

EDISON, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

# Democracy House Hosts One Billion Rising Event

By Patrick Duffy  
Staff Writer

Democracy House and Middlesex County Center for Empowerment hosted One Billion Rising: In Solidarity Against Exploitation of Women in Cafeteria C of College Center on Wednesday, Feb. 14 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to raise awareness of violence toward women.

Ariana Simon, program coordinator for Democracy House, said the event was important to raise awareness for women who have been abused and sexually assaulted.

Simon said the event featured poetry and spoken word performances, Zumba, and an open-mic portion for students to share their stories.

According to the One Billion Rising website, this global event, which was launched on Valentine's Day 2012, is the world's largest mass campaign to end violence toward women.

"I'm really excited," Simon



Students enjoy a Zumba class during the One Billion Rising event.

said, "I think it's a good cause and what they stand for and what they're doing and how they're making it a celebration and uplifting thing. They're bringing awareness in a positive way."

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence website, one in three women in the

United States has experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner, and one in seven women has been raped.

More information about this event can be found by e-mailing DemocracyHouse@Middlesexcc.edu or by calling (732) 548-6000 x3262. Additional information about wom-

en's exploitation awareness can be found on the One Billion Rising website at <http://www.onebillionrising.org/>.

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## MCC Presents Seventh Annual Casino Night

By Claire Lacy  
Staff Writer

The MCC Foundation will be hosting their seventh annual Casino Night on Friday, Feb. 23, starting at 5:30 p.m. on the first floor of West Hall.

Kayleigh Maklary, MCC Foundation Development Associate, said that games available to play at Casino Night include blackjack, craps, roulette, poker, and a 50-50 raffle.

"Our one big thing that we always have [as prizes] are the passes to Disney," said Maklary.

Maklary said an estimated 250 people are expected to attend.

According to MCC's website, one ticket for Casino Night costs \$77 and includes access to a bar, serving beer and wine, as well as a buffet and \$50 worth of gambling chips. All attendees must be 21 or older.

Those interested in purchasing tickets can do so at <https://www.middlesexcc.edu/processing/foundation/p/7th-annual-casino-night>.

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# Student Life Office Holds Leadership Development Workshops for Clubs

By Alexander Lewis  
Head Social Media Editor

The Student Life Office held mandatory meetings for Leadership Development Workshop for Student Clubs and Organizations in College Center, Room 334 from Feb. 5 to 9 from noon to 1 p.m. to instruct about Canvas utilization and event planning.

The workshop provided information to officers and representatives from student clubs for the various things they would need to know to be able to succeed in their organizations.

Ode Hoppie, Assistant Director of Student Life said, "We want clubs to know the fact that we're utilizing it [Canvas] to get the clubs up and running."

"We're using Club Central and the Roster section to confirm your membership," said Hoppie.

Hoppie said that Canvas is a more accurate account of who your members are because it updates the rosters if members graduate and no longer attend MCC.

"Your Club Central page is your one-stop shop for resources and information you might need as a club," said Hoppie.

"We are creating URLs for each group," said Hoppie, "That URL will allow anyone that you share that URL with to get to your club page on

Canvas and join the group."

He said, "That URL can be posted on [the] ... club section we have on our main website or you can use that URL to share with prospective members at a fair or a flier."

Hoppie said that Student Life will be sending an Excel sheet for clubs to use as their club ledger and it will have all the transactions the club

access," said Hoppie, "We're adding features to the event form every day."

Hoppie said that after you select your club, the adviser's name is auto filled and depending on what event type you're inputting, certain audio and visual needs might pop up.

While the College Center lounge is no longer an event space, clubs can request West Hall for large

Simply come to us with your event idea and we will do our best to make that happen, said Hoppie.

Clubs are required to do a minimum of two community service events per semester, and helping and promoting the new Student Life Food Pantry can help fulfill this requirement, said Hoppie.



From left to right: Harsh Godhani, Jasmine Montes, Caitlin David, Alexander Lewis, Mary Tutalo, Ode Hoppie, Sergio Rivera & Jacob Onifer pose at the Student Life Clubs Workshop.

had last semester.

There are several requirements we ask clubs to complete, like making sure you are holding events, meetings, and filling out event forms, said Hoppie.

"We're doing our best to streamline the event-planning pro-

events of 150 or more attendees, said Hoppie.

Hoppie said that as a club, you now only have to talk to one person about event planning and the Student Life Office will do all the behind-the-scenes running around to help you prepare for your event.

Student Life Office Coordinator, Mary Tutalo, said, "We need to get the information out, that this is for you [the students] ... for [those] that might need it."

"How the clubs can help is doing food drives, which a lot of clubs do anyway," said Tutalo, "Char-

ity begins at home [and now] the food is actually staying here and assisting our fellow students."

Tutalo said that clubs can also help with inventory, restocking, getting the word out and they can also reserve blue donation bins for club meetings for donation drives.

The Student Life Office is also making communication between student and clubs, as well as cooperation between clubs easier and more streamlined.

"We are putting together a Student Life Canvas page," said Hoppie, "Initially, anyone can join [and] officers can use that to get the word out about events."

Hoppie said, "But within that page we will have an internal sub-group of officers and advisers that will stay in contact through that."

Club representatives at the workshop expressed interest in the International Fair and an outdoor movie screening.

For more information about clubs and events at MCC, contact Ode Hoppie at the Student Life office at (732) 906-2569 or [student\\_life@middlesexcc.edu](mailto:student_life@middlesexcc.edu).

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## The College Features Play 'Thinner Than Water'

By Claudia Ugbana  
Staff Writer

The Middlesex County College Visual, Performing and Media Arts Department will be performing the play "Thinner than Water," by Melissa Ross, in the Studio Theater from March 22 through March 25.

Anna DeMers, theater director, said the play will open with two shows on March 22 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. On March 23 and 24, there will be a 7 p.m. show, and on March 25 there will be a show at 2 p.m.

DeMers said the show is free for students if they have an MCC ID.

According to the flier for the event, auditions for the play were held Feb. 5 and 6 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and students received callbacks on Feb. 7, with final decisions on the cast list.

DeMers said she picked the play because she felt it offered the students challenging characters to play, while also being age appropriate for the audience.

"The general story is about a dysfunctional family, and rehab siblings that come together as their common father is dying in the hospital. There's a lot about family from this play. Hopefully everyone has some degree of family even if they aren't close with them," DeMers said.

DeMers said, "The play has a realistic ending and has some challenging bits to it. I hope the audience will take away aspects of the play that is familiar to them, and things that may not be."

DeMers said there are a total of eight people in the cast, but a variety of people will assist with the play and work backstage.

Students can visit the Studio Theater Office in College Center Room 343 or contact the VPMA office at (732) 906-2612 for more information.

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Photo Courtesy Roi Abraham Saint-Vil

The new play will be performed first on March 22.

## 'Cloverfield Paradox' Leaves Audiences Wanting More

By Harsh Godhani  
Staff Writer

"The Cloverfield Paradox" is a newly-released addition to the "Cloverfield" franchise, directed by Julius Onah. Outside of the Eagles startling the world for their first Super Bowl victory, enthusiastic fans of "Cloverfield" were treated to a major surprise on Super Bowl Sunday; completely out of the blue, the third "Cloverfield" movie was released exclusively on Netflix. This was a surprising announcement to the franchise's fans since the release date of the film was listed as April 20. The setting of the film seems to be focused on modern-day, but the crisis of world resources, such as food and oil, have been raised to post-apocalyptic portions. While many fans had predicted the movie would be a sequel to the "Cloverfield" franchise, it was quickly realized that the movie is a prequel to the original "Cloverfield."

The movie begins in a similar fashion to previous "Cloverfield"

films, covering the daily life of the lead character. In this case, the film stars Gugu Mbatha-Raw, who plays the character of Ava Hamilton, a devoted wife who is struggling with depression as she mourns for the loss of her children in a tragic accident. Though it doesn't seem evident enough from her behavior, viewers learn this through her dialogue with other characters. Her husband, Michael Hamilton, played by Roger Davies, plays the role of a supporting spouse and convinces Ava to join a mission to save humanity.

The early scenes of the film certainly felt like the movie, "Interstellar." Ava joins a crew on the space station gathered by members of the UN Security Council to work on a particle collider in the hopes of creating a permanent energy source to rebuild and replace Earth's natural resources.

For film viewers who had seen previous "Cloverfield" movies, this was oddly strange, as the dystopian world was not the setting in the original "Cloverfield." However, as the movie progresses, viewers can

deduce from dialogue what the "Cloverfield Paradox" theory is and why none of the previous movies may have any relevance to each other, which was one of the very few bright moments and highlights of the film.

The details of Netflix's acquisition of distribution rights are still not available to the public, but many movie critics and analysts have suggested that Netflix's involvement bolstered a dull film to break even for Paramount, whereas as a theater opening would have ended in a loss.

The movie was initially named "God Particle," but after Netflix's acquisition in late January, they renamed the film and released it on their platform within a few weeks. While the unique marketing tactics and the Netflix name brand certainly helped the movie gain an absorbent number of viewers, the movie was considered a dud by millions. Nevertheless, Netflix executives countered the negative critics, saying their goal for the movie was met, as they received new viewers due to their Super Bowl commercial, which most film industry analysts accepted without asking Netflix for proof.

This marks a new trend set by Hollywood studios who are worried about their films being a flop; they are now more than willing to sell their rights to Netflix. "Bright," "Annihilation," and now "The Cloverfield Paradox" are all examples of this. Make a movie you're afraid won't sell tickets? Netflix and its 120 million subscribers will be happy to have it.

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Photo Courtesy of Netflix

"The Cloverfield Paradox" was a surprise release right after Super Bowl LII.

## The College's TV Guide for Feb. 21st to 27th

By Samantha Casano  
Managing Editor

Get ready for skiing (freestyle), skiing (downhill), and more skiing (cross country), along with some bobsled, as the final week of the XXIII Winter Olympics continue on Wednesday, Feb. 21 on NBC.

1

Be prepared for lots of sparkle, beauty and drama as the queen of the XXIII Winter Olympics is crowned when the Ladies Figure Skating Long Program, one of the most anticipated Olympic events, is competed at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 21 on NBC.

2



Photo Courtesy of AMC Network Entertainment LLC.

The Olympics will be wrapping up, while some shows are making a return.

After over two weeks of competition among, according to the Time website, 2,952 athletes representing 92 countries in over 15 different winter sports, the Olympics officially come to a close on Sunday, Feb. 25 on NBC. Be prepared for a spectacular show that celebrates the conclusion of the XXIII Winter Games, as the Olympic flame is extinguished.

3

Season 8 of the hit show, "The Walking Dead" resumes at 8 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25 on AMC.

4

"The Voice" returns to NBC at 8 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26. Former "American Idol" winner, Kelly Clarkson, joins returning judges Adam Levine, Blake Shelton, and Alicia Keys for Season 14 of the long-running singing competition.

5

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## Professor Profile: Aimee Mitacchione

By Tia Taylor  
Staff Writer

Aimee Mitacchione, dance professor at MCC, started taking dance classes at the age of seven, and really knew at that time that she wanted to be a dancer living in Chicago. However, Mitacchione discovered her passion for teaching dance while in college and has been teaching students for the past 20 years.

Before becoming a dance teacher, Mitacchione thought she would pursue something different in her life with dancing.

"I actually thought I was going to make my career as a professional dancer and I sort of fell into teaching dance as a way of just trying to pay the bills and make money, and I ended up loving it and just ended up sticking with it," said Mitacchione.

Mitacchione started teaching dance as a college senior. She graduated with a dance teaching degree.

There are many different

types of dances that Mitacchione instructs here at MCC. She also works with a dance studio in Hillsborough called Triangle Dance Center.

"I have a personal philosophy. I believe that dance is for everyone. Here, we have a mixture [of] types of students and specific dancers who have a lot of dance experience [or] are dance majors from the college. I encourage people without dance experience to also try out and audition to see what it's like because sometimes people have hidden talent and they're able to learn the rehearsal very quickly," Mitacchione said.

Mitacchione said dance is interesting because it is a form of artwork that is given to the audience.

"Art sets us apart as humans from everything else on earth. Art, dance and movement is what makes us human. Everybody has a soul, and that should be expressed, and dance is a great way to help the human spirit to express itself," she said.

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## Founder of #MeToo Comes to the County

By Lauren Musni  
Staff Writer

Tarana Burke, the founder of the popular #MeToo movement that has been trending across all platforms of social media, will be speaking during an event at Rutgers University on Feb. 12.

The meaning behind #MeToo is to let women who are victims of sexual assault or abuse break their silence and come together to show other victims that they are not alone. According to NJ.com, Burke created the hashtag almost a decade ago, but it did not become popular until 2017 when women started vocalizing their sexual assault stories against many powerful men, most notably Harvey Weinstein and Larry Nassar. Stories of victims of sexual assault are continuing to surface.

The vice chancellor of student affairs at Rutgers University, Felicia McGinity, hopes that this event will send a message to the students and to the public. "We want students to know that they have a part in changing the culture, and their voice is important, so we want to empower them with information. We want to encourage them to be agents of social change," said Felicia McGinity via NJ.com.

The event is free and open to the public.

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Photo Courtesy of Quo Vadis

Protestors attending the Women's March in January; another example of women speaking up.

## Makeup Tips and Reviews: Beauty Sponge

By Samantha Casano  
Managing Editor

One of the most important parts of my daily makeup routine is applying foundation and concealer. However, if you are running late (like I usually am), who has the time to spend five full minutes applying their face products with a brush? I know I don't.

What if I told you there is a tool that will apply your face prod-

vloggers rave about the infamous Beauty Blender, I decided to see what all the hype was about for myself. My first stop was Walmart, which, given their extensive cosmetics selection, is where many people would go to find the latest hot products. Since Walmart does not carry the "official" Beauty Blender, I purchased an inexpensive dupe to try out.

Unfortunately, this pro-

and not giving me the flawless finish that I had anticipated.

I wondered what I was doing wrong, and thus began my quest to find out how to get this little pink sponge to work its magic on me. I came across a YouTube video about the famous Beauty Blender and realized that I was using it the wrong way.

I discovered that the fundamental step in using this product correctly is to wet it before use; that is the key to making the magic happen. Run the product under water and squeeze it to soak it evenly. Squeezing it will enlarge the sponge and make it softer and bouncier.

For reference, I usually squeeze mine about five times. Afterwards, wrap the sponge in a towel to squeeze out the excess water, leaving the sponge damp. Once this step is completed, use the beauty sponge in a tapping motion to smooth and blend the foundation that has already been dotted onto your face. After 30 seconds or so, you will see the magic transformation that this amazing product offers.

Nowadays, every store that sells cosmetics sells beauty sponges at various price points, whether it's a \$7 Real Techniques sponge or the \$20 original Beauty Blender. No matter which beauty sponge you choose, don't forget to wet the sponge first so the magic can happen.

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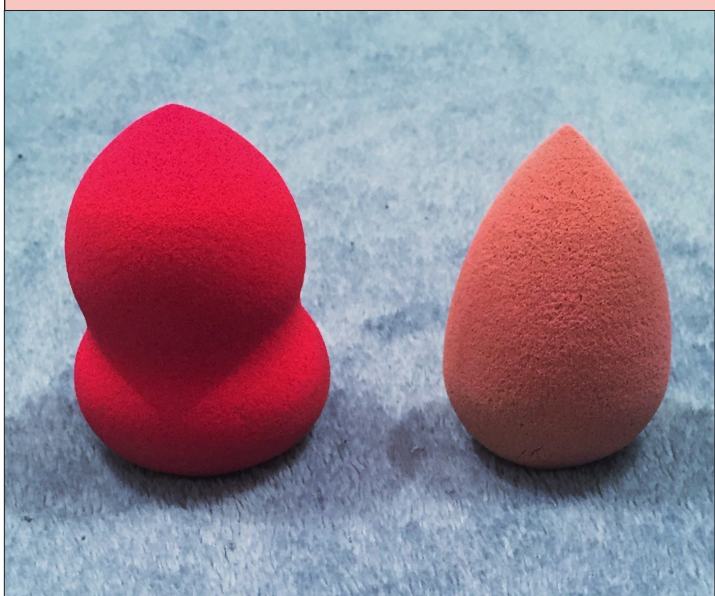


Photo Courtesy of Samantha Casano

The Real Techniques beauty sponge (left) and the Beauty Blender (right).

ucts in half the time and still give that airbrushed finish? The tool that I am referring to is a beauty sponge; and, trust me, ladies and gents, this little object is a total game-changer.

Five years ago, after watching a million and one beauty

vided a less-than-stellar experience, but that was because I was completely misusing the product. For months, I would apply my foundation with the sponge, as is, and streak it all across my face, leaving my foundation extremely patchy

## The Zawadi School of African Dance and Drum to Perform at MCC

By Jacob Cunningham  
Staff Writer

Over the month of Feb., the College has a couple of different events celebrating Black History Month, one of which is the performance by the Zawadi School of African Dance and Drum, which is taking place in the College Center cafeteria on Feb. 22 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Their performance is described on the College's website as an engaging and entertaining performance that includes traditional African dance, song and history performed by the talented Zawadi African Dance and Drum.

The Zawadi School of African Dance and Drum is a specialty school based in Newark that teaches African dance and music. They have already performed at the College twice and are already known to the Student Activities Center. The school's mission is to give people

the gift of dance and to instill in the younger generation a core of being culturally driven and aware, as well as respectful of themselves, others and their elders.

Ode Hoppie, the Assistant Director of Student Life, said, "we have several events, one being the Zawadi School of African Dance and Drum, and pretty much, we wanted to have an event that celebrated the Arts, such as dance, and the history of that type of expressive creativity within the culture." Hoppie also said that the group does a full presentation, including an informative aspect about the importance of the drums and the dancing in African culture, as well as what it was used for in the past and its continuing impact on the world. Like their past events, this one promises to be engaging, extremely colorful and something anyone could enjoy.

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Traditional African drums such as the ones in this picture will be part of the performance.

Photo Courtesy of Roi-Abraham Saint-Vit

# Professor Profile: Natalia Malyk-Selivanova

By Bridget Quimby  
Staff Writer

Middlesex County College's very own Natalia Malyk-Selivanova, a professor of geology, said her greatest accomplishment was her "determination of geologic chart sources for prehistoric artifacts in northwest Alaska."

Before beginning her teaching career at MCC, Professor Selivanova devoted her life to geoarchaeology beginning in the 10th grade.

Her very first geological expedition, while still attending high school in her hometown of St. Petersburg, Russia, brought her to Buryatia, a mountainous Russian republic in eastern Siberia.

There, she and her fellow geologists camped out in the wild with tents and research equipment, braving the weather and any curious bears that stopped by.

She attended St. Petersburg University, one of the best universities in Russia for five and a half years in the department of geology.

Selivanova credits her mentor and professor, paleontologist Michailovna Saranchina, saying "[She] always thought of her as a very good

person that was honest and a model for behavior and forming strong relationships with others."

After her graduation from St. Petersburg, Selivanova worked as a geologist in the USSR Geological Survey in Kazakhstan, a central Asian country, and former Soviet republic.

In 1974, Selivanova was invited to work as a geoarchaeologist-petrographer in the Leningrad Institute of Archaeology in the Academy of Sciences, USSR.

There she conducted research on rocks and minerals found in prehistoric sites to determine the geologic and geographic origin of those artifacts.

Upon her emigration to the United States, she started her Ph.D. at the Department of Planetary and Earth Science at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

When Selivanova first started working at MCC in 2000, there wasn't an earth science program, just a small geology class of her own.

After three years, the earth science program finally started to take off and slowly, but surely, classes started to fill up.

Professor Natalia Ma-



Photo Courtesy of Natalia Malyk-Selivanova

Professor Natalia Malyk-Selivanova pictured with Dr. Robert Gel, Director of the archeological program at the NW division of the NPC, Alaska on one of the prehistoric sites.

lik-Selivanova's advises all students to, "...not be scared of science, never be afraid of anything, just go ahead and do it."

According to the MCC website, Selivanova is teaching three Intro to Geology classes.

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# Campus Club of the Week: What is 'Democracy House'?

By Harsh Godhani  
Social Media Editor

MCC club, Democracy House holds meetings bimonthly, with the next meeting in Raritan Hall, Room 005A on Feb. 26 at 11 a.m.

Those who enjoy volunteering or have a passion for community involvement, social justice and political issues should join the club, where students can volunteer for community service in their own county.

Democracy House's goal is to reach and help the needy in our own community.

Democracy House attempts to tackle issues that many students don't ever experience, often including poverty, starvation, and homelessness.

One of the club's biggest on-campus events, One Billion Rising, was held on Wednesday, Feb. 14.

The event aimed to raise awareness of sexual assault.

Democracy House president, Luke Agojo, said, "Our advisors are very keen on sexual assault awareness so we held an event to address that."

Agojo said, "We also are trying to incorporate the body of students on campus, because generally, when we do events off-campus, the turnout isn't that great."

"There is something on campus where we feel like we can make a greater impact by doing it here, and allowing students to see

the type of change we are trying to make," said Agojo.

Other scheduled Democracy House functions include a day of service event and a beach sweep cleanup.

When asked about the day of service event, Agojo said, "...we are going to make small care packages for Elijah's Promise, which would include napkins, sanitizers, spoon and forks, feminine products and cleaning products."

According to the Elijah's Promise website, "[The organization] was started in August of 1989 and since its inception, the soup kitchen has grown from an organization of three paid staff and 100 volunteers serving 35,000 meals a year to a multi-service organization of 26 paid staff and over 3,000 volunteers serving over 170,000 meals annually between all of our meal service programs."

Agojo said, "As a Volunteer in Action group, the club will attempt to collaborate with other clubs to work with Clean Ocean Action to work on its biannual beach sweep which will be Saturday, April 21, at 8 a.m."

"The Clean Ocean Action Volunteers gather from Raritan to Delaware Bays and along the ocean beaches and waterways, as well as underwater sites. They join as groups (community, school, business, and organization), families or individuals," said Agojo, "Selected participants collect and record valuable data about debris, which

is presented in annual reports and used to advance federal, state and local programs to reduce litter."

"The club is not just a service club but also an environment to socialize and meet students from various majors and backgrounds," Agojo said, "The club's agenda is to

tackle many issues that most students don't ever experience. But we're not just a community service club, we like to give students an experience that they can remember and reflect on. One which motivates them to continue working with their community after they leave MCC."

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Photo Courtesy of Luke Agojo

Democracy House linking arms during their first Meeting

Feb. 21

Board of Trustees Meeting - Chambers Hall Boardroom - 9:30 a.m.  
Matt Violinist Performance - College Center Cafeteria - 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Feb. 22

Zawadi African Dance and Drums Performance - College Center Cafeteria - 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Stress Management Workshop - Edison Hall Room - 100 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Feb. 23

Men's Wrestling Match - Council Bluffs, IA  
Casino Night - West Hall - 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## Middlesex Colts Lose Against Brookdale



Photo Courtesy of Samantha Cheng

to contain him. Going into halftime, the score was 55-30, Brookdale.

The Blue Colts started to get their offense going early in the second half and reduced their deficit to 15 at one point.

Jaquan Robertson, #22, came out in the second half with an aggressive mindset, knocking down two three-pointers and ended up being MCC's number one scoring option in this contest, finishing the game with 28 points.

With 14:27 remaining in the final half, Moore came out of the game with a leg injury. He shortly returned after being looked at by the athletic staff. He made his return with eight minutes remaining in the half, and finished the game with 30 points, making six threes for Brookdale.

In the end, the undefeated Brookdale held onto their lead and came out with the win.

According to the National Junior College Athletic Association website, the Blue Colts have now fallen to 12-13 and are currently in 10th place in the standings.

Coach Dixon of the Middlesex Blue Colts said, "I constantly preach communication and it can be very frustrating when players don't communicate and give up easy points."

With the playoffs approaching Coach Dixon said, "Players start to get fatigued [and] you can see it in our bodies, so we will make sure the team recovers so they'll be ready to go."

Coach Dixon said, "We know where we have to get. We are here for a reason and have to continue to create opportunities for ourselves."

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## Topgolf is Hiring

By Candace Weller  
Managing Editor

Topgolf will host a hiring event to find more associates at their Edison location on Feb. 27 and 28 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Hasan Fleming-Salley, the hospitality manager of training said, "We are looking to find more outstanding associates to join our Topgolf family."

Topgolf is trying to hire support, bussers, barbacks and bartenders, said Fleming-Salley.

"The way it works is you apply for the recruitment event at [topgolf.com/careers](http://topgolf.com/careers) and then you get a confirmation email and you just come in on Feb. 27 or 28, depending on the day you signed up for and you have fun," said Fleming-Salley.

"You have to be 17 years old or older, and no previous job experience is required. If you have a disability or injury, that is more than welcome. We want you to be yourself. We invite all walks of life. There is one requirement; you have to have high energy," he said.

"We promote these events online at [topgolf.com/careers](http://topgolf.com/careers), as well as fliers passed out at the local colleges, Middlesex and Union County, and state fairs, as well as at our industry night every Monday at Topgolf," said Fleming-Salley.

Fleming-Salley said some advice to the people who are applying is just be yourself.

"You may be nervous but it's a lot of fun. Make sure you have fun," he said.

Topgolf is located at 1013 U.S. 1, in Edison.

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### Jaquan Robertson taking a shot

By Matthew Thornton  
Staff Writer

The Blue Colts Men's Basketball team has now lost five out of their last six games after losing to Brookdale Community College who are undefeated this season with a final score of 97-81 at home, on Feb. 8.

Right from the start, Brookdale jumped to a 24-11 lead early in the first half.

Their spacing and balanced attack was proven to be too much for the Blue Colts to ever gain a lead.

Early turnovers by the Blue Colts certainly did not help them keep the game close.

In the first half, #13 of Brookdale, Jamik Moore, made three 3-pointers and had 18 at the end of the first half. His ability to stretch the floor made it hard for Middlesex

## Middlesex County College Police Blotter as of Feb. 21

By Scott Pietschker  
Managing Editor

### Driver of Vehicle Crashes Through Chain Link Fence and Tree

A driver of a vehicle accidentally pressed the gas pedal instead of braking, causing the vehicle to jump the curb, traveling through a chain link fence and into a tree in Lot #1 on Feb. 8.

The vehicle sustained damage to the driver's side wheel, hood, and fender. There were no injuries reported.

### Student Harasses Coffee Shop Employees

The police were called due to an individual harassing employees on Feb. 8 at the Pony Express Café in Main Hall. Police were able to talk to the subject, who was uncooperative and claiming that he, himself, was being harassed, despite multiple witnesses refuting his claim. The manager did not wish to press charges.

### Vehicle Strikes Parked Vehicle

There were two vehicles involved in an accident by Lot #4 on

Feb. 7. The first vehicle was cut off and swerved, jumping the curb, and striking a parked vehicle.

The parked vehicle sustained moderate damage to the front passenger side wheel, door and rear view mirror. The driving vehicle sustained major damage to the front bumper.

### Rear Bumper Hit Due to Faulty Brakes

Two vehicles were involved in an incident at a red light on College Drive East on Feb. 7.

The first vehicle, who was at the red light was struck from behind, sustained moderate damage to the rear bumper. The vehicle, which hit the first car sustained damage to the rear bumper and was towed for having faulty brakes, which was not safe for the road. The driver of the faulty vehicle was issued New Jersey state summonses.

### Accidental Fire Alarm Activation

Police were called to the library due to a fire alarm, which was later revealed to be activated by drill work on Feb. 6. The final panel was reset and no further action was taken.



Photo Courtesy of Roi Abraham Saint-Vil

### MCC Police officers making a routine stop.

### Suspicious Person Reported Near College Center

Police were called for an individual reported near College Center on Jan. 31 at approximately 1:30 p.m.

The individual reported asked a pedestrian if he was interested in a job in the financial aid department. The individual was reported as being an Asian male, approximately being 5' 6". The

individual in question told the pedestrian that they would be receiving a phone call at 7:00 p.m. The police told the pedestrian to contact campus police if another incident were to arise.

You can reach the author at [takerds@gmail.com](mailto:takerds@gmail.com)

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**We are recruiting the following positions:**

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## An Update on the Library's Renovation

By Jamal Kingston  
Opinion Editor

As some may know, the Library is going through several repairs in the Spring 2018 semester to install new sprinklers, ceilings and lights. The Library has been relocated to the Johnson Learning Center Room 240. It has been so since late Dec. when the winter semester began.

My overall opinion is that it is good that the library is being renovated. It is one of the most visited parts of the Campus and many students and faculty have used the library to get work done. Room 240 is a bit crowded and could be bigger, but it is the best that the College can do. I actually like that they are

numerous computer rooms in 240, including the room where the major printers are located.

Some students like the new relocation, some don't care at all, but one of the major cons is the moving of the Tutoring Center. Although the Learning Center Tutoring is rooms away, some students still have a hard time finding the center. The Learning Center Tutoring was held in JLC 240.

Life doesn't always go as planned, and the College made a good move fixing the original library. It is better to have a refurbished, better library than a mediocre one. Once the library reopens in Fall 2018, it should be bigger than ever.

You can reach the author at [pricekeys82@gmail.com](mailto:pricekeys82@gmail.com)



Photo Courtesy of Samantha Cheng

The library is being renovated to install new sprinklers, ceilings, and lights.

## Seven Tips for Better Study Habits

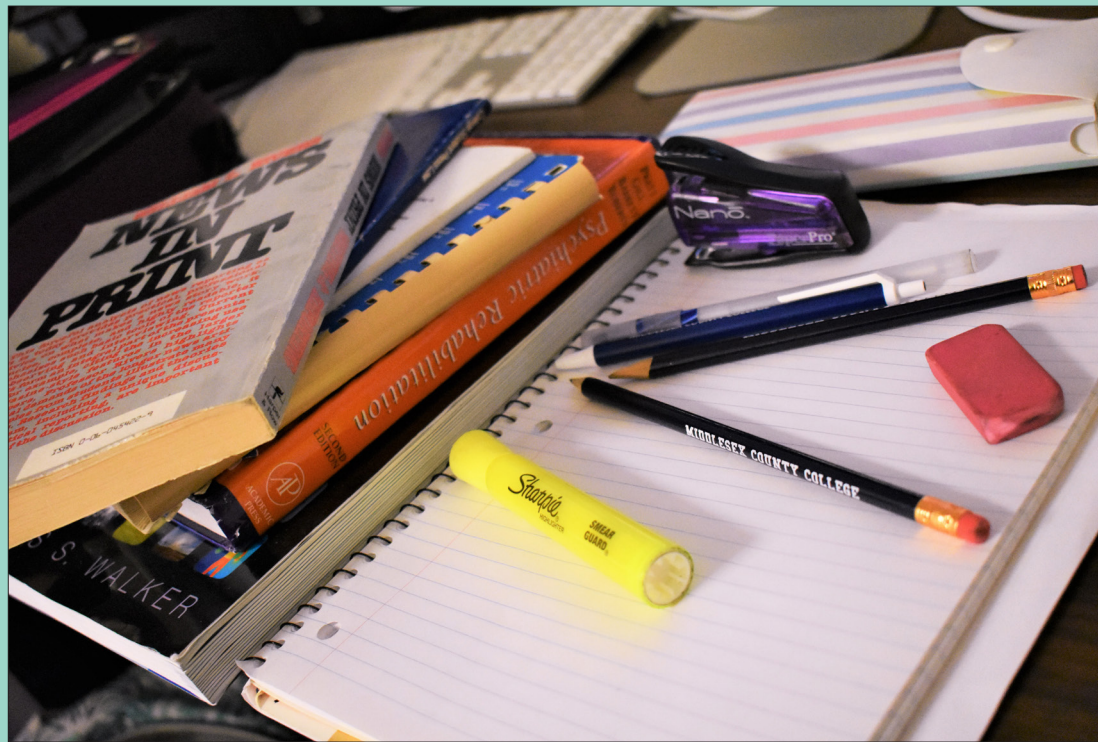


Photo Courtesy of Samantha Cheng

Having better study habits will improve your grades.

By Jasmine Montes  
Staff Writer

My name is Jasmine Montes, I am a 24-year-old journalism major and I want to help motivate other students on campus with my 7 studying tips.

The first studying tip will help if you feel you can't concentrate in an environment that has many people and surrounded with a lot of noise. Find a different environment that will be very peaceful. Try to find an empty, peaceful room where no one will disturb you or distract you from studying.

The second studying tip will help if you run out of ideas. Listening to music helps to open ideas and structures in your work. Listening to music helps me a lot.

The third studying tip helps if you think studying by yourself is not optimal. You should

study with a group of friends. This will help you memorize some concepts that you have learned in class days in advance before your test/exam day. This will help you be prepared for your exam.

The fourth studying tip is to study in between your classes! The best way to do this is to take a one-hour break and study. I do it because it is worth it at the end of the day to be fully prepared and remember it all before I start my exam for my next class. I encourage every student in campus to do this tip because it is worth it to pass any exam.

The fifth studying tip is to not procrastinate. I procrastinated a lot last semester and it was the worst thing I've ever done, procrastinating too much was my biggest enemy and due to procrastination, I lost a lot of focus, making me fail 2 of my classes. At the end of the day,

I'm a human and I make mistakes. Remain focused.

The sixth tip is to hang a "Do Not Disturb" sign on your door. This will help if your family members are constantly bothering and disturbing you from your studies. This helps me get work done and to study peacefully.

The last and final tip is to turn off your phone. This helps if you're constantly getting sidetracked from your studies due to a text message or notification. Personally, I forget all about my phone while studying. I focus a lot more without having any buzzing distractions.

I hope you use these tips in your everyday studying.

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## Free Community College in New Jersey Should Happen

By Jamal Kingston  
Opinion Editor

I usually don't agree with the belief of free things, as I usually believe that there is no such thing as a free lunch; I have had that ideology with me for years now. However, over the past couple of months I have come to the realization that federal or state-funded community college would be a good and masterful idea in America's colleges, like our own Gov. Phil Murphy has campaigned for. It has been previously proposed in the past few years, federally, and in some states, it has been passed and signed into official law. Some people support the position, and some people oppose the position.

First, free community college would work because, number one, it would give a relief to the parents and students who have to fork the tuition bill every semester. Some college tuitions are as expensive as gold, and it takes a large sacrifice for families, especially working-class families. Making sure that community college is free and affordable for all New Jerseyans would be a good start for a state that is losing college graduates to other states like Pennsylvania, New York and Connecticut. If free community college were to be fully passed by the New Jersey Legislature and implemented into law, I

think that there would be a relief in families' economic wallets.

Secondly, America needs a more educated workforce in the 21st century. America will be heading into the third decade of the 21st century soon, the 2020s. America needs more doctors, plumbers, lawyers, and businessmen. A free community college degree would make sure that more graduates can get a well-paying job in a field that they majored in. America's employers and college graduates should make sure that they are ready to enter the workforce in an efficient and affordable way.

In conclusion, free community college is one of the first steps that would give more Americans an opportunity of receiving a higher education. If you want to attend, it should be free.

Obviously, free community college would be paid for by New Jersey taxpayers, and taxpayers may not want to pay for other peoples' free college when the state of New Jersey is already facing budget and economic challenges, but it would provide opportunities for those who want to have a better economic life in the 21st century.

Free community college would be a good step. We'll see if it becomes reality.

You can reach the author at [pricekeys82@gmail.com](mailto:pricekeys82@gmail.com)



Photo Courtesy of Samantha Cheng

Free community college in New Jersey will save students and families

### EDITORIAL POLICY

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The editor reserves the right to edit any article to fit the format of this publication without altering the motive, intent, or direction of an article.

Alterations may include, but are not limited to, alterations in style, grammar, spelling and length. No article will be published with demeaning or insulting content.

Anonymous or content with pseudonyms will not be published.

Submissions do not guarantee publication. Judgements are made in the sole interest of libel exposure and common sense.

## *I Am a Notebook*

I am a notebook  
with pages torn,  
words scribbled out,  
regrettable things written,  
thoughts never said aloud,  
ink sloppy and splotted—  
secrets kept hidden.

Caitlin David

## *All in my head*

You told me you would show up  
And when you didn't that's when  
I realized there was never going  
To be a you and I  
All this time it was all in my head.

Yesenia Rivera

## *Silenced*

You've been silenced  
all your life—  
not a word,  
bite your tongue,  
know your place;  
sutures thread over your  
mouth—  
they don't want to hear  
what you have to say—  
do not make a sound.

Caitlin David

## *An ode to Metal Gear 'Solid Snake'*

Outer Heaven  
Inner turmoil.  
A hidden boss  
Leading the soldiers dream.

The slyest of foxes  
Leading a liquid rebellion  
Can't stop these brown boxes  
Hiding a stolen stallion.  
A poisonous snake,  
No matter the state.  
A savior, a villain  
Boss of his own game.  
Through revolving control  
The right-hand man  
Controls your genetic soul  
The way only a patriot can.

A tech advanced future  
Built on a child's horrid pain  
Avenging his teachers  
Ninja suit lives again.  
Going back to go forward  
An old snake sheds  
To be rid of the phantom pain  
Rearrange your addled brain.  
Virtual simulation  
Or the real world again  
Hard to tell with Kojima  
Hope this time I'm awake.

Alexander Lewis

Do YOU want to be in  
next week's edition of  
Ars Poetica?

Contact Quo Vadis to submit your poems!  
quovadis\_newspaper@hotmail.com

## *Wanderlust*

Traveling migrant, pilgrim wary,  
Seeking scriptures writ of faeries,

Watching as the old sun dies,  
He beckons forth and out he cries,

"Say goodbye, my hopes and dreams,  
Seen behind high starlit steam,

Say goodbye, nighttime danger,  
For you will not meet this stranger,

Say goodbye my life that's passed,  
For you cannot breach this cast."

A smile shapes on final words,  
Visions vivid of distant worlds,

He embraces dreams, eyes shut closed,  
Ignoring natures cold imposed.

Matt Wolfe

## *Et tu..?*

Counted out like Caesar on his  
grand throne,  
Murmurs of his arrogance, his  
downfall.  
Feet made of feath'rs, a heart made  
of stone,  
Stone spreading fast, stonewall  
flesh against all.

Kingdom's strong turn mighty with  
defenses,  
Shields, high walls, snipers watch-  
ing the south tow'r;  
People scream to change walls to  
small fences,  
Enemies seek this to gain their  
power.

Appointed kings dethroned for  
doing right.  
The people never satisfied with  
truth.  
A knight's heart never mends with-  
out a fight,  
So strike my body down before my  
youth.

Confidantes turned to enemies; 'Et  
tu..?',  
My stone heart turns to crystal, icy  
blue.

Sergio Rivera

## *Storms*

Storms rage all around,  
Destroying all in their path,  
No men can stop them.  
Hidden within it's center,  
The eye protects with a  
price.

Sergio Rivera

## *The Big Apple*

The Big Apple  
the city of dreams,  
people hope to  
become someone,  
so many walks of life—  
though we different,  
we are all one.

Caitlin David

## *Circumstance*

I hope we meet again,  
in a different time,  
a different place—  
and maybe we'll have a  
chance.

Harsh Godhani