

The Youngtown Edition

COUNTY COLLEGE OF MORRIS AWARD-WINNING STUDENT NEWSPAPER

Candidate reps dish decision 2016 in Dragonetti

BY BETH PETER & TATIANA CAMPIGLIA
Editor-in-Chief, News Editor

Tensions and volume ran high in an election forum in the Dragonetti Auditorium as a representative from each the Clinton and Trump campaigns faced the County College of Morris (CCM) community.

Organized by Mark Washburne, history and political science professor at CCM, the forum on Thursday, Oct. 20 was attended by about 350 students, staff and faculty.

"We do this every four years," Washburne said. "Having our students get engaged and involved in what's going on, I thought that was important."

The representatives on behalf of the presidential candidates are Marc Pindus, a licensed financial adviser who works with the Morris County campaign for Hillary Clinton, and Steven Rogers, who is in charge of the New Jersey outreach program for Donald Trump. Both have experience speaking to students about politics and are embracing the opportunity to speak to a college community.

"A lot of what we're speaking about will have a profound impact on young people," Rogers said. "The choices are going to affect their future, one that they will inherit."

Rogers has written several books and has been a guest on FOX News.

"Young, college aged, new



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

voters have routinely the lowest turnouts in elections and that's concerning," Pindus said. "Hopefully people are encouraged by the process instead of discouraged."

Pindus has hosted two television shows, and has served on many boards.

"Both candidates are pretty well-spoken and they know what they're talking about," Washburne said. "The whole point of this is to get people excited."

There was limited conversation between the students in the audience as the forum began. Washburne opened the event with a few remarks.

"Our purpose in setting up this forum was to learn more from the candidates representatives and where the candidates stand on major issues, and allow you and the audience an opportunity to ask questions on a topic that

is important to you," Washburne said.

Each representative had their own opening remarks regarding their candidates.

Pindus mentioned specifically Clinton's involvement in rebuilding New York City after Sept. 11, 2001 as well as her experience working as secretary of state.

"While Secretary Clinton was in the Senate, she carved out a reputation as someone who will fight for her beliefs, but not be afraid to reach across the aisle to find common ground," said Pindus.

Rogers spoke on Clinton's experience as a career politician, calling into question the motivations of politicians.

"Donald J. Trump has a lot faults, but the man cannot be bought, and he can not be sold," Rogers said.

Students had the opportunity to ask questions and each representative answered within a two minute time limit.

Zahir Jalavar, computer science major at CCM, asked how Americans can trust Hillary Clinton.

"She is telling the people on Wall Street one thing and the people another," Jalavar said.

"The problem with some of these stories that come out it's taken out of context," Pindus said in response. "Sometimes when you are trying to achieve a goal politically from different groups you must use different tactics."

Rogers' response did not support Clinton.

"You can not trust someone who says one thing to special interest and says another to thing to you and to you and to you," Rogers said. "That is what career politicians do, tell them what they want to hear."

Cameron Salo, a political science major at CCM, asked about the lack of civility between the candidates.

"Why have both of your candidates resulted in using name calling instead of speaking on the issues?" Salo said.

Rogers said Trump only attacks people when he is responding to attacks targeted towards him.

"The finger pointing has to come to an end, but these candidates need to defend themselves," Rogers said.

"Finger pointing campaigns have been going on for 200

years," Pindus said. "Is it a good thing? No. is it going to change anytime soon? I don't think so. People get defensive and always go through these character tests."

Rogers was interrupted during a statement by James Bising, history and political science professor at CCM.

"I've heard words from you today, nothing more sane as Donald Trump," Bising said. "I don't want a man like that president of the United States."

Jared Burke, a communication major, responded to the event by commending the representatives' abilities to maintain civil interactions.

"It was more fact based than the presidential debate," Burke said. "All they can do is give the viewpoint of their candidate, but they were still very informational."

The information given in the debate led some students to feel more secure in their political choices.

"This was super informative, I thought they touched more than they do in the presidential debate," said Gigaegi Gaw, a communication major at CCM. "This forum has reinforced my political standpoint, and it made me think about different topics."

Aiden Kenoy, a sociology professor at CCM, said he was impressed with the way the event turned out.

"I thought the forum was a great idea, I was impressed with the questions," Kenoy said.

'Exhausting' election coming to a close

BY MARISA GOGLIA & BRITTANY GRAU
Copy Editor, Contributor

Millennials at County College of Morris will have a decision to make on Tuesday, Nov. 8, on whether or not to vote for experienced businessman, Donald Trump or experienced politician, Hillary Clinton.

For some, neither option is appealing.

"I just don't like my options," said Kelly Harden, an exercise science major. "It is the first year I am old enough to vote and honestly I just don't want to. I think they are both terrible options. I really am just extremely exhausted with hearing about the two candidates, Clinton and Trump, and how they think the other person is not fit for office, or about how when they debate against each other."

According to the Pew Research Center, in the 2008 election, millennials comprised 18 percent of the electorate but only 14 percent said they had actually voted. In 2012, the voter turnout was even worse when only 46 percent of millennials said they voted.

David Pallant, assistant professor of communication at CCM, foresees not only a decline in the millennial vote in the 2016 election, but the average voter turnout may suffer.

"I think this year is a unique year," Pallant said. "We're on a trend for 30 years and there is a lower turnout, with this election. It's not just with millennials. I think there might be a lower turnout across the board, because of the incivility of the campaigns and the media coverage."

There are some students who are still undecided.

"Both candidates make some valid points, but the thing that worries me is who is going to try and help the middle class with tax breaks," said Ryan Sthor, a second year CCM student. "Donald Trump seems to just want to cut taxes for the rich, and if he gets in and that passes, I fear for our generation because I don't know how the middle class would survive that."

After Sen. Bernie Sanders lost the primary in June, Kamali Griffith, a business administration major at CCM, is casting her first ballot for Clinton based on experience.

"I'm such a young voter that I don't really pay attention to all of the issues," Griffith said. "I think since Hillary was secretary of state she does have more experience and Hillary has a better background not only as an attorney, but she also has been in this field for 30 years, compared to Trump who has zero experience. As a busi-

ness person, you're supposed to be strong on, and get your points across. The candidates are supposed to respect each other and give them their two minutes. I'm terrified if Trump goes against other countries and speaks to them because then it's not like a business, it's a nation."

Roman Steindler, a horticulture major at CCM, said this election is critical as the next presidential candidate can select the next Supreme Court justice since the passing of Judge Antonin Scalia.

For Steindler, the issue of the economy and health insurance coincide. According to the U.S. census, 40 percent of our nation's unemployed are millennials.

"Health insurance is something that is important to me and affecting me personally," Steindler said. "I have ADHD and also because I don't have a job right now, being able to have health insurance and having universal healthcare means that I will be able to get my medication. When I get off my parents insurance I'm still going to need the health care, even if I can't get healthcare through my job I need to be able to afford it."

Americans younger than 35 years old placed the economy and jobs as one of the top three issues according to USA Today. Nearly a quarter of millennials listed law

enforcement as their most important issue.

"The most important one for me is police brutality," Steindler said. "It's an issue that needs to be addressed between the candidates."

For her part, Harden said she might consider voting if the process was changed.

"I think that maybe if voting was made easier, or maybe if there was another option to choose from other than the Democratic and Republican candidates, maybe more young people would vote," Harden said. "I know that there is a debate about making voting available online, and I think that maybe if that happened, more young people would vote because this generation is so into technology. Most people today do online banking, so I really don't see why there isn't online voting."

Online voting has been talked about in state legislatures, but it has yet to be put into place. Some people argue that online voting is dangerous and can lead to the system being hacked or compromised; others say that almost everything is done online today, even banking, and it is the job of the security system to protect private information from becoming public or stolen.

Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 8 and the polls are open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

CCM students to skip voting on Election Day

BY JANNAT SHEIKH
Contributor

A variety of reasons have led to some County College of Morris students swearing off the polls during the general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

"Honestly, I don't think I'm going to vote," said Pablo Lorenzo, a 20-year-old biology major at CCM. "I'm not following the campaigns too much, but both candidates are horrible in my opinion. And it really stinks because this is the first time I can vote, but I have terrible choices."

After Sen. Bernie Sanders dropped out of the presidential race, many potential young voters decided that they were better off staying away from the election. The students who no longer want to vote said they feel unrepresented from both the Republican Party and Democratic Party.

"No, I'm not voting," said Mollie Jimenez, a 19-year-old liberal arts major. "I feel unrepresented on both sides."

This year's election is between Donald Trump, the

Republican presidential candidate, and Hillary Clinton, the Democratic presidential candidate.

The students at CCM who are not voting in this election have different reasons for their decision not to vote. Some students, like Lorenzo, said they feel that both candidates are unfit for the presidency. Others, such as Jimenez, do not connect with the candidates. For some, they said they can't seem to find the time to register to get involved.

"I think the registration process takes too long," said Rushina Khan, a 19-year-old liberal arts major at CCM. "I don't really have time to register. I don't believe that our votes count very much at all. I think that Hillary will win regardless of my vote."

Frustrated students, similar to Khan, dislike the registration process. Some young voters also believe that their vote will be worthless.

According to The Washington Post, voter turnout in 2014 was the lowest since World War II. One way to get more young people to vote has been to teach children at a younger age about the importance of voting. Rock the Vote, a youth based voter movement, calculated that near-



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

ly 12,000 people turn 18 in the United States every month; however, many of them have not been informed of the importance of voting.

CCM is a large and diverse learning community of young potential voters. The last day to register to vote in New Jersey was Tuesday, Oct. 18 and only time will tell if the youth apathy exhibited by CCM students translates to national level.

Timeless "West Side Story" comes to CCM

First time the school has repeated a performance

BY AMANDA ALLER
Managing Editor

The classic musical "West Side Story" will transform the Dragonetti Auditorium at County College of Morris into the upper west side of New York where two gangs battle for control of the turf in a modern retelling of the "Romeo and Juliet" tale this November.

The show opens at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 2 and runs through to Saturday, Nov 5. The show also has a 2 p.m. Saturday matinee.

The inspiration for the show came to Professor Marielaine Mammon, director and chair of the music department, when one of her former students, Frank Burns, passed away earlier this year. Burns participated in an earlier production of "West Side Story" at CCM.

Sophia Svitenko, a musical theater major at CCM, said she was impressed with all aspects of the show.

"The direction by Professor Mammon, production, choreography and cast are amazing in this

show and I am so proud to be a part of it," Svitenko said. "We will put our spin on this beloved classic and I know it's going to be a spectacular show, not to be missed."

"West Side Story" will be the first show at CCM to ever be repeated, the former performance being a summer rendition which took place in 1984. There were 67 auditions this year, but only 50 people were chosen. The cast is considerably larger than previous years. The cast is diversified in the types of students who compose it, including majors in computer science, criminal justice, graphic design, media, and game development, among others.

"It's a challenge, not to mention the lyricism of the music which is so timely, especially with all the disruption in the world," Mammon said. "This is the disruption of the American gang and the Puerto Rican gang and it emphasizes the idea of miscommunication, which I try to build into the show."

Melanie Georgens, a music major at CCM, said being a part of the production has been a great learning experience.

"It has shaped me to be the person I am today. "West Side Story" is an amazing thrill. The most important thing I've learned from this musical is that friendship is the most important value, especially when it comes to musical theater," Georgens said. "It can be very competitive but because of it, I know wholeheartedly that I have dear friends that I'll know for the rest of my life."

The students have six weeks of rehearsal after the audition, which was held on the first day of school. Practices are held Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday, roughly from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Anna Hill, a musical theater major at CCM, who plays the female lead Maria said she has admired Maria since she was a little girl.

"She's very relatable, she definitely knows what she wants," Hill said.

To prepare for the role, Hill not only reviewed the script, but saw another company's production.

"I recently saw "West Side Story" at the Paper Mill Playhouse. I researched the time period, as well," Hill said.

Hill said she wanted to ground her character in real emotional experiences.

"Even if I haven't felt all these emotions," Hill said, "I really go to a place in that character, almost soul search a little bit and trying to use different people's experiences and my own to collaborate on playing Maria." There's an open-door policy with auditions so that anyone who is interested can try out for the musical, not just theater students, though being a part of the musical is a core requirement for the performing arts musical theater students. Also included are adults, lawyers, graduates and CCM Challenger students. Jon Reisch, music and liberal arts major at CCM, said it is great to work with people who have more performing skills and experience so the show becomes a learning opportunity.

Mammon uses the show as a teaching tool to show her students that theater is not all fun and games. She blocks a scene once, reviews it and then the students are expected to have it memo-

rized. The students are constantly moving in order to reinforce memorization through muscle memory.

"A musical is different from a drama because not only do you have to memorize the words and the movement, you have to memorize the music as well," Mammon said. "They only have three rehearsals with the orchestra prior to the show, so it's really a learning experience."

Gabe Weiss, a musical theater major, said being a part of the musical taught him not one person can do it all.

"It takes an army to make the magic happen on stage. So much time and energy is being spent for that one opportunity to get it right, that one opening night. When it all comes together it's a dream come true," Weiss said.

Mammon went to school as a music performance major and never thought she was going to teach in a college. She performed frequently throughout high school and college, and was part of the American Opera Center at Juilliard. Mammon also performed on Broadway as Luisa in "The Fantasticks."

"I was brought up with the desire and the love of the stage and that's what I give to my students, so that they can respect and understand the stage as well. In that regard, you understand and respect the efforts that are put in so when you watch someone singing or someone playing, you think," Mammon said. "I know all the hours that go in to do that dance number, to sing that song."

The perspective is something Mammon hopes she can share with her casts.

"The camaraderie, the applause for doing something great that fills you, it just makes you so aware and you want to always be that way. Why can't everybody feel that way all the time? That's what I tell my students," Mammon said. "We do a circle, and in that circle I philosophize and talk so it's not all about directing. I'm trying to make them feel apart of something. I've been so fortunate to build this program. I'm very lucky."

Maggie Yamashita also contributed to this story.

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All students are welcome to contribute articles to The Youngtown Edition either in person or via e-mail. However, students cannot receive a byline if they belong to the organization on which they are reporting. The deadline for articles is the Monday prior to a production.



2016

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Editorial: Vote no matter what

The things we hear around campus about the upcoming presidential election are, honestly, terrifying. Whether it's students saying they are going to write in a candidate who did not earn the nomination from their party, or students saying they are not going to vote at all the responses to this election have become some dramatic, reactionary statements that people don't even fully understand the ramifications of.

Let's take this piece by piece.

Say last spring you were #FeelTheBern. And now Sen. Bernie Sanders does not have a place on your ballot.

You should not react to this by writing his name in.

First, because Sanders wants you to vote for Hillary Clinton. Back in July when she became the Democratic nominee for president, Sanders spoke at a joint rally in New Hampshire and said "I have come here to make it as clear as possible why I am endorsing Hillary Clinton and why she must become our next president," Sanders said.

Secondly, because write-ins for president don't work the way you may want them to work. Eight states do not allow write-in candidates. In 34 states, a candidate must file paperwork to be considered a viable write-in. Sanders has not done that, because he does not want you to write him in. While New Jersey does not put those restrictions on candidate write-ins, it is only one of eight states that has no restrictions. That is not enough to win Sanders the presidency.

Maybe instead of writing in a candidate, you plan on voting for a third party candidate. That way you don't have to choose between the "lesser of two evils," and you can support someone with whom you agree. Except for how that has a tendency to backfire.

In the 2000 election between Al Gore and George W. Bush, a Green Party candidate named Ralph Nader may have changed the outcome of the election simply by winning votes. At the time, many younger voters claimed Gore didn't impress them and they gravitated towards the more liberal Nader. The argument is that votes that went towards Nader were then being directly taken away from Gore, which contributed to the Bush win.

Whether the third party candidate you're leaning towards is liberal or conservative, voting for them is making it harder for the candidate with whom you most agree to win.

Now let's address the "I'm not voting" camp.

Some of you say you feel disenfranchised by the entire political process. Some say you're making a statement. Still others claim you do not know enough about the candidates to make an educated vote.

To all of you we say - VOTE.

The political process is only as broken as we allow it to be. This election not only decides who becomes the next president, but also local congressional races, Morris County Sheriff, and three county Freeholders. Mayoral and council seats are also up for grabs, as are board of education slots. If you feel so disenfranchised by the election that you are abstaining from voting for president, that's your choice. But the best way to combat that helplessness is by voting for local representatives. Vote for people who stand for the same goals and ideals as you do. The system is not supposed to be a top-down organization wherein the president is the end-all, be-all for your day-to-day life. It's a bottom-up structure, where change starts with local representatives who either support candidates in other offices with your best interest in mind, or become successful enough as to move up through the system. But none of that can happen if you sit complacently and ignorantly.

There is no statement in not voting. Think - when television anchors and online blogs speak about young people failing to show up to the polls, do they discuss why voters feel so unrepresented in government that they won't even vote? Or do they brush it off as laziness or apathy? The only way to prove them wrong and to actually make a statement is to vote.

And finally, to those of you who are worried about your lack of knowledge on the candidates, we have great news for you - this is the age of Google. The platforms of every candidate running, from local government all the way up, are available through a quick Google search. If that's too complicated, sites like isidewith.com and ontheissues.org allow you to take a quiz on policy that will match you to the party and candidate with whom you most align - they even have information on each topic to break down ideas that you may not be familiar with.

Please take the time to make an educated choice. And then, on Tuesday, Nov. 8, go to your local polling center and vote.

Get over it and vote

BY RUSS CRESPOLINI

Faculty Adviser

The Youngtown Edition is a completely student run and student assembled news product that features content for and by County College of Morris (CCM) students, mostly.

Beyond the occasional letter to the editor, there really hasn't been much content generated by the faculty, but the reaction I have seen running up to this year's general election in both the Youngtown newsroom and my CCM classrooms has forced me to submit this column for consideration.

For those of you who don't know me (and that is the vast majority of you) I have been an adjunct faculty member at several schools and an editor at various news media organizations for the past 15 years. I have covered many elections in multiple counties and multiple states in that time. What I have witnessed over the past year or so has prompted me to share some thoughts on the upcoming general election on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Before we go any further, let me be extremely clear: this is not a political post. I am not taking any sides or championing any positions. I simply want to urge everyone who might stumble across this column to get out and vote on Election Day.

Now I have heard on campus, both directly and indirectly, many students saying that they will not be participating in the process next month. Setting aside the fact that this is an insult to all of the men and women who have sacrificed so we have the liberties we have and the right to vote, I would like to take a moment to discuss how ridiculous that position is.

One of the most common things I hear from CCM students is now that Sen. Bernie Sanders is out of the election, with his glittering promises of free tuition and tough talk about the banking industry, no one is left to represent their interests. Indeed, many students have said that both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton are so deplorable to them that they can't see themselves voting for these candidates.

Really?

You are so well-versed in both of their plans and policies and you haven't found anything that puts one ahead of the other? Not one thing from the Trump or Clinton camp aligns with your goals or beliefs? For the vast majority of you that were staunch Bernie supporters, that seems hard to believe. But let's say for a minute that is true. You are aware that you vote for more than just the president on Nov. 8, right?

The vast majority of CCM students reside in Morris County. This November, several Morris County Freeholders are up for reelection and are running in contested races. The same Freeholders that control funding that pays for \square of the CCM funding formula. I'm guessing those who plan to forgo the election process this year don't know what candidates stand for what and what their thoughts on CCM funding is.

I am also betting these same students who won't be voting this year don't know who their mayor is or their town council members or whether or not they are in contested elections and what that impact might be.

And this is where we've really failed in terms of understanding our role in democracy. This was never designed to be a top down system, where we put all of our emphasis at the top and hope that the "right" candidate's decisions trickle down to impact our everyday lives.

No, we were designed to be a system built from the ground up, where our representatives from the local level work up the chain to represent our issues on a state and federal level.

Not being informed and not participating causes the system to fail. The system isn't broken, our participatory model is, and it is up to us to correct it.

Much like the vast majority of students are unaware of the Freeholder race and the potential impact to them, they are also ignorant of their local governing bodies and what their decisions mean for them.

This needs to change.

If there is a candidate on the national level that you supported and is no longer in the running, find out who locally was going to be a delegate for them, or supported them in the issues that mattered to you.

And then go to the polls and vote for them.

If you were turned off completely by the national candidates, find local candidates that align with your interests and beliefs.

And then go to the polls and vote for them.

In my classrooms I have heard students who spend hours upon hours on social media complain that registering to vote "took too much time." I've had students comment during the last general election that "my boy Bernie has it in the bag" before he was even eligible to be voted for.

This dangerous combination of apathy and ignorance is a much greater threat to our future than voting for what might be perceived as the "wrong" choice for Commander-in-Chief.

Regardless of what your political affiliation might or might not be, you have been afforded the chance to make a difference and have a real say in things that directly impact the lives of you and your loved ones.

Get over your bias, get informed on your candidates and get out and vote. It really is just that simple.

The system isn't broken, your approach is.

Russ Crespolini is the faculty adviser for The Youngtown Edition and can be reached at rccrespolini@ccm.edu.

Satire: Haunted Parking Lot 1 Staircase Closed

BY MOE RAHMATULLAH

Satire Editor

The middle lane of the parking lot 1 stairs were closed indefinitely on Tuesday following reports of paranormal shenanigans in recent months.

"We had to make a swift and final decision to slap some caution tape over the stairs while we take a few months to mull over various options in this situation," said an anonymous campus security source. "I'll be honest, we've never dealt with a haunting before so we really just have to give ourselves a healthy amount of time to make sure we take the best action. We will revisit this case at an undetermined future date with a plan that will be solid."

Over 250 reports have been filed with campus security as students and faculty across the campus have come forth with chilling accounts of incidents that have occurred while accessing the stairs.

"I was texting while going down the stairs and the next thing I know I'm on the floor bleeding profusely," said Sam Wong, a business administration major. "When it's not making me trip, I find myself huffing and puffing while climbing them. They're a real hassle to climb."

Stranger still, several students report the effects of the haunting lingering days or even weeks, evolving into more of a curse situation. Some claim that the stairs have impacted their sleeping patterns, damaged their familial relationships, and even caused them to fail tests.

"The haunted staircase is ruining my life," said Tommy Dilong, a music major. "I walked down them last week and since then I've been staying up late every night playing video games. I've failed three tests in the last week. My parents are thinking



PHOTO BY MOE RAHMATULLAH

about kicking me out of the house."

Complaints have been mounting that the stairs have caused all manner of chaos on campus ranging from the geese overpopulation crisis, several instances of students being tardy to class and cafeteria food being overcooked. Further, the printer in the study room across from the Cohen cafeteria is jammed again and a toilet in one of the restrooms has overflowed. All of these incidents can be tenuously linked back to the lot 1 staircase haunting.

The CCM community is taking steps to stave off any bad mojo by lining windows and doors with salt and pumping holy water through the sprinklers and activating them at night until campus security gets the situation under control.

Top paranormal investigators from around the nation are being hired by campus security as paid consultants to investigate the matter. The consensus generally seems to be that they need another \$1,599.99 wired to their accounts through Western Union by Thursday before they can be sure of anything.

Creepy clowns concern CCM community

BY JANNAT SHEIKH

Contributor

Students attending County College of Morris have been feeling uneasy regarding the recent clown sightings occurring across the country.

The “Creepy Clown” phenomenon has spread throughout the country since this past summer. In multiple states, people



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

have been reporting seeing clowns standing on the side of roads at night, in parking lots, outside schools and near the woods. These sightings have caused lockdowns at schools and panic in public areas. These clown sightings are on the rise; however, it is hard to distinguish whether the clowns are creepy or truly dangerous.

CCM students are concerned for their safety and the safety of their community. While there are professional clowns trying to work peacefully, some clowns have intended to scare people by chasing and watching them from the woods. Students have expressed fear that this may lead to confusion and chaos on Halloween.

“I think it’s scary,” said Rose Schult, a nursing major at CCM. “I think a lot less people will go trick-or-treating since it would be easy to be lured by a clown on Halloween.”

Schult said that it would be unsafe for many trick-or-treaters if the potentially dangerous clowns are out Halloween night. There is a theory as to why there have been so many creepy clown encounters. Like Schult, some people believe that it is a movie publicity stunt.

“But, I think a lot of it has to do with the movie ‘It’ coming out,” Schult said. “I think some

people are starting to fake it now by dressing up as clowns.”

Some students believe that social networking has a hand in the spread of this clown epidemic.

“Social media is definitely hyping it up,” said Rafia Khan, a business administration major at CCM. “We live in a world where every moment is captured and talked about on social media.”

There are some Facebook, Instagram and Twitter accounts that post where the clowns might show up and where they have shown up. Khan said these online posts should be taken seriously in case there is a dangerous clown nearby.

Other students said they felt that this clown situation has gone on for too long.

“I feel like people are taking the fear of clowns to an extreme and giving it more publicity, creating a movement,” said Kim Trochez, a criminal justice major at CCM. “People who are afraid of clowns are putting [the clowns] in a defensive position and possibly critically hurting those who are dressed as clowns.”

It is difficult to determine which clown is the professional and which is the menace. In some states, clowns have been seen with weapons according to news reports. However, there are professional clowns who feel that the creepy clown sightings are drag-

ging good clowns down, according to the New York Daily News.

Although CCM has not had a frightening clown sighting, students believe that it is important to take the matter seriously. According to USA Today, people must assess the situation according to the clown’s appearance. It is important to be aware of one’s surroundings.

With clown sightings on the rise, CCM Director of Public Safety Harvey Jackson released a statement to the campus community.

“Law Enforcement has dubbed these reports as nothing more than pranks meant to scare people,” said Jackson in the release. “While it is important to understand that these reports involve mostly copy-cat thrill seekers, it is possible someone will use this as an opportunity to commit a crime in the future. While responding to these reports has been draining on law enforcement resources, it is still important to report these sightings so officers can confirm that there is no threat. It is advised to avoid anyone dressed like a clown in odd areas. With Halloween approaching, it is expected that sightings will increase.”

Jackson also offered suggestions for keeping safe on campus.

• Be aware of your surroundings at all times and report suspi-

cious activity to Public Safety at 973-328-5550.

• If you feel you are in danger at anytime call 911.

• Have the Public Safety phone number programmed into your phone 973-328-5550.

• Know where the emergency call boxes are located on campus (blue lights parking lots).

• Walk in lighted areas as much as possible and don’t walk too close to bushes, alleyways or other places where someone might be concealed.

• Use the buddy system when walking after dark. There’s safety in numbers.

“The college assures students that there have not been any reported crimes on or nearby campus by anyone dressed as a clown,” said Jackson. “The CCM Public Safety will alert the campus community in the event any real threat is confirmed.”

Those who need to can contact the CCM Public Safety Dept if you have any questions or concerns at 973-328-5550.

CCM soccer teams make NJCAA playoffs

BY BRETT FRIEDENSOHN

Sports Editor

As County College of Morris’ fall sports teams prepared for their regular seasons to end, the men’s and women’s soccer teams advanced to the National Junior College Athletic Association’s playoffs, where they will vie for the NJCAA Region XIX Championship, and volleyball failed to qualify for the playoffs.

Men’s soccer qualified for the playoffs Saturday, Oct. 15 with a 7-0 win over Cumberland County College which brought their record to 5-5 in the region and 6-5 overall. Women’s soccer advanced with a 2-0 win over Rhode Island Community College (CCRI) Sunday, Oct. 15, bringing their record to 1-4 in the region and 8-5 overall. Volleyball’s 26-28, 20-25, 19-25 loss to Montgomery County Community College Tuesday, Oct. 11 brought the team’s record to 0-1 in the region and 0-9 overall.

Men’s soccer head coach Dan Moylan said after his team’s win over Cumberland CC that his team will focus on each playoff game as it comes.

“We’re just gonna take it one game at a time,” Moylan said. “Our main goal was to get into the playoffs. We’ll see where the draw comes out next week, and then, you just survive and advance, just take it one

game at a time. That’s our goal: Take it. Whatever that team is, we’ll focus on that team, and hopefully, we’ll move on from there.”

Women’s soccer head coach Roger Stevens said that his team’s biggest struggle this season has been injuries, citing that his team began its season with 16 players and lost three, but he also said that his team has played well.

“Injuries are tough to come back from just because we don’t have 22 players on the roster or 24, which we really, ideally would like,” said Stevens. “Now, we’re down to 13 which doesn’t give us a lot of flexibility to adjust, but they’ve been playing well. Any of the games in the season that we lost, we had chances in those games, so they easily could have went the other way.”

Women’s soccer forward and psychology major Zabrina Gale said before her team’s win over CCRI that she believed her team can advance to the playoffs and that in order to do so, her team needed to work cohesively.

“I think we can make it to regions,” said Gale. “It’s just a matter of everyone showing up and everyone playing as a team and working hard, and I honestly think that we could possibly make it to regions and even possibly farther than that if we make it as a team.”

HOW TO: Halloween party on a budget

BY AMANDA ALLER

Managing Editor

Many students find themselves scared away from celebrating Halloween due to low budget, but that doesn’t need to be the case with these tips and tricks. College students at County College of Morris can throw a great Halloween party that’s as fun as it is cost effective.

First, don’t be afraid to delegate party responsibilities. Food is a key aspect to every social gathering, so turn it into a potluck. That way, everyone can bring their favorite dinner food, dessert or beverage. If that’s not possible, make the party a late night affair so people have already had dinner and the only thing left for you to do is leave out some inexpensive appetizers.

Decorations are essential for creating the perfect party atmosphere, although spending the extra money on items that you only use once a year can be daunting. This is where shopping at the last minute can actually save you time and stress, because Halloween items usually go on sale on Oct. 31, which means you won’t have to spend those extra hours searching for affordable decorations. Stores don’t want to hold onto items until next year, so the discounts can be astronomical.

“I would recommend going to the dollar store to get decorations and candy. You wouldn’t expect them to have as many decorations as they do,” said Ivy Kelly, a fine arts major at CCM.

Not only can you head to a dollar store, but you can also go to local thrift stores, yard sales or church rummage sales, as well as department stores like Michael’s, JoAnne’s Fabrics, or websites like “wholesalehalloweencostume.com,” which sells items at low retail prices.

Don’t be afraid to make your party a costume party! You’re never too old to go all out, and this is a great way to create a festive Halloween atmosphere without spending the extra money. Besides, who doesn’t appreciate a creative DIY Halloween costume?

“The best Halloween party I’ve been to was freshmen year when everyone was still into Halloween and everyone put effort into their costume,” said JD Keyes, a biology major at CCM. “There was food all decorated in a Halloween theme and lots of decorations that were handmade or bought from Party City.”

Don’t feel like wearing a costume? Create or set up a cool Halloween themed tapestry or wall to take pictures with your friends in front of. One thing millennials love more than a good party, is a great picture that sums up the night. Get creative and don’t underestimate how much people will appreciate your efforts.

Decorations aside, you can always add to the festive ambience by playing a classic horror film in the background if you’re indoors. If your party’s outside, create a spooky playlist to get everyone into the Halloween spirit. Don’t have a speaker? Ask someone. People will love to join in on ensuring a successful party.

“The best Halloween party I’ve been to was actually one of the most chill. Me and my five best friends got some really big candy bars for the trick-or-treaters and we had a good time watching scary movies in my friend’s basement,” said Angele Frugone, a broadcasting major. “It really matters who you’re with.”

That being said, while material things are important to create a great party atmosphere, nothing is more important than inviting people who you know, trust and genuinely enjoy. Don’t be afraid to ask for help, because most people will be glad to be apart of the DIY Halloween masterpiece that you’ve created.

MEN’S SOCCER RECORD

Regional: 5-5
Overall: 6-5



PHOTO COURTESY OF FACEBOOK

WOMEN’S SOCCER RECORD

Regional: 1-4
Overall: 8-5