



Read more at:
Piedmontforum.com

Virginia Living Ranks Piedmont's Science, Math and Technology Program as One of the Best

Kelly Wilmer, Staff Writer

To locals, PVCC has always been known as a great school. Now Piedmont is receiving state-wide recognition for its Science, Math and Technology Program.

Virginia Living's October issue ranked the top high schools, two-year and four-year colleges in the state in the fields of Science, Math and Technology; Arts and Humanities; Fine and Visual Arts; and Athletics. Piedmont was selected as one of the top two-year colleges in the field of Science, Math and Technology.

According to NBC 29, "After a thorough review of

each school's programs and accomplishments *Virginia Living's* editors selected schools that have instituted new programs or recently begun capital improvements aimed at strengthening students' experiences in and beyond the classroom."

Piedmont has recently launched new Career Studies Certificates programs that include: Cybersecurity, Central Service Technician, Pharmacy Technician and Craft Beer Brewing, which caught *Virginia Living's* attention for being the only program of its kind in the state.

Adam Hastings, Dean of Business, Math and Technology

responded to the article: "It is not a matter of setting ourselves apart [from other schools]; rather, we work to have the best program that we can put into place for our students. We want to see our students successful as they learn at PVCC, when they transfer to a four-year institution, and when they apply their learning on the job... Ultimately, it is great to be noticed for the tremendous work being done by our students, our faculty and staff, and our community and business partners."



Photography by Zack Beamer

In This Issue

- PVCC Events -pg. 2
- SGA Update -pg. 3
- Gallery Opening -pg. 4
- International Travel -pg. 6
- PVCC Social -pgs. 8-9
- Lockn' Festival -pg. 11
- Piedmont Profile -pg. 13
- Comics -pgs. 14-15

DATES TO REMEMBER

— *Extract Your Own DNA* —

Oct. 1, 3-5 p.m., Library Classroom, Main Building

— *Washington Balalaika Society Orchestra* —

Oct. 4, 3 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— *Constitution Day Speaker* —

Oct. 5, Noon, North Mall Meeting Room, Main Building

— *Fall Break* —

Oct. 8 and 9

— *Lecture: Iran and the Middle East* —

Oct. 14, 12-1 p.m., M229, Main Building

— *Free Movie Friday: The End of the Tour* —

Oct. 16, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— *Charlottesville Municipal Band* —

Oct. 18, 3:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— *Comedy Writing Workshop* —

Oct. 23, 1-4 p.m., Dickinson Building

— *Fourth Fridays Improv* —

Oct. 23, 6-8 p.m., Maxwell Theatre, Dickinson Building

— *Casino Night* —

Oct. 23, 7 p.m., Main Building

— *Documentary: The Way of All Flesh* —

Oct. 27, 5:30-7 p.m., Library, Main Building

— *Speaker: Dr. Lundy Pentz* —

Oct. 28, 11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m., M229, Main Building

— *One Mic Stand* —

Nov. 12, 7 p.m., Maxwell Theatre, Dickinson Building

— *Veterans' Story Theatre* —

Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m., Maxwell Theatre, Dickinson Building

From the Editor

Antonia Florence, Editor

As we step outside, we notice the air holds a hint of seasonal change. The days express their confusion, one sharply brisk followed by the arid confines of the next.

The trees are still clinging to their quivering cloaks, waiting for their annual kaleidoscope of colors to emerge. Sugar maples, dogwoods, birches, lindens and ginkgoes stand by, waiting to begin the show.

Acorns litter the ground while the squirrels dance in their drunken delirium caused by irresponsible consumption of the acorn meats. They will only be able to find half of what they stashed for the cold snowy nights, when they sit by their fireplace, drinking maple-bark mugs of hot cocoa.

We teeter precariously, being careful not to lose our footing. We feel the unmistakable jab of that one acorn as it impales the sole of our shoe. Yes, that acorn. The one that would not smooch flat as we make our way along the sidewalks and through student parking.

Gourds of orange, yellow, white and every shade of green are emerging, languishing on the steps, decks and porches of homes. Sometimes they enjoy the company of corn shuck foders, bales of hay and scarecrows. This brings back memories of carving Jack-o-lanterns. Pressing the slimy pith knotted with seeds, oozing through our fingers as we squeeze it.

So, in all of this season's glory, do not forget to linger a bit, inhale deeply the earthy smell of the air and appreciate nature's autumn.

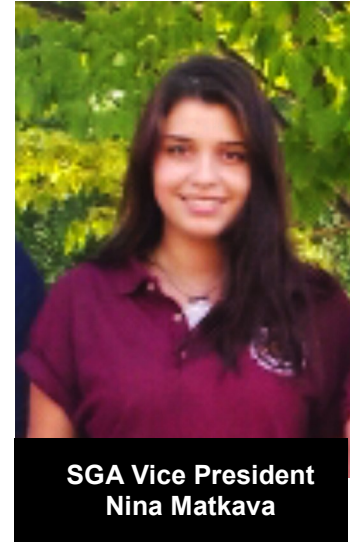
And as always, remember whatever you do, wherever you go, you are in control of your own destiny.



Student Government Association News

Have you ever thought studying hard and having fun can go together? If not, you are going to experience it this year at Piedmont. Just keep up with us, and we are going to make this academic year enjoyable for you.

For those who do not know me, my name is Nina Matkava. I serve as the Vice President of the Student Government association at Piedmont Virginia Community College. We are working hard to make the environment around us even better each year, not only for students but for faculty and staff as well. The Student Government was established to be the voice of the students. It is an association of the students, by the students, for the students! The Student Government Association strives to make your college life easier, friendlier and more enjoyable. The SGA is an excellent place for students to develop leadership skills. Join us; prove to yourself that you are the true leader.



**SGA Vice President
Nina Matkava**

I would like to mention some important dates for this semester:

- Our next general meeting – October 6th, in North Mall Meeting room, at 7 a.m.
- Casino Night! Are you ready to have fun and win some prizes like new iPods, spa, massage, and many other gift cards? Then mark your calendar on October 23, at 7 p.m. and come enjoy this magical night with your friends and other PVCC students. Dress up and win prize for the best costume! We cannot wait to see you there!

We are looking forward to working with you guys, and trying our best to make this year most memorable for you, because YOU are the ones who matter the most!

Pratt Presents to Adult Student Life Club

Gina Leah, Staff Writer

On Sept. 8, 2015, Professor Bill Pratt addressed the Adult Student Life club as part of their on-going speaker series arranged by Staff Advisor, Denise McClanahan.

Pratt’s informative presentation, “Financial Planning – Stretching Dollars without Bouncing Checks,” takes the stress out of financial planning and does not have to be all about bar graphs and pie charts.

It is as simple as developing financial goals, knowing where your money goes, managing your budget, and monitoring and reviewing your finances.

He spoke of the high value of financial literacy, the differences in mind-set regarding money between wealthy and not-so-wealthy, and pointed out that lack of communication regarding financial goals is the number one reason for divorce.

Using acronyms, Pratt outlined how to create SMART money goals; pointed out that LIFE happens and is often the cause of not meeting financial goals; and urged everyone to SPEND wisely. Finally, he reviewed a simple budgeting process, and spoke of various spending and saving plans to help track cash flow.

You can learn more at www.TheMoneyProfessors.com or take one of Pratt’s classes.

PVCC Gallery Hosts Opening Reception

Elise Hansen, Staff Writer

The PVCC Gallery debuted two new exhibits at its opening reception on Sept. 18. The exhibits, “Gallery Dreams” and “Lost and Found,” drew a steady crowd throughout the evening as students, friends, family, and other art enthusiasts paced the halls, exclaiming over the pieces.

“Gallery Dreams,” displayed in the South Gallery, is a companion piece to “Yard Dreams,” the weekend-long outdoor art event that sprinkled Belmont yards with works by local artists. As the indoor counterpart to “Yard Dreams,” “Gallery Dreams” allows artists to explore the role of location and context in a piece. James Yates, curator of the Yard Dreams event, helped set the tone for the exhibit with his work “Thought Bubbles,” which draws the viewer in and invites him to contemplate the nature of art and the human experience.

In the North Gallery, “Lost and Found” showcases the work of two local artists, Deborah Rose Guterbock and Terri Long. “I am really pleased with how well these two artists’ works go together,” said Gallery Director and PVCC Art Professor Beryl Solla. Both artists, she explains, use a similar palate in their pieces, draw inspiration from nature and use found art as a medium. Or, as Long put it, “We both like to use feathers.”

Long said she frequently draws inspiration from old books. She is fascinated by the moment of throwing away and enjoys the opportunity



**“Owl—Spirit House”
By Deborah Rose Guterbock
Photography by Elise Hansen**

to honor objects one last time. Many of her pieces are collages that feature old textbooks, encyclopedias, and vintage Reader’s Digest books.

Guterbock’s displayed work includes several richly-colored paintings that combine unexpected features: a toad with a velvet coat or a fox with an Elizabethan-era lace collar. Other pieces are three-dimensional displays of found art. In her piece “Owl – Spirit House,” an owl stares unblinkingly at the audience; eggshells, beaded jewelry, and a timepiece surround it, and all are arranged inside a vintage carrying case that houses the work. When asked about the themes of this piece, Guterberg responded that one of her goals was to create “a piece that would encapsulate the essence of owl and exhibit it with great reverence.”

Overall, Solla said the response to the event was “very positive: people were jazzed by the artwork and they loved the food. It’s always a festive environment in the gallery...people stayed well past closing time.”

Both “Gallery Dreams” and “Lost and Found” will remain on display in the Dickinson building until Nov. 4.



**“Discard” by Terri Long
Photography by Elise Hansen**

At Ease, Soldier: PVCC Veterans' Initiative

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Their stories are all unique. Their backgrounds, ethnicities, races, ages, genders, branches of the armed forces, and lengths of service vary. The resulting effects of their service in the military is something they all share in common. The Talking Service Initiative, a reading and discussion group for veterans, is a place where these effects, but especially reintegration into civilian life, are shared and discussed openly.

The group is reading The Great Books Foundations anthology *Standing Down: From Warrior To Civilian*, a collection of works involving service, war, and returning home. The readings include selections from great works, speeches, letters, essays, poems and personal accounts from soldiers both old and new. These stories provide varied examples of how the effects of military life have been impacting personnel throughout the ages. Over a four-week period the group will read 44 selections that are used as facilitators to encourage open discussion among the attending veterans of their personal experiences.

Though it is advertised as available only to veterans, Dr. Cliff Haury, the initiative's facilitator and Dean of Humanities, Fine Arts and Social Sciences at PVCC, would like to encourage civilians, along with student veterans,

to participate in the initiative in the future, stating that "Students have made significant contributions on the ethics of war." He also said, "It's an appropriate venue for students to hear the real life experiences of veterans and learn from them."

As a Vietnam veteran, Haury has personal experience with the difficulties of reintegrating into civilian life. He believes that the civilian world has become largely disconnected from the enlisted world, and that this disconnect is making the transition from enlisted to civilian life even more difficult for veterans coming home from service.

Participating in this discussion group, listening to the stories, and witnessing the connections through mutual understanding is an awe inspiring thing. Haury hopes someday to build a connection between veterans and civilians. Building understanding in the civilian population into their struggle could lead to an easier integration for veterans.

If you are interested in joining in the reading or the discussion group, the Talking Service Initiative is being held Wednesdays Sept. 16, Oct. 7, Oct. 28 and Nov. 18, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. in the Jessup Library at PVCC Main Campus. Seating is limited, so registration is required. To register, call Dr. Cliff Haury at 434-961-5380 or send an email to chaury@pvcc.edu. For more information, visit www.pvcc.edu/talking-service.

"Yard Dreams" Exhibit Enchants Belmont

Arif Michael Vega, Staff Writer

"Yard Dreams," the outdoor art exhibit in Belmont, showcased a variety of creative works by local artists. Curator James Yates and Professor Beryl Solla organized the event as well as its indoor counterpart, "Gallery Dreams."

The works were diverse: in one location, a trail of crabapples beckoned guests onward from a tapestry to a series of hanging sculptures, some woven into trees and foliage, and a bizarre alien suspension garden, whose photographic companion appears in the Dickinson building.

Down the street, a small open-gated yard ensconced a sheltered board game, Brownie Roulette. The official rules encouraged players to make a wager: a random item from their pockets against the prize, a vinyl crest imbued with the brownies' "strongest protection magic."

There were many other exhibits, including a collection of glass birds drifting in the wind; a large miniature pipeline, complete with protest; a collection of winged bunnies by event coordinator Beryl Solla, and a collection of toothbrushes growing in a yard.

Read the full article at piedmontforum.com.

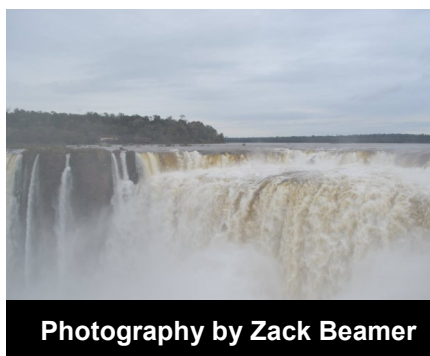
International Travel: What a Trip

Antonia Florence, Editor

If you could go anywhere in the world, how would you prepare? Attending travel forums is a great place to start. On Sept. 21, PVCC's Zack Beamer and David Lerman presented on their respective trips to Argentina and the Netherlands this past summer.

Beamer, Instructor of Mathematics, took part in an exchange program offered through PVCC and the Otto Krause Technical School. He was the third PVCC instructor to take part in it, and the first professor outside of the Spanish department. The school is a co-educational, public secondary trade school located in the San Telmo section of Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Argentina is about four times the size of Texas. Buenos Aires has 13 million inhabitants, and according to Beamer, "[It] is home to some of the most beautiful architecture."



Photography by Zack Beamer

While at La Recoleta Cemetery, Beamer visited the current resting place of Eva Peron (Evita). Her remains have been moved many times due to the threat of

robbers and have even been buried under an alias.

One of the most beautiful places he visited was Iguazu Falls which lies on Argentina's border with Brazil. It consists of 275 falls over 1.67 miles, reaches the height of 269 feet and ranks third in the world for the average flow of water.

Lerman, Coordinator of Student Success, participated in the Virginia Community College System's exchange program. He visited the Netherlands, where Dutch is the native language. The Netherlands is one of the most densely populated countries and is roughly twice the size of New Jersey. Amsterdam boasts a population of 1.5 million and possesses more than 60 miles of



Photography by David Lerman

canals.

Lerman took part in an immersion program connected with Noorderpoort College in the municipality of Groningen.

This is a multifaceted regional technical school. Klaas Heeres, whom

PVCC hosted in October 2014, was Beamer's host.

Some of Lerman's time was spent taking in the architecture, noticing the homes with their beautiful yards, and touring five-thousand-year-old burial sites where the stones had to be transported a vast distance.

He visited Greece, where he saw the Acropolis cloaked in moonlight. He also visited the Samarian Gorge, a National Park of Greece on the island of Crete, where he spent time hiking its many trails and taking in the scenery.

PVCC is offering several international travel opportunities for its students. Professor Decker, Spanish instructor, will be leading a trip during spring break to the Yucatán Peninsula of Mexico. This area comprises a significant portion of ancient Maya Lowlands. Arrangements are incomplete at this time.

Professor Grajales-Diaz, who also teaches Spanish, is leading a trip through Spain leaving May 18, 2016, lasting 11 days. The arrangements for this trip are complete and can be seen on fliers posted in the hallways or on PVCC's website.

Faculty are planning two additional trips. Professor Swanson is organizing a trip to France and Instructor Noriko Donahue a trip to Japan. As more information becomes available on all these exciting trips, it will be posted on the school's website under the Academic tab titled International Education.

The Later the Better?

Nia'Ife Mukasa, Staff Writer

The academic calendar for Piedmont Virginia Community College has a new attitude. This year, the Fall 2015 registration is extended to the end of September, with some classes starting as late as Nov.9.

Among the credited classes that are still being offered are classes in Information technology, sociology, history, English and math. The classes range from four to twelve weeks in length and many of them offer credits that will transfer to other colleges.

The extended add-drop period gives students the advantage of “test-driving” their schedules and tweaking them to meet personal needs.

The late-starting classes also provide a

convenient option for those who do not have the need or desire to spend 16 weeks in school when 12 or fewer will do.

The only setback to late registration is the delayed disbursement of funds to those who were awarded financial aid. Vanessa, a representative for the 24-hour student financial aid services, said “... financial aid disbursement is being held until the add and drop period has ended for all of the courses which you are registered in.”

Those who decide to register for later classes can expect that their refund will come later than others' even if they are enrolled in classes that began in August.

Delayed refund disbursements aside, late class registration is full of advantages. A complete list of available classes and the add/ drop periods can be found on the PVCC website.

PVCC Rocks the Vote

Nia'Ife Mukasa, Staff Writer

Over a hundred students registered during register-to-vote week according to political science Professor Connie Jorgensen. Professor Jorgensen organized the voting registration event that spanned from Sept. 21-24.

“I am very passionate about registering to vote and the; n voting. Everyone should vote,” Jorgensen wrote in an e-mail.

Using a new registration tool called TurboVote, 182 students registered during the week-long event. TurboVote helps with new and updating registration as well as helping voters obtain an absentee ballot and vote by mail. “With TurboVote you can also sign up to get email and text messages reminding you of upcoming elections and where to find your voting location,” Jorgensen wrote.

It seems no avenue was left untried to make registration opportunities available to students. Though the main part of the event was held in the Bolick Center, students were also able to register in class, online through Blackboard, or through an

email sent out by PVCC President Frank Friedman. Given the number of students enrolled at PVCC and the effort put into the event, few students seem to be interested in voting. Jorgensen voiced her concerns, “It may seem like your vote doesn't count, but if you decide not show up you've given up any chance you have of making a difference.”

Jorgensen's passion is making quite an impact on students. She believes that everyone else's vote has greater power when others choose not to vote. When asked what she would say to someone who does not think voting matters, Jorgensen replied, “Change doesn't occur overnight, it takes time. Too often I hear “I voted once and my candidate lost.” Well, you need to keep at it!”

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, elections will be held for the State Senate, House of Delegates and local offices. To register, visit pvcc.turbovote.org and the site will walk you through the registration process. To learn which candidates are running, visit the Virginia Department of Elections website: sbe.virginia.gov. All students are highly encouraged to participate in the coming elections.

Welcome Back Social

Krista C. Petzold, Staff Writer

Sept. 9 brought sunshine, free food, volleyball, and a dunking tank to PVCC's main campus. The Welcome Back Social kicked off another great semester for students, faculty and staff. The free food was fantastic and a nice way for people to talk and meet one another outside of class.

This relaxed setting has become an anticipated tradition for returning students and a nice way to break the ice for new students. The Welcome Back Social also involved games like volleyball and Ping-Pong. For students who either wanted to get dunked or dunk someone else in some refreshing water, the dunk tank provided great fun for observers and dunking victims alike. Prizes were even awarded throughout the day. The most common prize seemed to be a \$10 gift card to The Mermaid Express Coffee Cafe in the main building.

The 2015 Welcome Back Social was a great experience and a nice break from the daily routine of school work and classes. Welcome back students and good luck with the fall semester!

Photography by Krista C. Petzold





Free Movie Friday: *Inside Out*

Gina Leah, Staff Writer

It was a full house at the showing of *Inside Out* on Sept. 18. The audience was a mix of ages ranging from children to grandparents, and everyone was looking forward to an evening of entertainment.

The first in PVCC's 2015-2016 Free Movie Fridays series, the evening started with a short film by Jacob Chang-Rasclé, *The World is Amazing*.

This short, a Timelapse Short Film, was created and directed by Chang-Rasclé, who also composed the music that accompanied beautiful time-lapse images of nature. It was a breathtaking and soothing start to the evening.

Inside Out is an animated film from Disney-Pixar directed by Peter Docter and Ronaldo del Carmen. The film is about an 11-year-old girl, Riley. Specifically, it is about Riley's core emotions – Joy, Sadness, Fear, Disgust and Anger – which help Riley navigate through life.

Riley grows up as an only child of two loving parents in the Midwest. Joy is her prevailing emotion through this time, and most of her memories are joyful.

Trouble starts when the family has to move to San Francisco for her father's business. At first, with Joy's help, Riley tries to make the best of things. But during a struggle between Sadness and Joy, Riley's core memories are lost, leading to emptiness for Riley.

Joy and Sadness leave Disgust, Anger and Fear in charge while they search for the core memories and try to bring them back before all of Riley's foundational memories are lost to the Memory Dump.

During the journey, Joy begins to understand the necessity of Sadness in Riley's memories – in order for Riley to create new, joyful, memories in her new home, her old memories have to be tinged with a little bit of Sadness.

A family with four children ranging in ages from 7 to 16 agreed to talk about their feelings about the film. Their reactions to the movie ran

the same gamut as the emotions portrayed in the film.

The 16-year-old boy liked it and thought it was a true portrayal, the 14-year-old girl thought it was repetitive, the 10-year-old boy did not like it, and the 7-year-old girl thought it was scary and sad. My 21-year-old daughter thought it was brilliant.

A follow up a few days later showed that they were pointing out each other's emotions throughout the day: "You're Anger!", "You're Sad," "You're showing Disgust," and so on.

Their mom liked that the movie opened the door for them recognize emotions in each other, and even to pinpoint what caused some of the emotions.

Dr. Michael Rahilly held a short question and answer session after the show to discuss the many meanings portrayed in the film, and agreed to an interview later in the week.

Rahilly said that, "From a psychologist's point of view, the movie uses a lot of field's understanding of emotions and thoughts. Really using them in a very accurate way. What made [the movie] effective from a developmental psychologist's point of view is that it shows the development of emotional capacity. Riley's memories were changing because she was passing through the developmental process that happens in middle childhood, that you can only feel one emotion at a time."

The most important concept in this movie for children and adults, according to Rahilly, is recognizing emotions and their roles; keeping emotions as an important aspect of life. The movie showed the primary emotions. Everyone has the capacity to feel them and understand them. They show up in the first year of life. The next are secondary emotions that are basically the same emotions but directed toward the self. For instance, Pride would be Joy about the Self.

Inside Out will be released on Digital HD on Oct. 13 and Blu-Ray on Nov. 3.

The next Free Movie Friday feature will be *The End of the Tour* on Oct. 16.

The Lockn'ess Monster

Joseph Fowler, Staff Writer

Twenty-five thousand rabid music fans descended upon Oak Ridge Farm in Arrington, VA, when Lockn', a force of nature and annual music festival, arrived in a wash of rain, floods and tornadoes, the Daily Progress reported. \

Lockn' arrived on Thursday, September 10. Even Lockn' proved ill-prepared to handle Lockn', prompting a postponement of festivities until the next day. Three days of festivities promptly followed.

"We got there around 5:30 Friday morning and set up camp," said Lockn' veteran and local nurse Gary Mahoney. "Everything got put off until Friday because of the weather on Thursday." Mahoney went on to add that concert goers endured torrential downpours of glow sticks and hula hoops along with twelve hours a day of constant noise due to the twin stages of the main venue which allowed for no downtime in between sets.

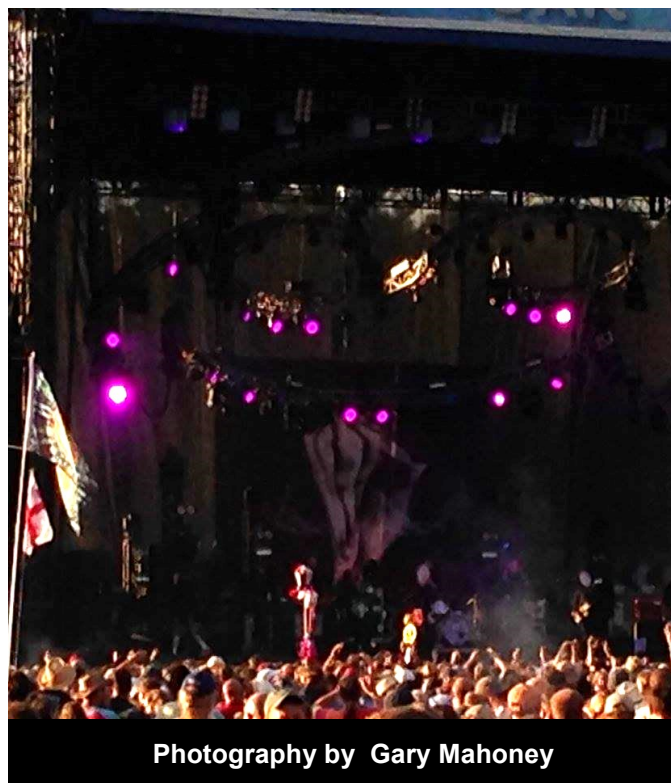
Mahoney also said that despite their dire circumstances, attendees reacted well to acts like Bob Weir, a former member of the Grateful Dead; Robert Plant, former member of Led Zeppelin; and festival-circuit mainstays such as Widespread Panic and The String Cheese Incident.

"I was never really into the Grateful Dead that much, but I really enjoyed the Widespread Panic sets. They played on Saturday and Sunday nights. I also really appreciated the chance to see Robert Plant, because I'll probably never have that chance again," said Mahoney.

After taking a moment to pause and reflect, Mahoney changed the subject.

"There was a sign up at the venue entrance warning people that they were being recorded," he revealed.

Mahoney also pointed out the presence of a surveillance drone flying over the concert venue, though he never presented any connection between the sign and the drone as an alternate theory.



Photography by Gary Mahoney

"The sign at the venue entrance said that the purpose of recording was for promotional purposes," Mahoney stated but then went on to add that he noticed less public officials on the ground than in previous years, implying that perhaps the drone somehow influenced a safer environment overall.

"There were less medical emergencies on the ground than in the past, and less arrests and other apparent activity by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control," Mahoney added.

On the subject of alcohol, Mahoney mentioned the presence of several vendors selling local micro brews. His focus shifted to the festival's effect on local business as a whole. Mahoney provided a photograph and pointed out a giant tent dubbed "local" with vendors ranging from Sticks Kebob Shop to The Pie Guy.

Lockn' 2015 stormed upon Arrington. A festival of love, common interest, music and safe fun emerged afterwards along with a boost to the local economy, good vibes and fond memories.

Giving Back Made Fun And Easy

Melanie Couzzo, Staff Writer

Many people want to do good for their communities or for other places around the world but find themselves lacking the time, energy, or money to do so. Giving back can become an afterthought, something to get to someday when we have all of those things to spare. Well, with the modern-day conveniences of the internet and cellphones, “someday” has arrived.

With these technological advances, giving back has never been more simple, fun, or free. The level of involvement to these new charitable opportunities varies. Some require a one-time sign-up or a daily task, while others require you to review works or play games. Many link directly to your

daily routine without any inconvenience to you beyond the initial sign-up. With so many ways to make a difference, finding the right one for you may be the biggest investment you have to make.

The simplest way to give is through everyday activities such as grocery shopping. Kroger Community Rewards will donate a portion of every purchase to local fundraisers when you swipe your plus card. AmazonSmile and Goodsearch.com

function similarly: just select a charity you’d like to contribute to, and a portion of every purchase afterwards is donated to that charity. You can change your selection at any time, so feel free to spread the love.

Daily donations can be made at The Hunger Site and Freerice.com without registration; since they are ad sponsored, your clicks provide the money to charity. The Hunger Site gives you the option of donating to any of ten different causes with a simple click. Freerice.com gathers donations through a trivia game with different categories of questions to answer. Each correct answer provides rice to the World Food Programme.

For a big impact without the daily time commitment, Kiva.org and Zidisha.org are micro-lending sites where you provide a small loan to people from around the world that will be paid back to you within a set time frame. You may then choose to loan that money to another cause or to simply get your money back.

For those who want to be more directly involved, Care2.com is a simple and effective way to access petitions for a wide range of causes, from animal welfare to civil rights. It also allows you to start a petition of your own.

Apps are also a fun and easy way to donate. With Charity Miles, you simply download the app, select a charity, and for every mile you bike, run or walk, money is donated to your selected charity.

The Give Work iPhone app has a unique approach: companies crowdsource simple jobs through Samasource, a global data sourcing company that trains refugees in different skills. These trained refugees are given the jobs, and you, through the Give Work app, double-check their work to ensure its accuracy and quality.

With so many options available, it’s easy to give back in a way that fits your lifestyle and income bracket.

You can make a difference, do good, and still have the time, energy, and money to do all of those other things life requires you to do. You may just feel better about it.

{ Quick Links }

[www.kroger.com/
communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)

smile.amazon.com

www.goodsearch.com

[thehungersite.greater
good.com](http://thehungersite.greatergood.com)

freerice.com

[www.care2.com/click-
to-donate/](http://www.care2.com/click-to-donate/)

www.charitymiles.org

www.kiva.org

www.zidisha.org

Piedmont Profile: Todd Platts

Elise Hansen, Staff Writer

Dr. Todd Platts has an unusual claim to fame: he is the first to publish academic research on the sociology of zombies. The “zombie professor,” as some are starting to know him, hopes to inspire students to learn more about sociology and to gain a greater appreciation for what social science does.

“Many students think that sociology is just people talking about their opinions,” he explains, “but, actually, it requires a lot of rigor and data.” Sociology is a science, he insists, and sociologists consider themselves scientists.

His own work is a good example of this. While he chose an unconventional topic to study, his methods of researching and his in-depth analysis ultimately earned him his Ph.D. from the University of Missouri. Even now, he is writing a paper that is a statistical analysis of zombie film production over time, and he is co-authoring a paper about slasher films that he will present in Denmark this winter. He also has a forthcoming book chapter charting the evolution of the zombie in popular culture.

This is Platts’ first year teaching at PVCC, and his voice brims with enthusiasm as he discusses his many plans for enriching the PVCC community. He is no stranger to teaching—he has taught at the University of Missouri, Moberly Area Community College, Harrisburg Area Community College and the University of Southern Mississippi—but he is

determined to keep his courses fresh and bring new ideas into his classroom. He is creating new lectures, experimenting with different teaching techniques, and putting together a library of videos as a resource for his classes. He also wants to help develop textbooks that are more affordable for students and expand PVCC’s course offerings in sociology.

One of the initiatives he is most passionate about is his goal to re-start the Volunteer Club at PVCC. He urges anyone who is interested to contact him about volunteer opportunities with the club. He is also helping develop a grant in hopes of bringing a poverty simulation experience to PVCC campus, which would help students understand some of the issues surrounding poverty and the experiences of people who are in poverty.

In short, Platts is a man with a lot of plans for his time at PVCC, and he hopes that this will be the first of many years in which those plans will come to life



Todd Platts in his office. Photography by Antonia Florence

Riddles

Brennan Tanner, Staff Writer

*A round silver coin,
Someone tossed up high.
Round and full, shining.
On indigo velvet rests
In a chill tempest, bitter.*

*Carven visage, a
Fiery elemental,
Held in its confines.
Fighting the night on the day,
That the dead come among us.*

*Scarlett, umber, gold,
So many vibrant hues, warm,
First flora, then fire.
Fallen in their thousands,
Crumbling underfoot, brittle.*

*Sinuous and black,
A shadow drenched in moonlight,
Silently pads.
Mighty hunter, causing fright,
Crossing his path sours one's luck.*

Find more riddles on piedmontforum.com



No Luck Chuck by Bridgette Lively

Tagalong by Caroline



Interesting Facts: Halloween

Bridgette Lively, Staff Writer

Halloween can be a fun or horrifying holiday. That really depends if you get tricked or treated.

Here are some Halloween Facts I found:

Source: www.randomhistory.com

- The first jack o'-lanterns were actually made of turnips
- Samhainophobia is the fear of Halloween
- Halloween is the second highest grossing commercial holiday after Christmas
- The owl is a popular Halloween image. In medieval Europe, owls were thought to be witches, and to hear an owl's call meant someone was about to die



Comic by Andie Meddaugh

Classifieds

**Don't miss the One Book Project
Events this month**

**Documentary
The Way of All Flesh
Oct. 27, 5:30-7 p.m.
Library, Main Building**

**Speaker: Dr. Lundy Pentz
Oct. 28, 11:50 a.m.-12:50 p.m.
M229, Main Building**

Know of any Community Events, Announcements,
or Advertisements you'd like to list?

Contribute and Submit to



Contact us at theforum@pvcc.edu
for more information or visit our website :
www.piedmontforum.com



Check us out on social media

@PVCCForum

The Forum is a voice for all students. Accordingly, materials published in The Forum, including any opinions expressed, should not be interpreted as the position of the VCCS, Piedmont Virginia Community College, or any stakeholder thereof. The paper welcomes letters to the editor, guest columns, questions, photography or any other ideas or submissions one may have for the upcoming publications. Please contact pvccforum2014@gmail.com with any questions.

Contact Us

PVCC The Forum

501 College Dr.
Charlottesville, VA 22902
theforum@pvcc.edu
www.piedmontforum.com

The Forum offers classified space to the PVCC community free of charge. Please send announcements along with full name, email, and phone number to: theforum@pvcc.edu

The Forum Staff

(Listed alphabetically)

Managing Editor

Antonia Florence

Assistant Editor

Elise Hansen

Staff Writers/Copyeditors

Annette Cashatt
Melanie Couzzo
Claudia Cruz
Kaitlyn Duvalois
Antonia Florence
Joseph Fowler
Elise Hansen
Gina Leah
Bridgette Lively
Nia'Ife Mukasa
Krista C. Petzold
Brennan Tanner
Kellyn Torres
Arif Michael Vega
Audrey Waldrop
Alexis Williams
Kelly Wilmer

Comic Artists

Bridgette Lively
Andie Meddaugh
Caroline Morris

Faculty Advisor

Dr. Tamara Whyte