Protestors took to streets in front of the state Capitol Building in Trenton, after it was announced that US Attorney General Jeff Sessions stepped down from his position at the request of President Trump. This announcement came on Wednesday, November 7, the day after the midterm elections, while votes were still being counted in many parts of the country.

The rapid response action called “Nobody is Above the Law” was prepared months in advance by the progressive organization MoveOn.org, ready to be activated whenever, or if ever, the president fired Attorney General Sessions or took direct action to stifle the special investigation into Russian election meddling being carried out by Robert Mueller.

Activists and progressive groups across the nation signed up on MoveOn.org’s website to receive a message to let them know if the day had come. That message went out on Wednesday, calling people to rally at Thursday 5pm. An estimated 40,000 people participated nationwide on over 900 protests, according to the Move-on website.

One of the roughly 100 protestors in Trenton, Mike Onorati of Bordentown said of the event, “It shows a commitment of people making the decisions for this country. If you are sitting on the sidelines, you are not part of the solution.”

Julie Wilmot, a mom from Cranbury whose son, Ezekiel Wagner, goes to Mercer, was at the rally. She told the VOICE: “Speak out. Be heard. Ask your representative to go to Washington and tell your story. Tell everyone you know to vote.

“Speak out. Be heard. Ask your representative to go to Washington and tell your story. Tell everyone you know to vote. Inspire there is change. Inspire there is redistricting in your legislative district. We can’t do this without the real voices of all the people making the decisions for this country. If you are sitting on the sidelines, you are not part of the solution.”

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Who set the campus on fire?  
Burnt toast prompts evacuation and brings fire department  

By Chelsey Johnstone  
Senior Reporter

Campus accountability. In addition to a law that would require greater notification, her parents pushed for campus without anyone being notified. [We recorded] "No smoke or fire, fire department services not required."  

Byron Marshall, Director of College Safety at Mercer stated via email to The VOICE, "From what I can remember, the November 2 incident was insignificant in nature and nothing was noted outside. [We recorded] "Prior to this, the institution's educational direct support of, or in relation to, the institution; or any building or property owned or controlled by a student organization that is officially recognized by the institution; or any building or property owned or controlled by an institution that is used in direct support of, or in relation to, the institutional educational purposes, is frequently used by students, and is not within the same reasonably contiguous geographic area of the institution."

When asked what the alarm company didn’t answer the phone when we called. He continued, "when we get to the bottom of it, somebody burnt toast in her office, the fire alarm went off and we followed standing operating procedure."

Marshall released a precautionary statement to the college's faculty and staff after the event stating, "Please ensure that you actively monitor the warming or cooking of food appliances (i.e., toaster, microwave and warmer ovens, coffee pots, space heaters, etc.), and turn off all office lights before leaving your office and workspace."

Elizabeth Kelley current Mercer sophomore was unfazed when told about this burnt toast incident she was unaware of. She stated, "I feel like we lack safety and security a little bit here at Mercer County...as a college we should be more safe."

As of now, it is unclear who burnt the toast and what room it occurred in. Last year on November 16, the AD building was evacuated over a rumored burnt popcorn. It seems as though these "false alarm" fires are quite common to the West Windsor campus.

College releases annual campus crime report

By Drew Mumich  
Senior Reporter

Mercer’s annual crime report for 2017 indicates that several crimes occurred on our campuses as well as in related off-campus locations during the past year.

The James Kerney Campus saw very little crime, with just one on campus incident (i.e., toaster, microwave and warmer ovens, coffee pots, space heaters, etc.).

By contrast, as recently as Nov. 12 when an altercation broke about between two students and one student was punched badly enough to require first aid, the log was updated with the information.

Compared to other community colleges in New Jersey, Mercer’s levels of crime are moderate.
Women’s basketball falls in last minute

By Chelsey Johnstone & Caitlin Clarke
Senior Reporters

The Mercer Women’s basketball team lost another game to out-of-region opponent SUNY Sullivan on Tuesday, November 13. This comes soon after Mercer lost to the team in a November 3 away game that was part of the Sullivan Invitational Tournament in New York State.

Mercer’s team, with a roster size of only nine players, consists of six newcomers: five freshmen and one sophomore. There are just three returning second-year players.

With very little senior leadership and multiple injured players, Mercer’s team seemed to be at a disadvantage before the game had even started.

While Sullivan could handle setbacks such as two players fouling out of the game, for example, Mercer simply did not have the amount of subs necessary to absorb any similar blows.

Vikings head coach Mike Tenaglia, who is entering his 28th season with the team, said "Two of our girls were blobbling around out there and two others decided that they didn’t really want to play this year."

Tenaglia continued, "I think physically [the players] got tired, and when you get tired you make mistakes."

Despite those mistakes, Mercer still came very close to a win. Sophomore Tylisa Livingston alone put up 26 points, more than half of the team’s total points.

In fact, the game was tied at 51 to 51 until the final 1.6 seconds, at which point Sullivan was able to drain a clutch 3-pointer and pull off the win. The lead changed hands a total of seven times over the course of the game.

Sullivan Head Coach Daniel Lang said, “Mentally, we were prepared and focused for everything.”

He continued “We changed a few things, as far as defensively [from the last game], but [Mercer] did a good job of countering that with whatever changes they made... They get to the line and make you play.”

Stand out offensive performances from Sullivan’s team came from freshmen Jayda Allen and Traynise Livings-ton, who combined their efforts for a total of 25 points. Freshman Jade Walls dominated the court, ending the game with 13 rebounds on the books.

According to Coach Tenaglia, “[Mercer’s team] has good basketball IQ to a degree... they’re really motivated to play and to hustle, which is always a good thing."

Tenaglia continued, “If we were a little more patient we might have got a better shot and we might have got that girl before she could shoot the three.”

JKC gallery show features photos of Alaskan hometown

By Michael Bolden
Reporter

The most recent exhibit at JKC Gallery on Mercer’s downtown campus is work of photographer Patrice Helmar. The exhibit titled “Dirty Old Town” focuses on the awe and familiarity of returning to one’s hometown after living in another place for some time. In particular, it captures the everyday lives of people living in a small Alaskan town. A reception was held on Oct. 24 for the opening of the exhibit and approximately 20 people attended it.

According to Helmar, she used a 1940’s 4x5 film camera that took about 30 minutes to set up each shot. “Each picture is like burning a $5 bill,” says Helmar, who comes from a working family and who used to be a bartender.

“Making work of your hometown is pretty personal, it’s like revealing something about yourself that’s near and dear”

Helmar says she was excited to have her work shown at Mercer, noting, “If somebody from Alaska can have a show in Trenton, then somebody in Trenton can have a show or do damn near anything they put there mind to.”

The current Gallery director is Mercer Photography Professor Michael Dalton, who says he came across Helmar’s work while producing his photography podcast called “The Real Photo Show.” They are also both graduates of Columbia University and Professor Dalton says he also knows her from the club she has started called the “Marble Hill Camera Club.”

Professor Dalton says that the Helmar’s camera choices used allowed her to capture an incredible sense of the landscape. He says, "In Alaska there’s great dramatic lighting and distant to be seen and I think that’s part of her work... Christie Culbery a Graphic Design major at Mercer who attended the exhibit said that “As you walked around you almost went through a timeline of the story shared through photography.”

Rachel Stern who has an MFA from Columbia University and teaches photography at Mercer also attended the reception for Helmar’s exhibit. She says Helmar’s work “was very lyrical. [The photographs] felt like they told a story. There were these very beautiful and sometimes challenging little glimpses into a different place than where I’m from and a different life then I lived but the story I felt like was told in a very human way.”

Helmar says the people featured in her photographs have reacted well to them, and that she’d like to hold an exhibit in her native Alaska at some point.
“Menopause: The Musical” has been touring for almost two decades now, and while the topic might not seem to lend itself to song and dance numbers, the show is a consistently relatable and hilarious hit, and not only with older audiences.

The current cast recently played two shows at The State Theatre in New Brunswick on Saturday, November 10. The musical, as of now, has run in 13 different countries, over 350 cities, and has reached nearly 11 million people. The musical manages to bring men to the often not discussed and taboo topic of menopause.

The sparse set is organized as a sequence of doors representing elevators to different floors that feature restaurants, beauty salons, and department stores. As each section ends the lights dim and then there is a ding of the elevator changing floors and a female voice announces the next floor, setting the scene.

In one particularly memorable scene, the four principles are fighting over lingerie at Bloomingdales. The audience included many middle-aged women, laughing continuously at the seemingly familiar to life scene.

In another scene, also regarding lingerie, the character whose role is referred to as “Iowa Housewife,” played by actress Teri Adams, attempted to space up her love life searching for the perfect piece of lingerie.

“Sitting through a rack, with not a word said, she takes the tiniest piece of clothing she could find and attempts to stretch it across her body. Although the actress stays silent, her pantomime inspired the crowd to loud laughter.”

One audience member, Magery Miller, 78, of Bridgewater, New Jersey says that was one of her favorite scenes.

“The mime scene with the lingerie, I thought she did a fabulous job. The audience members a relatable quality to experiences, such as the fact Mrs. Farris said, “Bring husbands, bring men. I was going to have a comedy in the show."

According to Boston men often respond well to the light-hearted humor because they haven’t laughed in so long. That’s one of the most moving aspects of the show."

In one of the ways “Menopause: The Musical” appeals to a crowd of all ages is by taking classic hit songs and rewriting the lyrics to address a humorous part of menopause.

“Songs like ‘My Girl’ and ‘My Guy’ and groups like The Temptations and The Beach Boys and The Bee Gees, The Supremes, and Mary Wilson, all of those things will always be there. Those are classic tunes.”

Some of the crowd favorites seemed to be Aretha Franklin’s “Chain of Fools” reworked into the menopause “Change of Life,” as well as the popular “The Lion Sleeps Tonight” transformed into “My Husband Sleeps Tonight.”

A musical lasting almost two decades so far has to be doing something right. According to Boston, it is not just the pure hilarity and relatability that gives it staying power, it is also the way it touches the lives of those in need of a smile.

She says, “What touches me the most, I would say, is when women who haven’t laughed in a long time, or women who have been thru into menopause due to illness…they come and they have their heads covered and they cry because they haven’t laughed in so long. That’s one of the most moving experiences I’ve ever had.”

At the end of “Menopause: The Musical” she cast (all wearing black and sequins) invites audience members on stage for a celebratory dance.
Noteworthy in New Jersey - Midterm Election Results

**NJ Midterms Overview**

In the 2018 Midterms New Jersey saw four Republican congressional districts flip to Democratic. Republicans kept the Senate but Democrats took the House of Representatives, handing President Trump his first defeats as President. In New Jersey the results were as follows:

- In the 7th district incumbent Republican Leonard Lance, who has served for 9 years, was defeated by Democrat Tom Malinowski, a former State Department official.
- In the 2018 Midterms New Jersey turned four Republican congressional districts Democratic.
- Republicans kept the Senate. Democrats took the House of Representatives. President Trump's Russia scandal added more drama to the mix.

**Children's Future Bond Act Passes**

Of special interest to New Jersey's college students was the ballot question asking if New Jersey should issue $500 million in bonds for additional education funds - public colleges included. New Jerseyans voted yes. According to northjersey.com, this brings New Jersey's debt to more than $46 billion.

**Andy Kim's tight win**

In the 3rd district incumbent Tom MacArthur for the 3rd congressional race. MacArthur didn't concede until more than a week after the election. Kim is a former Obama aide.

**Mikie Sherrill a former US Navy helicopter pilot and Federal Prosecutor had the largest win margin of the 4 congressional seats that flipped red to blue. She took the 11th district with 56.2 percent of the vote.**

**New Face for 4th**

Andy Kim defeated incumbent Tom MacArthur for the 3rd District congressional seat. Kim is a former Obama aide.

**Malinowski beats Lance**

In Hamilton, school board elections as candidates Richard C. Crockett III and Sherry Morency came under scrutiny after racist comments were found on their social media accounts, according to communitynews.org. They blamed hackers. They lost to Dr. Susan Ferrara, Richard Komis, and Angela Haaf.

**Children's Future Bond Act Passes**

In the 7th district incumbent Republican Leonard Lance, who has served for 3 years, was defeated by Democrat Tom Malinowski, a former State Department official.

**Mon + Thurs 12-1:15 in ET 127**

No experience necessary!

**King Crossword**

**ACROSS**

1. Night flyer  
4. Typing measure  
5. Six's counterpart  
12. Work with  
13. "Pokémon" genre  
14. Reaction to fireworks  
15. King of three-card monte  
17. Short  
18. Brewery product  
19. Sun-dried bricks  
21. Pros at a country club  
24. Information  
25. Playwright  
26. Prisoner's plight  
28. Detox center for short  
31. Half quart  
33. And so on (Abbr.)  
35. Strive from the text  
36. British term for some  
38. — sauce  
40. Meadow  
41. Plumlike fruit  
43. Disheveled  
45. Prepare leftovers  
47. Spot  
48. Red.

**DOWN**

49. In the style of Percy Bysshe  
51. Zero  
51. Lukewarm  
51. First lady  
51. Ailing  
51. Hits with an open hand  
51. Tilt for —  
51. British term for some  
51. — sauce  
51. Meadow  
51. Plumlike fruit  
51. Disheveled  
45. Prepare leftovers  
47. Spot  
48. Red.

**32. Scrabble piece**

**34. Marsh mallow**

**37. Goes on momentum**

**39. Relinquishes**

**42. Lucy's pal**

**44. Appomattox**

**7. Jordan's capital**

**8. Garden tool**

**9. Stunner**

**10. Libertine**

**11. Resistance measures**

**12. Workshop**

**13. As yet unpaid**

**14. Kelly of TV**

**15. Hindu princess**

**16. Hollywood**

**17. Clean air org.**

**18. Butterfly catcher**

**MON + THURS 12-1:15 in ET 127**

No experience necessary!
Welcome to our new feature: “PROBLEM SOLVED” where we take a common question or problem facing MCCC students and provide a straightforward and detailed answer.

**STEP 1**

1. Go to the Mercer home page at mccc.edu and click on MyMercer on the top left of the page.

2. Click on the SIGN IN icon on the right.

**STEP 2**

1. In your student portal select STUDENT PLANNING SELF SERVICE.

2. Select Plan & Schedule.

---

**By Drew Mumich & Brandon Simms**

A lot of students enroll themselves in Mercer classes when they start or get someone in the Enrollment Center to help them, but those staffers are really only there to advise first semester students. Afterward, students are assigned a full-time faculty advisor depending on their major but they don’t know what they do or how to find them.

In a recent survey of 30 Mercer students, 1 third of the students didn’t know who their advisor was, or how to even contact them.

Let’s clear up the confusion. First, all students can go to Enrollment Services in the Student Center to get them registered for classes, but as Gina Migliaccio, a staffer there explains that the advisors in The Enrollment Center are good for kick-starting your first semester at Mercer by looking at SATs, ACTs, or Placement Tests scores, and registering you based on those. But after that, students should go to find their academic advisors.

An academic advisor has the advantage of knowing exactly what classes you have to take to graduate on time. They have regular office hours where you can drop by their office and ask for advice not only on what classes to take but also on how to stay on track. They can tell you what professors may be a good fit for you based on your personality and goals. They can tell you how to transfer, help you understand how to write applications to transfer schools, explain how to get teacher recommendations when you need them and so on. They can even help point you in a different direction if you want to change majors.

There are also three Success Coaches at Mercer, one for each division, and they can help with first semester registration but are also on hand for advice for students struggling with time management, falling behind in courses and so on. Often instructors who see a student struggling in class will send them to see a success coach for help.

The success coaches as seen are Victoria Onori Bowman (Liberal Arts), Jehan Mohamed (Business and STEM), and Nichol Killian (Health Professions).

Victoria Bowman, the success coach for the Liberal Arts Division explains “So you come into the college, as a new student, first time, full-time student, and you go up to enrollment, and they do what is called intake, and I do that as well, and we schedule your classes and get you on pace to being a successful student. An overlap of that is a success coach, from the beginning to the Student Advocate.

---

What if you got problems with GPA or money? The Academic Success Center is available to help you.

Volunteer - you gain points!
What comes in between is your academic advisor.

Why is it valuable to have your faculty advisor? A study from the University of Nebraska called "The Effects of Academic Advising on College Student Development in Higher Education" says "Academic advising was a contributor for 93% of student's satisfaction with their college experience." The study also showed a correlation between advising and improved GPA, and a overall happiness with college life.

This begs the question, where can you find your advisor? They are so important! Below we have given you a visual step by step guide to help you do just that!

As Bowman told the VOICE, "We want you to know that you are not alone in the game. We want you to have support!"

**Enter your user name (firstname.lastname) and password (birthdate mmddyy) and click SIGN IN**

**Select Plan & Schedule**

Click on the "Advising" tab and your faculty advisor's name will appear in blue. Click on it to send your advisor an email.

**Best for first semester enrollment!**

There is one for each of the three academic divisions. Seek them out for help with early semester enrollment or extra help and support as you progress, particularly if you are struggling.

**Best for advising after first semester! This is a full time faculty member who teaches in your major and can help you plan your classes, get organized, prep for transfer and stay on track to graduate.**

**This is your faculty advisor!**

**You can change advisors if you want.** If you have a professor you like working with, you can change to have them be your advisor. Just ask them.

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**TIPS**

**You can change advisors if you want.** If you have a professor you like working with, you can change to have them be your advisor. Just ask them.

**ADVISORS HELP YOU GRADUATE ON TIME**

**"Self Advising"**

You can always organize your schedule and register for classes on your own, but studies show seeing your advisor can help you graduate faster and save money.

**Spring 2019 enrollment has begun!**

Now is the time to go see your faculty advisor and get enrolled for classes before they fill up.
GET A
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2018 Open House
Sunday, December 2
Transfer Information Session
Tuesday, November 20

Register or schedule a visit: qu.edu/visit
Apply: qu.edu/transfer
Email: transfer@qu.edu
If I was to go off my own experiences, [free tuition] probably would have allowed me to go full-time at school instead of working part-time and going to classes part-time, which condenses the timeline of graduation.

- Jennifer Eng, Student Government Association President

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Accepting applications for spring and fall 2019
“Even though I know it’s hard, because it is for me, try to be patient with yourself and let your professors and friends know that you’re struggling. Most professors are understanding about mental health and its impact on student success. They will often work to give you extra time or help to keep up with your work. They can also just offer a listening ear.”

According to an APA feature with S.A.D. expert Kelly Rohan, it’s not the cold weather that causes this mood change but the tilt of the sun in relation to the Earth. SAD is a subtype of depression sparked by a lack of sunlight. This affects North Americans slightly more, with people in the South being less affected due to their physical location to the sun.

But while many people may not meet the overall qualifications for full S.A.D. many people experience some form of seasonal lower mood and fatigue. This is especially the case for college students. A survey comprised of 25 Mercer students found that nearly 80 percent experienced a mood decline due to the transition from summer to fall/winter.

This doesn’t necessarily mean you have S.A.D.; it differs from the winter blues. The Mercer student survey also indicated that most Mercer students find exercise to be an effective coping mechanism.

Other treatments for lower grade seasonal blues include vitamin D3 supplements and meditation. For more severe forms, light therapy and anti-depressants may be prescribed. Kelly Rohan, the S.A.D. expert, believes that Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) is the best treatment for S.A.D. and I believe that to be true.

I have been to CBT. You learn about certain errors in thinking, like catastrophizing which is when you have one small thing seem to turn into a huge problem in your mind.

For example, sometimes, I feel like if I get one bad grade will cause me to fail the class, and lose my financial aid, and somehow end up homeless. CBT is designed to help confront that kind of thinking. CBT also emphasizes the importance of self care which doesn’t always look like face masks and essential oil diffusers. Self care looks different for everyone and finding my own mode of self care has helped me a lot.

CBT has been a big help particularly because it’s usually done in a group setting which always makes me feel safe and validated.

If you are struggling with low mood yourself right now, it’s important to let yourself feel your feelings. It’s not reasonable to expect to be happy every second of your life, but check in and see if what you’re going through is something you can take steps to alleviate either with small changes or with professional help or some combination.

Even though I know it’s hard, because it is for me, try to be patient with yourself and let your professors and friends know that you’re struggling. Most professors are understanding about mental health and its impact on student success. They will often work to give you extra time or help to keep up with your work. They can also just offer a listening ear.

Life happens, the sun hides, but life does go on.

As I write this, my room looks like a tornado hit it. I’m a little depressed. I haven’t been getting enough sunlight. Every time I turn on my space heater my lamp flickers and I have been religiously dodging any and all questions regarding my okayness. I am okay, I’m just sad. I am dealing with S.A.D. okayness. I am okay, I’m just sad. I am dealing with S.A.D. and local issues? Is there a problem that needs a solution? DROP US A LINE AND LET US KNOW!
#MeToo: What can good men do to help?

I once asked my dad about his taste in music and if he liked the country singer Dolly Parton. “She has nice tits,” he said.

Though my father seemed at times flamboyantly obsessed with sex—openly boasting about pornography videos he owned—he did see more in a woman than merely sex. At his funeral, a couple remarked to me with palpable gratitude, that he saved their marriage. He was a psychologist who specialized in marriage counseling. That said, he certainly overlooked Dolly Parton as a musician and even at 16 (I think I was) I found my father’s comment degrading and disrespectful.

That incident happened over a decade before the #metoo movement gained serious traction. But the instant that feeling set in was impossible for us not to see and look at each other if we are to become conflicted.

On the one hand, it’s impossible for us not to see and look at each other if we are to become conflicted.

That said, the general consensus is that there is not much to do on campus.

You came to college rather than staying home to watch Law & Order reruns, but no one can study non-stop and a lot of us are trapped on campus for hours between classes or waiting for transportation.

What if there was something to do here that was fun, cheap and beneficial to you and/or a group of your peers?

We, The VOICE editors, believe the campus has more to offer than meets the eye.

First of all, you could joint the newspaper. We have a couple of our students who are a bunch of quirky, fun-loving, supportive folks. We have a Keurig and a stockpile of Ramen. Plus our advisors can help you learn to write better. And we get to go to conferences and stay in nice hotels while learning more about reporting.

Another option is to live up your days on campus is to head to a sports game. We have consistently successful teams and a variety of sports to be watched. Not enough people come out to watch but the games are great—basketball, tennis—but they are intense, fast paced. You won’t be bored.

You’re here anyway: 3 ways to make the best of time on campus

If you have a GPA of 3.5 or higher and have completed 12 credits or more of classes at the 100-level you may be qualified for the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society.

Join PTK! And while she was on her own...
ASK THE VOICE: GOOD ANSWERS TO TOUGH QUESTIONS

Dear Voice,
I found my advisor’s office, and the door was open, but the only thing sitting in there was a potted plant. What now?
-Need Advising

Dear Need Advising,
Unless it tries to convince you to change your major to horticulture, there’s no reason to think the plant can’t be helpful. Support comes in all shapes and sizes at Mercer.
-The VOICE

Dear Broke,
If you really are broke, meaning your family makes less than $45,000 a year total, and you’ve used up all your other financial aid, NJ will used up all your other financial aid, NJ will

Dear Voice,
I hear that there is free tuition now. Is that true?
-Dear Broke

I right?

The lack of light in the winter may be getting you down. If you can’t be outdoors, it may help to stay active inside. The gym can be a good outlet for stress.
-Aries

You are struggling to understand the inner workings of someone else’s mind. This can drive you crazy. People are crazy. It’s time to move on and do your own thing.
-Leo

Money has been an issue more than usual and you are worried about something financial. Try not to panic. Keep an eye on the big picture and do what you can to plan for the future.
-Sagittarius

Dear Need Advising,
Well....the college did finally send an email to students letting them know the mold existed. Of course they played down the potential hazards, but admitting you have a problem is an important first step, am I right?
-The VOICE

Dear Voice,
I right?

Social media and online restrictions apply.

NOTE: THIS FEATURE IS FOR ENTERTAINMENT PURPOSES ONLY. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PROBLEMS IS PURELY COINCIDENTAL.

Dear Voice,
I hear that there is free tuition now. Is that true?
-Dear Broke

I right?

Dear Voice,
I heard that there is free tuition now. Is that true?

So basically some major make up the difference.

-T_transactions will vary by the new year. That seems like a long way off, but it is coming fast.

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