

# LA VIE COLLEGIENNE

LEBANON VALLEY COLLEGE'S STUDENT RUN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1924

VOLUME 94, NO. 1 | SEPTEMBER 28, 2023

## Social Justice Lecture Series: Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King on justice and equity

JESS BENNINGER '26  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King, daughter of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and CEO of the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change, gave a moving talk about belonging as a part of the Social Justice Lecture Series on Friday, Sept. 15.

King is a lawyer, activist and reverend who has dedicated much of her life to continuing her parents' goals of justice and equity, and her presentation was highly anticipated by LVC students and faculty, as well as local community members.

"I believe that it is important for our campus to hear King's message of love and transformation," Dr. Catherine Romangolo, professor of English and director of social justice



Photo by: Paige Dalto

ABOVE: Rev. Dr. Bernice A. King and Chad Dion Lassiter discussed the importance of activism and nonviolent social change during Dr. King's speech in Miller Chapel.

and civic engagement, said. "At a time when many young people are losing hope in our ability to bridge differences and move toward a more just society, Dr. Bernice King's perspective is invaluable."

The talk was sponsored by the

Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission and was facilitated by PHRC executive director, Chad Dion Lassiter.

The presentation included a series of questions and answers generated by Lassiter and the LVC community.

King discussed her past and recounted specific moments in her life that led her to advocacy. Growing up in a family that valued social justice allowed King to consider the world through a different lens, while also instilling the understanding of the influence of nonviolence.

"We need to consider the importance of studying and practicing nonviolence," King said. "It is the most effective way to eradicate evil and injustice."

On LVC's campus, students, faculty and staff can embrace and apply King's values of love and nonviolence to promote meaningful change that will lead to a more just world.

To learn more about King and her mission, visit the King Center's website at [thekingcenter.org](http://thekingcenter.org).

## Answer to Mund's beverage rule

TAVI STALLINGS '27  
STAFF WRITER

A strict dining hall rule was recently put into effect and has drawn student concern and raised various questions.

The dining hall beverage rule, known as the water rule among students, doesn't allow students to refill their water bottles with water at the Coke freestyle machines. To help students understand, Tim Hartlieb, general manager of Metz Culinary Management, offers insight into the rule.

"This has always been a rule, and

it's also a state-mandated issue," Hartlieb said. "This was also done due to safety and health issues of cross contact with dirty cups touching the spouts and possible contamination from cup to dispenser to person."

Many students had been unknowingly refilling their water bottles using the Coke freestyle machines, which caused many students to assume that the rule was new.

Students were unsure of the direct consequences of taking their refilled water out of the dining hall. Some students say they were asked politely

to dump the water out, not wanting to see the consequences for refusing to do so.

"Students who violate this policy will be referred to Student Affairs for disciplinary action," Hartlieb said. "Since students now understand the rationale behind this policy, we don't expect the need for formal disciplinary referrals. We appreciate everyone's compliance and continued efforts to stay healthy by keeping personal cups out of the dining hall."

Hartlieb would like to remind students that there are water refill stations on campus and one near the dining hall downstairs.

## Tools and Shrouds

AARON VANKIRK '26  
STAFF WRITER

Local artist Stephen Althouse's exhibition "Gscharre und Leichdüche" (Tools and Shrouds) will be featured at the Suzanne H. Arnold Art Gallery.

Althouse will be displaying large scale photographs of sculptures he has created and tools he has discovered while immersing himself in different cultures. The common thread between all these pieces is the relationship the objects have with

Art show  
continued on page 2

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE OF LA VIE



HONORS PROGRAM  
PAGE 2



BEHIND THE LENS  
PAGE 3



PRIDE OF THE VALLEY  
PAGE 3



NEW TENNIS COACH  
PAGE 4

*Art show  
continued from page 1*

their purpose, whether that is labor, war, aesthetics or even religion.

"He thinks about humanity and how the tools we use for work are often also used for war," Dr. Barbara McNulty, director of the Suzanne H. Arnold Gallery, said. "He (Althouse) thinks that today our clothes and items don't have the same soul that they used to."

The pieces have been created using large plate photography which is then scanned and altered digitally to further enhance the message of the pieces, such as adding text. Setting up the gallery has been a very collaborative process for those involved, including students.

Last year McNulty taught "History of the Photo" where her students wrote many of the labels for Althouse's pieces that are being shown currently. Among the other students that

have been crucial in setting up the exhibition are the gallery student interns Sophia Bunting, Caitlyn Klein and Jack McLain.

Klein, who grew up with a large Amish community nearby, felt a connection to the exhibition, which features many Amish tools and motifs, as Althouse has been interested in the culture and even now lives in Bucks County with friends inside the Amish community.

"I have taken three years of German in High School and two in college, I did grow up with the Amish Community nearby," Klein, a senior creative arts major, said. "I met the artist, and he was very nice, down to earth and interested in the subject."

Students can visit the exhibition until Sunday, Oct. 22. The gallery is open 5-8 p.m. on Wednesday, 1-4:30 p.m. on Thursday-Friday and 11 a.m.-5 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

## The Honors Program: above and beyond

**VAL BILDHEISER '25**  
STAFF WRITER

The class of 2027 may be the largest LVC class in history, but it also marks the first time there are four complete classes of Honors Program students.

As described on LVC's official website, this program combines elements of academic achievement with service, leadership and inclusivity. Most students interview before their first year, but there are rotating spots for students in later years if inquired.

The current student leader of the program is a part of its trailblazing first class of 2024. Gillian Wenhold, a senior double major in English and social justice and civic engagement, has served as president of the Honors Program Student Council for the last two years.

"I would describe the Honors Program as a community of academically motivated folks who strive to make a difference," Wenhold said. "We have students from almost every department, and each of them brings a diverse perspective, motivation and goal for how they want to impact the world and people around them."

Throughout this semester, the group will participate in activities such as a painting night, a corn maze and the "all-time fan-favorite" gingerbread-house-making competition Wenhold described. The desired result is a sense of community and a strong bond that transcends differences and unites the Honors Program for years to come.



Photo by: Abbie Kisamore

ABOVE: For more information on the Honors Program, reach out to Dr. Laura Edred at [eldred@lvc.edu](mailto:eldred@lvc.edu)

keep up with all things

LA VIE!



@LaVie\_LVC



@LVCLaVie1



@LVCLaVie



[www.lvc.edu/LaVie](http://www.lvc.edu/LaVie)

## J. Clarke's Grille adds new late night menu

**JUSTIN KOPP '25**  
STAFF WRITER

Students looking for a hot meal after the Mund Dining Hall closes can take advantage of the new Late Night Grill hosted at the J. Clarke's Grille in the Dining Hall to satisfy their cravings.

Orders are exclusively placed through the Grubhub app for pickup. Students can expect to find items such as subs, pizza, grilled cheese, chicken tenders, hot dogs and burgers on the in-app menu. Sides such as french fries, chips, fruits and salad are also available in addition to fountain beverages with complete meals.

Students will usually pay with either flex dollars or through Meal Swipe Exchange for a full meal. The Late Night Grill is open from 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. every day of the week. Additionally, flex dollars can be used from 9:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. from Sunday through Thursday.

The addition of the Late Night Grill comes after the hours for the Dutchmen Den, known by many on campus as the C-Store, have been reduced. Flex dollar purchases can be made from 9 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. during

the week, and from 2 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on the weekends.

Meal swipe exchange hour differences are particularly noticeable now. They are only offered from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. during the week. Weekend hours are even fewer with the C-Store only being open from 2 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.

These decisions by upper Metz management may be confusing to some, but there is a guiding principle behind them.

"The C-Store offers a quicker meal alternative for when students are in class and may be in too much of a rush to go to Mund during the day," Jess Moser, a student employee of both the C-Store and the Late Night Grill, said.

In turn, the Late Night Grill takes requests for more substantial meals in the evening when practices or other activities may cut into students' time to eat. With these changes, there are more options for students to choose from. Thus, they will need to consider which dining option is best equipped to suit their needs depending on the time of day.

## LVC welcomes new business administration tutor

**DEREK NIGRO '24**  
STAFF WRITER

The department of business, accounting and economics at LVC is getting a friendly new face in the form of a new tutor.

Haley Keener, a senior business administration major, tutored her first class in managerial accounting and is now helping out other students in her field. She hopes to take that experience tutoring and helping out peers and apply it to an eventual managerial position.

"I think it will be a great opportunity," Keener said. "I want to help the community and because I was hesitant to go to a tutor, I want to be there for others who might be hesitant as well."

Keener will tutor students in classes of professional ethics, managing diversity and workforce, international business management, business law one and introduction to criminal justice.

Students can request a tutor on Starfish.

## Behind the lens

LYNSEY BRINKLEY '24  
STAFF WRITER

As the new sports season begins, athletes are always looking for someone to capture the moments they love most, and the person who is behind the lens is ready to capture those moments.

Alden Partyka is a junior physical therapy major, and she's one of the few photographers one will see around LVC. She has been taking pictures since 2018.

"My grandfather did photography ever since I was little, when he got sick, he couldn't take photos anymore," Partyka said. "He ended up gifting me all his equipment, so ever since then I have been taking photos."

Partyka explained that she takes photos for the men's ice hockey team, and occasionally the football team at LVC. Partyka does not just shoot at LVC, but she also does photo shoots for engagements, weddings, graduations and other special events.

"I first started out with nature because I feel like everyone starts that way," Partyka said. "My sister's

graduation and wedding were the first big shoots I did. After that, more people sought me out to start doing their graduation and wedding photos as well."

Partyka finds happiness in continuing the tradition her grandfather started because he is in the later stages of his life.

"I like seeing the reactions to the photos, especially the athletes, because they get to see how they play and appreciate what they do on the field, court or ice," Partyka said.

Partyka plans to stay involved with photography for as long as she can, just like her grandfather did. She hopes to take pictures for her kids' sporting events when the time comes.

"Obviously I want to put my career first, and with PT it will be tough to do both," Partyka said. "However, I do like having photography as a hobby, even if it is just here and there, I can see myself continuing."

Look for her at sporting events at LVC.



Photo by: Alden Partyka  
ABOVE: Men's Ice Hockey '23

## Pride of the Valley marching band debuts its 2023 show

MADLINE LAVELLE '27  
STAFF WRITER

The Pride of the Valley marching band kicked off its 2023 season with a striking performance of Rock/Roch.

The band, made up of 126 students, made its first show appearance in early September at LVC's football game against Franklin & Marshall College. The new show combines segments from "Rock and Roll Ain't Noise Pollution" by AC/DC, "Welcome to the Jungle" by Guns N' Roses and "Black Hole Sun" by Soundgarden to create a grand celebration of the rock and roll era.

The band is led by seasoned director Dr. Christopher Heffner, who has been at LVC for 17 years. Heffner also leads the creation of each year's show. For this year's show, Heffner took inspiration from one of his favorite composers, Rachmaninoff.

"His themes are so stereotypically romantic, and they're dark and they're big, and I think with marching band I'm always looking for big dark moving moments," he said. "If we're doing a show that is Rachmaninoff, I wanted 'Rock and Roll Ain't Noise Pollution.' I just thought that the song title would work well and there was potential with the theme to be played within other movements."

The opener of the show contains segments from "Welcome to the Jungle" and "Rock and Roll Ain't Noise Pollution."

"I know that it's not my favorite Guns N' Roses tune ("Welcome to the Jungle"), but I know it's recognizable to the audience and I know that they'll dig into something like that because it's just fun," Heffner said.

The ballad takes inspiration from the 90s hit "Black Hole Sun."

"I try to imagine tempos and



Photo by: LVC Music Program's webpage  
ABOVE: The band consists of 126 students.

themes," he said. "I imagine the opening cords of the second movement and how that can morph into 'Black Hole Sun,' so what I start doing is putting together those ideas and start sending them to the winds arranger."

The show ends with an intense bang, wrapping the segments of the show together.

"[The] closer just being so symphonic and big, and it also gives the drumline an opportunity to stretch, like we can't stretch in 'Welcome to the Jungle,' and I know that," Heffner said.

Heffner added this is the biggest band he's had since the pandemic. It might even be the strongest band he's ever had at LVC.

The band is set to perform during halftime at every home football game this season. In addition, Pride of the Valley will perform at two exhibitions next month, including the Allentown Collegiate Marching Band Festival on Sunday, Oct. 1, and the Bands of Lebanon County Exhibition on Saturday, Oct. 21.

## Behind bars with Dr. Kathryn Whiteley

SHAYAL GURUNG '24  
STAFF WRITER

Passion can lead people to greater heights, and Dr. Kathryn Whiteley's passion for criminology is an example for future criminologists at LVC.

Whiteley specializes in researching women who have committed violent crimes, such as murder and sexual offenses. Her research spans two decades, spending time in countries, such as Australia, Ireland and the United States.

In addition to researching justice systems, she teaches several classes at LVC. She educates young criminologists who want to work within the justice system.

"My goal is always to share the stories of these women that are deemed abhorrent, the worst of the worst, and to humanize, as opposed to sensationalize," she said. "Because in many instances, women—through their stories—share that they too were once victims, and now offenders; it's important to acknowledge that."

Students in Whiteley's classes will

have the opportunity to visit state prisons, county jails and federal prisons throughout the semester. She believes it can be beneficial for students to experience and engage with incarcerated individuals if they want to work within the justice system.

"What I'm trying to do is challenge the students to go beyond what I assume these students are reading or seeing on social media, and to challenge them and to also take them out of their comfort zone," she said. "The realization that this is real, this

is life, as opposed to I've got this, or I understand this because I've read about it or so, it really is giving them real-world life experience. That's what I aim to do."

Whiteley's way of combining real world experiences and education can be helpful to a lot of students. It can help future criminologists learn compassion.

Her documentary "Until We Have Faces," looks at female offenders in Pennsylvania. It can be viewed through her bio page on LVC's website.

## Getting to know the new athletic director

RYAN PICKLE '24  
STAFF WRITER

LVC's new athletic director has big shoes to fill, but he's ready for the challenge.

A native of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, Patrick Ratke grew up involved in sports, playing mainly basketball and baseball. Ratke attended Catholic University, where he majored in political science, hoping to eventually go to law school or work on Capitol Hill. Ratke didn't play a collegiate sport, but sports would eventually make their way back into his life.

"I took a job working in the athletic department—just working on the games, setting up," he said.

As Ratke began working, he was fortunate enough to make several connections that helped get him where he is today.

"My A.D. and our former director of facilities showed me that you could make a career out of this, and I just didn't know that was possible," Ratke said.

After graduation, Ratke's former A.D. helped to get him a job working in admissions at Catholic. After several years, he was able to transition over to the athletics side of higher education.

"I had some really cool opportunities at Catholic, building a new soccer and lacrosse stadium, building a track," Ratke said. "I love the project management side of it as that was what my master's was in."

Ratke then began to explore external options outside of higher education, taking a position with the Washington Nationals. Eventually, he made his way back into higher ed. at

Colby College in Maine. The college needed someone to run and organize a \$200 million dollar building project.

Despite facing challenges during his time at Colby, he has learned from these experiences. He felt they prepared him for an athletic director position.

Envisioning LVC's potential wasn't difficult for Ratke, but being from PA is what made him feel at home. It also helped that LVC has goals to revamp their athletics facilities in the coming years.

"I liked what LVC had to offer," Ratke said. "All the pieces and components are here, it just needs a little bit of organization and modernization. I want to bring that all together."

With the Middle Atlantic Conference starting a new ice hockey conference, Ratke is prioritizing getting an ice hockey arena on campus. He wants LVC to be the first school in the conference with an arena.

Yet for Ratke, every sport is a priority. He hopes to see every team play and engage with all the student-athletes on campus.

"I haven't missed a game yet," he said. "I want the student-athletes to not only be successful on the field, but in life and beyond."

Ratke left things off with some words of wisdom for the student-athletes at LVC.

"We are all on one team," he said. "Everyone who is here is here to ensure your success."

Ratke is excited to be on campus and encourages students to stop by his office. His door will be open, and he is happy to hear what the LVC community has to say.

## New women's tennis coach

ELIANA SHENK '24  
STAFF WRITER

The women's tennis team welcomes a new head coach as they prepare to compete in the new conference.

Dr. Noëlle Vahanian, professor of philosophy, is now also the women's tennis head coach. She joins her husband, Dr. Jeff Robbins, who is the women's assistant coach and new men's tennis head coach. Together, they look to lead both teams to success.

Vahanian competed at the United States Tennis Association national level in singles and previously volunteered to coach children. Tennis is also a central part of her family with her husband coaching and her son playing in college.

"It's a way where you can discover who you are, what your strengths are and how resilient you are," Vahanian said. "As a coach, I'm hoping that I'm a good mentor to players. I want them to flourish and enjoy playing as a team, and to find a way to navigate what it means to be a student-athlete and support each other."

After over two decades of coaching from previous coach Joy Graeff, this transition is a major change for the program. The team is returning from back-to-back championship wins in the MAC Commonwealth conference under Graeff and interim head coach Robbins last spring.

"It's also obviously very intimidating because there's a big tradition here," Vahanian said. "It's hard to step into someone else's shoes, like Joy Graeff, who was really

a good coach in terms of everything she gave to the team throughout the years and the successes of the team."

Despite the history of the program, Vahanian brings a valuable change in perspective as the team enters the MAC Freedom conference. Many of the players are excited to see the changes she will bring.

"I'm looking forward to having a new energy at practice," Sarah Kramer, a junior tennis player, said. "I'm excited to see the relationships that will be built between the players and the coach and how those relationships will help us on the court."

The players have high hopes for their season this year because of their talent and the skills Vahanian is helping them build. Even with entering the more competitive MAC Freedom conference, the players are not dropping their expectations to be a high caliber team. However, Vahanian also recognizes the importance of what it means to be an athlete and part of a team.

"Players have to play for the sport, not for their coach," Vahanian said. "Players have to play for the team because they love the game. I think the coach can be there to create that atmosphere, encourage that atmosphere and get you to where you want to get to, but the prize isn't for me, it's for you."

Vahanian has already led the team to success throughout the fall season. She hopes to continue finding success once the competitive conference play begins in the spring.

## Women's soccer team preview

TYLEE STAUFFER '25  
STAFF WRITER

As the fall semester begins, so has the season for the LVC's women's soccer team and a team captain has some insights on the upcoming season.

Jocelyn Umana is a senior captain and goalkeeper for this year's squad. The team has a roster of 21 student-athletes, with nine of them being first-year students. The team dynamic is good thus far between the first-year and current players as well as with the new coaching staff. With so many changes this season, there are not any lofty goals.

"With having so many new faces and still only being our second season with a new head coach, I think we are just trying to execute what we are doing at practice and just taking

it one game at a time," Umana said.

The team's motto for this year is 'Be Savage,' a go-to phrase that their head coach, Frank Carrozza, uses during pre-game speeches.

"So literally going out there and just playing as hard as we can and doing the things that we know how to do," she said.

Since the team graduated seven seniors last year, there are big holes to fill on the field this year, especially on the defensive line. Another major change this year for all LVC sports is the conference switch from the MAC Commonwealth to the MAC Freedom.

"It will be nice to see a change of competition, especially while trying to build a new foundation," she said.

The team's first conference home game is set for Saturday, Oct. 7, at 1 p.m. at Herbert Field.

# HOMECOMING

## OCTOBER 13-15, 2023

SCAN THE QR CODE  
TO VIEW THE LIST OF  
EVENTS AND REGISTER!

