



Cesar Altieri Sayoc

Former BC student and soccer player arrested, suspected of mailing pipe bombs to Democrats

By Zach Dickerson and John Padgett

The story began to break early on Friday that the FBI had apprehended a Florida man in connection with the mail bombs that had been sent earlier that week to prominent Democrats, including Barack Obama, Bill and Hillary Clinton, and Vice President Joe Biden.

CNN, the New York Times and other national news organizations reported the arrest of Cesar Sayoc, 56, an ardent Trump supporter, as the person whom they suspected of creating pipe bombs as part of an apparent attempt to silence critics of President Donald Trump. Immediately, reporters began digging for information about Sayoc, including his political leanings, his contacts and recent whereabouts, and his past.

By early afternoon, it had become clear that his past included Brevard College.

As news began reporting Sayoc's connections to the college in the early 1980s, a news release from the BC Office of Communications at 1:48 p.m. confirmed that Sayoc had indeed been a student and member of the soccer team at Brevard College for three semesters, from the fall of 1980 through the fall of 1981. At the time, the college was a two-year college, so Sayoc would have had only a single semester remaining.

Over the weekend, more information began to surface about Sayoc from not just when he was a student here but in the decades since, including visits to an awards dinner to honor his former coach in 2015 and other visits to Brevard and western North Carolina as recently as last year.

The manhunt began on the afternoon of Monday, Oct. 22, when a pipe bomb was found in a package delivered to billionaire activist George Soros. Packages that appeared to be bombs were also delivered to the homes of Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton on the morning of Wednesday, Oct. 24, and that afternoon a package was delivered to CNN's New York headquarters that not only contained a pipe bomb, but also a suspicious white powder, prompting the evacuation of CNN's studios for several hours.

Other people who received packages were Maxine Waters, a U.S. Representative for California's 43rd congressional district; former CIA director John Brennan; New Jersey Senator Cory Booker; former director of national intelligence James Clapper; and actor Robert DeNiro.

According to a complaint signed by FBI Special Agent David Brown, the packages to Obama, Brennan, Soros and Waters each contained a picture of the individual with a red "X" marked on them.

Many of the packages had a return address to Debbie Wasserman Schultz, U.S. Representative for Florida's 23rd congressional district, though her name was misspelled on the packages. Some of the packages

were returned to her address.

According to media reports, investigators were able to pull a fingerprint from the envelope to Waters and they found DNA on two of the devices which led them to find and arrest Sayoc. Authorities found Sayoc living in his van outside of an auto supply store in Plantation, Florida where they arrested him at around 10:30 a.m. Friday.

Sayoc's van was covered with pro-Trump stickers and also had a sticker that read "CNN SUCKS" and "DISHONEST MEDIA" along with one that talks about "draining the swamp." There were also many stickers that depicted people with red crosshairs on them, including Hillary Clinton, CNN's Van Jones, filmmaker Michael Moore, Green Party presidential candidate Jill Stein and what appears to be Barack Obama riding a tricycle. The van also had a Brevard College Soccer sticker on it.

According to numerous media reports, Sayoc has had a long criminal history, including a past arrest for making a bomb threat in 2002 and committing domestic violence against his grandmother.

U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced on Friday afternoon

See 'Cesar Sayoc' on page 4



Cesar Sayoc, second from left in the back row, was one of the "Crunch Bunch" playing defense on the fall 1981 BC soccer team, according to the caption in the 1982 yearbook, "Pertelote." See more Sayoc photos on pages 4-5.

Proposed amendments to N.C. Constitution

By Julie Carter
Staff writer

As the days counting down to the election grow fewer, many voters are wondering exactly what issues will be on this ballot. In previous issues, we have discussed many political issues from who the candidates running for the House of Representatives will be, to the gerrymandering in North Carolina decision. Another important topic to familiarize yourselves with before the election are the proposed amendments to the North Carolina Constitution. Here is your comprehensive guide.

Hunting and Fishing Amendment

This amendment states “The right of the people to hunt, fish and harvest wildlife is a valued part of the State’s heritage and shall be forever preserved for the public good.”

On the outside, this amendment appears to represent what many North Carolinians already believe. However, contrary to popular belief, this amendment alters no existing state law which has drawn in a lot of criticism.

Critics say that the amendment is merely a guise meant to cover up harsher amendments that follow on the ballot such as the proposed Voter ID Amendment. Critics also note that the amendment could block any proposed gun control reform that may come in the future.

Victims’ Rights Amendment

This amendment would give victims of crimes the right to be heard at any court proceeding regarding their case and to ensure that restitution would be done in a timely manner as well as guaranteeing an enforcement of their rights.

Many are worried that this amendment would stretch existing resources for victims thin as property crimes would be handled with the same level of importance as personal crimes like assault and homicide from already struggling district attorneys.

Cap on Personal and Corporate Income Tax Amendment

This amendment would lower the personal and corporate income tax ceiling from ten percent to seven percent. It is important to know that this is not a tax cut as one might understand it as the state’s personal tax rate is well under that ceiling.

The controversy in this amendment surrounds what state level government is able to do. Republicans tend to be more conservative on this matter than Democrats. Others fear what would happen should a recession occur, as the state would be left in a bind with regard to income tax.

Voter Photo ID Requirement Amendment

This amendment would mandate that voters in the state would have to present a state-issued form of photo identification at the polls in order to vote. In the past, this type of amendment or law has drawn a large portion of criticism as it is

viewed as another form of disenfranchisement.

Defenders of the amendment tend to say that the amendment is merely “common sense” to defend the privilege of voting by eliminating fraudulent voters. However, the State Board of Elections found that .01 percent of the state’s ballots were cast by ineligible voters. In these circumstances, most of these were accounted as unknowing felon votes and two cases of people voting for deceased family members.

This amendment would block many voters in the state from exercising the right to vote. This could be the result of many issues such as not all forms of photo identification being accepted, not having a driver’s license, or not being able to afford the cost of getting a photo ID.

It is unclear, if this amendment should pass, what North Carolina would do to remedy these issues.

Judicial Vacancies Amendment

Traditionally, governors have the power to fill judicial vacancies. The appointee would then hold the seat until the next election for the General Assembly, more than 60 days after the vacancy is filled.

The amendment is designed to make the process “less political.” The amendment would create a “non-partisan” judicial merit commission of nine members. The governor, the General Assembly and Chief Justice would each select three members. The governor would then get to choose from nominees proposed by the General Assembly including at least two from the merit commission.

However, all the living former governors of North Carolina, Republican and Democrat alike, came together to say that the amendment is “an attack on the separation of powers” and is no more than a legislative power grab.

Altering the State Board of Ethics and Elections Enforcement Amendment

For years, the State Board of Ethics and Elections has been involved in a power struggle between the governor and the General Assembly. In a lawsuit against the General Assembly by Governor Roy Cooper, Cooper asserted that the board was purely under his control to which the state Supreme Court agreed.

The board has nine members. Four are Republicans. Four are Democrats. The ninth has no affiliation with either major party.

The governor picks the ninth member from a list provided by the other eight members.

This amendment would reduce the number of board members from nine to eight. The governor would be required to select appointees from a list proposed by both party leaders in the legislature.

Critics say that is a breeding ground for a deadlock. The amendment once again brought all of the living former governors of the state together to oppose the amendment.

BC Immersion team leaves for 21-day expedition

By Mary Lewe
Copy Editor

On Tuesday, Oct. 30, a group of 11 Brevard College students abandoned the confines of the classroom to gain hands on experience hiking, rock climbing and canoeing. Along with the challenges posed by their physical endeavors, they will also be learning to work as a team under the pressures of surviving in the backcountry.

Immersion is a graduation requirement for all Wilderness Leadership and Experiential Education (WLEE) majors. It involves an entire semester of classes devoted to gaining experience and proficiency in a variety of outdoor activities, as well as becoming Wilderness First Responder certified. Infact, participation in the WFR course is one of the first things the students complete during their Immersion semester, in order to assure the safety of all involved.

Molly Brown, a sophomore at BC, is very excited for the rock climbing portion of the trip in particular, but says she is worried about being cold on the trip. The group is likely to encounter 0° temperatures during their trip.

Molly smiled as she said she will also miss “food that I don’t have to cook, is that bad?”

Emilie Abbott, another student participating, is worried that previous injuries may flare up during the trip. “I’m worried that I might have to be evacuated,” she said.

Despite their nerves, the group has been preparing since August and is well-equipped for success.

“We started out the semester with a teambuilding trail run on North Slope in Pisgah,” Abbott said. “It went really well, it was our first time performing as a team and getting to know each other.”

The group has prepared physically and has already packed up food and gear for the duration of the trip. “We have four resupplies,” Abbott said.

In addition, they have also prepared mentally. “We’ve done a lot of group dynamic work, a lot of interpersonal stuff,” Abbott said. “It helps develop our relationships.”

The Fall 2018 immersion group will be visiting many beautiful areas in the vicinity, including Linville Gorge, the New River and the Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

Buddhist Monk Pannavati visits Field's world religion class, shares stories full of wisdom

By Mary Lewe
Copy Editor

"You can't answer a question that hasn't been asked."

Those wise words, spoken by the Venerable Dr. Pannavati, are ones she has lived by for a long time. From questioning herself to questioning the world around her, she has learned to "Consider the other as oneself," thanks to Buddhist teachings, and she is continuing to spread that loving message in Hendersonville, NC and around the world at retreats.

On Thursday, Oct. 11, Dr. Robert Field's World Religions class welcomed Pannavati. With questions ready to go on index cards, there was excitement in the air as students waited to meet the Buddhist monk.

Pannavati peeked through the glass of the door and entered the classroom with a student who led her from the parking lot. Dressed in robes of a deep shade of red, she sat before the class humbly and, rather than waiting until the end of her talk, asked the students what questions they had for her and answered them as she spoke about her religious experience and spiritual journey.

As she began sharing her story, it became obvious that she is unique among the Buddhist community. Not only is she a female monk, which is rare, but she is black which is also uncommon. Pannavati has also helped to initiate 50 other Bhikkhuni, or female monks, in Thailand, to help bring equality to the religion.

Currently, Pannavati serves as co-founder and co-Abbot of Embracing-Simplicity Hermitage and Co-Director of Heartwood Refuge. She shared the story of how she found herself in those roles, and in the process answered the students' questions.

"In my earlier days I was a street fighter, I really wanted to change that behavior. I was not able to master my emotions," she said. A devout Christian, she says she wondered how she could be so "hot and cold," kind and forgiving in church, but violent and hot under the collar in her interactions.

It was meditation which gave her control over her emotions, "For once in my life I'm not telling you what you need to do, I'm thinking about what I need to do," she said.

But it would be a long journey from her life as a Christian and a pastor to her life as it is now, and it would involve a great deal of exploration and study.

After having an intense religious experience during which she encountered a divine presence, she felt unsatisfied by her spiritual life.

Her pastor at the time did not recognize such an experience, saying it was not possible. She explored the Unity Church, Unitarian Universalism and a Pentecostal Church. Eventually, she was introduced to Taoism, which ultimately led her to Buddhism. She had finally found a way to feel that her thoughts, actions and feelings were in accordance with each other.

"I used to be a builder, and the foundation of the building was the most important," she explained how she began building that foundation by meditating and studying.

One lesson she learned from the Buddha's teachings is that, while most people see the world in dualities like loss and gain, pleasure and pain, the Buddha says to come to "the middle way."

Instead of letting the mind go back and forth between good and bad "like a ping-pong ball," balance is necessary to bring peace to the spirit.

The Buddha also says that there are many realities, some in which beings are of the same mind and same body, some where beings are of the same mind but different bodies. In our world, we are of different minds and different bodies. "I'm not going to necessarily be able to understand someone's experience unless I've sort of had that experience," Pannavati said. "That's why we have so many difficulties in the world."

"The Buddha's practice is to recognize that we create these labels and then we think that they really exist," Pannavati explained. "And so he says that if we want to live a peaceful life, a well-meaning life, a useful life where we don't harm ourselves and we don't harm others, we have to recognize that the world that we see is not the world as it actually is, it's the way we are.

"What you plant, that harvest is what we get," she said. "If I want an apple, then I don't plant a lemon seed. But if you do plant a lemon, you're gonna get a lemon."

Pannavati talked about her experiences as a young adult during the 1960s and 70s and how her views have evolved since then. A stark contrast to her life now, she had not been part of the nonviolent movement at the time. "I felt a different way at that time, I felt that only the most drastic actions mattered."

Overall, the students in Dr. Field's class were given a glimpse into one woman's path in Buddhism, and perhaps given a bit of hope as well.

"Whenever you're trying to change the outer world, know that you really can't," Pannavati said. "The only one that you can change is yourself. But what if everybody worked on himself? Then we'd have a different world."



Photo by Mary Lewe

Pannavati (right) stands next to Field in a classroom in McLarty-Goodson Hall.

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Cesar Sayoc then...

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that Sayoc had been charged by the Justice Department with five federal crimes, which could send him to prison for up to 58 years. The charges include transporting explosives across state lines, illegally mailing explosives, threatening former presidents and others, threatening interstate communications and assaulting federal officials. Other charges may be pending, including from the state of New York.

A BC soccer star

Sayoc had enrolled at Brevard College in the fall of 1980 and attended the college for three semesters, but he did not graduate, according to the email news release Friday afternoon from Christie Cauble, interim director of communications at BC. The college was a two-year college at the time. Other news outlets have reported that after he left Brevard College, Sayoc went to the University of North Carolina at Charlotte for one academic year, but did not graduate.

Sayoc was a lauded player on the men's soccer team at BC at a time when the Tornados were a national championship caliber team. Numerous photos of Sayoc playing soccer appear in "Pertelote," the Brevard College yearbook for 1981 and for 1982. One photo identifies Sayoc as one of the five members of the "Crunch Bunch" providing defense in the fall 1981 season, and an article in The Clarion that December includes Sayoc on that year's National Junior College Athletic Association Region X All-Region Team.

The soccer team that year won the Region X championship and went undefeated and unscored upon in regional play, according to The Clarion.

Soccer appears to have been Sayoc's primary extracurricular interest during his time at Brevard College, but during his freshman year, he was photographed in "Pertelote" as a member of the college's Catholic Club.

When news of Sayoc's arrest broke on Friday, many of his former classmates began posting their shock on social media, including the Brevard College Alumni Facebook page. Most remember him as a nice, but quiet young man. At least one classmate remembers being shocked when he did not return after the holidays for the spring 1982 semester.

In a televised interview on WRAL in Raleigh, Sayoc's former coach, Don Scarborough, described Sayoc as a passionate soccer player with a slight temper, but not an unusual one for a student-athlete. Scarborough said Sayoc had stayed in touch with him over the years, but he had not heard from him in several years.

When Scarborough saw on TV that Sayoc had been arrested in connection with the pipe bombs, Scarborough said he was shocked. "It's almost like I was in a trance, you know, listening to it over and over and over again, and looking at his picture and knowing that he was one that [at] one time was under my web of protection," he told WRAL.

President David Joyce, Lynne Joyce and Dean of Students Debora D'Anna were at a mountain biking team reunion at another college when they got the news on Friday that Sayoc was a student at BC in the past. "I remember seeing the email and just thinking that it was a joke," President Joyce said. "I just thought that he couldn't have a connection to the college since he was all the way in Florida when they arrested him, but when we found out it wasn't a joke we rushed back to Brevard as soon as possible that day."

An ardent Trump supporter

In the years since he was a student at Brevard College, Sayoc's path has taken many twists and turns according to published reports in other news outlets. An article in the New York Times on Sunday, for instance, opened by calling him "a volatile nobody desperate to become a somebody."

In the Transylvania Times, Jill Haynie, a former classmate of Sayoc at BC, talks about the change she saw in him on his Facebook page.

"Everything he posted was about winning nationals and the bus ride and the team and the bond," Haynie said. "It was like he never moved on from those days. Then when I saw all the Trump stuff coming it was like he found a purpose.... I guess he got a little obsessed."

Throughout it all, however, Sayoc has apparently kept an interest in both soccer and Brevard. In October 2016, Sayoc was in Brevard and took part in the alumni soccer game during Homecoming. Many BC students and alumni remember him from that game.

In an unpublished article about that alumni game, Sayoc told a Clarion reporter that he had connections with donors who would be beneficial to the college and to BC athletics. He said he was planning to move back to Brevard to help with the soccer program and to open a sports bar in town. Sayoc had shared similar dreams with Scarborough, hinting that he planned to buy land near Brevard to possibly start a horse farm.

When Scarborough was inducted into the Brevard College Athletic Hall of Fame the previous year in October 2015, Sayoc attended the awards banquet and was even photographed with his former coach and teammates. It was at this point, during the first months of Trump's campaign for president, that his

Continued on next page

"Pertelote," the Brevard College yearbook, features several photos of Sayoc in its 1981 and 1982 editions.

Freshman year, 1980-1981: (Below) Sayoc (fourth from the left, back row) appears in this photo of the BC Catholic Club. (Bottom) The 1981 yearbook captioned this photo "Cesar Sayoc extends after a shot to the goal."

Sophomore year, fall 1981: (Right) Although Sayoc did not return for the spring 1982 semester, his picture appears in the 1982 yearbook.



Photo from the Brevard College Pertelote, 1981



Photo from the Brevard College Pertelote, 1982



Photo from the Brevard College Pertelote, 1981

Sayoc now

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support for the real estate mogul and reality TV star began to manifest itself.

Eddie Tadlock, another BC soccer player who also was inducted into the BC Athletic Hall of Fame in 2015, told the *New York Times* that Sayoc's ardent support for Trump was out of place for an awards banquet. "He was like, 'America needs to be made great again, and I'm working on the upcoming presidential campaign to make sure we get the right people in office,'" Tadlock said.

Sayoc's rhetoric was "hateful stuff," Tadlock said. "It didn't resemble anything logical. He was saying things like, 'Build a wall to keep all the Mexicans out,' and it immediately turned me off."

After the banquet, Sayoc began correspondence with Tadlock on Facebook that started out harmless but almost immediately turned racist and sexist which Tadlock described as "off-the-charts crazy."

"I mean, I'm African-American, and he's sending me racist stuff? And sexist stuff, and misogynistic stuff—you name it," Tadlock told the *Times*. "He was saying Trump is going to be 'The Godfather' who corrects all of it, and I was like, 'You're out of your freaking mind.' I unfriended him immediately."

Much of the recent news coverage of Sayoc has focused on his white van, which is covered with many decals supporting Donald Trump and decrying his opponents. WLOS has reported the van being sighted in Asheville in recent months.

The van has also been spotted in Brevard. Anne Chapin, an art history professor at BC, even took pictures of the van when she saw it parked near her home on West Main Street one year ago because of the unusualness of the artwork on the van.

"I saw the van on the street, by chance, and was stunned by the assemblage of far right internet memes and other images," Chapin said. "I took photos of the the van because I thought I might show them to my Art History students and discuss the power of visual communication, because of the memes on them.

"Because when these images spread across the internet they don't seem as real and as threatening," Chapin said. "But, this person printed them out and turned them into a moving billboard. I ended up not using the images in class because they were so inflammatory."

Chapin then saw the news on Friday and was shocked to see the same van on it. "I called the FBI and gave them the pictures and I've decided not to sell them to anybody and as of now that hasn't changed," Chapin said. "It doesn't seem right to make money from someone else's presumed crimes."



Photo by BC Communications

(Above) Sayoc attended the Distinguished Alumni and Hall of Fame banquet in the Porter Center in October 2015. Left to right: Sayoc's teammate Israel "Izzy" Hernandez, coach Don Scarborough, Sayoc, and Eddie Tadlock.



Photo by BC Communications

(Left) Sayoc, center, participated in the 2016 Alumni soccer game at BC during Homecoming.

(Below) Sayoc's van has been seen in Brevard, including in October 2017 when art professor Anne Chapin saw it parked near her home on West Main Street. She took photos of the van to use in class as examples of the use of political graphics.

(Bottom) Detail of one of Chapin's photos of Sayoc's van featuring crosshairs on prominent liberals and a graphic reading "CNN SUCKS."



Photo by Anne Chapin



Photo by Anne Chapin

Sayoc had apparently made death threats to people, including Democrats, and posted conspiracy theories on Twitter and was reported by other users, but the social media site did not do anything to take action against him.

One instance on Twitter is how he called David Hogg, a student at Parkland High School during the shooting that occurred earlier this year, an actor/protector hired by George Soros and he claimed that Hogg never even attended Parkland.

On Sayoc's Twitter page he claimed to be a professional cage fighter and a professional soccer player. That site has since been taken down from Twitter. In an article on heavy.com,

Sayoc's cousin said that in the 1990s he was a professional stripper, described him as a "lost soul" and said that his brain might have been "melted" by the use of steroids.

After learning Sayoc had been abandoned by his father when he was a child, Scarborough looks back on Sayoc's time as a member of Brevard's soccer team as perhaps the only real family he ever knew.

His former coach also thinks about what might have been if only he had known.

"Had I been given the chance, I think I could have stopped him," he told WRAL. "I really think he respected me enough to listen to everything I had to say."

Senior Profile: Dal Davis

By Carmen Boone
Arts & Life Editor

Dal Davis is a senior at Brevard College. He makes friends with almost everyone he meets and the majority of the campus knows who he is. He is a great friend and gives the absolute best hugs.

He is studying general music as a vocal major. He came to Brevard after he met Heather Kirkland on a tour and she convinced him to play piano a couple times. After that he knew he had to come here for music. "She [Kirkland] became my best friend over that tour. We made it to the Porter Center and she had me play the grand piano that was sitting right in the lobby. And she asked me to go take that to the big stage and I did. I played on the stage on the other piano and my grandma and Heather started tearing up. It was just such a special moment that I knew this was the spot for me," said Davis.

Davis said that his favorite part about Brevard has to be the people he has met, including students and professors. He has had some great mentors and people that have helped him out along his journey.

His friends Peter Trench, George Dowis and Anthony Zuniga were a few people that he mentioned have been a great help to him. He mentioned administrators like Coach Mc-

Claron and Molly Penland that have pushed him to be better. Davis also said Dr. Vance Reese and Dr. Brittnee Siemon, his voice teacher, have helped him out. "She was tough on me in the best way," said Davis.

Davis has been involved in lots of clubs on campus. For his first three years here he was on the Campus Activities Board, was a student ambassador and he ran cross country. He is currently on the cheer team, is a member of the Fine Arts Club, the president of the Diversity Pride Club and is in the house band for Open Mic Night in Coltrane.

One thing Davis said he would change about his time at BC would be to add a minor. He also mentioned that he wished he had focused more on his studies freshman year. However, he said his experience was one he will hold on to.

Davis's plans after graduation include graduate school at the Savannah College of Art and Design, Georgia Tech University or Middle Tennessee University. He wants to practice recording and music technology.

Davis graduates in May of 2019. He says the ultimate career goal for him is to make and produce music for himself and other artists for really good pay. "Career wise, the goal is to push and innovate music technology in ways that haven't been explored yet," said Davis. "The ultimate goal is to be happy."



Photo courtesy of Dal Davis

Dal Davis

Harvest Fest '18: fun, food, friends

By Carmen Boone
Arts & Life Editor

Harvest Fest was held in front of Myers Dining Hall on Thursday, Oct. 25. The food, fun and festivities lasted from 4-8 p.m.

The event had many different activities such as face painting, hand moulding, a mechanical bull, a rock climbing wall, cornhole and slacklining. Some of the tables included one for making a bag of candy, making your own funnel cake, creating personalized state stickers and donating canned goods in exchange for a mug.

The llamas are always a huge deal at Harvest Fest. There were nine llamas as well as other animals. Goats, rabbits, a duck, a goose, a piglet and a kinkachoo monkey were the other animals worth checking out.

The cafeteria prepared some good food for dinner. There were also two food trucks available to get dinner from. Students had to get a ticket as they walked in to turn in to a food truck if they wanted a meal from one of them.

One food truck was called "Farm to Fender" and served cheeseburgers, the triple threat pulled pork dish, a sweet potato black bean burger, the flying goat BLT or pork tacos. All of the menu items except the tacos gave a choice of fries, chips, beans/rice, sweet potato fries or three bean chili as sides. The other food truck was called "Appalachian Smoke" and served pulled pork, smoked chicken, beef brisket, pulled smoked chicken, a BBQ sundae, brisket nachos or pork and chicken nachos. The side items were mac n' cheese, BBQ beans, collard greens and slaw.

The cafeteria was also serving grilled corn and candy or caramel apples for dessert. There was a pie eating contest too. A fire was also set up for s'mores.

There was a band playing music throughout the festival to pull it all together. Harvest Fest is an annual event that almost the entire campus gets involved with. It is full of fun and is a great way to get out of your room and enjoy yourself.



Photo by Peter Trench

Students always have a great time interacting with animals at the Harvest Fest. This year, the chilly October afternoon featured nine llamas and several other interesting and adorable animals — including a kinkachoo monkey.

Ultimate guide to horror films

By Kenny Cheek
Staff Writer

Halloween offers entertainment both for children and adults. One of the greatest things to do around Halloween is to get in to the spirit with some bone chilling or laugh inducing movies.

There are typically five different ways to classify a film: gore fest, funny knock-your-socks-off hilarious, the classics, psychological thrillers and modern pieces. Ranked below of the top three choices for four of those categories and a small description of the movies (without giving away their juicy secrets).

Of course, many different people have different tastes in movies, and because of this, some might disagree with the lists and how they are ranked. This is perfectly okay, and is simply meant to shout out some extremely well put together pieces of film to get students in the spirit.

Gore

1. Any of the "Saw" Series

It is well know that Jigsaw and his creative traps have always been gorey and horrific, and taking a look into any of the Saw series movies will show you that.

2. "The Human Centipede"

This horrific film is terrifying to think about and picture. A madman capturing victims and surgically putting them together into a disgusting beast.

3. "The Hills Have Eyes"

Being stuck in a situation you cannot escape from is troubling enough; having mutant monsters all around you is something to make you tense to say the least.

Funny

1. "Shaun of the Dead"

Everybody loves a good zombie film. Shaun of the Dead is one of the better parody adaptations that seems to always leave you with a smile on your face.

2. "Tucker and Dale vs. Evil"

Rednecks and hillbillies are typically never portrayed nicely in film; however, this film gives the horror genre a lighthearted pat on the back and pokes fun at the typical "college students meet evil murderers."

3. "Beetlejuice"

Despite sounding like a children's juice, Beetlejuice is a rambunctious spirit that seems to be able to make a mess out of any situation he's in. Don't say his name three times!

Classics

1. "Psycho"

Typically one of the scariest parts of staying at a motel is the often unmet sanitary standards. At the Bates Motel however, getting out with your life may be a little more important.

2. "The Texas Chain Saw Massacre"

Imagine, if you will, a group of young adults traveling — now add a killer chainsaw-wielding man who strips them of their skin. Combined, you have yourself a truly classic horror movie.

3. "The Thing"

Out of this world creatures are enough to give anyone the creeps. When those creatures start to take over bodies and kills others, then it becomes truly terrifying.

Modern

1. "Get Out"

While not a true Halloween horror movie, Get Out presents a situation that plays with modern day problems and flips them into a script like something from Invasion of the Body Snatchers.

2. "It Follows"

Every young person is bound to make mistakes, and getting an STD could be one of those mistakes. When one certain act goes wrong, a girl is suddenly chased and driven to near madness by an STD killer.

3. "Trick or Treat"

Make sure you follow all the proper rules of Halloween, or else a sinister treat-or-treater might be the death of you.



"Do you want to play a game?"

The 'Phantom' of the film: a review

By Thomas Wilkins
Staff Writer

The Porter Center was turned into a movie theater on Sunday, Oct. 28. On the screen for the evening was "The Phantom of the Opera," a silent picture and horror film from 1925. The movie itself was quite dated unsurprisingly, but but live music helped bring it to life.

What may have terrified audiences in 1925 was actually quite silly to the modern viewer. At the same time, the film was absolute eye candy.

Without any sound, the filmmakers played wonderfully with light, shadows and the movements of the actors themselves to help accentuate what was happening. At times I still felt a bit lost.

But none of that really mattered. It was a night of cheesy revelry in the spirit of Halloween, poking fun at what we once found scary.

The audience burst into fits of laughter constantly. Actors cartoonishly emoted, sometimes jumping up in pure fear, or pain.

The real stars of the show were the musicians. Professor of music Dr. Vance Reese played the organ while student percussionist Raleigh Durham had a playground of sound makers. Both came together to fill in the gaps provided by the silence of the movie.

Vance had a lot of fun with the organ, playing the classic spooky song, Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor." Between this, he would play some songs by The Beatles and he included a Charlie Brown tune as well.

During a very charming scene high above Paris, he even emulated a very lovely accordion, as two lovers embraced. Very French!

I must admit, I did get scared at some points. Raleigh would hit these perfect drum tones that would send spooky shivers down my spine.

It was a fun night of old-school campy horror goodness. If you love your movies dripping with cheese this was the night for you.

Spontaneous human combustion

By Mary Lewe
Copy Editor

“And the burning smell is there – and the soot is there, and the oil is there – and he is not here!” Tony in Charles Dickens’ novel “Bleak House” cries out after Krook burns alive, but spontaneous human combustion is not just a Dickensian horror. In fact, the phenomenon has claimed many lives throughout history, with incidents recorded as long ago as 1641.

Many stories of spontaneous human combustion involve an elderly person, usually one who is alone at the time of the flames’ onset and who is a heavy drinker and, often, a smoker as well. It might seem obvious that people simply fall asleep with a lit cigarette after having a few too many drinks. This explanation would make sense, if it weren’t for the evidence surrounding many of these fires.

In the 1951 case of Mary Reeser, there was no doubt a fire had occurred. Her entire body was burnt to ash except for her foot and the slipper containing it, her liver and a few bones and, most perplexing of all, her skull. It would not be unusual for a burn victim’s skull to be intact, but Mary’s had shrunk from its original size. Some say it was as small as a teacup following the fire.

There were more mysteries surrounding Mary’s burning. For example, physical anthropologist Dr. Wilton Krogman had seen over 30 fire deaths before aiding in the investigation. Not only did he conclude that a shrunken skull was completely out of the ordinary (skulls that have been burned either remain a normal size or can expand due to the heat), but he claimed that the scene simply did not add up.

Krogman found it odd for Mary’s body to be as destroyed as it had been in the event, as the fire would have needed to sustain a temperature of around 3000° F for over three hours to produce results so near to complete cremation. The problem was that the house had not been damaged in a manner consistent with such an intense fire. In fact, there was a newspaper nearby that was completely untouched, and a couch covered in plastic that never even melted despite the other evidence.

“Were I living in the Middle Ages, I would mutter something about black magic,” Krogman said.

There are several cases which share these similar circumstances. Often, a hallmark of spontaneous human combustion is the great amount

of damage taken by the victim, with an inconsistent amount of damage to the home.

George Mott was a retired fireman, with great knowledge about fire safety and no history of smoking, his colleagues were stunned when his body burned through his bed and through the floor of his bedroom beneath in September of 1982. Again in his case, his skull was found to be much smaller than it should have been following the fire.

Stranger still, an entire container of large matches was found nearby, the wall above stained brown, but not a single match was ignited by what must have been a very hot fire. So hot, that the butter and plastic butter dish inside Mott’s refrigerator in the next room had melted down.

It seems that no matter how outlandish the circumstances, humans are able to come up with explanations. Even if they don’t quite fit perfectly, perhaps we all sleep better when we can tell ourselves that it won’t happen to us. But don’t be so sure, you might just find yourself breathing fire one day, too.



Despite lack of other evidence indicating a fire of such strength, all that remained of Mary Reeser was her leg and her shoe. The strange circumstances prompted a renowned physical anthropologist to turn to “black magic” as an explanation.

Netflix Review:

‘Chilling Adventures of Sabrina’ carves its own path



On Oct. 26, Netflix released its new original series, “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina,” just in time for Halloween. The series is based on the comics of same name which were released in 2014. The series also draws inspiration from four notable sources: “Sabrina: The Teenage Witch,” in both comic and ‘90s television show form, as well as the new television show “Riverdale” which itself is based upon the “Archie” comic books.

These franchises could easily set up the series to follow in the same path in terms of plot, as they have been extremely successful for years. This, however, is not the case for “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina.” While the show pays homage to its predecessors several times in the series, it does not limit itself to what its forerunners did, and it pays off.

Unlike its sitcom predecessor, “Chilling Adventures of Sabrina” delves into the world of witchcraft, which was largely swept aside in the original.

This earns the series a lot of credit as it is easier to understand the vast differences between the two worlds presented in the show.

Kiernan Shipka portrays Sabrina Spellman, a half-witch at the eve of her Dark Baptism when the series begins. Shipka shines as her own telling of the iconic Sabrina, maintaining innocence and darkness excellently.

Most notably, Ross Lynch takes a large departure from the Harvey Kinkle of the ‘90s sitcom, making him more relatable than the dorky and cute one from “Sabrina: The Teenage Witch.” For this, viewers can relate more to the mortal side of the series which can oftentimes be swept aside when diving into the complex world that is witchcraft.



We asked BC students, faculty and alumni to create and scare us with their own two-sentence horror stories. Here are their tales.

I grew up always hearing my daddy say, "The reason for living is to get ready to stay dead a long time." He told me the same thing again just yesterday when I went to put flowers on his grave.

-John "Addie Bundren Lives!" P.

I graduated from Brevard College with a degree. I am in debt \$70,000 and can't find a job in my career field.

-Alum

The stench of decay and death had been lurking throughout the house now for about three days, causing Grandma Pharmer great concern as she tried to block out the stench and enjoy her delicious daily coffee. Was it a body under the floorboards, a dead rat in the attic, or... perhaps it was the dead tree frog that she found days later in her coffee maker?!!! (True Story!)

-Melissa Graham
BC CFO

She reached for the remote as the creature crawled toward the screen, right beside her reflection. When she pressed the power button the TV turned on.

-Mikayla Ledford

I'm too claustrophobic for this. I should have been cremated instead.

-Kali H.

The elected President of the 2020 election is Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson. His vice president: Kevin Hart.

-Cameron Ranslow

No toilet paper.
Stranded.

-B-dog

"I was born with the devil in me. I could not help the fact that I was a murderer, no more than the poet can help the inspiration to sing...I was born with the evil one standing as my sponsor beside the bed where I was ushered into the world, and he has been with me since." H. H. Holmes

-Trey Brown

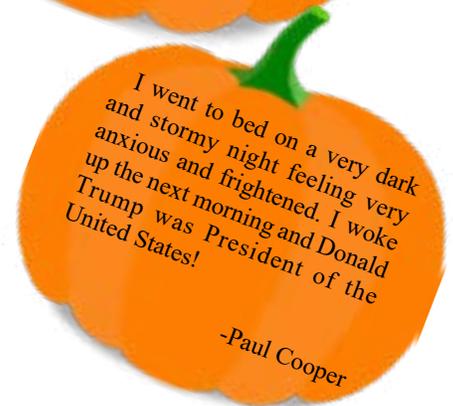
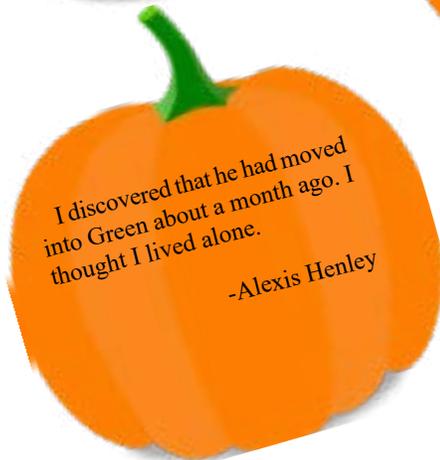
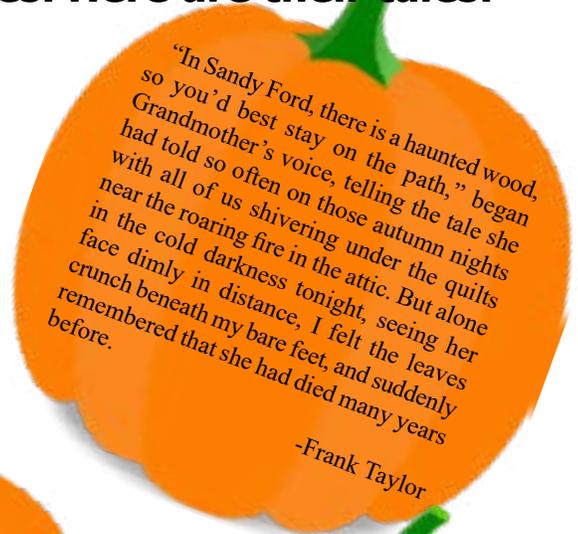
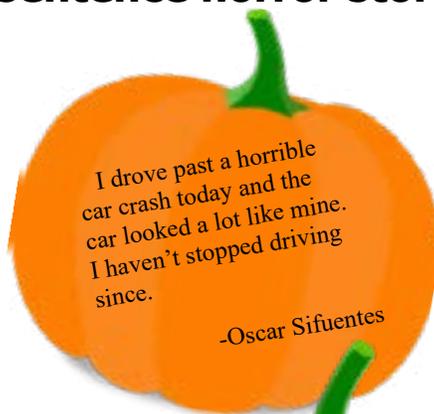
The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
The cries I hear won't let me sleep.

-Dona D. Vaughn
(alum & Board member)

He woke up with a jolt and a sensation of falling, and realized he was falling in complete darkness. As he groped around for something to hold he felt the bloody remains of a goat, and seconds later splashed into a large vat of hot blood.

-Vincenzo Rissini

We asked BC students, faculty and alumni to create and scare us with their own two-sentence horror stories. Here are their tales.



Read your HORRORscope... if you dare

By Mary Lewe
Copy Editor

Aries: You're ready to show off to the world after experiencing a block in your energy. But someone is watching you closely. Be wary of those who are jealous, they could haunt you long after the pumpkins rot.

Taurus: You are more emotional and intense right now and you could behave erratically. Be cautious about making plans with people who could send you over the edge, who knows what horror could ensue.

Gemini: There's something truly terrifying afoot — a cold. If you're feeling less than your best, stay in this Halloween. Take care of yourself first or you could soon become more like a zombie out of costume than in it.

Cancer: Drama is in the air, perhaps putting a damper on your celebrations. Take the high road and be honest with your friends. Ghosts of romance past could appear this week, and it will help if you don't keep secrets.

Leo: If people around you are cramping your style, leave them in the dust. There's nothing wrong with going it alone. Your light will be shining like a candle in a jack-o-lantern, making you the center of attention as usual.

Virgo: Drowning in obligations? As much as you want to spend the night haunting your own home, you may find yourself at a party anyway. Don't worry about keeping the energy up, and allow yourself to retreat when necessary.

Libra: There's no telling what could come of this night. Surprises both good and bad are possible, but without a crystal ball you should prepare yourself to withhold judgement. An instant reaction could wreak havoc.

Scorpio: Your lover has something to hide, and you're not one to shy away from skeletons in the closet. Be careful not to assume too much, people are more unpredictable than you may expect, even with your intuition.

Sagittarius: Moderation isn't your strong suit, and a good party never helps. This Halloween, be careful not to overwhelm yourself with partying. Take time for yourself, or your energy could turn into a pumpkin by midnight.

Capricorn: You think you know the people around you, but a party could seem more like a masquerade ball this Halloween. Be careful not to get caught up in feelings that are misplaced, and make your moves with care.

Aquarius: You will find that you are not alone this Halloween, whether your company is seen or unseen. If you have a partner, you may face something truly frightening for you: a discussion defining your relationship.

Pisces: If you aren't ready for a blowout this Halloween, that's okay. Maybe you're feeling too health conscious for festivities. Someone has to hand out the (poison) apples, why not be the wrinkled witch this year?

EDITORIAL

Don't sit this one out: VOTE!

It has become a familiar scene: every two years, a national election dominates the news, it is proclaimed “the most important election in our nation’s history,” and come Election Day, the number of people who voted is decried for low turnout.

And the group most often singled out for not voting? Young people.

Even relatively “high” turnout elections—every other one, when we elect a president in addition to a third of the U.S. Senate, all of the House of Representatives, and a panoply of other state and local offices around the nation—can be characterized by how few people actually show up to vote. In 2016, for instance, nearly half of eligible voters, 46.9 percent, did not vote, and even though Donald Trump continues to brag about the supposed “landslide” of his electoral college victory, he was chosen by only a little more than one-fourth of eligible voters: 25.5 percent.

Hillary Clinton fared little better in terms of percentage of potential voter turnout: though she won the popular vote by nearly 3 million votes, when eligible non-voters are included, her share of the voting and non-voting electorate was only 25.6 percent.

Because of the way the electoral college works in presidential elections, the actual margin of victory for Trump boiled down to about 80,000 votes in three states: Michigan, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. In the 2000 election between Al Gore and George W. Bush, the difference was even closer: a single state, Florida, proved the difference in the electoral college, and after all of the legal challenges, hanging chads, and other anomalies in that state’s election had been exhausted, Bush won the state of Florida, and its 25 electoral votes, by an official count of 537 ballots out of nearly 6 million votes cast—a difference of 0.01 percent.

Clearly, recent history shows that close votes can make a difference in presidential races. But arguably, close votes make even more of a difference in state and local races because of the smaller pool of voters.

It sounds like a cliché, but it is nonetheless true: *Every vote counts.*

And let’s be honest: a decision NOT to vote, if you are eligible to do so, is itself a vote for the status quo, whatever that may be. In fact, one of the most pernicious trends in recent American politics has been the attempt, almost always by Republicans in state governments, to find ways to suppress voting by those who are statistically less likely to support them. By purging voter rolls, challenging voter registrations, requiring photo IDs, reducing or even eliminating certain polling places, and other questionable tactics designed to make voting more of a challenge, those officials have in many cases succeeded in altering the outcome of races.

College students are among the demographic groups most often targeted by such vote suppressing measures. For that reason alone, you should make your voice be heard on Election Day, if only to send a signal to those in power that your right to vote will not be curtailed.

And remember, college students have a choice about where to vote: You can vote wherever you call home, or you can register to vote where you attend college.

It is too late to register here to vote on Election Day, Nov. 6. However, North Carolina law does allow same-day registration (and voting) if you show an official photo ID and proof of residency during Early One-Stop voting.

That process ends on Saturday at 1 p.m.

And if you are already registered, you can vote early or on Election Day (Tuesday!). If you live on campus, your polling place is the Porter Center, open from 6:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

For more information about this year’s election, including how to register and vote during early voting, visit the Transylvania County Board of Elections website, www.transylvaniaelections.org.

GO VOTE. The future literally depends on it.

The Clarion wants to hear from you! Take our survey...

We want to know how BC students feel about this year’s election. Check your email or The Clarion Facebook page for more info about our online election survey. Results will be published in next week’s edition of The Clarion.

Commentary on STOP sign vandalism

By Jeni Welch

Editor in Chief

Over fall break the Brevard campus stop signs were vandalized with graffiti, twice. The normal spray paint tagging of signs or buildings with a signature, symbol or even the immature curse words are what first come to mind.

This was an incorrect assumption.

With the signs being quickly altered to erase the Sharpie graffiti, not everyone was able to witness the vandalism, or see the messages written on the sign.

Before I continue this article, let me say, this is NOT condoning vandalism or graffiti on private property for any reason. It is solely to bring attention to the words marked on the signs. Repainting the signs from this vandalism will cost the college \$800.

The Clarion last week published photos of a few of the stop signs tagged with the words following the STOP on the signs, such as ‘eating animals,’ ‘racism,’ ‘judging’ and ‘rapist.’

Another sign read, ‘STOP sexism’ but the graffiti was removed before staff snapped a photo.

With not knowing who wrote the messages, it is impossible to know whether the messages were a form of protest, demonstration or a political statement. It is obvious that there was a want of awareness and attention for the phrases written. Eight of the stop signs on campus were decorated with a different word or phrase.

While I am happy the graffiti is gone, it is disappointing that the message was erased with it. With little to no commentary.

Perhaps, there is a fear that talking about what the signs read would create a problem with more vandalisms on campus. But on the other side, not talking about the words could continue a different issue.

Did the messages reflect a large-scale problem, globally or nationally? Or was it telling of a cultural problem within our own community? Was it a Brevard College student? Alum? High School student? Community member?

Regardless, of who or why, the graffiti is showing what is going on around us. You do not have to agree with the some or all of the signs to understand why the words were written.

Brevard College student-athletes 'trick or treat' for those in need

By Phil de Montmollin
Sports Information Director

Brevard College student-athletes collected 1,174 non-perishable items for the Bread of Life food bank and community kitchen, "trick-or-treating" through the streets of Brevard, North Carolina on Sunday, October 28. The "Trick or Treat for Cans" initiative, spearheaded by the Brevard College Student Athletes Advisory Committee (SAAC), is part of Brevard College Athletics' "Cans Across the Conference" campaign in conjunction with the USA South Conference.

Over 300 Brevard College student-athletes, representing all 21 of BC's varsity sports, went "trick-or-treating" throughout the town of Brevard on Sunday but with a twist. Instead of asking for candy, the Tornados collected donations of canned foods and other non-perishable items from local residents. The result was a record number of donations since Brevard College SAAC began the program a year ago.

The Football team was able to collect the most items, while the BC Cheer and Dance team was able to secure the most items per capita based on the size of every team's roster.

The non-perishable items will be delivered in the coming days by Brevard College student-athletes to the Bread of Life, a food bank and community kitchen which provides nutritious meals for those in need in Transylvania County.

Brevard College SAAC is part of the canned food drive competition amongst the 18 institutions in the USA South Conference. Each campus' SAAC collects cans and other non-perishable items at their school to benefit a local charity. It is up to each institution to decide how they wish to collect and to which group the donation would go. The institution with the most items collected will be crowned the "Cans Across the Conference" Champion.



Photo from BC Tornados

Over 300 BC student-athletes went door-to-door on Sunday, Oct. 28 to request canned goods for donation to Bread of Life, ultimately collecting over 1000 items.

Last fall, USA South institutions collected 52,456 items, which is the second-highest total in competition history. Over the 14-year history of the program, USA South Conference institutions have donated 441,722 items to various organizations.

The Brevard College Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is a group of representatives from each team on campus that meets monthly to participate in leadership development activities and discusses current events going on in the community, on campus, as well as, within their respective teams. The mission of Brevard College's Student-Athlete Advisory Committee is to enable student-athletes to participate in developing leadership skills both inside and outside the field of competition, to protect student-athlete well-being, and to provide a vehicle through which athletics department administrators discuss with student-athlete issues regarding the management, operation, and rules that govern the athletics department and its sports' teams.

Cole, Jackson honored by USA South after football win

By Joseph Marvin
Assistant Sports Information

Following Brevard College's 38-34 triumph over LaGrange last Saturday, the USA South has announced that freshman quarterback Dalton Cole and sophomore cornerback Quentin Jackson have been selected as USA South Conference Players of the Week.

Cole was selected as the USA South Offensive Rookie of the Week after his four-touchdown performance on Saturday. This announcement marks the second time that Cole has received this honor in 2018, as the Hendersonville, N.C. native was named USA South Offensive Rookie of the Week for the week ending on Oct. 7.

Jackson was selected as the USA South Defensive Player of the Week following a two-interception outing against LaGrange. These two interceptions were the first two of Jackson's career, as the sophomore continues to develop as one of the leaders on defense for the Tornados.

Football Offensive Rookie of the Week

Dalton Cole, Brevard - The freshman quarterback from Hendersonville, North Carolina accumulated 255 yards of total offense with four touchdowns in a 38-34 win over USA South rival LaGrange. Through the air, Cole was 19-of-35 for 187 yards and four touchdowns. On the ground, Cole carried the ball five times for 68 yards. Also Nominated:

Kobe Praylow, Methodist; Trevor Thomas, Maryville.

Football Defensive Player of the Week

Quentin Jackson, Brevard - The Columbia, Maryland sophomore defensive back tallied five total tackles and grabbed two interceptions in a 38-34 win over USA South foe LaGrange. Jackson notched three solo tackles and two assisted takedowns. His two interceptions came deep in Brevard territory stopping potential scores while his first led to a Tornado touchdown. Also Nominated: Trey Hayes, Huntingdon; Bo Herring, Maryville; Octavius Ross, Averett; EJ White, Methodist; Isaiah Williams, N.C. Wesleyan.

Next up for Cole, Jackson, and the rest of the 2018 Brevard College Tornados Football team is a game this Saturday, Nov. 3 in Danville, Va. against Averett University. Kickoff is slated for 5 p.m.

Head Coach Bill Khayat on "Tornado Talk" Every Monday at 7 p.m. - For the latest inside look at all things BC Tornados Football, be sure to tune in to Tornado Talk every Monday at 7 p.m. on Facebook Live. BC Head Coach Bill Khayat will make an appearance every Monday throughout the football season. Fans are welcome to tune in to Tornado Talk by clicking here or may stop by in person to listen. The show takes place at Dugan's Pub at 29 W French Broad St #101 in Brevard, N.C.