

THE HUDSONIAN

THE INDEPENDENT MULTIMEDIA NEWS ORGANIZATION OF HUDSON VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MADE IN CHINA NO MORE?

REASONABLE RESPONSE TO A FLOODED MARKET, OR A SYMBOL OF POLICYMAKERS FURTHER STRAINING RELATIONS WITH CHINA?



SEE POLITICS, PG. 3



VETROC HOSTS CAN DRIVE TO FUND MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOLLOWING DEATH OF RENSSELAER GUARDSMAN IN TEXAS HELICOPTER CRASH. SEE PGS 1, 3.

LEFT: CASEY FRANKOSKI, DEDICANT OF MEMORIAL FUND.

IN THIS WEEK:

WEDNESDAY || APRIL 17

9a.m.-3p.m.: LGBTQ+ Advocacy Day at the NYS Capital

Join the campus Pride Alliance and fellow advocates from across the state in lobbying for policies based in equality. Transportation to and from the capital provided.

Email j.valinoti@hvcc.edu to register (required to attend).



THURSDAY || APRIL 18

12-1p.m.: Live Music- The Fingerlakes Guitar Quartet

BTC Auditorium

HVCC INDUCTED AS FIRST COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN UNITED NATIONS VOCATIONAL NETWORK

CAL MARTIN Editor-in-Chief

Two days of festivities and demonstrations marked Hudson Valley's inauguration as the first community college to become a dedicated Technical and Vocational Education and Training reference center (TVET) under the UN last week.

A subcenter of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the vocational education network (UNEVOC) unites higher educational institutions on TVET initiatives.

Within 24 hours of the inaugural ceremony, fellow UNEVOC members expressed interest in collaborating with the college on their electric vehicle and disability opportunity programs.

"The past two days have been phenomenal. Yesterday's ceremony was a full house, and all sessions had attendees virtual and here [in person]," said Dr.

Jay Deitchman, Director of Global Initiatives at HVCC.

Conference workshops included a hands-on robotics session, virtual reality welding, and a presentation on HVCC's initiative to open CNC workforce opportunities to young adults with autism.

All programming highlighted Hudson Valley's selected TVET focus areas inclusivity in the skilled trades and English second language support.

"Hudson Valley Community College exemplifies the spirit of collaboration and innovation that underpins our shared mission," said Dr. Friedrich Huebler, Head of UNESCO-UNEVOC International Centre for TVET. "I

look forward to a long and productive partnership."

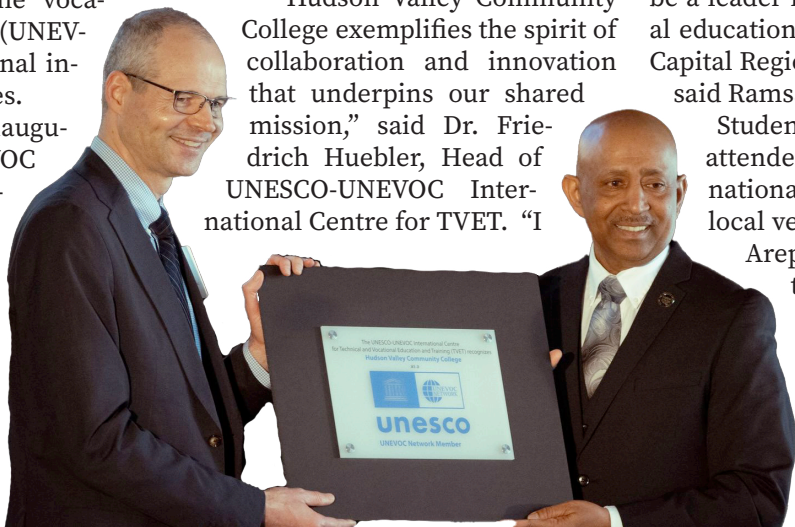
According to Deitchman, joining the network has been long in the making. College President, Dr. Roger A. Ramsammy brought the idea to Deitchman in 2022, with the application and approval process taking more than a year.

"This is truly a groundbreaking opportunity for Hudson Valley Community College as we continue to strive to be a leader in technical and vocational education and training, here in the Capital Region and around the world," said Ramsammy.

Students, faculty and conference attendees also enjoyed an International Food Festival featuring local vendors including Oh Corn!

Arepas of Troy, arranged by the Student Senate.

In his closing speech, Deitchman stated the induction "is like a good marriage- the wedding day is just the beginning of very good things to come."



HUEBLER (LEFT) PRESENTS RAMSAMMY (RIGHT) WITH A PLAQUE DURING THE APRIL 11 UNESCO-UNEVOC INAUGURATION CEREMONY ON CAMPUS. PHOTO BY: JONAH FLANAGAN.

PRIME DINING TO OFFER TAKE-HOME DINNERS & POTENTIAL FUTURE APP

ADAM CONKLIN Staff Contributor

To all students who love the cooking from our PRIME dining staff (and aren't the biggest fan of cooking yourself), boy do I have good news for you.

PRIME dining will now be offering to-go dinners every Wednesday!

Two sizes will be available: one that feeds 4-6 people for \$40, and one that feeds 1-2 people for \$20.

To order, email j.simmons@hvcc.edu, call (518) 629-7173, or stop by the café on the second floor of the Siek Campus Center.

Additionally, PRIME dining may have an app in development to streamline requesting food, prepaying, and reserving current items.

Students can read more about PRIME dining plans and influence them through an online survey.

Scroll all the way to the bottom of HVCC's Food Service page to take a survey regarding pricing, menu variety, timeliness, etc.

A full menu of Wednesday's to-go dinners is also available, including dessert add-ons, upon request.

April 17- Buffalo Chicken Macaroni & Cheese

April 24- Beef Short Ribs & sides.

FOUR HVCC STUDENTS AWARDED BY SUNY CHANCELLOR FOR EXCELLENCE



ADAM CONKLIN Staff Contributor

Congratulations to HVCC's very own Ameera Aftab, Lukas Donaghue, Josephine O'Hare, and Brady Oles for winning the prestigious New York's Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence!

This honor is earned through ac-

ademic excellence and a commitment towards community service as well, something these students are no stranger to.

Each one of these students has a plethora of achievements, ranging from Ameera's role as President of the Student Senate, Lukas' awards for

GO TO... SUNY AWARD PAGE 3

VETROC RAISES MONEY FOR TEXAS HELICOPTER CRASH MEMORIAL FUND

COOPER PATSCHURECK News Editor

Hudson Valley's Veterans Resource and Outreach Center (VETROC) helped raise money for a memorial scholarship fund dedicated to a victim of the New York National Guard helicopter crash on March 9 in Texas.

The Casey Frankoski Memorial Scholarship Fund was created to honor the memory of Casey Frankoski, one of the members of the UH-72 Lakota helicopter crew that crashed last month in Texas.

Frankoski, of Rensselaer, was one of three people who were killed when their aircraft went down. She was a Chief Warrant Officer 2 in the New York Army National Guard and was deployed in Texas to support the United States Customs and Border Patrol mission.

The other victims of the crash include Chief Warrant Officer 2 John Grassia, of Schenectady, and Border Patrol Agent Chris Luna.

The fourth person on the helicopter, Sergeant Jacob Pratt, of Rensselaer, is hospitalized and expected to recover.

The cause of the crash is still under

GO TO... CAN DRIVE PAGE 3

RAPPER & ACTOR ICE-T SPEAKS AT HVCC

LESSONS ON LIFE FROM THE GANGSTA RAP FOUNDER

COOPER PATSCHURECK News Editor

This past Saturday, famed rapper and actor Tracy Lauren Marrow, known professionally as "Ice T", spoke on campus at the Maureen Stapleton Theatre.

Ice-T was invited to Hudson Valley Community College as part of the college's Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture, an annual event presented by the Cultural Affairs Program, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion, Student Activities and the Student Senate.

His presentation, titled "The Cultural Relevance of Rap Music and How It Shaped My Life" was an hour long lecture followed by questions asked by

the audience. Ice-T's speech focused on his own life story and the obstacles he overcame to get where he is today.

He discussed struggles with his childhood, racism, the music and film industries, along with his criminal past and how it helped him become the person he is today. Ice-T did not hold back on expletives, being blunt and open with his language.

"Never take criticism from anybody you wouldn't take advice from, never accept that. Only take advice from people you admire," Ice-T stated.



4.16.24

THE HUDSONIAN

YEAR 79, ISSUE 16

79.16

APRIL 16, 2024

NEWS

News Editor Cooper Patschureck
c-patschureck@hvcc.eduLONG STORY
SHORT...

UPDATES ON HVCC NORTH

Adam Conklin

After years of work and construction, the HVCC North campus in Malta has just finished up a major addition for a new state-of-the-art science laboratory.

The HVCC North campus is home to the Early College High School program 'Tec-Smart', which offers a full scholarship for an early completion associates degree, where students are enrolled starting in grade 8.

Executive Dean of Tec-Smart, John Ashdown said, "Younger kids just starting the program will gain additional exposure to various opportunities and technology pathways in STEM, health-care and skilled-trades. Kids can also take advantage of increased Kids on Campus (KoC) summer camp opportunities at HVCC North."

Plenty of classes for ordinary college students are already offered at the Malta campus opposed to taking them in Troy, of particular benefit to those studying biology, chemistry, anatomy, physiology, and microbiology given the new laboratories.

"Current students are welcome to come see the facilities and advance their studies by taking some of their general education courses there in summer and fall of 2024. In fact, there are several courses running there this spring," Ashdown added.

The North campus is looking to be a SUNY-approved branch campus, which would give them the ability to offer full academic programs. They are on track to reach approval by fall of 2024.

In addition to their science laboratory, they have plans to build new health sciences and mechatronic laboratories.



Financial guidance & updates in the college sphere

HOCHUL INITIATES FINANCIAL AID ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR NY STUDENTS

Adam Conklin

New York Governor Kathy Hochul has just named April as "Financial Aid Awareness Month", along with launching a program to help thousands of students to complete the FAFSA.

Named the CUNY Financial Aid Support Team (FAST), the program got a \$1 million donation from the Petrie Foundation to assist over 100,000 students with the FAFSA form. This program is currently in place, and will run up until September of this year.

Additionally, on April 3, Governor Hochul unveiled the 2024 New York STEM incentive program, which will provide tuition reimbursements to New York State students attending State University of New York or City University of New York campuses who are pursuing degrees in authorized STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs.

RPI & HVCC JOIN FORCES FOR SEMICONDUCTOR PROGRAM

ATEC & HVCC NORTH TO EXPAND UPON RAMSAMMY'S VISION FOR WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

DOMINIC CACCHIONE

Managing Editor

HVCC's plans to construct the Applied Technology Education Center (ATEC) building are underway, giving the college a central hub for its variety of manufacturing programs.

This couldn't have come at a better time, since HVCC and RPI's new collaborative Semiconductor Program is quickly developing, and is set to make huge strides forward in our local workforce.

Currently, the program, funded by the 2022 CHIPS and Science Act, only contains a small group of six first-year students, a number that is likely to skyrocket with the arrival of the new building.

The A.A.S., under Electrical Technology, aims to meet the region's ever-increasing demand for skilled technicians, while preparing students for the workforce.

Semiconductor Manufacturing Technology is one of a dozen degrees that college President, Dr. Roger A. Ramsammy, envisions expanding workforce development on campus: all to be housed within ATEC.

But firstly, what is a semiconductor?

"Semiconductors consist of materials with a certain conductivity that

controls electrical currents, which makes them essential to computer chips," says RPI-HVCC Scholars semiconductor student, Katherine Ziegler. "These power all of the electrical devices that we use every day. Without semiconductors, our devices would not be nearly as fast and efficient."

A 2022 Deloitte report states that the global semiconductor industry is expected to surpass \$3 trillion in revenue by 2030.

Demand for skilled tradesmen has never been higher, with a projected one million additional workers needed across the next 6 years.

"There is a large gap in the number of workers needed for many expanding fields," Ziegler stated.

No one is feeling this harder than Hudson Valley's long-standing partner, semiconductor manufacturing company GlobalFoundries (GF).

In 2023, GF put \$1 million towards the development of ATEC, following a previous gift of \$500,000 in 2021 used to create the GlobalFoundries Workforce Training and Apprenticeship Center at HVCC North.

Despite this, semiconductor students seemed to suggest that they've been getting along just fine without the building.

Lee stated the program is "independent of the ATEC building," while

HVCC's website designates ATEC as an upcoming center for semiconductor manufacturing.

While construction of ATEC has yet to start, current semiconductor students will be making use of RPI laboratories, and have toured GlobalFoundries facilities.

Lee stressed RPI's involvement in bringing this program to life, including an upcoming internship granted to everyone enrolled. "We will all be participating in a summer program at RPI for six weeks."

Despite the statements on their limited involvement with the building, semiconductor students appear optimistic on the prospect of ATEC. "I do believe expanding our campus and giving more opportunities for those going into booming industries will be extremely beneficial," said Ziegler.

"This building will be great for those going into numerous technology and skilled labor jobs. I am excited for the completion of the building, and I know it will be a great addition to Hudson Valley," Ziegler continued.

The ATEC building is projected to break ground next year. The launch of HVCC North as a functioning branch campus is scheduled for the fall 2024 semester, with GF Apprenticeships through the Workforce Training Center to follow.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT:
SEAN SAMPLER

ADAM CONKLIN

Staff Contributor

For some, Hudson Valley is just a 2-year school. Drive to the campus, go to your classes, get a bite to eat, and right back home.

For Sean Sampler, and many others who learn to take advantage of the opportunities on campus, it changed the trajectory of his life.

Sean was born in England and moved to the United States as a child, attending a local prep school until he graduated. Considering engineering, he shipped himself off to Cleveland Ohio to further his studies at Case Western Reserve University.

But still freshly out of COVID and in a brand new state all by himself, he hated it. After moving back home and still questioning his major, the only sensible option was to attend HVCC.

Having a negative perception of community colleges, he saw it as nothing more than a "time out" in his pursuit of bigger and better things. In denial and embarrassment, Sean kept to himself.

As time passed, he only grew to appreciate how foolish his perception of this college was. This led him to do the safe route: focus on classes, keep to himself, and get through these years.

But after a few months, he knew that he needed a change. Need social interaction, social outreach, and leadership.

Sean first showed his interest in campus engagement by joining the Investment Club. Six weeks in, his shell started to crack open.

Sean got more involved in tutoring

and Student Senate, eventually elected to the commendable title of Senior Class President.

Sean has stepped up and showing so much interest in the community and in leadership, by holding the following positions on campus:

- 1.) Vice President of the Student Senate
- 2.) Chair of the Programming Board
- 3.) Chair of the Rules Committee
- 4.) Business Manager of The Hudsonian
- 5.) President of Entrepreneurs Club
- 6.) Co-Vice President of Investment Club
- 7.) Member of the Faculty Student Association
- 8.) Member of the Academic Senate
- 9.) NYBPC Student Ambassador
- 10.) Founder & Vice President of Chess Club
- 11.) Founder & President of Yearbook Club
- 12.) Founder of Wrestling Club
- 13.) Vice President of Podcast Club
- 14.) Member of the Student Life Committee
- 15.) Member of the Customer Service Task Force

To finish off the list, he's also a member of 8 other clubs: Phi Theta Kappa, International Students Club, Book Club, Foreign Language & Culture Club, Gardening and Horticulture Club, ESports Club, Nontraditional Students Club, and Philosophy Club.

In an interview, Sean remarked,



SAMPLER (CENTER) CONDUCTS STUDENT SENATE. PHOTO: VINCE GIORDANO FOR HVCC.

"What brings me the most joy is the measurable impact I have on the lives of those around me, not the titles I hold. As my time at HVCC is coming to a close, I find myself forging relationships and helping wherever I possibly can."

Sean is almost the poster child for Hudson Valley. For someone who had no idea of what he even wanted, Hudson Valley was precisely the thing he needed.

Someone who comes in not knowing what the future holds for them, and is now someone getting ready to leave and tackle whatever the world dares to throw at him.

Sean stated on the latest Voice of the Viking podcast: "What I enjoy the most is surprising those around me when I have no expectation laid out."

Community colleges often get the short end of the stick. They take students who are sometimes at their worst, prepare them for the world ahead, only for students to identify more with their 4 year college.

For Sean at least, Hudson Valley will forever live in his heart.

THE HUDSONIAN

CONT... CAN DRIVE

investigatio Frankoski enlisted in the Army National Guard in October of 2016. She was deployed to Kuwait from November 2018 to September 2019.

She was appointed as a Chief Warrant Officer in 2019 and was trained as a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter pilot, and later deployed with parts of the 224 Aviation Regiment to Texas in support of Joint Task Force North when the crash happened.

Prior to her service in the military, she graduated from Columbia High School in 2013 and got her associate's degree at Schenectady County Community College.

Before her passing, Frankoski was on track to graduate from Excelsior College with a bachelor's in emergency management.

The VETROC held a can drive from April 8 to April 11 to help support the establishment of the scholarship fund, where cans and bottles were collected to raise money.

Despite the drive ending it is still possible to support the memorial scholarship fund.

Those interested can donate via Venmo at @CaseyFrankoski-MemorialScholar or PayPal at @CaseyFMSF.

Resources for those affected by the loss are still available through VETROC in CTR 164.

CONT... SUNY AWARD

Excellence in Library Research and the 2023 Environmental Stewardship Award, Josephine's skill in HVCC women's soccer and basketball, and Brady's role as President of the Engineering Science club.

"These four students exemplify what leaders should be, and I am pleased that their dedication and hard work is being recognized," said Dr. Roger A. Ramsammy, college president.

"Their academic strength and commitment to community engagement has enriched our community in many different ways, and I am so proud," Ramsammy added.



O'HARE (LEFT) AND DONAGHUE (RIGHT) POSE WITH THEIR AWARD CERTIFICATES DURING THE APRIL 11 CEREMONY.

PHOTO VIA SUNY SYSTEMS.

4.16.24

POLITICS

BIDEN, TRUMP SWEEP PRIMARIES

COOPER PATSCHURECK
News Editor

April 2 marked the date for the Democratic and Republican presidential primaries in New York. Both elections were anything but competitive.

The respective candidates, President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump, both received enough delegates to secure their party's nominations before the New York primary was even held. Despite this, there were still movements against both candidates.

Primaries in New York are closed, meaning only voters registered under a party can vote in their party's primaries. As of 2024, there are over 6 million registered Democrats and nearly 3 million registered Republicans in New York State.

Of these, just over 300,000 Democrats and 160,000 Republicans voted on April 2. The extremely low turnout can be credited to the fact both candidates are presumed to have their party's nomination by this point. This count does not include blank ballots.

New York presidential primaries do not have an option to vote uncommitted or to write in any other candidates. This posed an issue for the "uncommitted" movement, an organization of Democrats voting against Biden in protest of his support of Israel during the Israeli-Hamas conflict. The solution to this was blank ballots.

Blank ballots have become a tool to protest President Biden with no other options available. The "leave it blank" campaign was endorsed by the national branch of the Democratic Socialists of America and the New York State Working Families Party.

In total, nearly 40,000 blank ballots were counted, making up around 12% of all votes casted in the Democratic primary. It is uncertain how many of

these blank ballots were actually in protest, as this count includes ballots voided due to mistakes such as mis-markings and voting for multiple candidates.

Blank ballots aside, Biden still received over 91 percent of the popular vote and carried all of New York's 268 Democratic delegates. The remaining percentage went to either author Marianne Williamson, or the now withdrawn candidate Representative Dean Phillips.

Trump carried just over 82 percent of the popular vote and all of New York's 91 Republican delegates. Former Governor Nikki Haley, now withdrawn from the race, came in second with almost 13 percent of the vote. The remaining percent went to other withdrawn candidates, including former Governor Chris Christie and entrepreneur Vivek Ramaswamy.

Biden is set to accept the Democratic nomination for 2024 at the Democratic National Convention on August 19 in Chicago, Illinois. Trump is set to do the same with the Republican nomination at the Republican National Convention, scheduled for July 15th in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The race in 2024 is set to be a repeat of 2022, with Trump and Biden facing off against each other again.

Primaries are a way to have your voice heard if you are a member of a political party. It allows you to express your support or disagreement with a candidate and participate in the civic process.

Voting in the primary is as important as voting in the general elections. It allows you to guarantee your party nominates somebody you agree with and represents your beliefs.

"MADE IN CHINA" NO MORE?

LIBBY STAR
Staff Contributor

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen arrived in Guangzhou, China on April 4 to meet with Chinese officials and discuss the countries' evolving market relations.

In a time where nearly everything we buy is stamped with "Made in China", it's no surprise that America has become somewhat economically dependent on China.

Since the 1970s, soon after Richard Nixon lifted America's trade embargo on China, American businesses saw the profit to be made from lax labor laws protecting Chinese workers.

Companies have moved so much of their manufacturing processes to China that it is now our third-largest trade partner (after Canada and Mexico).

With new emphasis being placed on renewable energy technology in America and Europe, China's massive industrial capabilities stand to strengthen the Global North's dependence on them even more in the near future.

Yellen's visit is part of an effort to reduce this dependency without harming America's already precarious relationship with China. Speaking at an event by the American Chamber of Commerce in China, Yellen insisted: "President Biden and I firmly reject the idea that the United States should decouple from China... a full economic separation is neither practical nor desirable."

With so many of our consumer goods being manufactured in China, it is hard to imagine a full trade embargo being instated from either side. But as tensions between the East and West continue to climb in the background from the Russo-Ukrainian War, it's not surprising that the United States is finally taking notice of this dependency.

One of Yellen's main concerns, she said, was overcapacity—China's high-tech industry, subsidized by the government, is now producing more EVs, batteries, solar panels, and other tech than Chinese or foreign (American) markets are demanding.

This is driving down prices for these goods, hurting Biden's ongoing efforts (namely through the CHIPS Act, investing nearly \$300 billion in semiconductor manufacturing since 2022) to bring more of the high-tech supply chain back to America.

With the markets flooded, the "Made in USA" stamp is still just too pricey. Encouraging China to curb its production is therefore a major part of the ongoing discussions.

Though America does not want to decouple fully, Yellen said, "we will deploy our economic tools when needed... to protect our national security and that of our allies."

The Biden administration has indeed placed limits on the export of semiconductors to China in an attempt to slow down Chinese technological advances, and cut off Chinese telecommunications company Huawei from its American suppliers, citing national security.

Though China has not taken this well, America claims it is all in the name of "leveling the playing field," as Yellen puts it.

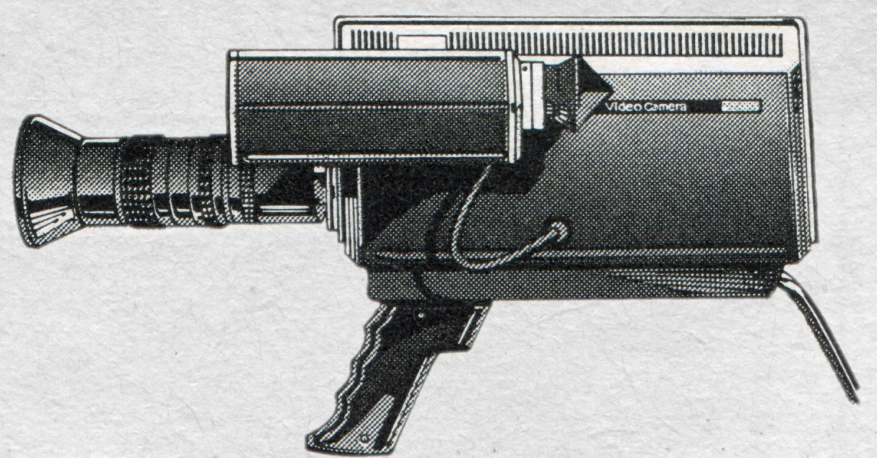
It is currently unclear whether America will place further sanctions or tariffs on Chinese industry.

But between the existing sanctions, the potential TikTok ban, and China's deepening ties with Russia (implicitly positioning it against the West), American officials have a thin line to tread between letting America's economy lean even more on China's, and butchering relations between the two largest economies on the planet.

REFRACTIONS

AN UPCOMING FILMMAKERS SHOWCASE

Thursday, April 18th
4 PM
in the BTC auditorium



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters can be delivered to CTR 291 or emailed to hudsonian@hvcc.edu. Letters will be edited for grammar, style, libel and length.

To join **THE HUDSONIAN**, attend our weekly meetings on Mondays at 2 p.m. in ADM 105 and Thursdays drop by CTR 291 (Hudsonian Newsroom) 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

STUDENTS TAKE HOME MORE THAN AWARDS FROM NYBPC

MEET THE FACES BEHIND A VALUABLE EXPERIENCE I HELPED HVCC HOST, AND WILL NEVER FORGET

SEAN SAMPLER

Business Manager

The New York Business Plan Competition has been running for over 10 years, and it's a fantastic learning and networking opportunity.

Any student, from a community college to a doctorate program, is eligible to participate by creating an innovative business and, like Shark Tank, pitching it to a panel of judges.

After years of UAlbany hosting the Capital Region's competition, HVCC was given the honor. On Friday, April 5, we hosted almost 30 teams from around the area including RPI, Siena, UAlbany, Russell Sage, and of course, Hudson Valley.

As the President of HVCC's Entrepreneurs Club and a Student Ambassador for the NYBPC, I saw firsthand how much work was put into this.

The Club spent the entire semester generating business ideas and plans, working on our slide decks, and practicing our pitches. Because of this, we were able to send an unprecedented 7 teams to the competition.

The Entrepreneurs Club didn't exist two years ago; HVCC hadn't sent teams in years, and I couldn't be prouder of the transformation we've made.

Two of our teams even placed second in their product categories: Frostfleece, a hoodie that can both heat and cool, founded by Austin Shulkin, Brooks Marcus, and Ray Guiles; and Semester at Yours, a furniture and appliance rental service for college students and recent grads, founded by Lukas Donaghue, Ryan Connors, Adam Conklin,

and Ameera Aftab.

HVCC graduates and current students at UAlbany, Omar Cunningham and Ehdoh Kyi, worked together on Lumiglo, developing bioluminescent house plants, which also placed second in their category.

They're now moving on to the state-wide competition, and we wish them

thony Nuvallie, securing several donations; and Ricky Thibedeau, our department chair.

HVCC, and we the students, could not be more fortunate to have faculty who genuinely care and put this much time into creating opportunities for us.

I'm proud that we competed at the level of bachelor's and graduate stu-



COMPETITORS AND FRIENDS POSE DURING THEIR LUNCH BREAK. PHOTO: VINCE GIORDANO FOR HVCC.

the best of luck!

None of this would have happened without the unrelenting support from Professors Johanna Mather and Danielle Blesi. Their dedication inspired the club to push forward, and their expertise lit the way.

The entire business department stepped up, notably Professors Robert Manasier, mentoring several teams and hosting a StartUp Weekend; An-

dents, despite our experience and institutional support not being on par with most 4-year-colleges.

I hope for, and will work toward, a future where the college provides an Entrepreneur in Residence, and a space akin to UAlbany's Innovation Center to better provide real entrepreneurial experience and measurable aid for student businesses.

WHERE HORRORS BECOME REAL...

WHAT COULD BE MORE TERRIFYING THAN (SOMEHOW STILL LIVING) SERIAL KILLER IDOLIZERS?

MATTHIAS MOJALLALI

Opinions Editor

Horror, a once niche genre that was the black sheep of the film industry, is now coming back at full swing. With many new stories appearing on the big screen, with mountains of merchandise and devoted fans, horror as a genre is quickly becoming very popular.

With horror on the rise, we also see fascination with true crime becoming mainstream. That being said, a niche of devoted horror fans have been expressing an interest in both true crime and horror in more unorthodox ways.

Often, horror fans collect merch. Nowadays, not just of horror icons like Pennywise or Leatherface, but real life murderers such as John Wayne Gacy or Ed Gein.

With a simple Google search, you can find many different t-shirts and items themed to real life serial killers. But why is there suddenly a market for merchandise devoted to real life, convicted murderers?

Unfortunately, this is nothing new. After his conviction, serial killer Ted Bundy would receive fan mail from women all over the world. Women would also show up to his court hearings dressed like the people he murdered.

Now that the internet is accessible to almost everyone, these true crime fa-

natics have more accessibility to their desire.

They have the freedom to post about real life versions of their on screen "heroes": non-fictional versions of Michael Myers or Jason Voorhees.

So this raises the question, where does a fanatic love for horror end, and an inability to distinguish real life atrocities from fiction start?

Does an extreme love for real life

horrors trump these fan's ability to empathize with the victims and families devastated by the publicity of their loved one's death?

Now that murderous merch and glorification of real life horrors is coming into play, it's clear people's love for violence won't just sit behind the screen of their TV anymore.

Where will this dystopian age of serial killer fandoms take us next?





ADAM CONKLIN
Staff Contributor

Picture this: you and 21 strangers, ranging from reality stars to everyday Joes like you and I, are in a castle in the Scottish Highlands.

You and the other contestants have the same goal of completing various tasks and challenges day-by-day for a cash prize up to \$250,000. But alas, it's a bit more complicated than that.

In that group of 22 contestants, there are three traitors who try to blend in with the faithful. Striking, they kill off a contestant under the darkness of the night.

Why do they do it? Because if they can convince the other contestants that they are faithful up until the very end, the Traitors get all of the money, and the faithfuls get nothing.

The faithfuls only have one line of defense other than their own intuitions on someone's actions: the round table. Each morning, it's announced that someone got murdered, each afternoon a challenge/game is played, and each night is a round table.

Each round table gives the oppor-

tunity for contestants to call out any strange behavior they may have seen, defend themselves, or put any other input into the mix. After their conversation is over, they each vote to banish someone out of the game permanently, hoping they are a traitor.

I have never really had an interest in watching reality shows, but this show is much deeper than that.

This show had just wrapped up its second season a few weeks back, and I honestly miss the cast. For the first season, you see this group of strangers turn from friends, to enemies, and from enemies to friends.

Each contestant brings purpose to the game, and it's very interesting to see who interacts with who. And the same still holds up for the second season.

A brand new cast, who became instantly likable. New rules, new quirks, felt like a brand new show again.

For those who enjoy a good competition/reality show, I highly suggest watching. With 23 total episodes running at a little over 40 minutes a piece, this is a great show to get invested in.



MATTHIAS MOJALLALI
Opinions Editor

Finally, at long last, the second half of Invincible season two has aired on Amazon Prime. But did it wrap up everything from the first half nicely?

The continuation follows all the main characters right from where it ended last time. However, new threats arise that cause damage beyond what the characters or the viewers could imagine.

In my opinion, season two's second half really made up for the first half of it. The mountains of plots and subplots that were introduced in season two's first half were tied up nicely.

Once again, the animation is simplistic, but amazing, and everything we're learning about this universe is expressed beautifully through it.

But most importantly, the emotional weight of everything good or bad that happens is handled extremely well. The writers, animators, and actors really show the grave importance of everything that happens in the show.

Of course, the violence and gore doesn't hold back, but just like in the

previous season and the first half of season two, there's a reason for the violence.

The show is not using violence for shock factor, it's showing it so that the viewer can understand how in a real superhero universe, things wouldn't be sugarcoated. There would be plenty of blood and guts during the vicious fights as seen in Marvel or DC productions.

The ending of the season was the best part, with moments ripped straight from the pages of the comics, to interesting character cameos.

With all this in mind, the one downside is sometimes they push the story along too fast. Thus, the Deus Ex Machina cliché comes up a lot, where a character is in an inescapable situation, only for a random character to come along and save them.

But that doesn't take away how great of a season this was. I definitely recommend this show for any superhero fans who can stomach a hard, TV-MA series.

VIKING TALKSPOT

HVCC SPEAKS: WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO THIS SPRING?

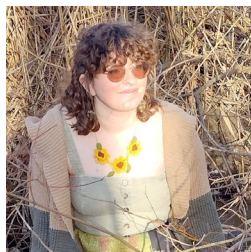
PHOTOS BY: Nico LoGiudice

Interviews By: **NICO LOGIUDICE & LUNA NORTHRUP**- Staff Contributor, Layout Editor



"I get to wear shorts and stuff. I get to go out for walks and I get to hike, play sports, basketball and all sorts of fun stuff. You get to travel a lot over the summer break and I am looking forward to it."

-Travon Fallen, Financial Accounting



"I live in the mountains so there is not much to do when it's cold. With the warmer weather I am excited to start foraging again and go on more nature walks."

-Jo Latter, Art Education



"As for the warm weather, I am actually excited to go out more and touch grass and not be a hermit."

-Tyler Lamorre, Business Administration



"With the weather changing I look forward to more outside activities, watching the plants grow, and the beauty of nature."

-Austin Shulkin, Individual Studies



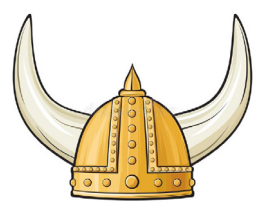
"I am looking forward to the new weather. Spring is my favorite season. I adore all the trees blooming and all the flowers coming out and the grass coming back."

-Voe Holland, Individual Studies



"I rescued a kitten over spring break from being dumped on the side of the road. I can't wait for when the kitten gets his shots so I can bring him out in the warmer weather."

-Rhianna Kester, Paramedic Program



"Taking walks on the forest path is one thing I am looking forward to."

-Elijah Nguyen, Individual Studies



"With the warmer weather I am excited to eat more ice cream."

-Emily Tricozzi, Fine Arts

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Take a peek at the bottom left of this spread, the bottom of our staff credits. Yes, those staff credits you skim over each week.

Titled in bold, you'll see our Letter to the Editor policy.

Journalism requires readers to understand, meaning no jargon. In that spirit, let me explain what a Letter is.

Letters are a chance for anyone in the community to write to a publication, who can then give your voice a platform.

So, yes, you are writing to me- in a sense. But writing a Letter is really an avenue to fill your civic responsibilities.

Letters don't have to be responses to what The Hudsonian has published. You can, and should, write on campus

or local topics you feel haven't gotten due attention.

Writing a letter furthers The Hudsonian's key tenet: freedom of the press.

Next time life forces you to advocate, consider what penning a Letter, here or elsewhere, can do for your cause.

SPORTS

Sports Editor Nigel Addo
n-addo@hvcc.edu



**LONG JUMP
RECORD SHATTERED
AFTER 43 YEARS;
NJCAA PROSPECTS
LOOK PROMISING**

**TRACK & FIELD
WINS ABOUND AT
RPI INVITATIONAL**

PHOTOS BY: JONAH FLANAGAN

CAL MARTIN
Editor-in-Chief

TROY- Hudson Valley's Track & Field teams pushed themselves to success at RPI's Under the Lights Meet on Friday.

Brooks Robson of Bennington, Vt. surpassed the college's previous long jump record from 1981 by nearly 4 inches. Robson trumped the near 43 year legacy of prior school distance setter Mike Loszynski, earning second in long jump and taking home first for the triple jump event.

This follows Robson's success last month at a Wesleyan invitational, where he won the long jump and triple jump events.

Ian Shaw, an East Greenbush native, won first in his heat for the Men's 800m. Olivia Skylstad of Ballston spa ranked second in her heat during Women's 100m hurdles.



Hudson Valley made an impression on the 400m dash scoreboards, with Taiwo Omoya and Dylan Lawless placing less than a second behind the lead athlete for their heats. Placing fifth overall, Omoya also hit a qualifying NJCAA nationals time.

For the Women's 200m dash, Taiwo Omoya and Madison Washburn took home first in their heats.

Similarly, in the Men's 400m hurdles, HVCC students Chauncey Khamani and Kyler Alston both took home second in their heats.

Jordan Goddard and Raj Hillhouse won first and second respectively for their shared heat during Men's 100m.

The next Track & Field Invitational will also be hosted locally at UAlbany on April 19. Hudson Valley's team will be split between this meet and the NCJAA Region 3 events, hosted the same date at SUNY Cortland.

ARTS & LIFE

VOICES INSIDE YOUR SOUL

A POEM & PHOTO BY:

Mojisilda Cinari

Staff Contributor

For a time only, starting now,

You just want to live the life of a robot;

You just want to stop laughing for a while;

You just want to continue something that you loved and still love;

You just want to look ahead;

You only want to think about one thing;

You just want your nerve cells to stop sending signals to the brain;

You just want to succeed, but you don't know which way and which method to use;

You just want to be a tough guy with a vision;

You just want to stop feeling, for this time that starts now,

and until you get used to everything,

despite the fact that you loved it from the beginning.

You just want it to be winter in your soul.

Cabin Fever
By M.M. Stephens



There you are Taylor, you tasty looking squirrel you. Once I get my paws on you, you better be ready because I'm gonna make sure that you...



CHITTER
CHITTER
CHITTER

What are you chittering about, Milo? Your potential lunch?



PHOTO BY: MOJSILDA CINARI

Did you know?

Work published in The Hudsonian earns you \$\$\$!

\$25- Articles >250 words

\$10- Articles <250 words

\$10- Photo / artwork

Join our weekly meetings to learn more!

Boost your resume, better our campus, make your voice heard.