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## Democracy Comes to PVCC: Congressional Debate

Undercover Casino  
Night Exclusive  
pages 12-13

Callan Shore, staff writer

On the night of Oct. 9, campaign signs of many colors lined College Dr. and led visitors through PVCC's campus to the Dickinson building. The signs were promoting the congressional candidates for Virginia's 5th District. Leslie Cockburn, a Democrat, and Denver Riggleman, a Republican, came to PVCC for one of three debates they will participate in before Election Day on Nov. 6.

Before beginning, the cameraman reminded the audience to stay quiet because the first half of the debate was aired live on CBS19 News. For the first hour, a panel complete with PVCC student Elena Cantwell, PVCC President Frank Friedman, and a local journalist asked questions to which the candidates had 90 seconds to reply.

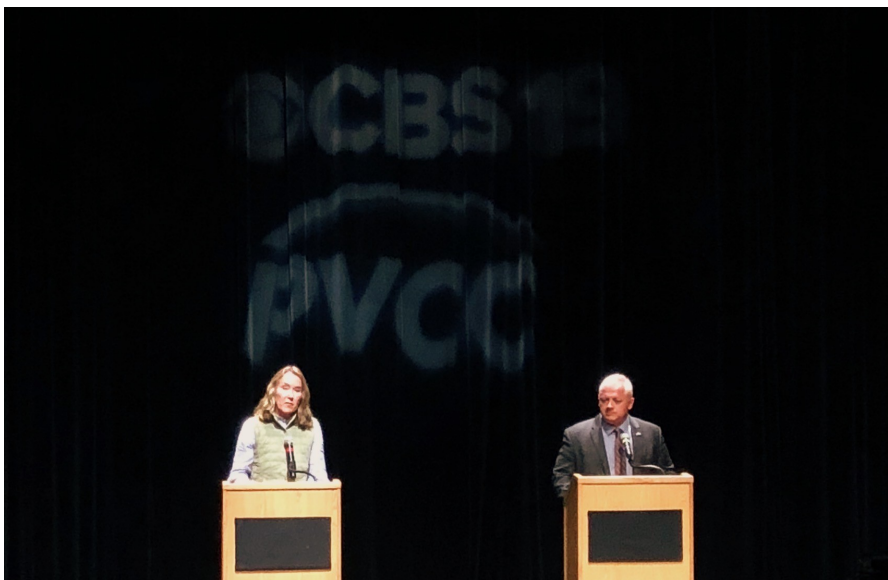
The candidates were asked questions on topics ranging from climate change to the legalization of marijuana. When asked about community college, Cockburn said she wants community college to be free, whereas Riggleman said he thinks there should be better loan options for community college students.

Later when asked about healthcare, Riggleman said constitutionally, "it is not a basic human right."

Cockburn said there should be Medicare for all. She said, "I believe health care is a basic human right."

Despite much disagreement, the debaters had a few ideas in common. Both agreed that global warming is real. "Whether you're a Republican or a Democrat, [it is undeniable] that there are climate change issues based on human activities,"

**Continued on page 4**



Leslie Cockburn and Denver Riggleman. Photo by Callan Shore.

### In This Issue

- PVCC Events -pg. 2
- SGA Update -pg. 3
- Science -pgs. 6-8
- Resources -pgs. 10-11
- Arts -pgs. 14-15
- UVA Sports -pg. 20
- Profiles -pgs. 22-23
- Classifieds -pg. 24

## DATES TO REMEMBER

— **Family Space Exploration\***—  
Nov. 3, 12-3 p.m.

— **PVCC Town Hall Meeting\***—  
Nov. 5, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
and Nov. 6, 7-8 p.m., Main Building Auditorium

— **One Mic Stand\***—  
Nov. 8, 7 p.m., Dickinson Building

— **Empty Bowls Fundraiser** —  
Nov. 10, 5-7:30 p.m. Dickinson Building Commons

— **Latin Ballet of Virginia , “NuYoRican” ^** —  
Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m. Dickinson Building

—**Veteran's Day** —  
Nov. 11, All Day

— **PVCC Science Career Talk (NASA)\*** —  
Nov. 12, 12-12:50 p.m., Main Building Auditorium

— **One Book Event: Conserving Virginia’s Native Bees by Dr. T’ai Roulston\*** —  
Nov. 13, 12:30 –1:45 p.m., Main Building Auditorium

—**Health Sciences Job Fair/ Employer Q&A \***—  
Nov. 14, 10 a.m.

—**Third Fridays Improv \***—  
Nov. 16, 6-7 p.m. Dickinson Building

— **Free Movie Friday \***—  
Nov. 16, 7:30 p.m. Dickinson Building

— **Thanksgiving Holiday** —  
Nov. 21-23, All Day, No Classes

— **PVCC Theatre presents *As You Like It* ^** —  
Nov. 29—Dec. 1, 7:30 p.m.;  
Dec. 2, 2:30 p.m. Dickinson Building

— **Gallery Exhibition Opening Reception \*** —  
Nov. 30, 5-7 p.m. Dickinson Building

\*Free Event    ^Student Vouchers Available

## We the Voters

Bryn Dotson, assistant editor

Voter turnout for 2016’s presidential election was “an average of 59.7 percent,” according to The Daily Dot. This means that only about 180 million out of 323 million people in the United States voted that year. While that might not seem like a big difference, it demonstrates that a large quantity of people do not cast their ballots. In today’s political climate, it is especially important for people to have their voices, thoughts, and beliefs recognized.

Voting is a crucial element of democracy, yet an alarming number of people opt not to vote. By voting, people are able to influence governmental decisions and ensure that their thoughts and opinions are expressed in decision-making. It is imperative that we, the people, use our right and privilege to vote.

In this year’s midterm elections, as well as other upcoming elections, make your voice heard by voting. For information on where to go to vote and general voting information, visit [www.usa.gov/election-day](http://www.usa.gov/election-day).

To promote voting among PVCC students and staff, PVCC political science and journalism students have created a non-partisan voter guide with information on this election’s candidates and amendments on the ballot: [www.piedmontforum.com/2018/10/24/2018-pvcc-non-partisan-voter-guide/](http://www.piedmontforum.com/2018/10/24/2018-pvcc-non-partisan-voter-guide/) or scan the QR code below.





# Student Government Association News

The PVCC SGA is having a fantastic year so far. In September 2018, they went on their annual team-building retreat to Boar's Head Resort in Charlottesville. There, they elected student representatives to college-wide committees as well as new executive members, who are as follows:

Vice-President: Letiticia Davis

Secretary: Jan Newcomb

Director of Student Voice: Jacob Laxton

Executive Senator: Rainah Gregory

The SGA has plans to expand their activism and involvement this Fall. In November/December, they will be holding a Children's Shoe

Box Drive, as well as assisting the Salvation Army in an undecided project.

To benefit the PVCC community, they will be hosting a Town Hall event where students will have an opportunity to voice their suggestions and concerns regarding their experience at PVCC. All students are encouraged to participate in this event. The Town Halls will be held Nov. 5, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. and Nov. 6, 7-8 p.m. in the Main Building Auditorium (M229).

The SGA is always accepting applications for new members. Interested parties should head to the Student Government Association page on the PVCC website to apply.

Please direct all questions, suggestions, and concerns should be directed towards Shawn Anderson ([sanderson@pvcc.edu](mailto:sanderson@pvcc.edu)) or Kelly Dixon ([kdixon@pvcc.edu](mailto:kdixon@pvcc.edu)).



Photograph courtesy of Sophia Keniston



## Debate, continued from page 1

said Riggleman.

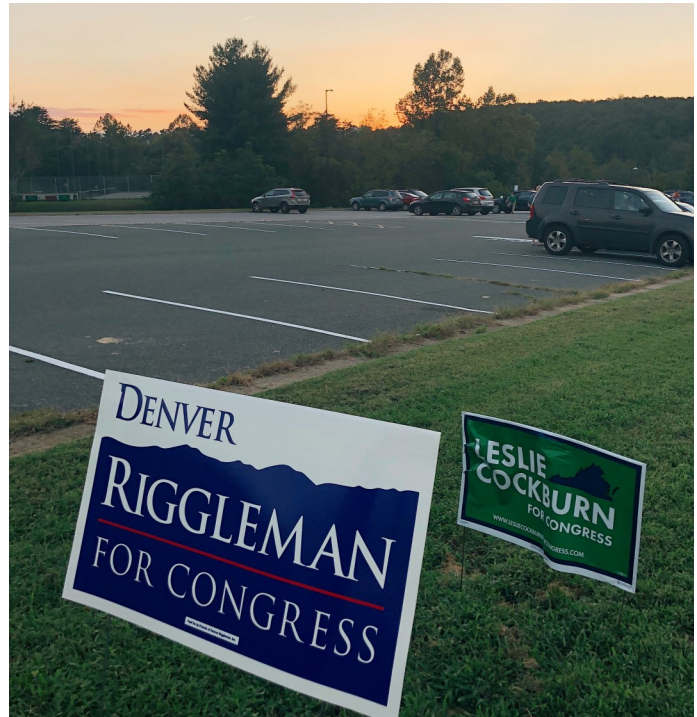
They also agreed that marijuana should be taken off the Federal Controlled Substance List. On a lighter note, Cockburn said her favorite vacation spot is Ireland, and Riggleman said his was Scotland.

A group of PVCC students asked all of the questions for the second half of the debate. One student asked the candidates how they plan to decrease rape and sexual assault in the community.

Cockburn responded that there needs to be funding for rape kits and organizations that help survivors.

Riggleman responded that females need to be educated on how to avoid sexual assault and need to report sexual assault right away, to which some of the audience protested with loud groans.

Riggleman later clarified that he believes young men should also be educated further.



## PVCC Free Speech Day, Hans Spencer

Ryan Foresman, staff writer

Hawes Spencer was hosted by PVCC for free speech day; his talk was titled "Free Speech, Does it deserve to exist after Aug 12th?" He is also the author of the book *Summer of Hate* written in the 4 months after the August 11-12 Unite the Right rally.

He asked hard questions about free speech, who deserves it and when. Though not a Charlottesville resident himself, he said, "Charlottesville will be forever associated with racial animosity."

Spencer addressed social media's impact on free speech in a way that attempted to be a middle ground between the right and left.

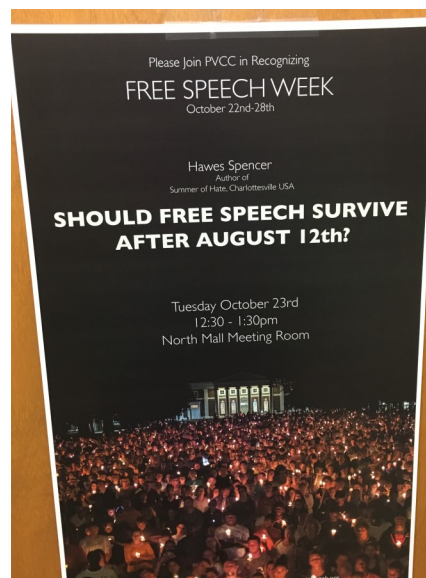
He focused on how the right and left are given platforms on social media, and with that, the subsequent ban of hate groups on the right. This caused

questions from students as to the allowances of left wing hate groups that are still given a platform. This was a question that students asked many times during the talk, and Spencer pointed out that there is no law or direct definition of hate speech.

Spencer responded by giving an example from the past, the porn wars of the 1970s was an argument based around an undefinable construct that varied based on context; free speech, he said, is much the same.

The student body in attendance was incredibly diverse in race, political views, and creed. They posed tough questions to Spencer.

Many of these questions were two or three fired off rapid fire at the speaker. Spencer did his best to be quick on his feet and give answers the students looked for.





# Ethyle Giuseppe, Friend of the Community

Liberty Anderson, staff writer

Ethyle Giuseppe was born 100 years ago at the bottom of the mountain on South River road in Stanardsville, on Sept. 27, 1918. She has been a generous contributor to her community and PVCC, providing scholarship money and meeting the needs of her community to the best of her ability.

One day she needed a box to carry books from the library and was directed to the upper level of the Greene County Library. After seeing how the space was unfinished and wasted, she called the next day to see what she could do.

“Are you sober?” was the reaction she received when she had called the county to fund the development of what is now the Eugene Giuseppe Center in Stanardsville, Virginia.

She responded, “I have never had a drink in my life.” Ethyle prides herself on never having alcohol, cigarettes, or vaccines. She says everything that she has given to this county has been for the children of the community. She recognizes that parents cannot fund these sort of things because they must use the money to raise the children. With no children of her own, she has the capability to give what others cannot.

She has donated to the William Monroe High School on several different occasions for things like a scoreboard in the gym and a greenhouse for agricultural education. She said these things are important to her because her husband was an educator and high school coach and she was a farmer as a young girl. She has also donated to the historical society and Greene county park, providing a basketball court and bathrooms. She said, “Got to do this for the children.” This is her constant motivation. She wants to be remembered for giving to the people, the county, the school, but most importantly the children.

Ethyle has given over two million dollars to the county over the years. For her birthday, she received a call from PVCC, they asked if they could throw a party for her. They wanted to have an entrance fee. She said, “not a penny.” She would not have come if there was a charge to the guests. She donated more money that became scholarships at PVCC instead of charging people to come to her birthday party. She went to a total of three different birthday buffets: at her church,

the historical society, and PVCC.

At the event she told stories of her childhood, telling us about how as a child she would always have apple butter with her bread and biscuits. One day as a small child her mother had left her outside to lay in the sun. Her mother watched from the window in terror as she saw a large bear come and lick her baby’s face, after the apple butter. Frozen in fear for her child, she just prayed as the bear finished cleaning her face and walked back up the mountain.

After Ethyle graduated high school, she had no way to go to college. When her uncle died while in the military her mother received a few hundred dollars. \$100 was all it took to send Ethyle to college. She pursued architecture as a career until she was offered a job at UVA.

When she worked for the UVA accounting department, she roomed with a woman named Gene. Gene’s cousin Eugene visited and talked with Ethyle all day. From then on, he began to visit more and more often. He was a football coach and school principal in Greene county. Most nights he would join Ethyle for supper.

They wanted to marry, but with his football schedule, he did not have any free Saturdays. Eventually, he had one free Saturday, and so they were married. They were married for many years, and after he had retired they began to “Cruise” otherwise known as travelling. They went around the world twice together.

She named the PVCC center in Greene after him because Giuseppe was too short and she wanted to honor his memory, not her own.

Ethyle told me about how she has always loved rabbits; she would tell all of the farmers in the county to bring her rabbits if they ran over a nest with their tractors. Ethyle knew a lot about rabbits and how once they had been out of the nest the mother would abandon them. She told me she must have raised 50 rabbits from infancy to adulthood. Even now, she still has many rabbits that she raised living on the property. They were tame to the point of picking them up off the ground whenever she saw them.

Ethyle is a strong believer in divine interventions and says she has not missed a Sunday in 60 years. She has no plan for the coming year: “If I live another day I’m happy, I’m thankful.”

# Deliberative Dialogue Dives into Change

Madison Weikle, assistant editor

On Oct. 10, PVCC held the Climate Change Deliberative Dialogue. The conversation took place in the North Mall Meeting Room at 12 p.m.. Before the presentation began, every seat had been filled with students and faculty varying in age. Some volunteers had to bring in more chairs to accommodate the crowd.

Professor of English and Writing Center Coordinator Jennifer Koster started off the event by setting a few ground rules and misconceptions about climate change. “We search for strengths in another position, our goal here is to talk with other people who might have different positions,” said Koster, “Not one way is right.”

After introductions, Koster showed a brief video about the unpredictability of climate change. The video brought up that carbon dioxide is the reason for climate change and climate change is a national security concern. It also posed the questions what are we willing to do about climate change and what are we willing to risk?

The crowd split up into four tables, each led

by a group leader who encouraged and directed the conversation. Each group leader handed out a small packet with charts and ideas for dealing with climate change. It was the job of the group to weigh each option carefully and identify which option, or combination of options, they believed was best. While the packet provided a guide for discussion, many conversations ended up focusing less on the paperwork and more on collaborative thinking.

“This is more than just an environmental thing; it’s a social issue,” said Ellen Burnett, student at PVCC, “So many of these solutions start out seeming like good ideas, but then you look at how they affect lower income people or workers of large companies that contribute to carbon emissions, and it just doesn’t seem plausible.”

Students were careful not to talk over each other and gave everyone a chance to speak. In the end, many groups developed their own ideas for dealing with climate change.

PVCC student Torri McDaniel said, “I like the idea of being innovative and creating our own solutions.”



Photography by Madison Weikle

# Speaker Explores Geology in Virginia

Jamie Blake, staff writer

David Spears has been a geologist in the state of Virginia since 2009, and on Oct. 17 he came to PVCC to share his wealth of knowledge on the subject. Spears talked about how the government plays a crucial role in what happens after landslides, or any natural disaster, occur. He bounced between different landslides that have occurred in the United States to give the audience more information on how catastrophic these disasters can be.

He showed us a variety of pictures in his slideshow that showed that the results of these disasters are devastating.

He then moved on to what role the government plays in the aftermath of these disasters and what can be done to try and lessen effects. There are several problems that need to be addressed first, but the biggest one he emphasized was that the government does not truly believe in the science behind these natural disasters.

Spears said this is the biggest problem because if the government does not believe in the science behind natural disasters, then they are less likely to do something to help. Spears was a great speaker on these matters and seems to care a lot about how they will affect the future of our country.

## Racing Extinction at PVCC

Deadra Miller, online editor

On Oct. 15, student activist Kibiriti Majuto gave a speech at the One Book event on *Racing Extinction: Youth Movement for Climate Justice*. Majuto is not just a student but an activist for Virginia-based organizations such as Virginia Student Environmental Coalition and others.

Majuto has been in touch with different teenagers across the United States in regards to the pipeline projects and how they affect communities. Majuto mentioned how he supports and looks for more supporters to help with the Youth vs. Government case in Portland, Oregon on Oct. 29. Our Children's Trust is involved, which is a group of 21 young Americans who fight their state or commonwealth about diverting resources or forcing the pipeline into their respective areas.

After the talk, the situation with the case has changed. Majuto said, "As of now, less than a week before the trial is scheduled to start in Federal District Court in Eugene, the Department of Justice asked the United States Supreme Court to circumvent the ordinary procedures of federal litigation and stop the constitutional case *Juliana v. United States* which is normally known as *Youth V. Gov.* Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts granted a temporary stay and halted discovery until Wednesday to allow the plaintiffs to respond. I really do not know if the case will



**Student Activist Kibiriti Majuto shares his passion for activism. Photography by Deadra Miller**

continue."

Majuto traveled to Washington D.C. to be a voice against building the pipeline in the United States and plans on attending next year's rally. Majuto spoke about the clubs at PVCC that students can be a part of to help with saving the earth. One of these clubs is the Horticulture Club that David Lerman, director of student success and retention, is the advisor for.

In promoting PVCC conservation clubs Majuto stated, "There is grace in working with our hands." The Earth Guardians of PVCC, advised by Kristy Simpkins, she and Lerman work together to make events like *Racing Extinction* and *Earth Day* happen. If you are interested in joining any of these organizations, contact Lerman and Simpkins in the Student Success Office or Majuto at [kibiriti@thisiszerohour.org](mailto:kibiriti@thisiszerohour.org).





## Astronomer Reveals Her Path Through the Stars

Jessica Adkins, staff writer

On Tuesday, Oct. 22, Whitney Richardson gave an intriguing presentation on what it is like to be a telescope operator.

Walking into room 210 in the Keats Science Building, one could see the energetic yet nervous blue-haired astronomer. On the opening slide of her presentation, she had a statement that said, "Resume is 3 pages long." When asked if her resume was actually three pages long, she said, "No, it is longer. The three pages consist of only the jobs I have done."

Richardson grew up in Eastern Kentucky with five siblings. She had several jobs before she decided she wanted to work on telescopes. She

worked at two movie theaters, was a tour guide for Lost River Cave, worked customer service at Shutterbug Photography studio, and was an electrical dispatcher for Bowling Green Municipal Utilities. While in high school, she was part of the Goldstone

Apple Valley Radio Telescope Program, and it was while participating in that program that she decided she wanted to help fix telescopes.

After high school, Richardson "went to Western Kentucky University and was the first student to get an astronomy minor at WKU," she said. While working with telescopes, she also discovered a binary star system.

Richardson has worked at many observatories. She worked as a telescope technician at Bell Observatory and had to get the telescope up and running after a lightning strike hit it. She worked on the one meter telescope at Fan Mountain for five years and was able to do so with soft grant money.

While working at the Fan Mountain Telescope, she was able to collect data for the SIM satellite project which was canceled. After that, she worked at Mt. Graham Vatican Advanced Technology Telescope in New Mexico, which sizes at 1.8 meters. To keep the ground vibrations from messing up the readings, the telescope building actually floats on a pool of oil, according to Richardson.

Richardson currently works as a fiscal technician for University of Virginia.

Richardson was brought in by the Science Club to partake in the monthly Science Career Talk series that they host. The next talk will be Nov. 12.



# Networking Event at PVCC

Liberty Anderson, staff writer

On Thursday, Oct. 18, PVCC held a career networking event. According to Career Services Manager Andre Luck, the goal is “to connect students with employers and job opportunities.” It is a great start to a professional life, learning new skills to help get a job in the future.

This was the second time PVCC has held a career networking event. This time it was twice the size as it was in the Spring, according to Luck, becoming more successful and helping more students to improve their networking skills. We had 11 different employers visit, including: UVA Medical, Hantzmon Wiebel Accounting Firm, Hospice of the Piedmont, Goodwin William Staffing, PMA USA, Virginia Lube, Millennium Security, Mutual of Omaha, Murray Enterprises, JABA-Jefferson Area Board for Aging, and Service Corporation International.

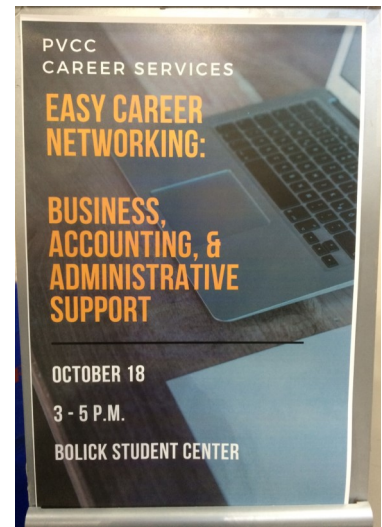
PVCC provided each employer with handouts for interview skills and how to improve a resume. These handouts were shared with the students looking to improve in that area. Most of these employers were looking to hire new employees.

This event has been geared towards and was originally created for the business students, although everyone was welcome to come. Those

who came brought their resume and had the equivalent of a job interview. Gaining practical interview experience in a learning environment.

Before the event, students could set up an appointment with the employers they wished to meet with. If they did not sign up, they could still come, but they might have to wait before they could meet with anyone. When attendees met with someone, it was typically one on one or two on one. The employers were all more than happy to answer questions.

Throughout the room, you could observe the professional boundaries between employers and students, shaking hands and not interrupting one another. While the room filled with conversation, it was still quiet. No one overpowered the room; it allowed everyone to have a quality conversation.



Photography by Liberty Anderson

# The Classroom to the Community

Callan Shore, staff writer

The clock ticks on and the students wonder how these lessons will ever be used in real life. Sitting in a classroom all day long may not be the most productive learning environment for every student.

At PVCC, there are opportunities for experiential learning and real-world experience that can help break up the day.

These opportunities are found through the service learning program, a resource for students to find volunteer opportunities in Charlottesville. Todd Platts, PVCC's service learning coordinator, said, "Part of a liberal arts education is for students to become proactive members of their communities. Service learning facilitates this by putting students in contact with local organizations that serve the needs of the community."

PVCC has formed strong connections with local organizations and makes finding volunteer opportunities simple for students. These organizations include the Boys and Girls Club, Buford Middle School, and the Adult Learning Center.

There are service learning options that cater to

many different interests. The service learning newsletter provides a detailed guide with service learning opportunities that correspond to each major. The newsletter conveys to art majors that they may improve in their field by teaching art, helping to promote local artists, and even contributing to art museums.

Teachers at PVCC can introduce service learning into their curriculum or include it as extra credit, demonstrating how volunteer work is strongly encouraged at PVCC. There are even students who continue their volunteer position after the class obligation has ended. Connie Jorgensen, assistant professor of political science, and Kit Decker, professor of Spanish, are two teachers who have made an effort to bring service learning into their classes.

The overall goals for the PVCC service learning program are to give students insight into new and different communities, to gain job skills, and to become competent at solving problems. More immediate goals for this year include increasing funding, student interest, and teacher involvement.

Interested students can find links and contact information at the PVCC website under Service Learning.

## How to Get a Free Computer at PVCC

Jessica Adkins, staff writer

There is one program at PVCC that can cater to almost every student in need. That is the G.O.A.L program. The G.O.A.L program, based out of the Betty Sue Jessup Library, serves students by giving them a personal laptop to use each semester.

When the program first started, it only had 30 computers to give out, and each semester the 30 computers went quickly. It was not until the 2018 school year that the program got 30 more laptops, bumping their total up to 60. So far this semester, they have issued 55 of the 60 laptops to students in need.

While the program sounds amazing, there are specific qualifications that students must meet. A student must have completed their FAFSA and have an EFC of \$3,000 or less. Each student that

qualifies financially must be enrolled in six credits, and at least one class must be on campus. Every student who qualifies must apply each semester.

Any new student applying to the program might have to wait because priority goes to students who were previously enrolled in the program. After filling requests from previous students, the library "will distribute the remaining laptops to other qualifying students on a first-come, first-served basis," according to the library website.

All applications must be printed out and turned in in-person even if you completed an online version.

For more information, visit PVCC's library website (<https://www.pvcc.edu/student-services/library/goal-program>) or ask one of the resource librarians in person at the library.



# Academic Coaching in a Nutshell

Liberty Anderson, staff writer

Academic coaching is giving students the skills that they need to succeed in college. Unlike tutoring, it is not focused on a single subject. Academic coaching focuses on the general skills students need to get through college and life, such as time management, note taking, priority management, and exam preparation. This free service is provided in the Writing Center at PVCC.

With academic coaching, students meet with their coach once a week so they can get to know each other and individual struggles to best help the individual. Having a coach is a way to know the staff and have someone else on your side. Meeting each week helps to make it about personal struggles and goals.

Academic coaching helps to build confidence. It gives students someone who will hold them accountable. Academic coaching is helpful because not only does it provide methods to reach your goals, these methods are “constantly adjusted to be tailored to the students needs,”

according to Adjunct Instructor and Academic Coach Ruth Yoder.

Students are more likely to reach their goals if they are constantly changing their approach to find the most effective way for them as an individual. Each coach knows what their students are working towards and what they have already tried, so that they can help them find the best way.

The students have someone to listen and understand them and help them through their struggles. The student has their coach, to talk things through, to suggest solutions, and to help find better methods. The coaching will help students to improve if they strive to. The student will not achieve their goal unless they put in the effort to succeed.

Students meet with their coaches in the Writing Center.

You can stop by the Writing Center between 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Fridays. You can also call 434-961-5499 to set up your first coaching session.

## Testing center essential to students success

Charles Parziale III, staff writer

The Testing Center, in the main building room M607, gives placement tests, distance-learning tests, make-up tests, and academic tests.

The Testing Center also has a new policy that requires students to have a form of identification to present to the staff in order to take an exam. So make sure to bring a student ID or your driver's license when you go in for testing.

The testing center is a secure environment with limited electronics, no phones or apple watches. Computers are monitored, and the center also has security cameras to ensure that students do not cheat.

The testing center has always been in the same location, according to Proctor Amy Floyd. She has been working in the testing center for about 11 years. She and the rest of her coworkers are all former PVCC students.

Floyd said that the staff in the testing center prioritize making the area “as least stressful as possible.”

Walking into the testing center, all of the staff are casual and relaxed. Walking into the room and being greeted with a smile a simple question if you need any help creates a friendly environment.

“We try to make a very relaxed and comfortable environment,” said Testing Specialist Rob McHenry.

Some students may be intimidated by the staff or the testing center in general. This should not be the case.

Students can ask for help finding the right things to study or direction to another tutoring program that PVCC offers.

It is staffed Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday 10a.m. to 2p.m.

You can contact them at 434-961-5320 or by email at [testing@pvcc.edu](mailto:testing@pvcc.edu).

# SGA Casino Night: Shaken, Not Stirred



Deadra Miller, online editor

On the Friday before Halloween, SGA hosts PVCC's annual Casino Night. This year's theme was Shaken Not Stirred, James Bond movies. Those who came to casino night dressed as James Bond characters received extra play money to use for gambling.

Blackjack, roulette, and poker were the most popular games played. There were two craps tables. SGA President Sophia Keniston, SGA members, and Shawn Anderson coordinator of

student engagement and student life, set up and ran the event. A costume contest was also held, where three members of PVCC's Anime Club won the first, second, and third. There was a wide array of costumes some dressed in '80s apparel and others as anime characters.

Some professors, like Assistant Professor of Sociology Todd Platts, were dealers at tables along with SGA student volunteers. An oxygen bar, which had flavored oxygen you could try, was available for those who answered some trivia questions.







Photography by Deadra Miller



# PVCC Panthers Prance in Dance Club

Callan Shore, staff writer

Whirling and jumping across stage, the members of PVCC's dance club spend every Wednesday afternoon choreographing and practicing new dances. The dance club is held in the auditorium of the Dickinson building and is run by skilled PVCC students.

The club is built around acceptance and collaboration, so dance enthusiasts of all levels are welcome. The only requirement to join is to currently be enrolled at PVCC.

Sofia Smith, one of the club's leaders, said, "I love this dance club because there is a lot of diversity and there are people of all different skill levels. Also, everyone is always eager to learn and improve."

The dance club is based on experiential learning, so everyone gets a chance to learn how

to dance, choreograph, and be a leader. Club member Kaili Brannan said, "As a person who dances seriously outside of PVCC, I love this club because it gives me a chance to be creative and choreograph my own dances."

Part of this experiential learning process are the various opportunities the club offers to its members throughout the year. These opportunities include masterclasses and showcases in which members show off the dances they helped to create.

The club typically meets Wednesdays from 12-1 p.m., and they will hold a fall showcase on Nov. 6, 2018. Those who are interested in joining the club can email club leader Reina at [rdg2436@email.vccs.edu](mailto:rdg2436@email.vccs.edu).

PVCC will also host several events over the next year with guest dancers such as the Latin Ballet of Virginia and the Richmond Ballet.



Two dance club members pitching their new dance. Photography by Callan Shore

# Third Fridays Improvisation



Photograph courtesy of PVCC Marketing and Media Relations.

Shawn Kochhar, staff writer

I visited the Third Fridays Improv workshop in the V. Earl Dickinson Theater at PVCC on Oct. 19 to observe and take notes. Instead, I found myself thrust into an eye-opening learning experience. We did warm-ups and exercises that keep your mind sharp and make you think on your feet. Although the event focuses on improvisation in the theater, the lessons learned hold true to all aspects of life.

Improvisation at its core is doing something unpracticed and unplanned. In our daily life, whether we are aware of it or not, we improvise. A conversation, the ways we move our body, any experimentation in our daily lives are all done spontaneously. “A conversation is improvisation,” said Brad Stoller, assistant professor of theatre arts, after our first exercise of having a simple chat at the beginning of the class.

“Being with feelings of nervousness and doing what we do consciously is a game,” he

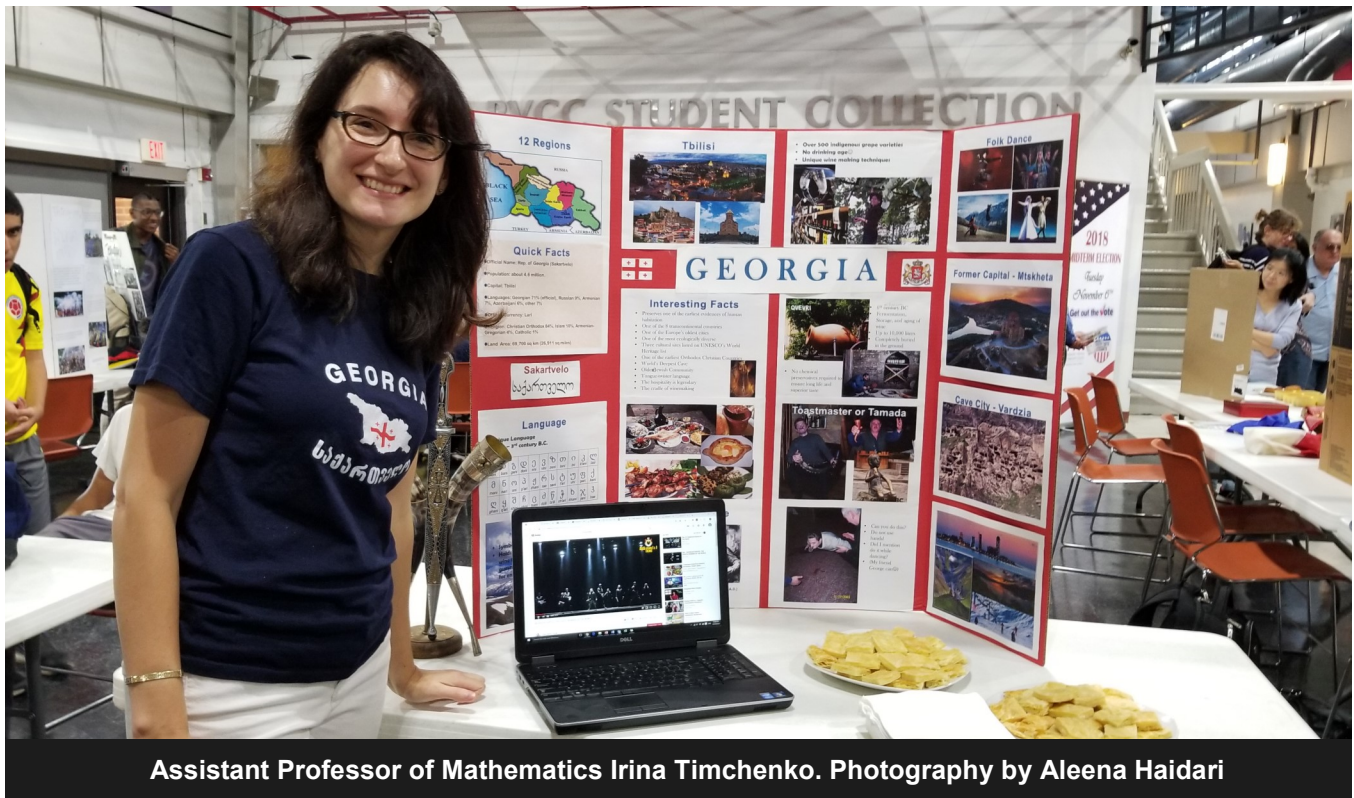
added. The movements and sounds we make are all things we do simultaneously without thinking. This is improvisation, and on stage we can learn the freedom to separate and recombine them.

The principles and exercises of improvisation are not only helpful to those who want to perform theater, but also for all people who want to learn about themselves and how our brains work. One of the main takeaways from this lesson, for me, is how we make decisions depending on what we think the outcome will be.

On stage you are encouraged to make mistakes, to say something when you can think of nothing, to stop worrying so much about possible negative outcomes and just do. This is a great life lesson for those of us who may have trouble in our daily lives with speaking out or being overly timid about life decisions.

To take part in this inspiring experience and learn about improvisation, contact Brad Stoller at 434-961-5246 or email [bstoller@pvcc.edu](mailto:bstoller@pvcc.edu). The next class takes place on Nov. 16.





Assistant Professor of Mathematics Irina Timchenko. Photography by Aleena Haidari

## Exploring World Cultures Locally

Aleena Haidari, staff writer

Cultural Day at PVCC is a celebration of diversity that is organized by the International Club. This event is held every year in the Fall semester to provide an opportunity for students to share their cultures with others.

Daniela Carvalho, the president of the International Club, said, “This event is held every year to present our cultures and traditions that are usually not talked about. It’s important to showcase first-hand knowledge of our cultures to

others.”

This educational yet fun event is comprised of many activities such as presentations, food, and music. Students go to a presentation while enjoying foods from those countries. This interaction leaves many interested in exploring interesting things they learned from the presentation.

For instance, I went to the table for Mexico that had cookies dipped in Cajeta, a thickened caramel. I was awed by their delicious food. This instance is similar to all cultures present in the Cultural Day.

As Barry Lopez, an American author and essayist once said, “Diversity is not a characteristic of life, it is a condition that is necessary for life, like air and water.”

Diversity is not only differences in our distinct appearances, cultures, and religions but also the core values of human race to respect, value, and understand each other’s differences. Due to the advanced technologies and globalization, diversity has become even more prevalent in today’s society. Therefore, interaction and communication with each other are the essential tools to help us maintain the core values of diversity: respect, value, and understanding.



Photography by Aleena Haidari



# PVCC Annual Wheelchair Basketball



SGA President Sophia Keniston leads the charge for the ball. Photography by Deadra Miller

Deadra Miller, online editor

On Wednesday Oct. 17, the Charlottesville Cardinals came to PVCC to play a pick up game of basketball. The Cardinals are a wheelchair basketball team that travel all over the United States playing pick up and competitive games.

“The Cardinals have been ranked in the Sweet Sixteen of the NWBA for the past 13 years, finishing #16 in the nation in the 2015-16 season,” according to their website.

Many PVCC students played along with four players from the team. The team Captain Tom Vandever #44, coordinated with Susan Hannifan, PVCC’s disability services counselor, to schedule the game.

Vandever brought three more players with him to play against the students and staff that joined in. Their names and numbers are #32 Gino Wilson, #20 Eddie Wimbish, and #55 Brandon Rush.

Everyone played exceptionally well.



Kenyatta Folley (left) blocks Ashwin Pitt (right). Photography by Deadra Miller



# Security Careers for the 21 century

Ryan Foresman, staff writer

Richard Seweryniak described PVCC CyberSecurity day, “The event from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. included expert speakers from the Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Governor, WillowTree, Bluestone Analytics, CounterFlow AI, Expel IO, transfer schools ODU and UVA, as well as student portfolio presentations.

PVCC currently offers both an associates degree in Information Systems Technology with a specialization in Cybersecurity, requiring 66 credit hours and approximately four semesters to complete as well as a Career Studies Certificate in Cybersecurity, requiring 27 credit hours and approximately two semesters to complete.”

CyberSecurity day focused on the multiple things PVCC has to offer in terms of technology and its resources. It included speakers from Homeland Security, Willow Tree Apps, and PVCC’s IT department. The first speakers were members of Homeland Security, and they presented an array of jobs that they offer in tech fields, everything from anti-terrorism work to

internal IT work. They encourage students to use websites such as [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) to access government technology jobs.

Next, there was a presentation on Old Dominion online, a place where PVCC graduates can further their education. One of the most interesting topics presented by ODU was the fact that online students can graduate on Old Dominion’s campus.

PVCC’s IT department also spoke. The topics discussed ranged from how to keep your personal information safe to the resources and jobs in IT. The resources they offer are useful to students whether it is working on a crashed computer or helping to recover lost documents.

Willow Tree Apps, Bluestone Analytics, Counterflow AI, Crutchfield, and the Albemarle County Police Department, all spoke on career fields in cyber security.



## Learn Self Defense with Nicole Winker

Charles Parziale III, staff writer

Self defense is important in today's world. That's why on Nov. 8, Thursday 4-6:30 p.m. Nicole Winkler will be offering a self-defense class in the North Mall Meeting Room at PVCC.

The instructor will be Nicole Winkler, program director and associate professor of radiology at PVCC. She has a black belt in Okinawan Kempo, which, like any other form of Karate, teaches a variety of defense techniques. In Okinawan Kempo, all techniques, blocks, hitting and joint locks derive from Kata and technical foundations. This system is for everyone regardless of strength, weight, size or age. These will be a hands-on option as well.

Along with defense tactics, Winkler will offer some lessons in effective techniques in awareness to help attendees better understand certain areas and reduce risks of injury. This can help them

understand certain surroundings in areas they may be unfamiliar with in cities and urban environments. As well as numerous other tips for awareness for travelling at night. It will also teach helpful body techniques on how to present yourself as more confident and understand others’ body language.

One of the most helpful things a self-defense class can offer is self-confidence. To help you feel confident that you can defend yourself in a situation, as well as teaching you how to size up a situation and help you decide what you should or shouldn’t do. A self-defense class can teach you ways to surprise your attacker and catch them off guard.

The Radiology club and the HOPE club will be offering this event to anyone that is interested. There is a \$20 pre-registration fee that can be made in the main office of the Keats Building or a \$25 walk-in fee the day of the event.



# PVCC Students Walk to End Alzheimer's

Deadra Miller, online editor

Students and adults from around the Charlottesville area walked 1.7 miles around IX Art Park in downtown Charlottesville on Oct. 20. PVCC's President Frank Friedman and his wife Sue Friedman coordinated and walked for this year's event.

Charlottesville Alzheimer's Association President and CEO Sue Friedman is the director for the Charlottesville area walk to end Alzheimer's, and she with a team of other individuals put this walk together to help support the cause. The goal was to donate over \$260,000 this year, and this walk alone raised \$244,686.82.

Over the years, millions of dollars have been donated to end Alzheimer's. The Walk to End Alzheimer's is one of the 600 walks happening across the United States this year.

This disease is not recognized in individuals very easily like other diseases are and when it is finally recognized the outpour of support surpasses other causes. The Alzheimer's Association also

supports families that have suffered loved ones living with dementia, caregivers to Alzheimer's and dementia patients and loved ones lost to these horrible diseases.

There are many ways to reach out and receive help for these diseases and the way to find help or donate is through [www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org). According to the website, "16.1 million Americans provide unpaid care for people with Alzheimer's or other dementias. Also Alzheimer's is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States."



Frank Friedman and Deadra Miller after the Walk to end Alzheimer's. Photography by Deadra Miller



Team Aseracare posing for Charlottesville Walk to End Alzheimer's. Photography by Deadra Miller

# Cavaliers Wash Out the Hurricanes

James Tucker, staff writer

It took the University of Miami Hurricanes 57 minutes of hard-fought football to finally cross the goal line. A short run in by Malik Rosier brought a faint cheer from the Miami crowd that had amassed. There was no other joy to be had for the green and orange.

The University of Virginia's defense was stifling. After an uneventful first quarter the place was electrified by the high-flying antics of Juan Thornhill a safety on the Cavaliers. A wild interception that was returned sixty-two yards of pure, unabridged rumbling. Even the game's officials could not escape this madness as one was nearly taken out by the unruly crew. This would set up a short touchdown run by Jordan Ellis putting the Wahoos up 10-0.

The Hurricanes would not go quietly, however, putting up two quick back to back field goals. Hushing the forty-two thousand strong who had come to support the blue and orange. Halftime was not upon them yet though, so the Cavaliers fought their way back, scoring a field goal which gave them the momentum entering the half.

As the teams took the field once again, it appeared as the momentum had shifted once again as the Hurricanes stormed down the field. This was all for not as the manic marauders

would not be defeated. A turnover on downs at the twenty-yard line caused an uproar and once again the Cavaliers pushed the envelope.

The Cavalier fans could be seen dancing during the stoppages, an unabashed display to ignite the crowd who braved the cold to cheer them on.

Bryce Perkins, the quarterback of Virginia led them the rest of the way making wild runs to slowly run down the clock. Another interception by Juan Thornhill and it seemed as though the game was decided.

The Hurricanes mounted one last assault scoring their only touchdown of the game. A questionable decision by the coaching staff to onside kick backfired on the Hurricanes and a wily returner took the ball deep into Miami territory.

All three of Miami's timeouts were spent to stop the clock as they held Virginia, but a pair of costly personal fouls one being a late cheap shot caused the clock to run out on their hopes of a comeback. Chaos ensued as the faithful stormed the field to join their heroes who delivered them to victory.

The final score was 16-13, bringing the Cavaliers record to four wins and two losses. It is looking like a wild season and, who knows, maybe the Cavalier fans will even see a bowl game at the end of the season.



Marching band and the crowd storm the field after UVA defeated Miami. Photography by James Tucker



# Review: A Friday Evening at Meriwether

Jamie Blake, staff writer

The end of week can mean many things for people. They either want to relax and stay home or enjoy a night out in one of the many places Charlottesville has to offer.

Most people will be looking to head to their favorite winery or brewery and Charlottesville has captivated the local scene over the last 20+ years that there are so many to choose from.

There is one place in particular that just opened a few months ago that offers you both wine and beer, plus a live show of local artists on the weekends.

A local married couple opened Meriwether Springs, named after the famous Meriwether Lewis, five years ago only making wine and hosting events. The wine was such a huge success they were looking for other ventures.

Then earlier this year, they transformed the winery into a brewery with a tasting room and a beer garden. It is the perfect Friday night location

for anyone who lives in Charlottesville or who is just passing through.

On Oct. 19, I visited the brewery and got to hear the Crozet Jam Band and their funky tunes. It was the ideal fall night, only slightly chilly with the warmth of a fire just a few feet from me. The twinkly lights that hang down from the tent make the atmosphere more relaxed and inviting, with the tunes from the band in the background.

The Crozet Jam Band have been a local band playing all around Charlottesville and surrounding areas for two years. Their performance was one I will not forget because they encourage the audience to participate in their music and they have a binder with 170+ songs that you can choose from for them to play.

The atmosphere of the music and the location of Meriwether will make you want to come back. Meriwether Springs is located in Ivy, Virginia and is open on Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday from 12-8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 12-10 p.m.

# Review: Monday Night Jam at The Local

Montana Mitchell, staff writer

Looking for your next Monday night adventure? Look no further because The Local's Monday Night Jam night has you covered. Walking into The Local on Monday nights is like a warm comforting hug with friendly faces and warm-toned lights.

"We live local and are also locally owned," according to The Local's website.

On Monday nights, The Local has a "Jam Night" with an open mic for local talent that runs from 9-11 p.m. The Local offers a bar full of high-end wines and liquor, live music, and a warm supportive crowd.

My friends and I had the fortune of discovering this lovely place last Monday night. We loved it so much that we returned this Monday, Oct. 23.

Attracting young and old adults, The Local has a diverse crowd that anyone can connect with. From UVA students, to local members of the community, the community of Charlottesville

comes together to support local artists, while also supporting the business hosting it. Everyone is welcoming and loving, which makes Charlottesville's saying "Virginia is For Lovers" feel true.

A woman who had a table next to us, who we had never met before, gave us insight on all of the local performers, and was just a delightful person to talk to. Just like her, almost everyone who attends The Local on Monday nights has a kind charisma to them.

The event Jam Night is only held on the first floor, as The Local has two and does not have a stage for open-mic performers, but instead a big corner that they perform in. The Local on Monday nights is packed, and has very little seating. Even though you may have to stand the entire time, it is an experience that is worth it. Jam Night is a laid back event that really kicks off the week.

The Local is located off of the Downtown mall at 824 Hinton Ave and is also open for dinner at 5 p.m. seven days a week.

# Making Equality Fashionable in CVILLE

Callan Shore, staff writer

Charlottesville is a hub of activists and change-makers, but few have devoted their entire lives to human rights. Gwen Cassady, a Charlottesville resident and UVA alumna, has done just that. Cassady's eyes were first opened to injustice when she traveled the world in and after college.

She said, "I've been very blessed to see a great deal on our planet and the most important takeaway was that there is a level of human suffering that the more privileged are not aware of."

Cassady grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana, but came to Charlottesville to attend UVA for her undergrad years. She originally wanted to work on Wall Street, but after graduating, she decided that she wanted to travel the world and then get a masters' degree in education instead.

After traveling and Grad school at UVA, Cassady has settled in Charlottesville and in the last year started a nonprofit called Managing Love. One of the programs of Managing Love is a small business called the Super Sewing Shop which employs and supports refugee women.

The idea for the shop first came to Cassady when she heard a local woman named Deb Jackson was collecting fabric and sewing machines and distributing them to refugee women. The two women met up and eventually came up with the idea of starting a refugee run clothing store. Cassady said she knew this shop was needed because refugee women in Charlottesville often do not get paid what they deserve. With Jackson's connections in the refugee community and Cassady's collection of unused clothes, they had a perfect plan.

Cassady explained that helping the environment is an important issue to her, so she wanted to be environmentally conscious with the store. She decided that because 9 to 14 trillion tons of textile waste is generated each year in the US, the items for sale would simply be thrifted or upcycled versions of the clothes she already had. Upcycling clothing consists of altering and adding details to already-made clothing items.

Cassady said, "I was expecting three refugee women one morning in April, but while finishing a meeting, I saw multiple cars pulling up, and 25

or 30 refugees poured out."

By August, Cassady opened the first pop-up of the Super Sewing Shop in Stonefield Shopping Center, four months after the idea originated. The future of the Super Sewing Shop will be online at EcoChic.Boutique, and once the shop is more profitable Cassady will pass it off to the refugee women who helped build it.

Despite the extensive labor it took to create the Super Sewing Shop, Cassady is not slowing down. Her current endeavor is a documentary about Charlottesville's homeless population. She has a special interest in this subject because she has been homeless four times in her life.

Cassady explained, "As a social entrepreneur, I always look at societal injustices and how I, as a single individual, can make this world a better place."



Photography by Callan Shore



# One of PVCC's Vice Presidents

Montana Mitchell, staff writer

Harry Stillerman is the vice president of institutional advancement and development for PVCC. He manages college fundraising, student scholarships, the PVCC Alumni association, as well as multiple departments on campus. With over 10 years of experience with fundraisers in community colleges, Stillerman brings a knowledgeable and friendly personality to PVCC.

Stillerman lived the majority of his life in North Carolina before attending the University of Richmond for his bachelor's degree. Once he graduated, he returned to his home state to pursue a career. While in North Carolina, Harry worked as the



foundation director at GTCC, as well as the college relations director at Mitchell Community College.

When he was given the opportunity to be the vice president of institutional advancement and development at PVCC, Stillerman, his wife, and his two children moved to Charlottesville.

"I really enjoy living here," Stillerman said, "I really particularly enjoy Charlottesville and Albemarle county. I really like working at PVCC. I'm struggling to feel like a true Virginian, but I like living here. I lived in North Carolina for 40 years, but we're really happy here and my kids are thriving. We haven't regretted our decision to move here, and I feel like we're in a really good spot. We feel like this is home."

# Silvia Dowell, PVCC's Jane of all Trades

Shawn Kochhar, staff writer

When students want to keep in contact with PVCC after graduating or receive a scholarship, Silvia Dowell is the one to facilitate it. A renaissance woman, Dowell does it all.

Dowell is the scholarship and alumni association coordinator at PVCC. She runs the scholarship program for the PVCC Educational Foundation which involves talking to prospective donors, stewarding donors and overseeing the selection process for the scholarships that get awarded.

For instance, she is currently coordinating the annual Thanks-4-Giving scholarship dinner. She also stays in contact with alumni and keeps them engaged with PVCC.

Dowell was born and raised in Crozet. She aspired to be a coach and teacher. After graduating from Western Albemarle High School, she attended Longwood University and PVCC. Then she started working in development and fundraising at UVA.

She is also currently studying for her masters

degree at Mary Baldwin. Dowell has been working at PVCC for eight years and has been a state employee for 28.

She plans to keep working at PVCC as she finishes her masters degree.

Dowell used to help with Boy Scout troop with her husband who was the Scout Master. She currently serves on the CATEC Foundation Board and was also named to the Parent Council at Longwood University.

She has been a coach and president of a baseball league.

Her love of coaching was influenced by her father who was a referee for 30 years and is now a director of scouting and recruitment for referees in the NFL.

Her stepfather served in the Vietnam War which has also inspired her to work as the past President of American Legion Auxiliary #74, a group that supports people who have served in the military.

Dowell is married and has a 23-year-old son that attends PVCC. They raise cows, miniature donkeys and rescue collies in their spare time.

# Classifieds

PVCC THEATRE PRESENTS:

## AS YOU LIKE IT

A MUSICAL ADAPTATION OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S AS YOU LIKE IT  
ADAPTED BY SHAINA TAUB AND LAURIE WOOLERY  
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY SHAINA TAUB



NOV. 29, 30, 7:30 PM  
DEC. 1, 7:30 PM  
DEC. 2, 2:30 PM  
V. EARL DICKINSON MAIN STAGE  
PVCC FACULTY, STAFF, STUDENTS \$4  
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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: [twhyte@pvcc.edu](mailto:twhyte@pvcc.edu).

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