“Extra Life” event triples donations in second year

BY MATTHEW BRISTOL
Distribution Manager

For the second year in a row, the 24-hour streamer event of “Extra Life” has continued to raise money for the children’s miracle network. The overall donations tallied at $2,422, tripling the donations from last year’s event.

Extra Life began in 2008 as a way to help generate money for the “Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals” and raises millions each year for these hospitals. The money is distributed to local hospitals where the participants are based. This process helps make sure that while they may be a massive nationwide company, the money that goes to them still helps your local community. According to Extra Life’s website over 100,000 people participate in the 24-hour video game live stream every year, including large entities such as the comedy production group, “Rooster teeth.”

The night at CCM had a record turnout of nearly 75 individuals attending, the night was a rousing time of board games, video games, and card games. Though by 3 a.m. many individuals either packed it up and others chose to drive off to get themselves some coffee. The most common question that was heard when cleaning up, was people asking “When did I fall asleep?” as they finally got up off the floor they had dozed off on. This year many had learned their lesson from last and chose to get a good night’s sleep in a quiet and cozy place. It’s surprising how well you can sleep when exhausted, even in a room with flashing lights and the sounds of video games. The night was highlighted by the “Trading Card Game Club” having their Magic the Gathering play event, and also by the participation of CCM makes and game development clubs. These clubs helped to bring the VR headsets to the event and introduced many students to the fascinating concepts of how VR and VR games work. Even some professors got a chance to drop by, say hello, play a few games and enjoy their time.

“CCM’s second Extra Life was a rousing success,” said Eric Guadara, professor who teaches game design here at CCM. “We raised nearly three times as much money as we raised last year and saw a huge turnout of good people playing games for a good cause. Everyone is already excited for next year’s event, but for now, I think many of us are just happy to catch up on some sleep.”

Peeking through the iron curtain CCM legacy project offers viewing of “Karl Marx City”

BY NICK DUA
Staff Writer

The County College of Morris’ Legacy Project extracurricular initiative hosted an event off-campus at the Morris Museum’s Bickford Theatre, located in Morristown, New Jersey. The event included a film screening of a documentary titled Karl Marx City, followed by a Q&A with filmmakers Petra Epperlein, and Michael Tucker.

Karl Marx City is based on Epperlein’s childhood and being raised in communist East Germany, also known as the German Democratic Republic (GDR). Today, Karl Marx City is known as Chemnitz.

The film takes a look at daily life living behind the Iron Curtain, which was a term used that separated the capitalist nations of the west and the communist nations of the east. The line divided Germany into two counties. According to the museum’s website, the advertisement for the screening stated; “Twenty-five years after the collapse of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), filmmaker Petra Epperlein returns to the Protestant Oz of her childhood to find the truth about her late father’s suicide and his rumored Stasi past. Had he been an informant for the secret police? Was her childhood an elaborate fiction? As she looks for answers in the Stasi’s extensive archives, she pulls back the curtain of her own nostalgia and enters the parallel world of the security state, seeing her former life through the lens of the oppressor.”

As it turned out, Epperlein’s father was an alleged informant for the Stasi, the GDR’s secret police, which her family discovered for the Stasi, the GDR’s secret police. Her family was thankful for the Stasi, the GDR’s secret police. 

CONTINUED IN ‘CURTAIN’, PAGE 7

PHOTOS BY ERIC GUADARA
Students get their geek on discussing superhero movies

BY KATRINA IRHIN
Contributor

Since the financial success of the Marvel Cinematic Universe superhero movies have been coming out one after another with at least 14 movies set to be released by 2022. Students at County College of Morris have diverse preferences when it comes to superhero/comic book movies.

Jayelee Domenick, a business administration student, has seen “Joker.” In fact, she said that this film is her most favorite out of any of the Batman-related movies.

She said that she has seen other Batman movies, but this one is “by far the most intriguing one.” In fact, the 19-year-old said that she would watch it “plenty of times.” There are reasons she enjoys this film so much. She appreciated the movie because of the fact that it is plausible and its uniqueness from other superhero films.

She said that she was happy she saw the film, even though she was apprehensive to see it at first because it could have potentially been like more mainstream comic book movies. She also appreciates the fact that, in terms of the Joker character, this movie gives him a background, and that “it could actually have happened to somebody.”

Unlike Domenick, Gabriel Morante, an engineering science student, has not seen “Joker” yet; however, he has seen DC’s “The Dark Knight,” directed by Christopher Nolan. He is a fan of the film.

“The Dark Knight” “[is] such a good movie,” the 21-year-old said. He reported that his favorite portrayal of the Joker character is the one from “The Dark Knight,” starring Heath Ledger.

Despite him being a fan of the DC film, his favorite superhero movie comes from another movie company, Marvel. Specifically, he is a fan of the first “Iron Man” movie, directed by Jon Favreau.

The 21-year-old said that he enjoys “Iron Man,” because he has a really good memory of when he saw it. He also thinks that Robert Downey Jr., who plays the main character Iron Man/Tony Stark, is a good actor. Like Morante, Elysa Schuchmann, a math education major, has not seen “Joker.” However, she has seen other movies with the Joker character in it, including “Suicide Squad,” directed by David Ayer.

“I liked it. I thought it was interesting,” the student said about the movie. She also said that the Joker in that film is her favorite portrayal of the character.

Despite her being a fan of the DC film, her favorite superhero/comic book media company is Marvel. She enjoys the “Captain America” movies, especially “Captain America: The First Avenger” (directed by Joe Johnston), because of their historical aspects.

She explains why the comics were made. They were made because when people were in a challenging historical situation, the comics would give them hope that there would be a better outcome and that they had people fighting with them.

THE YOUNGTOWN EDITION
The Student Newspaper of the County College of Morris

County College of Morris • SCC 129
214 Center Grove Rd., Randolph, NJ 07869-2086
Email: youngtownedition@gmail.com

All students are welcome to contribute articles to The Youngtown Edition either in person or via email. 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 publication.

letters to the editor

Letters must include the writer’s full name to be considered for publication. All letters may be edited. Not all letters may be published.

Submit your letter by emailing youngtownedition@gmail.com
Raging wildfires, torrid droughts, mass migration, these are just a few examples of climate change being an issue that needs to be addressed in the present and not some issue for humanity to kick the proverbial can down the road. According to the United States Forest Service and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, as of November 11, there are currently three wildfires blazing in California engulfing a total acreage of around 14,000 acres.

John Abatzoglou, a climate researcher at the University of Idaho, told the media outlet Vox that California wildfires are becoming more disastrous due to impacts from climate change like hotter temperatures leading to an increase in drier regions. "I don’t know that people have taken to heart that wildfires are worse and worse in part because of climate change and not getting better anytime soon," Abatzoglou said. "Take hot air and no rain and moisture evaporating from trees, shrubs, and soil. After a series of long, expansive, hot, dry spells, trees and shrubs will be transformed into ideal tinder to feed a fire. The bigger the area affected, the more available fuel. All you need then is a spark, which could come from a power line failure, a cigarette, or a fire-cracker."

Transitioning from the raging fires of California to the city of Chennai, India’s sixth-largest city and major tourist hub, has now run out of freshwater back in June, leaving its population of 4.6 million people to suffer from severe water shortages, amid one of India’s longest heatwaves and after years of limited rainfall in the region.

According to reports from the Times of India, water tanker trucks are now the only source for water in the city and as a result of the shortage, the once peaceful tourist metropolis has turned into a desperate militarized zone due to the increase in crime over valuable water.

Chennai is a recent example of an overarching problem that has been impacting India whereby current Indian state government estimations find that over 600 million Indians are facing extreme water shortages throughout the country due to lackluster monsoon seasons within the last three years, and according to their recent estimates about 21 cities will run out of groundwater by the end of 2020.

With devastating events like widespread wildfires and countrywide water shortages, mass migration may be the only solution for people in these dire conditions. According to the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) 16.1 million people have been displaced due to weather-related disasters like droughts, flooding, and wildfires. Due to the wildfires, California accounted for roughly 350,000 of the displacements.

John Podesta, the founder of the Center for American Progress, wrote an article for the Brookings Institute about the need for the world to recognize that climate change will increase displacement due to natural disasters along with increasing the number of humanitarian crises due to the lack of resources that result from the effects of climate change. "It is increasingly clear that climate change is contributing to so-called slow onset events such as desertification, sea-level rise, ocean acidification, air pollution, rain pattern shifts and loss of biodiversity," Podesta said. "This deterioration will exacerbate many humanitarian crises and may lead to more people being on the move.”

Podesta also wrote that there is currently no legal framework established in the international community that addresses the current and ongoing issues that are caused by the climate crisis. “Moreover, neither a multilateral strategy nor a legal framework exists to account for climate change as a driver of migration,” Podesta said. "Whether in terms of limited access to clean water, food scarcity, agricultural degradation, or violent conflict, climate change will intensify these challenges and be a significant push factor in human migration patterns."

According to U.N reports the climate displacement crisis will continue to get worse since they estimate that by the year 2050 there could be upward of one billion people displaced due to climate-related issues. At the moment the term “Climate Refugees” has no legal description in the international community, and because of this, no one can apply for asylum on the sole grounds of being displaced from climate change, despite the ever growing climate-related displacements. Climate change is not an issue for the future it is an issue for the present. Solutions for climate change should not only be preventative measures, but they must also be reactive measures because the impacts of climate change are already impacting the world.
How to start a gratitude journal

BY ALEXA WYSZKOWSKI
Editor-in-chief

With Thanksgiving around the corner and 2019 coming to an end soon, now may be the perfect time to start a gratitude journal. By being able to write down what you are grateful for, thankful and appreciative of it can help create a greater sense of happiness, self-worth, and reflection. According to npr.org, there are studies that have found that people who write down what they are thankful for tend to have less stress, sleep better and have better relationships with their family and friends.

When starting a gratitude journal, you can either start a new journal or just use the pages within your weekly planner or on your monthly calendar. In the beginning, it may be good to start by writing one sentence per day and as time goes on you can write more. One idea when first starting out is to use a monthly calendar spread to write one sentence in each box about something from each day you are thankful for. With a weekly planner each day you can journal under each day where you have blank space. In a blank or lined journal, you can number each line or every other line with the days of the month, to help guide you to have at least a sentence for each day.

If you need some prompts to help you get started with what to write about or to write more than a sentence a day, Dani DiPirro, the owner of positivelypresent.com does a gratitude challenge every November on her website and social media accounts. She offers single word prompts, as well as more detailed prompts with questions to get the writing and creative process going. She even suggests using the prompts for not only writing but to create artwork and photos.

There is no exact way to keep a gratitude journal, but doing it on a daily or even weekly basis can help maintain a routine for appreciation and reflection. Then after journaling for a while you can go back and read everything you have written and be thankful for all the good things in your life that you recorded.
CCM Club Profile: National Society of Leadership and Success helping students

BY GIANNA GILLESPIE
Contributor

The presence of clubs and organizations within colleges increases as students become more involved around campus. Among these facilities is County College of Morris, which is currently home to more than forty-five student clubs. CCM’s website provides an extensive and varied selection of student clubs that anyone can join. The option to create a new club is also available for students looking to start a new organization.

Founded in 2001, The National Society of Leadership and Success is an organization that reached CCM in the fall of 2018. According to its website, the NSLS currently has 1,110,517 nationwide members. Select CCM students are included within this growing amount of participants.

Don Phelps, the advisor of the NSLS club and director of Campus Life at CCM, provided information regarding this group at CCM.

“There are really two major benefits of joining,” Phelps said. “It helps students with their transfer applications to four-year schools, and the eleven hours of leadership training can assist students in gaining some necessary skills.

Phelps explained that the only substantial setback NSLS is currently facing at CCM is the lack of training completion by members; after receiving their letter of eligibility, students must complete the steps to become an inducted member. Besides this, he noted that the outlook for NSLS at CCM is promising.

Vincento Ventricelli, a CCM student majoring in engineering science, is an active member of the NSLS.

“I joined NSLS for multiple reasons,” Ventricelli said. “The communication and leadership skills provided through this opportunity can benefit students going into any career.”

The prospective electrical engineer mentioned his recent acceptance to SUNY Maritime College and is grateful for the advantages he was able to utilize through NSLS, such as credibility on his application. Ventricelli emphasized that the professionalism and people skills learned through NSLS are crucial to all students.

Danielle DiMaggio is a student enrolled at CCM for nursing and is also a member of NSLS.

“I received a letter in the mail about NSLS,” DiMaggio said. “NSLS can be helpful for students when it comes to possible grants and can be useful when creating a resume.”

DiMaggio confirmed that she will be officially inducted into NSLS in January of 2020.

Whether students opt to join a national organization, such as NSLS, or a more localized group within their college, the inclusion of club membership on any resume or application proves beneficial. As students develop new interests and grow as individuals, the creation of student organizations will continue to flourish. Students of all majors and experience to consider joining one or more of the bountiful clubs within the college.
Students reflect on their first college semester

BY EMILY SEBIRI
Contributor

With the semester quickly coming to an end, first-year students at County College of Morris are considering the stresses of college life and new responsibilities. Some first-year students attribute their newfound sense of responsibility to the academic opportunities that life after college offers.

"Moving on from high school to college honestly helped me focus on education more," said Amro Elkhouly, a biotechnology major at CCM. "I feel like I am going into the real world now, so it counts." Elkhouly exemplifies how moving on from high school routines to more engaging and difficult school causes students to become more attentive toward their work. While the real world may seem scary to some, many chose to embrace this new chapter of life and explore new endeavors. Moreover, Elkhouly also demonstrates a huge contrast between the grading systems within colleges as opposed to high school.

"As a college student, there are fewer assignments that weigh more, so [it's] also stressful to do well on them."

From left to right: Zachary Bryjak, Visual Arts major; Brendan Kerr, Criminal Justice major; and Amanda Seminara, Landscaping major.

While high school may seem like more work, many college professors only offer four or five major assessments per semester. Consequently, the pressure to do well on each test is far greater than that of high school. How successful one can be at college is immensely influenced by how much time and effort one puts into their work.

Some students favor the independence and freedom that college has to offer. A more career-centered curriculum also makes way for fewer distractions which allow for the completion of further notable work than in prior schooling.

"At college, you’re more on your own, no one is holding your hand," said Oscar Vasquez, a business administration major at CCM. He goes on to say how it is, "better than high school because there aren’t [as] many distractions."

Being hyper focused at a university level motivates many students and enables them to become better learners. The liberation from being coddled may be beneficial to people who are more functional learners with less structure and assistance.

After conferring with his students, Dr. Drew Appleby, professor at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, published his findings on how high schoolers differentiate learning from the previous schooling to college-level classes.

"Students said that both the amount and difficulty of the work they were required to do in college classes had increased significantly from high school," wrote Appleby. "The most commonly cited difference between how learning takes place in high school versus college was that more responsibility is placed on students to learn on their own in college."

Appleby’s findings echo those of CCM students like Elkhouly who emphasize the importance of independent learning in college as well as the rigor of the work, both in and out of the classroom.

Working harder and with fewer distractions seem to be aiding students by producing more intelligent work. With the liberation of a controlling high school environment, students at CCM are taking advantage of the independence they are gaining.

Opinion: Is transferring worth it for you?

BY LUNA WROBLEWSKI
Photographer

Have you ever thought about what it might be like to go to a four-year school? What is it like to dorm and live your life on campus? Have you ever thought about transferring? According to the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, about 24 percent of students transfer to a four-year school within 10 years after starting at a community college. But how many students from CCM transfer? According to the County College of Morris graduate survey put out by Career Services, about 81 percent of CCM graduates go on to earn higher degrees.

Some of the benefits to transferring are working towards a bachelor’s degree. If you have already received an associate or completed two years at community college, you are already halfway to your bachelors. You also save a lot of money compared to the costs that freshmen and sophomores spend at a four-year college.

But what are some of the disadvantages? The costs of a four-year school are a lot higher compared to what community college students are used to paying. We could argue that community colleges should offer more than an associate’s degree, but would the school then cease to be considered a community school?

There are a lot of things students can do to improve their transferal experience. Visit a college or attend an open house to get more of a feel for what the college is like. Meet with representatives at college fairs. Or you can find information online, like graduation rates and the percentage of students entering graduate programs.

Overall, there is a lot to think about when deciding if transferring is right. It might not be the best choice depending on what career you wish to pursue. If you are planning on transferring, go on a few campus tours and see what you think. Call up the school’s admissions office or speak with CCM’s transfer services in the Student Community Center in Room 118 and see what’s best for you.
Heroin is an opioid. It is a drug that anyone can get addicted to. It only takes one time before a person becomes addicted.

I come from a family who does heroin. I heard so many names to cover up for heroin such as big H, smack, sometimes just H. Heroin has a strong effect on people, which I found out through research and observing the places I had to take my mother and sister.

I remember visiting my sister and she would wake up to inject heroin and then she would fall asleep. She would make promises to me to take me out somewhere, and she never kept her promises. She got into car accidents trying to inject heroin while driving because she was so addicted to it and couldn't wait until she got home. It was such a hard thing to watch because she's addicted and I was hurt by it. I could have lost my sister at any given moment when she was doing heroin.

According to drugabuse.gov, when heroin is injected, it immediately attaches to opioid receptors in our brain. Some short term effects of heroin include getting a “rushing” feeling, experiencing dry mouth, heavy feelings in the arms and legs, nausea and vomiting, clotted mental functioning and more. There are also long term effects, which can lead to death. These effects range from insomnia, collapsed veins, an infection of the heart lining and valves, lung complications, mental disorders, and so much more. Many people who are on heroin commonly have poor judgment and use a needle that has already been injected into someone else. According to drugabuse.gov, this causes some to receive HIV, Hepatitis and more. Heroin is such a serious topic for me because I almost lost my sister to heroin. She overdosed on it and was on life support. Not only has heroin affected my sister’s life, but it affected the lives of everyone around her.

It’s almost like a domino effect, once one starts it knocks over the next one and affects all the dominoes until it ends. Recently, I almost lost my sister again from an overdose. According to cdc.gov, “during 2017, over 15,000 people died from drug overdoses involving heroin in the United States, a rate of almost five deaths for every 100,000 Americans.”

I have created a campaign awareness poster for heroin and drug awareness that will be posted around the CCM campus. Although it is difficult to get rid of heroin, we can educate people on it and get people the help they need. Many people who are on heroin are struggling with their personal lives and they use this as an escape. This is a serious issue that needs to be looked upon more and taken more seriously.
Thanksgiving leftover gobbler sliders

By Emily Guderian from the Hospitality Department

Ingredients:
Turkey slices
Mashed Potatoes
Cranberry sauce
Stuffing
Dinner roll leftovers
Butter, melted
Garlic powder
Salt
Pepper

Instructions:
In an oven safe pan, place the bottom of the rolls. Stack your turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing and cranberry sauce. Cover with roll tops. Mix melted butter; salt pepper and garlic powder together then brush on the top of the rolls. Place in a 375 degree oven for 20-25 minutes or until buns are golden brown and crispy. Let cool, and enjoy!