The Ithaca College community — like many communities around the world — has felt the impacts of the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine, especially following the current war. After Hamas led an attack in Israel on Oct. 7, killing hundreds of civilians, Israel began retaliation Oct. 13, which is ongoing and has shut down Gaza.

This is the fifth and most deadly war for both Israel and Gaza since the beginning of the conflict in 1948. The attack on Israel occurred on Simchat Torah, a Jewish holiday, and at least 199 people were taken hostage by Hamas, some of whom are children, according to reports.

BY VIVIAN ROSE, LORIEN TYNÉ

CO-LIFE AND CULTURE EDITOR, NEWS EDITOR

The Ithaca College community needs to run out of fuel Nov. 2, which means essential medical equipment will be useless. In addition to fuel, Israel also has cut off access to clean water, according to AP News. Mohammed Deif, leader of Hamas’ military, said the attack was in response to raids inside the West Bank, Israel’s blockade of Gaza, violence at the Al-Aqsa Mosque, increasing Jewish settlers on Palestinian land, and a rising number of attacks by Israeli settlers on Palestinians.

While students cope with the war from afar, Ithaca College hosted a pop-up theatrical art studio Oct. 18–27 for students interested in art and social media coverage of the war. D. Gershon Lewental, 2003 graduate of Cornell University’s art studio, says he has been consuming media related to the conflict since Oct. 10 in which he encouraged everyone who is not directly affected by the war to offer compassion and empathy to those who are.

By always, my thoughts are with the members of our campus community, along with our families, friends, and colleagues, many of whom are directly affected,” Lewental said. “Like all people, we deserve to live in a world without violence, especially against civilians, including innocent children.”

Junior Richard Martin is Palestinian on his mother’s side and said he has been consuming media related to the conflict since 2018. Martin said he has received support from people around him but that the institutional response from the college has been disappointing. He said that when Cornwall sent the original response to the war Oct. 10, he was not surprised that there was only one brief mention of people in Gaza.

“I read through it, and we were essentially a footnote,” Martin said. “People love to default to ‘we’ve already accounted for $6 million of our budget, so let’s worry about something else.’”

“Colleges should also be focusing on mental health for both Israeli and Palestinian students as well as others who might be affected,” Lewental said. “Another thing would be strong statements by university administration. . . . I think that was a very important step because it says there are red lines, there are things which are unacceptable.”

Written threats were made against Jewish students on Cornell University’s Greerken, forums Oct. 29. One post made to the Greek life platform threatened a shooting at 104West, which is the location of Cornell’s Center for Jewish Living and the kosher dining hall. Cornell University junior Patrick Dai was arrested Oct. 31 for posting threats of violence against the Jewish community at Cornell and stayed in Browne County jail overnight, where he will remain for the time being. He appeared in federal court Nov. 1 in Syracuse, New York, and was charged with interstate communication. Dai will appear in court again for a preliminary hearing Nov. 15.

“The threats from Patrick Dai, calling for threatening acts against Jewish people in Ithaca, was a major wake up call,” Ethan Beer, a Jewish student at Ithaca College, said via email. “We can no longer think ‘this couldn’t happen here’ because it has. . . . We need everyone to speak up, not just Jews, but the Ithaca community as a whole to make sure we do not repeat history.”

In 2022, eight swastikas were found on Ithaca College’s campus. While no known threats have been made to anyone at the college during this semester, security was increased after the shooting threat at 104West. Ithaca College President La Jarne Cornish sent a message to the campus community Oct. 10 in which she encouraged everyone who is not directly affected by the war to offer compassion and empathy to those who are.

As always, my thoughts are with the members of our campus community, along with our families, friends, and colleagues, many of whom are directly affected,” Cornish said. “Like all people, we deserve to live in a world without violence, especially against civilians, including innocent children.”

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Maine shooting kills 18, injures 13 and shooter dies by suicide

The shooter who killed 18 people at a Lewiston bowling alley and bar in Maine on Oct. 25 believed those businesses were broadcasting online that he was a pedop- hilic, according to documents released by the Maine State Police.

Another 13 people were injured between the two sites of the mass shooting, which amounted to the deadliest such incident in the U.S. this year and the deadliest in Maine’s modern history. After a two-day manhunt, the shooter, 40-year-old Army reservist Robert R. Card II, was found dead Friday from a self-inflicted gunshot.

Gov. Hochul directs $75 million toward anti-hate policing in NY

Gov. Kathy Hochul declared in a rare address on Tuesday that New York State has “zero tolerance” for hate, outlining new anti-hate police investments appealing to New Yorkers’ sense of shared community and seeking to soothe Jewish and Muslim New Yorkers who have been rattled by threats as a bloody war rages in Israel and Gaza.

“We cannot let the fervor and passion of our beliefs devolve into a blind righteousness,” Hochul said. “And the safety and security of those who cannot see different viewpoints,” our beliefs devolve into a blind righteousness..."

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“Can we let the fervor and passion of our beliefs devolve into a blind righteousness that cannot see different viewpoints,” Hochul said. “And the safety and security of New Yorkers cannot—and will not—be threatened without consequences.”

In remarks from Manhattan, Hochul laid out a series of steps she said the state would take to root out hate — directing $75 million toward the prevention of hate crimes, expanding the state police unit that monitors threats on social media, and ordering for a comprehensive review of anti-discrimination policies at the City University of New York.

Kamala Harris set to unveil $200 million AI fund from foundations

Vice President Kamala Harris is poised to announce an investment of more than $200 million from philanthropic foundations to finance artificial intelligence advancements as part of the White House’s effort to guide the quickly developing technology, according to an administration official.

The investment aligns with the Biden administration’s broader goals of promoting AI innovation that protects consumers and supporting international rules for the nascent technology. The funders are also prioritizing initiatives focused on safeguarding democracy, assisting workers facing AI-driven changes and improving the transparency around AI.

‘Friends’ star found dead in hot tub, cause of death unknown

Actor Matthew Perry’s body was not waterlogged when paramedics found him dead in his hot tub Oct. 21. Perry’s assistant, whom he’d sent on an errand after he played pickleball earlier that day, arrived at the residence to find him unresponsive. An official cause of death has not yet been determined.

While a toxicology report will not be ready for a minimum of six weeks, no illegal substances were found at the residence of the five-time Emmy nominee, who had been candid about his history with alcoholism and substance abuse. Authorities did discover prescription anti-anxiety and anti-depressant drugs, as well as a medication for chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

Experts say Earth is in ‘uncharted territory’

Massive wildfires in Canada, Greece and Hawaii; hurricanes like the one that devastated Acapulco last week; and record heat waves. Many vital signs of the Earth’s health like gas emissions are at record environmentally harmful levels.

“Experts say Earth is in ‘uncharted territory’..."
Bomber Entrepreneurship Network holds first event

BY KALEIGH BANDA

Ithaca College’s new Bomber Entrepreneurship Network hosted its inaugural event Oct. 12 at the Harvard Club in Boston. Panelists spoke about their experiences in their respective fields as entrepreneurs and advised students.

The Bomber Entrepreneurship Network was created in a partnership with Michael Johnson-Cramer, dean of the School of Business, Quincy Davidson, associate vice president of engagement and Brett Boris, executive director of alumni and family engagement.

Johnson-Cramer said they wanted to create a space where aspiring entrepreneurs and experienced mentors could come together and network. The program was made possible by a donation of an undisclosed amount from John Grape ’80. The students paid $100 each for the trip, but the event was also combined with another event called “Meet the Firms.” The “Meet the Firms” trip was three days long and consisted of a visit to the Public Independent Newsroom at the Center, an alumni dinner and meet-ups with successful entrepreneurs throughout the weekend.

“The idea is really to access and activate the entrepreneurial community in each of the geographies that we have significant alumni bases,” Johnson-Cramer said.

Faculty, staff, alumni and 14 students attended the event. Johnson-Cramer said the students submitted an application and resume to be considered and only a few were selected. The event provided students with the opportunity to gain experience networking and listen to professionals from different industries. They were able to have conversations with panelists and gain feedback on some of their ideas.

Johnson-Cramer said the Bomber Entrepreneurship Network is a first step toward expanding the range of professional networks available, which can continue to add value throughout an alumnus’ life. He said he wanted to create a program that further connected aspiring entrepreneurs with experienced mentors.

“That kind of cross-fertilization across generations is such a neat part of the idea of holding lifelong learning,” Johnson-Cramer said.

One of the panelists was Joshua Milne ’96, who is the co-founder and CEO of Boston Sports Partners, a sports and entertainment marketing agency, and the founder of Joshua Milne PR.

Milne spoke highly of his experiences in the sports information and communications program. This major no longer exists, but it has melded into the current sports media major. He said professors helped create a network for him that got him where he is today.

“In the sports world in particular, it’s not what you know, it’s who you know,” Milne said. “So because of the relationships that those professors in the school have created, and because of how well-received Ithaca College students are within the industry, it’s been a lot easier to get my foot in the door.”

Chris Palmieri ’96, president and CEO of Commonwealth Care Alliance, was another panelist. Commonwealth Care Alliance provides individualized healthcare to people in severe need. His company also has other businesses, including Winter Street Ventures, which invests in entrepreneurial ideas.

“It was a graduating senior many alumni were reaching out to me to interview me and give me opportunities,” Palmieri said. “That was really important to me that I had both. First of all, the academic opportunity to get real-life experience, but then also the potential to get employed through others who have gone through the programs that I went through years prior.”

The Bomber Entrepreneurship network provides the way for countless student careers. Senior Miles Olivetti said he was able to make valuable connections at the networking event.

“It felt like the business owners wanted Ithaca students to work for their companies and it felt very good,” Olivetti said. “It felt like we were needed.”

Miles advised students to not give up after rejection and not take failures personally.

“At some point, you just kind of have to get through it. Do you really want to be flexible and pivot as the business grows,” Milne said.

Junior Nina Kiria also said she had some interesting experience at the event, as she was able to have one-on-one conversations with alumni.

“It makes me motivated to have them as an example,” Kiria said. “If they could achieve it, I could achieve it too because they also were in my position at some point.”

Ithaca Carshare makes comeback after NY legislation

BY KADEN SHAE

CONTRIBUTING WRITER

The Ithaca Carshare Program, a member-based nonprofit that offers 24/7 access to vehicles for members, has announced it will re-open services starting in March 2024 after a bill was passed allowing the nonprofit to acquire auto insurance.

The program was put on pause back in May due to a loss of car insurance. The Carshare previously received insurance through an out-of-state company, but the agreement ended May 22. A state regulation prevented an out-of-state company, but the agreement ended May due to a loss of car insurance. The Carshare, TCAT and Ithaca Bike Rental.

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Tompkins County is properly served for available transportation, including but not limited to the Carshare, TCAT and Ithaca Bike Rental. De Aragon also said the Carshare program received immense support at the State Legislature from the community.

“The cars were in severe need. His company also has other businesses, including Winter Street Ventures, which invests in entrepreneurial ideas.

“It was a graduating senior many alumni were reaching out to me to interview me and give me opportunities,” Palmieri said. “That was really important to me that I had both. First of all, the academic opportunity to get real-life experience, but then also the potential to get employed through others who have gone through the programs that I went through years prior.”

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CONTACT KENDAH@ITHACA.EDU

CONTACT KEBANDA@ITHACA.EDU
defending the state instead of just mourning lives lost. There’s not...
Q&A: Alum shares steps to career success

Rob Flaherty ’13, deputy campaign manager for President Joe Biden, was awarded the Outstanding Young Alumnus award from Ithaca College.

Flaherty graduated from the college with a dual degree in politics and television-radio and has overseen Biden’s digital campaign since 2019. He was the first White House director of digital strategy to serve at the assistant to the president level. Before working under the Biden Administration, he also worked for Beto O’Rourke, Hillary Clinton, Terry McAuliffe and Svante Myrick, the former mayor of Ithaca.

Contributing writer Reese Schenkel spoke with Flaherty about his success and her work in the White House.

This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

Reese Schenkel: What are common misconceptions about working at the White House?

RF: Rob Flaherty: People thing, it’s like “House of Cards,” but it’s really like a bunch of “Veep” characters that really appeal to me. “West Wing,” but it’s really like fast thinking people.

RS: How do you take on such a large position? What are your steps to create a digital strategy?

RF: I mean, the most important thing is identifying and hiring that you have to run a program that reflects the authentic voice of who the president is. I’ve been lucky to work with the President now for about five years, and we run a program that’s authentic to him. And then from there, you think about who it is that you need to reach, and how to sort of translate his value set.

RS: How did Ithaca College prepare you for your career?

RF: The thing that is so great about Ithaca College is you don’t need to wait a long time in classrooms to go out and try stuff. That sort of hands-on experience mixed with good teaching helped me get really ready when you graduate.

RS: What steps were most helpful to you?

RF: While I was in school, I was working for Mayor Myrick’s race. So that was pretty big one — like actually working on campaigns. I did an internship at the Democratic National Committee. I met some people who helped me get some of my first jobs, so I think that was another one that was really influential. Being able to actually go do things in the wild was pretty helpful, for me. I think it helped shaped my political instincts even at that point, so that was super, super clarifying and super helpful.

RS: What’s some advice you would give to college students aspiring for a position like yours?

RF: Do an internship, just get your hands dirty as soon as possible. [Also] remember that when people like me talk about my career, it always sounds really linear, like I did this, I did that, this, this, did that. But at no moment does it ever feel linear. It’s not clear what the path is next. So it’s important to hold yourself up by your own standards and not other people’s.

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Room buyouts return to IC

BY SHEELAGH DOE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Ithaca College’s Office of Residential Life introduced room buyouts in an email to the campus community Oct. 9. This will allow students to purchase a vacancy in their double room in any residential building for either the spring or current fall semester or both.

Room buyouts are only available to those already in a double room without a roommate who wish to keep the vacancy. Buyouts for studio rooms in apartments are unavailable. Students will have access to the entire room and its contents.

The college has offered this before, most recently during Spring 2022 as a result of low enrollment following the COVID-19 pandemic. Ryan McCarr, housing specialist at Residential Life’s Central Office, clarified information about buyouts.

“There are a large number of vacancies on campus due to class size,” McCarr said via email. “We expect class sizes to grow as the last ‘Covid Class’ will be graduating this upcoming May.”

Once a buyout has been approved, the billing can happen at any point during the spring or fall semester, and if both semesters were purchased, there will be separate billing for each one. Fall semester buyouts will cost $330, and spring semester buyouts will cost $660. A buyout for both semesters would cost $990. The Room Buyout Request Form is available on the college’s housing portal where students can select the term they would like to purchase a buyout for. There is no deadline for purchasing a room buyout and IC Housing will process requests on a weekly basis.

Contact: s.doe@ithaca.edu

‘Career Corner’ podcast hosts industry professionals

By Liam McDermott
Staff Writer

The Center for Career Exploration and Development at Ithaca College released a new podcast titled “Career Corner” on Oct. 19 to give advice to students on how to take their career paths to another level.

“Career Corner” launches a new episode each Thursday on Spotify and Youtube, with guests from a variety of industries who share their experiences and provide guidance for students to navigate their future after college.

Senior Elebiary said associate director of career engagement and education, said the Center for Career Exploration and Development started working on the podcast in Spring 2021 and began searching for someone to host the podcast.

“The podcast is something that the Career Center team has been talking about for a couple of years now and have wanted to bring it to fruition,” Elebiary said.

Senior Kyley Shultz, the producer for “Career Corner,” said she applied to join the podcast team because she saw the listing as the perfect opportunity to build her resume. Coffey said she wants to be a producer in the future.

“[Elebiary] said it’s a great opportunity for myself,” Kuffman said. “But also really like the sound of the project and what it would help students with.”

Kuffman said he has worked very closely with Coffey to create the script as well as draft the questions they will ask the interviewees.

“I take a look at those questions, tweak them to what I think might make up the best interview, and then add some of my own to kind of expand the kind of baseline,” Kuffman said.

With the production side of the podcast figured out, the whole team needed now was to get the word out to the college community. That was when they hired junior Kyley Shultz as their marketing and media strategist.

Shultz said she has experience with producing video but not so much with audio. She said she had to rethink how to make the audio aspect more compelling with the absence of video.

“This is definitely a challenge on my end,” Shultz said. “I’m kind of tripping up the aspect of video away to just try to make that excitement through the audio.”

However, Shultz said she feels good about how the podcast has gone so far. “So far it’s been really exciting and really successful,” Shultz said. “I have a lot of high hopes on that end.”

“Career Corner” will also feature interviews with alumni about their time at the college as well as their work out in their respective fields.

“We’ve got some really awesome people on,” Coffey said. “I think we’ve done a good job of booking guests that complement each other.”

Shultz even hinted that the podcast might have a high-profile guest on in the future.

“We’re trying to keep it a little hush hush because things are still in the works,” Shultz said. “But let’s say there might be a major member from the IC theater community coming in to make an appearance on a podcast.”

So far, the podcast has released four episodes, with guests like Olivia Carpenter ’22, founder and owner of Vo’s Cookies, and Eden Strachan ’21, filmmaker and founder of Black Girls Don’t Get Love.

‘Career Corner’ podcast hosts industry professionals

BY LIAM MCDERMOTT
STAFF WRITER

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Contact: s.doe@ithaca.edu

From left, juniors Lukas Kuffman and Kyle Shultz and senior Kailyn Coffey begin, new podcast through the Center for Career Exploration and Development.
Faith group invites students into spirituality

First-year student Abigail Mast shuffles her tarot cards before her reading at the Seance Halloween Party hosted by IC Pagans at Muller Chapel on Oct. 20.

Students also wore costumes and enjoyed a Kingsmore and candy.

JOHN HENRY DONOVAN/THE ITHACAN

PUBLIC SAFETY INCIDENT LOG
SELECTED ENTRIES FROM OCT. 16 TO 23

OCT. 16

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED
LOCATION: Whalen Center For Music / 146 Conservatory Drive
SUMMARY: Caller reported that a person had a blurry vision and had been unable to hear. The person was transported to the hospital by ambulance. Patrol Officer Jordan Bartoloss responded.

OCT. 17

OCT. 18

WELFARE CHECK
LOCATION: Bogart Hall / 354 Gage St.
SUMMARY: Caller reported third-party information that a person had made a statement possibly relating to self-harm.

OCT. 19

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED
LOCATION: Lyon Hall / 412 Grant Bldg.
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person had been involved in a Petit Larceny under $100.

OCT. 20

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED
LOCATION: Lyon Hall / 412 Grant Bldg.
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person had been involved in a Petit Larceny under $100.

OCT. 21

SCC IRRESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL/DRUGS
LOCATION: Terrace 1
SUMMARY: Caller reported an intoxicated person.

OCT. 22

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE / ILLNESS RELATED
LOCATION: Bowes of Communications
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person had been involved in a Petit Larceny under $100.

OCT. 23

WELFARE CHECK
LOCATION: Garden Apartment 25
SUMMARY: Caller reported a person was up at other parties would not contact them. Patrol Officer Jordan Bartoloss determined the parties were in contact.
College must fill vacancies sooner rather than later

Position vacancies have been increasingly obvious at Ithaca College and are impacting the experiences of students, faculty and staff alike. It is past time that the college fills these vacancies, as the absence of professors and administration is reaching a point of fundamentally altering students’ educations.

For the 2023 fiscal year, the college has dedicated a considerable budget to fill vacancies at the college, which is an important step in the right direction. However, the college has been dealing with these vacancies for multiple years and has yet to fill them.

For students, this has meant that classes they want to take or must take to meet graduation requirements are being offered less frequently or not at all. Students are being forced to waive courses or take substitution classes that may be entirely unrelated to their major. Not only is this a tedious process, but it prohibits students from taking crucial courses for their own professional development, career trajectories and even enjoyment.

For faculty, this means taking on larger workloads to pick up the slack in open positions, including teaching more classes and overseeing more advisees. This prohibits faculty from giving each student the support they need and deserve and dedicating as much time as they would like to each of their classes.

In administration, this has meant departments and offices going without leadership and crucial resources for students, faculty and staff lacking guidance. These vacancies have impacts that trickle down to the entire college.

It is understandable that the hiring process takes time and due diligence is needed to find the right people. However, the longer that positions remain open, the less stability the college sees. This means that key resources and opportunities cannot be offered to the college community.

Local bookstores uniquely support community needs

Books are a critical tool for educating people on diverse experiences and perspectives, promoting representation and informing critical conversations. Increasingly though, the most important and representative books are being challenged and banned in the U.S. Local independent bookstores are the key to keeping important books in the community.

Independent bookstores serve as a community resource in many ways; they are able to stock books that directly align with local needs and serve as a hub for the community through their events and initiatives. This might mean supporting local authors and publishers or selling books with characters or themes that align with the identities of community members. Chain bookstores that sell on a national level cannot do this in the same way. Additionally, locally-owned businesses keep money in the community and allow customers to support their friends and neighbors.

In 2023, promoting books on diverse topics — and, similarly, the booksellers who distribute these books — has become increasingly important. Between Jan. 1 and Aug. 31, 2023, the American Library Association saw a 20% increase in book challenges compared to the same period in 2022, which had the largest number of reported book bans since the AIA started compiling this data 20 years ago. These books were largely written by or about BIPOC people or members of the LGBTQ+ community. Attacks on literature by and about diverse people are dramatically on the rise. One way to stop this is to shop at independent booksellers and support BIPOC and LGBTQ+ authors.

Independent booksellers have seen a resurgence since the COVID-19 pandemic with the American Booksellers Association membership growing over the past two years, reaching its highest numbers in 20 years. As of 2022, the ABA has 300 more members than it did in 2019, despite making membership requirements stricter. People must support independent booksellers so that this trend can continue in the interest of both supporting the community and promoting diverse voices.
AI deserves a seat in every classroom

BY COLIN SHASHATY

There is a new tool in town and it’s here to stay. Artificial intelligence is here to stay. Companies across the globe are finding ways to incorporate it as a valuable tool. Why are we labeling a beneficial tool used in the professional setting as a threat in the academic environment? If we go into the world without knowing how to use AI to my advantage, the Park School of Communications would have failed to prepare me for success.

Senior Colin Shashaty writes about the importance of embracing and learning about artificial intelligence in the academic setting to better prepare students for success.

Greeks must be regulated

BY SK TAPCTY

“You joined a frat? You know frats and sororities are historically classist, elitist and racist, right? Like inherently so.”

Those were my older sister’s first words to me when I told her I joined a music fraternity on campus last spring. Sigma Alpha iota, Chapter Epsilon-ŽSAI—. I asked her to explain further.

She started with a story from her anthropology class back at the University of Washington. Her anthropologist professor on the first day of class stated, “For those of you who are in frats or sororities on campus, you should know they are a part of institutionalized racism.” This professor explained that historically fraternities have been inherently so.

As my older sister explained, the history of fraternities and sororities is rife with institutionalized racism and exclusion. It was and still is baffling to me.

Now, personally, having talked about the discriminatory history of fraternities and sororities with many of my friends, I still have questions. In order for these groups to change, the process needs to change. We need to learn how to fact-check artificial intelligence, as well as how to use these tools.

The driving force behind this discussion is the presence of a physical or learning disability. Students who struggle immensely with these issues may be the only ones in their families that have direct exposure to groups like Deepmind, which has direct experience with narrow AI. Unless you have a personal experience with these advancements, you might wonder how fast it is growing at a pace close to exponential.

Many people feel that AI will massively disrupt our culture if we don’t stay up to speed with its development. We’re in a bad spot if we don’t train the younger minds to learn how to use these tools.

Instead of running from this reality, higher education needs to put us in a position to succeed with this technology and start in the classroom. We should be encouraged to use AI tools to jumpstart essays or develop project ideas. We need to learn how to fact-check AI, as it’s still developing through glitches.

There has been a continued dispute regarding the discriminatory history of fraternities and sororities and the need for regulations. It is obvious that more clear, defined administrative policies are needed to prevent the exploitation of students and drive innovation and create a world that understands and respects others.

Senior SK Tapcty writes about the discriminatory history of fraternities and sororities and the need for regulations.

Greek organizations must be regulated
Independent bookstores in Downtown Ithaca are selling diverse literature and creating inclusive spaces for community members to explore a variety of perspectives amid the rise of online shopping and an increase in book banning.

Odyssey Bookstore and Buffalo Street Books are two indie bookstores downtown. Both stores value diversity when choosing what books to sell and their company websites share this intention to make customers aware of their inclusivity. The general manager and lead buyer of Buffalo Street Books, Lisa Swayze, said she wants the store to be a safe place for everyone who walks through the doors.

“We are deliberate in our choices to carry books for the specific community that is Ithaca,” Swayze said. “We curate to include a diversity of voices and experiences so everyone in our community can see themselves in the books on our shelves.”

Books that contain content about people of color or mention the LGBTQ+ community are commonly banned. Some parents want to ban books that talk about characters in these communities because they deem them “inappropriate.”

“By having a diverse selection of books on my shelf, I’m helping people find doorways to other perspectives that they may not have access to,” Larson said. “Other difficulties that bookstores have, aside from book bans, have been trying to support their small business through the challenges that online shopping poses. The convenience of clicking a button in the comfort of one’s own home is appealing to many shoppers, but this means fewer people are going out to shop at local businesses. “It would be great if more people understood how hard it is to keep an indie bookstore afloat these days,” Swayze said. “Our industry is seriously threatened by the Amazon monopoly.”

Odyssey Bookstore has a personalized subscription service where customers can share what they want books for and get custom books picked out for them. Larson said they only carry one book that ever deserves to be read, not just the commercially popular ones.

Buffalo Street Books creates a sense of personal community in other ways. The store hosts events and rents out its reading room as a place for people to gather and read books together, hear from authors, learn from lecturers or for a personal event.

For example, one event that they hosted recently was “How to Have Anti-Racist Conversations” with Roxy Manning and Martha Lasley. Roxy Manning is the author of “How to Have Antiracist Conversations: Embracing Our Full Humanity to Challenge White Supremacy.” She spoke with facilitator Martha Lasley, a partner at the Authentic Communication Group, and attendants were able to learn more about her work.

Odyssey Bookstore customer Jennifer Chapman said she prefers to support the local bookstore as opposed to Barnes & Noble. Since downtown has many small businesses, if a customer wants a coffee and a book, they can support two local shops at once.

“Here, it gives you an opportunity to support local businesses because there’s a local coffee shop and bookstore,” Chapman said. 

Odyssey Bookstore also has a unique ambiance. The store is sectioned into small rooms with seating and warm lights. Chapman said she likes settling into a seat just to read and stay a while.

“I like the cozy atmosphere and the people are nice,” Chapman said. “It also gives me an opportunity to embrace local businesses.”

Indie bookstores strengthen communities across the world. Larson said she likes that her store is a place where people can stop and connect for a moment.

“I feel the conversations have ended up being an unintended beautiful consequence,” Larson said. “These casual conversations that we get to have all the time and that people sometimes have with each other.”
larının media-related lenses. Grace Azaula is a senior listening for love. People do not want to admit out loud.

Connection are all emotions that can be stirred. "Oh oh, I would go through all this pain. Take unhealthy attachments in relationships. Contributing to a conversation that normalizes sive behaviors to the extreme. The very song depicts levels of anger and obsession known for expressing honest emotions, this same idea of wanting ownership over someone is not of love, but of an infatuation and song, "Run for Your Life" by The Beatles is only get more violent and gruesome, thus another song that depicts toxic, possessive behaviors. These unsettling words, coupled in horror movies, they can also be used to de-normalizing a dangerous perspective on love.

Regarding 'nightbitch,' it was very important for me because you see what kind of emotions [students] could create through mark making. It's very moving and that's why I wanted it to be my thing in the end. MG: Could you share some challenges you face as an artist in this particular field? And how do you overcome them?

CS: I think one of the challenges is that the general culture doesn't support the visual arts that well. When you're a young artist, it takes a long time to develop your voice and you need to be in the studio a lot, but you have other activities that takes time away from your studio work. It's a really delicate balancing act. They can't get famous and get money. I think it's one of the reasons why a strong art program is really important for a student to find a community of other people ... and possibly professors who can help them. As far as challenges for me, in my undergraduate art college there was only one female professor, and all the rest were male and as a young female student, I had almost zero role models. ... I think that things have gotten a lot better these days, but artists that identify as female still have a lot of obstacles in front of them. They're underrepresen-

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Rachel Yoder discusses her debut novel

From left to right, Melanie Conroy-Goldman and Rachel Yoder discussed Yoder's novel "Nightbitch" at Buffalo Street Books. "It started as a place where I could tell the truth about every-thing I'd ever felt and I never had to show it to anyone," Yoder said. "I really needed that outlet. In a lot of ways, especially since the first book, it wasn't about contributing to a larger conversa-tion. It was like, 'I am performing an exorcism and getting this thing out of my body for myself.'"
‘Five Nights at Freddy’s’ frightens and enthralls

MOVIE REVIEW: “Five Nights at Freddy’s” Universal Pictures

BY LUCRETIUS RUTKOWSKI PROOFREADER

Ever since the success of the first Five Nights at Freddy’s movie, created in 2014, the idea of a movie has been a running gag in the community for almost a decade. Rumors of its production and it being stuck in ‘development hell’ were spread until Blumhouse Productions and the game’s creator Scott Cawthon were announced to be working on a live-action adaptation. Now, released in theaters Oct. 27 almost nine years later, there is finally a ‘Five Nights at Freddy’s’ movie.

It’s questioned why anyone would stay five whole nights in an old pizzeria occupied by murderous animatronics, but ‘Five Nights of Freddy’s’ explains this through Mike Schmidt (Josh Hutcherson), who is a mess and a half. He has a horrific track record of getting fired from jobs, a traumatized past he forces himself to relive each night through dreams, and a little sister, Abby (Piper Ruger), to take care of. And now, Mike is in desperate need to look good for Family Court when his aunt Jane (Mary Stuart Masterson) attempts to gain custody of Abby. Mike is adamant about keeping his little sister safe, even if that means taking the night shift at a near-abandoned restaurant — offered to him by job counselor Steve Raglan (Matthew Lillard).

The animatronics themselves are the obvious stars of the film and exist as much more than villains. The movie does a good job of walking the fine line between making the animatronics create an atmosphere and making the children they used to be before they were killed. However, for a PG-13 movie, ‘Five Nights at Freddy’s’ has some pretty gruesome deaths. The security cameras are implemented to great effect when aunt Jane hires intruders to track the place under Mike’s watch, and said intruders are all hilariously, brutally picked off in fashions reminiscent of the game.

But where the movie falls just slightly short is, ironically, in its antagonists. Much time is necessarily spent on the other villains, like aunt Jane and the mysterious, blonde-haired ghost boy (Grant Feely), whose actor wonderfully portrays a hurt yet sinister child with his own intentions. Regardless, William Alston, the man behind the slaughter of the ghastly children, really needed a larger presence. He appears at the start to counsel Mike, but for those unfamiliar with the story prior to the movie — or even those familiar — he doesn’t haunt the narrative enough for the climactic end to hit its mark.

Furthermore, there is the shaky character of Vanessa Shelly (Elizabeth Lail), a local police officer who takes an over-enthusiastic interest in Mike and Abby’s lives. She is a wrench thrown awkwardly into a well-oiled machine and the initial impression she makes is less than stellar. It may have gone over better if there was more of a focus on Vanessa being a relate villain herself.

When it comes to fans, both the new and the old are rewarded for looking closer. There are so many callbacks to the games they that infuse themselves into the atmosphere of the movie and become more than nostalgia. The small “It’s me” messages in the background, the Balloon Boy jumpscares, a hidden dog animatronic suit in the back room, these all contribute to the amazing ‘80s arcade set and real animatronic suits to make an immersive world that’s both entertaining and creepy.

The plot isn’t lost by the way of catering to the fandom, either, because Mike’s emotional arc as he learns to communicate with Abby and the missing children is nicely executed. Hutcherson sells a character who is flawed and obsessive, but also compassionate and deeply protective.

People talk about replayability when it comes to video games, but ‘Five Nights at Freddy’s’ has plenty of reasons to watch it again, if for the unique atmosphere alone. It may not stand out particularly for people who aren’t aware of the source material, but it’s a solid experience — for fans and anyone else a little unsure, where frights and fun have come to life.

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‘Jenny From Thebes’ makes her return appearance

ALBUM REVIEW: “Jenny From Thebes” Merge Records

BY ROWAN KELLER-SMITH STAFF WRITER

On Oct. 27, The Mountain Goats released their new album, “Jenny From Thebes.” The album is a sequel to their 2002 album, “All Hail West Texas,” which was just as nothing short of a classic. The character of “Jenny” first appears in “All Hail West Texas,” along with songs such as “Night Light,” “Straight Six” and “Source Decay.” As a character, she is the embodiment of the desire to get on the road and leave everything behind. Now, she is back.

Frontman John Darnielle creates characters in every album he writes. “Jenny From Thebes” shows how much of a master storyteller he is. When Jenny first appears in the album “All Hail West Texas,” she is taking the narrator of the song “Jenny” away on her motorcycle. She continues to appear in The Mountain Goats Discography. In “Night Light” and “Straight Six,” she can be heard talking to the narrator on the phone. And in “Source Decay,” she is sending him postcards.

The listener never gets to know her in these songs, she is simply an instrument for the narrator. The storytelling is what makes “Jenny From Thebes’ such a wonderful track. The Mountain Goats have lore spanning decades, and the beauty of the group is that exact lore that they have managed to build up over the years. Throughout their discography, The Mountain Goats have introduced Jenny, her motorcycle, a fictional death metal band and a divorcing couple, among a larger cast of characters since their founding in the ‘90s.

Listening to any album by the band feels akin to reading an epic poem or some mythology-filled tragedy.

The album, at its core, is a folk-rock opera, though leaning a little away from The Mountain Goats’ classic folk sound and into the theatrical with piano, horns and even backup vocals by The Go-Go’s bassist, Kathy Valentine.

There’s a pop and show tune influence that somewhat brings the heartlessness of the album down. Not that pop music can’t have soul and depth, but its use in “Jenny From Thebes” has a harsh contrast to the amazing girt that Darnielle has in his past work. Darnielle’s vocals often sound like a mix of Lou Reed and Bruce Springsteen and suit a much more acoustic sound.

The album opens with the song “Clean Slate,” a stand-out track of the album. It sets the scene for the musical journey ahead with its vivid lyrics. It depicts the struggle of leaving home with the lyrics, “Leave home feeling empty, change planes in Taipei / Stay awake the whole time, end up several worlds away / The house was almost full that day, they made a space for you.” Each track on the album feels deeply personal and deeply introspective.

Narratively, the album is impeccable, simply from the magic of Darnielle’s storytelling capabilities. The songs themselves pull the listener into the moment through their detailed lyrics and cinematic instruments. Another notable track off the album is “Cleaning Crew.” The song opens with, “You were passed out on the sofa / Cigarette burns and coffee stains / Loose change in your pocket / Nauseous in your veins.” Darnielle’s writing, especially with the second person point of view he uses in many of the songs, puts the listener right there in the scene he is crafting. From cigarette burns to the Naltrexone, a drug used in the treatment of substance abuse, a full picture is painted.

“Jenny” has existed in prior albums by The Mountain Goats as an instrument for Darnielle’s other characters. But now, we get a clear image of who she is. In ‘Jenny III,’” Darnielle sings, “Jenny was a warior / Jenny was a thief / Jenny hit the corner clinic / Begging for relief / Never thought we’d see the day / When she wiggled free / But she did / Long before we did.” Jenny is her own person now, and that is a perfect descriptor for this album. “Jenny From Thebes” is about leaving home, about finding yourself; it’s about overcoming hardship. Darnielle and his band have created a meditation on leaving home, long for and finding a home. “Jenny From Thebes” has a fully formed narrative, something akin to Homer-level epic poetry mixed with indie-folk songwriting. While at times its pop-esque instrumentals falls flat, the lyricism prevails. The Mountain Goats have created a work of art worthy of recognition.

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crossword
By Quill Driver Books

ACROSS
1 False shows
5 Innocents
10 Barley used in brewing
14 Fellow
15 Hebrew letter
16 – vara
17TV’s “What’s My –?”
18 kind of salami
19 Name in Genesis
20 Maintenance
22 Make clear
24 Fall in drops
26 Twelve months
27 Remainsos (2 wds.)
31 Go aimlessly
34 Samovar
35 Twisting and turning
36 Pineapple brand
37 Chinese Dynasty
39 “Yes, –!”
42 World’s longest river
44 Heap
46 Hotel Chain
48 Poet’s “always”
49 Burn
50 Eavesdropper
52 Towering structure
55 In that case
56 Talk over
59 Convertible car
63 Part of speech, briefly
64 Bay of Naples
66 Pakistani language
68 “Here we go –!”
69 Big feline
71 Wool fabric
72 Bliss or Knox
73 Cistern
74 Cartoon Character – Gonzales
75 Droning instruments
76 Rural festival
77 Nota –
78 Strong adhesive
79 Outline
80 Release
81 Jai –
82 Cut of beef
83 Rights org.
84 SIM card
85 Cistern
86 Chewy cookie
87 Jai –
88 Farm tool
89 Smallish ensemble
90 Eavesdropper
91 Jai –
92 Farm tool
93 Brown
94 Superficially
95 Polishing compound
96 Alpaca
97 Arm bone
98 “Here we go –!”
99 Big feline
100 Farm tool
101 Jai –
102 Cut of beef
103 Rights org.
104 SIM card
105 Cistern
106 Chewy cookie
107 Jai –
108 Farm tool
109 Brown
110 Superficially
111 Polishing compound
112 Alpaca
113 Arm bone
114 “Here we go –!”
115 Big feline
116 Farm tool
117 Brown
118 Superficially
119 Polishing compound
120 Alpaca
121 Arm bone
122 “Here we go –!”
123 Big feline

DIVERSIONS
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023
12

sudoku
medium

5 3
6 2
7 4
8 9

hard

1 4 7
5 3 5
6 8

1 4 7
5 3 5
6 8

Polar Pardner
ILLUSTRATION BY JOSHUA PANTANO/THE ITHACAN

answers to last issue’s crossword:
easy
6 3 5 4 8 2 7 9 1
2 7 8 1 6 9 3 4 5
9 4 1 5 7 3 6 8 2
7 9 6 8 2 1 4 5 3
4 3 6 9 5 1 2 7
1 5 2 7 3 4 8 6 9
3 6 9 2 1 8 5 7 4
5 1 7 9 4 6 2 3 8
8 2 4 3 5 7 9 1 6

hard

1 3 7 6 8 9 5 4 2
5 9 6 4 2 7 3 1 8
8 4 2 5 3 1 9 7 6
7 1 4 3 5 2 6 8 9
9 2 3 8 7 6 1 5 4
6 8 5 9 1 4 2 3 7
2 7 8 1 9 3 4 6 5
3 6 9 7 4 5 8 2 1
4 5 1 2 6 8 7 9 3

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The Sudoku Source of “The Ithacan”
BY BILLY WOOD ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Ithaca College women’s lacrosse team has had a long history of service to the community, especially during the Halloween season. In 2022, the women’s lacrosse team has continued this tradition with a food drive, collecting canned food for a local community center and providing free food, youth programs, and education.

The team found similar success with Southside, collecting roughly 30 bags of canned goods with 27 team members participating in the event.

Deputy Director of Southside Kayla Matos said student organizations from the college and Cornell University have been working with Southside in helping run events like children’s community programs for a while and that she looks forward to expanded involvement.

“I love to see these relationships continue to grow and get nurtured,” Matos said. “I would love to continue to work with more student organizations in Ithaca College as well as Cornell University in order to provide these experiences.”

Recently, Southside has been going through their own struggles, narrowly avoiding a city budget amendment that would cut the nonprofit’s budget by nearly 40%. The amendment was withdrawn as tremendous support was shown by community members to keep the budget in place. There could not be a better time for the team to be corresponding with the center.

Matos recapitulated the support shown by the community at the budget proposal meeting Oct. 25 and said community support like that shown by the team is more important than ever to Southside.

“Community supporters came and the administration spoke about the importance of the Southside Community Center so that we can really show the city that, yes, we are nonprofit, but we are more than just the nonprofit providing services,” Matos said. “We are a historical pillar and we are a staple organization in the community and we are helping our disenfranchised communities day in and day out.”

Armstrong described the process of the drive and said that working with Southside has been very easy and rewarding.

“(Friday, Oct. 27) at 4:30, we are going down to Fall Creek to spread the word,” Armstrong said. “We got 200 flyers that we are going to put in mailboxes and on the telephone poles and whatever and just let people know — then they have until Tuesday. I just had to call Southside and be like, ‘Hey, do you want our help?’

The Halloween campaign is not the only thing that the team volunteers for. Everyone on the team has the opportunity to bring something they are passionate about to the team. Senior defender and co-captain Maggie Mandel organized the team to participate in an Alzheimer’s walk last year and said the team bonds over embracing each other’s important, charitable passions.

“My favorite part about the team is that if we have something we’re passionate about, we bring it to coach Moore, we bring to the captains — which is me, [senior] Caroline Wise and [senior] Sydney Phillips — and we are all on board,” Mandel said. “Last year, we did a suicide prevention walk and I did the Alzheimer’s walk, which were really close and personal to us and the entire team had our back. For me, it’s about having our team behind us to support us in something that we’re passionate about and making a difference.”

Mandel said these events show that the people on the team are more than just athletes.

“IT just shows how much of a part of the community of Ithaca we really are,” Mandel said. “We are not just some team that exists and plays games and whatnot, we really get involved. In the past, we’ve done Goblin Games, which is a little kids’ tournament for lacrosse, and we volunteer and help coach. It’s just nice to be involved and I think it shows us life is not just about school and athletes, you do have to be a person as well as you are a student-athlete.”

Mandel said that with everyone opening up to each other about causes they are passionate about, it’s easier to be in sync with teammates.

“It gives a sense of vulnerability of who we are because, at least for me, like last year with the Alzheimer’s walk, my grandmother died of Alzheimer’s, so that’s something super personal to me,” Mandel said. “I told the team my experience with it and it’s definitely something that’s a little bit vulnerable and it’s nice to be, received in that way from the team like, ‘Alright, let’s do this, let’s help you, let’s support you.’ It makes it easier to be vulnerable on the field and trust they have your back no matter what.”

Head coach Karrie Moore tends to let the players on her team choose charitable causes on their own and when they bring their ideas to her, she tries to support them in any way she can. Moore said highly of the independent nature of her players and spoke to the finalization of what they are passionate about.

“I think the people who really spearhead the community service projects for us are highly empathetic, caring, mature people. Harley certainly is,” Moore said. “I think that they are organized and responsible and I think one of the biggest things is follow through. There’s plenty of people with nice ideas, but there’s not as many people who follow through on them. So I think the people on our team who were kind of spearheading this kind of stuff are the people who really can come up with a plan and then actually follow through on it.”

With the team sharing such care for their own individual causes, Armstrong said she feels a sort of obligation to impact the community in a part of any way she can. She aims to do this again with this year’s Halloween campaign and the team will look to continue their efforts into the future.

“I can say personally that we’re so privileged in our position of being college students and being athletes,” Armstrong said. “Personally, I feel like it’s my responsibility to give back to any community that I’m in. Whether I’m at home, or at school, finding ways to give back to the community and also leave an impact that is positive rather than no impact at all.”
SUPPORTS THAT. SHE SETS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF THE WORK IN EACH SESSION AND GRACE DOES THAT AND ROLES, \"QUIGG SAID. \"EVERYONE\'S PUTTING IN THE EFFORT.\"

\"WHAT WE\RE ASKING; IT\S ALL PART OF OUR TEAM.\"

\"WHAT\S AHEAD,\" CLough SAID. \"I WANT TO PLAY FOR YOUR TEAMMATES, WIN FOR EACH OTHER AND YOU PUT IN A LOT OF HARD WORK FOR EACH OTHER AND WANT TO SUCCEED AS A UNIT.\"

\"PRIOR TO HICKEY\S TWO GOALS ALLOWED IN THE BOMBERS REGULAR SEASON FINALE OCT. 28, SHE WAS IN THE MIDST OF A HOT SPOT, AS SHE DID NOT ALLOW A GOAL SINCE THE TEAM\S LAST LOSS AT WILLIAM SMITH COLLEGE ON SEPT. 27, WHERE SHE ONLY LET UP ONE GOAL. HICKEY HAS STOPPED HER LAST 22 SHOTS FACED, RESULTING IN A 4–0–2 RECORD IN THE TEAM\S LAST SIX GAMES HEADING INTO THE LEAGUE PLAYOFFS.\"

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"Lark is an accomplished and expressive artist worthy of all the fuss." — (New York Times)

"Blew me over live... I’m already looking forward to whatever Lark does next..." — (The Jazz Journalist)
Drag queen Astala Vista dressed up in a devil costume and called out numbers during Halloween Drag Bingo on Oct. 30 in Emerson Suites. The event was hosted by the Student Activities Board and featured bingo as well as a Halloween costume contest and performances by the two visiting drag queens.