

## THE EXPLORATION: Congratulations to the Class of 2019...Plus An Early View of the U.S. Presidential Race

By Louis Childs-O'Dowd  
 Campus Press Managing Editor and Columnist

I'd like to start this column off with a congratulations to all the students who managed to survive this year. I know for me, these last two semesters have been a true test of my commitment to actually finishing my degree. So far it seems I passed that test, and I hope everyone else was able to as well. To the people graduating this semester, I'd like to congratulate you, but to be honest, I'm jealous! You're making large strides towards accomplishing your goals, and I find that to be enviable.

### World of Politics

So, to start this off with an understatement, a lot has happened in the world of politics since our last column. To me, the most exciting thing to happen is that the 2020 presidential campaigns have finally started to kick off. Presidential

**Democratic  
 Candidate  
 Cory Booker:  
 A Commentary**

campaigns are actually how I started off in politics: I was inspired by Bernie Sanders, and I ended up volunteering for his campaign. There's something about volunteering that's very fun to me.

I think it has something to do with what you're working towards. It's generally hard to get passionate about your work. I mean, money's nice, but besides that, what are you actually working towards? Good sales? Making your scummy low-level manager look good?

### The Incumbent and the Candidates

But when it comes to politics, you're talking about real things that shape our real world. I'm not trying to convince you to buy HBO; I'm trying to convince you why you should support a person who wants to potentially change the world. It's enthralling.

So, over the next few editions, we're going to go into detail about some of the people who are running for president. I say some, and not all, because most of the people running for president don't really matter. Now, obviously I could be wrong and some dark horse candidate comes out and blows all of our minds, but I've been working this scene long enough to know that that's pretty

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## Hundreds of Potential Students and Their Families Attend Open House on Saturday, April 6 to Receive Information about Admission and to Tour Blackwood Campus



Photos: Courtesy of Nick Mesaric,  
 CCC Office of Communications



CCC student and occasional Campus Press Writer Kenisha I'sha Prendegast (above) exults during her visit to Alaska. See her travel column on page 6.



### Spring 2019 CCC Academic Ceremonies and Special Events

Date	Time	Event
April 4	7 p.m.	Kappa Delta Pi Induction Ceremony, Forum
April 10	7 p.m.	Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony, Dennis Flyer Theater
April 18	7 p.m.	Alpha Mu Gamma Induction Ceremony, Civic Hall
April 22	7 p.m.	Psi Beta Induction Ceremony, Civic Hall
April 24-May 2		Student Art Show, Marlin Gallery
May 1	7:30 p.m.	CCC Graduating Student Music Recitals, Dennis Flyer Theatre
May 6	7:30 p.m.	CCC Small Ensemble Concert, Dennis Flyer Theatre
May 7	3:45 p.m.	Mu Alpha Theta Induction Ceremony, Forum
May 7	7:30 p.m.	CCC Chorus & Acapella Ensemble Concert, D. Flyer Theatre
May 14	7 p.m.	Dental Pinning, Civic Hall
May 15	6 p.m.	Foundation Scholarship Reception ( <i>invitation only</i> )
May 16	10 a.m.	CCC Graduation Rehearsal, Papiano Gym & Tent
May 16	noon	Graduation / Thank You BBQ, Madison Courtyard
May 16	2 p.m.	OLOL Nursing Graduation, Tent/Truman Courtyard
May 16	6:30 p.m.	Academic Awards Ceremony, Civic Hall

### COMMENCEMENT DAY

May 17	8:15 a.m.	Faculty/Administration Robing (Halpern)
	9:15 a.m.	Faculty Medal Presentations
	10 a.m.	Procession begins outside Halpern under overhang



Read Pablo's Post Page 4.

April is National Community College Month.

## After 30 Years, Why I Decided to Return to School and Attend CCC



**DRESSED FOR WORK AND IN UNIFORM** — Camden County College student Angelique Moore, left, once worked at FedEx Express as a courier. Married with children, she also worked in the family's home remodeling business while taking care of parents and grandparents and other people's children.

By Angelique Moore  
CCC Student Guest Writer

### A Personal Journey of Reflection

After 30 years, here's why I decided to return to school and attend Camden County College.

There's been a few memorable days in my life; the birth of my children is the top of that list. There is my first roofing job I completed with my own crew. I recall my first win representing our family business in court, and my last night on stage doing stand-up comedy.

There are track meets, basketball games and boxing matches mixed in those memories long since forgotten; but the day I graduated high school was like swimming the ocean and reaching the shore. The last happy memory I have about school was in the 6th grade. So when I finished grade school and started Community College of Philadelphia in 1988, I can honestly say it wasn't because I wanted the education.

I wanted to be able to say, "I'm in college!" I was interested in the experience only, with making new friends and staying out all night. I do not think I even had a GPA. Three semesters later, I dropped out to start a family and never looked back.

#### At 30: Ten Years and Four Children Later... "Ghost Mom"

Ten years and four children later, I was coming up on my 30<sup>th</sup> birthday without ever even considering going back to college. I was happy and content with my life. I was married with children, a home, a dog and a thriving family home remodeling business. It was around that time the housing market was about to take a nose dive, so I started driving for FedEx Express as a courier. It was just enough money to keep everything afloat through the drought of work. We saw a lot of generational companies go under. But I just kept putting in more hours, then my husband's grandmother got sick and she moved in with us. Then I transferred stations to be closer to home, so I could stop in on my breaks to check in on her. Then my father got sick and he

moved in with us and the pressure continued to rise. Through the years we took in my husband's cousin, and abandoned baby (until we found his father and moved them in down the street, so we could help them).

A family in our neighborhood fell apart and the teenage children were left behind in a house without utilities, so we moved them into our home as well. At one point, there were seven of us living in a 950-square ft., four-bedroom house. I worked 20-hour days, so the kids called me "ghost mom", because I would pop up in my FedEx truck in the most peculiar places: football games in other townships, on a group of the kids walking down the back roads to the lake, at classrooms, in uniform in the middle of a school day, just to let them know I was

*Continued on page 6*

College Service Announcements

# TITLE IX

## UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE, DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

**DON'T BE SILENCED! SPEAK UP AND WE WILL LISTEN!**

Resources and reporting options are available, if you or someone you know at Camden County College has been a victim of:

- Sexual Assault
- Domestic Violence
- Dating Violence
- Stalking
- Discrimination or Harassment

**RESOURCES AND REPORTING OPTIONS**

If an incident occurs to you or you know of an incident, please immediately contact at least one of the following:

**Department of Public Safety**  
(856) 374-5089

**Student Services**  
(856) 374-5088

**Department of Athletics**  
(856) 227-7200, ext. 4260

camdencc.edu

#### Camden County College Policy on Non-Discrimination in Educational Programs

Camden County College complies with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and New Jersey's Law Against Discrimination. These laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, nationality, ancestry, age, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, sex, familial status, domestic partnership status, disability and handicap. Decisions on admission, recruitment, financial aid programs, access to course offerings, or

other aspects of its educational programs or activities, including vocational programs and vocational opportunities, are not made on the basis of any of these factors. Inquiries regarding these laws may be directed to the Dean of Students Office, Taft 236, Camden County College, P.O. Box 200, Blackwood, NJ 08012, (856) 227-7200, extension 4371; jtenuto@camdencc.edu or to the Executive Director of Human Resources, Camden County College, P.O. Box 200, Blackwood, NJ 08012, (856) 227-7200, extension 4221.

### The Campus Press

#### Editorial Office

**We welcome articles, graphics and photography (.jpeg or PDF); letters, comments and ideas (and preferably in Word 97-2003 format or as e-mail inserts).**

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The opinions expressed in *The Campus Press* are not necessarily those of the college, the student body, or the entire newspaper staff.

The Campus Press is seeking students to **join the newspaper's reporting, writing, editing, graphics, photography, advertising, marketing and administrative staff.** Please e-mail the Campus Press Advisor at [campuspress@camdencc.edu](mailto:campuspress@camdencc.edu).

Publication	Ad Deadline*	Copy Deadline*	Publish Date*
August/Sept.	July 1	July 1	Week of Aug. 19



\*Subject to change and without notice.

## Public Safety Dept. Offers Safety Tips at Commencement, May 17

Submitted By CCC Office of Public Safety

Graduation Day is Friday, May 17! Congratulations from the Camden County College Department of Public Safety! It is our pleasure to have served you, and we trust that your experience here at Camden County College has prepared you well for your future endeavors.



The Public Safety Department will be present throughout the event to assist in making the commencement ceremony pleasant and memorable. Here is some important safety related information to know for the big day!

### Officers Posted Around Campus

You certainly won't have to look very hard to find Public Safety personnel on Graduation Day. Officers will be heavily posted in courtyards, buildings, along the procession grounds and on each seating aisle under the graduation tent. Also, officers will be manning traffic posts in all parking lots and will perform continuous motor and bicycle patrols of roadways and parking areas.

### Gloucester Township Police Presence at Event

In addition to Camden County College Public Safety Officers, you will also see a large presence of Gloucester Township Police personnel. We are all here to serve you and your guests. Do not hesitate to come to any of these uniformed officials, particularly the Public Safety Department, for direction, or with questions or concerns. We ask that all graduates and guests put their trust in us and follow our direction on graduation day.

### Help Available for Persons with Disabilities

For those graduates and guests with disabilities, we ask that you first contact Assistant Dean Jacqueline Tenuto at 856-374-5088, or visit her on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Taft Building, to advise her of you or your guest's mobility concerns. For parking, lots #10

*Continued on Page 8*

**APRIL 26**

**7-10:30 p.m.**

**Connector Atrium**

Purchase your ticket in Advance by **April 22, 2019**. No tickets will be sold at the door.

**TO PURCHASE TICKETS:**

**BLACKWOOD CAMPUS**  
Office of Student Life and Activities  
Taft 302,  
856-374-5088.

**CAMDEN CAMPUS**  
Camden Technology Center  
Room 211,  
856-338-1817, ext.1320

**WILLIAM G. ROHRER CAMPUS**  
Information Desk  
865-374-6000 ext. 6008

# SPRING DANCE!

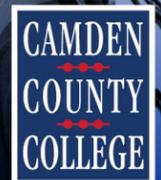
**EVERYBODY DANCE NOW!  
DANCE YOUR STRESS OFF  
BEFORE FINALS!**

**\$5**

Light refreshments  
will be served



Questions?  
**JACKIE TENUTO**  
jtenuto@camdencc.edu



PLEASE BRING A NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE CCC FOOD PANTRY.  
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- Before even getting their degree, many students have accepted employment and are **earning more than 100k**
- **Lower and simplified tuition and general fee**

Speak with your advisor or contact us at [transfer@usciences.edu](mailto:transfer@usciences.edu) or 888-996-8747.

**GET AN INSTANT DECISION!  
ACCELERATED TRANSFER DAY  
May 21, 2019**

[USciences.edu/AcceleratedTransferDay](http://USciences.edu/AcceleratedTransferDay)



## MEDIA REVIEW: What's Coming to Netflix in April

By Ryan (Pablo) Daehling  
Campus Press Writer and Columnist

Netflix has allowed millions of people to watch movies and TV shows that audiences haven't had a chance to see. It's a great service at a low cost. Netflix also provides its own original content for its viewership. Therefore, I'm here to answer the question "What's coming to Netflix in the month of April?"

### Ultraman

Might as well start off with a Netflix show based on an existing property. *Ultraman* is a popular Japanese science fiction television show that began in the 1960s. Since then, the show and its wide variety of characters have exploded into a cultural phenomenon in Japan.

There have been several television shows, movies, books, and other forms of media that the titular character Ultraman has starred in. Now, thanks to Netflix, a new generation can view this new story in the Ultraman series.

### Spy Kids

This one should be appealing to those who grew up in the early 2000s. *Spy Kids* introduces audiences to a bizarre world of spy children, living thumbs, and Robert Rodriguez as a director.

The story follows Juni and Carmen Cortez as they gear up to save their spy parents and, in the process, become spies themselves. Originally released in 2001, viewers can now relive their childhoods right now.

### You Vs. Wild

While few in numbers, Netflix does offer interactive video experiences that don't compare to what other streaming services are offering. The newest in this line of content stars famous outdoorsman Bear Grylls. You, the audience, get to make decisions that Bear Grylls will have to follow, so be careful. This interactive adventure arrives April 10.

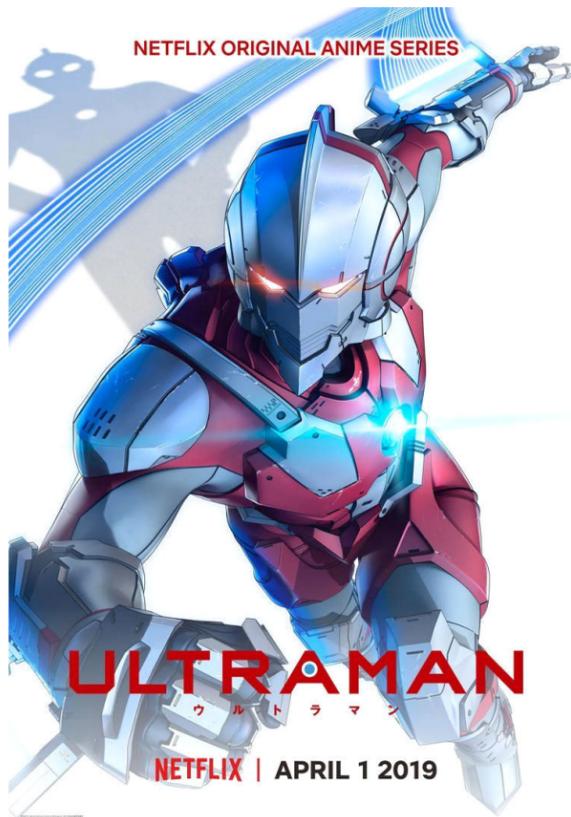
### She-Ra and the Princesses of Power: Watch in Season 2

For any of you cartoon fans, boy does Netflix have a treat for you. *She-Ra*, once a supporting character for the character He-Man, starred in her own cartoon reboot in 2018. The show received favorable reviews, gaining enough of a following for a second season. The second season will most likely continue where the first left off, filling in plot holes and such. My only hope is the show ends this sworn enemy nonsense and makes Catdora a real thing.

### Monster House

Up until now, I have maintained a professional unbiased take throughout most of this article. However, one cannot contain my surging love for this 2006 animated picture.

The movie features three youths who try to unravel the mystery behind a cranky neighbor and his ominous house.



Graphic: comicbook.com

I absolutely loved this movie as a child and I still do as a legal adult. The animation was quite superb and the story was very mature for a kids movie.

### Netflix: Worth Watching

Netflix offers a great variety of new content every month. April looks to be a wonderful month for those craving a new show or movie to watch. It looks like Netflix will continue to churn out new content in the coming months. As a fan of entertainment media, I highly recommend investing in Netflix.

### College Service Announcement

## NOMINATION 2019 Adjunct Faculty Teaching Excellence Award Deadline to Submit: Friday, May 24, 2019

Note: Nominations can be made by a student, colleague, chair or other (please specify).

For additional information and to obtain nomination forms, contact Helen Erskine, Administrative Assistant to Dr. David Edwards, at (856) 227-7200, ext. 4525.  
E-mail: [herskine@camdencc.edu](mailto:herskine@camdencc.edu)



Graphic: imdb.com

### Public Service Announcement



Cheryl A. Mojta, Director of Operations  
NJ Child Assault Prevention

Headquarters at Camden County College, 2nd floor, Wolverton Library  
200 College Drive, Blackwood, NJ 08012 — p.856-374-5001  
[www.njcap.org](http://www.njcap.org) and [www.internationalCAP.org](http://www.internationalCAP.org)

### College Service Announcement



## Camden County College Spring Fling 2019

- BLACKWOOD CAMPUS**  
Wilson Courtyard  
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 24, 2019
- CAMDEN CAMPUS**  
College Hall Courtyard  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 17, 2019
- WILLIAM G. ROHRER CENTER (CHERRY HILL)**  
1st Floor Lobby  
11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Tuesday, April 23, 2019

For additional information about Spring Fling 2019 e-mail: [JTenuito@camdencc.edu](mailto:JTenuito@camdencc.edu).

## INTERNATIONAL CULTURE DAY AT CCC: Diversity on Display



Photo: Colin Colebrook, Jr.

By Melissa Davila and Colin Colebrook, Jr.  
Campus Press Writers and Columnists

Last semester, the Diversity Club had an interactive poster near the student cafeteria; it read: “What does diversity mean to you?” It was a success, as many people wrote on the mural. In keeping with the spirit of diversity on campus, World Culture Day was held on April 2. Looking at the many flags around the atrium was a sight, but looking at the students, proudly wearing traditional clothing and performing, was an amazing experience. See and hearing the actors in a play speak about helping each other fight off nervousness before and during performances let’s one know that it is possible to look past cultural and geographic divides and just be human. As always, cafeteria staff provided excellent and diverse cuisine.

### The Marketplace: Helping the College Community

By Melissa Davila  
Campus Press Co-Editor and Writer

The Marketplace, also known as the pantry, provides students with various food products to supplement what they have at home. Getting items does not require a long, tedious and or embarrassing process. The first time one goes, a one-page form is filled out, and CCC ID and schedule of classes are shown. Once a month after the initial time, you sign in and one of the people staffing the pantry may assist in getting items that you need.

The pantry is run by Judy Peak. She is a very empathetic person and does her best to ensure that students do not feel uncomfortable when they come. Several students, Bev Hansen, and Olayari Oseni are just two of the very helpful students who volunteer their time. Contributors include teachers, the police academy, several groups and many other individuals have chipped in to stock the pantry. On April 1, the Rotary Club donated food to the pantry, so that it will be stocked for anyone that comes in. Public Safety assists with transporting food, as do several students. I have shopped at the food pantry, and have seen the many healthy items that it offers. Items include cereal, oatmeal and many types of bread and bagels, soups, pastas, sauces and canned vegetables.

Non-perishable beverages, toiletries and stationary items are available. In addition, there are organic food items and snacks.

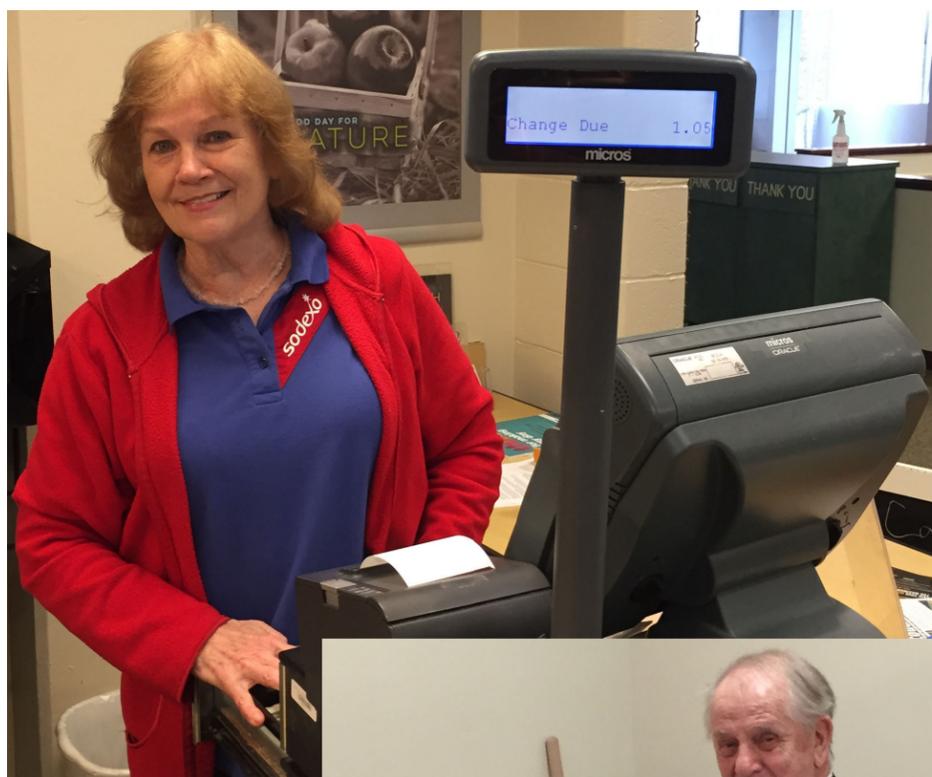
There are several drop off locations for donating non-perishables. The Blackwood Campus locations are: Library, 1<sup>st</sup> floor; Community Center, room 200; or Taft Hall, second floor. At the Camden Campus: College Hall, first floor; or CTC Building, first floor. At Rohrer Center: first floor, Enrollment Desk. Monetary donations (via check or money order), are accepted at Student Services, Taft Hall, room 302; CTC, room 211; and Rohrer Enrollment Desk. Receipts are provided. It is a great initiative by the college, where one does not have to feel that there is a stigma attached to going. As Judy says, “Sometimes people go through things. There’s nothing wrong with that.”

The food pantry at Camden Campus is open on Wednesday and Thursday, from 12 noon to 2 p.m., in College Hall, room 405B, at the Blackwood Campus’ Community Center on Monday and Tuesday, in room 200, also from 12 noon to 2 p.m. For more information, e-mail [jtenuto@camdencc.edu](mailto:jtenuto@camdencc.edu).

In March, PTK (Phi Theta Kappa) Honor Society President Dennis Bernard (standing, second from left) and members of PTK had a bake sale to benefit the Marketplace.



## Meet...



Two of the people in the Blackwood Campus cafeteria who greet us with a nice warm smile and provide us with equally nice and warm meal! Cashier JEAN LAPENTO has worked in the cafeteria for 12 years. She previously worked in medical equipment sales. Chef



Tony LO SCHIAVO, has been creating delectable meals, including pizza and soup, for much of his adult life, including 17 at CCC. A Brooklyn, N.Y., native, Chef Tony, says he hails originally from Genoa, Italy.

# THE MARKETPLACE

## CAMDEN COUNTY COLLEGE STUDENT FOOD PANTRY

Hunger and food insecurity are realities everywhere - even on college campuses. This problem has prompted many campuses to establish food pantries to help students in need. Camden County College is happy to help our students in need. That is why we opened The Marketplace.

The Marketplace is stocked by monetary and food donations from our college community.



### VISIT THE MARKETPLACE IN BLACKWOOD & CAMDEN

#### BLACKWOOD HOURS & LOCATION

Community Center, Room 200  
Monday & Tuesday  
12 noon to 2 p.m.

#### CAMDEN CITY HOURS & LOCATION

College Hall, Room 405B  
Wednesday & Thursday  
12 noon to 2 p.m.

## YOU TRIPPING?: My Travel Diary of Adventures

By Kenisha I'sha Prendegast  
Campus Press Writer and Columnist

Once a year, go somewhere you've never been before."  
— Dalai Lama.

Most of us love the sound of this, but is it really possible? The answer is yes! Travel doesn't have to be overly expensive and an out of the budget lifestyle. It can be near or far, local, domestic or international. The exciting part is the desire to take the adventure; take it and say you've done it.

Desire is one thing but the reality oftentimes kicks-in. There are some major things to consider before making travel arrangements, for example, purpose, availability and the most prominent of all, expense. Everyone's lifestyle is different and as you make plans to travel choose the destination that fits your budget. Or, hey, Why not budget for the destination? (Wink)

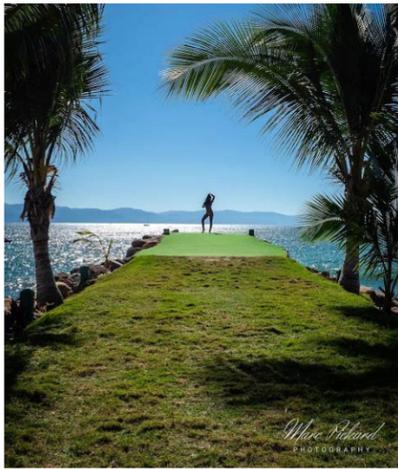
### Choosing the Best Time and Destination

Choosing a travel destination can be super exciting. Whether it's a trip to the neighboring city or a week cruising the Mexican Riviera. No matter the choice, there must be a reason. Most of us choose to travel during college breaks, winter holidays and according to popular studies, the majority of us choose to travel around summer time. There are also spontaneous travelers who just love to take advantage of a quick getaway weekend and of course, those who can only take it when their employer permits. (Sings Dolly Paton's 9 to 5).

Mexico is one of the most popular destinations for vacationers. It is appreciated for its beautiful beaches, warm hospitality and delicious cuisine.

### Let's Go!

Who you choose to travel with makes the trip a unique experience. Sometimes it's the people in your life: friends, family, partner, co-workers, who inspire you to take a trip. However, if you have an idea of an ideal travel destination then it's on you to decide who is best to share the experience with., and YOU BETTER choose wisely (wink). If finding a perfect travel partner is ever an issue, I share with you one of my



favorite quotes. "Traveling alone can be one of the scariest and most liberating, life-changing experience of your life; try it at least once."

### Finding Money for Travel

You don't need to be rich to travel. With the right motivation, you have already arrived. You need to be creative about savings and money management. There are so many ways you can do this. For example, identifying the things you spend on monthly; separating wants from needs; eliminate some of the things you spend money on like: eating out, excessive entertainment activities and shopping for new clothes. You would be surprised by the amount of money we spend throughout the year on things that are materialistic and unnecessary in our basic lives.

### Choosing Your Spending Priorities

I agree strongly that the theories on saving and budgeting can get pretty cliché. However, the things we choose to prioritize during stages of our lives are the things that are important to us and if you have a desire to travel somewhere special, now is the time.

A travel experience does not only brings leisure; it educates, inspires and impact our lives in many different ways. I love travelling. I love going to new places to experience different cultures, meeting people and listening to their stories (Give me a different accent! I love it!). A new atmosphere refuels me and I am reminded that there is much more to learn and to live for.



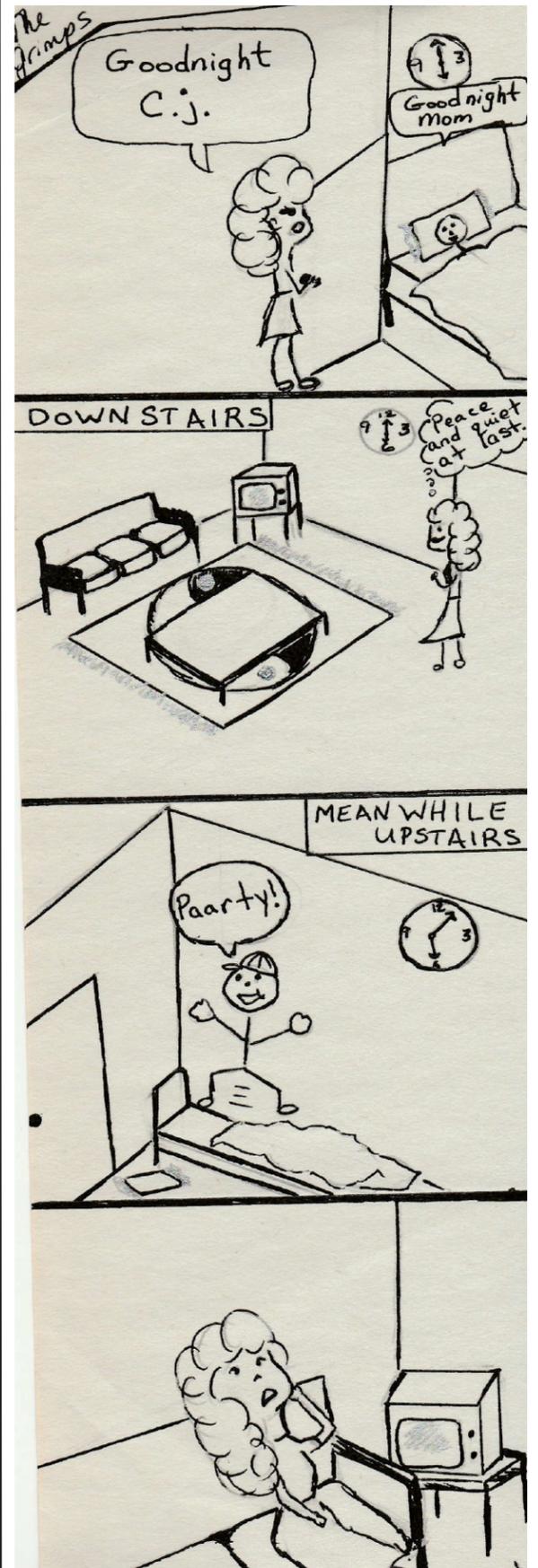
"Travel makes one modest. You see what a tiny place you occupy in this world." - Gustav Flaubert

Visit a few islands in Alaska. The cold was rigid, but according to the locals "This weather is unusual for us; you guys brought sun, which we haven't had all year round." It was a great week! One of the best!

### Make Travel Fun: Share Your Experience

If you've traveled somewhere interesting, share your experience. Send a photo and your best caption to be featured in our next publication of "Travel Diary"

## CARTOON CORNER BY COLIN COLEBROOK, JR.



## A Personal Reflection — After 30 Years, Why I Decided to Return to School and Attend CCC

Continued from Page 2

watching. In reality, it was taking a toll on my marriage, physical and mental health.

After my father passed away, grandma was getting worse and Alzheimer's was setting in. She wandered out of the house in the middle of the night. Our oldest son found her laying in our woods in the snow, wrapped in an old blow-up kid's pool. After that scare, she now needed around the clock care and a nursing facility was our only option.

Afterward, grandma passed and so did our marriage. The day after we buried her, I moved out of our house with the children to my mother's home. Traveling back and fourth from state to state trying to keep my job, was too much for my body, along with years of wear and tear.

### Remembering the End

During the end of my pick-up route, I went to lift the back gate of my truck, and a blinding pain ran up my spine into my arms and legs. I buckled to the floor in pain and blacked out. I came to, a few minutes later, and crawled back to the driver's cab to call dispatch for help.

I was less than three blocks from my station, so I drove back. My supervisor met me at the driveway and some other couriers helped me out of the truck and into my car. I drove myself to the



The writer (in the circle) repairs housing roofs working in the family's home remodeling business.

ER.

My career, and marriage were over; and our company was done. I didn't have a footprint in the financial world. I had no credit. FedEx was my only real working experience...I had the experience of running a million-dollar home remodeling company with no way to prove it. I could medically care for elderly, bed-ridden, diabetic and dialysis patients, but without a degree, it doesn't hold water.

I spent the last 30 years making sure everyone around me was taken care of, except me. All the children are grown, and I could barely hold a job. And the ones that I can, won't pay enough to survive on without a degree in something. So here I am, almost 48 years old,

sitting in class with people old enough to have changed their diapers, trying to keep up with the class that grew up on the "new math"! What was wrong with the old one?

I knew the old one, but memory is NOT the last to go with age; it's the first. I see students wandering into class late, then going to sleep, or on their phones while class is being taught.

I see students worrying about outfits, relationships and GPA's. I have a good support system that allowed me to return to school. Not everyone has the opportunity though; the homeless and down trodden are not all drug addicts...

### Starting Over at 47

Everyone has the right to make their own mistakes, but if I was running towards a brick wall unknowingly, I would hope someone would tell me. Not everyone is going to head down the right path the first time. This is just a message to let you know, it's never too late to try again; life allows for U-turns... So be prepared. At the very least, get a degree while you still can, and when it's time for you to help your great-niece with algebra homework while baby-sitting you won't think they're studying hieroglyphics!

## Political Commentary

### THE EXPLORATION *Continued from Page 1*

rare. And currently, I don't really see that in many of the potential contenders. This is also going to be a breakdown of the Democratic contenders only, because President Donald Trump has a 99.9% chance of winning the Republican nomination, so there's no real need to get into that.

The first potential candidate we're going to be talking about should be a little obvious: Cory Booker. He's New Jersey's native son, and the only serious New Jerseyan since Woodrow Wilson to have an actual shot at living in the White House.

#### Disclaimer: Not Everyone Agrees With Me

Let's just start this off with a disclaimer: Not all of you are going to agree with what I have to say. This is an area of politics that really is mostly opinion. Cory Booker hasn't done himself a ton of favors, as he is a somewhat controversial figure in New Jersey, but this is a show about learning, and I certainly learned a lot about the man in preparation for this. We're also not going to do a big dive into his childhood and background: you can bet that his story is going to be beat into your heads for the next year or so.

Cory Booker. Where to start? City Councilman and Mayor of Newark. Senator of New Jersey. He went to university at Stanford, Oxford, and Yale, and was raised in Harrington Park. He's a man who was born into privilege, and yet is one of the few who seems to have actually learned from it. A man who has constantly been battered by criticism that he is inauthentic, yet has done some things in his career that go beyond political expediency.

#### Eyes on the Grand Prize of the White House?

This is something that I've kept coming back to in my writings. I myself have criticized this man repeatedly over the last few years. He's always felt like, to me anyway, like a man who has used every job he's gotten with an eye towards the White House. His policies and political positions always seemed like they were aimed for a much larger audience than just us, and everything he's done and volunteered for just seems so...picture perfect, for lack of a better term.

But if I'm going to be fully honest, Mr. Booker is not as bad as I thought he was. After growing up in a comfortable, wealthy environment and going to some of the top schools in the world, what does he do next? Move to Newark. And not just into Newark, but into a tenement building that is worse than some areas of North Camden. Now, I don't know if many of my readers have visited Newark in the past. I've worked in the city myself. It's not a place you generally want to move to, even now when it's actually doing better than it has in a long time. But to do that almost two decades ago, and to slum it with the rest of us? That takes guts.

#### Critics and Supporters

You don't choose poverty. But he did, in a small attempt to learn what it's like to be us, the lower class. It was at this point in my readings about him that I slowly started to begrudgingly respect him. Something else that I've liked about him is his record as mayor of Newark. Now I've DEFINITELY heard quite a lot of criticism about his handling of the city, but I'm not quite sure where that comes from.

During his tenure, Newark's population grew for the first time in 60 years, he personally lobbied for over \$400 million in private donations that have all gone towards the betterment of the city, and he's attracted a great number of businesses, like Panasonic and Audible.com, to come and create jobs in a city that sorely needs it. This is all also during the Great Recession, because he took office in 2006. This is not to mention all the ways he actually went out of his way to be a decent person. He ran into a burning building to save a woman's life. Residents would ask him for help shoveling their driveways, and he'd actually show up and do it.

#### A Record of Advocacy

So his record of advocacy for the poor is there, his record as mayor is pretty good. Here's the big question: what did he do in the Senate? Well, it's not great. He's only written six bills that have actually been passed into law, and most of them are innocuous, although one of his bills did set up a grant to help provide for the medical expenses of 9/11 first responders, which by the way is insane that this didn't exist before hand.

This is where the criticism of showboating is true. All the other bills he's written are those big name ones that get all the press attention but have no chance of passing, including legalizing marijuana and providing healthcare for all Americans. It's not to say that those aren't worthy goals, but it definitely seems to be more about having his name in the paper than it is about actually getting those laws to pass in some meaningful way.

And now here we are. Cory Booker is running for President. What differentiates him from everybody else? I think something at the top of my list is that I believe that Mr. Booker is a genuinely decent human being. He's simply done too many things for it to be simply showboating. Again, you don't choose to live where he lived. But he did. For 8 years too, mind you.

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So he's a good person. He also has a pretty good record as mayor of Newark... But his policy positions? They feel like every other liberal. Find me a liberal that doesn't support the legalization of marijuana, Medicare-for-all, stricter gun laws. These don't excite; they get him into the club, but it doesn't mean that the bartender has to pay attention to him.

#### Months and Miles to Go in the Presidential Race

Can Mr. Booker inspire us then to vote for him? He's certainly handsome, and also very young looking. Comparisons to Obama are definitely out there, since he's also the only black man running for the nomination. I currently don't feel very inspired by him, but I'll reserve my judgment on that front, we're still many months out from the first primary votes.

That's where I'm going to leave this story of Mr. Booker. A man who has a mixed legacy on the state of New Jersey. A man who seems to have spent his whole life working towards this presidential race. And that is what he is at the end of the day: a man, a human being who feels the same way you and I do and makes the same mistakes that we do. But he's running for president, and we're not, so we get to criticize him without getting too deep into the philosophy of all that.

Note: Louis Childs-O'Dowd hosts a commentary show on CCC radio station WDBK 91.5 FM. This political commentary is based on one of his programs.

## Safety Tips for Attending Graduation Day, May 17

Continued from Page 3

(front of Gym) and #11 (front of Truman) will be designated for handicap parking. These parking lots will be regulated by posted Public Safety Officers and will be filled on a first come-first serve basis. Several Public Safety Officers will be operating golf carts to provide transportation to and from the seating area for persons with mobility issues both before and after the ceremony.

### Requests for On-Campus Transportation

To arrange for this service, have a member of your party make a request to one of the Officers posted in your parking lot or nearest to your seating area and they will radio for a transport. This service, too, will be on a first come-first serve basis and may require a short waiting period.

For medical emergencies and aid during the event, Public Safety EMT's and other medical personnel will be present and available to give assistance. Report any medical emergencies to the nearest public safety or police personnel. A first aid table will be set up in the area of the Papiano Gymnasium.

### No Large Bags and Back Packs Permitted

No large bags or backpacks will be permitted on or near the ceremony grounds. With this in mind, please prepare accordingly to minimize the items you will need on graduation day. A secure and guarded area will be provided inside of the Papiano Gym where graduates can store their personal items until the conclusion of the ceremony. We ask that graduates refrain from storing any items of great value or importance in this area.

### Keep Aisles Clear of Obstructions

Several times during the graduation ceremony the aisles under the tent will be used as procession routes for the graduating classes both to and from the stage. To help us accommodate a smooth procession, please advise your guests ahead of time that no photography, standing or congregating in the aisles is permitted at any time during, or immediately before or after, the ceremony.

### Caution: Watch Display of Balloons

Also, no balloons will be permitted under the graduation tent. Guest with balloons will be asked to find seating outside of the tent or to store their balloons in a vehicle until the conclusion of the ceremony.

The most important advice we can offer our graduates is to have fun and enjoy your day. You earned it, and we are extremely proud of you!



# VIDEO GAME NIGHT

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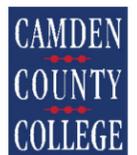
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### Emergency Telephones and Automated External Defibrillators Available

At Camden County College, your safety is our priority. If you are on any of our campuses and there is an emergency, we encourage you to contact either 911 or the Camden County College Department of Public Safety.

One of the easiest ways in which to contact Public Safety is by activating one of the many different types of emergency telephones that can be found on our campuses. Emergency phones vary in appearance and in design. Some emergency telephones can be utilized by simply picking up the telephone receiver and waiting to hear from a member of Public Safety.

Other Emergency telephones consist of a button that can be pushed, at which time a member of Public Safety will begin talking with you. In this case, there is no hand receiver; rather, a push of the button will connect you and also provide us with your location.

There are also blue lights throughout our campuses that work identically as the call boxes described above. Simply push the button on the blue light if you need assistance, and you will be connected to a member of Public Safety who can then assist you. The Public Safety officer will know the exact location of the blue light and will send help immediately.

Please keep in mind that the emergency



phones are intended for emergencies but may be used any time assistance is needed from the Campus Public Safety Department. It is important to note that you can also contact your Campus Public Safety Department by dialing the below telephone numbers at the various campuses:

- Blackwood • (856) 374-5089**
- Camden • (856) 968-1393**
- Rohrer • (856) 874-6000**
- RETC (856) 374-4986**

In addition to emergency call boxes, Camden County College also provides automated external defibrillators (AED'S) in the event of a heart related medical emergency. These defibrillators are located throughout various buildings and can be accessed by anyone who is willing to provide assistance to a person in need of such a rescue device.

To use the AED, simply remove the AED from the box on the wall and follow the voice commands that it provides. The functionality of each one is similar, though there are many different types of AED's on each of our campuses. Remember that prior to taking any action, always call or alert someone for help. Members of your Public Safety department are always ready to provide assistance when the need arises.

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