on sexual trauma, LGBTQ+ identities, and consent has earned them international recognition, spoke with me about the importance of addressing these issues and ways to overcome them.

Dr. McGuire began by studying education and social justice work, hoping to merge those subject areas in their future career. They became a teacher for high school and middle school students during which time they focused on how they could help students empower themselves. They later switched to sex education and concentrated on the intersections of trauma and marginalized identities. Over the course of their career, Dr. McGuire has created programs for sexual misconduct and response, and written books addressing related topics. Their book, *Creating Cultures of Consent* (2021), is directed towards the parents and teachers of young people such as high school students whereas *The Sexual Misconduct Prevention Guidebook* (2022), is tailored for administrations and colleges, providing them with information on how to “amplify student voices so that they get the support they need.”

Though it is a strong opportunity for young adults to receive information about consent, the sexual misconduct prevention and support that colleges provide their students often leaves them with significant gaps to bridge. Dr. McGuire emphasized the well-documented research which shows that transgender women of colour are the most likely to experience violence on-campus; despite this, they are frequently left out of the conversation, along with other heavily impacted groups. This sends a damaging message, reinforcing negative perceptions of self as well as the harmful idea that these students are not deserving of support. Dr. McGuire notes that, to make matters worse, a lack of training and discussion of these topics may leave administrators and professionals without much understanding of these students and their experiences.

However, Dr. McGuire explained that “most of these conversations are *really* taking place between peers...Sometimes they’re going to their

professors, sometimes they’re going to a Title IX Coordinator or a therapist...but that’s rare. More often than that they’re going to ask their friends.” This can be challenging, especially because the questions that are raised frequently involve multiple aspects of a young adult’s life: What do they do if a friend tells them that they cannot remember what happened last night? Is it consensual for them to sleep with someone if one or both of them are not sober? When is it appropriate to have these kinds of intimate conversations? “Students have so much power in this space,” Dr. McGuire says, “...we would be doing a major disservice [to students]” if we left that message out of our discourse; a large body of work has pointed toward positive peer pressure as a crucial element of sexual misconduct prevention. Being forward with their friends about what behaviours they do or do not support can help promote safe, respectful practices among students. Although students themselves cannot be the therapist or Title IX Coordinator that their peers may need, they should feel capable of directing their friends towards good resources.

So, what exactly can young adults do to prepare themselves for these moments? Dr.

**‘Students should also feel empowered to push for changes.’**

McGuire says that it can be helpful to find well-vetted resources and use them to start conversations. One way to confirm that resources are legitimate would be to research the background of the people who created the resources. Professors, researchers, and teachers tend to have some information about their credentials available online on websites or social platforms like LinkedIn. If, for example, someone found a TikTok that they want to know more about, they can trace the information back to sources such as research studies that may go into greater depth. Students should also feel empowered to push for changes, express what they want to see from their administration, and to bring in re-



**Dr. Laura McGuire**

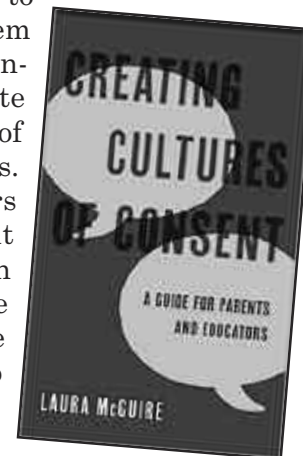
sources themselves.

Young adults are also encouraged to share what they learn with the people around them. Maybe they have a friend who is not in college but would benefit from having access to the misconduct prevention resources that their college provides. Students can bring these discussions to their peers through conversation; if their college allows it, they can also bring their friends with them to hear from speakers and attend events. Dr. McGuire emphasizes that these lessons are not just about sex, but they include all interpersonal relationships, “consent education is a life skill.” They encourage young adults to talk to the children in their

lives as well. Starting these conversations early can help children build an understanding of bodily autonomy, and how to interact safely and comfortably with other people.

In the future, Dr. McGuire is hoping to focus their work on companies and the workforce. They are interested in what happens when students go into work after school, and how they can find supportive, informed workspaces. If you are interested in learning more about navigating consent and boundaries, we encourage you to take a look

at Dr. McGuire’s books, available for purchase on popular book sites.



# Suffolk exhibit features caricaturist

“Van Howell: Drawing the Line,” an exhibit of pen and ink illustrations, will be on view at Suffolk County Community College’s Lyceum Gallery on the Eastern Campus from September 16 through November 18. An artist’s reception will be held on Tuesday, September 27, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Featured will be original drawings of some of the thousands of cartoons and portraits Howell created for the Wall Street Journal, Newsday, New York Times, and Guardian between 1980 and 2003. Many are renderings of political, literary, and musical icons set in Howell’s comical and often cutting satire. He captures public personalities with arresting line work and great drawing dexterity while sometimes revealing the shadowy

side of humanity.

“I try to get to know my subjects and draw them inside out,” says Howell. “Even the trashiest celebrities and nastiest dictators may retain traces of the souls they’ve sold.”

Also, on view will be Howell’s illustrations for “Proust for Beginners” (2016) and his explorations of London cityscapes, Australian forests and the human figure.

Born in 1948, now residing in Riverhead, Howell grew up in Westhampton and shares fond memories of his high school art teacher and mentor, Fred Klotz. He studied art at Boston University with Richard



Eugene O'Neill, John Brown and Frank Zappa



Yarde and Morton Sacks, then at the NY Studio School (NYSS) with Philip Guston and Mercedes Matter. Even before he entered NYSS, Howell’s cartoons and writings were appearing in the subversive Rat Subterranean News.

During the 70s, Howell’s artwork occasionally appeared in the Riverhead News Review, Dan’s Papers, Southampton Press, and The Village Times.

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# HCC leader to retire

Holyoke Community College President Christina Royal will retire from the college after the 2022-2023 academic year, she announced on Aug. 23. Her last day will be July 14, 2023.

“It has been one of the greatest honors and privileges of my life to serve as the fourth president of this great institution,” she said in a message to the HCC community, “and now is the time to prepare for the next chapter of my life.”

Royal, 50, said she is not leaving HCC for another job and has no specific plans.

“One of the greatest responsibilities of any leader is to know when and why to lead an institution and also when and why it is time to leave it,” she said. “I have spent a considerable amount of time reflecting about this life change, and my ‘why’ is simple and straightforward: I am seeking expansion and personal growth in the form of new learnings and experiences and an opportunity to pause and enjoy the present moments.”

Royal started at HCC in January 2017. She is the fourth president in the 75-year history of HCC and not only the first woman to hold the position but the first openly gay and first bi-racial person to serve as president.

“President Royal’s understanding of higher education and the management of higher education has been invaluable to the board and to me personally,” said Robert Gilbert, chair of the HCC Board of Trustees. “She has always known what needed to be done to take HCC to the next level and she involved everyone in the process of moving the college forward.”

Presidential search plans will begin immediately.

“President Royal has laid a strong foundation with her Cabinet that will, I have no doubt, successfully carry out the daily activities of the college over this year and beyond,” he said. “The work to advance HCC’s mission, vision, and strategic priorities will in-



Christina Royal

deed continue. Without question, higher education as a sector is in for a lot of change as we look to the future, but Dr. Royal has prepared our institution well and has set HCC up for success far beyond her tenure.”

Before coming to HCC, Royal served as provost and vice president of Academic Affairs at Inver Hills Community College in Inver Grove Heights, Minn. Prior to that she was associate vice president for e-learning and innovation at Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland and director of technology-assisted learning for the School of Graduate and Continuing Education for Marist College.

She holds a PhD in education from Capella University and a master of arts in educational psychology and a bachelor of arts in math from Marist.

In her announcement, Royal cited some of the milestones of her tenure: working collaboratively to develop HCC’s first strategic plan, advancing equity across the institution; and investing in programs to support students’ basic needs, such as creating the President’s Student Emergency Fund (to provide grants to student facing financial needs), opening Homestead Market (the first campus store in Massachusetts to accept SNAP), partnering with Holyoke Housing Authority (to help students find affordable rent), and launching the Itsy Bitsy Child Watch Program (to provide student-parents access to free, short-term care for their children.).

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# STAC named a College of Distinction

St. Thomas Aquinas College is once again being nationally recognized for its commitment to engaged, student-centered education by Colleges of Distinction, a guide for college-bound students.

The College demonstrated excellence in the areas of student engagement, great teaching, vibrant community, and successful outcomes. In addition to being named as a 2022-2023 College of Distinction, St. Thomas Aquinas College was named a New York College of

Distinction and earned additional recognition for its business and education programs, as well as its robust career development offerings.

“As a thriving institution driven by a strategic vision designed for student success, engagement, and experiential learning, St. Thomas Aquinas College is proud to be recognized by Colleges of Distinction for our passionate commitment to our students,” said President Ken Daly. “Our faculty and staff chal-

lenge, guide, and energize our students to ensure they realize their full potential and achieve success in their careers and life.”

Since 2000, Colleges of Distinction has highlighted student-centered schools that traditional rankings often overlook. Their selection process comprises a sequence of in-depth research and detailed interviews with the institutions, accepting only those that adhere to the four distinctions: engaged students, great teaching, vi-

brant community, and successful outcomes.

“Every student has individual needs and their own environment in which they’re most likely to thrive,” said Wes Creel, Founder of Colleges of Distinction. “We’re inspired by the ways in which St. Thomas Aquinas College immerses students in their fields, all while fostering a welcoming community that will support them through and beyond their college years.”

## Berkshire, MCLA forge transfer partnership

Berkshire Community College (BCC) and Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) announce the creation of a joint “Associates to Bachelors” program intended to provide an efficient pathway to teacher licensure. The program is specifically designed for paraprofessionals currently employed by pre-K–12 schools in Berkshire County. Paraprofessionals support students under the supervision of a teacher.

The cohort model program was created in response to Berkshire County school districts’ need to create a licensure program that supports the preparation, development and retention of a diverse and effective educator workforce so that all students thrive. With the benefit of creating a caring community of learners with a common purpose, the program draws on the strength of BCC’s and MCLA’s strong part-

nerships with local schools, diverse academic programming and dedicated faculty.

The Commonwealth’s Department of Higher Education (DHE) offers funding to Massachusetts residents who are currently employed as paraprofessionals in Massachusetts public schools (for at least two years) and wish to become certified as full-time teachers. Financial need is not a requirement

for the Paraprofessional Teacher Preparation Grant, but recipients must annually file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).

For more information about enrollment, specific pathways to licensure and details regarding tuition, timelines and financial assistance, please contact Barbara Kotelnicki, Associate Professor of Education, BCC at [bkotelnicki@berkshirecc.edu](mailto:bkotelnicki@berkshirecc.edu).

## Smart finances

The National Council for Workforce Education (NCWE) announced on July 14, Rockland Community College has been selected as one of three schools nationwide to receive \$210,000 to develop and launch Money Smart Financial Coaching Program, a financial coaching program to improve their students’ financial health and increase their graduation rates. The program is expanding nationally through a \$2.5 million investment from JPMorgan Chase.

Rockland Community College was chosen through a competitive process based on the school’s capacity for innovation, staff knowledge and commitment to student success. In addition to Rockland Community College, Fulton-Montgomery Community College in Johnstown, NY and Mott Community College in Flint, MI, have also been selected and will each receive \$210,000. Four other colleges will be selected in 2023, impacting more than 1,200 students around the country.

## Tuition up, enrollment down

According to a recent study by My eLearning World, the cost of going to college has risen at nearly 5x the rate of inflation over the last 50 years, while enrollment has fallen for the past decade.

On why the cost of college has soared during this time, Amrit Ahluwalia, director of strategic insights at Modern Campus, says:

“The cost of college is rising faster than inflation for two key reasons. First, in the 1970s, college tuition and fees were highly subsidized by federal and state governments, but those public supports for education access have disappeared over the last 40 years—making students largely responsible for paying for higher education. Second, many universities entered into an “arms race” through the 1990s and 2000s, making massive capital investments in luxurious campus amenities. However, the majority of students enrolling in higher education today (and since the mid-2000s) are considered “non-traditional”, which means they’re adults, they’re working multiple jobs, and have dependents. These individuals know they need a postsecondary credential to achieve their career goals, but don’t actually use campus amenities in the same way... even though they’re footing the bill.”

# College students: Beware of these scams

College students spend money on tuition payments and school supplies as they prepare for the new year. However, scammers are taking this opportunity to try to steal some of that money through various schemes and scams.

One tactic that has been used to get a student's personal information is a phishing email that claims to be from the school's "Financial Department." Messages via text or email may appear, instructing the student to click on a link provided in the email and log in with a student username and password. Don't do it; doing so could give the user name, password, or other personal information to scammers, possibly downloading malware onto the device.

Whether you are starting school away from home or have young students who may be vulnerable to such scams, Better Business Bureau recommends watching out for these financial scams before heading into the new semester.

**Fake credit cards** – Offers to apply for the

first credit card are tempting to many students. Not only could this create credit problems down the road due to unchecked spending, but some of the deals could be phony offers designed to access personal information. Research the offers from the credit card flyers and the banking institutions before applying.

**Too good to be true apartments** – It's hard not to jump on a convenient apartment so close to campus, especially if it advertises affordable rent. It's tempting to hand over credit card information online to lock in a great spot, but it's always worth seeing the apartment in person before a money transfer. This also applies to Craigslist and social media ads from other students looking for roommates.

**ID theft** – It's a good idea to start practicing healthy money habits, and one such habit is regularly checking your credit report for unusual activity and possible ID fraud. The official government website to do this for free is [annualcreditreport.com](http://annualcreditreport.com).

**Scholarship and grant scams** – Be wary of phone calls guaranteeing help to reduce loan payments or offering a hefty grant. Search the company's name online for scam alerts or negative reviews from other consumers. Read reviews and complaints about the company at [BBB.org](http://BBB.org) and contact the school's financial aid office for advice and help regarding financing your education.

**Online shopping scams** – Online purchase scams can be especially effective when set up through social media platforms and apps. Be careful when it comes to too good to be true offers.

**Awareness of current scams** – As tech-savvy as current college students can be, a surprising number of scams reported to BBB's ScamTracker are from students who learned their lesson too late.



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# SUNY Adirondack awarded \$3M for TRIO

SUNY Adirondack announced the college was awarded \$3 million to support its TRIO Upward Bound program.

With this five-year grant (\$610,081 a year), SUNY Adirondack will support 123 high school students annually in 13 area school districts.

“We are excited to have the opportunity to continue to provide resources and support to area high school students to help them fulfill their dreams of becoming the firsts in their families to attend college,” said Kelsey Lorusso, director of TRIO Opportunity Programs (Upward Bound and Student Support Services) at SUNY Adirondack.

Upward Bound provides college preparatory services to income-eligible first-generation college students, including weekly advisor visits in high schools, college and career exploration, financial aid, financial literacy support, cultural

activities, community service opportunities, preparation for SAT and ACT tests, and a six-week residential summer program on the SUNY Adirondack campus.

SUNY Adirondack was first awarded TRIO Upward Bound grant funding in 1999; the grant was renewed in 2017. Grant funding is highly competitive and must be renewed every five years.

The college’s program supports students in Argyle, Corinth, Fort Ann, Fort Edward, Glens Falls, Granville, Hartford, Hudson Falls, North Warren, Salem, South Glens Falls, Whitehall and Warrensburg school districts.

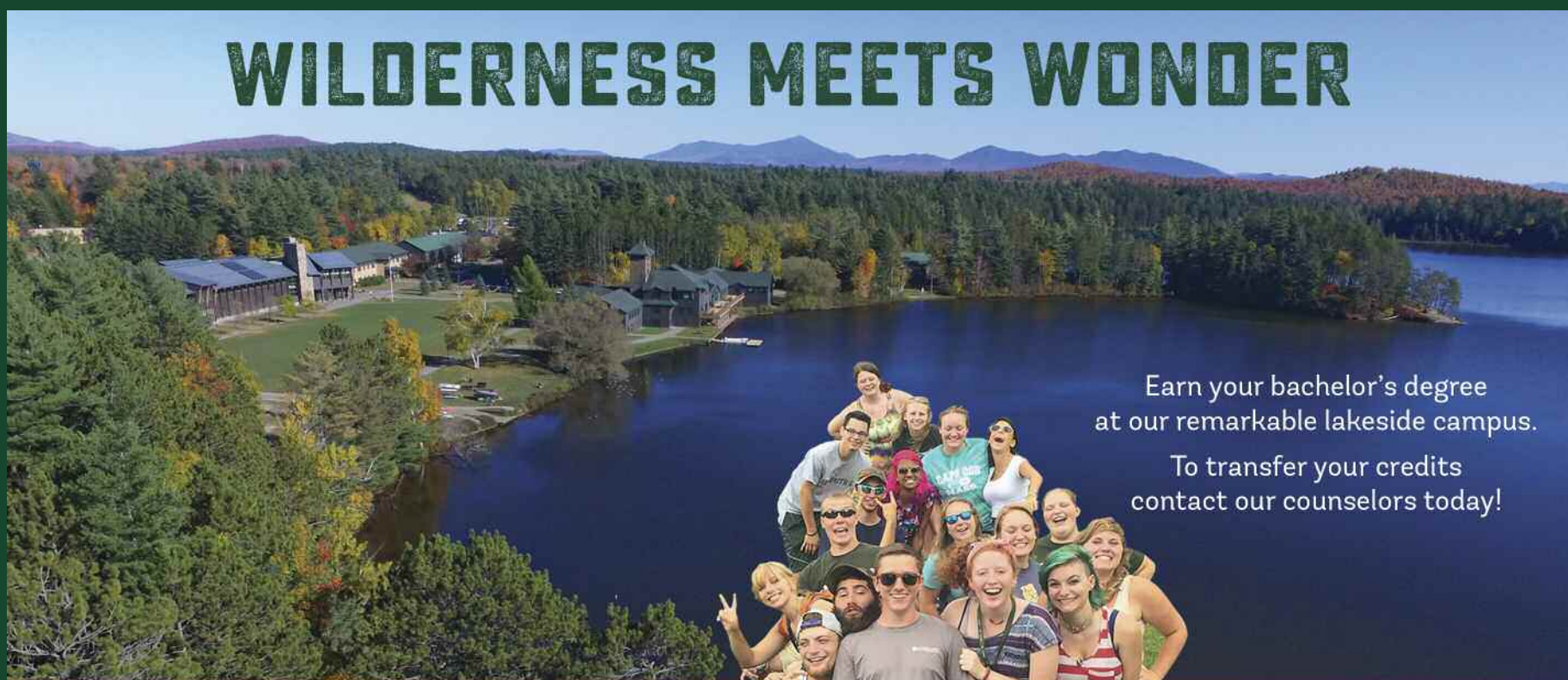
“A college education is the quickest way to improve economic status and programs like this



provide life changing opportunities for students and their families,” Lorusso said.

To learn more about TRIO Upward Bound, please visit [www.sunyacc.edu/upward-bound](http://www.sunyacc.edu/upward-bound).

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# Colleges respond to Roe v. Wade reversal

CUNY Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez met Vice President Kamala Harris, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona and higher education leaders from across the country on Aug. 8, in a roundtable discussion to analyze the impact on college students following the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, the ruling that had enshrined a woman's decision to have an abortion as a constitutionally protected right for nearly 50 years.

The Chancellor joined presidents and other chancellors from Dartmouth College, Gallaudet University, Howard University, Oberlin College, Reed College, Tennessee State University and the University of California-Irvine, and the president of the American Council on Education, Ted Mitchell. Vice President Harris outlined the steps the Biden administration has taken to maintain the accessibility of reproductive care and noted that the majority of women who will be impacted by the Dobbs ruling are those between the ages of 20 and 29.

"We know that women in college are uniquely impacted by restrictions on reproductive rights," said Vice President Harris. "Women on college campuses ... are three times more likely to experience sexual violence. We know that many women in college have academic responsibilities; many of them may be working as well to get themselves through college and pay for tuition in a way that will limit their ability to travel and will certainly make it almost impossible in terms of their ability to not only leave school, but to afford to travel to where they may receive reproductive health care."

"We are still grappling with the ramifications of the Dobbs ruling for higher education and beginning the complicated work that will be necessary to mitigate its impacts," said

Chancellor Matos Rodríguez. "In light of this devastating ruling, I am heartened to see that college leaders across the country are collectively working to protect students, determine how best to support those at risk and provide needed resources in this challenging climate moving forward. It was an honor to participate in this conversation with our vice president and esteemed national leaders and colleagues to better determine the immediate and long-term impacts this ruling will have across the higher education landscape."

Chancellor Matos Rodríguez noted that unwanted pregnancies could exacerbate long-standing inequities by preventing many students from attaining a degree. "An unwanted pregnancy can be one of the things that derails higher education. It's one of the classic issues for students dropping out," he said.

In New York, Governor Kathy Hochul has redoubled the state's commitment to support abortion and reproductive rights in the aftermath of the Dobbs ruling. She signed a nation-leading legislative package to immediately protect the rights of patients and empower reproductive healthcare providers; committed funds to expand capacity and ensure access for patients seeking abortion care in New York and help ensure the safety and security of providers; and launched a statewide public education campaign to ensure New Yorkers — and all Americans — know that in New York State, abortion remains safe,



legal and accessible.

Still, the Chancellor emphasized that "we know that each of us, as Americans, is interconnected. No one is fully insulated from the effects of the Supreme Court's action, or the potential it suggests for the continued erosion of constitutional protections."

CUNY has been monitoring evolving regulations and restrictions in other states in preparation for the potential adjustment to medical plan terms, if necessary, in the areas of coverage and travel benefits for abortion.

The Chancellor also focused on the need for expanded mental health services, which will continue to grow in importance and visibility. Students and employees from the LGBTQI+ community and others may become anxious about the direction signaled by the Dobbs decision and the potential for subsequent Supreme Court rulings that could curtail same-sex marriages and other hard-fought rights. In addition to increased counseling hours through the employee assistance plan (EAP), CUNY is working to help employees by launching a mental health initiative that in-

volves a wellness "ambassador" from each campus.

Finally, Chancellor Matos Rodríguez recalled CUNY's legacy of student activism and leadership in government, which includes pioneering leaders such as Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress; Bella Abzug, member of Congress and (along with Chisholm) co-founder of the National Women's Political Caucus; and more than 70 current city, state and congressional elected leaders who are graduates of CUNY.

Given the history of CUNY student activism, we can expect that our students will be on the front lines assisting in states where abortion rights are revoked, the Chancellor said, noting that "Others, including members of the LGBTQI+ community, are understandably fearful of the potential loss of rights that have been also gained over generations of struggle. We have an obligation to empower all students moving forward, to empower them to overcome all the obstacles that come their way, and to ensure that our campuses will continue to serve as catalysts not only for students' success and social mobility, but also for social justice."

# SUNY LGBTQIA+ conf.

State University of New York announced the program for its groundbreaking SPECTRUM Conference which will discuss and address issues impacting the LGBTQIA+ community on campuses and across the country. The conference will feature groundbreaking figures in the fields of sports, fashion and law, including:

- Schuyler Bailar (he/him), the first transgender athlete to compete in any sport on an NCAA Division 1 men's team

- Matt Berstein (he/they), is a creator and social media influencer with a confrontational approach using logic and humor

- Amber Briggie (she/they), is an activist, speaker, writer, and mother of a transgender child whose family has made headlines for being subjected to attacks from the Texas state Attorney General

Additionally, the two-day conference will feature an array of experts discussing how campuses can become more inclusive and supportive, institutions can provide queer-allied emotional care, among several other topics.

It will take place September 15 and 16 in person at SUNY's Global Center in Manhattan. SPECTRUM is open to the public, educators, and is free for all SUNY students.

Individuals can register at this link: [www.suny.edu/events/spectrum](http://www.suny.edu/events/spectrum).

"The LGBTQIA+ community is diverse and dynamic, the struggles these students encounter are unique and, as leaders in higher education, SUNY is committed to continually fostering a more inclusive campus community. That has never been more urgent than now when, sadly, there are attempts being taken across this country to roll back equality and protections

we fought so hard to achieve," said SUNY Interim Chancellor Deborah F. Stanley. "We are here to send a message to every LGBTQIA+ individual that New York welcomes you, SUNY welcomes you, and we will do all we can to guide positive change on college campuses."

SUNY Cobleskill President Marion Terenzio said, "An inclusive spirit is the beating heart of SUNY, exemplified in the phrase SUNY for all. As our collective of higher education institutions continues to live by our motto to learn, to search, to serve, we are ever-mindful of the challenges we must continue to meet in the name of equitable treatment and access for all students. The conversations at SPECTRUM will further energize our commitment, system-wide, and beyond to outwardly support one another in a time that, although uncertain, will ultimately strengthen our resolve to nurture and protect a SUNY for all."

Amber Briggie said, "As a parent of a transgender child living in Texas, I feel the trauma that people in power enact against the LGBTQIA+ community – especially children – and those of us who love them. The conference serves as a way for us to address these harmful narratives and both elevate and destigmatize the conversation around queer youth. In a time when a majority of states have proposed or enacted anti-LGBTQIA+ legislation meant to erase the lives of queer people, we have a moral obligation to fight for a more inclusive environment where people can freely live as their authentic selves. I look forward to sharing my family's story and continuing my advocacy for the LGBTQIA+ community at this year's SPECTRUM Conference, and I hope you'll join me."



## WCC hosts Cyber Camp

SUNY Westchester Community College (SUNY WCC) hosted approximately fifty high school students for a free summer Cybersecurity Camp that exposed them to this fast-growing sector in information technology. The Gen-Cyber Camp was made possible through a grant from the National Security Agency (NSA).

The camp, which ran from July 5-15 at the SUNY WCC main campus in Valhalla, allowed students to learn about computer hacking, manipulation, viruses, metadata and what it is like to be an IT professional in the ever-changing landscape of cybersecurity. SUNY WCC students in the college's cybersecurity program and faculty mentored and led students in the computer "villages" which were uniquely designed computer challenges designed to engage students in hands-on experiences that will inspire young people to consider future cybersecurity studies and careers.

"We are thrilled to be able to offer this exciting opportunity to those high schoolers interested in

a field that is so vital to our nation's security and economy," said Professor John Watkins, Curriculum Chair of the Cybersecurity program at SUNY WCC. "Our goal is to provide students with a broad skill set to further their education, if they wish. My hope is that they will continue to study cybersecurity at SUNY WCC, one of the few community colleges in the country to be given the Center for Academic Excellence designation in Cyber Defense Education by the US Department of Homeland Security and the National Security Agency."

Students at this summer's Gen-Cyber will attend a post-camp in the fall that builds on the skills learned during the summer. To learn more about GenCyber visit <https://www.gen-cyber.com/about>,

The college offers over 60 degree and certificate programs, including innovative programs in such high-demand fields as Cybersecurity, Health Information Technology, Respiratory Therapy, and Digital Filmmaking.

## Turn stress into passion

**Daneen Skube**

*Special to Campus News*

**Q:** *I'm just starting a business. I'm overwhelmed by all the work and learning ahead. Am I biting off more than I can chew? How do I know if I'm making decisions that will allow work/life balance? Can smart people start a business without experiencing stress?*

**A:** No matter how smart you are, beginning a business is inherently stressful. Moreover, no new business owner experiences work/life balance. Lastly, if you're not biting off more than you can chew in launching a new business, it's unlikely to succeed!

Work/life balance is an excellent aspirational goal. There are also times in our career that work or academic demands allow no work/life balance, during the short-term.

Imagine your car going up a steep, long hill. Your engine revs, your fuel intake is high, and your car works hard going up the hill. At the top, the road flattens out, your engine slows, your need for fuel lessens, and you achieve a smooth cruising pace. Any

goal you're passionate about is a steep, long hill for a while.

When we study stress ranges for human beings, there are three zones: 1) Boredom 2) Goldilocks zone 3) Overwhelmed. Turns out both boredom and being overwhelmed are stressful. Once we achieve a cruising pace, to avoid burnout, aim for the Goldilocks zone where the stress level is medium.

However, no new business or academic venture will begin in the Goldilocks zone. We'll definitely not have the stress of boredom. We will feel like that car slogging up a long, hard hill, uncertain if it will make it to the top.

To the extent we're more concerned about what other people think about us than our quality of life, we'll get distracted when overwhelmed. When your stress level is maximum, it's critical to focus only on your own future success. If you allow the specter of future failure to haunt you, you'll be running away from a ghost rather than pursuing a dream.

The best way to stay productive on a tough new work path is to get

the maximum enjoyment from your current day. If you're getting a graduate degree, don't just stare at what you can do when you get your degree. Pick a program where the learning itself is enjoyable. You cannot win in the future, if you delay all your gratification.

Brain science shows us that breaking a big goal into little steps gives our brains dopamine (feel-good opiate) with each step we complete. If we only focus on arriving at the big goal, we get discouraged and quit.

As author Simon Sinek observed, "Working hard for something we don't care about is called stress. Working hard for something we love is called passion." To operationalize the word "passion" build your plan with lots of small steps to celebrate and enjoy. Otherwise, you'll lose motivation because you'll only experience daily drudgery and stress.

German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche once made a complementary observation that, "He who has a 'why' to live for, can bear almost any 'how.'" "

Passion and small steps can make long nights feel noble, hard work sat-

isfying, and risks less frightening. A powerful "why" helps us see a longed for future, even though our current road of "how" is foggy and dark.

### The last word(s)

**Q:** *As you mentor clients on workplace success is there any one interpersonal habit you recommend that clients should cultivate?*

**A:** Yes, as Roman statesman Tullius Cicero, who upheld Republic principles during Rome's civil war years, advised: "Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all 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. Sorry, no personal replies.*



## NYC tops for interns

Even with the ups and downs of the economy, internships still play a significant role in students and recent graduates career development. New research from smarter job search engine Adzuna revealed the following:

- Top Cities: New York, NY has the most internship opportunities (4,925) available for the summer

and fall semesters, followed by Boston, MA and Washington, D.C.

- Sectors with the Most Vacancies: In NYC, IT (1,027), Healthcare & Nursing (743), Accounting & Finance (582) and PR, Advertising & Marketing (258) sectors have opportunities

- Companies Hiring: PricewaterhouseCoopers and Berlin-

Rosin, among others

Here's insight from Paul Lewis, Chief Customer Officer at Adzuna: "Internships are a key factor in allowing students and recent graduates to test-drive a potential career, as well as offer invaluable experiences from the people that they are able to meet, the different scenarios they are able to work in and the skills that they will come away with. These opportunities are also a great way for job seekers to get their foot in the door and gain experience in a

field where they may lack credentials but have an interest in pursuing. Given the shifts we've seen in the labor market over the past couple of years, employers are looking at interns as potential future employees who will bring in knowledge from previous experiences as well as a new, fresh perspective and an eagerness to learn. This is critical for companies' future planning, as success is based on the teams themselves."

# The SAT doesn't predict entrepreneurs

**Margot Machol Bisnow**  
*Special to Campus News*

Among the many arguments out there about why it's time for the SAT, ACT, and any other college admissions tests to go, there's one that barely gets any air time: These tests do nothing to help select the future trailblazers who will think outside the box, create disruptive companies and nonprofits, and shake up the world.

This is exactly the type of kids our world will need as tomorrow's leaders. But these very same kids might not be great test takers. It seems wrong to have a major determinant of who gets accepted at colleges and universities around the country to be something that keeps many talented, creative people out of those schools.

Without using a test as a significant marker for admission, colleges will be able to admit students who may not be good test takers, but who:

(1) have demonstrated that they are creative and entrepreneurial because they have started an interesting business or nonprofit or done something unusual outside of school; and

(2) have demonstrated grit by mastering something hard, whether it's playing a sport,

writing music, playing chess, or running for student government; and

(3) are the top students in their grade, even if they go to an unremarkable school in a poor neighborhood, thus ensuring that they can recruit bright, hard working kids from underrepresented communities, even if they haven't been able to afford test preparation.

Do we really only want to admit kids who are good at taking tests? Do we really think that Elon Musk and Steve Jobs were great test takers? My husband and I were both good test takers, and both went to elite universities. Our kids were not particularly great test takers, and yet they are both just as smart, and more creative, more interesting, and more entrepreneurial than we were.

I have a lot of respect for kids who are great test takers. They are probably also great students who learned to work hard and do what they're asked. They will all probably do well in life; perhaps they'll go into finance, law, medicine, or into large, established companies. I'm sure they will be appreciated by their employers and have successful careers. Of course they should be admitted. But that isn't the only kind of student that colleges should want to admit. Colleges and universities should also want kids

who think outside the box, who are going to shake the world, who will create disruptive companies and nonprofits...but who may not be great test takers.

I interviewed seventy successful entrepreneurs for my just-released book, *Raising an Entrepreneur: How to Help Your Children Achieve Their Dreams; 99 Stories From Families Who Did*. Some were excellent students from kindergarten on; one-third graduated in the top of their class from elite universities; and some were great test takers. Others were terrible at tests and struggled with school. Twenty percent didn't graduate from college, largely because they wanted to work on building a company they had already started while they were still in school. And also because, for some, it wasn't a good fit. But top colleges should also want to admit kids like them, because they are changing the world with their innovative approaches to the products and services they have created.

So I urge all colleges and universities: Drop the SAT now so you can admit more students who will change the world: create amazing companies; start incredible non-profits; will become great actors, movie directors, or songwriters; and who will champion causes that will have an impact. Most importantly, drop the SAT so you will have a diverse class. Not only diverse in terms of race and socio-economic background, but also diverse in terms of how the students think and learn - and diverse in terms of what careers they will have, what they will do with their lives, and what they will contribute to the world.

*Margot Machol Bisnow is a writer, mom and parenting expert. She spent 20 years in government, including as an FTC Commissioner and Chief of Staff of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and is the author of "Raising an Entrepreneur: How to Help Your Children Achieve Their Dreams- 99 Stories from Families Who Did". Follow her on Instagram @margotbisnow; check out her website [www.raisinganentrepreneur.com](http://www.raisinganentrepreneur.com).*



## Going SAT-free benefits

Bisnow found this to be true after interviewing 70 of today's top entrepreneurs for her book, including:

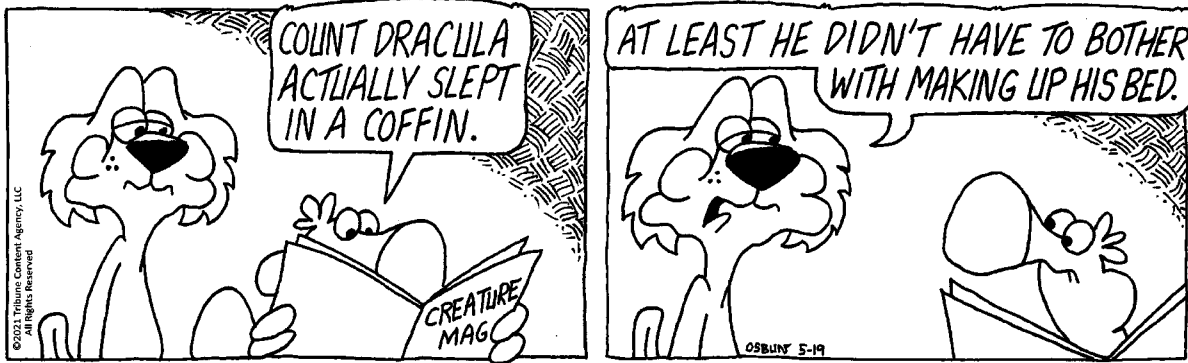
- Jon Chu, director of "Crazy Rich Asians"
- Paige Mycoskie, founder and owner of clothing company Aviator Nation
- Thomas Vu, lead producer on "League of Legends"
- Dhani Jones, former NFL linebacker who went on to host a TV show, co-founded a creative agency, and chair an investment fund
- Nyasha Arrington, superstar chef and sustainability advocate

Without using a test as a significant marker for admission, Bisnow adds, colleges will be able to admit students who may not be good test takers, but who:

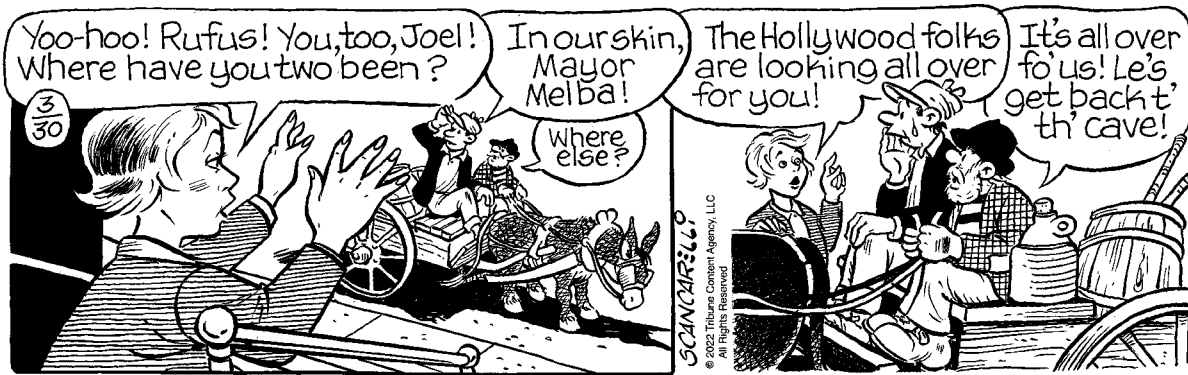
- Demonstrate creativity and entrepreneurialism by starting an interesting business, non-profit, or doing something unusual outside of school.
- Demonstrate grit by mastering something hard, whether it's playing a sport, writing music, playing chess, or running for student government; and
- Are the top students in their grade, even if they go to "unremarkable" schools or are not able to afford test preparation.

# The Funny Page

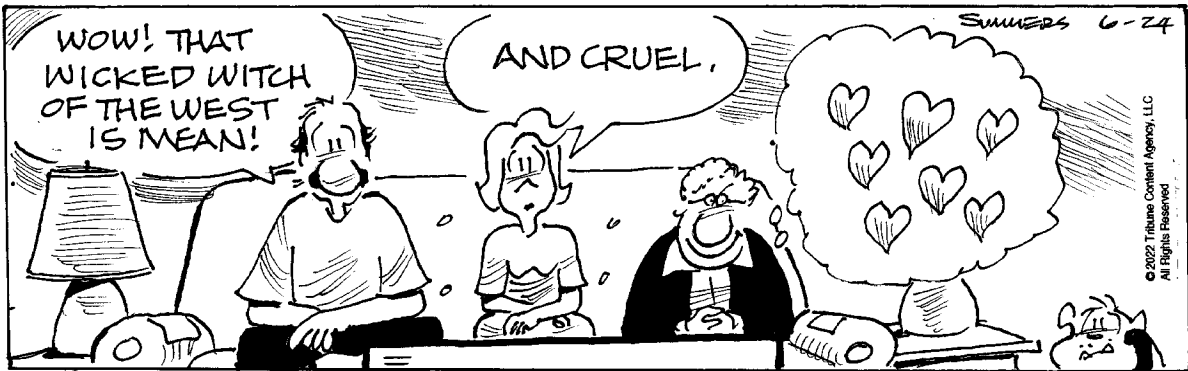
## Animal Crackers by Fred Wagner



## Gasoline Alley by Jim Scancarelli



## The Middletons by Dana Summers



## Broom Hilda by Russell Myers



# SCRABBLE G R A M S

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E <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	V <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	2nd Letter Double	RAK 1
E <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	J <sub>8</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>		RAK 2
A <sub>1</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	W <sub>4</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>		RAK 3
I <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	Triple Word Score	RAK 4
E <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	U <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>		RAK 5

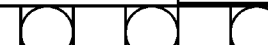
PAR SCORE 260-270  
BEST SCORE 329

FIVE RACK TOTAL  
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

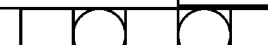
## JUMBLE

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

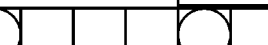
USIES



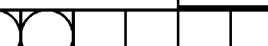
MIYDL



LHIRTL



BLAYBF



Answer here:



## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knuerek



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



Puzzle  
Answers  
Page 26

## Newspapers vs. longshot candidates

**Darren Johnson**  
*Campus News*

It's no secret that community newspapers are struggling and have to do more with less.

Besides this newspaper, I also run a smalltown community newspaper upstate, *The Journal & Press*. I also teach Journalism courses for a local college.

At the smalltown paper, we constantly have to rethink what we can and can't do anymore.

Someone recently suggested *The Journal & Press* bring back our calendar page, for example; however, calendar pages are quite labor intensive to make. Calendar items are constantly coming in, most are inconsistently written and need to be summarized neatly. It would take a single dedicated employee at least a couple of hours a day to maintain one.

And then we have to consider the Internet. Is creating a printed calendar really the best use of our time if people can just Google "events near me" instead?

Not to mention the "free" papers that service the same region as *The Journal & Press*. They are much better funded than a community paper, and they don't have much of an online audience. Let them worry about a printed calendar.

The same can be said for obituaries. These used to be written by the newspapers themselves; now they are written by the families with help from funeral homes. Newspapers no longer need dedicated employees to write them. These journalists can go on to cover other things.

Which brings us to regional and statewide political candidates.

The typical playbook of a candidate who wants to win a congressional seat or statewide race is to hire an outside consultant.

There are two types of consultants:

The ones tied to a political party. These are given to the candidates party officials really want to win. And there are independent consultants, who may jump from one longshot race to the next.

We get the feeling that there's a mix of vanity on the part of the candidate and slick consultants who tell them what they want to hear.

And then reality strikes.

For the NY-21 Democratic primary, one candidate spent what seems to be hundreds of thousands of dollars running a single ad all over regional TV. (It featured a picture of Donald Trump's buttocks and sug-

**'There's a mix of candidate vanity and slick consultants.'**

gested the incumbent Republican rep kisses it.)

The result? About 4500 votes, less than 19 percent of the total – in a district that stretches from Troy to Potsdam. Democratic turnout overall was in the single digits.

Of course, the consultant moves on to the next chump. They get a percent of the TV buy called an "agency fee," so they suggest to naive candidates blinded by some "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington" optimism to buy a lot of TV. "That ad with Trump's butt is great!" the consultant may offer.

We saw the same results earlier this summer, as gubernatorial candi-

dates who spent a ton on TV ads also did extremely poorly.

Meanwhile, legitimate printed papers get endless press releases from these campaigns – but no ad dollars.

Without ad dollars, these papers will continue to wither. A large number of papers have gone out of business in recent years, leaving behind news deserts. Shouldn't candidates, who often have huge war chests, offer, say, 1% of their advertising buy to the media outlets that actually inform their hoped-for constituents?

(And, I'd argue, dollar per dollar, community newspaper ads are more influential and authoritative than TV buys, anyway.)

We don't use the vast majority of political press releases candidates send us – they are mostly nonsense. But a way for slick consultants to increase their billable hours.

Still, we cover the races as an obligation.

We interview all of the candidates who are running for office in our region.

The consultant who greenlit the Trump butt ads called us to complain after her candidate's interview with us that the reporter veered a good deal from expected questioning.

She was told she could buy an ad if she had something else she wanted to say.

Of course that campaign didn't buy a print newspaper ad. We don't kick back agency fees, so there's no motive for a consultant who knows their candidate has little chance.

But they got the free publicity of a



full-page article.

The next thing community newspapers may want to consider abandoning are the seemingly obligatory coverage of candidates who are not from the community and really don't care enough about it to support the local press.

We could re-assign the reporters to more impactful, truly local stories.

Perhaps you, as a voter, should not support candidates who don't buy newspaper print ads. The message sent by not advertising in truly local media may suggest the candidate has no chance, or they really don't want to get to know local voters. Or they are too trusting of their handlers' sneaky advice.

Sure, print newspapers aren't everyone's idea of "modern," but they certainly are one of the last bastions for our most fervent and loyal voters to gather objective information.

*Darren Johnson runs Campus News, a New York Metro college paper, and The Journal & Press, a community paper in Upstate New York. He also teaches Journalism courses at whatever college will have him any given semester. Reach him at editor@cccnews.info.*



## The Maxxinista Exposé

Cody Fitzgerald  
Campus News

It has now officially been three months since I have quit my job at TJ Maxx, and with that, I personally consider my statute of limitations up. I do want to note that everyone I worked with was lovely, and for legal purposes, did not tell me to write this article and I am doing it on my own free will. I could sit here and expose how I feel about the company, but I do not have enough money at this time to handle a lawsuit. What I would like to do now, is spend a considerable amount of time talking about the lowest form of life, TJ Maxx customers, or if you can stomach it, "Maxxinistas." To be clear, there is a distinction between someone who shops there frequently and someone who makes it their life's goal to make any employee's experience miserable, these are the ones I will be highlighting.

- I, amidst peak COVID, told a customer they had to wear a mask. After handing them

one, the mask was thrown back at me, the maskless customer got in my face and said "99% survival rate, and hopefully I just put you in the 1%."

- A customer, clearly still trying to learn how to read, ignored the "please wait to be called down" sign at the end of the queue, barged down to a register and screamed at every cashier because the line of two people was not moving fast enough.

- A man bought a bag of candies, ate the en-

### 'A smashed up cologne bottle had to be picked up out of the toilet.'

tire thing, and then came in proclaiming that they were "too sour" and argued for a refund for at least 10 minutes.

- At the store closing, a customer said "just five more minutes" in a tone I would place akin to a child playing a game before bedtime.

- In my proudest moment, I had my nails painted black and a man said "what did you drop something on your fingers?" to which I shot him a death stare and nearly made him cry.

- A woman, upset that she couldn't access her credit card rewards on her phone, screamed at me and would not leave my register for 20 minutes.

- I spent a considerable amount of time talking down a woman who was upset she couldn't use her Kohl's rewards at the store.

- In what I'm pretty sure was the apex of a divorce, a screaming couple managed to take out two rolling racks of clothes in their heated argument.

- An untrained service dog poetically marked its territory and then the entire party promptly left.

- I was complained to because the overhead playlist did not feature enough country music and "too much yippy pop."

- A smashed up cologne bottle had to be picked up out of the toilet, and I will leave the rest to the imagination.

Know your worth, folks..

*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.*



## New volleyball

St. Thomas Aquinas College (STAC) announced the addition of Women's and Men's Volleyball programs as their 21st and 22nd NCAA sports. The Spartans anticipate beginning the inaugural Women's Volleyball season in Fall 2023, with the Men's team beginning competition in Spring 2024.

With the introduction of these two new programs, St. Thomas Aquinas College leads the East Coast Conference (ECC) in NCAA sport programs. Along with 22 NCAA sports, the college sponsors club sports including Sprint Football (CSFL), Men's Ice Hockey (MCHC), Esports, and Cheer and Dance, as well as multiple other club and intramural opportunities.

## WCC student is Pulitzer Fellow

Dylan Ortiz, a student at SUNY Westchester Community College, was recently named a 2022 Reporting Fellow by the Pulitzer Center. Projects by Reporting Fellows address some of the most critical, and underreported, stories in today's world, spanning climate injustice, migration, and reproductive health.

Ortiz was honored for his project focusing on food insecurity in the Lower Ninth

Ward in New Orleans. His reporting will look at food resiliency in the community in the form of pantries and markets, and also efforts to address root causes of food insecurity. While completing his studies at SUNY WCC, Ortiz was a junior video producer for Bantam Tools producing video storytelling content for promotional and educational use.

"Studying at SUNY WCC al-

lowed me to enhance my academic strengths while also focusing on areas where I could improve," said Ortiz. "My education at SUNY WCC prepared me to become a versatile custodian of knowledge who was able to take on the Pulitzer Fellowship."

For more information on SUNY Westchester Community College's journalism program, visit [www.sunywcc.edu/journalism](http://www.sunywcc.edu/journalism).

Join us on Instagram

Get content you won't find here @campus\_news



## I am, apparently, a bad person

**Greg Schwem**  
*Special to Campus News*

I was recently bitten by a dog, a traumatic experience I hesitate to recount in print because I am not interested in sympathy or compassion.

The dog, on the other hand, has received plenty of both.

It happened on a glorious afternoon in San Francisco, one of the rare days when it was warm enough to stroll the city in shorts. Still, I opted for pants. Looking back, keeping my bare legs covered may have been the best decision I made since purchasing an extended warranty on my refrigerator.

I was wandering through Haight-Ashbury, a neighborhood as confusing as it is historic. How, I often wonder, could former residents like Janis Joplin and Jerry Garcia navigate this amalgamation of hills and

diagonal streets while tripping on psychedelic substances? I was clear-headed...and lost.

Two gentlemen walking their dogs sensed my confusion. Perhaps it was the manner in which I stared at my phone's map app, looked up at my surroundings and repeated the process. This is something I tell my children never to do in a strange city.

"Bad guys prey on people who appear lost," I say.

"So what should we do?" they reply.

**'Maybe the dog has an aversion to Google Maps. Perhaps I should have known.'**

"Flag down a cab. Or order an Uber."

"And then get into a car with a strange person? Great advice, Dad."

The pair asked if they could help. I

responded that I was looking for a Yelp-recommended bar to watch a sporting event. I was close by, they said.

As I stared at my phone and then peered down the correct street, one of the dogs, a leashed male pit bull, decided he was bored and the only way to alleviate that feeling was to lunge forward and clamp his jaws around my right kneecap. As quickly as he attacked, he released his hold but the damage was done. I looked down to see two punctures in my jeans and broken skin underneath. A slight trickle of blood began to ooze.

I was more shocked than hurt. Ditto for the dog's owner, who apologized profusely, said the animal had never done such a thing, assured me it was fully vaccinated and said he lived in the neighborhood.

"Now is not a good time to be hitting on me," I thought.

"I have bandages and antiseptic if you need either," he said.

I declined, thinking it wasn't a good idea to enter the dog's domicile.

"Maybe the dog can show me all its hiding places," I thought.

I am a dog lover by nature and did not wish to make a scene. The owner agreed to Venmo me money for a new pair of jeans and allowed me to record him stating his dog bit me in the event I needed medical care. Or an attorney. Neither was necessary.

I returned home and recounted the story to various friends. All had identical reactions.

"What did you do?"

"I'm sorry, what did I do?" I asked a neighbor, accentuating the "I."

"Dogs don't just randomly attack," he said while walking his slobbering bulldog, a breed that would probably have trouble attacking anything



other than a steak. "You must have set him off."

I assured him I did nothing of the sort. "Maybe pit bulls have an aversion to Google Maps," I said. "Guess I should have known that."

He failed to see the sarcasm. "Next time, give the dog some space," was his advice.

In our pet-obsessed society, dogs can do no wrong. It is we, the humans, who must adapt. Reluctantly, that is now what I do. When I see a dog and its owner approaching, I cross the street or make sure the owner has a firm grip on a short leash. It kills me because I do enjoy petting dogs and receiving their adoration.

But I know that's not always a wise idea. Any breed can be unpredictable. My face or my neck could look inviting if I'm not careful. And what would be the consequences then?

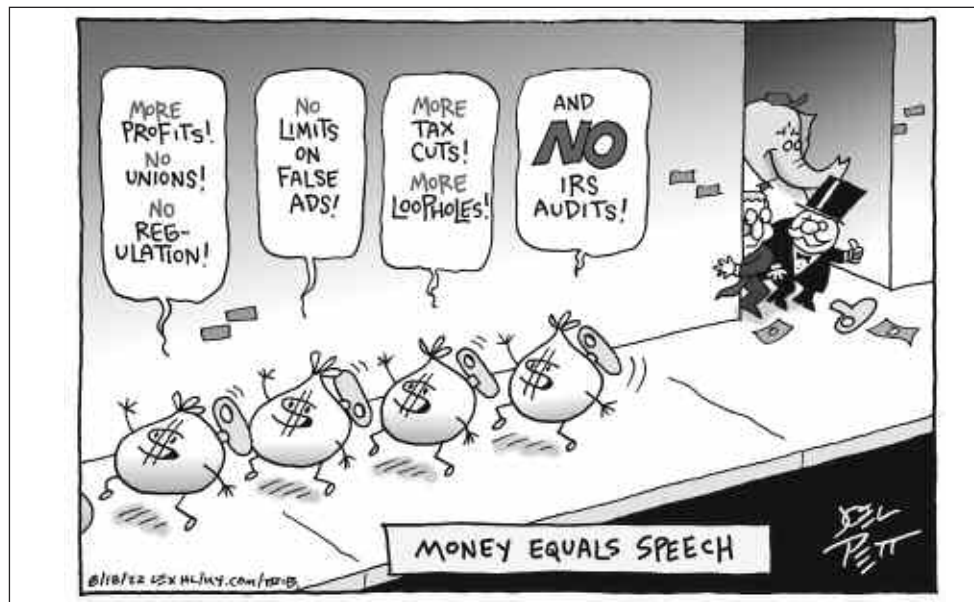
No treats for an entire day?

*Greg Schwem is a corporate stand-up comedian and author of "The Road To Success Goes Through the Salad Bar: A Pile of BS From a Corporate Comedian," available at Amazon.com.*



## An Artist's Take

**Political Cartoon of the Week** by Joel Pett



# CAMPUS NEWS

is an independent college newspaper distributed at dozens of colleges.

**Regular Writers:** Writers are usually college students, very recent grads or staff/faculty, including Prof. John DeSpagna, the late Prof. Jack Mandel, Laura LaVacca, Kaylee Johnson, John Frechette, Cody Fitzgerald, Felicia Reich and Dave Paone.

**Publisher/Editor:** Darren Johnson.

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## Answers

**Boggle:** FIJI PERU CHILE ZAMBIA URUGUAY AUSTRALIA

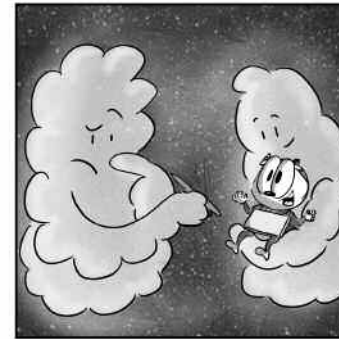
**Jumble:** ISSUE DIMLY THRILL FLABBY  
**Final Jumble:** STILL LIFE

## Subway Sudoku

(solution below)

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

**Filbert** by LA Bonté



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## SCRABBLE G.R.A.M.S. SOLUTION

I <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	V <sub>4</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>3</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	RACK 1 =	<b>63</b>	
J <sub>8</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	P <sub>3</sub>	O <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	T <sub>1</sub>	RACK 2 =	<b>66</b>	
O <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	W <sub>4</sub>	A <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	S <sub>1</sub>	RACK 3 =	<b>61</b>	
S <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	B <sub>3</sub>	L <sub>1</sub>	I <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	G <sub>2</sub>	RACK 4 =	<b>80</b>	
U <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	N <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	E <sub>1</sub>	D <sub>2</sub>	RACK 5 =	<b>59</b>	
<b>PAR SCORE 260-270</b>							<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>329</b>	

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

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

## Boggle BrainBusters!

B U P H  
W O I S  
C O K E  
A G L M

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

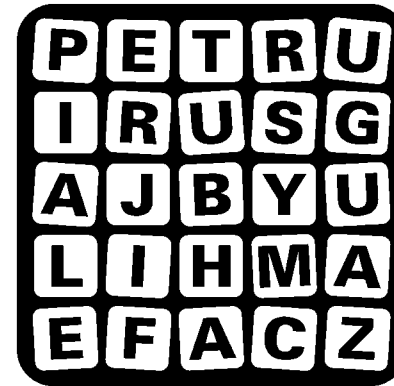
BOGGLE POINT SCALE

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

YOUR BOGGLE RATING

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

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 SIX SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRIES in the grid of letters.

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Answers to Last Sunday's Boggle BrainBusters:  
PUG HOUND BOXER BEAGLE COLLIE POINTER

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# Crops and permaculture farming at Sullivan

The Upper Delaware River Conservation Corps (UDRCC) field crew was on the SUNY Sullivan campus this summer helping Hope Farm staff weed and hill potatoes, thin carrot rows, and help pick garlic scapes and raspberries. The service day at Hope Farm gave corps members a chance to learn more about crops and permaculture farming and provided farm staff with some extra labor.

“The UDRCC crew was great to work with, and they gave us some much-needed help,” said Hope Farm Manager Megan Greene. “There is so much to do in July on the farm, and it made all the difference having so many extra hands for the day. We really appreciated their hard work and their openness and willingness to learn!”

2022 is the inaugural year for the UDRCC program, which is managed by Friends of the Upper Delaware River in partnership with Trout Unlimited and supported with funding from the Corps Network. The work at Hope Farm is one of many conservation and community projects the UDRCC has undertaken in the region this summer.

“The CCC is an innovative new program that recognizes the climate challenges facing the Upper Delaware River, provides young people with on the ground experience addressing these threats, and helps foster the next generation of conservation leaders,” said Jeff Skelding, executive director, Friends of the Upper Delaware River.

Working through August 18, the crew’s other projects include culvert assessments at street and trail crossings, fish and stream habitat surveys, invertebrate sampling, and invasive species remediation. In coordination with the Sullivan County planning department, they have also been working

on Sullivan O&W Rail Trail projects.

Run by New Hope Community and SUNY Sullivan, Hope Farm is a three-acre organic farm on the College’s campus that provides Sullivan students and New Hope’s residents a unique hands-on opportunity to learn sustainable farming techniques. Each year the farm produces thousands of pounds of fresh organic vegetables that are used in New Hope’s residential homes, by the College’s Culinary Arts Program students, and donated to community nutrition programs and food pantries to combat food insecurity.

SUNY Sullivan Sustainability Coordinator Larry Reeger said the College worked with FUDR to help coordinate some of the Conservations Corps’ projects this summer, and that FUDR was one of many community groups who participated in SUNY Sullivan’s Earth Day event this spring.

“SUNY Sullivan is a leader in sustainable development education, and it begins with our campus and community partners,” said Reeger. “Through partnerships with New Hope Community, Friends of the Upper Delaware River, Trout Unlimited, and other regional conservation and community groups, we can offer our students and others an opportunity to learn about the importance of watersheds and how to protect them.”

For more information about sustainability at SUNY Sullivan, visit [sunysullivan.edu/sustainable-sullivan](http://sunysullivan.edu/sustainable-sullivan).



## Most gamers

A new survey asked 2,000 gamers around the country about their video game habits and the things they are willing to sacrifice to spend more time gaming. Findings:

- New York is the 8th most gaming-obsessed state in the country with an average of 15 hours spent per week gaming. Michigan, Texas and Ohio tie for first place with an average of 17 hours played per week.
- In New York, gamers play an average of 7 hours on their consoles weekly.
- They also play an average of 3 hours on their phones and 5 hours on their computers per week.
- In New York, 48% of gamers play on their consoles daily making it the state with the 5th highest percentage of gamers playing on their consoles daily.
- In the U.S., 72% of gamers have sacrificed sleep to continue gaming, while 40% have skipped meals to keep playing.
- 32% of gamers would forego a social event to continue playing as well.
- Games Americans play the most: 1. Candy Crush 2. Solitaire 3. Animal Crossing.

# Campus Crossword

(solution page 24)

## Across

- 1 Nannies and billies  
6 Skylit courtyards  
11 Toyota Prius, e.g.  
14 Tin Pan \_\_  
15 Transactions with interest  
16 Pub pour  
17 \*Data transmission science  
19 Khaki-colored  
20 Pedal pusher  
21 Full moon, e.g.  
22 Cartoon maker of iron bird seed  
23 Salinger teen who says, "I prefer stories about squalor"  
24 \*Elementary school fundraiser  
26 Whistle blower  
28 Piece for three instruments  
29 They're often pop-ups  
32 Major artery  
36 Irritate  
39 Quick swim  
40 Fell behind  
42 Golf ball holder
- 43 Stockpile  
45 Dig deeply (into)  
46 Pigs out (on), briefly  
47 Blacken in a pan  
49 Dictator Amin  
51 \*Rank for TV's Columbo  
56 "Shoo!"  
60 The "I" in MIT: Abbr.  
61 Ceremonial conical structure  
62 Tra-\_\_: refrain syllables  
63 "\_\_, humbug!"  
64 Track meet infractions ... or short words hiding at the beginning of the answers to starred clues  
66 Musician Brian  
67 Had the flu, say  
68 Cove, e.g.  
69 Tennis do-over  
70 Sanctify  
71 Love to pieces

## Down

- 1 Faux pas

- 2 Mixed bags

- 3 "Tuesdays With Morrie" author Mitch

- 4 Wobble

- 5 Leb. neighbor

- 6 A, as in Athens

- 7 Invoice word

- 8 Employee's reward

- 9 Motivate

- 10 Biblical beast of burden

- 11 Not be fooled by

- 12 San Antonio mission

- 13 Continue to subscribe

- 18 Decide on

- 22 Z\_\_ zebra

- 25 Swapped

- 27 Patronizes, as a restaurant

- 29 Oral health org.

- 30 Not bright, as a light

- 31 Many a NASA mission

- 33 "Far out, dude!"

- 34 White-\_\_: formal

- 35 Every one

- 37 Ref. work that added "YOLO" in 2016

- 38 Proposer's preferred response

- 41 Paperless party announcements

- 44 " \_\_ up!": "Quiet!"

- 48 Sell directly to the consumer

- 50 Manhattan or Staten

- 51 Defame in print

- 52 Foolish

- 53 Woman's name backward or forward

- 54 Vaulted alcoves

- 55 Requirements

- 57 Monte \_\_

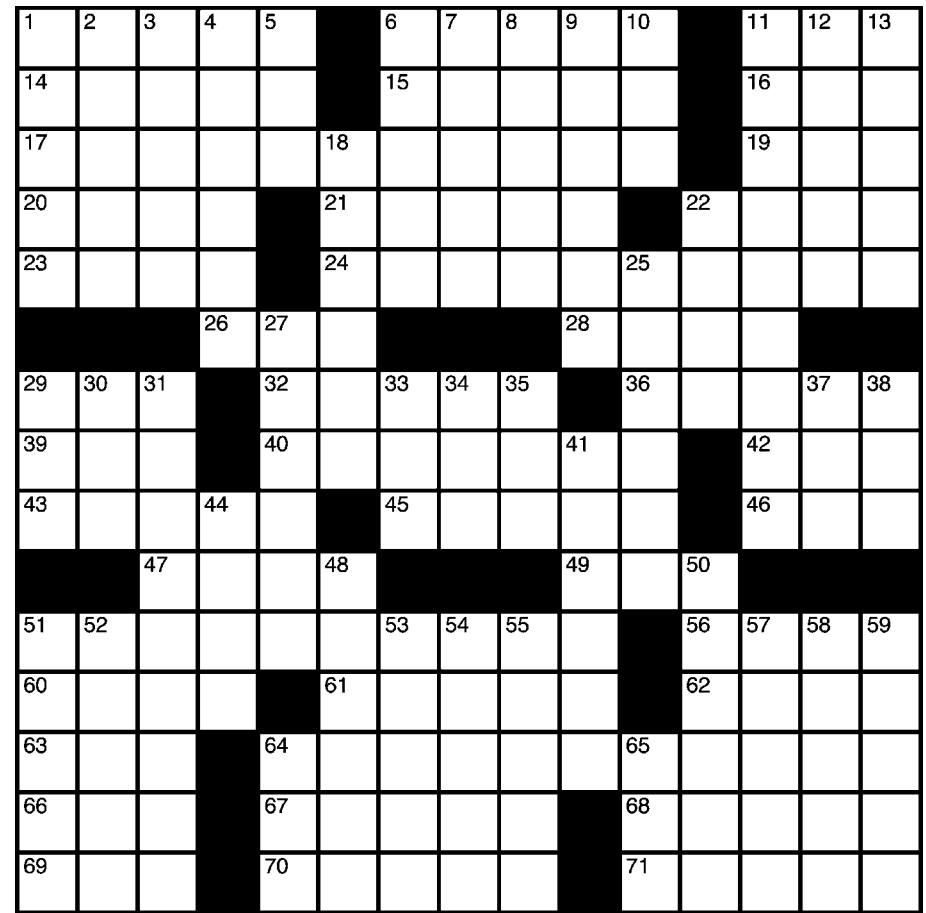
- 58 Raise a hemline on, say

- 59 Sample, as food

- 64 Tide alternative

- 65 Spanish aunt

ANSWERS ON PAGE 26.



## Word Find

By Frank J. D'Agostino (solution page 24)

Find these words that are associated with summertime.

Boating  
Camping  
Cooler  
Hike  
Hot Dogs  
Humidity  
Jet Ski  
Kayak  
Kite

Park  
Picnic  
Pool  
Popsicle  
Punch  
Salmon  
Sandals  
Scuba Dive  
Seaside

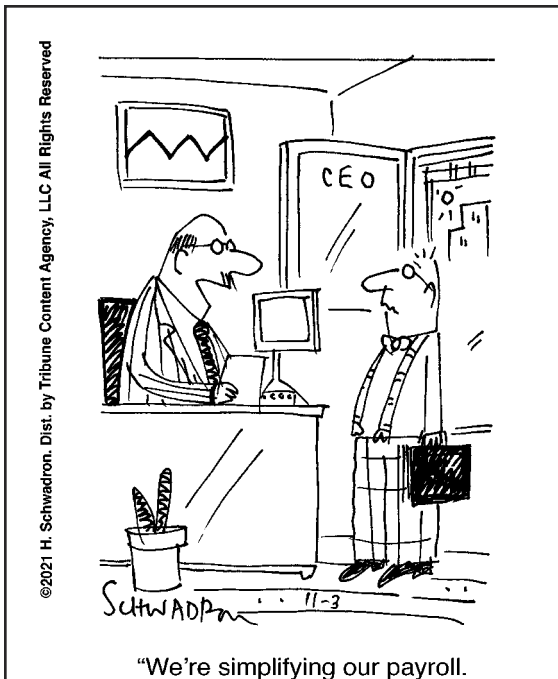
Shorts  
Snorkel  
Splash  
Summer  
Surf  
Swim  
Taffy  
Tans  
T-Shirt

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

Beach  
Bikini

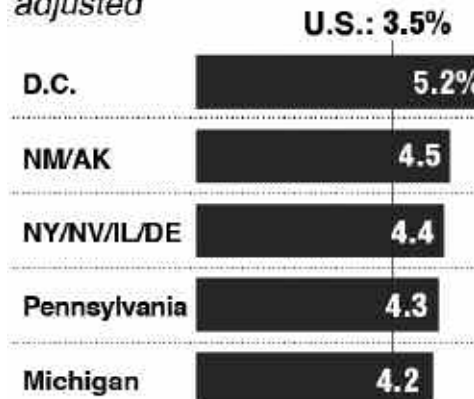
9 to 5 by Harley Schwadron

## Fast Facts



## States with the highest unemployment

Percentage of civilian labor force that was unemployed, July 2022 average, seasonally adjusted



Graphic: TNS  
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics



# A Social Security primer

**Jill Schlesinger**  
*Special to Campus News*

It's been a while since I wrote about Social Security, so in honor of the 85th anniversary of the first time that the U.S. government collected taxes for Social Security - and more importantly, made lump-sum payments to retirees (President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the actual legislation on August 14, 1935) - it's a perfect time for a refresher on the popular benefit.

Social Security is a pay as you go system, which is funded by payroll taxes. That's the Federal Insurance Contributions Act or "FICA" line item you see on your pay stub.

When first conceived, the taxes that came in were immediately converted to outgoing benefits for retirees. The system changed in the ensuing decades in response to demographic shifts and economic conditions.

For many years, there was more money coming into the program than was going out, creating a surplus.

Those surpluses are shrinking, as the massive baby boomer generation continues to retire. Alicia Munnell, the director of the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College, described this situation as "a rat being digested by a snake."

Munnell recently noted that in addition to longer life expectancies, "the combined effects of the retirement of baby boomers and a slow-growing labor

force due to the decline in fertility reduce the ratio of workers to retirees from about 3:1 to 2:1 and raise costs commensurately."

Those additional expenses mean that the Social Security system is falling behind.

According to The 2022 Trustees Report, the Old-Age and Survivors Insurance (OASI) Trust Fund, which pays retirement and survivors benefits, will be able to pay scheduled benefits on a timely basis until 2034. At that time, the fund's reserves will become depleted and continuing tax income will be sufficient to pay 77% of scheduled benefits.

The Trustees note that "Lawmakers have many policy options that would reduce or eliminate the long-term financing shortfalls in Social Security and Medicare."

The possible fixes could include some combination of: raising the level on which FICA taxes are levied (aka "the SS Wage Base", which is currently \$147,000); increasing the current FICA tax rate, which is set by statute at 6.2% for employees and employers, each or 12.4% for self-employed Americans; or raising the retirement age at which you can claim Social Security retirement benefits. In other words, a little tinkering here and there should help solve the problem.

Given that Social Security is not going away, here are a few important things to know about claiming retirement benefits:

- You need to have worked at least 10 years.

- The age at which you can draw benefits varies based on when you were born. Full retirement age (FRA) rises incrementally if you were born from 1938 to 1960 - after that, the age is 67.

- You can claim as early as age 62, but it will be permanently reduced by as much as 25%, which also could affect a non-working spouse.

- Claiming early negatively impacts any income (including wages, bonuses, commissions, and vacation pay - or net earnings if you're self-employed, but not pensions, annuities, investment income, interest, veterans, or other government or military retirement benefits).

- If you are still working and under full retirement age for the entire year, the government deducts \$1 from your benefit payments for every \$2 you earn above the annual limit (\$19,560 for 2022).

- If you delay retirement until after your full retirement age, you are entitled to "delayed retirement benefits," or 8% a year more for each full year that you delay, until age 70.

- When you're ready to apply for retirement benefits, use the government's online retirement application, the quickest, easiest, and most convenient way to apply.

*Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at [askjill@jillmoney.com](mailto:askjill@jillmoney.com).*



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One such region is Washington County in Upstate New York. Its only real newspaper announced it was going out of business in 2019.

Campus News publisher Darren Johnson purchased the rights to the paper and has been slowly bringing it back. Because he's also a college instructor, he has access to lots of quality journalism student writers. But they need to be paid per story.

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This initiative could become a model to help news deserts across the state. A donation of as little as \$25 would fund a quality journalism student to report news in a region that would otherwise be forgotten by media. Thank you!

# Deer appointed officer in charge at Rockland

Rockland Community College's Board of Trustees will vote to appoint Dr. Susan Deer as Officer in Charge at its June 27th Board meeting as the College begins the search for its 8th President. Dr. Deer has served in a leadership capacity in higher education for more than 35 years and has a long history with the College having been hired in 2008 as Dean of Instruction. She has served as Provost since 2013 and was given the additional title of Executive Vice President in 2016. In recognition of her leadership, Dr. Deer was awarded the Catalyst Leadership Award by the American Council of Education as the New York State outstanding woman leader in higher education in 2016.

The Board of Trustees of Rockland Community College (RCC) will also

vote to appoint Dr. Katherine Lynch as Officer in Charge of Academic Affairs at the June 27th meeting. Dr. Lynch will report to Dr. Deer in her new position and will serve on the Executive Cabinet, the College's senior leadership team. In this role, Dr. Lynch will provide administrative leadership and direction for all academic activities and faculty affairs at RCC. Dr. Lynch is an Associate Professor of English at Rockland Community College where she also serves as the Chair of the nationally recognized Sam Draper Honors Program. She was awarded the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2020 and has led RCC's efforts to design and implement a new, mandatory college success course that empowers students to identify their goals early to ensure a more successful college experience.

It is anticipated that both Dr. Deer and Dr. Lynch will begin their new roles on July 1 and will serve until a successor to current RCC President Dr. Michael Baston is selected and assumes office, which is expected to occur on or before July 2023. The two appointees not only share a wealth of experience within RCC but also a deep commitment to the important role that community colleges play for individuals seeking to improve their lives, as well as a clear understanding of Rockland Community College's special place within Rockland County.

"Dr. Deer has had an unwavering commitment to the students of RCC over the past 14 years. The Board of Trustees has full confidence in her ability to lead the College with the support of Dr. Lynch and the entire



Executive Cabinet. Together, they will ensure a seamless transition to the incoming eighth president of the College," stated Martin Wortendyke, Chair of the Board of Trustees.

## Queensborough is No. 1 CC in state

Queensborough Community College is the highest-ranked community college in New York State and is among the best community colleges in the country, according to a report released by WalletHub.com that compares more than 650 community colleges across 19 key indicators of quality and affordability. The data set ranged from the cost of in-state tuition and fees to each college's student-faculty ratio and graduation rates.

It is the fifth year in a row Queensborough has been listed as a top institution of higher education by WalletHub for its education outcomes, career outcomes, and affordability. The Washington DC-based personal finance website reports that community colleges are especially attractive this year to families struggling because of inflation and the fall-out from the pandemic.

Placing first in the state, the 2-year Bayside college is one of the most diverse colleges in America and has a national reputation for the upward mobility of its graduates. When looking

at career outcomes, Wallethub found Queensborough students' median salary, after attending, are among the highest in the country.

"These findings reaffirm Queensborough's commitment to ensuring that every student succeeds through personalized support in a student-centered learning environment that affirms their aspirations and goals," said Dr. Mangino.

With generous financial aid available, about 90% of Queensborough students graduate without having federal loan student debt. The college's fee per credit is as little as \$210, compared to other colleges' undergraduate fees which can be as much as seven times higher in New York City.

The college offers in-person and hybrid classes and more than 40 degrees.

Highly regarded for its accredited Nursing and Psychology programs; Engineering Science; and Art Education that

places it in the same class as Cooper Union, Pratt and FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology), Queensborough provides excellent academic and career-based advantages.

"One of the most important aspects of completing your degree at Queensborough is that it opens doors to further education at the most competitive universities and colleges in the

country," noted Queensborough Vice President & Chief Marketing & Communication Officer, Stephen Di Dio. Queensborough students also graduate to enter careers in Nursing, Media Production, Museum Studies, Com-

puter Engineering Technology and more.



# Part-time students now can get TAP aid

Governor Kathy Hochul announced the launch of the historic \$150 million expansion of New York State's popular Tuition Assistance Program, which will now provide TAP to approximately 75,000 additional students who are pursuing their degree part-time. Expanding Part-Time TAP to fully part-time learners creates pathways to an affordable education for individuals of all ages who are often balancing other responsibilities such as a family and work. Full-time TAP awards can be up to \$5,665 annually for a full-time student; part-time TAP will be available on a pro-rated basis to eligible students taking six to 11 credits per semester with no full-time prerequisite.

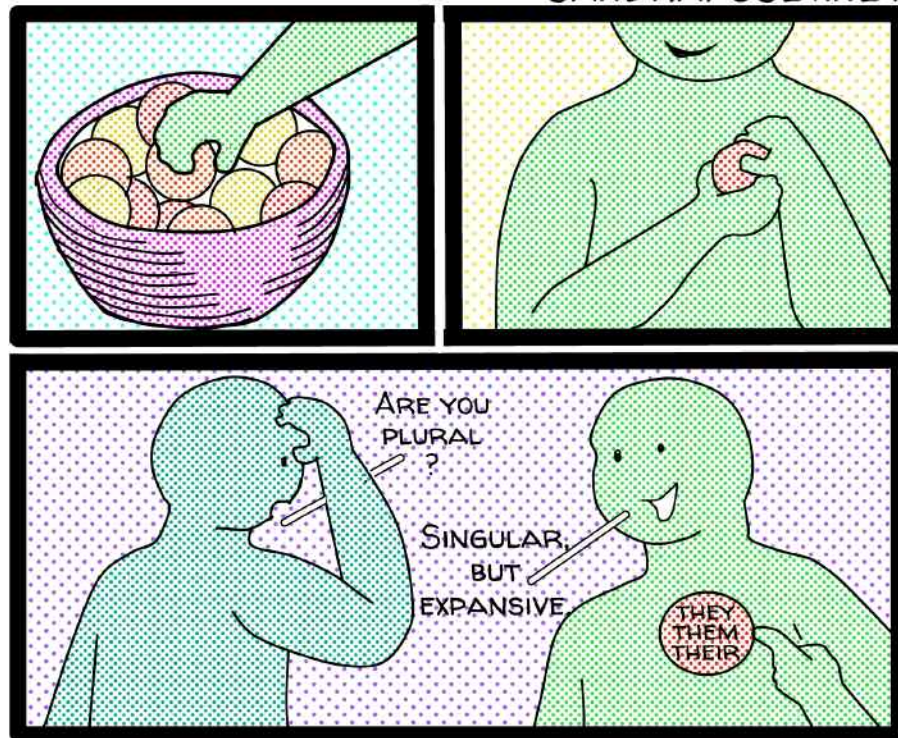
"As Governor, I want to do more than just care for this state today – I want to prepare New York for tomorrow," Governor Hochul said. "Higher education students not only hold the key for our state, but for their families. A degree changes more than just the life of its holder, it changes the lives of those all around them. Every person who calls New York home should have the opportunity to better themselves and invest in their education. My administration is committed to supporting our students in every way possible and I thank my part-

ners in service for making this a reality."

"This unprecedented expansion of TAP to part-time students will have a transformative impact on the lives of thousands of New Yorkers, providing a pathway to upward social mobility and a better-paying jobs, while simultaneously fueling New York's post-pandemic recovery," Chancellor Félix V. Matos Rodríguez said. "We thank Governor Hochul for her leadership and legislators for making it possible for tens of thousands of our part-time students, including parents, to pursue their educational dreams."

Students enrolling in the Fall 2022 semester may apply for part-time TAP by filling out the federal FAFSA application. Once submitted, New York State residents attending NYS campuses can link directly to the TAP application. For students who have already enrolled and submitted their FAFSA for the 2022-2023 academic year, TAP awards will automatically be adjusted based on the number of enrolled credits.

Eligibility for part-time TAP is consistent with full-time TAP awards, which includes residency and income requirements. TAP awards do not need to be repaid by any recipient.



## Students want choice

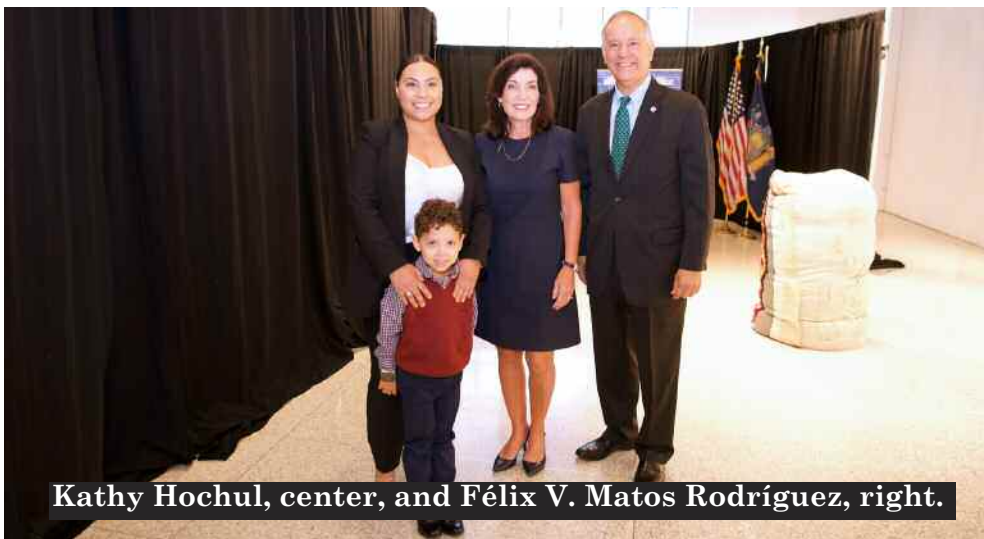
A new survey from BestColleges.com reveals that the U.S. Supreme Court's overturning of Roe v. Wade will impact college students' career and life decisions post-graduation. Most currently enrolled undergraduate and graduate students desire to live (62%) and work (64%) in a state with legal abortion access.

The findings:

- Among current and prospective college students who say they support the Supreme Court's decision to overturn Roe v. Wade, 54% still say they desire to work in a state that legally protects the right to abortion. Current students who identify as women are significantly more likely than men to say they desire to live (69% vs. 53%) and work (69% vs. 56%) in a state with legal abor-

tion access.

- 59% of current students and those who are college-bound say they will consider potential employers' support for employees in obtaining access to abortion when making career decisions post-graduation. Those who live in the Northeast (66%) and West (64%) are more likely than those in the South (55%) and Midwest (52%) to say they will consider this.
- 52% of current students say that the Court's decision will impact the state they choose to live in after college. Most currently enrolled students and those planning to enroll in the next year reported awareness of the abortion laws and regulations in their current (68%) and intended (62%) state of residence.



Kathy Hochul, center, and Félix V. Matos Rodríguez, right.

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