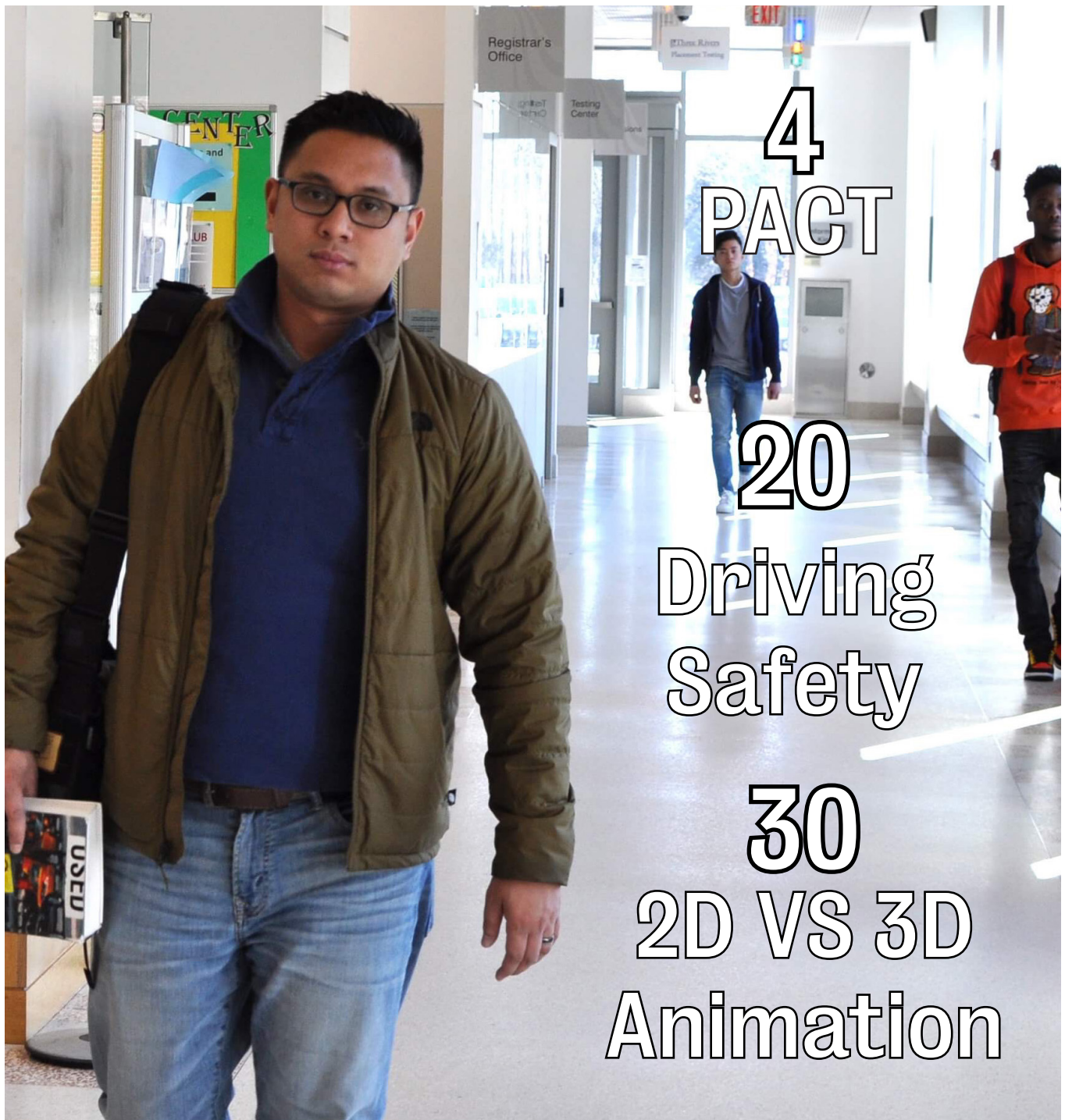




The Current

Spring 2020 March 4 Vol. 21 Issue 8



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PACT

20
Driving
Safety

30
2D VS 3D
Animation

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Story by: Tucker Noniewicz

Monday January 27, 2020 state senator Will Haskell and state representative Gregg Haddad sit down in a packed multipurpose room to tell the Three Rivers faculty about the PACT program.

The PACT program is described as, “‘last-dollar’ funding, meaning it covers the gap between the federal and state grants you receive (Pell and Roberta Willis grants), and the cost of attending community college (tuition and mandatory fees)” on its website.

Senator Will Haskell of district 26 represents the towns of Westport, Wilton, Weston, Ridgefield, Redding, Bethel, and New Canaan. He describes the PACT program as the “debt free community college program.”

Senator Haskell outlines some of the problems facing higher education that the PACT program is aimed at remedying. The first one he mentions is the current higher ed. affordability crisis.

He states that, “41 percent of community

The Three Rivers PACT Panel

A talk on the future of debt-free community college

college graduates now leave campus with student debt. And, Connecticut has the highest student loan debt per capita in the country.” He states that this problem not only affects the young people of Connecticut, but also holds the state economy back.

To defend this, he cites that this student debt, “delays the purchase of a first home by an average of 7 years. It delays when young people decide to start a family, to buy a car, to launch their small business.”

Haskell also notes that by 2025 70% of jobs are projected to require a college diploma. This serves only to deepen the wound that the rising student debt is causing.

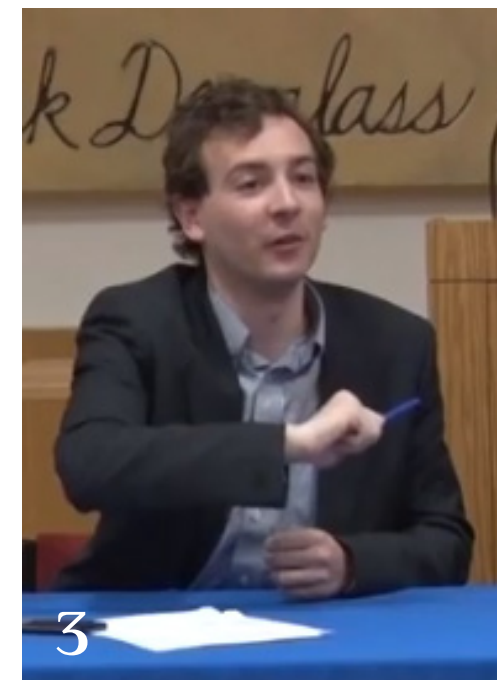
Representative Gregg Haddad takes a second to voice that employers are still hungry for enfranchised, skilled, and tech-savvy workers. So, while the PACT program is meant to increase the throughput of the community colleges, it can only do so because the work is

already being done so well. Haddad thanks the Three Rivers faculty for their part in this work.

Haddad then jumps into some of the requirements necessary to qualify for the PACT program. “The program is for first-time full-time community college students. We wanted to take what we’ve learned in other states and try to do as much of that as quickly as possible.”

Haddad makes a point to mention that with the way the requirements are worded the PACT program not only includes recent high school graduates, but also serves more non-traditional students who haven’t attended community college yet but want to get a certificate or some additional training.

Filling out the FAFSA form is another important step in qualifying for the PACT program. PACT covers the tuition left unpaid by federal and state financial aid.



Representative Haddad believes that the PACT program will also be beneficial in that it increases the average number of FAFSA forms being filled out. Students who would not have applied for financial aid previously will find out how much they get as a by product of becoming eligible for the PACT program.

The largest prospective source of funds for the PACT program is a proposal with the CT Lottery, called iLottery, Haddad informs the crowd. The CT Lottery would be OK’d to sell draw games on cell phones and in turn the profits from that venture would become a direct source of funding for the PACT program. --



1: The Pledge to Advance Connecticut (PACT) is scheduled to begin affecting students in September of 2020

2: Representative Gregg Haddad describes a prospective funding base for The PACT program

3: Senator Will Haskell answers the questions of the Three Rivers faculty during the PACT Panel

Fall 2020 Tuition for Connecticut Community Colleges

What's Tuition Looking Like In 2020 and Beyond

Story and photos by: Ariana Cloutier

Looking forward into Fall of 2020, tuition for Connecticut community colleges are going to stay the same. This is to help out students who either do not qualify for the PACT program or are already students.

Apparently, the only way that the state will be able to continue this flat rate is, through a program called Students First.

Students First, is a program that will mash all twelve community colleges into one accredited college with, twelve different campuses.

The twelve colleges will stay separate until fall of 2023. This program needs time to get everything in order and for CSCU to work with NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) to get accredited as one college.

Even though this program could be quite controversial, it could really help many students who struggle financially.

Connecticut community colleges are expected to benefit even more financially

because of PACT. They are anticipating more federal financial aid dollars coming into the colleges as enrollment rates rise.

As for this year, there is a 10-million-dollar savings for the community colleges.

See more about the Students First Program here: www.ct.edu/sf--



1

1. 20 dollar bills folded over each other
2. CSCU Logo

“Even though this program could be quite controversial, it could really help many students who struggle financially.”

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2



1

Living the Life of a Student Worker

What is it like to be a Student Worker?

- Can You Balance Your Work/School/Life?

“Usually... First I try to work on stuff I need to get done for school first, but not while I work. Work comes first as a student worker on shift. Then personal life. I feel like everyone should have some personal time to do whatever they want. But school and work comes first, if they can’t, I can communicate if something happens.” Parker said.

“I have no problem balancing my work-class-life because a lot of my friends are at TRCC with me. I believe if you plan accordingly and really time stuff out, balancing all that is easy.” Taylor said.

- What Have You Learned While Working Here?

“I learned how to communicate with others better. I used to be quiet. I am more comfortable because of the staff going in and out of the copy center, and I feel comfortable working with the machines.” Parker says

“I have learned to be patient with people.” Taylor said.

- What Attracted You to This Job?

“Well, my aunt used to go to Three Rivers and told me to check out the copy center. I needed a job.” Parker says.

“It was on campus and it was relatively easy.” Taylor said.

- How Have You Changed While Working Here?

“I’ve changed in being better with my communicating and I am more serious now then my first semester.” Parker says.

“I have become more school focused honestly and I do my homework in a timely manner.” Taylor said .

- What Do You Feel Like Someone Should Know About Being a Student Worker? Any advice?

“They work around your schedule, and it’s part time, with the most hours being 20 hours a week. It’s a good first job, treat it like a real job, and be nice.” Parkers say

“It’s great if you want to balance your school and work life because most of the time you have down time to do homework assignments. And it’s also really convenient instead of traveling to a different location for work and school. My only advice is to be prepared for very impatient people.” Taylor says.

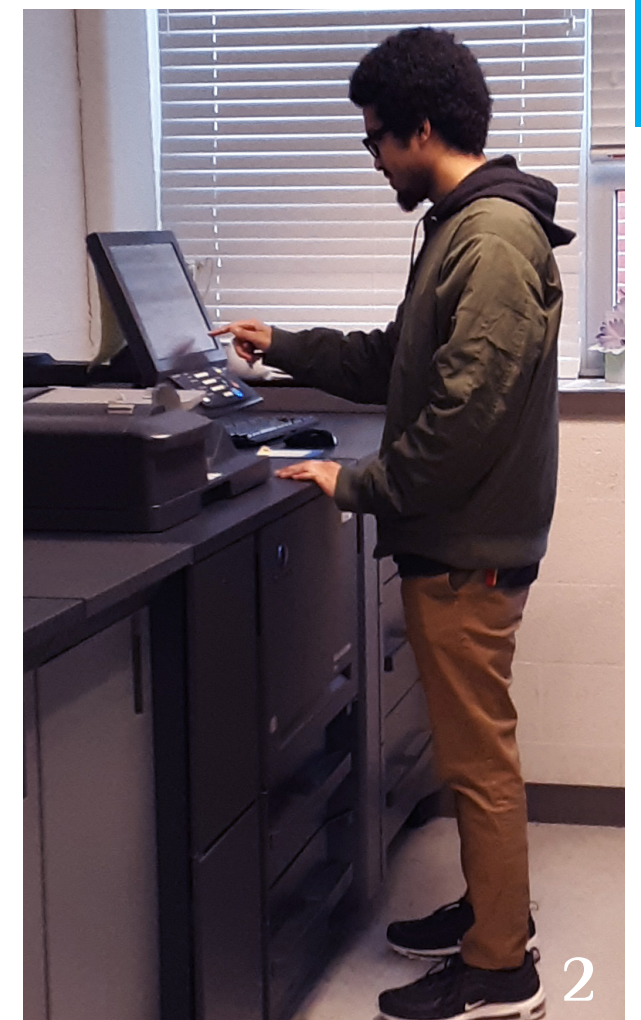
- Best Memory While Working Here?

“Making friends meeting a lot of good people and professors while working here.” Parker said.

“The friends I’ve created.” Taylor said.--

1. Student worker Gillian Taylor filling out her time sheet.

2. Student worker Marquise Parker working in The Copy Center



2

Story and photos by: Bianca Lane

Three Rivers Community College does not only have regular faculty and staff, but also student workers. These student workers are students who have a job on-campus.

Let’s talk to The Copy Center Student, Marquise Parker, and graphic design student worker, Gillian Taylor.

- Have You Had Any Problems While Working Here?

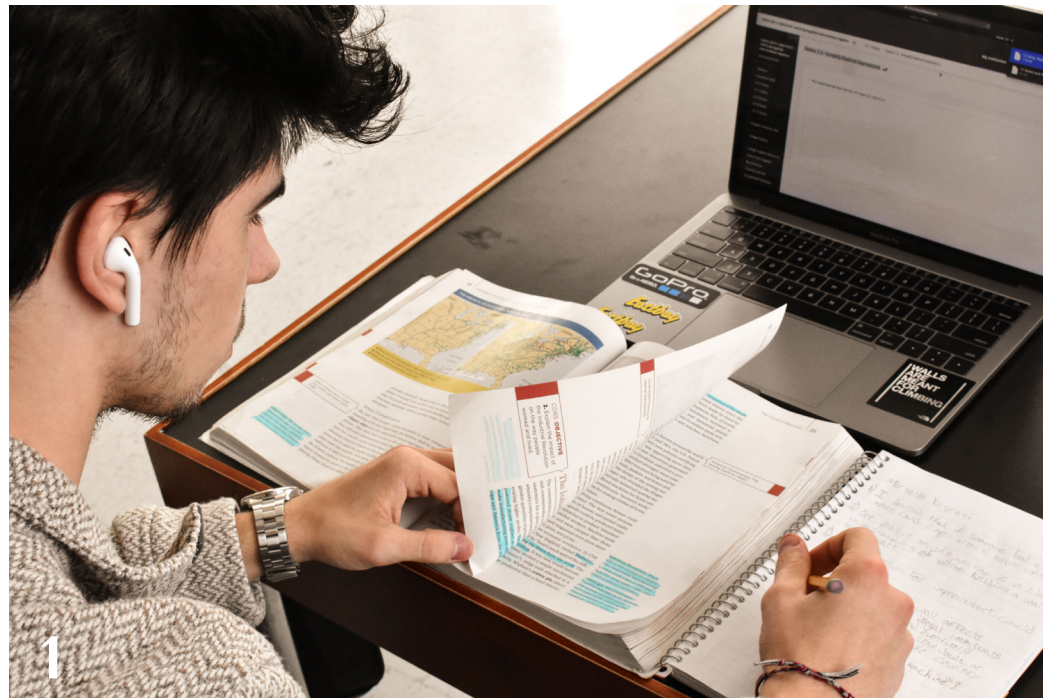
“I ran into some problems... not often. I’ve had some problems with teachers and copy jobs, but I usually find solutions.” Parker said.

“The only problem I have had is them losing my time cards even though I know I turned them in.” Taylor said.

Listening to Your Favorite Song at 2 am

Does music help with studying?

Story and Photos By: Axel Soto



You have a test coming up tomorrow and it's time to finally study. When you open the first pages to your notes and review the pages of the chapter you're going through, you lose the motivation and attention span to understand what you're reading. No matter what you do, you read and try to understand but it just fades away from your mind.

This is why students have come up with a new way of studying and that is studying with music. There are claims that music is yet another distraction from getting work done and is not a good tool to have while trying to study.

But does music effectively help students productivity in studying better? According to

Florida National University,

"Studies have shown that music produces several positive effects on a human's body and brain. Music activates both the left and right brain at the same time, and the activation of both hemispheres can maximize learning and improve memory."

Music has been proven to relieve stress while studying. Having your mind wander off into so many places will cause too much worry to focus. Provided by the Maryland Medical Center, music can help people with or without health problems. Listening to soft music in particular can decrease blood pressure and heart rate (Maryland Medical Center).

Music can also improve brain functionality. This all depends on if the music you are listening to are ones that improve on your current emotional state to be more positive. It was also shown that those who listen to background music and given a test under a certain time frame got more answers correct than those who did not. (Florida National University).

One of the most effective ways to get the most out of trying to listen to music while staying focused is listening to classical music. From Dr. Masha Godkin of Northcentral University,

"It's good to stick with classical music.

One reason this genre works well is that there are no lyrics to distract you. You can also branch out into meditation music, which is ideal for concentration as it is meant to relieve stress and relax your mind" (Northcentral University).--

1. TRCC student studying while listening to music



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Drawing 1 in Review

A Perfect Place to Learn Drawing

Drawing I- ART*K111
Time: 6:00pm - 8:45pm
Available Fall, Spring Semesters
Instructor: Ian Pawluk

Story and Photos by: Tucker Noniewicz

Drawing I is an introductory level art course here at Three Rivers. Drawing I is focused on building and reinforcing a base of art concepts to expand on in future courses.

Now, the nature of this course is that it differs significantly based on which professor that teaches it. That is why today Ian Pawluk's Drawing I is the course being reviewed.

Pawluk's Drawing I is a night course, but this is to its advantage. When the class is working Pawluk dims the lights in the drawing studio and puts on music. This creates a relaxing and focused atmosphere for the students drawing.

The work of the course is split into two main categories, in class and homework assignments. You will learn and practice concepts in class work, then will use those skills in the homework assignment.

The first skill that Pawluk teaches is line drawing in graphite. Line drawing teaches you to establish competent ground planes and start to take a critical look at spatial relations. These skills are cultivated in the



first assignments.

Next, you build on the line drawings by introducing drawing by value while still using graphite. These assignments reinforce the teachings of the last while also introducing the main meat of the course, drawing in value.

For the third assignments the medium changes. Charcoal differs from graphite in that yields much darker values as it goes on. Drawing with charcoal is a much more reductive process whereas drawing with graphite is an additive process.

I'll be frank, I did not enjoy charcoal as a medium at the start of the class. It was messy and unruly to work with. However, with time and experience I learned of its advantages.

Charcoal goes on dark, is quick to work with, and has the ability to be manipulated after

it goes on the page. It is these advantages that charcoal has over graphite.

The next assignments are perspective drawings. In class Pawluk asks you to draw the hallways of Three Rivers in your choice of medium. For homework Pawluk asks that you draw any 20ft deep space.

The last assignments are self portraits. In class you draw portraits, first of each other, then of yourself. For homework you create and draw a still life composition that is representative of you in some way. The location, the objects, the spatial relations between each object should each be descriptive of you in some way.

The other major element of Drawing I is the critiques. On the day the homework assignments are due, everyone brings their assignment to class to display and give feedback on them.

These were the most stressful classes for me because in them you need to make a defense of the work you brought in. It should be mentioned that to pass the class you must turn in all five assignments.

Overall, I enjoyed Ian Pawluk's Drawing I. I chose to take it to fill an elective slot for my major, but came out really thankful that I took it. Not only did it make me a better artist, but it gave me a better appreciation of the craft. Before this class I considered myself mediocre at best at drawing.

I particularly enjoyed being in that space where your focus is only on what is in front of you. It was really cathartic for me. By the end, I actually enjoyed setting an afternoon aside to put on some music and draw.

As a graphic design major, this class gave me an important understanding and hands on experience with the concept of perspective. And just more drawing practice in general.



While drawing is not a required skill of a graphic designer it certainly helps.

Colby Chaluto is a graphic design major at Three Rivers. He is currently in Pawluk's Drawing I class due to its requirement as an art elective. He said, "It's exciting and challenging. It encourages me to expand my knowledge of drawing."

If you are interested in learning to draw or want to relearn the basics in a relaxed environment. I wholeheartedly recommend taking Drawing I with Ian Pawluk. --

1 : Student, Colby Chaluto, focuses intently on the composition in front of him. Doing his best to represent what he sees on the paper in front of him.

2. Professor Ian Pawluk observes and comments on the students' work helping them improve.

TRCC Game Room & Student Lounge

Here's a place to take a break from school

Photos and Story by: Axel Soto

At Three Rivers Community College, there are places to visit that you may not have heard about. These places are provided by the school for all students to use by whatever needs they desire. One of these places includes the Game Room.

What is the Game Room? The Game Room is a place located at Room F-217 with miscellaneous games to choose from. They have a pool table with included billiard balls and cues (located at the Student Programs' Office which will require a valid photo ID to obtain), a Nintendo Wii console hooked up to a television with controllers and games, and a foosball table.

If you think that The Game Room might be too much for you, then there's always the Student Lounge located not too far away from the Gaming Room. Just like the Game Room, it's a compact space with small activities to participate in. The room features comfortable seats and cushions in contrast to the seats that are provided in other places like the cafeteria. A piano is also included in the room with a couple of board games and another television mounted to the wall (with VCR/ HDMI capability).

TRCC Student Amisadai Cruz, a frequent visitor of the Game Room spoke about his experience. After class and even after a test, Cruz likes to play pool and chat amongst his friends. Cruz explains how people are when they come in:

"It's a mostly friendly environment, you know, everyone who usually comes in here is chill. It's not a bad place, I just want to play pool with people."

He mentioned at one point what importance the Game Room has had on his experience at Three Rivers.

"I might not have had friends if it wasn't for this room."

The Game Room & Student Lounge are open Monday through Thursday from 10:00am - 8:00pm and Friday 10:00am - 5:00pm.--

1. These rooms are all open for anyone to enjoy

2. Amisadai Cruz playing a game of pool after class



1



2

Who Are the Norwich Historical Society?

Preserving and sharing the rich history of Norwich

Story and Photos by: Chris Boyle

The Norwich Historical Society (NHS) is a non-profit volunteer organization formed for the purpose of preserving and sharing the historical value of Norwich.

The organization holds a number of events throughout the year. Their mission statement states they “seek to preserve, protect and promote the rich history of Norwich, CT.”

The NHS was founded by William B. Stanley and Peg Wilson. Stanley was a graduate of Norwich Free Academy and vocal advocate for the the city of Norwich’s heritage.

In 2002-2003 Stanley supervised the total restoration of Samuel Huntington’s tomb, located in Norwichtown Colonial Cemetery. Stanley pushed for Huntington to be recognized as the first President of the United States for his service during the ratification of the Articles of Confederation.

Prior to the restoration project, the tomb was in a state of disrepair due to its age. Following the restoration, Stanley also organized an annual wreath placing ceremony at the tomb to honor Huntington.

There are fifteen non-profit heritage-based organizations in Norwich alone and, in recent years, they have worked in collaboration and cross promotion. The joint actions of these groups has made preservation and promotion of the historical components of Norwich a community effort.

The organization has hosted lecture series, historical reenactments, annual meetings, walking tours, trivia nights, and more. The NHS is also involved in a number of restoration projects as well as historic advocacy causes in the area.

The NHS holds a series of walking tours from April to September that are free to the public and are held on the second Saturday of that month.



1

1. Currently, the visitor center is closed for the season, but will reopen towards the end of May.

The walks benefit from the warmer weather and see that visitors and residents alike can learn the vast history Norwich has to offer.

Regan Miner inherited a love for history at a young age, credited to the influence of her parents. Miner's mother often visited the Norwich Town Green with her children and visited historical sites in the area.

In 2013 Miner graduated from the University of Connecticut with a Bachelors in history and was exposed to the NHS through her work as an intern for the Norwich Community Development Organization. Miner has since gone on to become the part time Executive Director of the organization.

In particular, Miner's love of history is intertwined with her love for Norwich. Though the area is small geographically, its

history is rich and fascinating.

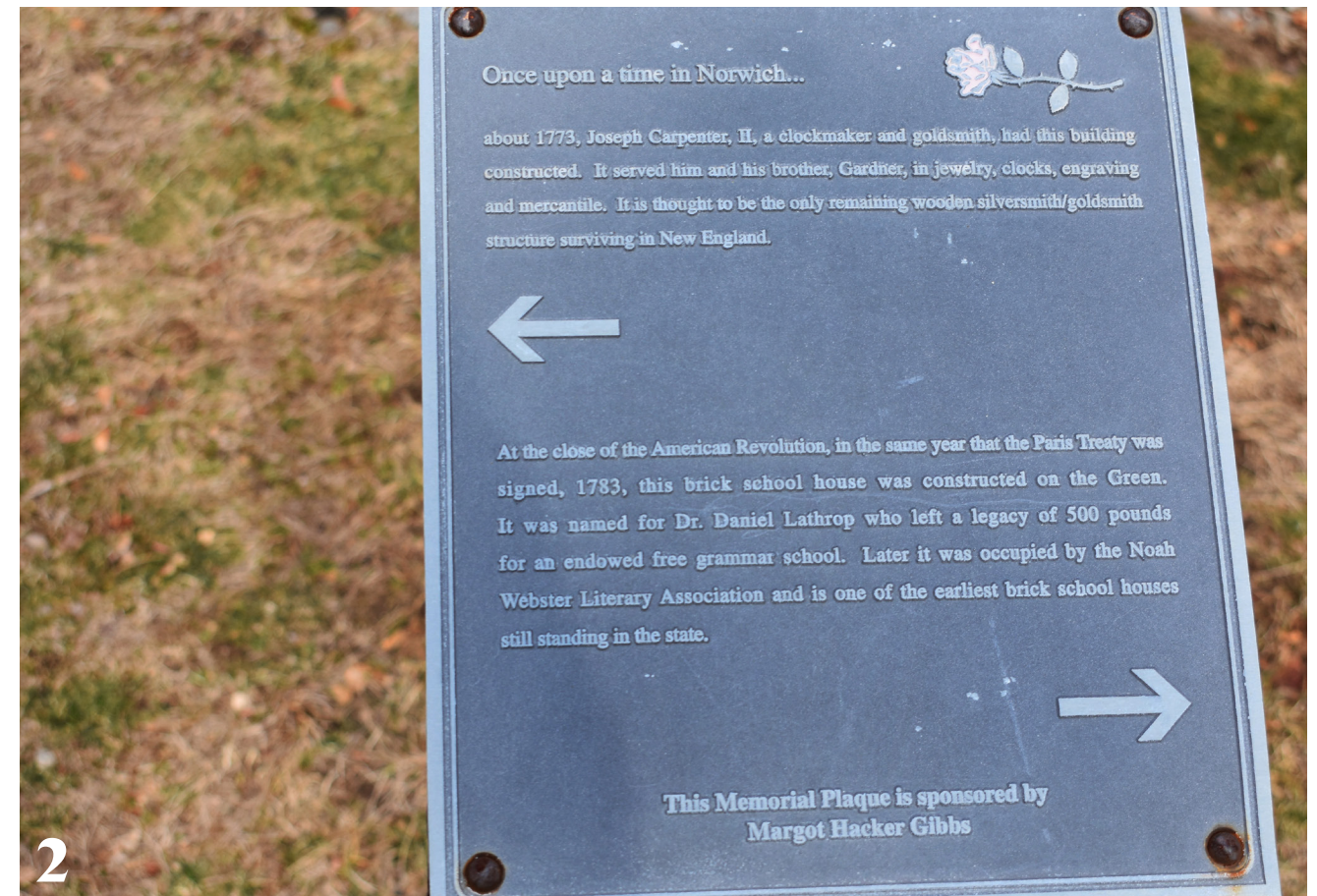
"Our new catchphrase is 'Norwich has 400 years of history in four miles,'" she said. "There is so much history in such a small amount of space... depending on which neighborhood in Norwich you are in, you are either in the Colonial era in the Norwichtown [section], but then if you're in Taftville you are in a very well preserved mill village... History is everywhere no matter where you go in Norwich."

With such prominent historical figures that at once were residents of Norwich, such as the aforementioned Samuel Huntington, President of the Continental Congress, and Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary War general and infamous traitor, the history of Norwich is as abundant as it is interesting.

For the 2020 year, the NHS is working on



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restoring the Joseph Carpenter Silversmith Shop (c. 1772) as well as the David Greenleaf House (c. 1750). The projects will focus on energy upgrades, window work, and repairs to the structures.

"[Norwich is] a heritage-tourism destination... Norwich is very authentic, [it] is a very authentic experience. It's not a typical canned tourism experience you would get elsewhere," Miner said.

"We want to advocate for our historic assets and also make those that are not visitor-ready yet more enhanced so we can really attract more tourists to the area and also just have residents visit the area and really take pride in their community."

For more information on the Norwich Historical Society, visit
www.norwichhistoricalsociety.org--

1. The Norwich Town Green is a great place to visit, sit for a while, and look around at some historical buildings.

2. When walking around Norwich, take time to learn more about where you stand.

Driving Safely

Your actions will have consequences

Photos and Written by: Jerico Ciliano

Would you consider yourself to be a good driver? What makes a person a good driver? Driving safely should be taken very seriously because you are essentially operating a machine. Reckless driving could potentially lead to injuring or killing others.

What you should avoid while driving:

1. Obey the law.
 - a.) Wear your seatbelt.
 - b.) Pay attention to your surroundings.
 - c.) Do not drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
 - d.) Do not use your phone.

If you ever get caught doing these you will have to deal with fines or charged with crimes. Driving violations are a big deal because it could cost a life. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), there were an estimated 33,654 people that died in motor vehicle traffic accidents in 2018.

There were a total of 36,560 accidents, that means only 2,906 people survived an accident. It was difficult finding the statistics of how many were injured or disabled due to the accident. There were 294 deaths in Connecticut in 2018.

This information is provided by NHTSA. Most accidents are caused by:

1. Speeding
 - a. From 2006-2015 a total of 108,554 car accidents were due to speeding. This accounted for nearly 30% of all car accidents during that time.
2. Driving under the influence
 - a. Everyday 28 people die due to drunk driving in the United States.
 - b. This is equivalent to 1 death every 53 minutes.
 - c. Over the past decade, drunk driving has resulted in nearly 113,000 deaths.
 - d. During that period drunk driving has contributed to nearly 30% of car accident fatalities.
3. Distractions (texting, calling, eating, or talking to passengers)
 - a. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration classifies distraction as any activity that diverts a driver's attention from driving to another task. This can include tasks like:
 - Talking on cell phones
 - Texting
 - Eating
 - Talking to passengers
 - Adjusting radio/climate controls

From 2010-2014, driver's who were distracted while driving caused nearly 4.5 million car crashes. The data showed that distracted drivers were responsible for nearly 16% of all car accidents.

The best thing to do to avoid a car accident is to just drive and keep your eyes on the road.--

1. Be mindful of your speed.
2. Seatbelts should be worn at all times in a vehicle.



Tapped Apple Cidery & Winery

A small family owned winery with big flavor



Photos and story by: Chris Boyle

Tapped Apple Cidery & Winery (Tapped Apple) is a refreshing change of pace that values class, quality, and conversation over a rowdy bar setting.

Located in cozy Westerly, Rhode Island- a 30 minute drive from Norwich- Tapped Apple is a family owned winery that promises a taste of “New England in every sip.” At the shop, specialty wines are available for tastings as well as purchase by the bottle or refillable growlers.

The winery opened its doors on August 17, 2017. The location was chosen because of Westerly’s diverse commerce and its close

proximity to the Winery’s apple supplier located in North Scituate.

Tapped Apple gets their name from its use of apples for their wine; no grapes, water, or apple juice concentrate. The first ingredient is 100% fresh pressed apple juice.

They have made a name for themselves in their commitment to a well refined product. Apples are pressed, and then begin the fermentation process within 48 hours.

Fermenting is started at the shop itself and later completed at the warehouse, located just a short 5 minute drive from the shop. Outside of fermenting, the shop is a



place for tasting, public and private events, occasional live music, and socialization.

Tastings at the shop are available daily and are two dollars per taste for one ounce pour for the first five, then one dollar pour four after that. Space for private events can be reserved by reaching out to the shop directly.

Cheese and crackers are available to pair with tastings as well as Hauser Truffles, which are also located in Westerly.

John Weidenheft IV is the Chief Operations Officer and vintner for the winery with 15 years experience making wine. His passion for wine making led to the creation of Tapped Apple.

“For one, we’re kind of an urban winery,” he said. “You don’t see a lot of places that are a farm winery in a downtown setting; mostly they are on the farm.”

Unlike Tapped Apple, other cideries often use apple juice concentrate mixed with water. This leads to a lesser quality product.

In addition to fermenting and aging, the warehouse is used to house recipes, experiment with new ones, and find the right balance for a quality finished product. The

1. Hand carved sign hanging above door in Westerly.

2. There are an abundance of flavor options to choose from at shop.

process from an idea for a flavor or product to a finished product available in the shop takes about a year's time.

The Watch Hill White is the original Tapped Apple wine, and the inspiration behind some of the other varieties at the shop. It is described as a crisp, dry wine with a refreshing taste- similar to a pinot grigio.

Other unique wine varieties available at Tapped Apple include but are not limited to Apple Ginger, Cerise Noir, Sweet Temptation, Pomme D'Amour, and Light My Fire. In addition to wine, they also serve First Bite Cider, their signature hard cider, and their own unique take on IPA, India pale Apple.

For the 2020 year, Tapped Apple has set their sights on new varieties for products, such as a re-release of the Tapped 37, a bourbon-barrel aged cider, and Apple Cranberry wine. Additionally, the winery is looking toward distribution of their products outside of the shop itself.

The comfortable and rustic shop is the perfect place for a night out to try out some unique wines, and catch up with friends.

"We don't have any TV's so we try to stress the things where people are interacting with each other... I think that's really important and something other places are missing. [At bars] everyone's glued to the TV or staring at their phones; we want people to socialize and interact with each other."

For more information on Tapped Apple, visit www.tappedapple.com. Tapped Apple Cidery & Winery is located at 37 High St. Westerly, RI. 02891. --

1. Tapped Apple's atmosphere favors socialization more than that of bar environment.
2. Tapped Apple's shop interior mixes a rustic, cozy setting with a modern touch.



2



1



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The Road to the 2020 Election

The race to decide who will lead our nation

Designs and written by: John White

We are now in the month of February and that only means one thing: The time has come for politicians to start on their trail to attain the title of President of the United States.

A group of Democrats have joined the race to go against the current president, Donald J. Trump. Only a few stand out, with big names such as Pete Buttigieg, Bernie Sanders, Joe Biden, Elizabeth Warren and Amy Klobuchar.

Currently Sanders and Buttigieg are battling for the top spot of the Democratic Nomination. Buttigieg with 22 delegates and Sanders with 21 delegates.

On top of all of that, ex- mayor of New York, Michael Bloomberg, has thrown his name in the proverbial hat. He has already made some noise by getting in verbal battles with Trump over Twitter ahead of debate.

Elizabeth Warren took to Twitter with a warm welcome for Bloomberg. "It's a shame Mike Bloomberg can buy his way into this debate," she said.

Warren continued on Twitter, saying that "at least now primary voters curious about how each candidate will take on Donald Trump can get a live demonstration of how we each take on an egomaniac billionaire."



The election year is really just starting, and there is time for Bloomberg to catch up to leading Sanders and Buttigieg. There is still a time for the democratic side of things to heat up and make for an interesting November. With Sanders an expected front runner, and Buttigieg stunning the people with his calm demeanor, there's no telling what could come next.

Now acquitted from late January's impeachment trial, Trump's momentum has been unbothered. He is focused on his campaign for another 4 years.

Who will be the one to battle the brash, outspoken President Trump? Will we have another four years of Trump, or will we be getting a new Commander and chief?

Only time will tell as we proceed throughout the year. All we can do is sit back, listen and watch it all play out day by day.--



1. A design of a flag with "2020 Election" waving like the flag.
2. A design of a button that is telling you to vote.
3. Almost a quarter of the way through 2020, party front runners are making waves (Photo by Chris Boyle).

Land O' Lakes Gets A New Look

What sparked the sudden change to their logo?

Photos and Written by John White

Land O' Lakes has been a well known company for the last 100 years, bringing their dairy products to many supermarkets around the country.

Back in 1921 in St. Paul, Minnesota, a group of farmers got together to form the Minnesota Cooperative Creameries Association. The goal in mind was simple, to have members be able to distribute their dairy products country wide.

Land O' Lakes has always been recognized for its logo that is in full on display on all their products. The classic "Land O' Lakes" logo features a Native American sitting in front of the letter "O".

The logo is their way to pay homage to their historical roots. Due to their iconic logo, they are easily one of the most recognizable brands in the country.

In recent events the logo has had a small yet seemingly unannounced change. Their products have removed the iconic character from some of their products without a spoken response as to why.

It could be because of views on the Native American woman, going back to a 2005 article by writer, Helmut Mathew



Barkhausen III- a descendant of Cherokee and Tuscarora- wrote, "The Native-as-logo issue is a symptom of a much larger problem."

Barkhausen explained his displeasure of their decision to use this logo, saying, "[The] white man has interpreted who we are, while ignoring our oral traditions and our own definitions of ourselves." He shares his displeasure of their decision to use this logo.

Ironically the illustration of the Native American woman was actually drawn up by a Native American artist. Still, that doesn't halt the the controversy.

Land O' Lakes has considered peoples views on this going from commercials in the 90's focusing more on the logo paired with a nice melody. Up to as early

as 2016, they started focusing more on the farmers that make the butter.

Still, why now after all this debate did they decide now to change it up? Could it have been the new CEO, Beth E. Ford?

She came into the position back in August of 2018, but she could have been pushing for the change. Whatever the cas, Land O' Lakes is slowly and quietly switching over their logo.

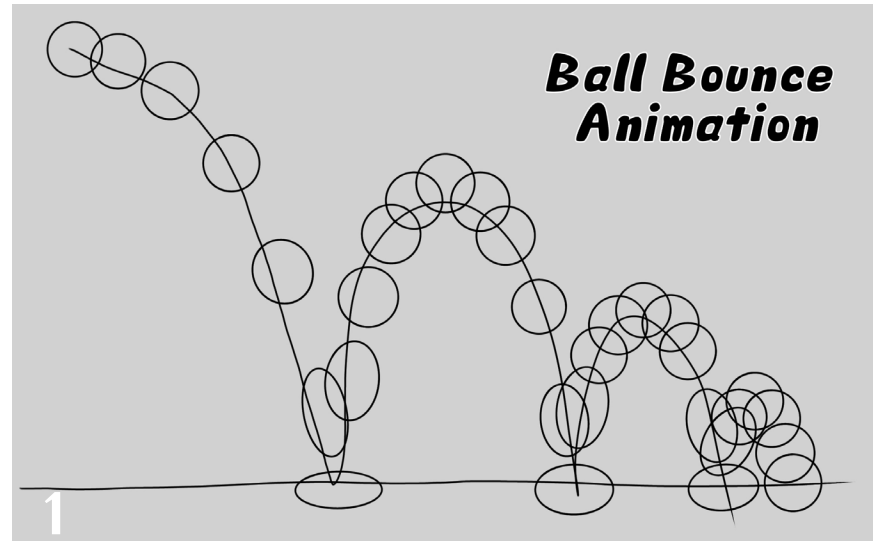
In due time the public will become more aware of this change, but will the people be pleased with the change? We will soon find out.--



1. A side by side comparison of old and new looking packaging.

2. A picture of the CEO Beth E. Ford.

2D vs 3D Animation



Is 2D coming to an end?

Story by Bianca Lane

Are 2-Dimensional colorful characters in trouble!? No, not as much as someone would think with all the new animation technology there is today.

But before anything else, 2D animation is the word used when referring to the traditional hand-drawn animation, like Disneys ‘The Little Mermaid.’ It can also refer to computer vector animations that use techniques of traditional animation.

Vector-based (computer generated) 2D animations, uses the exact same techniques as traditional animation, but benefit from the lack of physical objects needed to make traditional 2D animations. They also benefit from the ability to use computer interpolation at same time.

This style has become very popular in the last decade due to the accessibility of the technology and the growth of online video. Well known online Animators include Hazbin Hotels, creator

Vivienne Medrano, or better known as Youtube personal Vivziepop, and Davon W. Jaiden Dittfach, known as Jaiden Animations.

3D animation (CGI), is made by generating images using computers,such as character models and backgrounds. That series of images are known as the frames of an animated shot.

3D animation works in a completely different way than traditional animation.

While they both require an understanding of the same principles of movement and composition, the technical skill set is very different for each task.

2D animation requires the animator to be an amazing draftsman, CGI does not. 3D animation is more like playing with puppets rather than drawing something.

Now that that’s out of the way, this topic goes all the way back to 2003, so there have been a lot of opinions on it. To put it short, yes 2D animation is dying... in the movie and gaming industry, that is.

“I guess 3D is overtaking 2D, as it is evolving.” Angelina Driscoll said.

But just because it is dying in some industrys, it is still booming in others.

“I think in American cinema it’s as good as dead. But in places like Japan I think it still has legs.” Jaleel Beddoe said. There is a huge demand for 3D animation in video games(both VR and Regular) and in film. In contrast, 2D animation holds a stronger position in television shows, applications, websites, and advertisements.

Both types of animation, like everything else, have pros and cons.

2D animation is easy to learn, quick to create compared to 3D and gives the animator more creative freedom then 3D.

However, in 2D animation, it is difficult to achieve a high level of realism, it relies heavily on creativity and originality and the demand is comparatively smaller

3D animation has superior visualization and

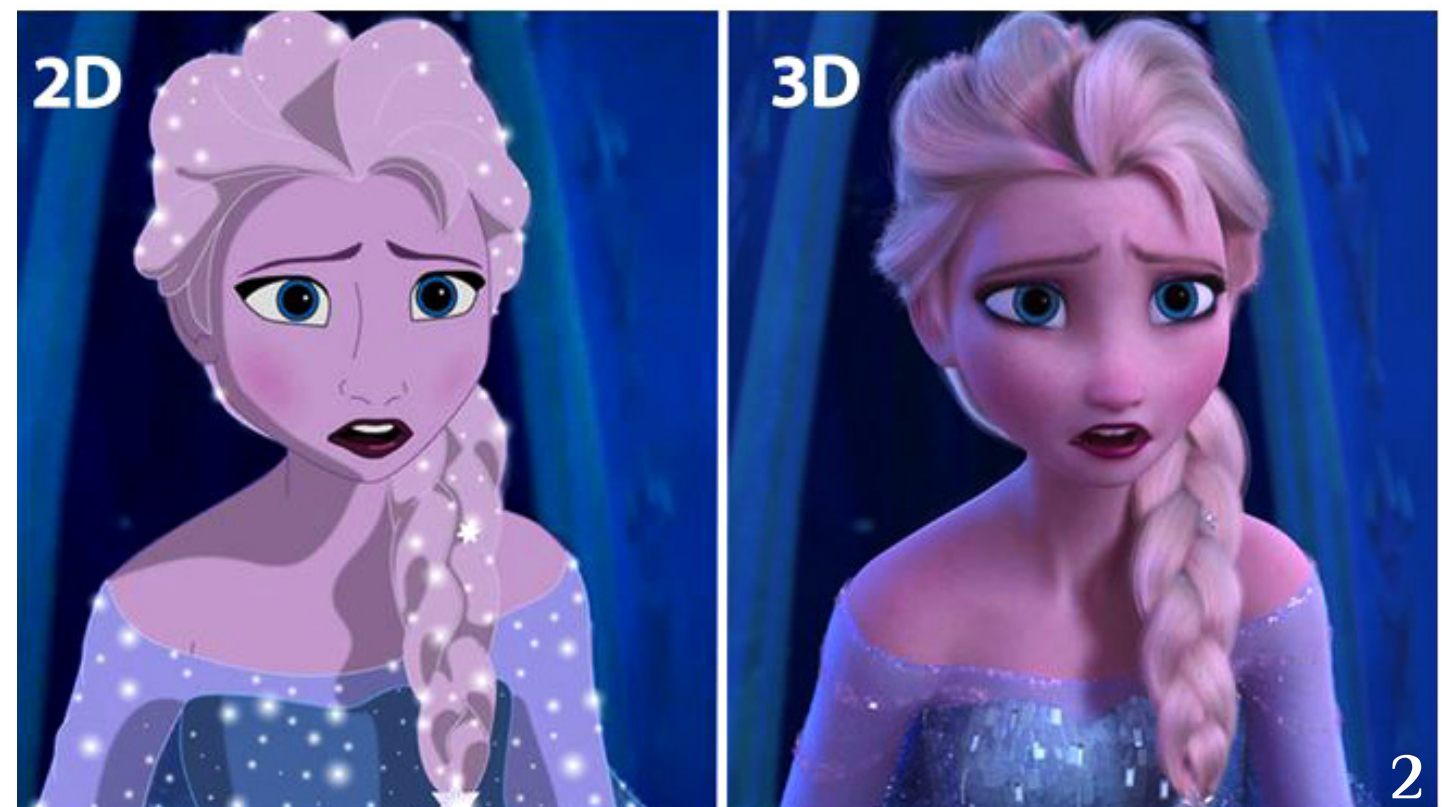
accuracy of movement, great detail and realism can be imparted on all animation elements and completed 3D models can be reused and applied elsewhere.

The downsides to 3D animation are that production costs can be high, has creative limits to movement and action and takes much longer to learn and master compared to 2D.

All in all, while 3D animation is the newer technology and has gained popularity in the movie and gaming industry, people will always love the creativity and ease provided by 2D animation, and will continue to create 2D animations.--

1. *The Process of Animating a Simple Bouncing Ball*

2. *Disney Frozen’s Elsa in 2D and 3D*





PAX East is almost upon us. For the uninitiated PAX, or Penny Arcade Expo, is a gaming convention started in 2004 by the folks at Penny Arcade, a long running nerd-centric web comic.

Penny Arcade states in the history section of their website that, “in 2004, the folks at Penny Arcade decided they wanted a show exclusively to celebrate gaming and game culture.”

Penny Arcade wanted to create a home for gamers in the same way that ComicCon and Anime Expo created homes for comic and anime nerds. From this now jarringly vacant niche in the convention scene, PAX was born.

PAX East is one of six similar conventions put on throughout the year. The others being PAX West, PAX South, PAX Aus, PAX Unplugged, and PAX Dev. The content of most of the PAXes are the same. They celebrate video gaming and tabletop gaming equally.

PAX Unplugged and PAX Dev are special in that their focuses are more narrow. PAX Unplugged deals strictly with tabletop gaming and PAX Dev is a PAX aimed at developers rather than the normal consumer audience.

For newcomers and veterans alike, the PAX Experience is simply a lot. The crowds are massive, for one thing. So, moving around in the Boston Convention Center is like trying to wade through a tub of molasses.

If you do plan on attending any PAX be ready for these throngs of people. To give an example, the convention hall opens at 10:00am. People begin lining up as early as 7:00am to get on to the convention floor as early as possible. Some people can't even get on to the convention floor until 30 minutes after the floor is opened.

The way the Boston Convention Center, where PAX East is held, is set up such that the convention floor is in the middle and the entire thing is encircled by theaters and a walkway. Vendor booths are located on the convention floor. Some companies showcase their latest products, other companies run events, and some companies even let the convention-goers test their latest games.

Some notable names that had booths at last year's PAX East include Wizards of the Coast, Discord, Facebook Gaming, Nintendo, Playstation, Square Enix, and many many more.

Many of the booths offer free things to entice convention-goers into their booths. The Discord booth was giving away free enamel pins. For convention-goers both new and

veteran free loot is often a highlight of the convention.

Another draw of conventions in general is cosplay. Cosplay is the practice of dressing up as a character from a movie, book, video game, anime, or other genre. People work for months, sometimes even an entire year, to create elaborate and dazzling homages to their favorite characters.

Cosplaying is great in that it allows those with a wellspring of talent and love for characters to display those talents. Many conventions hold cosplay contests to exhibit and recognize cosplayers for their hard work and dedication to the craft.

PAX is also a nexus for creators in the gaming and gaming culture spaces. Creators will often host panels and meetups to interface with as many fans as possible.

PAX often provides a platform for companies to make important announcements. For example at PAX East 2019 Wizards of the Coast announced their new Magic the Gathering set War of the Spark, which was the culmination of 5 years of storytelling.

PAX is the perfect home for any nerd. With that in mind why not try it this year. --

Preparing for PAX

The Preeminent Primer for a Prospective PAXer

*Photos & Story by: Tucker Noniewicz
Logo by: Penny Arcade*



1. PAX east is occurring in Boston Massachusetts running from February 27, 2020 to March 1, 2020

2. One of the highlights of any PAX event is finding awesome cosplay.

3 Men & Women's Fashion Trends for Spring 2020!

Suits are the new sweats...

Story & Photos by: Ariana Cloutier

Spring is approaching fast, with less than a month away. Getting prepared for the new seasons fashion trends can be quite daunting.

This guide should keep you in the know for upcoming fashion trends.

Suit Jackets

For both men and women, suits or a suit jacket will continue to stay in fashion. They are an easy way to spice up a simple outfit.

"I love wearing a pant suit to work or even when i'm out of state, traveling. It's the perfect outfit because you can wear it in so many different ways depending on how you layer it.

Suit dresses, blazers, and suit pants, can be worn formally or casually depending on where you're going! When I wear my blazer and suit pants to work with a pair of heels or maybe some loafers, I feel like a boss!" says Heather Walther, a social media specialist at Mohegan Sun.

It may sound crazy, but layering will be quite a big trend this spring. For men, taking a normal sweatshirt zip up and layering a suit jacket on top will give it a much more business casual look.

As for the women, putting a nice sweater

or even just a simple tee under your suit jacket can take your outfit to the next level.

Stripes

Stripes are always fashionable, but this spring we are looking for vertical stripes or what we know as pinstripes. Doesn't matter if its pants, a shirt or jacket, a pinstripe piece should definitely be a staple in your closet.

Collars

This spring, collars are something to keep an eye out for. If you are looking to make a fashion statement, go for a big collar.

If a big collar isn't your style, then go for a collared shirt to stick under a blazer or jacket. This can be done for both men and women.

Specifically, for men, try out an open collar moment. Meaning, don't look so stiff, leave a button open!

If you are feeling really wild put all three of these trends together, to make for an extra exciting fashion statement.

1. Heather Walther wearing a fashionable pantsuit

2. Heather showing off her suit from the front



Review of Sonic the Hedgehog

Did Sonic have a good impression on the big screen?

Written by John White

Sonic the Hedgehog had a great deal of hype surrounding its release, and after seeing it I can say it was well worth the wait.

Sonic The Hedgehog was well received and was overall a great movie. There was a good amount of action, CGI and a fun story.

The movie gave us a different twist to how we see the Sonic world and adapted the premise to live action very well. I would recommend someone to go see and I feel I would watch again.

Before it began I had this feeling of uncertainty because I was not sure what to expect from it. I was oddly nervous from the moment I bought the ticket to when I took my seat in front of the big screen.

That feeling dissipated more and more as the movie progressed. I thoroughly enjoyed this film for what it was as a whole and that it did was faithful to the Sonic character.

Last year when the movie was first given a trailer and I saw the character design I was one of the many not on board with it. After the rework and seeing him in action, however, I was surprised to find I wholeheartedly enjoyed this interpretation.

If you are in the mood to go out and see a movie, go out and watch Sonic the Hedgehog. Sonic is a great movie and you will not regret it. Take it from me I was hesitant on it and I saw it and my opinion has changed completely.--



1. So far, Sonic has been well received by both audiences and critics.

Mido Sushi Bistro & Bar Review

Sushi goodness and more...

Review & Photos by: Ariana Cloutier

If you haven't been to Mido sushi Bistro & Bar you are missing out!

This restaurant was formerly known as Tokyo Sushi. It is a local restaurant right here in Norwich.

As of January 26, 2020 Tokyo Sushi, was taken over by new management and rebranded as Mido Sushi.

This establishment is enjoyable and clean. As for the staff, they are always very friendly and accommodating.

Whether I am eating in or taking out it is always a pleasant experience.

My favorite item on their menu is the vegetable gyoza (dumplings). They have a fun green wrapping on the outside and a delicious veggie inside.

They also serve shrimp shumai which is one of my favorite foods. These are little bite sized shrimp dumplings, that are served steamed.

Both of these dumpling appetizers have an extremely scrumptious dipping sauce made

from what I assume to be soy sauce and rice vinegar, with other spices and secret ingredients.

The sushi is also my go-to when eating here. They always make the sushi fresh, right from the sushi bar. You can watch them make it while eating in the dining area.

Mido always has great tasting sushi. Most times I refuse to go anywhere else because, I like their sushi so much.

During my last visit to Mido I decided to try something new and I was not disappointed. I took a chance on the Yaki Udon Noodles with shrimp.

These noodles were cooked to perfection and there were a lot of shrimp. One of the downfalls of most restaurants, is that they will only put a few shrimp on your dish. Not at Mido!

Try Mido Sushi Bistro & Bar, you won't be disappointed. --



1. Shrimp Avocado sushi roll from Mido Sushi Bistro & Bar.

Sautéed Broccoli

How to turn your collard green into a gourmet side dish

1. Fresh sliced garlic is just as important as the broccoli itself in this recipe.

The idea of sauteing broccoli can seem daunting and lead people to opt for the easy way out; the microwave. Unfortunately, microwaving your greens needlessly destroys nutrients and often results in mushy bland vegetables that do not sufficiently compliment a main course.

The process for sautéed broccoli is actually far less time consuming than most think. Though it might take a few minutes more than just a quick buzz in your microwave, the flavorful result is all but worth the wait.

When made correctly, broccoli is no mere add-on, but a savory side dish that is sure to improve any meal. This garlic-centric recipe is a surefire way to take your broccoli, and by extension your dinner, to the next level.

Photo and Shared by: Chris Boyle

Ingredients:

1 Whole Broccoli Crown
3 tablespoons Extra-Virgin Olive Oil
3 Fresh Peeled Garlic Cloves
Black Pepper
Salt
Crushed Red Pepper Flakes

Directions:

1. Chop the broccoli crown into florets and discard the excess stem. Then, place the broccoli into a bowl and set it aside for the time being.
2. Pour olive oil into a large skillet and set to medium to high heat.
3. Carefully slice garlic cloves so that pieces are long but thin. Place the desired amount into the skillet.
4. While garlic begins to cook, thoroughly rinse the broccoli florets with hot water. Return the broccoli to the bowl along with just a small amount of water.
5. Watch the garlic and oil carefully. When the garlic just begins to turn a golden-brown color, mix in the broccoli florets. Be careful to not add the broccoli when oil is too hot.
6. Cover the skillet.
(The water left in the bowl and on the florets from rinsing is enough to steam the vegetable while the pan is covered)
7. Remove the cover occasionally to stir as well as to add salt and pepper to your liking. For a spicier option, add a generous pinch of crushed red pepper flakes.
8. Keep skillet covered, stirring occasionally, for about 3-5 minutes. When done, the broccoli will be bright green in color and fragrant.
9. Remove skillet from heat. --



The Current

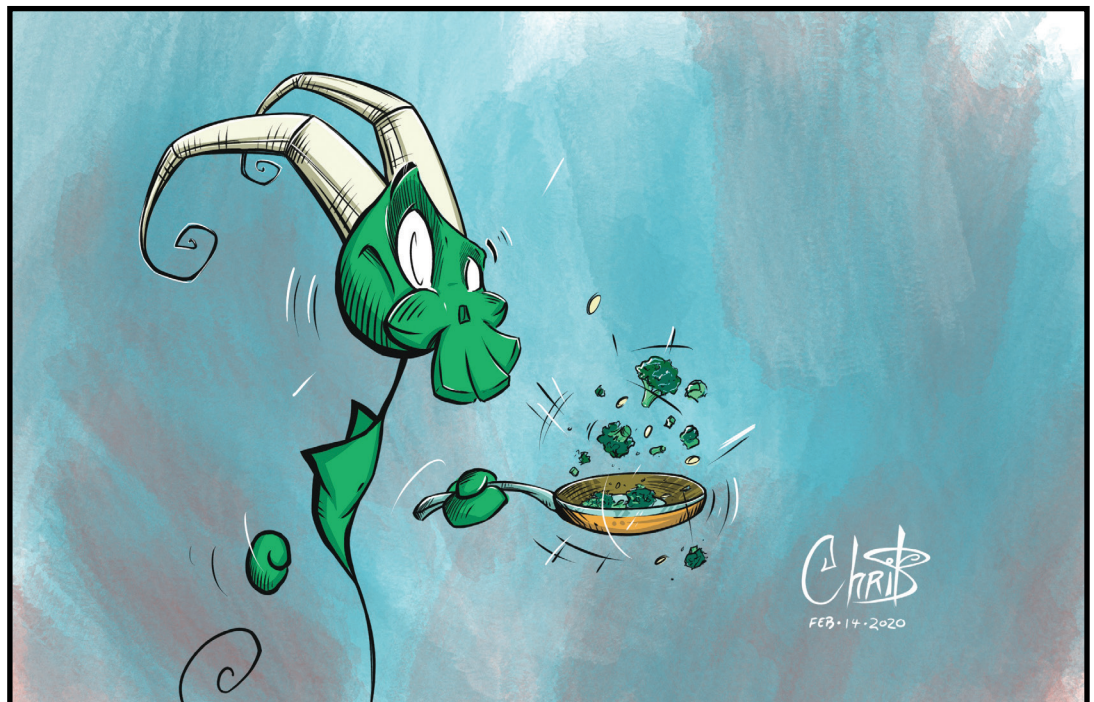
To have your event featured,
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A Look Ahead...

Mar. 5	Conversation Cafe: Roller Derby
Mar. 8	Daylight Savings
Mar. 17	St. Patricks Day
Mar. 16-22	Spring Break- No Classes
Mar. 24	SPO Movie: Frida
Mar. 25	Midterm grades posted

Too Gool for School #2

Comic by Chris Boyle



"When you think you have enough garlic, you need more garlic."