Ten Years Ago and More...  

A Troublesome Portrait

Emily Daly

Some times she’s the ditz blonde who makes everyone laugh. Or the nerdy girl buried in books who goes unnoticed until she removes glasses. And don’t forget the cocky woman who knows what she wants, and is therefore called a “bitch.” Thanks to the media, these one-note portrayals block women as multi-faceted individuals who can be more than one thing—given the opportunity.

There are too few female directors, writers, or producers creating roles for women, especially women of color. Viola Davis expressed this during her 2015 Emmy acceptance speech, declaring, “The only thing that separates women of color from anyone else is opportunity. You can give them an Emmy for roles that are simply not there.”

Some women, like Angelina Jolie, do their best to break the mold. Many know her as an actress, or “that evil harlot who stole Brad Pitt” from Jennifer Aniston, but her achievements are for greater. Also a filmmaker, she has produced, directed and written several films, the most recognized being Unbroken. Jolie has also received a Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award and an honorary Damehood from Queen Elizabeth II for her work as a UN ambassador. A promoter of various causes, including children, she is most celebrated for her refugee advocacy, as Special Envoy for the UN.

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Like many artists, she has various endorsements which are too few to achieve goals of inclusion and diversity. Are we doing enough to achieve those goals?

Ten years from now, the women at NVCC will continue to reshape the world. Their opportunities, their possibilities, their achievements will be to a great extent, hinge on our work, our words and our world, created in classrooms and hallways, stages and Centers. Aristotle believed, “The female is the female by virtue of the same sex.” In every culture, therefore, we should regard the female nature as afflicted with a natural femininity.” In a world where women are often both celebrated and demonized, we need to nourish Women’s Studies programs and open doors to Women’s Centers, so the women and men at NVCC can walk through them and into the light.

Ten years ago and ten years before that, we held candles and each other as we marched through campus. Afterward, we had a Speak Out, and dozens of women came forward to bravely share their stories and to plead for understanding and social change. As a result of that march, those stories, and the light of the candles in the night, panty raids were abolished, and, most importantly, a committee of that march, those stories, and the light of that committee. We who served on it ago — a controlling force when it comes to assigning stereotypes to promote equality for men, as well as women, to reverse the system.

The institutional response was swift and adequate; initially, there was no need for equal pay for women. Parts of society had once been limited. However, there is still a need for equal pay for women. Parts of society, especially women in particular roles, are therefore called a “bitch.” Thanks to the media, these one-note portrayals block women as multi-faceted individuals who can be more than one thing—given the opportunity.

The options when it came to career choices for women—teacher, nurse, secretary—were limited. While these remain vital roles, many women sought to move beyond them, and when they did so, the feminist movement arose during the 1960s, there was a demand for change within assigned roles for women.

Because of the Feminist movement, women have been able to make great strides, advancing within careers, such as medicine, engineering, and various other fields in which opportunities had once been limited. However, there is still a need for equal pay for women. Parts of society still believe women should be passive this attitude continues to make it difficult for women to close the gap and succeed in gaining equal pay.

Although society is the controlling force when it comes to gender responsibilities, it is imperative for women, as well as men, to reverse the assigned stereotypes to promote equality for women in the workplace and beyond.

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Meetings: Monday 1 p.m., S519 // tamarrack@nv.edu

The Meet

Our college. Our news. Our voice.

Naugatuck Valley Community College

March 1, 2016

Waterbury, Connecticut

Vol. 60, Iss. 2

Guest Contributor, Kathy Brady

More than ten years ago, when I was an English faculty member at Western Connecticut State University, I was part of something that forever changed me. For many years, an accepted autumn ritual involved men on the football team organizing “panty raids,” in which groups of players literally invaded women’s dorm rooms to steal their undergarments. Over the many years that the tradition existed, women were routinely terrorized and assaulted, that year, several women were injured in their own rooms. The administrative response was not swift or adequate; initially, there was no response. It was just “good, clean fun,” a way for the “boys” on the team to “be boys.”

In my role as advisor toward women on campus, the Women’s Coalition (of which I was a co-founder) galvanized students and faculty, organizing protests and demonstrations culminating in a Take Back the Night March. That late October night, more than two hundred men and women, students and community members, took to the streets, holding candles and each other as we marched through campus. Afterward, we had a Speak Out, and dozens of women came forward to bravely share their stories and to plead for understanding and social change. As a result of that march, those stories, and the light of the candles in the night, panty raids were abolished, and, most importantly, a committee of that march, those stories, and the light of that committee. We who served on it ago — a controlling force when it comes to assigning stereotypes to promote equality for men, as well as women, to reverse the system.

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In my view, starting conversations is the vital role of a student senator, and as senator, I have a responsibility as the voice of the Danbury student body. I also have goals I intend to accomplish, such as starting new clubs and helping orchestrate fun student activities. I’ll do everything I can to make Danbury feel more like a community.

James Chatman, Senator for the Danbury campus

Introductions, I usually make them much more complicated than they need to be, but this time I think I’ll start with the basics. My name is James Chatman, and I’m the new NVC Student Government Association’s Senator for the Danbury campus.

**The “Heavenly Soup” series will be held on 3 Fridays:**

- **2/26/16**
- **3/11/16**
- **3/18/16**

*Soups change weekly*

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*In honor of Lent*

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- The “Heavenly Soup” series will be held on 3 Fridays: 2/26/16 3/11/16 3/18/16

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**CREAM OF BROCCOLI w/ Cheddar & Smoked Gouda**

**EARTH’S BOUNTY- VEGETABLE SOUP**

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**LET’S TALK ABOUT IT**

James Chatman

Photo Courtesy of James Chatman

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**EDITOR’S NOTEBOOK**

In this issue, you will find thoughtfully written articles on a topic celebrated each March: women. Many of our stories celebrate and honor women, while some discuss the real struggles women today still face.

I took a step back before writing, to recognize how women have exceeded societal expectations and how those women truly inspire me. At NVCC, several women in leadership positions represent our excellence, and remind us of the evolution of the modern woman. I applaud them all and am extremely grateful for their courage, strength and progress.

As a current freshman in NVCC’s Physical Therapist Assistant program, I was delighted to learn my first week of classes that a woman initially led today’s thriving organization for physical therapists. In 1946, Mary McMillan, considered the first physical therapist, was elected President of the American Women’s Physical Therapeutic Association, known today as the American Physical Therapy Association—an organization that protects and lobbies for physical therapists and PT assistants.

Women are important to recognize those who fought for women’s rights and equality as the foundation of the contemporary women’s success. They made mistakes in any woman’s success—many relate to people in one’s life—family members, friends, co-workers, and fellow students. A society that builds women up and helps them attain dignified, necessary roles in our communities will significantly strengthen and enhance our culture and provide new heights for women at all ages to strive for—and to achieve.

Warmly,
Chelsea Clow, Editor-in-Chief
Tamarack@nv.edu

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**VITAL MATTERS**

Emily Daly

Photo Courtesy of The All-Nite Images

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On Tuesday, February 23rd, the Black Student Union hosted a forum in Cafe West on the Black Lives Matter movement. Moderating the discussion was Black Student Union President, Savannah Green. Among the speakers were Prof. William Foster III, BSU Advisor, Prof. Elma Solomon, and Kathy Taylor, Prof. of Business Law.

Among topics of discussion, the main underlying theme was students and our power. Discussion is one of the greatest tools we can use; discussion and education are the keys to progress. Professors Taylor and Foster both attributed many issues associated to society’s view of the Black Lives Matter movement to the rarely discussed issue of slavery in America. Where there had once been talk of reparations, the entire ugly history is swept under the rug—a Blemish America doesn’t want to revisit. It’s this history of oppression that led to unrest, this perpetual feeling of being slighted, being oppressed.

During recent times—and currently—as Black lives are taken with impunity, the Black Lives Matter movement has gained momentum. Like many before it, the movement is a continuation of the Civil Rights movement. The Civil Rights Movement, Black Panthers, Grey Panthers, Pink Panthers, each group inspired another—gaining more progress, calling for social change.

This incarnation is a healthy, modern embodiment of the Civil Rights movement, but without a single charismatic leader. Significantly, BLM involves groups coming together for a cause, rather than relying on one exclusive mouthpiece. “There is no white leader; having one leader makes it easier to be dismissive,” Dr. Foster said in regards to Black Lives Matter “not having a Malcolm X or a Dr. Martin Luther King”.

The movement is not a campaign against the police. However, the media’s use of positioning—pitting one side against the other, making one side seem superior—has been dominating media coverage since people started speaking out about Black Lives Matter. While media can help shed light on abuses of power, it also plays a role in how issues like Black Lives Matter are portrayed. It all depends on the filter through which the movement is shone. “Use a critical eye about how you’re being fed,” Professor Taylor said, regarding media influence on the portrayal of the movement.

Taylor made an observation that was constructive for the movement—lawyers play a much larger role in moving social change forward than they realize. Lawyers could be saviors of change—by choosing the right cases and plaintiffs to carry forward laws. Like the Ojibwe & Hodges that led to the Supreme Court to ruling in favor of same-sex marriage.

A student in the crowd expressed a common question at the forum’s conclusion: “How can we talk to people about this cause, without disregarding their opinions, which may differ from our own?” We must have courage to ask and engage in conversation. Community organization, voting and participating are vital to change. We must change our leaders from the top, in order to create justice reform from the bottom.
I knew that it was where one day I would have. I would go with bruises and scars, a future, a hope, education, a chance, and an opportunity to voice our testimonies at an event you cannot get in touch with past officers. Your club's advisor is also experienced and for your own self-image, treat women (and should receive) the same respect as any hard—working diligently to improve her appearance represents value. That is insulting, and not just to those women, but to men who value women as individuals. As people. The attitude that a woman's appearance represents her only value is, well... really stupid.

Let me be clear, approaching a woman you find attractive and respectfully introducing yourself is fine. After you introduce yourself, if she shows no sign of finding you remotely worth talking to... leave her the hell alone! Stalking is one of the worst things you can do, even accidentally. You should not be trying to maintain any kind of behavior, but the woman you won't leave alone doesn't deserve. Neither does she.

Women are not objects; they deserve (and should receive) the same respect as any man. Treating a woman as if you only value her for how she looks is bad. How would you feel if she only judged you by your looks? After all, aside from myself, I have yet to see anyone soon. I sit on the runway, think about... Brad Pitt. Please guys, for the sake of equality, for the sake of common decency, and for your own self-image, treat women with respect.

This semester I will graduate with my associate in arts degree. We say money can't buy happiness. In my experience, you cannot get in touch with past officers. Your club's advisor is also experienced and for your own self-image, treat women (and should receive) the same respect as any hard—working diligently to improve her appearance represents value. That is insulting, and not just to those women, but to men who value women as individuals. As people. The attitude that a woman's appearance represents her only value is, well... really stupid.

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An Artful Eye

The Tamarack is pleased to introduce staff photographer, Noah Hulton. Photography has always been an interest for Noah, who “looks for expression in a shot and tries to take a picture that almost tells a broken story.” Noah prefers photographing people “before they even notice...to keep things more honest in a way.” He shoots traditional film rather than digitally “for a natural and expressive quality.” To keep up with Noah’s work, follow him on Instagram: @noahhulton

Noah “looks for expression in a shot and tries to take a picture that almost tells a broken story.”

Abandoned

An abandoned brass mill in my town makes for some nice walks through now and then. This building caught fire at some point. The film gave a nice array of colors with the exposure.

Grass

Last spring break, on a road trip with two English friends, I took this photo at a gas station. The area was apparently gang-controlled; the station clerk was concerned for me.

Trio

In this image, three friends explore a typical neighborhood. Though it’s an ordinary scene, the contrast of the dark overcoats, the white houses, and the sunlight through the trees creates a somewhat somber, mysterious mood.

Chelsea

In this picture of my friend at CCSU, her wild persona stands out against the typical New England winter background.
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96% of all UB students receive financial aid. Packages may include academic and need-based scholarships, with the average transfer scholarship exceeding $11,000.
Broadway’s Allegiance - A Review
Prof. William Foster III

Let’s ignore the fact that I’m a big fan of Star Trek as a series, and also a fan of American history. Finally, as a playwright, actor, and director, I am a lover of Broadway musicals. So imagine my excitement when I discovered Mr. Takei and the play’s producers were stressing the personal.

As the story unfolded, the answer to the question: How do you share how you, your family and friends survived such an experience? was a word shared by Takei as the inspiration and guiding light of this production. It’s the personal story of a personal event. A personal experience with objectivity, humor, warmth, and understanding.

The title, Allegiance, is a concept we all must deal with; sometimes as loyalty to country, and sometimes loyalty to family. Defining our personal commitment to this concept is the play’s theme. Imagine tomorrow, you and everyone who looks like you are charged by the government with treasonous behavior and imprisoned. After the bombing of Pearl Harbor, that’s what happened to Japanese-Americans. This dark and not very well known chapter of our country’s history has finally found its way to the Broadway stage.

Before the lights rose at the play’s beginning, I wondered, How do you share how your family and friends survived such an experience? As the story unfolded, the answer appeared. You do it, apparently, with grace, intelligence, and an appeal to the basic human experience in everyone. Key to reaching the audience was stressing the personal.

The production’s evolution was slow and methodical, working towards maintaining audience interest without centering on guilt and blame. Mr. Takei and the play’s production staff have done so in what appears to be an effortless manner. I was spellbound as I watched it unfold.

The action opens just before the Pearl Harbor bombing, and rushes headlong into the nightmare of racial hysteria that followed. Suddenly people who appeared to be Asian, were treated as collaborators with the new “enemy.” Longtime neighbors cut ties and shunned people with whom they had dealt for years as business partners and friends, treating them like convicted traitors. Then the government stepped in with the official order that American citizenry was to be relocated to internment camps.

How did they survive this infringement of civil liberties? How did they deal with what was a word shared by Takei as the inspiration and guiding light of this production. It’s the personal story of a personal event. A personal experience.

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The play allows the audience to see that even in the worst conditions, there were efforts to retain civility and normalcy through social activities and gatherings. Today, when our country’s commitment to fair treatment of all citizens is still important, this is truly a timeless issue. I encourage everyone to attend this fabulous production. I believe you will find it as transforming as I did.

Want more information? In Citizen 360, a 1946 graphic novel, Minnie Okubo tells her heart-breaking story of being herded into protective custody in two relocation centers shortly after Pearl Harbor was bombed. In dramatic drawings and brief text, Ms. Okubo documents the episode with objectivity, humor, warmth, and understanding.


FACES IN THE CROWD: Slices of Life
Elaine Meninillo

There was a time when all women could think about was graduating high school, marrying, and having children. Back in the 60’s that was the thing for women. Some chose to stay at home, while I chose to work part time in the newspaper and during the day I was a wife and mother.

I found myself feeling stifled and bored, and could not tolerate being dominated. Eventually the marriage ended in divorce. The change in me was undeniable; before, I was quiet, withdrawn, amenable to whatever someone wanted. Living on my own made me resilient, and may I say, this woman was not quiet anymore! In the ebb tide of everyone’s life they experience a variety of storms. The intensity of these storms makes them the universal teachers. Without them, our journey would be too easy.

What happened next seems a predestined path for me. With my children grown and on their own, it was my decision to move to Virginia. It was a passageway, and a slice of life, bound for me to explore. I accepted a paralegal position at an Intellectual Property Firm.

The aesthetic scenes in Virginia, where Civil War history thrives, seemed almost surreal, and the adventure was worth every second. While living there, I took a course in creative writing, finding magic in letting my mind go. I placed I’d seen only in dreams. I love to let my journey through life flow onto the pages I write. After an incredible 16 years in Virginia, family obligations forced me back to Connecticut, to help care for my 98-year-old mother.

I looked into Naugatuck Valley Community College, and the program it had for senior citizens. Professor Parlato was my instructor for ENG063. The same aspiration I had for writing was found in his class. Presently, I continue my education in ENG202, once again inspired by Professor Parlato’s teaching. My interest and passion in writing is headed in the direction of publishing my first book. On a daily basis I surrender myself to the creativity of the pen.

An Extraordinary Evening

NYCC faculty, staff, and students attended a beautiful fundraising gala for St. Mary’s Hospital last month. Pictured in the front row are NYCC-students Alex Ashiyoitas, Chelsea Clow, Katherine Abreu, and Brian Soto, accompanied by Arthur J. Dubsky, Jr. and Dean Sarah E. Gager, Mr. & Mrs. Dan and Eileen George and Mr. & Mrs. Frank and Lisa Oliveria. With the theme An Evening of Extraordinary Things, the gala was a spectacular event with St. Mary’s Hospital’s doctors, nurses, and staff along with various Waterbury community members gathered to raise money for St. Mary’s Hospital Foundation.

Spring Break Blues?
Alyssa Katz

Not going anywhere exotic this month? Don’t fret! there are plenty of activities close to home during our week off from school. If you’re from New Haven County, here are some, solely in Connecticut. Grab your friends and take a day trip to Boston or New York City. There’s not putting on your shades and sunscreen. There’s"
### FACES IN THE CROWD

**Man of Many Words**

Joseph R. Adomavicia

At twenty-four years old, Joseph Adomavicia is a Waterbury resident. His full time occupation is as a licensed CNC (computer numerical control) lead Machinist at Edward Segal Incorporated. Joe is currently a part-time student at NVCC, where he has been enrolled since 2011. He is pursuing dual Associate degrees—one in Mechanical Engineering and another in Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Aside from being one of the student editors of Naugatuck Valley Community College's literary journal, Fresh Ink, the past two years two of Joe’s poems, Coreana Vings and On Average, America were selected for publication in Fresh Ink. Joe has been a motivator for Adomavicia and has served as a great way to communicate with others. Working within a group has been a valuable learning experience. Along with Fresh Ink, another of Joe’s poems, We, Americans Refusing the Nation, was recently featured in the February issue of The Tamarack.

Poetry is vital to Joe beyond his role as a member of the Fresh Ink committee. In fact, he says, “Poetry has been a way of life.” Adomavicia’s first book of poetry, titled, A Step into My Heart, published by Underwater Mountains out of Los Angeles, California, was released this February and is available through both Amazon and BN.com. Joe calls his poetry “diverse and stylistically intrinsic to the subject matter.” As a writer, his essays are to poetry genreosity and inspiration—and to be inspired by others.

Within his words are glimpses of various aspects of life, varying from love in so many faces, to politics, poems of movement and inspiration, and works centered on the natural beauty of the world. Adomavicia writes with the underlying purpose to tell his times through his story. He strives to write evocatively and inspiringly, his words flowing free for the world to see.

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**Final Flight**

Steven DelValle

The past months have been exceptionally unkind to musicians. First, the world lost Scott Weiland, then David Bowie. As if that weren’t enough, Eagles leader Glenn Frey joined the procession. The media has made touching tributes to all these legends, and it’s clear enough, Eagles leader Glenn Frey joined the procession. The media has made touching tributes to all these legends, and it’s clear

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**March Puzzle**

Answers to crossword clues can be found in this issue.

"My poetry is diverse and stylistically intrinsic to the subject matter.

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**Naugatuck Valley Community College Women’s Center**

Invites all students (women and men) to submit entries in its

**Writing Contest**

Entries must be either essays or poems focusing on a woman in your life who has inspired you in some way to strive to make a difference for the betterment of your family, the community, or the larger world. Essays should be 2-3 pages in length. Poetry may be up to 5 pages. Judging will be based on creativity, style, content, clarity, supporting and descriptive detail, and grammar and mechanics.

All entries must be submitted no later than 4 pm on Thursday March 17, 2016. Submissions may be turned in in hard copy or via e-mail. E-mailed submissions must use MS Word documents to send attachments.

**Winning submission receives $150 prize!!**

Prizes to be awarded for second and third places.

Send submissions to:

Karla Enquist-Lechner (K602)  
ke@august-lechner.mv.edu  
or

dropped off in the Women’s Center (K405)
“Tinny” Hurts, Lasting Scars

Kristie Richards

I went to a predominantly white high school senior year. I was in class talking to the teacher (a white woman) when she interrupted me to say, “You are so well spoken. I just did not expect that from you.” I was always participating in class, so she knew I was able to communicate effectively. In that moment, what I realized what had occurred I had just experienced a racial microaggression.

According to Psychology Today, microaggression is “…the everyday verbal, nonverbal, and environmental slights, snubs, or insults, whether intentional or unintentional, which communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative messages to target persons based solely upon their race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or other dimensions of identity.”

Some examples of racial microaggressions are:

• Asking a person of color where they are really from
• A white person authorizing him or herself to speak on behalf of a person of color
• A person of color (usually black/Latino) being followed around a place of business
• Complimenting a person of color on being articulate or able to speak English without an accent
• Telling a person of color he “talks white” when what he is speaking is his native language (for example, exceptional grasp of syntax and diction is not a white trait)
• A person of color being told by a white person she is not seen as the ethnicity/race she is, followed by negative stereotypical assumptions she does not exhibit
• Racial microaggressions not to be brushed off, nor do minorities get a crash course on racism, nor do minorities get a crash course on racism

The first step is not stripping white people of accountability. People of color are socialized to coddle white people and disregard microaggressions, for fear of making whites uncomfortable. In that moment, what I realized what had occurred I had just experienced a racial microaggression.

“Tinny” Hurts, Lasting Scars

Five More Years

Steven Delvalle

Anyone who relies on The Howard Stern Show to get through their Monday or a boring workday can officially rejoice. The self-proclaimed “King of All Media” has re-signed for five more years with Sirius Satellite Radio. Howard, Robin, Fred (who graduated from WestConn), Gary, and the rest will return for what may be the final years of the show. Stern, now 62, began working in radio in 1976 and has built an unrivaled media empire since that time. It’s no wonder his most recent contract is speculated to be for an incredible $100 million dollars each year. That’s not a bad paycheck for working three days a week, even though he does that job so seamlessly as tedious and frustrating as it is rewarding.

Stern has hinted at having big plans set to unfold under the new contract. These could well include the return of the beloved television show. Or perhaps the release of an anthology of the 30+ years of broadcasting excellence that has been recorded and compiled. If mean, what Stern fans wouldn’t want to hear that bit with Donald Trump and Allen Kuhn fighting again? It’s known in the new contract SiriusXM has gained access to all the show archives, which can only mean good things for viewers.

A fantastic way to get into the show is watching Stern’s movie Private Parts. It’s guaranteed to change your opinion of the man. To Stern’s critics, I say, give the guy — who could be called the most hated and the most loved man in the world—a chance. Love him or hate him, there’s no one else quite like him.

Stern has changed focus significantly in recent years, with more interest in interviews and less on pushing boundaries. This may not be as hysterical as its heyday on terrestrial radio, with Jackie Martling, Billy West, KC Armstrong, John Melendez, and Artie Lange, but it’s still funny. Stern has defended himself as being changed directions as he’s grown older, and all morality debates aside — no one can argue he isn’t one of the most brilliant interviewers in the world. Where else are you going to hear Paul McCartney talk about Yoko Ono and John Lennon so candidly? So whether you’re a faithful Stern fan or a novice listener, buckle in, the ride continues.

March Puzzle

Answers to crossword clues can be found in this issue.

Thank You All

Christopher Gordon

Spring semester has begun. It’s time again to explore our world, to begin an exciting adventure, both for students and professors. For some, this adventure takes on a whole new world of meaning when combined with struggles of the personal kind. I am one such student, one of many with a condition that can make social interactions difficult. To those who share similar hardships, we are in good company. College is the place to explore new ideas; we all have our unique views, sharing them makes our world grow brilliant. Thank you for sharing yours with all of us.

Lost students are once again wandering NVCC’s halls, looking for the bookstore or that kind stranger who pointed me in the right direction, and help school start on a pleasant note for new students. Hopefully, we’ll all take time to help new arrivals find those out-of-the-way locations that have become second nature for returning students to locate.

Walking the corridors here it is common to find dropped food pressed solidly into the tiles; worse is finding other waste in the bathrooms. To the cleaning crew who works swiftly to clear out these messes, I say thank you, and I hope others will make a habit of doing this. To the ones leaving messes behind, we need to treat NVCC as our own space. Too often others have to deal with what we leave behind. If you wouldn’t leave food, or other waste, on the floor of your home (or even if you would), please, don’t do so here. Remember the immortal words of animated FX super-spy, Sterling Archer: “Do you want ants? Because this is how you get ants.”

Frances Barsevich is the woman who taught me I can do anything I put my mind to. She may not have saved me from stumbling and falling; those lessons I had learned on my own. However, she was always there to pick up the pieces. She supports me in everything I do, even if she doesn’t think it is the best thing for me. Mom is my constant rock, providing encouragement, a shoulder to cry on, an ear to listen, and stability when there was none. She is always proud of my accomplishments, no matter how small or large. A first generation American, Mom would have liked to have gone to college, but had no one to encourage her. When it was time to go, she suggested I go for art because it was what I liked! Thanks, Mom, for helping me become the woman I am today.

— Janice Bielawski, Creative Director

A woman who has impacted my life significantly is a beautiful, strong and inspiring woman: my sister, Casey. My sister has greatly influenced me in many ways. She has had a massive impact on my writing as well as my own belief in my writing ability. She pursued her major in creative writing because she felt she taught herself to foster her creativity and beautiful spirit while exploring her own writing. And while the and the writing is subjective and also vulnerable one, Casey has always encouraged me and has assisted me in trusting my writing and my voice.

— Chelsea Clow, Editor-In-Chief

For ALL Our Sakes

When I first picked up “We Should All Be Feminists” I was a bit skeptical. Was this going to be a book nay-saying the government and society? I was worried that this little book would leave me feeling uncomfortable, not embodied.

Thankfully, I was wrong. This little book is used off of a TED talk given by the author, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, an author from Nigeria. The book begins with an anecdote from Adichie’s childhood, where her best friend calls her a feminist. Growing up in Africa, a woman with an opinion and the capacity to defend that opinion, was scorned and ridiculed. Women are second-class citizens. She tells many stories in her book that show despite all the changes we’ve made in the world, gender has remained constant.

Girls everywhere need feminism. And if you are wondering why, then you should take a proper look into the world you’re living in. Adichie writes, “We spend too much time teaching girls to worry about what boys think of them. But the reverse is not the case.” Why is that? Think about the trending issues in America; rape, domestic abuse, eating disorders, mental illness. Girls see edited photos of their idols on magazines, so they stop eating. They cake on makeup, they wear clothes that are short and tight, all for the attention of men. And then, those men use and abuse us, claim we were “asking for it.”

All these poor girls are asking for is a moment where they aren’t hating themselves, a moment where they feel beautiful, worthwhile, and important. The concept of femininity, the concept of beauty, is skewed in all the wrong ways. A feminist believes in equality for both sexes. Women are not trying to take over the world, we just want to live in it. The work of feminism is not to coddle white people and disregard microaggressions, for fear of making whites uncomfortable. In that moment, what I realized what had occurred I had just experienced a racial microaggression.

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PREVIOUS PAGE

Student Jess Nye on Adichie’s “We Should All Be Feminists”

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The Tamarack, March 1, 2016

Opinions
Opinions

Believe it, achieve it!

Here is an example of the many opportunities available at NVCC. I was a displaced worker, looking into the possibility of going back to school for a new career. A little daunting, truth be told. I hadn’t been in school for 30 years. I bit the bullet and started at NVCC as a student in the paralegal program.

As a paralegal I would be able to work in a law office and possibly even a courthouse. I always had an interest in the law, and to be able to pursue a job doing something I was interested in was a great opportunity. After my first semester I had a 4.0 GPA and was enjoying the challenges and hard work.

As part of the legal studies program, NVCC has internship opportunities available, so you can check out the career before successful completion of the program. Working with the Center for Job Placement and College Opportunities, I was able to get an internship with the Corporation Counsel of Waterbury. This was an amazing opportunity!

As there are many attorneys in the office and each practices a different type of law, I was able to get a good look at all the different aspects in one place. Upon completion of my internship, I was asked by the Corporation Counsel, if I would be interested in working there as a paid employee. I was thrilled and accepted a position. I worked at the Corporation Counsel in the morning and continued to attend NVCC at night.

While preparing to graduate from the paralegal program, I was approached by Bonnie Goulet from CAPSS who suggested that, after completing the certificate program, I should pursue my associates in legal studies. This meant I would be earning a college degree, so I signed up for the core classes needed to earn the required credits and went for it.

During one semester I was invited to apply to the President’s Circle, the highest honor a student can achieve while attending NVCC. I was thrilled just to be invited to apply, not to mention how honored I was to be chosen as a member. I also joined PTK and ABG Honor Societies while attending NVCC. These are amazing opportunities. The mentors you meet along your educational journey at NVCC are just an added bonus to the knowledge and life skills you can gain here. I have made lifelong friends, solid networking connections, and have had a great time doing it.
Dear Editor,

"Proposing Good Sense," by Eron Ramadanov, provides information about what Barack Obama is doing about gun control and the gun laws. I agree with what he wants to do. He is trying to make it so every citizen of age should be able to carry a gun to protect themselves, but they have to pass through various requirements to be able to get a gun...with all the shootings that have happened in recent years, it's very comforting to one to know they are not alone. Sometimes that simple fact is enough to start on the road to overcoming what you thought was the impossible.

A very thankful reader, Brooke Fama

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Elizabeth Cochrane Seaman, is more commonly known by her pen name, Nellie Bly. Pen names were customary for female journalists in the 1800s. She was a daring, influential investigative journalist who wrote groundbreaking stories about political corruption and poverty. Most famously, she faked madness in order to report undercover from a New York City mental institution known for abusive treatment of patients. Her work led to outcry and reform. Bly's peers referred to her investigations as "stunt reporting," but Nellie didn't let it deter her. Oh, and she once travelled around the world in a record-breaking 72 days, just because.

~ Emily Daly, Staff Writer

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Vincentina "Ginnie" Lee Gordon: Science teacher, college administrator and professor, reading teacher across the world, lawyer and activist for immigration reform, and pretty cool older sister, is dedicated to bringing together the world through learning and respect. No matter the obstacle, my sister has always shown she will work hard to overcome it. She even takes time to read anything sent to her and offer advice to make good writing better. Ginnie has also been known to out eat a younger brother by a hundred pounds. Watch out for your burritos around her!

~ Christopher Gordon, Staff Writer

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Christopher Gordon's "In Anxious Company" is important to me because I've been suffering with severe anxiety for seven years. It took me two years to decide I was going to try to go back to school on top of raising two young boys and learning to deal with ways to cope with my anxiety, so that I wouldn't interfere with what I wanted to do while also being supportive for them. People who don't have to deal with anxiety sometimes don't understand how much of an impact it can have on a person's daily life...having anxiety makes...simple things seem impossible. Imagine trying to get...things done while feeling like you're passing out, or feeling nauseous from all the busy nerves that sometimes come on for no reason at all...The tips and advice on how to manage this article are very helpful, although there are many different types of anxiety and...Some people suffer from severe cases...that result in counseling, or medication because I have seen other people go through rough bumps in life before they figure out what they want to do. Anxiety awareness is very important to a person's daily life...having anxiety sometimes don't understand how much of an impact it can have on a person's daily life. Anxiety sometimes...seem impossible. Imagine trying to get...things done while feeling like you're passing out, or feeling nauseous from all the busy nerves that sometimes come on for no reason at all...The tips and advice on how to manage anxiety sometimes...don't understand how much of an impact it can have on a person's daily life. 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Loved it? Hated it?
Send us your letters in response to articles, features, and profiles in The Tamarack. Limit them to 200 words and email them to tamarack@nv.edu with the subject like READERS RESPOND. Letters may be edited for length and grammar.

Are you interested in where your Student Activities Fees are spent? If so, voice your opinion at NVCC’s Student Government meetings held every Wednesday, 4-5 p.m. in L501, across from the Library. For more information call 203-596-2185, stop by S516, or email SGA@nvcc.commnet.edu.

Did You Even Try?
No one correctly identified this image, so there’s still a $10 Dunkin’ card up for grabs. Email your guess to tamarack@nv.edu. Hint: Go outside!

Can you find it?
Each month, we’ll feature a picture of an area or object on campus you probably pass by countless times each week. But can you identify it? Submit your answer to tamarack@nv.edu for a chance to win a $10 Dunkin Donuts gift card! Winner will be chosen randomly from correct entries received.

Don’t Miss
SGA Meetings – Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00pm
BSU Meetings - The Black Student Union meets Tuesdays @ 2:00pm in Prism Lounge. Join us!
Otaku Club Meeting – The Otaku Club meets Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:00pm-3:00pm in SS18.
Newman Club Meeting – The Newman Club meets Mondays from 2:00pm-3:00pm in SS02.
Agro-Bio Club Meeting – The Agro-Bio Club meets Mondays from 3:00pm-4:45pm in EH17.
Health & Nutrition Club Meeting – A new club, the Health and Nutrition Club meets Tuesdays from 1:00pm-2:00pm in the Trefz Dining Room - T351.

Pride Ally League Meeting – The Pride Ally League meets Wednesdays, 12:00pm-1:00pm in SS18.
MSU Meeting – The Hispanic Student Union meets Wednesdays, 1:00pm-2:00pm SS18.
Interactive Media Club Meeting – The Interactive Media Club meets Wednesdays, 1:00pm-3:00pm SS02.
College Transfer Fair – Wednesday March 2nd, 10:00am-2:00pm, Café West
Resume and Cover Letter Workshop – Wednesday March 2nd, 10:00am-1:00pm, L501.
Hosted by the Center for Job Placement and College Opportunities sharpen your resume skills at this informative workshop.
Waterbury Symphony Orchestra – Sunday, March 17th, 3:00pm-5:00pm. Come see the symphony perform Dvorak: To the New World, Main Stage
Spring Exam Cram – Monday, March 14th, 5:00pm-7:00pm, ACE Center, The Library

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Are you interested in where your Student Activities Fees are spent? If so, voice your opinion at NVCC’s Student Government meetings held every Wednesday, 4-5 p.m. in L501, across from the Library. For more information call 203-596-2185, stop by SS06, or email SGA@nvcc.commnet.edu.

Choosing one feels like picking favorites—and I’m terrible at that. See, I work with the most astonishing women. Colleagues and students inspire me daily to be a better teacher, friend, a better man. I’ve also had incredible mentors, like Edwina Trentham, the teacher who changed my life; every day, her nurturing spirit enriches my classroom. I also look to figures like Malala Yousafzai, and yes, the Virgin Mary, for inspiration. I mean, who tops Mary for faith and strength? At day’s end, I’m blessed to return home to two truly inspiring women: my wife, Janet, and my daughter, Jillian. Janet has provided nearly thirty joy-filled years of unwavering love, support and belief, and Jillian’s brilliance, kindness, and humor give me hope.

~ Steve Parlato, Faculty Advisor

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