

## Brevard College and Community strive to counter ageist beliefs

Chloe Banner  
Contributor

What do you think the most socially acceptable form of discrimination is? Maybe sexism or homophobia? According to the World Health Organization, the most widespread and socially acceptable prejudice is ageism.

Recently Brevard College cooperated with the city of Brevard to bridge the generation gap by having the first Age Exchange forum on our campus.

Age Exchange is an initiative sponsored by the City of Brevard to help reduce ageist beliefs by sponsoring conversations on topics of interest across the age spectrum, from teens in the Alpha generation to older adults in their 90s from the Silent Generation.

Our first forum, held at the Porter Center last Saturday, explored ideas from different cultures that hold older adults in high regard.

According to Chi Shipman, a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and an avid supporter and teacher of keeping the Cherokee language alive, her culture views taking care of their older adults as a job for the younger members. The older adults have wisdom and knowledge that the younger generations need to not only improve their lives but also to keep alive their cultural traditions, she said.

Student panelists from Brevard College were Sophia Ogawa and Sarahi Salazar Espinoza who explained cultural differences from Japan and Mexico

Sophia, who just returned from a month in Japan, said community members band together to take care of their older adults. Japan boasts one of the longest life expectancies in the world, and Sophia credits this to the lifestyle differences between Japan and America as well as the support that older adults receive from the surrounding community. Healthy older adults are seen as “rock

stars” in Japan.

Sarahi Salazar Espinoza said that celebrations in Mexico are meant to share stories and memories. At the center of these celebrations are the grandparents of the family because life is viewed as a precious gift. This recognition of grandparents continues when people are recognized by the names of their grandparents instead of their parents.

Dr. Betsy Burrows represented Norwegian culture based on her recent experiences as a Fulbright Scholar. She introduced the concepts of Janteloven, which puts the community ahead of the individual, and Dugnad, which means that everyone works together to help each other out.

This event was a massive success with 90 people in attendance ranging from age 11 to 97.

The mayor of Brevard, Maureen Copelof, welcomed the audience and asked for volunteers to work on a task force to make Brevard an age-friendly community. Many ideas for improving the lives of older adults in our community came from the panelists as well as members of the audience. “I am so uplifted by the number of excited and passionate people. I believe we can now move forward and make something happen,” said Mayor Copelof.

The Age Exchange was the brainchild of former adjunct professor of Psychology, Dr. Paula Hartman-Stein, who got the idea after seeing changes in the beliefs of her students in the Psychology of Aging class after they interviewed older adults in the community. Dr. Stein worked closely with a dedicated group of students, who make up the steering community, to make this event a success.

The Age Exchange of Brevard is hosting another event on Feb. 17 about the wonders of nature. It is open to all college students and community members. We hope to see you there!



Photo by Chloe Banner

BC community congregates and talks with one another.



Photo by Chloe Banner

Sophia Ogawa and Sarahi Salazar Espinoza

## Shred your hatred goodbye with IWIL

Savannah Anderson  
Staff Writer

Brevard College’s Institute for Women in Leadership (IWIL) is hosting a fun and exciting way for you to let go of all your past resentments. Feb. 13, in Coltrane from 7-9 p.m. There will be a large letter writing and shredding station for all of Brevard College to take advantage of.

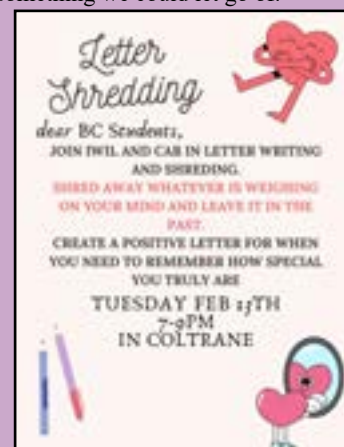
Journaling and writing are often used as tools to cope with mental illness, stress and anger, but what if there was an even more effective and fun way to release these emotions? If you decide to stop by Coltrane for the event, you will have the opportunity to not only write all of your emotions out and shred them away for good, but you’ll be able to write a love letter to yourself or someone who deserves it.

Shredding letters written to those who have done us harm can be therapeutic and releasing of those bad memories. They can be written to wrong doers, people who have passed, an old friend, anything or anyone you want to write to. They will never have to know, but it will forever be off your chest.

Taking care of yourself is important. Most days we may forget all the reasons we are unique individuals. Self respect and confidence is something you build over time. Writing a love letter to yourself is a great first step into the direction of content.

The significance of this event is to accept having strong emotions and taking care of yourself in alternative ways. It is okay to be upset, angry, hurt or anything else beyond it. Mental health is becoming more normalized but it can be much further than it is now.

If any of this piques your interest in the slightest way, make sure to stop by Coltrane Tuesday Feb. 13 from 7-9 p.m. to see what it’s all about. We hope to see all of you there because all of us are holding onto something we could let go of.



# BC students sing their hearts out



Photo by Mari Carter



Photo by Mari Carter



Photo by Mari Carter



Photo by Mari Carter

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# BSU Blood Drive



Photo by Photo by Hope Martin

Wednesday, 33 people donated, and 99 lives were saved or impacted. Pictured above, Black Student Union students host a Blood Drive on campus

## Anne Chapin

We got the word late last week that long-time art history professor Anne Chapin died on January 26. The Clarion will feature more on the life and legacy of her in a future issue. In the meantime, if you have memories of her you would like to see in The Clarion, please send them to us at [clarion@brevard.edu](mailto:clarion@brevard.edu).

## Staff Spotlight

# New full-time staff member hired; Professor Guest

Savannah Anderson

Staff Writer

Professor Cagney Guest, a former part-time history professor, has become the newest First Year Experience advisor and has now officially been hired as a full-time Brevard College employee. Guest has left behind his blue-collar lifestyle and career to pursue what he calls “One of his favorite hobbies.”

Last year, I had the honor to take Professor Guest’s “Ancient Europe and Medieval History” course. He brought a new teaching method I had never seen before that made any old history class into the most hands-on, interesting and enjoyable experiences I’ve had at Brevard.

He is excited to be working full-time on campus this year as he has been a part-time professor for the past two years. Guest is a Transylvania County native originally from the town of Rosman. He said, “If I were to get in trouble this is the courthouse I would go to.”

He loves Brevard College because he appreciates the Liberal Arts approach and believes it is the most inclusive type of education provided. Guest loves to see different socioeconomic groups all able to come together in the same place and

## Book Review

# ‘Powerless’: Lauren Roberts’ new trilogy

Ivelysse Leighton

Staff Writer

Powerless is the first book in Lauren Roberts new trilogy, which happens to be her first published work. Roberts quickly took the world by storm by releasing “Powerless”, the first book in the Powerless series. While this is the only released book in the series, it rapidly gained popularity by rising to one of the top books on “Book Tok” where TikTok caught the word and spread it like wildfire.

“Powerless” takes place in a world where the plague has graciously gifted people with powers. However, not everyone was fortunate enough to both survive the sickness and gain the reward. This left the population divided between the Elites and Ordinaries; aka, those who were gifted with powers and those who weren’t.

Roberts quotes “Those born Ordinary are just that — ordinary”, and the king decreed that all Ordinaries would be banished from the kingdom of Ilya. This story follows the two main characters, Paedyn and Kai, on an adventure of discovering both themselves and navigating through their complex world.

No one knows navigating through the complex world better than Paedyn Gray, who is an Ordinary posing as a Psychic in order to blend in with the

learn on the same level. He said, “This is a free man’s education.”

Before Brevard College, Guest did a lot of different blue-collar jobs. He has done different plumbing jobs and electrical work as well as drive tractors, which he says he sometimes still misses. “I drove big machines and told people what to do.” Guest says. He wants everyone to know that he is willing and able to help with more than just history because of his blue collar background.

Guest is grateful for the help he has received from all of the faculty, but he wanted to give a specific shoutout to a few people who have helped him along the way: Joshua Wilkey, who he graduated graduate school with at Western Carolina University, Jennifer Kafskey, a welcoming face and WLEE enthusiast and Shirley Arnold for always being there to help.

Professor Guest is excited to give back to the entire faculty and cannot wait to be able to help them one day like they have helped him. Brevard College is lucky to have someone like Professor Guest on staff, and we cannot wait to see what he brings to the campus in his coming years!

Elites. She lives in the slums of Loot, which is the poorest of the poor where she met Kai. From the moment Paedyn met Kai, she was thrown into a whirlwind of new friends, betrayal, competition and death. Things were set into motion that could alter the fate of their kingdom once they met.

“Powerless” is generally a four to five star read for many readers and has been quite liked for its enemies to lovers trope that is present throughout. The genres that it can be classified under are fantasy romance, young adult and dystopian. There are scenes and concepts that are strongly reminiscent of the Hunger Games displayed throughout the book.

“Powerless” is filled with immense worldbuilding and a strong story line while touching on some heavy topics. These topics include genocide, child abuse and sadism. Here are three words I would use to describe our main characters. Paedyn: thief, ordinary, survivor. Kai: prince, elite, enforcer.

Overall, I would highly recommend this book to anyone who enjoys a fantasy romance with similarities to the Hunger Games and no smut. It is a great read that will draw you in and never let go. One is hunted, the other is the hunter, and they are destined for each other.

# Horoscopes

Anna Ervin

Editor in Chief

For **Aries**, this week is a time of new beginnings! Don’t be afraid to start a new project, make some new friends, or start a new relationship. You may be reemerging from a stagnant time, so things are about to blossom.

**Taurus**, this week may bring on some big emotions. Don’t let this lead to self destructive behavior. Some things are out of your control, and that’s okay.

**Gemini** has choices this week. There are lovely things that surround you, so will you stay planted in safety or take that chance? This week is a good week for you to make those big decisions.

**Cancer**, this week you may find yourself having very high standards for something, leading you to miss the opportunities already in front of you. You may feel hurt or guarded, but you can’t let yourself get in the way of the bigger picture.

**Leos**, you’ve got a week of big healing and spiritual growth. Think good thoughts, especially in matters of the heart. Your cup runneth over; embrace it.

**Virgo**, you’re very comfortable where you are this week. This could be to the point of inflexibility and stagnance though. Be a bit more open, and let go of your control before it entangles you.

**Libra**, this may be a hard week for you. Keep in mind what you love most, and you’ll pull through. You have a system of support, so don’t be afraid to ask for help.

**Scorpio**, change is inevitable, so avoiding it can be counterproductive. Things are happening whether or not you like it, so why not embrace the new era?

This week, **Sagittarius** may be feeling emotionally insecure. Put some others first, and make sure you’re treasuring those people in your life. Putting yourself first is good, but make sure you’re making room for others to shine too.

**Capricorns**, consider taking it slow this week. You’ve put a lot on your plate, and if you keep going like this you’re going to burn yourself out. It’s okay to rest, whether that be napping or doing something for yourself.

**Aquarius**, if you’re feeling unsatisfied, it’s time to reevaluate your goals. This cycle of dissatisfaction could come to an end, but that needs change on your part. Find things that you’re passionate about and really put in the time and effort to be reliable.

**Pisces**, patience is not a virtue if you’re being patient forever. Take some action, spark some fires. This week you should consider trying something new, talking with someone new and stop waiting for an opportunity to come directly to you.

## 11 Fingers:

# Suburban fairy tales

Isaiah Collison  
Managing Editor

What will be said of he who goes against the grain for personal assignments? How much time does he have before he's a hater with no good points? He watched Spike Lee's "Do The Right Thing" and talked to his great aunty before hearing of Miles Morales. Is his opinion valid?

*Sometimes I think white people are so afraid of talking about black people they make up black characters, talk through them to see if we're listening and go back and analyze what they got right and wrong. That's my Black History Month confession. It's BHM by the way.*

"Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" is visually vibrant and satisfying in all of its fast paced and slow motion sequences. The transitions are seamless and fluid, colors are vibrant. The different dimensions still look sick, emo and glitchy.

Hollywood movies have three purposes: make money, entertain, advertise a way of life. Hollywood portrays non-white characters to make new money. Making new money in Late-Stage Capitalism means commodifying "representation". Hollywood played the politics game and won big. Go online and see how much clout this movie got.

The two superheroes that dominate the screen time have two separate audiences. Gwen is for adult women who deal with grown-up situations. Women are killing the damsel in distress trope, as they should. And in Miles' series, it was obvious Gwen earned her story. Miles, however, didn't earn much respect.

In every version of Batman, Bruce Wayne has a different woman ready to be his lady, but he chooses the dangerous, lonely path. Miles avoids this very path in pursuit of a white girl lying to him. Miles Morales is weak. Gwen knows it — that's why she punked his whole family and let him chase her.

I can't tell if Miles is supposed to be a street kid or the anxious, suburban kid who gets teased for everything. Either way Miles is unequivocally for suburban audiences.

One movie ago Miles did not want to go to Freedom Academy, a prestigious boarding school in Brooklyn. "Why can't I go back to Brooklyn Middle?... I just think that this new school is elitist. And I would prefer to be at a normal school among the people... I'm only here because I won that stupid lottery." - "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse."

Now, in the next movie, he wants to leave Brooklyn for Princeton University, which is around 15% black or Latino in real life. All of a sudden Miles is allergic to the inner city? Look

at the obvious. It's the "He/she is special." trope.

White people say this to black people when they don't feel they are a threat. It sounds like a compliment until you realize they're profiling the rest of the community to your face. "This black one isn't like the rest of them. Y'know, the ones that sag, brag, always look mad and do things that are bad." The black person who hears it wants to believe they are "different" from the rest of us wild, uncivilized bastard children.

Brooklyn. Brooklyn? A scary, mixed, inner-city teen who carries no latino pride represents Brooklyn? No shot. Miles Morales is one of those white kids who grew up with me. He looks brown because it's the 21st century, and brown superheroes are in. Who else noticed in his origin story he fails to mention he's Afro-Latino? "We here at [redacted] don't see color!" Exactly. Miles is missing color. He's white.

In 2018, I met my father's aunt. She and her 10 brothers and sisters grew up in Alabama as sharecroppers in the 1930s. Sharecropping is second-generation slavery, just as grueling and degrading. During the Great Migration, African Americans fled the racist south in droves, finding places in the north to resettle. One of those places was Brooklyn, New York, and this is where I got schooled.

At the time I played football at an Arizona high school. We practiced in full pads at the hottest part of the day, 4 p.m., because other schools were scared of the 4 p.m. sunshine.

My great aunt told me how they used to pick cotton from sun up to sun down and finished with, "You don't know work." My pops laughed. He heard that growing up too. I ain't never, nor will I ever have to spend a day pickin' cotton from sun up to sun down in Alabama, so I didn't say sh\*t back.

Miles is shut up in a completely unhelpful way. He thinks aloud to Gwen about telling his parents he's Spider-Man. "I mean maybe if I told them—" "Don't. Trust me on that."

Miles isn't disciplined when he's grounded. Groundings are understandable for a fifteen year old, but here's how you tell this is a white kid's movie. Miles gets ungrounded early to go hang out with Gwen, who is part of the reason he is grounded in the first place. He lies to his parents and gets let off the hook.

I never got "grounded" growing up. It was either put on "restriction" or "punishment." I think the synonyms allowed my mother wiggle room to add punishments if she felt I was resisting. And I never whined in front of her because to whine meant to

resist discipline, which resulted in more... see?

And then the fact she snuck into their home later on ... went in Miles' room, left a sweater... for real? Say what you want about stereotypes, but this is a fake depiction of an Afro-Latino kid who grew up in Brooklyn, New York.

Perhaps this was done on purpose because most of the movie Miles isn't on Earth-1610. He chases Gwen into another universe with a secret Spider society. He meets Miguel, the Big Dog, that keeps the worlds together.

Miguel makes Miles the villain for interfering in plotlines he wasn't invited too, and this is where the only glimpse of him being heroic comes out. "Nah. Imma do my own thing."

Don't forget Miles didn't learn any discipline in this movie. Miles gets back to the universe he believes is home and reveals his secret identity to his mother. He also says, "Then I went out there. Now I'm not afraid of anything."

She ignores him, and he glitches — he's in the wrong universe. Immediately, Uncle Aaron, who died in Miles' home universe, knows this Miles is an impostor, and he lures him to the roof for a trap.

"Wait wait wait. Please. Please. Wait. Uncle Aaron!" Miles meets this universe's Prowler, Miles Morales. "Please. You have to let me go." Miles Morales begging for his life and letting fear control him doesn't add up because inner-city kids aren't supposed to have a foundation cushy enough for this. It doesn't make sense how he's riddled with anxiety, social anxiety and feeling sorry for himself but gets away from Secret Spider Society, an entire secret society of hundred of Spider People.

Miles can rock the afro and taper, but he's still a square. Miles is not representation because "Spider-Man Across The Spider-Verse" is a suburban fairytale. Black Spider-Man has no run in with police officers? A black vigilante can swing around America and beat people up?

"His identity was secret! He had the mask—" So did Gwen. "But my black friend said Morales is down for the cause!" He wasn't designed for that, and you like your token black friend because they aren't either. Miles can be cool without being down.

Stereotypes make writing grounded in reality, and that's what "Spider-Man: Across the Spider-Verse" is missing. I don't shy away from them because when people experience something I helped create, I don't want anyone to ignore their whole selves. No flodgin' allowed.

# ATK leads the Intramural Futsal League

Martín M. A.  
Staff Writer

The intramural futsal league started on Monday, Jan. 29, with many students showing up with their teams ready to start the first matchday on the right foot. The tournament consists of three round-robin weeks, followed by a tournament on Feb. 26. Even though the league was just starting, incredible comebacks, breath-taking late goals, tiki-taka-like plays and more were seen in Week 1.

The tournament started with ATK facing Dinho FC. After a great start by Dinho FC, the scoreboard was looking very one-sided, at an astonishing 4-1. It looked like ATK was going to begin the tournament with a loss but in the last minutes, the team fought back and started scoring goals; 4-2, then 4-3, and then 4-4. With less than 30 seconds on the clock, it seemed as if ATK had miraculously rescued a tie, but they were hungry for more. On a controversial ball, Lamont barely saved the ball from going out, passing it back to Will Finney, whose shot was deflected to Jerick's feet. Without a second thought, he shot the ball and scored with eight seconds left on the clock. ATK completed an incredible comeback to win the first game of the night.

The second game would see C.S.N.A.A.G. facing Big Dossa United. Both teams tried to break the deadlock, but Samu and Adan were inspired in goal, blocking every shot. It wasn't until the second half when goals began to appear. A great play by Ryan Lynch saw the score finally move, followed by two more goals that made the scoreboard show a 3-0 in favor of Big Dossa United. C.S.N.A.A.G. would try to react with Mauro and Martín scoring two goals in a minute and kept trying during the final minutes, but were unable to pass Adan, ending the second game 3-2 for Big Dossa United.

The first round would end with AI-Coholics FC facing La Manita, a team made of new Brevard students. AI-Coholics FC would start the game strong and take a 3-0 advantage over their rival. The game was very one-sided, but as the first half went by, La Manita would slowly start to build up their chemistry and score some goals to get back in the game. Fares came in clutch and scored a hat trick, giving La Manita enough momentum to get ahead in the second half. Both teams would keep fighting till the end in the game that saw the most goals so far. In the end, the new Brevard players of La Manita began the league with a 7-5 win over AI-Coholics FC.

The second round of games would begin with one of the most thrilling games of the night. Dinho FC would try to get their first win of the night, but they would have to face Big Dossa United, who would try to begin the tournament with back-to-back wins. Big Dossa United would score first, but the joy wouldn't last long, and Dinho FC would quickly tie the game. The game would remain tied until Big Dossa United scored again, and then a penalty by Lynch would see the scoreboard show a 3-1 at halftime. After the halftime talk, Dinho FC got inspired and scored two goals before things got heated. Players on both sides began fouling the opponent, and things escalated quickly, but no fights occurred. With emotions at the highest level, there was still time for a game-winning goal, and that's what Dinho FC did. A hat trick by Matos would see their incredible comeback from 1-3 to 4-3, as well as getting their first win of the year.

ATK against AI-Coholics FC would come right after such an exciting game, and it would not disappoint. After ATK's incredible comeback in the previous game, they were ready to grab their

second win of the night, while AI-Coholics FC would try to win to avoid leaving without a win. ATK went ahead early in the game with a brace by Borch, but AI-Coholics FC would be quick to react to bring things 2-1. Both sides were attacking dangerously, but it was ATK who scored again, making the game 3-1. AI-Coholics FC would keep the game tight with a late goal and kept pushing to tie the game. Unfortunately, with all their focus on the attack, they allowed ATK to do one last counter-attack that would end in a goal, finishing the game with a 4-2 score. ATK fought hard in both games and became the first team to reach two wins.

To end the night, La Manita would try to copy ATK and get two wins in a night, facing a C.S.N.A.A.G. that was trying to get their first win in the league. Both teams started with a defensive playstyle, making it hard for a goal to appear until a late mistake by La Manita's goalkeeper would give the advantage to C.S.N.A.A.G. minutes before halftime. This goal allowed the game to open, and both teams started attacking more. Goals were being scored on both ends almost immediately. A hat trick by Martín would give C.S.N.A.A.G. an advantage that wouldn't last much, as some mistakes in goal would bring La Manita level. Nevertheless, with a couple more goals at the end, C.S.N.A.A.G. would finish the game 7-6, getting their first victory in the league.

ATK finishes the first week at the top with two wins, followed by Big Dossa United, Dinho FC, La Manita, and C.S.N.A.A.G., all with one win. AI-Coholics FC is the only team without a win in the league. Next Monday games will start at 7 p. m. with the matchups to be announced later this week.



# Women's basketball fights against Southern Virginia

Alex Bolton and Alex Spangler  
Staff Writers

Brevard's Women's basketball team started strong with a 21-11 lead in the first quarter against Southern Virginia. They played great defense, chased after the ball and forced turnovers.

Southern Virginia came roaring back in the second quarter keeping the game in hand 31-28, forcing turnovers and knocking down three-pointers left and right.

Suddenly half time comes, and the game comes to a halt. Walking off the floor, the two teams head to their designated locker rooms. Walking onto the court, comes three young Brevard college students wearing a shirt branded "It's On Us".

The students are none other than Hannah Achilles, Rowyn Roberts and Alexander Bolton, sporting their "It's On Us" gear. They speak on the purpose of this new-found club and chapter at Brevard.

You may be looking down at your shirt or staring in the mirror trying to figure out "What exactly is on us?". It isn't anything you can physically see, but something far greater — responsibility.

It is the responsibility of us all to not stand by as a bystander and stand up against domestic violence and toxic situations. There are a reported 10 million acts of domestic violence a year according to NCDAV( National Coalition Against

Domestic Violence).

Many may be wondering why is this on us? "I'm not the one doing it." While that may be true, the understanding is when you see a situation that is trending towards dangerous and clear warning signs, how can you defuse it?

Along with this is the act of spreading awareness which can initiate the potential downslope of national cases. As more and more people learn more information, there will be more action against such situations.

The "It's On Us" club is beginning their focus here on campus to help raise awareness on college campuses. They are open to all who would be willing to join or help in any way. If you would like to join or make contact just email the "It's On Us" President Rowyn Roberts at robertsej@brevard.edu.

Following their amazing and very brave display for the cause of the club, they proceeded to play a game of knockout. They called down 12 contestants from the stands who would all receive a free T-shirt for participation.

In the end, a Brevard College football player named Kaden Thompson came out on top, winning the "It's On Us" halftime knockout event.

Halftime ends, and the game resumes. By the

end of the third quarter, it's Southern Virginia 43-42 over Brevard, continuing to display dominance from the three-point line.

Brevard would stick close down the line trailing behind Southern Virginia closely. Yet in the end, the effort was not enough. Down 55-51, Josie Hester would hit a clutch three. But, sadly, these would be the last Brevard points scored.

Southern Virginia would get a big win over Brevard College 57-54. For Brevard, it came down to fouls and missed opportunities that slipped away from them.

Some key players from the game:

Brevard: #50 Naliyah Boyce put up an astounding 19 points

#15 Josie Hester shot 5-11 from the three-point line

#10 Olivia Miller put up 10 points and 5 rebounds

#2 Makayla Street with 8 points and 2 blocks

#5 Lexi Shepard played great defense throughout the game, coming away with 4 steals.

For Southern Virginia: #25 Alyssa Weiland had 16 points, going 3-5 from deep. #11 had a double double, 12 points and 12 rebounds, and #2 Presley Heggie had 11 points, 5 rebounds.



Photo by Lex MacLauchlin



Photo by Lex MacLauchlin