

#### Much Ado about Shakespeare

Charles Stish, staff writer

This semester at PVCC, the skilled and dedicated local actors and play directors are bringing to life William Shakespeare's *Macbeth* and *Much Ado About Nothing*.

"The interesting thing about the two plays is how they contrast each other. A violent drama and a silly comedy. A very, light and colored show and a dark show," said Brad Stoller, director of *Much A do About Nothing and assistant professor of theatre arts, humanities, fine arts and social sciences at PVCC.* 

Stoller and local experienced acting major and director of *Macbeth* Amalia Oswald are directing both shows with the same actors in a technique called repertoire acting. This means all actors rehearse and practice together and will make groups to practice each play respectively. "The actors have to drastically change from a serious tragedy to a silly comedy," said Stoller

The actors are enthusiastic about the upcoming performances as they willingly enjoy the rehearsal exercises of running lines and physical acting warm ups. As they do this, they create a bond that makes them keen to each others emotions and body movements. a good trait to have whilst on stage. Several of the current actors also participated in PVCC previous play productions, including last vear's The Rocky Horror Show. Macbeth and Much Ado

About Nothing have already played their first weekend. Their second set of performances will be on the weekend of Nov. 11 with Much Ado About Nothing playing first on Nov.11 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov.12 at 2:30 p.m. with Macbeth following on Nov.12 at 7:30 p.m. and Nov.13 at 2:30 p.m. All showings will be performed in the Maxwell (BlackBox) Theatre on the second floor of the V. Earl Dickinson Building.

Tickets can be bought at \$5 online or in person two hours before the show at the Box Office window or by calling the Box Office: 434-961-5376 prior to the showings. Since the Blackbox Theatre is small, it is recommended to reserve tickets in advance of the performance.



PVCC actors performing acting exercises. Photo by Charles Stish

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#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

---PVCC Theatre Presents: *Macbeth*---Oct. 28 & Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 29 & Nov. 11, 2:30 p.m. Dickinson Building, Maxwell Theater

—PVCC Theatre Presents: Much A do A bout Nothing— Oct. 28 & Nov. 12, 2:30 p.m.; Oct. 29 & Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m. Dickinson Building, Maxwell Theater

— **PVCC Fall Fitness Fair \***— Nov. 2, 9 a.m to 3 p.m., North Mall Meeting Room

— One Book Talk—Waldo Jaquith \* — Nov. 2, Noon, Main Building 229

— **Virginia Film Festival** — Nov. 3-6, throughout Charlottesville

— One Mic Stand \* — Nov. 10, 7 p.m., Dickinson Building, Maxwell Theater

— **BSA Bingo Night** — Nov. 11, 6-8 p.m., Bolick Center

- Gallery Exhibit Opening Reception \* ---Nov. 18, 5-7 p.m., Dickinson Building

— Free Movie Friday: *Sully* \* — Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— Veterans' Story Theatre \* — Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Building, Maxwell Theater

> — FSAE Movie Night — Nov. 20, 6-9 p.m., Dickinson Building

— *A Christmas Carol* ^ — Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— Annual Pottery Club Sale \* — Dec. 3, 9 a.m. to Noon, Dickinson Building

*— Reciprocity* Concert — Dec. 3, 7-9:30 p.m., Dickinson Auditorium

— Let There Be Light \* — Dec. 9, 6-9 p.m., Dickinson Building

\*Free Event ^Student Vouchers Available

# Preparing to Vote on Nov. 8

Sydney Pratt, staff writer

As election day approaches, people are slowly deciding whom they want to vote for. These people participate in watching debates, researching all presidential candidates, and even going to rallies. Many people have fought for racial and gender equally, which means more Americans have the right to vote. With that being said, more people should appreciate having these rights and should definitely register to vote.

On Monday, Oct. 3, Piedmont Virginia Community College made it their goal to make sure young potential voters are registered and educated enough to be able to vote come this November.

In the Bolick Center, students crowded around the table that was covered in blank registration papers along with life-sized cutouts of presidential candidates Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump.

It was surprising to see how many people had not previously registered to vote. The process to register was extremely simple. The steps included filling out a paper with personal information. This information is used to clarify if you are a US citizen and to determine voter precinct according to your address.

Educating one's self when it comes to politics is extremely important. Research all possible candidates by going on to trusted websites or news channels. This way, people can fully participate in voting and not neglect their rights.

Learn more about the candidates in the *PVCC Non-partisan Voter Guide*, available on Piedmontforum.com.



### Student Government Association News

#### Skye Scott, staff writer

The Student Government Association (SGA) will be holding a Town Hall Meeting in the Bolick Student Center of the main building on PVCC's campus. The Town Hall Meeting will likely be held on a Monday or a Wednesday during college hour. This event will allow students to directly ask PVCC's president and vice-presidents questions.

"The president and his vice-presidents are invited to be on the panel to answer the students questions. This is a great opportunity for PVCC students to get in touch with college administrative directly," said Wadah Al Mulhim, the SGA president.

This is something new for PVCC, and is being held in an attempt to connect students to the PVCC administrators. It is intended to show the transparency of the school, according to Al Mulhim.

The Town Hall Meeting will be approximately 50 minutes long, and food will be provided.

For more information and updates on the date and time follow the SGA's Facebook page: PVCC Student Government Association.





### **PVCC's Presidential Mock Debate**



The mock debate student presidential candidates pose for a photo. Photography by Charles Stish

Charles Stish, staff writer

Oct. 17, 2016 was the starting day of PVCC's Free Speech week. With it, activities and events were celebrated throughout the school in honor of the United State's First Amendment.

One of these events was a presidential mock debate conducted by one half of the student body in the American National Politics course (PLS 153), taught by Assistant Professor of Political Science Connie Jorgenson.

"This is not to entertain, but to inform, because people will make the outcome of the presidential election," said Roger Howard, student project manager for the mock debate.

The mock debate had been planned and coordinated by the PLS 135 students assigned with the task since the second week of this semester.

The debate included three debate panelists (Scott Atkins, Rachel Dabowski, Therese Baber) who asked scripted, relevant questions pertaining to foreign policies, gun control, and financial aid for college students.

The questions would be answered by four

students (Joseph Chaftez as Hillary Clinton, Jermey Lawson as Donald Trump, Alexea Duquesne as Gary Johnson, and Tiana Sigala as Jill Stein) who individually represented the four presidential candidates in this election year, and answered in a fashion that their selected candidate would answer the question.

The students representing the candidates were actors portraying a character as they answered according to a script, and some did not agree with the political views of their candidate.

A debate administrator gave the candidates twenty seconds to answer the questions and would cut off the responses if they went on for too long.

If you want to be active and learn about national politics and political issues within higher education, PVCC's Virginia21 club meets biweekly on Wednesdays from 12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. in room M158.

The student contact for Virginia21 is Grayson Katzenbach, chapter president:

gk242@email.vccs.edu

Their faculty advisor is Connie Jorgenson: cjorgensen@pvcc.edu

### Admissions & Advising is a Great Place to Start

Skye Scott, staff writer

When a student walks into the Main Building on the Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) campus, one of the first things they will see is the glass doors behind which sit the many desks and people who make up the Admissions and Advising Center.

Many students have already come into contact with the people working there, because it is typically the first place new PVCC students go for information.

"It's really where all students get started. Whether it's one class or a degree ... big questions, little questions; this is just kind of a starting point for everyone, and it's a reference point for everyone," said Robyn Lane, an administrative assistant in the Admissions and Advising center who specializes in helping students claim in-state tuition.

The staff who work in the Admissions and Advising center are knowledgeable in their specific fields. They strive to provide excellent and efficient care to each and every student who comes into the office.

Both Kelley Bennett, an administrative assistant, and Kristin Wentland, an academic advisor, said they wish students would proactively seek advising before registering for classes, so as to have the perfect schedule. Kemper Steele, Coordinator of Transfer and Advising, said there are national statistics that show students who seek advising and support while at college do better than students who do not. He also said, "The biggest reason why they are successful by seeking advising is they stay on track. ... If you do it on your own, without seeking help, you're more at risk to possibly get off track."

Steele said they are working on coming up with better ways to reach students who can not come onto campus. One possibility is through virtual advising.

Both Bennett and Steele said they hope students see the Admissions Office as a valuable resource. Steele also added that he hopes students see the office as " warm, inviting and accessible." He wants students to "walk in and kind of have a sense of comfort and trust that ... they are going to be taken care of."

Wentland said, "I hope [students] feel comfortable coming in to ask us any type of question, because I feel like we are the hub of the college. We have a lot of information and we can get you to the right place if we don't know the exact answer. So just come to see us, come to talk to use, don't be afraid of us."

You can directly contact the Admissions and Advising center at 434-961-6551 or on campus in Room M144.

#### **Explaining Electoral Math**

Lindsey Woodyard, staff writer

Virginia21 and the Math Club co-hosted the electoral college event on Oct. 19. Political Science Assistant Professor Connie Jorgensen gave a lecture on how the electoral college works, and Mathematics Instructor Justin Storer gave an analysis of our voting system.

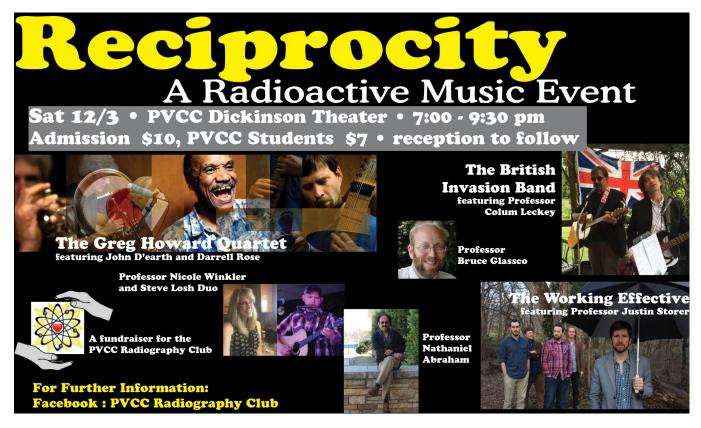
Jorgensen explained how the electoral college chooses the president and vice president based on the popular vote. The electoral college is designed to give a voice to smaller states who would otherwise be overpowered by more populated states.

PVCC President Frank Friedman said that rules are what make democracy work. Following the rules is what ensures a smooth transition of power.

Storer elaborated on the limitations of the American voting process. He explained how presidential candidates could win the electoral college nomination with only 20 percent of the popular vote. He said he is outraged at the disparity between the popular vote and the potential outcome of the electoral college nomination, and he hopes to analyze the voting process in a way that people can understand.

Grayson Katzenbach, president of PVCC's chapter of Virginia21, said, "A lot of college students feel that their vote doesn't count. So, teaching them about the electoral college shows them how their vote counts."

#### Some upcoming events:



## "Reciprocity" is a New Beginning

Antonia Florence and Arif Michael Vega, staff writers

An amalgamation of local artists and some talented PVCC faculty will perform Saturday, Dec. 3 in Dickinson Theater. Doors will open for "Reciprocity - A Radioactive Music Event" at 6:30 p.m. A meet the artist reception will follow the performance.

"Reciprocity" is being organized by PVCC's Radiography Club, which consists of second-year radiology students. The proceeds will off-set the expense of attending the annual state radiologic conference in April.

According to RAD club president, Joyce Howard, the cost can be prohibitive. This conference is important to both students and their instructors.

"Radiography students state-wide attend in order to prepare for their medical boards. This year, PVCC Radiography Program Director and Assistant Professor Nicole Winkler will be presenting on several key topics," Howard said.

In conjunction with "Reciprocity," a silent auction and raffle will be taking place. Tickets are on sale now from radiography students. Advance tickets will also be sold in the Bolick Student Center Tuesday, Nov. 29, Noon-5 p.m. and Thursday, Dec. 1, 1-5 p.m.

With student identification, PVCC students can purchase tickets for \$7, while general admission is \$10.

The program will be new to PVCC, and Howard hopes it will continue in future years. "It is exciting to be a part of something new, a new legacy," Howard said. "When I think about all the clubs, all the events, I think about the people that started them." She is also excited to be inviting performers that people do not usually have access to.

For further information, please contact Joyce Howard, 434-987-5813 or jmd27111@email.vccs.edu.

## Lights, Camera, Festival

Jake Delaurier, staff writer

The 29th annual Virginia Film Festival is set to take place on Nov. 3-6. This four day event will showcase 135 films. These films will be shown at many different locations like Violet Crown, The Paramount Theatre, the PVCC Dickinson Center, UVA, and the Vinegar Hill Theatre.

"People can expect tremendous attendance," said festival director Jody Kielbasa. "In eight years, attendance rose from 11000 to 32000," said Kielbasa.

"This year's festival we have *La La Land*, which won the Audience Favorite Award at the Toronto Film Festival, the biopic about Jackie Kennedy called *Jackie*, and a work-in progress of *Beauty and the Beast* to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the film," said Kielbasa.

The Virginia Film Festival will also host numerous special guests. Some of these guests include Paige O'Hara, the voice of Belle from *Paruty and the Paretty* 

Beauty and the Beast; Danny McBride, star of the ΤV show Vice Principals, will screen two episodes of the Michael show, and Barker, co-president and co-founder of Sony Picture Classics.

Family Day will also be apart of the Festival on Nov. 5 on the UVA Arts Grounds. Some activities offered at Family Day include showings of Disney Animated Shorts and James and The Giant Peach at no expense and performance by а Moonlight Circus.

Throughout the festival, galas and parties will be held Nov. 3-5. The first of these will the Opening Night Gala, which will take place on Nov. 3 from 9:30 p.m. to midnight at The Jefferson Theater for \$75. Attendees will be able to listen to Kool Kats Lite, enjoy hors d'oeuvres provided by Harvest Moon Catering, and take pictures at the MoxBox photo booth. The second, the Digital Media Gallery First Friday Opening Reception, will be held on Nov. 4 5:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. at the Second Street Gallery for free. Here attendees will be able to hang out with a variety of people like students and other festival attendees.

And finally, the Late Night Wrap Party will be held on Nov. 5 at the Main Street Arena 10:00 p.m.- 2:00 a.m. for \$35. Similar to Opening Night Gala, food will be provided by Harvest Moon Catering and attendees will be able to take photos at the MoxBox photo booth. The Late Night Wrap Party will also have a performance from Moonlight Circus.

For more information regarding this year's upcoming film festival, visit http:// virginiafilmfestival.org/.



Picture of the 2014 Virginia Film Festival. Photo courtesy of The Virginia Film Festival and Flickr

### The Student Success Office is Here For You!

Antonia Florence, staff writer

If your grades have been falling and are wondering if college is for you anymore, or it has been difficult fitting in, and you are fighting loneliness, rest assured these are all normal college experiences. There is help here at PVCC. The Student Success office includes coordinator, David Lerman, and Student Success Advisors Kristen Holt and Kristy Simpkins.

They are committed and ready to help all students at PVCC achieve their academic goals through appreciative advising.

"Appreciative advising is building up from a positive background. Everyone has positive somewhere, from some point in their life," said Simpkins.

The Student Success office refers to in-house and community-based resources.

These resources include the Writing Center which is helpful to many, including English-as-asecond-language students.

In addition, academic coaching can foster good study and time management skills; and the First Quadrant math lab has math and science tutors.

Career advising can help open opportunities

which one may not have thought possible, and PVCC's branch of UVA Community Credit Union offers free budget counseling.

Community-based resources include mental health and legal counseling services through various agencies.

Housing and food shortfalls can also be addressed. "All of these affect our ability to learn," said Simpkins.

Simpkins was a first generation college student, and by her own admission, was not a good student initially. Because of this, she lost her financial aid at one point. "We have to learn from our failures," said Simpkins. After earning her bachelor's degree from Christopher Newport University, she went on to Old Dominion University and earned her master's degree in mental health counseling with a specialization in college counseling.

Simpkins has experienced some of the same pitfalls PVCC students may find themselves in.

Her eyes expressed encouragement when Simpkins said, "Don't give up on yourself. You may not see immediate results but it will pay off."

The Student Success office is housed in room M132 on PVCC's Main Campus.



David Lerman, Kristen Holt, and Kristy Simpkins pose for a photograph. Photo courtesy of Simpkins.

## The Importance of PVCC's Career Services

Charles Stish, staff writer

A student, unsure about their career path, walks into Room M128 for an appointment with Andre Luck, the manager of PVCC's Career Services department. Luck welcomes them into his small and humble office with a welcoming salutation and firm handshake. Soon, the student will come out of the office with a clearer vision of their career and the road to get it. Luck will then smile at the idea of helping another student find their way. That is, after all, what career services does.

"I like to help students dream and make those dreams come true," said Luck, career services manager at PVCC. When referring to the phrase "thinking outside the box," Luck said, "I tell students the entire universe should be their box."

Luck is responsible from career-related programs on the main campus including coordinating PVCC's internship program, organizing meetings on campus with guests from different work fields, assisting PVCC's Financial Aid department with work study programs, and working with employers to consider student hiring. He also helps students learn job etiquette and mannerisms to better impress potential employers. "I'm trying to be a role-model to the students...I'm trying to communicate what employers expect," he said.

Andre Luck has sixteen years experience as a career advisor and a Master of Business Administration degree. He has worked several entry level jobs, giving him a well-rounded view on the business world. "When people tell me 'It's going to take a long time' or 'that this is me', this is what I tell them. It is not life shattering; it is not death. It is only temporary. You can make it through that," he said.

Recently, career services has taken measures to become more known to the student body at PVCC. It was considered only an afterthought in most students' minds for a long time. One such measure, beginning last spring semester, was to assign all SDV courses a mandatory Career Planning Process. This is to help students identify a career path early. Advertisements of big events are also being implemented to help bring awareness of career services and its role to the students.

### **PVCC** Prepares for Flu Season

Jake Delaurier, staff writer

Flu shots for pneumonia, shingles and whooping cough were offered at Piedmont Virginia Community College on Oct. 3, inside the North Mall Meeting Room. Flu shots were made available for students, staff and faculty. Anyone who was without insurance was able to get their flu shot for only \$25.

The coordinator for the event was Takesha Ellis. As coordinator, Ellis is responsible for finding the best deals for flu shots in addition to being approved by the state, since PVCC is a state agency. Ellis ended up choosing Rite Aid for giving out flu shots. "I chose Rite Aid because of their customer service," said Ellis.

Zaki Mahmoud, head pharmacist from Rite Aid in Waynesboro, was one of the pharmacists providing flu shots at the event. "It's recommended to get your flu shot once a year," said Mahmoud. Mahmoud was also able to provide some interesting facts about flu shots. For example, it is highly

recommended for the elderly with asthma to get their shots because doing so



decreases their chances of contracting pneumonia.

In addition, Mahmoud also pointed out that October is the peak of flu season. It is recommended for people to get their flu shots as soon as possible as it takes two weeks for the shot to be effective.

Flu shots will once again be offered at PVCC toward the end of October and just before Thanksgiving break.

#### Free Speech Monument at PVCC

Skye Scott, staff writer

The Thomas Jefferson Center's Mobile Free Speech Monument was on PVCC's main campus to celebrate Free Speech Week from Oct. 17-24, 2016.

The four chalkboard walls of the monument provided ample room for students and faculty to write their thoughts and opinions without facing direct scrutiny.

"I want students to think about that fundamental right to speech, right? And remember that free speech is hard. Because free speech means that not only do you get to talk but other people have that right to do it too, right? And you may disagree with them, you may find what they say offensive, but they have the right to say it, just as the people who find you offensive and your words offensive can't take away your right to say it," said Connie Jorgensen, an assistant professor of political science.

The wall was cleaned each night so that there was a blank slate the next morning for students and faculty to continue to write their new thoughts and ideas on.

Recurring themes on the wall were Harambe, the gorilla, and political stances about the upcoming presidential election. This was a great time for people on PVCC's campus to present their political views without other people arguing or getting offended to their face.

"We [librarians] make it a point, and it is stipulated in our policies, that we try to represent all viewpoints, that the materials we include in our collections are reputable and authoritative but that all viewpoints are represented. Because it's so important to us to promote freedom of speech, and that includes allowing all sides to be heard," said Crystal Newell, the coordinator of library services at PVCC.

The Free Speech Monument provided a place for all students and faculty on campus to present their viewpoints, to question things that we normally accept, and just simply a place to be heard.

Newell said that being able to write thoughts and feelings on the wall, instead of having to speak them, could also be a nice way to get the pressure of the spotlight off of shyer student's shoulders, allowing them to also have a voice.

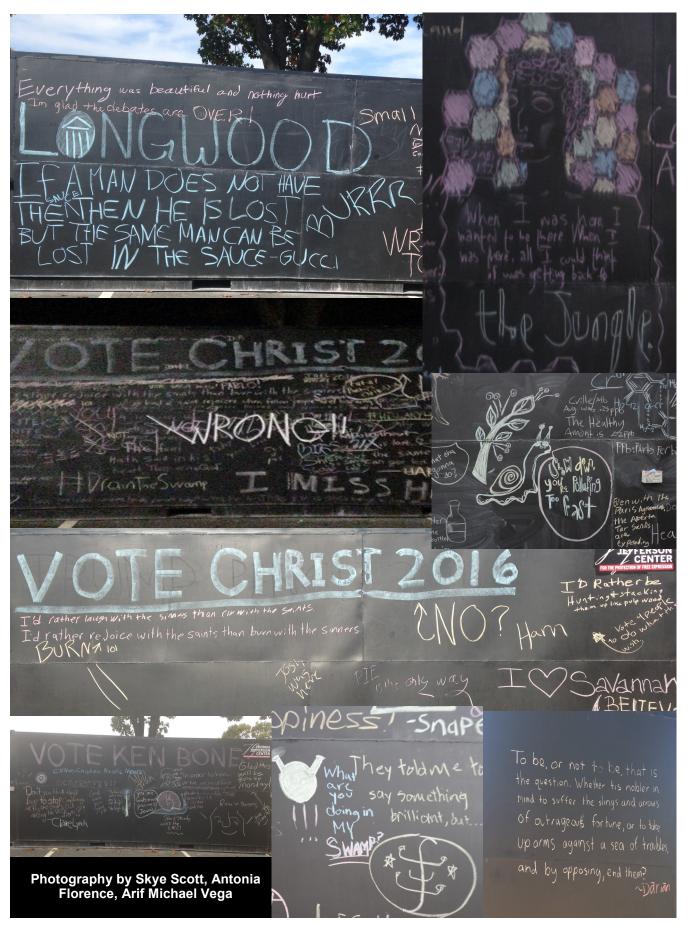
"Remember that the constitution says that the government doesn't give you this right to free speech, right? It specifically says Congress can't take the right away. So ... you are not being granted this right, you inherently have this right," said Jorgensen. However, she does say that no right is absolute, quoting the cliché of "you can't yell fire in a crowded room" as evidence of that.

However, while there may be some areas where freedom of speech does not apply, both Jorgensen and Newell agree that in the area of academic education, freedom of speech is very important.

Without free speech, students would not be able to research topics as well as they might hope to, and teachers would not be able to teach certain areas that are important for students to have an understanding of. Jorgensen said that academic freedom and freedom of speech are like two entwined fingers.

"Your voice matters, your opinions matter, and ... everyone has a right to their freedom of speech. And that that is a central part of our democratic process," said Newell.





# Cultural Integration: A Leap into Japan club

Charles Stish, staff writer

Culture clubs are a staple of PVCC's diversity and cultural growth as students and faculty come together to discuss and partake in activities based around a specific culture. Japan Club is no exception to this.

"This is not a foreign language club; this is a culture club with hopes of spreading Japanese culture. So even if you don't know Japanese, this can be an awesome club!" said Alec Traaseth, club president of Japan Club. During meetings, Japan club members indulge in the Japanese



Japan Club members pose for a group photo. Photography by Charles Stish

culture by listening to Japanese music, creating origami, discussing objectives for the club, and hosting special guests to present different aspects of the Japanese culture. Club members also plan outside of school activities. One such venture was a trip to the University of Virginia's Morven Gardens on Oct. 14, earlier this semester.

Noriko Donahue, Japan Club's faculty advisor, said this about Japan Club, "It's wonderful. The Japanese language is just one part of the culture. When I teach the Japanese language, I also teach the Japanese culture with it. By introducing the culture, they (non-Japanese

> language students) might get interested in the Japanese language one day, but quite a few language students joined because of the culture."

> The members of Japan Club are friendly and open to all newcomers and guests to their meetings. Japan Club meets on Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in Room M174 every other week, but are subject to having meetings weekly so be sure to check PVCC's event calendar for when their next meeting is.

### Got a Knack for Math? Join The Math Club

Jake Delaurier, staff writer

The Math Club at Piedmont Virginia Community College is the perfect place for students who have a strong passion for math. It provides many activities involving math. Some of these activities include games for club members. For example, at the start of one club meeting, club members got a chance to solve a geometry-like puzzle, in which they used shapes to form what many members described as a boat. By the end of the meeting, members had started to play a twoplayer game in which they were given a series of numbers. Whatever number one of the players picked, the other player would get all of the all the numbers that factored into that number. For example, if someone picked the number 18, then the other person would get the numbers 1, 2, 3, 6, and 9.

The Math Club plans many events. One of

these was a Speaker Series that was held on Oct. 26. This event involved guest speakers showing how they use math in their daily work. Principal Engineer Ali Kissai of Northrup Grumman was the guest speaker at the event. As Principal engineer, Kissai is responsible for the building of space ships and aircraft. Kissai's daughter, Zadiyah is also a member of the Math Club.

The Math Club is also planning activities for Halloween. Ideas that were mentioned at the meeting include: guessing how many pieces of candy corn are in a jar, giving out Nerds and Smarties, and creating jack-o-lanterns using mathematical symbols.

The Math Club also had their Electoral College Talk on Oct. 19. "There is a lot of interesting math involved with the Electoral College, this will also help raise general awareness for voting," said club President Cameron Krest.

#### Smashing, the Club

Michael Kaelber, staff writer

War cries, screams, and grunts of rage fill the air as the game begins. Walking into a computer lab, you enter into a room where people are setting up and are pretty friendly. That all ends once everything is up and ready. As with all games, some people get a little too into it, and truthfully, Smash Club has some of those people.

While this seems, to some, to

make it bad, the atmosphere is pretty positive and welcoming. Everyone is friendly, however the competitiveness in the room does rise to the roof. The only problem that flies around the room are Memes (an idea that spreads like a virus by word of mouth or media). Memes-a-plenty.

Some serious smash club members, or smashers, go to tournaments and even sometimes run their own tournaments, like the weeklies run at the End Games. For those few, it is like a life choice, Super Smash Bros., or SSB, is the one game they play religiously. "I never play new games anymore really. I only do smash now,



Michael Kaelber

using my other free time to be social and go out or listen to music," said Adrian Orlando, one of the current leaders of the club.

But the majority only play in club, mostly just for fun. Some even play some other games, not just SSB. You could bring in a game and probably find people in the club who will play with you. Joanna Kammauff, the other leader, wants the club to continue to be an open and welcoming club where students can come in

and just have fun.

It is alright to still come in if you aren't an expert at Super Smash Bros. One of the founders, Joshua Daniels, has run a Facebook page for the club that posts videos every now and then that can point you in a direction to bring up your skill level. He wants the club to open up more and reach out to everyone at PVCC with gaming events and to connect to the smash community within Charlottesville.

So if you have time Friday afternoon around 2 p.m., show up and have fun. There will be a chair waiting for you.

### American Sign Language Club at PVCC

Skye Scott, staff writer

The American Sign Language Club (ASLC) is a new club at PVCC and was started by club president, Elizabeth Muir, after she noticed there were clubs for most other languages excluding ASL.

"I took ASL 101 in the Spring and really enjoyed it. PVCC has a Spanish club, and Japan club, a French club, but no ASL club. I thought it would be great if we had one so students who couldn't take an ASL class could come and be exposed to new things," Muir said.

Club meetings are beginner friendly, and the members are allowed to speak during meetings to ask for help or clarity. A typical meeting begins with review from the last week's material and then the members begin to add new signs.

"We go back and forth between review and

new material sometimes, building off of what we have learned," said Muir.

Muir stated that she did not have a very difficult time getting a new club started because Steve McNerney helped get her on the right path. She said the hardest thing has really been learning the signs well enough so that she can teach them at the meetings. However, she said she has received a ton of support from her Vice president, Waqas Al Mulhim, and her SGA representative, Bambi Kowalzik.

The ASLC has a few events planned; a field trip to Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind in Staunton, and an ASL interpreter coming to the meeting on Wed, Nov. 2.

If you would like more information pertaining to the ASLC, you can follow their Facebook page, "ASLC at PVCC."

Hanan DuVerney, staff writer

Over the past few months, the media has been bombarded with one key phrase: "Brexit." However, few know exactly what it is, much less care about its significance here in the U.S. On Oct. 3, PVCC hosted Dr. James Sofka for a lecture on the issues and controversies surrounding Brexit.

"The Brexit vote has several important implications for the United States," said Sofka. "First, depending on how Brexit is managed, global financial markets can be negatively affected as they were immediately after the June vote. Second, as the U.K. and many of the 28 EU states are also NATO members, rifts between the UK and its continental partners could have implications for the alliance." Sofka continued, "Third, the EU is an important trade partner to the U.S. as well as an ally on other issues such as addressing global climate change. Rifts in the EU could impact these initiatives. Finally, the domestic implications of a win by nationalist, anti-migration parties in Britain have implications for the U.S. For example, Nigel Farage, the former leader of the U.K. Independence Party that led the 'Leave' campaign, made campaign appearances with Donald Trump in the past few months and the Brexit vote has been studied by American For political consultants. these reasons and undoubtedly more, Brexit is of critical importance to American foreign, economic, and national security policy."

While taking all of this into consideration, it is important to understand the repercussions of this decision. In 2007, the European Union met in Lisbon, Portugal, in order to reach an agreement on the boundaries of a member state's request for an exit. Article 50 (TEU), Treaty on European Union, is the agreement reached by the council. Number three states, "The Treaties shall cease to apply to the State in question from the date of entry into force of the withdrawal agreement or, failing that, two years after the notification referred to in paragraph 2, unless the European Council, in agreement with the member of the Member State concerned, unanimously decides to extend this period."

Number four of the article states, "For the

purposes of paragraphs 2 and 3, the member of the European Council or of the Council representing the withdrawing Member State shall not participate in the discussions of the European Council or Council or in decisions concerning it."

Great Britain's exit from the EU immediately impacts their close allies, in particular the United States. Many believe this political action is calamitous. However, it is the negotiations that will transpire over the next two years that will determine the manner of Britain's exit. For specific European states, this could possibly allow sovereign membership of the European community at large with various restrictions.

The Brexit has been projected through media outlets this election season, in addition to Nation State relationships with in EU; this subject matter, is of great importance. If a global power such as Great Britain can challenge the European Union, then other member states who wish to exit can follow their lead; however, that member state should pay close attention to the process of the British Exit from the EU.

The nationalist-right in specific European States see the Brexit as a rallying call for selfdetermination. The French party leader of Front National, Marine Le Pen, is of the opinion that she is the voice of those French who wish to leave the Union. If France were to leave the Union, Germany would certainly take its position within the European Council.

With the Treaty of Nice, in January 2003, Europe saw a shift in the number of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs), allocated to each member state on basis of population density. Germany requested an increase in representatives in order to accurately represent their population; however, between the years 2009 and 2014, the Germans lost three seats while France gained two. Germany currently has 96 MEPs while France retains 76 members.

Despite the obvious difference in MEPs, President Francois Hollande is determined to see through this De Gaulle vision for a "French Europe." The European Union, after all, is a post world-war French brainchild, and for France, Great Britain has been the counter-weight to the German economic power that had emerged after the collapse of the Berlin Wall in 1989.

Read more on piedmontforum.com.

#### Modern Masterpieces

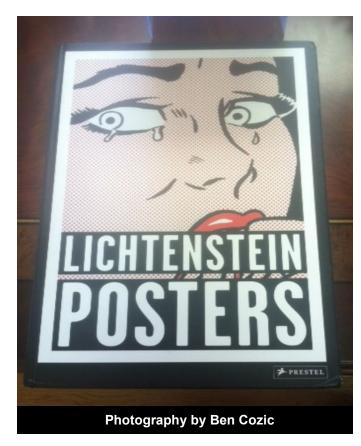
Ben Cozic, staff writer

Ever since man first drew on rock walls, art has become a major influence in the world. People show expression and perspective in what they create and then show it off to see how others react.

But what about art today? Since the days when great artists like Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci died, what types of artists are there in the modern world and how is their art different? The answer is closer than you think.

In Charlottesville, there is a historic building located on 306 East Jefferson Street. When entering the building, immediately noticeable are paintings, sculptures, and drawings. This is the Graves International Art Gallery, where pieces of art are shown and sold.

One of the sections of the gallery is the Masters of Contemporary Art. In this section, there are a number of works created by various modern artists, such as *The Scream* by Salvador Dali and comic book inspired paintings by Roy Lichtenstein. These are a few of the works people





will find when looking around in the exhibit. If you have any questions regarding either the exhibit or the artwork, the owners of the exhibit are happy to help.

A previous exhibit showed the works of Ron Campbell, the artist who drew the animation for the 1968 animated film *Yellow Submarine*, which is famously known to feature the musical band *The Beatles*.

When looking at the artwork, there is a description below the work of the artist that created the piece. It goes on to describe their life and what made them interested in art.

I found this information helpful as it gave me a look into the lives of the artists responsible for such impactful imagery, despite not knowing that much about art.

There is no cost for admission to the gallery, and it is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

If you are interested in art and do not want to travel, then the Graves International Art Gallery is one to check out.

For more information, the gallery has a website: www.gravesinternationalart.com.

### RAD Strengthened Those Who Attended

Antonia Florence, staff writer

The Self-Defense Workshop fundraiser was a success. The event was held in mid-October and sponsored by and benefiting the Radiography Club. It was open to anyone who wanted to learn more about defending themselves while in potentially dangerous situations.

After a short welcome and introduction, the workshop began. Nicole Winkler, Piedmont Virginia Community College Radiography Program director, is also a first degree Shodan Black-Belt Instructor in Okinawan Kempo martial arts with experience in Taekwondo and Jujitsu.

She, along with Corey Lewis,

were the instructors. Lewis is also a first degree Shodan Black-Belt Instructor in Okinawan Kempo martial arts but with experience in Mixed Martial Arts and Jujitsu.

After a short lecture addressing prevention and awareness, different live case scenarios were practiced.

"Being grabbed from behind or from the front by your shirt by an assailant were two of several scenarios discussed and strategies practiced to safely escape harm in these situations," wrote



Photography Courtesy of RAD Club

Victoria Stow via email.

After detailed instructions, demonstrations and hands-on group work with targets as well as advanced techniques were exhibited by Winkler and Lewis. A short question and answer session rounded out the workshop.

While this was the first workshop of its kind sponsored by the RAD club, Stow said, "[It] may be repeated by upcoming classes in their fundraising efforts. Nicole and Cory did a fantastic job."



## Piedmont Profile: Shana Fabio

#### Antonia Florence, staff writer

Shana Fabio, born in Monterey, California, is a self-described army brat who moved seven times by the age of 13. Her first move occurred at 10 months of age across the country to West Point, New York. "My first years were filled with military parades, skiing, weekends of football and lacrosse events, and sitting on historic cannons overlooking the Hudson River for firework displays," said Fabio.

Fabio's second move at the age of five was to Ft. Riley, Kansas, where her family's living quarters were within walking distance of Colonel

Custer's house. She learned from the older children that if she was caught there after dark, Custer's ghost would get her!

Fabio moved within Virginia twice and then to Grosse Pointe, Michigan, where her life changed. It was her first experience living with a defined line between wealthy and poor areas.

"I experienced my first mean girls' who completely judged you for what you wore and possessed. You were told not to hang out with the

kids that lived across Mack Avenue because that was Detroit," Fabio said. This is where she was raped.

She did not tell anyone about the rape for almost two years. "It nearly killed me. It wasn't an easy go- years of therapy. I did a lot of good things once I turned the corner and saw myself as a survivor, not a victim. I created support programs for both victims/survivors and for parents/friends in NOVA," said Fabio. She had moved to Northern Virginia shortly after her horrible experience.

She found when people share their experiences, they learn from and can help each other. After a while, Fabio needed to step back from that community. She had come to the realization that being a victim of rape does not

<image>

define her, but instead, it is a piece of who she is as a survivor. "It absolutely has changed my view of life. When you survive a life threatening event you never look at things the same way. You can't. I have always been strong; now I'm even more so," continues Fabio.

After living in Baltimore and several Virginia localities, she settled in Crozet with her husband and stepson. She enjoys living in this area where the people are warm and the food and music are great, according to Fabio. Her twenty-year-old son lives in Texas.

Fabio formerly worked in the financial market where her responsibilities included

analysis, technical writing and programing. One project converted US financial software applications to French and Spanish, for an expansion into Canada and Mexico, respectively. Then in 2007 the market crashed.

She accepted a position with Live Nation which began as Musictoday in Crozet. She learned about web development and e-commerce while also becoming a client manager for many artists. Since then, she was the Technology Manager for NC Virtual Public Schools and fulfilled a two-year STEM

grant.

Fabio's current position is in management. "What I love most about my job is getting to work with incredible, talented people and learn about new technologies," said Fabio.

With a job she loves and a wonderful support system, the time is right for her to return to school. She is taking her fourth class this semester as she works toward her associate degree in General Studies.

Fabio has also had strong support from advisors and professors and feels PVCC is a great community. She said, "I may be one of the oldest in a class, yet I am surrounded by like minds who have a goal to achieve. You can feel that energy when you come on campus. Everyone is working toward something."

#### Review: Jack Brown's is One of a Kind

Jake Delaurier, staff writer

There are few restaurants located in Charlottesville that are as unique, creative, and original as Jack Brown's Beer & Burger Joint. First opening up in Harrisonburg VA, Jack Brown's is a small chain with other locations including Roanoke, Elkton, Richmond, and Norfolk.

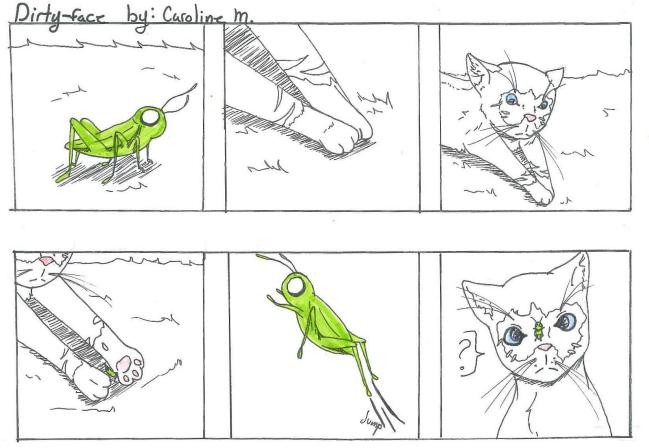
Having worked at the Charlottesville Jack Brown's last year for little over seven months, I was able to get a good feel for the place. Jack Brown's of Charlottesville is located on 109 2nd St SE, right next to the Downtown Mall.

The inside is nice and quaint. There are old school license plates hanging on the walls and a spindle wheel with hanging bras. Jack Brown's also provides a TV for watching sports. It becomes extremely crowded during week nights.

While scenery is nice, the real selling point of a restaurant is its menu, and Jack Brown's does not disappoint. Jack Brown's burgers are out of this world. Some standouts include the Jalapeño Popper, a burger topped with jalapeños and cream cheese, and The Greg Brady, a burger topped with macaroni and cheese and barbecue potato chips. Each burger comes with Jack Brown's special sauce, which is a sweet and tangy sauce that goes great with french fries. Jack Brown's provides both regular and sweet potato fries. The regular fries are crisp albeit little salty. The sweet potato fries are not quite as good, as I am not a big fan of sweet potatoes in general.

Easily the best part about Jack Brown's burgers is the beef. Jack Brown's uses a special type of grass-fed beef called wagyu beef. This gives the beef a rich flavor unlike any other beef. However this comes at a price as Jack Brown's burgers are somewhat expensive. For example, a regular plain hamburger will cost \$5. Specialty burgers are more expensive with prices ranging from \$6.99-\$7.49. Adding fries it will cost an extra \$2.25-\$3.25. The Nacho Libre with a side of fries cost me a little over \$10.

Despite its pricey menu, Jack Brown's is still a great place to eat. It has a great atmosphere, with an equally great menu making a fantastic place to be during the weekend.



# Riddles

Brennan Tanner, staff writer

Contorted faces, Eyes alight with golden flame, As dry leaves fall down.

Sable haired with eyes green gold, I was hallowed in the tales of old, Familiar, companion, I aid the mage, And was myself worshipped in a long ago age. All together one and the same, I am you and you are me,

But when you are long gone, this is what I shall be.

Thousands of soldiers stand in a field, So yellowed and dry, yet never will they yield. Yet when winter comes they shall have no shield, For then the Reaper comes to the battle field.



# Classifieds

#### The Writing Center@PVCC presents English Conversation Circle

Weekly informal gatherings for non-native English speakers to practice their English speaking skills

> Tuesdays, 4pm—5pm Wednesdays, 12pm—1pm The Writing Center Lab, M627

Upcoming Themes: November1 & 3: November8 & 9: November15: & 16 November22: *November23:* November29 & 30: December 6 & 7:

Health Careers Special Day Traditions Seasons *Thanksgiving Break* Language Learning Holidays

English Conversation Circle is not held on days when classes are not in session.

Questions? Contact The Writing Center@ PVCC, 434-961-5499 or email jkoster@pvcc.edu



Check us out on social media

#### @PVCCForum

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#### **Contact Us**

#### **PVCC The Forum**

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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

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