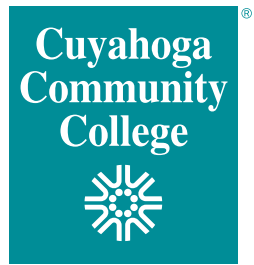


# FrontLines

## NEWSLETTER



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### LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This month's issue features a number of stories about servicemen and servicewomen on campus — students and employees who bring with them the involvement of family and friends.

The work of many makes it possible to complete the mission successfully. One of the most important tasks we have as citizens is to exercise our right to vote as we work together to keep the wheels of our democracy running. So please, **make a voting plan**. I also encourage you to find ways to get involved, both on campus and off. For example, [you can sign up here](#) to become a poll worker.

*One of the most important tasks we have as citizens is to exercise our right to vote as we work together to keep the wheels of our democracy running.*

Did you know that Tri-C has received national recognition for its efforts to encourage students to vote? The Voting Experience at Tri-C is a 2020 voter information campaign for students, by students. Learn more at [tri-c.edu/TriCVotes](http://tri-c.edu/TriCVotes).

*Marjorie Morrison, Interim Executive Director, Veteran Services Team*



### VET RESOURCES

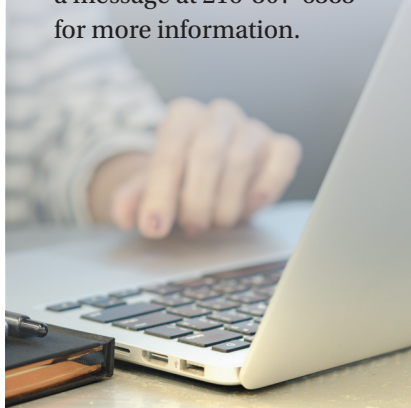
Subscribe to the weekly VA newsletter for information about resources available to veterans and their family members — including giveaways and freebies! Visit <https://www.va.gov/VetResources/> to sign up!



VetResources is a weekly newsletter for Veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors. Have a resource to share? Post it on **#VetResources**

## SPRING 2021 REGISTRATION

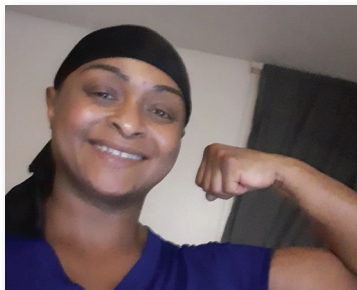
Registration for spring classes opens Oct. 19! And Priority Registration – for which veterans qualify – opened Oct. 12! Remember that the VA will only pay for courses that are part of your program sequence, though you may qualify for Full Tuition Assistance to cover the cost of any additional courses. Contact your campus rep or leave a message at 216-307-6385 for more information.



## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### FRANKIE FRANCIS

*My name is Frankie Francis. I was enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1991 to 1995 and in the U.S. Army from 2002 to 2005. I was an automotive diesel mechanic in the Marines. In the Army, my job was logistics supply. I worked in the Property Book Office and as the training NCO for my battalion.*



I joined the military because I had great admiration for my grandfather, an Army veteran who served in World War II. I had the pleasure of living with my grandparents from age 9 to adulthood. I learned so much from them both.

My major at Tri-C is dietetic technology. I chose this program because I've been interested in health and nutrition since childhood.

I've had to overcome many obstacles as a student; however, with much prayer, I'm getting better at prioritizing. I've learned to never give up. Just pull yourself together, think things through, and keep on going.

My plans going forward are to earn my associate degree, become as educated as possible in health and dietary nutrition and eventually become a dietitian or nutritionist to help others become healthier versions of themselves.

My advice for other students is to never give up. Although we may face obstacles in our lives, each one is a learning experience that can help us become stronger and better at maneuvering through life.

## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



### ALAINA FOSTER

*Alaina Foster is the program administrator at the Alfred Lerner Veteran Services Center at Tri-C's Eastern Campus. She has more than seven years of experience in higher ed student support and four years of active duty service in the U.S. Air Force.*



As a fellow in the inaugural class of the Stokes Civic Leadership Institute through the Cleveland Leadership Center, Alaina coordinates and facilitates community dialogues around education in Greater Cleveland. She is a board member for the Solon Community Impact Advisory Board, which aims to strengthen the relationship between city residents and law enforcement. She has also served as a member of the Ohio Women Veterans Advisory Committee in Columbus, where she worked to identify and assess the needs of Ohio's women veterans.

Alaina is an American Association for Women in Community Colleges 40 Under 40 award recipient. She is currently working toward a Doctorate of Education in adult learning and leadership through Kansas State University. She holds an MBA from the University of Phoenix, a bachelor's degree in business administration and human resource management from Baldwin Wallace University and an associate degree in human resource management from Tri-C.

## GET INVOLVED!

Student veterans at the Western Campus are invited to join the Veterans Today Club. Email [matthew.miller@tri-c.edu](mailto:matthew.miller@tri-c.edu) for more information.

Veteran or military-affiliated employees are invited to join the new veteran employee resource group. Email [alaina.foster@tri-c.edu](mailto:alaina.foster@tri-c.edu) for more information.

Veteran students and employees who wish to submit stories or photos for this newsletter can email them to [gary.bass@tri-c.edu](mailto:gary.bass@tri-c.edu) for consideration. All submissions are subject to approval by the College prior to publication.



## ARTICLES AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

- The VA offers disaster relief resources for veterans and their families. Call the VA Veterans Disaster Response line at 800-507-4571 for assistance.
- The IRS has reopened registration for claiming an Economic Impact Payment for some who qualify. [Click here to learn more.](#)
- The Ohio Governor's Imagination Library offers one free book per month to children from birth to age 5 through a collaboration with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. Learn more or register your child at [literacycooperative.org](http://literacycooperative.org).

## THE VETERAN SERVICES TEAM IS HERE TO HELP!



Need assistance with enrollment, registration, financial aid or benefit information? Struggling with English or math? Looking for referrals to community services?

Let us know how we can help you achieve your academic goals! Call the Veteran Services remote phone line at 216-307-6385 or email a team member for assistance.

Team/Location	Name	Email
Eastern Campus	Alaina Foster	<a href="mailto:alaina.foster@tri-c.edu">alaina.foster@tri-c.edu</a>
Metropolitan Campus	Joan Sweeny Dent	<a href="mailto:joan.sweenydent@tri-c.edu">joan.sweenydent@tri-c.edu</a>
Western Campus	Matt Miller	<a href="mailto:matthew.miller@tri-c.edu">matthew.miller@tri-c.edu</a>
Westshore/Brunswick	Mick Muñoz	<a href="mailto:mick.munoz@tri-c.edu">mick.munoz@tri-c.edu</a>
VEAP Math Tutoring	Gary Bass	<a href="mailto:gary.bass@tri-c.edu">gary.bass@tri-c.edu</a> <a href="mailto:VEAPmath@gmail.com">VEAPmath@gmail.com</a>
VEAP English/Math Tutoring and VECC Tutoring	Jeremy Wong	<a href="mailto:jeremy.wong@tri-c.edu">jeremy.wong@tri-c.edu</a> <a href="mailto:VEAPEnglish@gmail.com">VEAPEnglish@gmail.com</a>
Interim Executive Director	Marjorie Morrison	<a href="mailto:marjorie.morrison@tri-c.edu">marjorie.morrison@tri-c.edu</a>

Remember, if you receive orders to deploy, contact your campus representative for further direction.

## MATH CORNER

*By Gary Bass, VEAP Math Instructor*

Math is about so much more than just looking at numbers and finding an answer! Math is logic in action. It requires a great deal of critical thinking. Some of my favorite "math problems" are actually logic puzzles. When we were in our offices, I posted a logic puzzle on my door every week for my co-workers to solve. It's fun when everyone works together to find the answer to a problem. Get a group of friends together and try to find the answer to the following classic puzzle by Sam Lloyd (1841-1922), an American puzzle maker who wrote thousands of math, logic and word problems.

A teacher was trying to encourage older students to join his classroom, so he offered a prize each day to either the girls or the boys depending on whose combined ages were the greatest.

The first day, there was one boy and one girl. The boy was twice as old as the girl, so the boy was awarded the prize.

The second day, the girl brought her sister. Their combined ages were twice that of the original boy, so the girls took the prize.

On the third day, the boy brought his brother. The combined ages of the two boys were exactly twice that of the two girls, so the boys received the prize.

On the fourth day, the two girls brought their other sister. The combined ages of the three girls were twice that of the two boys. Thus, the girls won.

Given all this information, what was the original boy's age if the last young lady to join had just turned 21?

# REMEMBER TO VOTE IN THE GENERAL ELECTION

*Election season is here,  
and your vote is important.*



## There are three ways to vote:

### 1. Mail-in Voting

Check your registration status at [443vote.com](https://www.443vote.com).

Request a vote-by-mail/absentee ballot **now** at [443vote.com](https://www.443vote.com).

It will be mailed to you after Oct. 6.

Drop off your ballot at the Board of Elections (2925 Euclid Ave., Cleveland) or mail it ASAP.

Track your ballot request and your ballot at [443vote.com](https://www.443vote.com).

### 2. Early In-Person Voting at the Board of Elections\*

[Early voting dates and times for the Nov. 3 General Election in Cuyahoga County](#)

*\*If you requested an absentee ballot but wish to vote in person instead, you **can** vote early with no issues. Simply destroy the ballot you receive in the mail and visit the Board of Elections to cast your vote **before** Nov. 3.*

*Source: <https://www.dispatch.com/story/news/politics/elections/2020/10/01/ohio-absentee-ballot-requested-vote-in-person-instead-2020-election/5872869002/>*

### 3. In-Person Voting on Election Day (Tuesday, Nov. 3)\*\*

Go to your polling location to cast your vote.

*\*\*Double-check your polling location, as it may have changed due to poll worker availability.*

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Check with your county Board of Elections for up-to-date information.

[Cuyahoga County Board of Elections website](#)



## VETERAN TRIVIA

Many famous people have served in the military. Take a look at the list below — some may surprise you!

### Air Force

George Carlin  
Johnny Cash  
Morgan Freeman  
Robin Quivers

### Army

Desi Arnaz  
Clint Eastwood  
Ice-T  
Mr. T  
Jimmy Stewart

### Coast Guard

Beau Bridges  
Jeff Bridges  
Lloyd Bridges

### Marine Corp

Bea Arthur  
Bob Bell  
Bill Bixby  
Carol Bongiovi  
(mother of Jon Bon Jovi)  
John Bongiovi Sr.  
(father of Jon Bon Jovi)  
Adam Driver

### Navy

Bob Barker  
Humphrey Bogart

Johnny Carson  
Henry Fonda

Jack Lemmon

## WORDS MATTER *By Laura Cole, VEAP English Instructor*

Sept. 29 was the first presidential debate of 2020. Many people have many opinions about what was said, and it got me thinking about words and what they mean. It also got me wondering about the importance of the words we choose and how those words are interpreted by others.

I am a person who lives in a world of words. I have a bachelor's degree in comparative literature and a master's in English literature. I like to read a lot because I love stories. Good or bad, beautiful or ugly, they all tell what it's like to be human — and there is no one version of the human story. There are as many stories as there are stars in the sky.

When you think about it, a story is just a string of words put together to express an idea. Every story has a plot, and every plot has a theme. The theme is not just what the story is about — that's the topic. The theme is what the author is trying to tell you about the topic. Take *Romeo and Juliet*, for example. One topic of the story is love, but Shakespeare didn't write it to be just about love. So, what was he saying about it? I don't know what he intended, but I can guess that he thought love means sacrifice, or that love means everything when it is true love, or that sometimes love doesn't guarantee a long and happy life. Maybe he meant that love is foolish and wasteful.

All of these interpretations are right. That's the thing with words — they can mean so many things. It's the

reader's or listener's interpretation of words that create the meaning. We can read the same book and come to completely different conclusions. We can listen to the same song and feel completely different things. We can listen to two people talk about politics and the state of the country and have very different opinions about what was said, why it was said and what it meant.

It's important to talk about things like love and politics. It's also important to listen with the realization that we are interpreting another person's words based on our own experiences. We can't assume that we know what is in another's heart based solely on their words. They may not mean what we think they mean at all.

So, with a major election coming soon here in America, I plan to keep these thoughts in mind when engaging in conversations with friends and family members who may not have the same ideas that I do. I will try to really listen to what others are saying, and if I don't know what they mean or why they think the way they do, I will ask questions instead of assuming that I know. I don't know why my friend thinks the way she does any more than I know why Shakespeare wrote *Romeo and Juliet*. I can't ask Shakespeare, but I can ask my friend. It may be harder to do, but I can ask political candidates questions, too. And once my questions have been answered, I can use my ballot to speak my truth. It's all just words on a page or a screen, but those words matter a great deal.

# Stay online while en route.

Thanks to RTA's free Wi-Fi, every vehicle and some stations are now homework hot spots.



## Easily access the web at:

- Tower City Station
- Cedar University Station
- East 55th Station
- Louis Stokes/Windermere Station
- Southgate Transit Center
- Stephanie Tubbs Jones Transit Center

## Coming soon:

- Puritas-West 150th Station
- West 65th Station
- Brookpark Station