



An odyssey 50 years in the making: American lunar lander successfully touches down

Intuitive Machines successfully transmitted its first IM-1 mission images to Earth on February 16, 2024.

PHOTO COURTESY OF X



BY OLIVER KOENDERS
News Editor

NASA's Artemis program appears to be making progress with Nova-C's successful launch and landing of their Odysseus lunar lander earlier this month. The lander was launched on SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket, the reusable stages of which have all successfully returned. Upon separation from the second stage of the rocket on February 16th, the first photos were successfully transmitted from the lander, and NASA confirmed that data was successfully streaming from the lander's instruments to the mission control center in Houston throughout its flight. The payload on the lander is

carrying a variety of instruments intended to study the moon, created by NASA and a few other organizations, primarily consisting of universities. It also carries a sculpture and a memorial. With the lander's successful landing on February 22nd, it marks the first-ever private moon landing and the first American spacecraft to land on the moon in over 50 years.

The Artemis program's ultimate goal is to establish a permanent base on the Moon and to restart human missions to the satellite, the last of which occurred in 1972 with the Apollo 17 mission. The Odysseus lander is the latest

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OPINION: What would Plato say about Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellow's decision to disqualify Donald Trump from the 2024 ballot?

BY PROFESSOR KENNETH A. SHOULER
Moderator for the Youngtown Edition

Plato gave us the tools to figure this one out.

The student of Socrates, whose dialogues followed his beloved teacher's pilgrimage across the public places of Athens, Plato had a keen interest in separating opinion from knowledge. In fact, even in the early and middle dialogues that raise questions such as "What is courage?," "What is Piety?," and "What is Justice?," the usual leitmotif is an attempt to separate opinion from knowledge, or the way things appear versus what they are. As such, Plato is as relevant in 2024 as he was in 399 BCE, when an Athenian court charged his beloved teacher with corrupting the youth and impiety, which meant inventing new gods,

not those of the state.

Given Plato's ceaseless quest to find knowledge, what would he have said about the Maine Secretary of State's Shenna Bellow's bold decision to disqualify Donald Trump from the 2024 election ballot? It would help to know his definition of knowledge. It turns up in his dialogue *Theatetus*. The third definition attempt by Theatetus describes knowledge as 'true belief with an account.' By "account" he means a sound justification of your belief.

Plato thus raised the bar. If you hold a belief it needs to be true and you must be able to support it with a justification. Now let's consider the Secretary of State's historic decision to remove Donald Trump from the Maine ballot. Amendment 14, Article 3 of the United States Constitution says candidates are barred from

holding office if they ever engage in insurrection or rebellion after swearing an oath as an officer of the United States. Her reasoning was as follows:

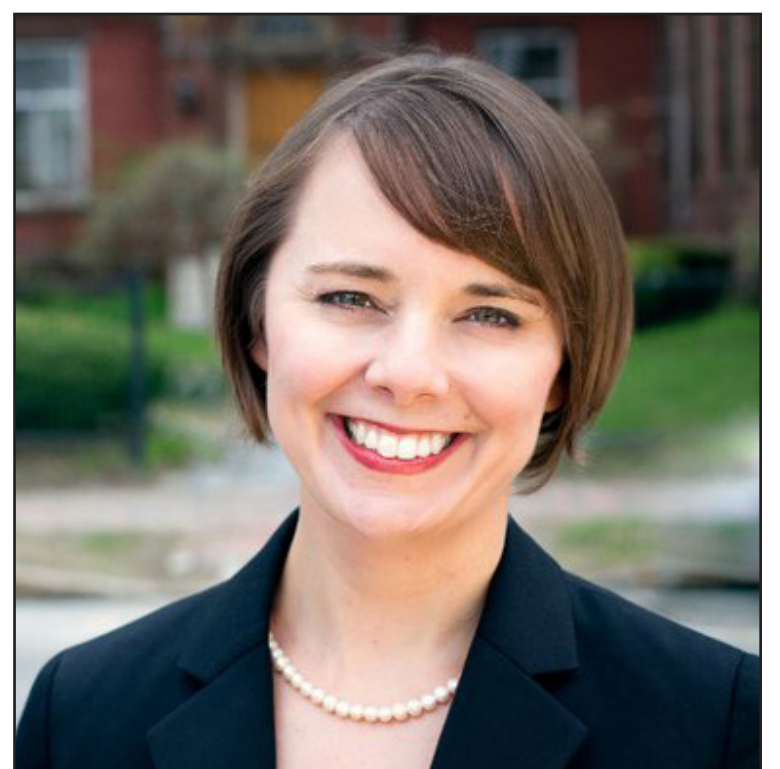
Premise One: If an individual is "engaged in insurrection or rebellion," then he should be disqualified from holding office.

Premise Two: Former president, Donald Trump, engaged in an insurrection when he attempted to stop the certification of the vote on January 6, 2021.

Conclusion: Donald Trump is disqualified from holding office.

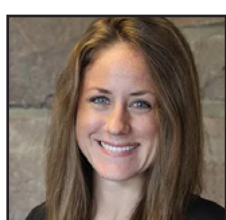
The argument's familiar "If... then" structure makes it a hypothetical syllogism. Bellows' premises are true since they are grounded in reality; that is, in what actually happened. Her conclusion "follows" from those

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Maine Secretary of State Shenna Bellows

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2024 CCM Peace Prize will award a student \$1,000

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Library PBS Video: "World's Fastest Animal"

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Professor Laura Driver, Chairperson of English and Communications, describes the 2024 CCM Peace Prize that will award a student \$1,000

BY PROFESSOR KENNETH A. SHOULER
Moderator for the Youngtown Edition

We're sure many of you students have a turn for creative work. Think so? We know so. Pull it off and you walk off with a \$1,000 check. Not one of those rubber checks, but a real gift of \$1,000 from the CCM Foundation. In addition, recognition comes in the form of being inscribed permanently on the Peace Prize plaque in the student center. The gift and award are presented at commencement this May.

Professor Driver recalls some of the winning projects from recent years. "The 2023 winner started a global, ongoing commemorative memorial project through videos online," she says, just beginning to access her memory bank for some of the winning entries that students have fashioned. "The 2022 recipient crocheted a mosaic and wrote an accompanying essay." If it sounds like variety is the theme, just listen to the others. "In 2021, the winning student composed an original musical score and recorded himself performing his piece," she says. "In 2020, a student documentary received the prize, and in 2019 the winning project was a large tile mosaic symbolizing rebuilding from fractured parts. Projects in recent years represent the diverse work that the Peace Prize encompasses."

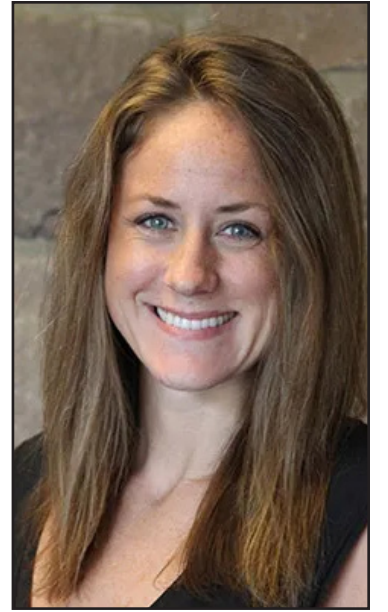
The Peace Prize is an annual contest intended to foster the goals of peace, both locally and globally. "The Peace Prize was founded to commemorate the losses of September 11, 2001," Professor Driver adds. "As we approach the 23rd year of the prize, I am excited about the innovative student accomplishments that this year will surely encourage." Peter Maguire, a retired professor of English, oversaw the Peace Prize starting in 2002.

How to Enter to Win

Do students have to be in any particular discipline to win? No. "We welcome creative submissions from all disciplines and

inspirations," Professor Driver says. "The contest is open to all current CCM students. Both individual and group submissions are welcome, and these projects can take any form of visual, written, or auditory creativity, provided the work reflects on or promotes concepts related to peace." Professors should also consider encouraging students they taught in the past whose personal work might make them interested in this contest.

Students interested in participating should email Professor Laura Driver at ldriver@ccm.edu by **Thursday, March 29th** to indicate their intent to submit a project. Final projects are due to Professor Driver by **Friday, April 5th**.



Professor Laura Driver, Chairperson of the Department of English and Communications

LUNAR

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

support mission in the Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) program, a government-sponsored program that uses private contractors to

research and support the larger Artemis program. Other missions in the CLPS include the Peregrine lander (which failed earlier this year because of a fuel leak) and the CAPSTONE orbiter, which launched in mid-2022 and is still operational. Three more support missions are scheduled for the

end of this year, including the delivery of the VIPER rover, a second Nova-C lander, and the PRIME-1 mission, intended to demonstrate the ability to convert lunar ice to liquid water.

So far, one official Artemis mission (Artemis 1) has been launched, consisting of a successful unmanned orbit and re-

turn that occurred in late 2022. Artemis 2, the first manned mission of the program (a fly-by), is tentatively planned for September of 2025, but has already been subject to delays, making it unclear when the official launch will actually occur. The crew for this mission has been announced, consisting of what will be the first woman, person of color, and non-American (a Canadian) to go beyond low-earth orbit. Future Artemis missions have also been planned but few finalized details are currently known about them.

China, India, and Japan have all also successfully landed unmanned missions on the moon in the twenty-first century, with Japan's Smart Lander for Investigating Moon (SLIM) having landed last month, albeit with complications causing the lander to be non-functional

for the first week of its mission. SLIM was able to capture some photos after being revived, but its ultimate fate is still unknown as of writing, as the lander was not designed to withstand the extreme cold of the lunar night. India landed its Chandrayaan-3 lander near the moon's south pole in August of last year, and China's last lunar sample retrieval mission occurred in late 2020. Russia and a private Israeli company have also attempted to land on the moon in this century, but were unsuccessful.

NASA has confirmed that data is transferring between the Earth and the Moon, but at the time of writing, the lander's exact status post-launch is unknown. Regardless, the successful landing signals a positive future for the Artemis program and the American return to space travel.

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COLLEGE SEARCH

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FEB 27	LIBERAL ARTS MAJORS LRC 106 • 12:30 - 1:30 PM
MAR 05	ALL MAJORS LRC 106 • 12:30 - 1:30 PM
MAR 05	ALL MAJORS LRC 106 • 5:30 - 6:15 PM
MAR 07	BUS. ADMINISTRATION MAJORS CH 204 • 2:00 - 3:00 PM
MAR 07	ALL MAJORS VIRTUAL SESSION VIA ZOOM • 6:30 - 7:15 PM https://ccm-edu.zoom.us/j/93933508878

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THE YOUNGTOWN EDITION

The Student Newspaper of the County College of Morris

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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.

OPINION: The Myth of Productivity

BY FAVIO VALENTINO JASSO
Staff Writer

In the busy chaos of life, we often chase after things that seem impossible to achieve, only to see our list of tasks grow into something overwhelming. In this time of constant deadlines and demands for productivity, we may wonder why we tirelessly strive for more, always searching for an elusive finish line. Maybe, hidden within the passage of time, there is a different way of thinking, a melody that is not created by endless ambition but by accepting the limits of life.

Oliver Burkeman, a philosopher of everyday life, shares this melody in his groundbreaking book *4,000 Weeks*. He presents a map of our limited existence, marked with approximately 4,000 bright threads, the approximate number of weeks in our lifetime. Instead of seeing this limitation as something restrictive, Burkeman encourages us to embrace it as something that sets

us free, something that helps us find meaning and happiness in the present moment.

Be cautious of the tempting trap of “efficiency,” as Burkeman accurately calls it. We often think that by managing our time well, we can turn chaos into productivity, creating a perfect balance between endless free time and completed tasks, however, haven’t we all experienced the emptiness of that overflowing bucket and the never-ending struggle of unfinished responsibilities? No matter how much we pour into it, the leaks of life persist, reminding us of the pointlessness of an endless pursuit.

So, why do we hold onto this constant busyness? Part of it comes from our innate desire for control. In a world filled with uncertainty, we cling to detailed schedules, hoping to create order out of the unpredictable nature of existence. Yet, Burkeman gently exposes this illusion, showing us the futility of trying to control life’s unpredictable patterns. The rain will fall, storms will rage,

and threads will tangle, regardless of our carefully crafted plans.

Burkeman encourages us to embrace the uncertainty of life and find happiness in the present moment. Instead of constantly striving for more and always chasing achievements, we should focus on immersing ourselves in the here and now. This involves appreciating simple pleasures like feeling the warmth of the sunset on our skin, sharing laughter over a meal, and being grateful for our beating hearts.

Burkeman reminds us that time is not just something to manage, but a precious gift to cherish. When we let go of our obsession with being productive all the time and handling life delicately, we can make meaningful choices about how we live. This means giving up our idealized visions of the future and the ever-changing idea of success, and embracing the beauty of the journey itself, even with its unexpected twists and turns.

This hug starts by letting go

of comparing ourselves to others and believing that our value is determined by external standards. We stop feeling the need to have everything figured out and learn to be kind to ourselves in the midst of life’s messy beauty. We prioritize things that align with our deepest values and let go of commitments that weigh us down.

Accepting and appreciating the limitations of life is not settling for mediocrity, but rebelling against the pressure for “more.” It means recognizing that our worth is not in constantly striving, but in the present moment, our experiences, connections, and stories. It’s about stepping away from relentless ambition and allowing life to guide us in all its messy and imperfect glory.

In the calm dance of acceptance, we discover freedom. In the unfolding of time’s complex pattern, we find meaning. By embracing life’s limits, we create a harmonious blend of joy, a song that echoes not only within us but resonates with the very essence of

being. So, let’s release the burden of filling the leaky vessel, of chasing the ever-elusive finish line. Instead, let’s embrace the limited threads of our existence, weaving a tapestry of purpose, love, and present happiness, a masterpiece not meant for external praise, but for the peaceful symphony of the soul.

Embracing the limitations of life leads us to explore deep philosophical questions, making us think about the meaning of our existence. It is a journey where both victories and hardships shape a unique picture for each person. When we stop trying to control everything, we enter a realm of profound questioning, where the true beauty of life reveals itself. In this sacred realm of acceptance, vulnerability, and authenticity, limitations no longer hold us back, but instead become a fertile ground for wisdom to grow. They guide us on a transformative journey of self-discovery, where every moment becomes a gateway to enlightenment in the grand theater of life.

COLUMN: Who needs therapy when you have bingo?

BY LEAH FACELLA
Editor-in-Chief

... B-4... N-32... B-2... G-56... I-17.

BINGO!

The average college student is most likely not going to play Bingo, however, I am far from average.

My grandmother, whom we call Gramzy, loves playing Bingo. She typically plays at least three times a week, but the number can vary depending on weather cancellations or being able to find a ride.

After getting into a serious car accident, where she fractured a few vertebrae, she became too anxious to get behind the wheel again. Instead of being able to drive herself to Bingo whenever she pleases, she must do it around others’ schedules... or walk... but as an 82-year-old, she is not going to walk over two miles to get to Bingo.

Two of the Bingo events during the week are through a senior center in her town. They are held on Wednesday and Friday afternoons for a couple of hours. Then, through the church she belongs to, there is Bingo for anyone eighteen and older on Friday nights.

This past summer, I started going to Bingo with Gramzy. I would not go every week with her, but I would try my best to accompany her when I could. I would not always go alone, rather I would bring a friend along with me. Gramzy was always overjoyed when I would be able to go, whether I had a friend with me or not. Gramzy has formed an everlasting bond with a few of my friends, so now if I go alone to bingo, she will question how so-and-so is doing.

The first time I went to Bingo

was a Wednesday afternoon, for senior citizen Bingo. That was the first and last time I was allowed to go to senior Bingo. Prior to attending, Gramzy confirmed with the man running it that as long as I was over 18, I was allowed to attend and he said yes. Apparently, he changed his mind the next day because he got in touch with her to say that I was not welcome there anymore. Kinda rude if you ask me, but of course he did not care about what I thought. Could it have been because my friend and I were whispering the whole time? Or when they called “B-4,” I would respond by shouting “and after”? Those these are plausible explanations, I believe there was an old curmudgeon who complained about our presence.

The first time I went to Bingo on a Friday night was with my friend Danielle. Since Friday Bingo starts at 7 pm and we get there at 6:30 pm to ensure we get “our” seats, we finessed dinner out of the experience too. Gramzy lives about a half hour away from me, so in order to beat rush hour traffic, I had the best idea ever... for her to feed us dinner. We ended up getting Popeye’s and it was delicious. My grandpa, whom we call Pop, picked up the food, which is quite fitting. Pop picking up “Pop”eye’s.

After dinner, Gramzy, Danielle, and I were off to Bingo. We made a pit stop to pick up one of Gramzy’s friends who lives right around the corner from her.

Once we arrived, it was time to buy our boards. Danielle and I were both ready with money, but Gramzy insisted on paying for us. We tried telling her we would

SEE BINGO, PAGE 5

Accolades needed!

Send to cmcardle@ccm.edu
Format: Name, Accolade, Institution

A pre-program slide show will highlight recent achievements of individuals and departments.

Take a Bow

CCM EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

March 7, 2024 3-4:30 p.m.
SCC Davidson Rooms

Join us as we celebrate the achievements of our colleagues and friends!

★★★
Years of Service Awards
Titan Awards
★★★

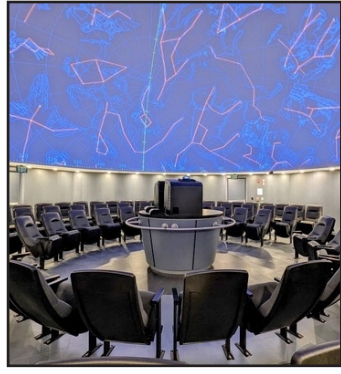
This year's Master of Ceremonies
Dr. Melissa Hopper-Ford and Marjory Jones!

Special Refreshments

CCM

The Longo Planetarium is Offering Free Shows for Staff and Students

There are free shows again this semester for staff and students on the third Tuesday of the month at 1:30 p.m. Shows are approximately 30 minutes long and start promptly at 1:30 pm in Cohen Hall, room 207.



	1	2	3	
4				5
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7				
	8			

The CCM Mini

Across

- 1. A political acronym that has a "super" variety
- 4. Energetic
- 6. An Austrian plastic manufacturer
- 7. Common taxes based on benefits-received principle
- 8. The protagonist of the 1999 film *The Matrix*

Down

- 1. Power line tower, aka.
- 2. Tech company with a market cap of over \$1 trillion
- 3. An instrument that shares string notes with the viola
- 4. Dr. Seuss' pairing for a cat
- 5. A title for an Ethiopian royal

Answers on page 5

OPEN MIC NIGHT HOSTED BY THE SAPB AND BSU CELEBRATE A NIGHT AT THE APOLLO



STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMMING BOARD

Thursday, February 29th

6:00-8:00 PM in the SCC Lobby

Mondo Pizza and drinks will be provided

BINGO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

pay ourselves, but let's be honest, after minimal convincing on her end, what college teenagers in debt aren't going to take the opportunity for free? Ordering the boards was honestly a lot more complex than I would have expected. Lucky for us, she did it once or twice before. "One for me, one for my granddaughter, and one for her friend," she asked. Then to the following three people, "Two for me, one for my granddaughter, and one for her friend," she said as she handed them her money.

After we had our boards and our seats secured, Gramzy decided to have us walk around with her to each of her friends. Smiling from ear to ear, she would tell each person she knew that I was her granddaughter. The excitement she had was very heartwarming. The only issue is she sometimes would say this is my daughter, Barbara (who is my mom and her daughter, but not me. At least she got the correct family?). I then would correct her and she would smack her hand to her forehead to exemplify her blunder.

Once we were sufficiently introduced to anybody she knew, the games began.

Looking around at other players was crazy. Some people had over 20 boards to keep track of at once, whereas I was struggling to keep up with my one. I never thought Bingo was that intense, but boy was I wrong. When you think of Bingo, you probably think of a normal bingo, straight line horizontal or vertical, or the diagonal line through the free space, but there are also hard way bingos, where you can't use the free space, blocks of nines, postage stamps, inside or outside round robin the letter "x," the letter "L," the letter "T," and countless more. Regardless of the game, I always mark off every single number called, even if it is not needed because I can't seem to figure out which ones I do and don't need, so my logic is better to be safe than sorry. For example, for an outside round-robin, only the outside border is needed, but I will fill in the middle as well. Gramzy always shakes her head in disgust at me, telling me I am

wasting the ink of the dobber, but that does not change my ways.

From the amount of good luck charms others brought, I felt defeated before we even started. How could I win when I didn't have any good luck charms? The answer to that question was made clear by the end of the night. I may not have had good luck charms, but my presence was present enough because Gramzy won \$200. Apparently, I was a good luck charm!

When I was younger, through playing soccer, every year we ordered soccer pictures and would

receive a pin with my face on it. The pin would then be gifted to Gramzy and she would bring it to Bingo with her as a good luck charm. If she won while my pin was out, she would give me 10% of what she won. It was a great deal for me, but not so good of a deal for her because she also had a pin with my brother's face on it, where she had the same 10% rule for him. In her Wednesday and Friday afternoon bingos, the stakes are not that high, so sometimes she would end up losing money by paying us 10% because she would round up to the

nearest dollar. After winning that night, she gave Danielle and me both some of her winnings, which we tried declining but she would not take no for an answer.

Every year for Christmas, Gramzy gives us an ornament exemplifying something special that happened during the year. For example, when I made my first communion, I got an ornament with a little girl praying in a white dress, when my team was undefeated in soccer, I got a soccer-playing girl, and when I was invited to a violin concert for the best violinists in the

state, I got a girl holding a violin ornament. This year, I got an ornament with two women on it, where she wrote on the top "Bingo Buddies."

Though going to Bingo is not something most college students do, I enjoy going, not just to play, but to spend cherished time with my grandmother. Most other people at Bingo comment how lucky Gramzy is to have me go with her because their grandchildren never would do that. Seeing the ear-to-ear smile on Gramzy's face makes each visit to play bingo all the more worthwhile.

Game Show Night

The Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) and the Black Student Union (BSU) will be hosting a Game Show Night on Tuesday, March 19th, from 5:00 to 7:00 PM in the SCC Lobby. All students are invited to this event. Please sign up to participate in the

Game Show Night by scanning the QR code. We'll be playing popular TV show games like Jeopardy and Family Feud. Mondo Pizza, Kabab Paradise, and drinks will be provided. For any questions, please contact sapb@student.ccm.edu.

Michael Koutsokoumnis- President
 Juan Vargas- Vice President
 George Gianisis- Treasurer
 Hawa Kromah- Public Relations Coordinator
 Alessandro DePalma- Communications Coordinator



Game Show Night

Time: 5 PM - 7 PM

Tuesday 19 Mar 2024

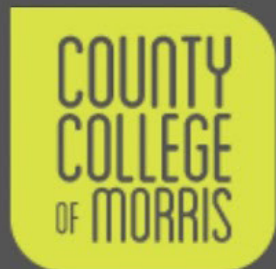
SCC Lobby

Mondo Pizza, Kabab Paradise, and drinks.



CCM Mini answers

	R	A	S	
C	E	L	L	O
A	P	P	L	E
P	Y	L	O	N
H	A	T		



STUDENT ACTIVITIES PROGRAMMING BOARD



PLATO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

premises, thus making the argument valid. One more thing. Since all the statements are true, the argument is sound. Sound arguments sit at the pinnacle of all arguments.

I think that Shenna Bellows, after due consideration, had given an account of her belief. She met Plato's qualification for knowledge.

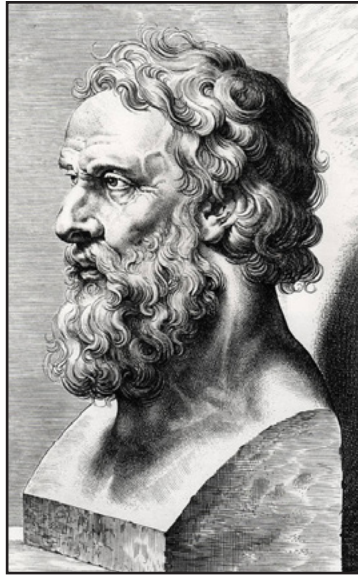
Bellow's "thinking" was applying the rule of law to the actions of Donald Trump. First off, Secretary of State, Bellows, had to follow the rule of law of Maine, which is different than the other states. Under Maine law, after she qualified Trump for the ballot, any registered voter had the right to challenge that qualification. Five voters did so, including two former Republican state senators. The law required that she hold a hearing and issue a decision. A reporter for National Public Radio, Scott Detrow, asked if what happened on January 6 was an in-

surrection. "I reviewed very carefully the hearing proceedings and the weight of the evidence presented to me at the hearing. That evidence made clear, first, that those events of January 6 were unprecedented. They were tragic, but they were an attack not only upon the Capitol and government officials, but also an attack on the rule of law, on the peaceful transfer of power. And the evidence presented at the hearing demonstrated that they occurred at the behest of, and with the knowledge and support of, the outgoing president. And the United States Constitution does not tolerate an assault on the foundations of our government. And under Maine election law, I was required to act in response."

Impressive.

In short, she dared to think. She amassed facts and made the deductive argument that he was disqualified from the ballot. Again, since the conclusion follows necessarily from the two premises given and since all three statements are true, the argument is sound.

The case is curious not only



Plato, Athens, (428-348)

because of the facts she brought to bear on her decision, but it also reminds us how most people are not thinking by the proper definition of that activity. Thinking is drawing conclusions based on evidence with those conclusions being inductive if probable or deductive if certain. The phrase "on the basis of evidence is essential." We don't want to pull our conclusions from thin air. I am an evidentialist in my thinking and I

believe we must base our conclusions on the evidence.

In this case, however, many if not most people are not considering the evidence of an insurrection on January 6th. Nor are they citing Section Three of the 14th Amendment which relates to insurrections. Even less are they citing the law in Maine that the Secretary of State applied. Instead of considering all this evidence, or even part of it, people have an emotion for one side or another and then use reasons to justify those emotions. Or people in both parties conform to what their parties think. None of this is thinking. If knowledge is the end to be achieved, thinking is a means to that end, a necessary means. Without it, it's hard to see that democracy can be saved. None of these approaches are evidence-gathering, so those in question cannot draw conclusions based on that evidence.

One more observation needs to be made. This one is about the courage of Secretary of State Bellows. Aristotle, Plato's most famous student, prized the sort of courage where one needs to stand one's ground against the beck-

oning of pleasant or the fearful prospect of pains to follow. Thus, Bellows was not just making her case by using a syllogism--one of Aristotle's essential contributions to logic--she was putting bravery into practice, one of his most important virtues for a life of well-being. The *Guardian* reported that Bellows, a first-term Democrat appointed to her position by the Maine legislature, had her home swatted after someone placed a fake phone call claiming she had broken into her home. Justices on Colorado's supreme court, which also removed Trump from the ballot last month, had faced death threats. Data reveals that there are alarmingly high levels of support for political violence in the US.

"Even though the swatting incident at my home was a fake call, alleging an emergency at my home, it was designed to terrorize," said the Maine Secretary of State. "It was designed to make me afraid and send a message not only to me but to others," she said to a *Guardian* reporter." So Plato and Aristotle would both approve of Shenna Bellows' brave decision.

CHAI CAFE

GRAND OPENING

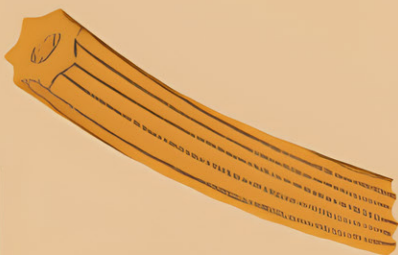
THURSDAY THE 8TH!

OPEN THURSDAYS AND FRIDAYS

LOCATION: STUDENT CENTER

DAVIDSON D

TIME: 1PM TO 2PM



Library PBS Video: “World’s Fastest Animal” shows how Peregrine Falcons can dive at more than 200 miles per hour

BY PROFESSOR
KENNETH A. SHOULER
Moderator for the Youngtown Edition

“Documentaries for Free” is the twelfth in a series of articles for the Youngtown Edition about the more than 1,200 streaming PBS documentaries that can be seen online by everyone at the college, whether on-campus or off. Accessing the videos is simple. Those interested in reviewing the collection and picking a video to stream can go to www.ccm.edu/library. Click on “Articles and Databases.” Then scroll down and click on PBS videos. Enter your CCM login credentials when prompted (if off-campus). Once in the database, click on “Filter Your Results.” Under the “Subject” listing, click on the topic that interests you. “World’s Fastest Animal” is here: <https://skynet.ccm.edu:2277/watch/world-s-fastest-animal/transcript>

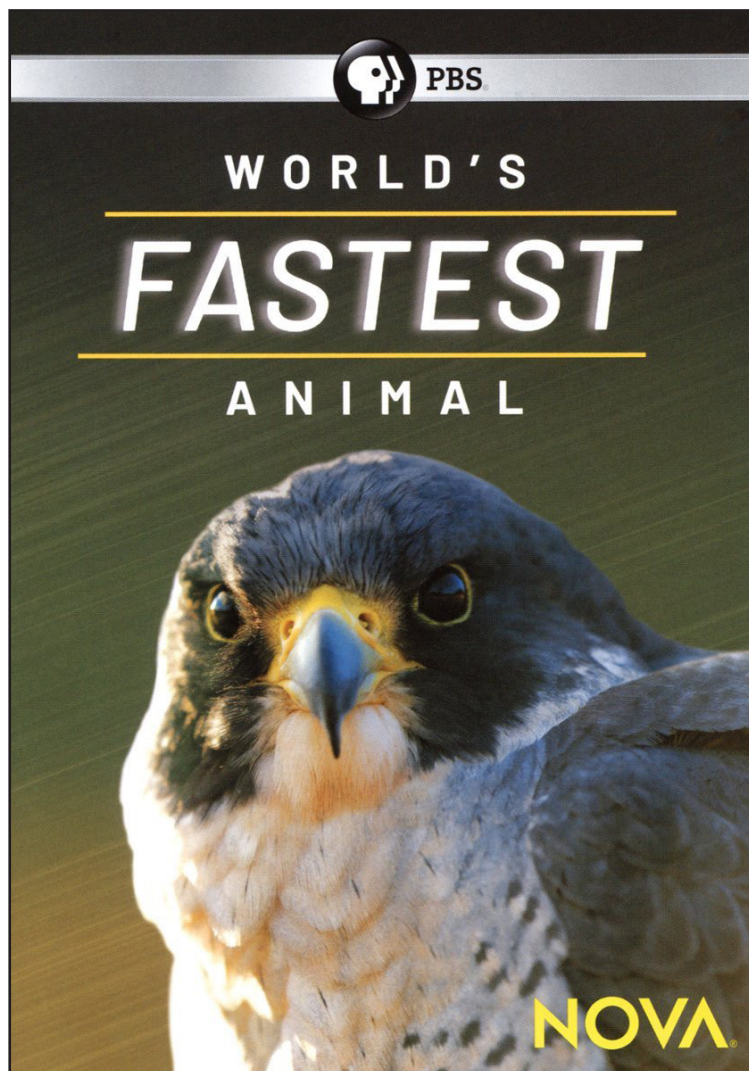
It is thrilling to watch them. There is at once an intellectual and aesthetic interest in observing the world’s fastest animal. The spell-binding look of this documentary satisfies that longing. It also answers many questions. What is the strategy that Peregrine Falcons use to dive at 200 miles per hour? How can wild peregrines survive in the city? Both questions and more are explained in the visually splendid production, “World’s Fastest Animal.” There are some 20 Peregrines in Chicago, a city of 2.7 million people. They are day predators, but street light extends their hunting hours. They rely on uncanny vision to track their prey at incredibly high speeds.

The film begins with one Peregrine mother with three chicks to feed in Chicago. Two things increase their chances of survival. They need high perches, such as building ledges, and there must be an ample supply of flying birds for prey. There are pigeons, starlings, and house sparrows, all of which comprise a suitable food supply for falcons. The Peregrines depicted live in a window box of one high-rise apartment. The documentary shows what it takes for these magnificent birds to grow up in a city.

When the chicks first hatch, they are helpless, utterly. “They can’t even keep themselves warm, so the female sits on them as if they’re still eggs,” says the narrator. “She does that for the first two or three days.” While the female minds the nest, the male faces the challenge of hunting their next meal. You might not think so, but the city serves up some surprising advantages. For one, Chicago’s waterfront area attracts many migrating birds, who are potential prey.

In 45 days a little chick will have everything it needs to fly 200 miles per hour, explains expert falconer, Lloyd Buck. The falcons need about 12 weeks to teach them to hunt.

When the bird is fitted with



World’s Fastest Animal (Directed by Simon Baxter, 2018) 53 minutes

GPS, a telemetry device, Buck can track the distance they are flying. In one test, they could spot a yellow tennis ball tossed in the air at 1.8 miles away. Their eyesight is better than that of hawks. This owes to their large eyes, which take up at least 50 percent of their skulls. For humans, it is only five percent. The optics of their eyes project an image of the world onto their retina. They have two Fovea on the retina of each eye, thus allowing them to see more of the world in detail. The first is responsible for spotting close objects. The second is for spotting things far away. This preternatural vision gives them a sizable hunting advantage.

“Any of the species that you care to think of that he preys on, his vision is so much better,” says avian expert, Graham Martin. “For something like a pigeon, he’s four times better in his acuity. He can spot his prey and gather speed for an attack, way before the prey knows he is coming.”

The Peregrine population was nearly wiped out in the twentieth century due to the pesticide Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (D.D.T). After D.D.T. was banned in 1972 (it is still in use outside the United States for the control of mosquitoes that spread malaria) captive Peregrines were bred and released in the wild. Now they thrive in varied environments, including our homes.

The documentary shows Lloyd Buck bringing a 12-week-old Peregrine to his home in England. In a few months, he will give him the skills a young Peregrine needs. But he must first earn his trust. One part of this is sitting quietly and avoiding eye contact. By using the traditional art of falconry, Lloyd helps a Per-

egrine named Rudy to hunt a yellow lure.

The narrative then returns to the falcons in Chicago. In just seven weeks the nested chicks will do it alone. Amazingly, they will require as many as 11 meals a day to sate their growing appetites. Their parents will take care of the hunting, and, again, Chicago offers up abundant prey, including over 100 different spe-



An adult Peregrine Falcon

cies. Their preferred prey are pigeons. But pigeons can be elusive. In a chase, pigeons can fly up to 50 miles per hour and soar and dive in and out of city buildings to find cover. “In flat flight, a feral pigeon is an even match for Peregrine, and it can often get away,” said Tom French, from the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. “So a Peregrine has to have another strategy.” Chicago winds also present an unpredictable challenge. The fledgling falcons may also get caught between buildings. Another danger is flying into stationary objects. But there is an advantage.

It gets high into the air as if reaching the highest perch. Then it folds its wings to lessen wind resistance and begins its plummet. “It is evolved to be the fastest animal on the planet when it is in a steep dive, or a stoop,” says French. On a dive, it goes four times faster. Then its strike

is so sudden you either need to play it over again or play it one-quarter speed to see it. The falcon is a veritable perfect strike machine. The long, pointed wings offer little drag, enabling his high speed and the ability to close on his prey. From there, their long fishhook-shaped talons lock onto their victims. As menacing as the talons are, it’s their powerful beaks that complete the deadly attack. They dislocate their prey’s neck.

Aside from a record-setting nature and design that enhances their predatory nature, Peregrine Falcons are among the most dignified and handsome birds in the world.

Contributing to this serene beauty in some Peregrines is a yellow band encircling its large eyes and then more yellow to begin its beak. Then, too, there is its regal bearing, not unlike the demeanor of other predators such as the bald eagle.

Don’t Get a Ticket!

Parking decals are required at CCM.

Parking Lot Designations are as follows:

Lot 1: Students
Lot 2: Students
Lot 3: Students
Lot 4: Students
Lot 5: Employees; disabled and medical permits; employee carpool parking; visitor and salesperson parking; student and student aide parking only after 5 p.m.
Lot 6: Students; disabled and medical permits, visitors & special event parking.
Lot 7: Students
Lot 8: Employees; portions of the front row are reserved for disabled and medical permits, and employee carpool parking.
Lot 9: Students; tennis courts; and ball field.
Lot 10: Employees; 15-minute parking for individuals obtaining decals/permits and visitors to Building 675

More information on CCM Motor Vehicle Rules and Regulations can be found at https://www.ccm.edu/wp-content/uploads/pdf/safety/Motor_Vehicle_Rules_Regulations.pdf

Parking Decal Required Permiso de estacionamiento

go to www.ccm.edu/public-safety/

Ir a www.ccm.edu/public-safety/



Public Safety Home Page Open the CCM Online Motor Vehicle Registration link

Una vez en la pagina de Public Safety -
Abrir CCM Motor Vehicle enlace - Registre su vehiculo



After submitting the form,
stop by Public Safety in Lot 10 with your
CCM ID Card and your
Vehicle Registration for verification.

Despues de enviar su solicitud, ir a la
oficina de Public Safety Localizada en el edificio 675 parqueadero 10.
Por favor traiga su tarjeta de identificacion estudiantil y
la registracion de su vehiculo para verificar la informacion.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT CCM

February 1 to 29
DISPLAYS, EXHIBITS & WEBINARS

Library Book Display

Explore African American history at our Library's Black History Month display! Dive into a collection of works by Black authors in literature, poetry, history, and fiction. Discover diverse stories and unique perspectives that have shaped our world.

Distinguished Scientist Showcase

Embark on a journey through the inspiring stories of Black scientists at our Student Community Center's Black History Month display. Explore the resilience and innovation that have shaped the scientific world.

Campus-wide Poster Presentation

Immerse yourself in Black history this February with our campus-wide poster display! Explore diverse narratives celebrating resilience and empowerment. Honor the enduring spirit of Black excellence at various locations on campus!

African Diaspora Flag Exhibit

Discover the richness of the African Diaspora at the CCM Student Community Center's Flag Display. Explore vibrant flags telling unique stories of unity and heritage. Join us in celebrating the beauty of diverse cultures.

The Black Deaf Perspective Webinar

Access a free webinar on the Black Deaf Experience with a simple scan of the QR code. Explore empowering stories and insights celebrating the achievements of the Black Deaf community. Dive into a world of excellence and education.



February 8, Thursday - Davidson A
12:30 PM (Student Community Center)

EOF FEATURED SPEAKER: DR. REGGIE WRIGHT: ALLERGIC TO AVERAGE

Dr. Wright, an EOF Graduate, has transformed adversity into a catalyst for success. His mission is to educate, motivate, and empower students and educators to overcome challenges, creating conditions for academic success and positive character development. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Dr. Wright's inspirational journey and gain valuable insights for personal and academic growth.

February 15, Thursday - LRC 121
12:30 PM

SIP, PAINT & CONVERSATION ART EXHIBIT

Immerse yourself in a positive and creative atmosphere as we sip on refreshing beverages, paint on canvases, and engage in uplifting conversations. This gathering is a unique opportunity to commemorate Black history through art, fostering connections and meaningful dialogues.

February 20, Tuesday - CH 100
12:30 PM

ULO FEATURED SPEAKER: DR. FRANCA ROIBAL THE AFROLATIN ROOTS OF TANGO

Explore the AfroLatin roots of Tango with Dr. France Roibal, a CCM graduate dedicated to diversity work. Join us in uncovering the pivotal role of the Black community in shaping this iconic dance during our Black History Month event. Through insightful perspectives, we'll celebrate the richness of AfroLatin culture and its intersectionality.

February 22, Thursday - Davidson C
12:30 PM (Student Community Center)

TRAILBLAZERS PANEL: JOURNEY TO SUCCESS BLACK PROFESSIONALS EXPO

Listen to accomplished Black professionals from Morris County in law, business, education and healthcare as they share their personal success stories. Gain valuable insights, motivation, and connections across different fields. Whether you're starting or advancing your career, this event is for you. Don't miss the chance to be inspired and connect at the Black Professionals Expo!

February 26, Monday - LRC 121
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM

SGA AND THE COUNSELING & WELLNESS CENTER PRESENT MOTIVATIONAL MONDAY: THE SPOKEN WORD HOUR

Celebrate Black History Month with Motivational Mondays in an afternoon of powerful SPOKEN WORD. Join us for an evening of expression and togetherness as we amplify diverse narratives through the art of poetry. Whether you're a seasoned performer or a first-time speaker, this is a space for everyone to share stories and honor the resilience of the Black community.

February 27 & 29, Tuesday & Thursday
Student Community Center 10:30 AM - 2:30 PM
FREE HAIRCUTS BY CLIPDART

ClipDart's Free Haircut Program is here at CCM to elevate your grooming experience, specially tailored for our BIPOC students. ClipDart is making a difference, one haircut at a time. Book your free haircut here:
Limited spots available.



February 29, Thursday - Student Community Center
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

NIGHT AT THE APOLLO

Celebrate the richness of culture at our Apollo-inspired Black History Month Night! Join us for an unforgettable evening of inspiring music, captivating dance performances, and artistic brilliance. Save the date to immerse yourself in the heart and soul of Black heritage. Don't miss this joyous celebration at the Apollo!

February 29 - Thursday - LRC 121
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

BLACK HISTORY MONTH GALA UNITY IN DIVERSITY

Close out Black History Month in style at our Grand Finale Banquet! Join us for an evening of unity, cultural celebration, and reflection on the rich heritage we've honored throughout the month. Indulge in a feast, enjoy inspiring moments, and come together as we conclude this special month with a bang. Don't miss the chance to celebrate the impact of Black history in a grand finale!