



THE HUDSONIAN

STUDENT NEWS ORGANIZATION AT HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Volume 78, Issue 13

FREE | Extra Copies, 25 cents

January 24th, 2023

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This Week's Events

Mon 23	<p>WSHE BOCES Re-cruitment Table 10a-2p Siek Lobby</p> <p>Student Senate 3p Siek</p>
Tue 24	<p>Hudsonian Meeting 2p-3p ADM 105</p> <p>Yoga 12p Siek 260</p>
Wed 25	<p>Forensic (FIC) School Meeting 2:30p SCI 120</p> <p>COVID booster clinic 3p-6p ADM 105</p> <p>UAlbany Womens Basketball 7p MCD Complex</p>
Thrs 26	No Events
Fri 27	<p>Health Sciences Job Fair 10a-1p BTC meeting rooms</p> <p>US Navy Recruitment Table 10a-2p Siek lobby</p>

The Hudsonian Issues A Retraction And Apology

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

Last semester Professor Daniel Polak submitted a letter to the editor. The Hudsonian, rather than publishing the letter, published the following statement:

“Daniel Polak, a sociology professor, has written a letter that was relayed to The Hudsonian through Robert Whittaker, the Faculty Association’s president.

We have decided not to include the full letter out of respect to Student Trustee Ledina Banushllari, whose writing was described as ‘misleading’ and also called out for being grammatically incorrect despite her being a non-native English speaker.”

This statement is incorrect and it was published in error. The Hudsonian apologizes to Professor Daniel Polak and Ledina B., and to the campus

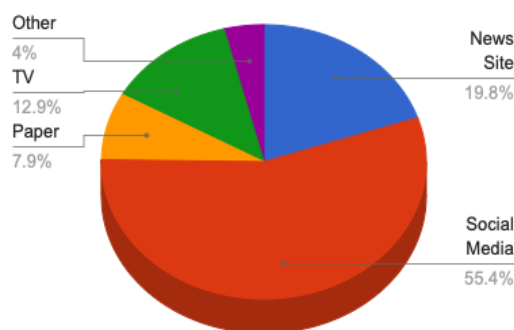
community for this error. The Hudsonian Staff is committed to Journalistic Ethics and when a mistake is made it is vital that we own it. Professor Polak’s article is most respectful and does not “call out anyone for errors in grammar.” The letter was forwarded to the Hudsonian by Professor Whittaker so that he could attest to the fact that the Association did not sanction the letter. Thank you to all of our readers for their patience and understanding as we student journalists learn the important lessons of our field. We will continue to strive for the highest standards.

This letter appears in this week’s publication and can be found in our Opinions section.

Survey Says: Students Get News Straight From Socials

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

How Do Students Mainly Get Their News?



In a poll of 100 students, 55.4% say they get their news from social media outlets like TikTok and Twitter. Just behind that, they frequent online news sources like Times Union, The New York Times, and other online sources. Following behind that are TV, newspaper, and other sources.

Hudsonian Launches New Initiatives

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

Prior to taking charge of the Hudsonian, I took the time to discuss with my staff the plans I wanted to put in place in order to improve our experiences here, as well as the members of HVCC as a whole. I’ve been very grateful that my transition into a leadership role has been met with nothing but support as I try to put these plans into action.

As someone who values uplifting voices, I have taken the opportunity as the new Editor-in-Chief to craft us a brand new Opinions section of our newspaper. I feel as though there is always benefit to be found in differing points of view, and I wanted to designate a safe space for those at HVCC to utilize their right to free speech. Prior to this, we didn’t have a specific space for things like Letters to the

Editor or general opinion pieces to go, and they often ended up blending in with other sections of the paper. Here, we will now have a dedicated forum for others to share their thoughts with us here at the Hudsonian.

That being said, I have put in place guidelines and stipulations for submissions based on the values held campus-wide. We will not be accepting submissions that are inflammatory or derogatory, or display discriminatory attitudes. We hold a zero-tolerance policy for that type of behavior and expect students to conduct themselves in a respectful manner when submitting to our paper.

I look forward to sharing more endeavors with you all in the future.

The Hud. Is Back In Action

This semester, The Hud is back in the recording booth to bring you your campus news in a portable format, as well as

offer exclusive content in the form of interviews, experiences, and coverage of campus and local events.

This week we cover topics from this week’s issue, and share an exclusive interview with short film makers Gavin DesBois and Dylan Doxtater.

Want a shout out for your club meetings? An interview from our staff? Send us an email at HUDSONIAN@HVCC.EDU



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The Hudsonian/The Hud.



www.thehudsonian.org

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Editorial Policy
All views expressed in this paper are those of the author, and not necessarily those of the *The Hudsonian* or the College.

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Letters to the Editor
Letters can be delivered to CTR 291 or emailed to HUDSONIAN@HVCC.EDU. Readers may have their letters published anonymously as long as their identity can be verified. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, libel and length.

The Hudsonian is the exclusive student newspaper of Hudson Valley Community College. It is published every week. To join *The Hudsonian*, attend our weekly meeting on Mondays at 2 p.m. in ADM 105 or by Zoom. Check out our webpage at thehudsonian.org for information

Welcome Letter From The Editor

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

Welcome back, everyone! I hope you've all had a safe, fun, and well rested winter break. With the new semester starting and subsequently a change in leadership here at the Hudsonian, I'd like to take the time to introduce myself to those who may not be familiar. My name is Marie, and as of this semester I am the newly elected Editor in Chief of our college's student-run newspaper. Previously, I held position as our Copy Editor and before that, a Staff Writer since October of 2022.

When I came back to HVCC last fall for the first time since Covid, I was aiming for Art History and Gallery Studies as my major. However, over time, the Hudsonian has become a beloved passion project, and I have found a love not only for journalism and design, but taking charge and making the effort to make this corner of campus fun, safe, and an overall positive experience for



PHOTO COURTESY OF SHAWN BROWN
Former EIC, Ksenia Mahmud (left) and current EIC, Marie Williams (right)

those involved.

As the Hudsonian is student-run, it truly is the voice of our campus. Here we feel that knowledge, information, and skill-crafting are invaluable. Because of that, I want to encourage you to not only take a read

through our papers, which are conveniently located all across campus, but to share your experiences with us. A campus with 8,000 students is a campus with 8,000 stories, and we want to hear yours.

The skills you can acquire

through our club are easily applicable in the real world. You can build your proficiency in writing, communication, teamwork and collaboration, problem solving, and to top it off, you may even be able to build up your

resume in the process. No matter your interests, the Hudsonian has a place for you. Members of our club that submit work are compensated for their writing in the form of tuition reimbursement. On top of this, we offer Editorial Board positions that get paid at a static salary, and we often have many positions available. If you've got a passion for sports, business, news, proofreading, or creative endeavors, we have paid positions open in all of those fields.

Our meetings are held every Monday at 2:00pm in ADM 105, and are streamed on Zoom as well for those who cannot attend in person. If you would like to join us virtually, we have a link on our sidebar at thehudsonian.org that will take you directly to our meetings. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns I am always available via email at hudsonian@hvcc.edu, and I am always open to talking to students, faculty, and staff alike.

I wish you all the best in your Spring semester here at Hudson Valley Community College.

To contact our advisors, please reach out to John Staerker at j.staerker@hvcc.edu, or George Nagy at g.nagy@hvcc.edu

HVCC's Gardening & Horticulture Club Blooms Once More



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELLICIA

By: Ellicia Swedish
Guest Writer

The Garden and Horticulture Club was recently reactivated November 14th by HVCC student Ellicia Swedish and their current advisor Hunter Fonda. The club invites all students to learn how to grow plants and properly care for them. The club is currently looking into expanding the hydroponics system inside the science center greenhouse, and they are planning to work with Prime Dining this spring semester in hopes of starting a community garden.

The Gardening and Horticulture club is working to help the Chemistry Club collect seeds. Anyone

who would like to donate seeds can bring them to club meetings during the spring semester on Monday from 4pm-5pm in the Science Center greenhouse located on the third floor.

Students who are interested in learning more about the greenhouse on campus, how to garden, local nurseries, or would simply like an opportunity to be more involved on campus, are welcomed to join the club! Elections will be held on January 30th for club roles.

If you have ideas and suggestions for the club or would like to join but cannot make the club meeting times, please email Ellicia Swedish, e-swedish@hvcc.edu.

Meeting Times:
Mondays 4pm-5pm

Meeting Location:
Science Center Greenhouse 3rd floor

Advisor: Hunter Fonda

Instagram: gardeningclub.hvcc



LOCAL

Albany Journalist Charged Defending Protestors From Proud Boys

By: Justin Hurley
Staff Writer

Alexander S. Contompasis, a local journalist from Albany, New York, was recently sentenced to twenty years in prison for felony first-degree assault, second-degree assault, two counts of criminal possession of a weapon and second-degree menacing. These charges stemmed from a fight between two members of the Proud Boys - a group labeled by watchdog organizations and foreign countries as a terrorist group - and antifascist protestors. While Alex is facing charges for his actions, some argue that he also potentially saved a life.

On January 6, 2021, a violent mob gathered in Washington D.C. to prevent the confirmation of Joe Biden as the next president. While news chan-

nels were focused on the assaults being displayed in D.C., Washington wasn't the only instance of violence being perpetrated by far-right activists in their hope to destroy democracy. Albany, NY, was one such place, and while not as world-shaking as what was happening in Washington D.C., to Alex Stokes, it would go on to change his life forever.

Previously, Contompasis has covered some of the most important protests in the past ten years. On January 20, 2017 at Trump's presidential inauguration, he was one of nine journalists that were arrested during the protest. He was also in Charlottesville, VA, in August of the same year, during the "Unite the Right" protest that led to the

death of Heather Heyer.

Contompasis has been a voice for protesters and antifascists for as long as he has been reporting; this has led to making enemies of people in power, notably the police.

An hour be-

fore pandemonium broke out in the nation's capital, a group of pro-Trump protesters converged at the state capital building in Albany. A group of local antifascists came out in opposition to the protest. While there was no violence to begin with, conflict broke out when a man wearing Proud Boy colors lunged at an African American protester. According to witnesses, the Proud Boy was wielding a taser.

Contompasis was not part of the counter-protest, having only been there to observe and video the protests. Despite this, Alex was quick to join the crowd when it seemed confrontation was inevitable. As seen in the video released by the District Attorney, Alex doesn't initially interfere with the argument between each side. When a member of the Proud Boys, later identified as Dominic Wierzbicki, swung at the black protester with a taser, he interfered. A mass scuffle broke out be-

tween the two groups, during which Pro-Trump protesters were shown assaulting multiple people with weapons. One of them, 66-year-old Colin Dermody, was shown assaulting a woman with a flag pole. He was the only protester to be arrested,



PHOTO COURTESY OF FREEALEXSTOKES

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CAMPUS

Human Services Club Looking For Helping Hands



PHOTO COURTESY OF LORI BECKER

By: Lori Becker
Guest Writer

Want to make a difference in people's lives? The Human Services Club may be just the place for you!

Joining the Human Services Club is a great way to meet new people, share ideas, be involved in community service and enhance your resume for job opportunities and future college transfers.

You may have helped us out last semester by donating much needed clothing that we brought to a local agency. Past events included food drives, bottle drives, collecting hygiene products, hats and mittens and providing students with information on important issues that are of concern in the social work field, such as domestic violence and addictions. We are currently looking





at other similar activities and would welcome your ideas, enthusiasm and assistance.

The Human Services Club is open to all HVCC students. We meet bi-weekly on Mondays at 2pm in BRN 105, starting January 23, then February 6, etc. For more information, contact Christina Pecukonis or Lori Becker - (518) 629-7341

Introducing... My HVCC!

MyHVCC is your personalized hub for campus information and access to student systems. You can link directly to various student systems such as Webmail, WIREd and Blackboard and access webpages with important student information.

Download the MyHVCC app using the appropriate QR code below or access MyHVCC via the web from www.hvcc.edu/students!

for classes from your mobile device.

Grades: Check your midterm and final grades on the go.

Student Financials: View your current statement and financial aid awards, pay your bill online.

Notifications: Stay informed with personalized announcements, view account holds and take steps to resolve them right from your mobile device.

Important numbers: Easily find the phone numbers and email addresses for campus offices, contact them right from the app.

Maps: Get detailed information about campus including photos and locations for offices and classrooms. View satellite imagery of the campus and surrounding streets, map driving or walking directions from your current location.

Social Media: Connect your HVCC experience to your social network.

My HVCC App Now Available

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

Graphic Courtesy Of
Stephanie Phillips

The My HVCC app is now available to students on the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store.

While the app functions similarly to WirEd, My HVCC offers other additional features that students may find

beneficial. Some of these features include:

Courses: manage your courses, access your class schedule and get links to helpful academic resources.

Registration: Register

CAMPUS

Alex FROM PAGE 4

Forensic Investigative Curriculum School Meeting

By: HVCC Events

Wednesday, January 25th, 2023, 2:30pm, SCI 120 -- A partnership between Hudson Valley Community College, New York State Police, The College of Saint Rose and University at Albany, the FIC School is a unique opportunity for local undergraduate students to meet and learn from forensic professionals of the New York State Police Crime Laboratory System.

Current students explore a different area of forensic science during each session and also meet virtually with mentors to gain knowledge and inform their academic and professional pathways while networking with students and faculty from other institutions.

Contact Professor Donna Barron at d.barron@hvcc.edu or Professor Carla Gunderman at c.gundermann@hvcc.edu for additional information.

with charges later being dropped.

In contrast to Dermody, Contompasis was arrested and charged with felony first-degree assault, second-degree assault, two counts of criminal possession of a weapon, and second-degree menacing for the stabbing of Douglas Michael Ruso (leader of the local Proud Boys chapter) and James P. Warner, brother to Wierzbicki. Even with video evidence and witness statements disproving the police's story of counter-protesters starting the conflict, Contompasis' case went

to court.

According to the website set up in support of Alex, freealexstokes.com, family members claim that Alex was "railroaded". The website goes on, "His previous work and experience with dangerous hate groups were inadmissible for his defense, but the prosecution picked apart his social media accounts and portrayed his actions as premeditated. He was found guilty on all charges and sentenced to [twenty] years in prison, despite the fact that no one died and neither of the victims received life-altering injuries. One even began a job as an EMT just [six] weeks later."

In a letter from prison posted on the website, Contompasis writes, "The DA has actively attempted to ignore and cover up the violent crimes that they have committed and has knowingly allowed them to commit multiple acts of perjury in written statements, statements made to the Grand Jury and statements made at my trial, at the State Supreme Court level, engaging in numerous acts of Prosecutorial misconduct."

Contompasis plans on appealing the judgment and sentencing. The International Anti-Fascist Defense Fund provides a link if you wish to donate to his defense fund.

CAMPUS

Welcome Back Event A Fun-Filled Success

By: Ameera Aftab
Web Editor

Vincent Giordano
Photos

If you were on campus on Wednesday, January 18th, it was hard to miss the festivities going on at the Campus Centre. Student Activities organized a welcome back event for students that included free food, music, caricature artists and giveaways. Students were delighted with the presence of Victor the Viking, who went around giving students

high-fives, holding competitions, and showering students with the free HVCC hats. Prime Dining provided a buffet for the event, and it was such a hit it was hard to find the end of the line! Overall, the event was delightful, and a fantastic way to give students a fresh start for their Spring semester.



LOCAL

Sound House Records: A Hidden Vinyl Oasis In Troy

By: Marie Williams
Editor in Chief

As a hot spot for creative types and hobbyists, downtown Troy is the place to be. Yet for many students, it hasn't drifted into their radar. HVCC is often their main pilgrimage for the day, and then it's back home to study or unwind, depending on your luck. Yet just a ten-minute drive away lies a vast array of events, experiences, and excitement waiting right around the corner.

There's a certain allure to Troy, from the coffee shops and antique stores to an array of different restaurants and architecture, this town is bubbling over with unique people and businesses. While most of it dwells on the main drag of River Street, beyond that, there's so many small businesses just waiting to be discovered.

One warm, glowing storefront in the otherwise dark winter evening would soon become a homing beacon for me. The first time I'd stumbled into Sound House Records, I wasn't quite sure what I was looking for, but I knew I was in the

right place. Before I knew it, I was there every week, poking through records and chatting away like it had become second nature.

As my love of vinyl grew, so did my desire to share this fantastic little spot with others. This week, I sat down with Matt Klein, one of Sound House Records' co-owners, to find out more about the business, and what makes their store so unique.

Marie: So, who are you guys, and how long have you had Sound House Records?

Matt: Matt Klein and George Weinsch, we're co-owners. We opened on June 1st, 2021. We had to open a year later than planned because of Covid. We're going on two years and have seen nothing but support from Troy and the community.

Marie: How long have you guys been [in this business]? Is this something that you decided to do when you just moved here? Or did you have [a business] previously?

Matt: We both had careers before this. My



PHOTO BY MARIE WILLIAMS

background is in journalism, marketing, and communications, but both of us have always been music collectors, so we used to go to record shows together, go to record stores, like whenever we went somewhere we would end up buying records, talking about records. We both talked about it and we're like "it would be great to open a record store," ... And so we talked about opening a record store and would this be a viable thing to do in Troy? Is there a market for it? And we thought, being record collectors ourselves, knowing what kind of record stores we like, we thought there was a place in Troy for our vision of a record store.

Marie: What products and services does your business offer?

Matt: We are primarily a record store, offering new and used vinyl records - that was always our primary goal: to be a record store. We also offer CDs, cassettes, limited number of books and magazines, and we are also doing a good business in stereo equipment, both used and new stereo equipment. We found a high demand in this area for turntables, speakers... a lot of people want to get into it.

Marie: What lead you to set up shop in Troy?

Matt: We looked at places all around the capital region, but from the very beginning we wanted to open up in Troy. We



PHOTO BY MARIE WILLIAMS



PHOTO BY EVAN BONESTEEL



PHOTO BY EVAN BONESTEEL

like the size of the city, the number of art minded people, and culturally aware people. We felt like it was a community that would support us, and we felt that it was something that would help build Troy. We felt like it would be a good addition that would support other things that were happening in the city. We decided to open on this side of town, north of Green Island Bridge on King Street, purposefully because ... [it] was kind of a dead zone, but we figured that we would be pioneers and we would open here, and hopefully other people would follow us and make this part of Troy more attractive. We're really hoping that as this area grows there will be more businesses.

Marie: What made you want to start a company in this industry specifically?

Matt: It was a passion project for us, and because we both had previous careers we were able to invest in this and make it work.

Marie: How do you feel you set your record store apart from others?

Matt: We wanted to have a clean, well lit space where people could come and they could find a curated selection of music across many genres. So I think what sets us apart is that we really really try to offer lots of different genres from popular pop music down to to modern composition and noise and experimental music. We cover world, reggae, soul, funk, r&b, jazz, we've got soundtracks,

we've got comedy... We just wanted to have a selection that kind of covered all the bases. So if somebody came in and they didn't know what they were looking for, hopefully they would find something. A lot of record collectors - and we really did want to appeal to record collectors - unlike a lot of other types of businesses where people go in and they know what they're looking for, a lot of record collectors go to record stores to see what's available. We've worked really hard on making sure we have a really diverse selection of new and used music.

Marie: How did you come up with the name for your company?

Matt: We put together a list of probably 20-30 names and went out to dinner one night and kind of voted on the ones that we liked the most. That was the end of the process. But how we actually came up with the name "Sound House Records" is it's based on writing from 16th century philosopher Francis Bacon. He came up with this idea long before there was such a thing as recorded music, and what he described was kind of a "museum of sound", and he called it a Sound House. So we felt that really fit, because we want to have a place where it's not just about music, it's about sound and experiments and what you can achieve with different sounds.

Marie: Do you have any advice for those looking to get into the records and vinyl scene, or any sort of deep dish music?

Matt: I would say if you're looking to get into vinyl, just find the music that you like and listen to that, and then - one of the things about this store that I really like is you can buy great music for \$3 or you can buy great music for \$300. Sometimes people equate a great record with rarity or an expensive price, but our bargain bins are filled with just fantastic music at very reasonable prices. Some of my favorite records actually exist in the bargain bins.

You don't have to just take my word for it — Professor Roy, an English professor here at HVCC who is deep into the music scene, had nothing but praise for the local business.

"I like really going there for new vinyl. They've got some really interesting used stuff in there too, and I've found some real gems there, stuff I've been looking at for a while used-wise. But their new vinyl is really good too because they got such a wide variety of weird stuff."

They're both really knowledgeable, and what's nice is after they get to know you as a customer, they'll specifically get things for you. They'll make you aware of things that you might not be aware

of, they've got all kinds of books and stuff like that.

There's this constant revolving of things in there, constantly new and interesting stuff all uploaded to instagram so it's easy to say 'need that, don't need that, need that, don't need that,' so it's great. It's really really cool, and they're both like me, they're both total music geeks. We all get together and nerd out and talk about stuff, it's wonderful."

Whether you're new to vinyl or a long time collector, I can't recommend Sound House Records enough. If you find yourself with a study-free day, why not take a quick trip downtown to King Street? You never know where you might find something new.

Sound House Records is located at 52 King Street in Troy. They can also be found on Instagram at @soundhouerecordsny and at soundhouerecordsny.com.



PHOTO BY EVAN BONESTEEL

Normal People Is “A Beautiful Lesson About Life, Experience, College, Relationships, And The Self,”

By: Niamh Clarke
Staff Writer

Of all the books I read over break, *Normal People* by Sally Rooney stuck out to me the most. The thing about reading this book is that you either love or hate it, and I, personally, loved it.

Normal People follows the relationship and life of two Irish teenagers, Connell and Marianne, who never seem to get it right. Connell is probably the most frustrating throughout the novel; he convinces himself he is a burden, causing him to not communicate properly, never stating what he wants, always apologizing, and isolating himself. Being popular in school always had Connell in his head about who was watching him, who liked him, and what people thought about him. This later caused him to detach from his morals, thereby affecting his relationships. He has this ability to turn himself on and off like a light switch, and this catches up to him in college. Connell is sad, scared, confused, absent from the present, and trapped inside his own head. However, this is what makes him so normal. Many people relate to this, causing us to intimately read his mind throughout the novel.

Marianne is also frustrating. She is stubborn, open-minded,

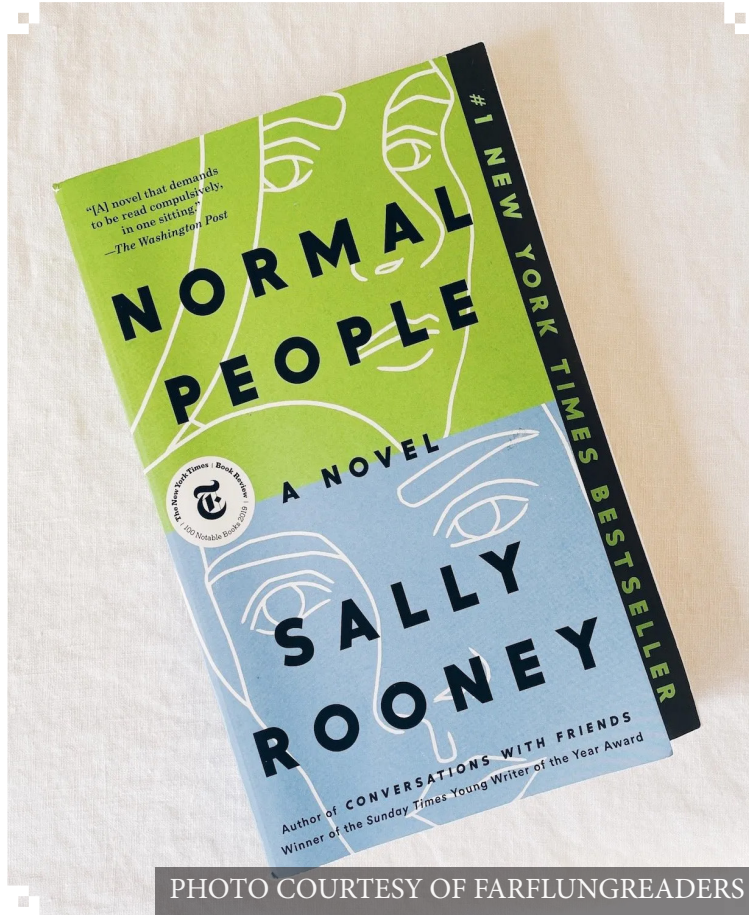


PHOTO COURTESY OF FARFLUNGREADERS



ed, and opinionated, and she knows she's not “normal”. Unlike Connell, Marianne was never popular in school, and she was bullied badly. Her romance with him was made sure to be kept a secret, but Marianne was just happy to have a friend. In contrast to Connell, when Marianne went to college, she bloomed and finally found friends, yet was dealing with the abuse scars from back home. Never being accepted and always thinking something was

wrong with her, Marianne took abuse from many people because she felt like she deserved it. She had convinced herself that she is alone and that she is worthless, even stating, “I don't know why I can't make people love me”.

Reading the book, you want to punch these two right in the face for their lack of communication, which plays into their situationship throughout the novel. However, being stuck in their own heads and their lack of communication

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Letter To The Editor

Submitted by
Professor Daniel Polak

12/8/2022: Letter to HUDSONIAN

Dear Editor:

I have been a Faculty Member at H.V.C.C. for over three decades and I have never felt compelled to write to the Editor until now. To be clear, while I am a Faculty member, I do not speak for the Faculty. I have been a member of the H.V.C.C. Faculty Association since 1991 but I do not hold any official position or speak for the Faculty Association.

This letter is in response to the front-page Letter to the Editor by Student Trustee Ledina Banushllari. My response is not a criticism of Ms. Banushllari. It is not a defense for the Faculty. It is not a commentary on the College's Administration. It is simply a vehicle to share my feelings in the same public forum used by Ms. Banushllari to express hers. I thank her for her service to the College and for her hard work on behalf of the student body and thank you to the Hudsonian for making this venue possible.

To the point: This letter is a critique of what an individual has written. It is not a critique of the individual.

What did I find misleading about Ms. Banushllari's letter?

1. The Title (I am not sure if this was crafted by the

Author or an Editor,) refers to a “Faculty vs. Administration Feud.” While there are routine exercises of procedural and bureaucratic sanctions and grievances, let me assure your readers that there is no “feud” between the Faculty and the Administration. Every single day of my tenure of the last three decades been enhanced by the beautiful working relationship between the Faculty and the Administration. The priority for both groups is service to students. On the macro level this collegueship and collaboration is on display through the work of the Middle States Committee, The Academic Senate, and many examples which demonstrate the importance of shared governance at the College. In short, the title is not only misleading but it is unnecessarily divisive.

2. While I do not speak for the Faculty, I am certain that Ms. Banushllari does not either. However, the third paragraph of her letter asserts: “..... our Faculty felt unsafe to sit in a classroom with unvaccinated students.” This implies that the S.U.N.Y. Policy was supported by the Faculty. This is simply not true. Many members of the Faculty agreed that

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Pokémon Scarlet / Violet Leaves More To Be Desired

By: Evan Bonesteel
Staff Writer

It's been a while since I've been excited for a Pokemon game. The last few generations have lost me with their storylines, and the regional Pokémon Variations didn't really grab my interest. Violet and Scarlet however promised us an open world, which, as someone who's been playing since Silver and Gold, is something everyone used to dream of. It makes so much sense being able to go anywhere instead of having some old man or a Snorlax blocking the road.

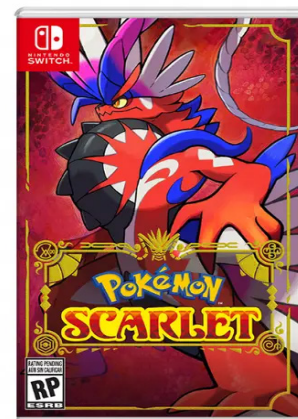
While I'd really like to give it a glowing recommendation, I can't. The open world is great; being able to run around and see the Pokémon existing outside of tall grass is awesome. However, seeing them run around with reduced frames and fading from view despite still being close isn't

ideal.

Even a few hours in, the story is pretty standard for the series. I would like a bit more investment. At the very least I'd like a proper antagonist instead of just a friend that likes battling me. Everyone, even the “bad guys” are friendly. It doesn't really feel to me like a battle of good vs evil like battling Giovanni was in previous games.

Finding the Legendary was rather uneventful too. In the past, they hid the legendary Pokémon and you had to earn it, but in this game they just give it to you. To me that defeats the purpose of the legendary Pokémon, even though it is a pretty sick motorcycle.

Overall, I do think they took risks and did something great. They did what we've always wanted and just for that the game gets a pass. However it does need work. The foundation is strong but there's a lot more they could do to draw players into the game. I am still excited to play through the rest of it but it certainly isn't on par with the greats in the series.



IMAGES COURTESY OF THE POKEMON COMPANY / NINTENDO

Normal People

FROM PAGE 6

shows the transactional relationships we all have with one another, making them normal people. This novel is like mind-reading in a way - it painfully captures the human experience. We as humans believe so hard that we are alone, and that ultimately, we'll end up alone. We believe all the little lies we tell ourselves, which hinders our ability to communicate and love ourselves and one another. Normal People captures that. Connell and Marianne prove this to be so painstakingly normal that you can't stop reading and get mad at the characters for it.

There are so many elements in this book that range from capitalism to expectations. The different social classes of the two characters show their different experiences and how they fail to communicate because they are ashamed of themselves for either having too much money or no money. The expectations of college being thrown into the face of teenagers, and how it is just all about money today.

Normal People shows how the characters, like us, can't escape the system of these relationships with one another. However, there's the propensity to still do good for one another; Marianne and Connell have lasting impacts on one another.

The end of the book is heartbreaking and bitter-sweet, yet beautiful. In the end, Marianne finally begins to heal, and while Connell couldn't heal for her, he showed her it was possible and that she deserved it. It is crazy how humans can help one another like that. The genuine love Connell feels for Marianne shows that even though they both have issues, there's something so beautiful about relationships and love that we all have.

Both characters go on journeys harboring the lessons and love they showed one another throughout the novel. Yes, these two never seemed to get it right with one another, but I was left in awe of their relationship regardless. How they understood one another through

looks, enjoyed the silence of each other's company, and how they couldn't stop going back to one another. A perfect example of this comes from the passage, "He brought her goodness like a gift and now it belongs to her. Meanwhile, his life opens out before him in all directions at once. They've done a lot of good for each other. Really, she thinks, really. People can really change one another".

Normal People really is a beautiful book with many hidden messages and quotes, and I would rate this book 4/5 stars. It taught me a beautiful lesson about life, experience, college, relationships, and myself. We are our worst enemies, but this is what makes us normal. I recommend this book if you're trying to get into reading, want something impactful, are looking for a good heartbreak, or just want a good read. Reading in-between the lines is key for this book. You can also find an adaptation of the novel on Hulu.

Letter

FROM PAGE 6

the S.U.N.Y. Policy set a double standard. I wish that I could have made the decision as an individual Faculty Member to modify or correct this Policy. Unfortunately, no one on our Campus has the power to unilaterally alter S.U.N.Y. Policy as was made clear by the State University of New York who directed the College to re-instate the Policy. The fact that this was attempted is evidence of the tough decisions made by those who deal with official Policy from S.U.N.Y. and I commend all those who choose to serve the College in these areas.

What did I find to be of concern in Ms. Banushllari's letter?

As a Member of the Board of Trustees, Ms. Banushllari was given access to a Survey this Fall, administered by the Faculty Association to gauge the feelings and opinions of the Faculty regarding the relationship between the Administration and the Faculty. I will speak for my Colleagues in this one instance as I assure your readers that our Faculty completed the Survey conscientiously and with integrity. That is, we take our service to the College to be a sa-

cred obligation and thus put much thought into the Surveys that we are asked to respond to. Ms. Banushllari's letter asserts that:

"When I read all the untruthfully/sic/words said in the survey....."

In plain English, those who use "untruthful words" are commonly referred to as liars. Liars are commonly seen in our culture as lacking in both character and integrity. I know it was not the Author's intent to question my honesty, character, and integrity (and that of my Colleagues) but words have power and words have precise meanings. To characterize and reduce responses to a survey of the opinions and feelings of our Faculty as lies (Afterall, what is an untruth but a lie?) is to question the fundamental moral worth and character of those who serve students to the best of their ability both in and out of the classroom. The Author acknowledges this support in the second paragraph of her letter.

Thanks again to the Hudsonian for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

Daniel Polak, Professor of Sociology

Recipient of the 2010 State University of New York Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Winter Replays

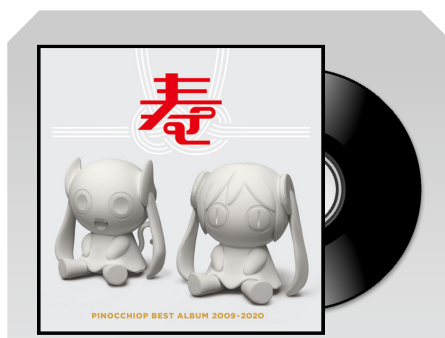
By: Marie W. & Dominic C.
Editor in Chief & Creative Editor

When it comes to the winter season, we all know that earworms are quick to follow. You've got your nonstop slew of Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree, Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer, and everyone's favorite holiday anthem, All I Want For Christmas Is You. So what have the Hudsonian staff been playing on repeat to drown it out? Take a look!



"Walkin by Denzel Curry is one of my favorites from 2022. It's a lot more mature than much of his previous works, and very introspective. Basically, it highlights the struggles he's been through (being abused, growing up in a bad area and witnessing traumatic amounts of violence), and his willingness to push forward and find resolution for himself. The production really sells it for me too, it's very lush and atmospheric, and couples with the catchy chorus in a way that's extremely emotionally evocative."

— Dominic Cacchione



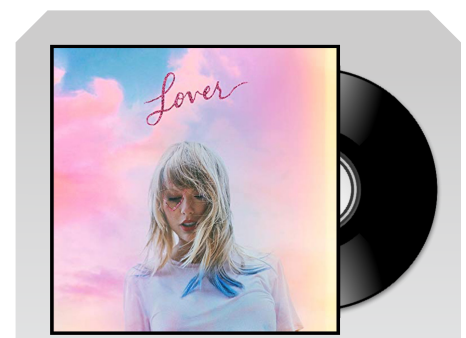
"Apple dot Com by Pinocchio-P feat. Hatsune Miku is a song I'd put off listening to really for no reason in particular, but when I finally listened to it, I fell in love with its catchy melody. Like many of Pinocchio-P's songs, they're riddled with creative lyrics and metaphor; this one is no different. The Japanese artist displays his struggles with forcing a smile during times of severe mental health struggle and bouts of imposter syndrome, all wrapped up in his always catchy melodies and unique wordplay."

— Marie Williams



"Birds by Death Grips is a testament to how far outside what's deemed "acceptable" the group is willing to venture. Nobody embodies the spirit of a homeless, schizophrenic drug addict better than vocalist MC Ride, and this is put on perfect display in Birds. As Ride rambles about what feels like essentially nothing, he's complimented by an abstract and hyper-weird instrumental that weaves in and out of minimalism and maximalism."

— Dominic Cacchione



"The Archer by Taylor Swift kinda fell into my radar way later than it should've, and I'll be honest, I absolutely love it. Taylor Swift has always been a favorite of mine since I was a kid, and yet somehow I never got around to listening to her Lover album. Archer is raw and vulnerable in a subtle yet distinct way, moreso, I feel, than her newer song, Anti-Hero. It's softer, and feels self-isolating, especially in comparison to the other songs on the album, which I feel is intentional. Definitely a relatable hit."

— Marie Williams

Earn \$\$\$ per issue

Make new Friends

Build your Resume

STAFF WRITERS NEEDED

Join us Mondays in ADM 105 from 2:00pm to 3:00pm!



Ellie



Art by:
Marie Williams

Home

Written by:
Marie Williams

Of all the places I dare to set foot in
I never fear that of the forests I have worn ruts into
Where the wilderness teems inches from my door
And the beyond is a whisper away

Home is the place only I and the animals know
Deep down the ravines littered with foliage
Buried under the thousands of years of pawprints
To lay here amongst them is to know peace

Home is where stone and crystal reach up to scrape the sky
And eagles cry out to challenge the winds
While deer velvet clings to trees
And hoofbeats skitter across the ground

Home is where the moon of rises into its kingdom
And stars glimmer in her light
Gifting cosmic knowledge to me from the docks
Where I sit and observe in nothing short of awe

To be here is to be home
There is no other

Want to share your artwork,
poems or short stories?



Submit them to
hudsonian@hvcc.edu

Glenns Falls Kennel Club Agility Trial

Written and Photographed by
Marie Williams



When I'm not busy running from class to class or writing articles, one of my favorite hobbies is working dog shows. While I often attend local (relative) shows at the Glenns Falls Kennel Club, I'm occasionally gifted the opportunity to attend shows in Buffalo, Syracuse, and sometimes even out of state. Here are two of my favorite photos from a previous agility trial I attended. Most of the time if you find me at dog shows, I'm running dogs through the ring, or working ring crew, but every so often I'm afforded the best job of all: photographing these pups and their owners doing what they love. Agility is one of my favorite dog sports. It sharpens their minds and gives them an energetic outlet to exercise their bodies and brains!

The Xud-oscope



Weekly astrological horoscopes by: Marie Williams (Editor in Chief)



March 21st
-
April 19th

You like to make sure you're in control of a situation to keep yourself safe, but it's important to make sure you're not being underhanded to get that power you're looking for. Come clean with yourself and consider if you need to rethink your approach when it comes to being in charge.



April 20th
-
May 20th

You may be suffering from a lack of creativity this week. Breaking out of your comfort zone may just be the key to helping you get out of this rut and back on your feet. Consider exploring some place new to put a pep in your step before it gets too cold out! Curb that need for escapism and try something new.



May 21st
-
June 20th

Taking on a lot of projects, social obligations, and even just responsibilities can put a lot of pressure on someone. The stress may be making you feel like you aren't going to actually hit the mark you're aiming for. Don't stress out too much - the recognition you're looking for is within your reach.



June 21st
-
July 22nd

You may be experiencing a spiritual or social poverty right now, something's been leaving you run down emotionally, and feeling a bit drained. Though it isn't always easy to see, sometimes the choices you make can unintentionally put you in compromising situations. Find some clarity to ease your conscience this week.



July 23rd
-
Aug 22nd

Something in your love life is taking center stage, Leo. Perhaps someone you knew is suddenly coming back into the your life. This person might have caused you pain in the past, or may not be what they seem for your future. While all this energy may be exciting, don't let it keep you looking through rose tinted glasses.



Aug 23rd
-
Sep 22nd

No matter how you identify, everyone has a balance of these masculine and feminine energies, and you, Virgo, have been tuning into your own. Feminine energies offer you a chance to tune into your emotions, creativity, and to nurture things around you that you want to invest your time and energy into, so dial in!



Sep 23rd
-
Oct 22nd

Somewhere along the line, you've lost your grip on reality. You may be repressing a lot of emotions right now, leaving you feeling disconnected and clinging to what little you know to be true. However, from an outside perspective, you can come off as possessive. Try to recenter yourself this week in order to give yourself some clarity.



Oct 23rd
-
Nov 21st

It's been a rough week, and finals certainly aren't taking away any pressure. You may be hitting a rough patch, but keep brushing off your feelings because they're inconvenient. Being out of touch with your emotions can cause even more unwanted repression and stress. Make sure you have the space to confide in someone to help take some weight off your shoulders.



Nov 22nd
-
Dec 21st

Recently you might be going through a severe work-life imbalance, and it may feel like you're being smothered from all angles by other people and events in your life. As a fire sign, you're thankfully resilient and able to adapt to things quickly. Consider where your priorities are at and find what steps you need to take to correct these imbalances.



Dec 22nd
-
Jan 19th

While there's some comfort in tradition, now's the time for you to contemplate breaking free of these cycles to move forward with new desires and opportunities. There's no harm in sticking to what you know, but diving into something new can be more beneficial than you're expecting. It's a leap of faith!



Jan 20th
-
Feb 18

Hard work can often take sacrifices, and though it may be hard to see the light at the end of the tunnel, your efforts will soon be paying off. Once you're past this hurdle, the weight on your shoulders is sure to ease up. Take a deep breath and keep your head on straight, everything is going to fall into place as it should.



Feb 19th
-
Mar 20th

Now is the perfect time to come together with some friends to work on projects together. Building up a sense of community and friendship is going to give you the leg up you need moving forward. Collaboration and teamwork are fantastic skills to have, so take some time out of your week to spend some quality time with your friends!

Feel like something may not be right? Check your moon and rising sign horoscope as well!

Advice Column

As a socially active college student, I have spent quite some time relying on advice – the good and the bad – I've received from my peers, friends, family, and even strangers. Each issue I'll tackle one of your burning questions from my submission box to the best of my ability.

The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own.

Dear Marie,

I'm starting to question the behavior of a lifelong friend of mine. He's like a brother to me, but he said some overtly cruel things that don't sit well with me. How do I talk to him about this?

This is always a tricky situation to be in, and one I've been in before myself. It can often feel like you're doing the wrong thing when you're in a disagreement with a close friends' actions.

I've been bad-mouthed, I've bad-mouthed others, and have been on the sidelines at many points in my life. After seeing it from all angles, I can confidently say that I agree with you that confrontation is the best solution. Luckily, it doesn't have to be as scary as you think.

When approaching your friend about this, I recommend



Art by Marie Williams

prefacing it that you're coming from a place of care and concern. Not everyone realizes that when they're talking bad about others that it can negatively affect others around them.

After a bad breakup of mine, I was constantly complainin about my ex; it was a stress release for me after everything I'd been through. The downside was that my friends took it as me only wanting to complain about him and not talk about anything else, and it often

soured their moods. While this wasn't my intent, it was the result of my actions. It's entirely possible that your friend doesn't realize this is the case, as I didn't at the time.

I think if you come at it in a calm manner that expresses how you feel, and explain that you're talking to him about this because you care and that his actions are affecting you, he'll hopefully be more willing to listen to what you have to say.

All the best,
Marie



Want to submit your own question? Scan the QR code here!

Mens Basketball Recap

Written and Photographed by:
Evan Bonesteel



The Hudson Valley Men's Basketball team faced off against the Clinton Community College Cougars January 18th, 2023. Hudson Valley had a strong game offensively scoring 96 points beating the Cougars 96 – 81, coming off a two game losing streak had strong plays on both the offensive and defensive side of the court holding Clinton to shoot only 39% from the field.

The Vikings controlled the game from start to finish outscoring the Cougars by 19 in the first half, a lead that they would not give up the entire game even as the Cougars pressed in the second half.

Leading the team in points was Jourdan Belcher, Scoring 26 points as well as grabbing 8 rebounds in his 27 minutes of play. High production from both guards Damani Benjamin who scored 12 and Trevor Green with 16 points. Green also managed 8 rebounds and 5 assists to help propel the Viking forward. The starters didn't do it alone, as Willem Feeney and Mekhi Petteway both provided assistance from the bench scoring 10 points. Petteway also led the team this game in rebounds with 9.

The Vikings face off next at Herkimer College.



Weekly

Recap



Men's Basketball Jan 5

78-68 vs Herkimer College



Men's Basketball Jan 10

89-83 at Massasoit Community College



Men's Basketball Jan 15

80-65 at Tompkins Cortland Community College



Women's Basketball Jan 5

69-63 vs Herkimer College



Women's Basketball Jan 10

85-72 at Massasoit Community College



Women's Basketball Jan 14

87-58 at Suny Broome Community College



Women's Basketball Jan 15

59-44 at Tompkins Courtland Community College



Bowling Team Jan 15

1st Place Finish at Hawks Invitational - Team Score 6,538