Local Soup Kitchen Serves Up Hope

By Ivana Airo
Senior Reporter

The latest statistics published by the U.S. Census Bureau reveal that the average percentage of persons living below the poverty line in Trenton from the years 2009 to 2013, is 26.3%. In proportion to its rate of poverty, the city harbors a high number of food insecure individuals, as does Mercer County, of which 11.9% or approximately 43,000 persons, qualify as hungry.

The Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK) has been charged with accommodating the needs of these individuals since 1982. TASK originated in the basement of a Trenton church, with an initial clientele totaling 60 people. Today, the organization serves approximately five or six thousand meals per week. This statistic does not account for the services of nine satellite sites located elsewhere in Hightstown, Princeton, Hamilton and Yardville, for example. Lauren O’Keefe, a student at TCNJ and TASK volunteer, helps the community by bagging food, serving hot meals, and tutoring patrons. When asked why she works with the soup kitchen, O’Keefe said, “TASK does not receive a lot of government funding, so they have a policy where they feed anybody who is hungry and not just people who meet certain requirements...there’s no questions and anybody who wants to come in can eat.”

The nature of TASKS aid however, is not limited to the provision of meals. State Evie Spadafora, a Resource Development Associate and Volunteer at TASK, “Our mission and focus is to meet people’s basic needs in terms of food and also in terms of making themselves self-sufficient.”

For example, Spadafora’s job responsibilities includes supplying other miscellaneous needs these individuals might need. A full-time social worker is available to assist with more difficult requests.

The soup kitchen assets include a music program, art gallery, lending library and computer courses which teach basic skills like how to use the internet, write an e-mail and apply to jobs online. TASK has also organized an extensive program, led by volunteers, by which patrons can earn their GEDs. In fact, 50-75 students are currently enrolled.

In an interview with the VOICE on November 1, Sharon Horne, a 49-year resident of Trenton and GED student at TASK, said, “Education is what brought me to here”. She continued, her goal was to receive this degree to better her job options. “TASK helped by getting me into class and to go for my goals. They would support me in anyway when I needed them...they would support my daughter if I asked for certain things.”

This network of assistance is largely staffed by volunteers, whose numbers total in the thousands. The organization is also supported by donations. Although food is the most common contribution, it is not only the only supply given to TASK. Socks, hygiene products, clothing and furniture are also gifted in great number.

“The important part is that what we don’t use we pass on to other organizations we partner with who might be able to connect it with the right person,” Spadafora later explained. Contributions to TASK are not only made by business but also volunteers. These individuals nearly double in number during the holiday season, from roughly October to January, however quickly decrease afterwards. States Spadafora, “It’s a year round thing [however]. Volunteering and donations need to be year round. The newly do not disappear after Christmas, they’re still here.”

Spadafora also challenged the stereotype that all of TASK’s patrons are homeless. Instead, she says, the largest constituent is the working poor. Often times these individuals who might work 2 or 3 jobs, must still choose between paying an electric bill or buying food. So to satisfy the growing needs of this population, the soup kitchen is undergoing construction for a two-story addition.

Says Dexter Gren, a patron of TASK who belongs to this group of working-class individuals, “Although I’ve never been in any really hard situations...coming in and grabbing a meal is a blessing to me.”

Adds Spadafora, “TASK is much more than just a soup kitchen.”

LEARN MORE
ABOUT HUNGER IN
NEW JERSEY ON
PAGES 6-7.
Many college students experience anxiety when at the end of each semester, they must take their finals. After all, juggling normal classwork, a job, and a social life with family and friends can already be difficult; adding a cumulative exam to the task load, one that might make or break your course grade, is enough to cause hysterics.

Of this predicament, first-year nursing major Yoseline Figueroa, said “I normally try and keep a good routine. If I'm feeling really stressed I take my dog for a walk or take a jog at the park to help refresh my memory”. Unfortunately, many student like Figueroa feel frazzled without any means of coping. In a recent survey done on the MCCC- West Windsor campus, 23 of 30 students felt stressed about taking finals.

Lucky, MCCC offers a variety of programs with the purpose of helping students prepare for their exams, relieve stress, and receive counseling in case of emotional distress. MCCC also offers a tutoring learning center upstairs behind the school store in LB 214 and the Science Learning Center is in MS 211. Walk-ins are always welcome. A variety of tutors are available, including peer tutors, in case you feel uncomfortable getting help from a older professionals. In addition, instruction is available for multiple subject areas.

On the week of Nov.30th through Dec. 2nd, Student Government Association (SGA) will be hosting a Spirit Week. The entire week will consist of different-themed days (see list on the bottom for the names and descriptions). SGA also offers yoga on Mondays and Wednesdays at Zamora. SGA also offers yoga on Tuesdays or Thursday at 12pm in the PE building, in case sweating helps relieve your anxiety. If you still feel stress or even overwhelmed, trained and experienced counselors can be found on the second floor of the Student Center. The Counseling Center is open from Monday through Thursday 9am to 7pm and Friday 9am to 5pm. Drop-ins are welcome but appointments are recommended by calling 609-586-4800 extension 3423 or 3410.

In an interview with The VOICE, second-year education student, Ryan Prendergast, gave some advice for first year students to use during their first semester of college. “Spreading out my studying over a week instead of cramming the night before was every beneficial to me my first year and eating a good breakfast the morning of the exam felt even better.” He continued, “sleep is the most important things you can do before an exam because you don’t want to oversleep and miss your exam nor do you want to being asleep while you are taking your exam. Just stay relaxed and don’t ever think about taking your exams and you’ll do fine,” said Mr. Prendergast.

New cafeteria service offers less for more money

Last summer, MCCC administration contracted Lessings Food Service to manage the college’s cafeteria operations. Since then, there have been numerous changes to the kitchen’s policies and meal options which have sparked criticism from both students and faculty.

Lessing’s offers a variety of menu options including breakfast and lunch from the grill, a salad bar, and soups. There is also a sandwich bar that offers made-to-order sandwiches. Although the new menus is different than the old cafeteria options, the quality of the food has caused complaints.

In an interview with The VOICE, David Schafer, the kitchen manager of Lessing’s cafeteria, said, “As far as the menu goes I am changing the menu all the time. I listen for people’s ideas, take their ideas, and go with it.” The new cafeteria menu charges two different prices for students and faculty members. If you are a faculty member of Mercer County Community college, you are going to have to pay a higher price. This is because New Jersey law dictates that faculty members have to pay sales tax in school cafeterias, while students do not. In a VOICE survey of 20 students, 16 said that the food was overpriced. In that same survey 12 said that they still liked the food, but it was not worth how much it cost.

Commenting on these results, a survey participant said, “You could just go to Wawa instead”. Indeed, Wawa is less than 2 miles from Mercer County Community College. You can get a 16oz coffee at Wawa for $1.45, and you can get the same at Lessing’s for $2.00. You can get a hoagie at Wawa ranging between $3.39 for the smallest sandwich, to $8.09 for the largest size with double meat. At Lessing’s you can get a hoagie for $4.95. Besides cafeteria management, the Lessing’s contract also requires the company cater all Mercer events. But, The VOICE has received several reports that the price of the food is extremely high and the quality poor.

One last provision of the Lessing’s contract is their commitment to do renovations to the cafeteria. Lessing’s website says “When it comes to College Dining Programs, Lessing’s has created an environment that suits any taste... We are committed to a great relationship with the entire student body, faculty, and staff. This includes creating a unique flexible program and listening to the needs of everyone we serve on a daily basis.”
DECEMBER EVENTS

Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
1 | | | | | | 
1 movie “Ghosts of Rwanda” - noon, Holocaust Resource Center (LB 2nd floor) | 2 Yoga class [free] - noon, PE Gym | 3 Men’s Basketball home game vs. Monroe (Bronx) - 6 p.m. | 4 “’Twas The Night Before Christmas...” - 7 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | 5 Men’s and Women’s Basketball vs. Harcum, home

6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12
Yoga class [free] - 5:30 p.m., PE225 | MCCC Chorus Winter Concert (free - public invited) - 7:30 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | MCCC Jazz Band Winter Concert (free - public invited) - 8 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | 10 | 11 | 12 | Men’s and Women’s Basketball vs. CCBC-Catonsville, home

13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19
Men’s and Women’s Basketball vs. Morris, home | 16 Mercer County Symphonic Band Winter Concert (free - public invited) - 7:30 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | “The Nutcracker” - 7 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | 18 | 19 | AAWAC Holiday Extravaganza - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m., PE Gym

20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26
“The Nutcracker” - 1 & 4 p.m., Kelsey Theatre (TH) | | | | | | 

27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
MCCC basketball team seeks nationals this season

By Brittany Lashley
Reporter

The Fall 2015 Basketball Season officially began on November 7th in a game against opponents, Valley Forge. The final score of the season opener resulted in a loss for the Vikings, as have many of their following matches. With such an opening record, the prospects of ending their season similarly to last year’s record of only four losses seems difficult. However, Sophomore Daquan Hargrove, the team’s starting center, believes it can be done. However, there are a few things he thought the team could change.

“We need to accept failing… because when we lose, the team has a tendency to just shut down,” he told The VOICE.

Hargrove also said that the team lacks discipline needed to have a winning season. He hopes this can be changed during their long , five-day-a-week practice session. Although remains when the players reflect on the results of last year’s season, and how the team was able to improve enough to make it to the Region 19 Championship. The record’s four lost games were lost by an average 14.25 points, but winning games were won by an average 12.5 points. In an interview with The Voice, MCCC Head Coach Howard Levy said, “Our biggest competition, like every year, is ourselves.” He continued, that Essex County College, who has consecutively won three GSAC Championships from 2012 to 2014, is probably the strongest team in the league and that the Vikings have played up with them. Commenting on last year’s surprising success, Levy said, “we had a lot of experienced guys that were very good and we were good from the very beginning… I think we have a chance to be good but it might take a little time. Last year we were good from the first day” Only four members of the 2014 squad remain on this year’s team. They include: Ezen Bell, Dean Blank, Daquan Hargrove, and Kenyatta Long.

Even still, the players and fans hold on to hope. Local fan Mike Coe told The VOICE, “I’ve already had a rough start, but I’m hoping they’ll get better.”

When asked if nationals this year were a possibility, alumni Jaylen Pickert said that the team can probably make the playoffs but nationals is a longshot. He stated, “Last years starters were older and they had a lot more experience… but they should be a decent team because of the coaching.” Coach Levy said, “I think its possible every year (to make nationals). I feel like we have a chance to win every single game.” In the same spirit, when asked his expectations for the season, Hargrove stated, “Go to nationals.”

First home game ended 56-77 with Manor taking the lead. PHOTO | BRITTANY LASHLEY

“Happiness is spending the holidays with your best friend.”

By Pablo Araya-Chacon
Reporter

Although Thanksgiving is a nationwide holiday, arguably familiar to all, the facts of its history and the ways in which Americans celebrated the day are particularly special for each family. Many picture the first Thanksgiving, as a joined gathering of Pilgrims and Native Americans to celebrate the first successful harvest. However, it wasn’t until 1863, when President Lincoln declared a day of “healing the wounds of the nation” that the historic events became holiday. The specific date was eventually moved to the fourth Thursday by President Roosevelt in order to boost the economy. Hence, Turkey Day is often considered the start of the holiday shopping season. The VOICE reached out to students around campus to gather their thoughts on the holiday, and see if their families celebrate any other holidays other than Thanksgiving. For first-year Liberal Arts student Corwin Curbishley, Thanksgiving convenient reminder of what we have and who we have in our lives. She continued, “We celebrated the holiday, but generally entail getting the extended family together to celebrate. During these holidays, traditional Chinese dishes are served. In addition to these holidays, they also celebrate a day to honor their ancestors. Eng said that during this time they visit past relatives and reserve their graves, pull weeds, and bring flowers and certain foods that hold special symbolic. Regardless of what holidays celebrated, many take time during this season to embrace cheer, remember family, and be thankful for what they have in life.
MCCC's Men's Soccer assistant coaches, Lauren Sparano and Marissa Segal, have assumed primary roles of player instruction following the sudden departure of then head coach, Michelle Ogborn, back in September. The two females have since lead their team to a winning season.

Marissa and I stepped up as coaches and did what we had to do. We knew, especially going into the playoffs, that we needed to keep the team positive and that's exactly what we did," said Sparano.

Segal added, "It was easy for me to take charge and push the girls a little bit more."

Under the leadership of Segal and Sparano, the focus of training shifted and practices became more intense. According to sophomore and midfielder Samantha Barlow, the coaches often focused on tactics which improved player organization and overall game strategy.

This new approach garnered approval from John Si-

men, the Athletic Director, saying, "They're really good soccer tacticians...I think they taught a lot of comradery on the team, team concept, I think that was why we made it to the finals and the playoffs." He also added that the way the two worked together changed his opinion of co-coaching and its ability to be effective. "It's really based on the personality of the individuals willing to share and do what's good for the team and not for themselves. In both cases, they did that, which I really respect." Because both Segal and Sparano are returning for the Spring and Fall 2016 seasons, they've already begun discussion of strategy and training. "That's gonna be a huge thing, I mean getting everybody on the same page right from the start," said Segal. She continued, "we want them to be more productivity and structure. We both have a lot to offer and a lot of knowledge about the game. More structure would definitely help the team," said Sparano.

Despite these criticisms, this fall the MCCC's Women's Soccer ended with a winning 10-7 record, taking second place in their region. The season started with a low number of girls participating, many of whom sported major injuries including even concussions. Said Segal, "I'm really proud of the girls for stepping up the way that they did. They gave a lot of hours... Everybody stepped up to help each other, especially towards the end of the season."
The USDA defines food insecurity as a state in which “consistent access to adequate food [, necessary for an active, healthy lifestyle,] is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year.” It is the single most common measure of hunger in studies conducted within the country. In 2014:

- One out of seven Americans are food-insecure (~ 48.1 million people)
- One out of five U.S. children are food-insecure (~ 15.3 million)
- One out of eight people in NJ are food insecure (~ 1,101,750)

**2.9**

Averaged percent increase of food insecurity in the U.S from 2002-2014

**PROFILE: “FACES” OF FOOD INSECURITY**

**Lori**

“All anyone wants is piece of mind but you can’t have that when you constantly thinking of all the things you need to do.”

After the passing of an uncle with whom she had stayed and cared for, Lori became homeless. Not wanting to alarm any of her other relatives, she took up residence at a Trenton-area shelter. She eventually secured an overnight position at the post office and later, a seven day-a-week job, but neither covered her daily expenses plus her outstanding medical and tuition bills. She therefore applied to Amazon and now works four 12-hour days. During her time off, Lori visits TASK to use the computers and stay connected to the community she once belonged.
HITS HOME
show promise but numbers still high

HOW DOES N.J. COMPARE TO OTHER STATES?
Although the state total percentage of individuals who qualify as "food insecure" (12.4%) is less than the national average (14.3%), the number of individuals this equates to (1,101,750) is greater than the number of individuals affected in the states with the top four highest percentages (MS, 22.7%; AR, 19.9%; LA, 17.6%; KY, 17.5%).

WHAT FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TO FOOD INSECURITY?
Poverty and food insecurity are undeniable related however, low income is not an unfailing predictor of hunger. In fact, unemployment, lower household assets, and demographic groups such as Latinos (1 in 6 seek assistance from food programs), African Americans (1 in 4), and senior citizens, also strongly correlate to food insecurity.

WHY IS THERE HUNGER IN THE UNITED STATES?
Food insecurity is often caused by life’s unpredictable events. The money required to pay, say, a medical bill, might force a family near the poverty line to cut back elsewhere. Limited access to fresh goods, like more-expensive produce and distribution failures, also characterize our system. Even still, the U.S. is ranked #1 on the Global Food Security Index.

Leo
“The food [served at TASK] is better than anything I could get out on the streets.”

Having once lived in Ocean County, the first-year computer networking student eventually moved to Trenton because of its more extensive and better developed outreach programs. Leo now sleeps in the shelter nearby the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen (TASK), where he stops in every few days to eat a warm meal, use the computers, and get advice and assistance on his schoolwork. Occasionally, he walks forty minutes to work at a local restaurant. Though he collects a minor income, Leo relates how quickly it disappears and therefore how little one has left over for basic needs.
The Celebrity Scoop

By Kamee Colocort
Reporter

American playwright and director Neil Simon’s high-spirited comedy, Rumors, was performed last month at Mercer’s Kelsey Theatre. The play, which ran from October 23 to November 1, received favorable reviews.

The story of Rumors is set at an anniversary party which is suddenly interrupted by the suicide of host Charlie Brock and the simultaneous disappearance of his wife. Not wishing to cause panic, the party’s first guests, a Mr. and Mrs. Gorman, attempt to cover up the occurrence of the event. However eventually, those that attend quickly find out what happened and chaos ensues.

Although the storyline seems serious, the absurd actions of the party’s four couples lend the play a comedic tone: the frantic Gormans (Staun Karuzis and Susan Galli), the sarcastic, childish Ganz (Ron SanGiovanni and Sara Their), the elderly and sophisticated Cusacks (Nathan Parker and Marilyn Licciardello), and the useful melodramatic Coopers (Wayne Rossignon and Judy Venturini).

Archie St. James, who plays Mr. Charles Acosta, is described as “the right thing to do right now” after Odom’s life-threatening drug binge at a Nevada brothel last month.

Flip Saunders

The Minnesota Timberwolves Head Coach died last month from complications related to Hodgkin’s lymphoma; he was currently taking time off to receive treatment. Over a span of 17 years in the NBA, Saunders won 564 games.

Adelle

The British singer and songwriter released her first single in three years last month. The song’s music video broke the record for most single-day views, topping Taylor Swift’s “Bad Blood” and Miley Cyrus’ “Wrecking Ball.”

Leah Remini

The actress’ memoir, out on stands November 3rd, details among other things, her infamous split with the Church of Scientology. In an interview with 20/20 about the book, Remini reportedly calls Tom Cruise, another member of the Church, “evil.”

Artistic director and lighting designer M. Kitty Gertlik stated that “The couples are very well matched with each other. But then you have the policeman that comes in and he is completely different from the rest.”

Officer Welch, played by a Mr. Charles Acosta, is characterized by extreme curiosity which serves only to intensify the play’s melodrama. Although his role in the story is short-lived, actor Acosta was undoubtedly one of the play’s biggest stars; his performance of an accentuated voice was outstanding. Indeed, his one-on-one scene with Mr. Lenny Ganz, (SanGiovanni) speaking fake Spanish was absolutely hysterical. The line at the end where Welch exclaimed, “Your Spanish is horrible,” had the whole audience roaring with laughter.

Another actor that attracted attention was Ron SanGiovanni. His character’s relentless dry wit and sarcastic humor constituted a majority of the play’s entertainment. The skill with which he performed his character’s actions, most especially his ability to overexaggerate, were crucial to creating laughter. Said Gerlitz, SanGiovanni had to be spot on with his performance because his many of his character’s lines were central to the storyline and comedic tone. Explaining further, “In non-musicals, you are pretty much depending on the dialogue to set the tone... But in this play, there is also a lot of action since this is a farce.”

Major praise for the project as a whole must go to the directing of Liz Wurtz. She did an excellent job in her debut as a director in the Kelsey Theatre. The dialogue was great, the action was hysterical, and all the actors were magnificent, but none could have likely been executed without the guidance and leadership of Wurtz. All things considered, Neil Simon’s Rumors is a must-see comedy.
Letter to the Editor

The slogan “Black Lives Matter” is not a complete sentence

thought. The question is, To whom do Black lives matter? A strong argument can be made that with the documented intra-cultural violence that has plagued both the inner cities and rural neighborhoods throughout the US, people of African descent don’t think that “Black lives matter.” Even the messages contained in popular music that commodifies the exploitation and the fantasizing of self-destructive behavior reinforces the argument that Black lives don’t matter to Black people. It might seem harsh, but many would gladly sell their very soul for a rhythm dance product that glorifies the rump shaking and rape of young women and men. Under the guise of “keeping it real,” many are willing to defend and condone the continued debasing of women through misogynist themes as supported and promoted in the marketplace. The auctioning of human beings of African descent by any other name is still perpetuating the slave trade in High Definition (HD). And if African people near and far would not participate in the “business” not condone the practice, the auctioneering would fester and run, dry up and wrinkle, like a raisin in the sun. And so, an answer to the question “to whom do Black lives matter?” might be, unless and until Black lives matter to Black people (as soon as the murder rate between black people in the United States and Africa begins to drastically decline), when black people begin treating each other as they would have others treat them, then and only then will Black lives truly matter. Not only will Black lives matter. All Lives will matter. When we as a community begin to appreciate the value of each other as brothers and sisters, the quality of every human being’s life will matter to all of us. For as we are members of the same species, as all of us are the native inhabitants of Earth, we will emerge into the Greater Community of Worlds and know ourselves as members of one race, the Human Race. We are colors of the Spirit...We are many... We are One! We are One! We are One!!

In the immortal words of Professor of Communications Alexandre Dumas, “All for one, one for All.”

Do you see a typo?
Then join the staff and fix it!
Wednesdays 12noon ET 127

WONT YOUR MERCER EVENT PROMOTED LIVE ON MCCC’S STUDENT RADIO STATION VIKING 89.1?
CONTACT THEM ON THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE STUDENT CENTER!

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Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market returns

Changing the course: Prevention through Education

Written by Ivana Airo, researched by Zachery Knight

Originally, the Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market started out in January 2013. The Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market initially started out with only a miniscule amount of about 40 vendors as opposed to the 200+ vendors it now attracts.

The Market tends to bring in vendors and customer from not only NJ but also NYC, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. TPPFM is hosted at the Historic Roebling Machine Shop located at 675 South Clinton Avenue in Trenton, NJ.

Excited crowds attended the opening of the annual Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market.

New Jersey Counties Reporting 90 or more Gangs

Danilo Castillo, an ex-gang member and currently a freshman Computer science major from Mercer County Community College was part of what he called "the bad life" after record gang activity for over 5 years. He used to spend most of his time trying to get "fast money" on the street of Trenton by selling drugs. At one point, he experienced so much pain during his time in the gang that nothing could hurt him, he said.

Danilo was beaten up by his fellow gang members to prove his strengths. "It's a way to show them you're tough" he said. "and everybody welcomes you to the family." The street turned him into a cold person, without fear of danger. "I wasn't afraid of anything, of anyone.”

In 2007, the crime rate in Trenton was 6,862.87 according to the most recent FBI's Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) converting the capital of New Jersey as one of the most dangerous regions in the United States. Danilo was indisputably part of these numbers.

One of the reasons that motivated Danilo to get involved in these groups is that over time gang members gain prestige and status among their friends. "My only goal was to have power, I wanted to feel respected and important" he said.

The idea of a gang acting as a substitute family is increasing with time. "My mom was suffering as I was surrounded by so much riskiness" he said. Danilo considered fellow gang members to be family and that they took care of each other. According to him, gangs provided him with a sense of belonging and protection that he did not receive from other relationships or experiences in life.

According to a survey conducted in 2010 by the New Jersey Department of Law and Public Safety Division, more than half (58%) of all gangs were reported to have six or fewer members. Conversely, 43 gangs were identified with more than 100 members. While gangs are notorious for their criminal activity, the majority were not reported to be involved in violent crimes (54%), theft crimes (62%), drug crimes (51%), or other crimes (70%).

In fact when it comes to gangs, many tend to be divided based upon race, ethnicity, and territory. Recently, they have become more sophisticated in their use of violence and intimidation tactics. Physical force is the way they control neighborhoods and expand their illegal money-making activities that effect the general population with vandalism, drug dealing, assaults, drive-by shootings and other criminal activities. Even now, gangs are breaking through racial, cultural, and socio-economic barriers in growing numbers. Young people from all economic and social backgrounds have been lured into gang life, mostly seeking protection from the trials and tribulations that adolescents face on a daily basis.

After experiencing gangs firsthand, Danilo understood that God was his best outing and that education could direct him to success. "For myself and my family, I was born again" he continues. Danilo said that God helped to clear his path and he tries to now focus on his professional preparation ensuring a better future for himself and his family. "Tons of tactics of prevention, intervention, and suppression has been implemented in communities across the United States to assist young talented people like Danilo. He exemplifies how education can be one of the most powerful weapons to overcome adversity. "For the gang violence to end," Danilo said, "All it comes down to is being given the chance to succeed."
New Jersey Counties Reporting 90 or more Gangs

**The College VOICE NEWSPAPER**

NOW RECRUITING

IS THIS YOU?

YOU BELONG WITH US!
Build your resume.
See your work in print.
Make friends.
Find your voice!

IS THIS YOU?

YES?

I AM THE ONLY STUDENT PAYING ATTENTION!

Build your resume.
See your work in print.
Make friends.
Find your voice!

IS THIS YOU?

YES?

I AM THE ONLY STUDENT PAYING ATTENTION!

Build your resume.
See your work in print.
Make friends.
Find your voice!

Recent Survey: after only 6 months

86% of our graduates are employed or in graduate school

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Trenton Punk Rock Flea Market returns

Changing the course: Prevention through Education

PHOTO | ZACHERY KNIGHT

**WINTER SESSION**

Catch Up or Get Ahead During 2015-16 Winter Session at Mercer County Community College

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For students seeking to complete a course in two weeks on campus or in five weeks online this winter, Mercer County Community College offers accelerated classes during its traditional mid-winter break.

Mercer’s 2015-16 Winter Session includes nearly 40 courses from across the college curriculum.

**Registration begins November 16**

Admissions or registration assistance: (609) 570-3244 or email admiss@mccc.edu
With the holidays coming along, it’s about time for you to take charge of your life and pursue your dreams. It will be a lot of work, but you’re up to the challenge.

Whether it is because of the change in temperatures or seasons, important changes are coming ahead. Take the opportunity to reinvent yourself. Be adaptable.

Whether it is the glow from being surrounded by loved ones or the hearty meals, friends and family will be charmed by your company. Take the opportunity to reconnect with everyone.

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