

Hands Off Brevard!

Zoe Hughes
Managing Editor

On Saturday, April 5, people across the nation participated in protests rallying against President Donald Trump and billionaire Elon Musk, the recently appointed head of the Department of Government Efficiency (D.O.G.E), and Brevard, NC was no exception.

The movement has been coined “Hands Off!” and is in response to the effort from Musk and President Trump to overhaul the government and expand presidential authority. Participants in the demonstrations on Saturday could be seen

opposing recent government cuts and tariffs and holding Ukrainian flags and “Free Palestine” signs.

According to Reuters, around 1,200 demonstrations were planned for Saturday, spanning across all 50 states and other countries, including Canada and Mexico. About 150 activist groups agreed to join in on the effort. A major hot spot for protesters was in the nation’s capital, Washington D.C.. The National Mall planned to see over 20,000 individuals attend the protest that was held there.

Although it was not that large, Brevard saw its own protesters come and share their beliefs on

Saturday. On the corner of North Broad Street and East Main Street downtown, protesters gathered to participate in the “Hands Off” movement.

The Brevard branch of this movement had more focus on protecting social security, medicaid, and medicare. There were also a large portion of protesters comparing the Trump administration to a fascist oligarchy.

This Saturday was the first major opposition protest since Trump retook office in January. It seems as though Trump and his administration’s action have not pleased U.S. citizens, and Brevard appears to have no shortage of displeased citizens. Photos by Kaleia Hartman.



New student center construction approved by Brevard College board of trustees

A new Student Center that will transform the student experience is on its way to Brevard College. The extensive project was approved at the recent spring meeting of the College's Board of Trustees.

Construction for the new Brevard College Student Center is expected to begin in January 2026. The facility is projected to be complete by the summer of 2027.

"The new Student Center represents an exciting time of growth for our campus and community," said Dr. Bradley J. Andrews, President of Brevard College. "We heard from our students and in turn designed a facility that incorporates every one of their top unmet needs."

The College further announced at the Board of Trustees meeting that over \$10 million has already been raised for the project. Additional gifts to fund the remainder of the project are anticipated to be raised through a public fundraising campaign that will be launched this summer.

"We thank those who are making this dream a reality, including the Board of Trustees, our generous donors, and the BC student body, faculty, and staff," added President Andrews. "We look forward to kicking off our fundraising campaign

this summer, which will take this exciting project to the finish line."

The roughly 30,000 square-foot Student Center will feature an indoor/outdoor communal gathering space for students, the first of its kind at Brevard College. Within the Student Center will be new dining facilities and kitchens, a fitness center, lounges, fireplaces, and game tables, as well as an improved Boerner Conference Room and a new mail facility.

A major feature of the project is the creation of a pedestrian plaza along what is currently Campus Drive, turning a large stretch of campus into a promenade adjacent to the new Student Center. The Campus Plaza will include lounge areas as well as additional dining locations, fire pits, and outdoor games.

The Student Center will be constructed at the location of the Myers Dining Hall, expanding beyond the building's current footprint by approximately 75 percent.

The new Campus Plaza will emerge between the new Student Center and the current J.A. Jones Library/Experiential Learning Commons, Coltrane Hall, and Beam Residence Hall. Entrances to the Student Center will be located

both at the Campus Plaza and on the west side of the existing Robbins Quad.

The project came to fruition after an exhaustive process of surveying Brevard College students about potential physical improvements on campus. Common themes emerged from the surveys asking for specific gathering spaces for students, fitness facilities for non-athletes, and improvements in dining facilities. As a result, the new Student Center was conceptualized and designed to fulfill the requests of BC students.

Brevard College has continually been an open campus for the local community to enjoy. The new Student Center with its enhanced dining facility, along with the Campus Plaza, will be an asset for the local community to experience as well.

"Community members have been enjoying the Brevard College campus and our dining facility as a place to gather and dine for years," said President Andrews. "I anticipate that our community will even further enjoy coming to campus with the arrival of the Student Center."

Brevard College is partnering with Credo Design Architects on the design of the Student Center.

THE CLARION

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The new Student Center and Campus Plaza at Brevard College will transform the center of the campus into a holistic experience for students. Image Credit: Credo Design Architects.

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Brevard College to host sidewalk art competition on April 26

Brevard College invites the public to enjoy a day of creativity and color at its annual Sidewalk Art Competition, which will be held on Friday, April 26, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Residential Quad outside Dunham Hall.

While the competition is open exclusively to Brevard College students, community members are encouraged to stop by, watch the artwork come to life, and explore the finished pieces throughout the day. The event will feature original chalk designs created live by student artists, with entries pre-approved by Visual Arts faculty.

Participants will compete for a share of \$500 in cash prizes and gift certificates to BC Outfitters, the College's official gear shop. Contest guidelines require all drawings to stay within designated squares, and only temporary, washable materials are allowed. The college will provide chalk, though students are welcome to bring additional sidewalk chalk—no spray fixatives are permitted.

"This event is a great opportunity for our students to showcase their artistic talents in a setting that's free and open to the public," said faculty member and event organizer Sean Parrish. He noted that the idea was inspired by a sidewalk art competition that once took place on Main Street in downtown Brevard.

For more information, please contact Sean Parrish at parrish@brevard.edu.



Whereabouts of missing dryer balls in Stanback still unknown

Madeleine Pollock
Staff Writer

On Sunday, April 6, between 4:45 p.m. and 5:15 p.m., dryer balls were taken from Junior Kelly Lawson's laundry hamper in the Standback laundry room.

"My dryer balls and my laundry detergent were in my basket, which I left beside the washer for 29 whole minutes. When I got back, they were gone," Lawson said in an interview.

Lawson's friends rallied around the cause and helped to put up sticky notes in the dorm building, as well as posts on BC Radar, in hopes that the culprit would return the dryer balls.

"It's the principle. I can go buy new ones, but that's not the point. I want my things back. People should respect people's belongings," she said. Lawson also says that she "won't ask questions," she would just like to see them returned.

The dryer balls are wool with pink and blue butterflies. Please notify Kelly Lawson with information about the dryer ball's whereabouts.



Blue Ridge Symphonic Brass takes stage at Brevard College

Kyle Stefanick
Staff Writer

The Blue Ridge Symphonic Brass will hold its first concert at 3 p.m. Sunday, April 13 at Brevard College's Porter Center. This event will feature a selection of works highlighting brass instruments' capabilities and the ensemble's talent.

The concert will be led by Dr. Cole Hairston, Director of Bands at Brevard College, and Dr. William Bryant. The program will begin with "Brevard Fanfare" by Fisher Tull. This piece serves as an engaging start, setting an energetic tone for the evening.

Following the fanfare, the group will perform "Sonata a'6" by Giovanni Bonamente. This composition showcases the intricate interplay of brass instruments, allowing the musicians to demonstrate their skills. The audience can expect a thoughtful exploration of melodies and harmonies throughout the piece.

Next is "Ave Maria," composed by Franz Biebl and arranged by Marshall Kirby for brass. This work is known for its emotional depth and

offers a moment of reflection within the concert. The arrangement allows the brass instruments to convey the piece's serene quality.

The program will also include "Canzon Duo-decimi a'10" by Giovanni Gabrieli, a work that highlights the rich sound of Renaissance brass music. Its structure and harmonies will resonate in the concert hall, creating an immersive experience for listeners.

As the concert continues, the ensemble will present "Solemn Entry" by Richard Strauss. This piece serves as a tribute to the power of brass instrumentation. Its strong presence sets a serious tone, inviting the audience to engage with the music on a deeper level.

The concert will also feature "Serenade for Brass" by Robert Starer. This contemporary composition explores various brass techniques and showcases the range of sounds brass instruments can produce. The innovative structure adds a modern touch to the program.

Additionally, the ensemble will perform the traditional piece "Danny Boy." This selection is familiar to many and allows for a heartfelt interpretation by the brass musicians. Its melodic

lines will resonate with the audience, drawing them into the performance.

To conclude the concert, the ensemble will play "The Liberty Bell" by John Philip Sousa. This well-known march brings a lively end to the program, energizing the audience as the performance wraps up. Its upbeat tempo and recognizable themes create an inviting atmosphere for all attendees.

With a carefully selected program and the guidance of experienced conductors, the ensemble invites everyone to join them for an evening of brass music on April 13. This concert promises to be a significant event, fostering a love for live performance and the artistry of brass instruments.

The Blue Ridge Symphonic Brass looks forward to sharing this concert with the Brevard College community. The group is now officially an in-house ensemble at Brevard College. This development promises to bring a wealth of musical experiences to both students and the surrounding community.

Poisson d'Avril victims

Emma Murray and Philip Ford fell victim to Poisson d'Avril from last week's issue, The Hilarion. Photos courtesy of Kelly Lawson.



Senior Spotlight: Kevin Wright

Zoe Herber
Contributor

Kevin Wright, a senior at Brevard College, started his collegiate journey as an environmental studies major and a member of the men's soccer team. He is now graduating with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and an education licensure.

"I decided to change my major from environmental studies to mathematics because I preferred the subjectivity of math and how problems are solved to find a right or wrong answer," Wright said. Throughout Wright's time at Brevard College, several professors, such as Dr. Wallis, Dr. Rasmussen, Dr. Eastridge, Jessie Tucker, and Dr. Burrows, left a substantial impact on his education and growth as a person.

Out of the 124 credits it takes to graduate with a bachelor's degree, dismissing the excessive credits for an education license, Wright's favorite class was "Real Analysis" with Dr. Eastridge. "It challenged me in a good way. It was difficult in a way where you wanted to continue learning it," Wright said.

Upon graduation, Wright plans to reside near Charlotte and hopes to work as a substitute math teacher. After a year of gaining hands-on experience, Wright plans to pursue a master's degree in mathematics near the East Coast.

Wright has thought about furthering his education, but pursuing a doctorate depends on how rigorous the academic programs are. "I would

be elated to be called Dr. Kevin," Wright said. Wright's end goal and dream career is to become a math professor, but will stay as a math teacher if he decides not to pursue a higher education.

Wright is currently student teaching 9th and 10th graders at Brevard High School in math, which has revealed his passion for teaching. "I enjoy teaching a lot, as I learned from my current student teaching. I like teaching or professing, but being a professor would be cool because professors get to pursue the teaching and research route, and I like both," Wright said.

As college students, we are constantly making decisions that will determine our future path, and to properly assess a future career, it is important to understand what our values are in the workplace. As someone interested in pursuing education, Wright said, "The most fulfilling part will be learning how kids are, what they like to do, and watching them grow from kids into mature adults. My values, in terms of what I want to have in my career, are a mix of enjoyment and making an impact."

The college experience not only enhances your academic knowledge, but it also develops who you are as a person. Outside of the classroom, Wright felt that Brevard College helped him grow as a person, specifically in learning how to handle stressful situations with a calm demeanor, such as Hurricane Helene and the forest fires.

As stated in the beginning, Wright came to Brevard as a student-athlete. "A lot of the friends I made were on the soccer team, so it was an

adjustment to see them less, but it took away a lot of stress, and overall I think it was better to not play anymore," Kevin said.

With the extra time on his hands, Wright was able to focus on academics and prioritize his downtime. Throughout his time at Brevard College, his favorite memory was the afternoon of the hurricane, seeing everybody without electronics, talking to each other, and enjoying the time without classes.



Kevin Wright

Honors Program wraps up the year with annual dinner reception and presentation by Dr. Kuck

Madeleine Pollock
Staff Writer

Members of the Brevard College Honors Program met Sunday evening in the Porter's Center for the annual dinner reception, where Honors Program Coordinator Dr. Jordan Kuck shared insight into his academic career and his time as a Fulbright Scholar.

Students were engaged and lively in their formal attire, and Kuck's presentation was followed by a catered meal of roasted chicken, asparagus,

potatoes, and rice. For dessert, fruit crumble and chocolate mousse.

The takeaway from Kuck's speech was that following one's passions will lead to fulfillment and that the audience should consider the role of fate in determining one's path.

Kuck talked about his Nebraska farm roots and how following his passion for history led him to become a Fulbright scholar and study Latvian dictator and fascist, Kārlis Ulmanis.

Ulmanis, a graduate of the University of Nebraska, had unlikely ties to Kuck, which Kuck

described as fate. Kuck's great-great-grandfather, who enjoyed writing letters to celebrities, had corresponded with Ulmanis decades before Kuck began studying him.

By following his interests, Kuck had earned his PhD and become a published scholar, but he also had the opportunity to travel through most of Europe, learn Latvian, and make unexpected family connections. It was not an easy path, but it was fulfilling.

The event was a great way to celebrate another year in the Honors Program.

Religion and the Arts, the Museum & Gallery of BJU, Dr. J., and what they have in common

Dr. Judith A. Davis
Contributor

This academic year, our adjunct faculty members in Religion are offering new, thematic courses in the Bible and Religion instead of traditional “survey” courses in the Old and New Testaments. Rosemary Peek teaches Religion and Literature, Sharad Creasman teaches Religion and Social Issues, and I teach Religion and the Arts.

Recently, I invited Erin R. Jones, Executive Director of the Museum and Gallery at Bob Jones University, to give a guest lecture for REL 151, Religion and the Arts, for both sections of the course. While it’s mostly a hidden gem and now closed for a transition to downtown Greenville, the Museum & Gallery of Bob Jones University (M&G) holds the largest collection of Northern European religious paintings in the Southeast, and possibly, in our country. Even though the M&G is closed to the public at this time, the collections are online, and once a month during the academic year, the M&G hosts “ArtBreak” luncheons and lectures with nationally recognized specialists to introduce the richness of the internationally respected Bob Jones Collection.

Last December, I attended “ArtBreak,” which focused on Russian religious icons and was presented by the Russian icons curator at the Georgia Museum of Art of the University of



Dr. J. posing with Nado.



Georgia. Who expected a Baptist University art museum to have Russian icons? We were able to see (under glass in display boxes) three icons in the M&G’s holdings, and the lecturer was outstanding. Having studied religious icons for about 30 years and having written/painted about a dozen icons myself, I loved his presentation to about 75 guests. I love the idea of a monthly “art history fix.”

This semester, I attended “ArtBreak” in February, in which the topic was “Religious Paintings in the Dutch Republic,” presented by retired Curator of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, Dr. Arthur Wheelock. Dr. Wheelock presented an excellent slide show from M&G’s outstanding collection of paintings that would have inspired the Dutch in their moral choices and sense of their political history. Rembrandt, after all, is my favorite “theological artist.”

Mrs. Erin R. Jones, whose husband is the grandson of the M&G founder, Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., is the current Director of M&G. She gave an engaging lecture to students in my two sections of REL 151 on March 25. She educated us on the art museum itself, its history and plans for the future. She lectured on several paintings held by M&G about the New Testament and the life of Jesus of Nazareth, our focus this semester in REL 151. In addition to showing slides of the paintings, she invited students to come to the special event on Good Friday, April 11, “Living Gallery,” which shows live portrayals of paintings with community members. Compelling drama, beautiful music, and life-sized masterworks of art filled with real people will be a refreshing look at the life of Jesus. The program includes a sculpture, a Rembrandt etching, M&G’s painting, Christ and the Samaritan Woman by Francois

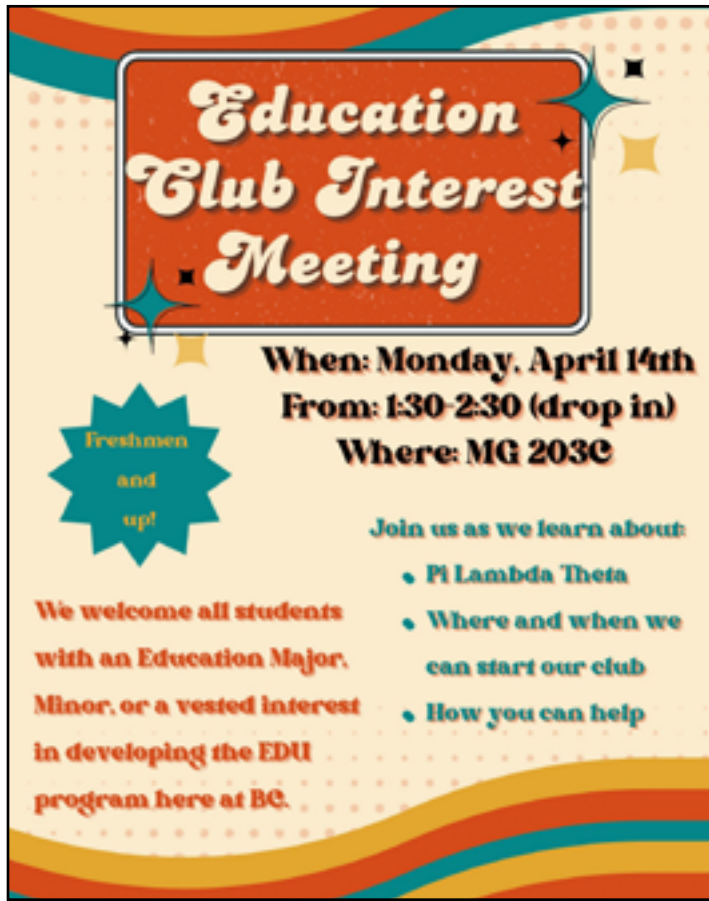
de Troy, and stained glass by Louis Comfort Tiffany (all with actual people re-enacting the art pieces). Performances in the Rodeheaver Auditorium are April 17 and 18 at 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and April 19 at 2:00 p.m., 4:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m.. Tickets are available at <https://www.showpass.com/living-gallery-this-same-jesus/>. In addition, the public is invited to a free public tour of the Benjamin West collection of paintings in the War Memorial Chapel from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. on April 11.

While a field trip might have been preferable were the M&G open, Mrs. Jones’ lecture on our campus was a great introduction to religious paintings by famous artists in a nearby art museum. A few student comments about what they learned reinforced the value of religious art history available to us as close as Greenville, SC. One of my questions to students was: “What was your favorite painting in the presentation? How does ‘reading’ a painting help people relate to the Bible stories?”

Thinking about taking a course on the Bible and Art and Music History? Join me next semester for either section of REL 151. I’d love to have you in class.



Students Evy and Naomi with Erin Jones



Education Club Interest Meeting

When: Monday, April 14th
From: 1:30-2:30 (drop in)
Where: MG 203C

Freshmen and up!

We welcome all students with an Education Major, Minor, or a vested interest in developing the EDU program here at BC.

Join us as we learn about:

- Pi Lambda Theta
- Where and when we can start our club
- How you can help



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Brevard hosts Tornado Classic

Abigail Callahan
Staff Writer

Brevard College hosted the Second Annual Tornado Classic on Friday, April 4, at the newly resurfaced Frank Patton Track. The home meet had 11 teams and over 350 participating athletes.

Senior Haylea-Layne Miller finished in third place in the Women's 400-meter hurdles, and

graduate student Channing Barker highlighted the event by setting a new personal record in the Women's 400. Donnington Walters placed third in discus on the men's side, and Cameron Eubanks had the best hammer throw.

Brevard College competed in the pole vault for the first time in several years on its home track, with Alex Mabry placing fifth.

Senior Day was also Friday, celebrating Haylea-Layne Miller, Brian Seon, Alfredo Sixtos, and Abbey Waldrop at the Tornado Classic. This coming Friday and Saturday the Tornados will attend the Asheville Bulldog Invite, hosted by UNC Asheville.

All photos by Abigail Callahan.

