

The GW Hatchet

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What's inside

Students, alumni in D.C. cope with quarantine during pandemic



VENKAT SAI AKASH PAMARTHY
STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

OLIVIA COLUMBUS | DESIGN EDITOR

As D.C.'s shelter-in-place order continues into another month, students and alumni are trying to find ways to cope with the isolating effects of quarantine. As of April 25, 2020, more than 18,000 D.C. residents have been tested, and about 3,800 of them tested positive for the coronavirus.

The Hatchet spoke with nine stu-

dents and alumni living at Columbia Plaza apartments in Foggy Bottom about how they are spending their time indoors and how they are reacting to the effects of the pandemic. Some said they have picked up new hobbies like cooking or reading, while others are trying to hunker down on work and job applications. Officials canceled on-campus

classes after spring break, and all students were required to leave their residence halls and move off campus unless they received an exemption.

GWHATCHET.COM

H for comments from students and alumni living in D.C. about their daily routines

Students donate portion of merchandise sales to GW Hospital during pandemic

LIA DEGROOT
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

missing being at school," she said.

Students are selling hoodies and T-shirts to raise money for the GW Hospital as it fights the coronavirus outbreak.

Sophomore Samantha Walley, who serves as a GW campus manager for UniversityTees, a national group that produces apparel for philanthropic efforts on college campuses, said the group led a two to three week-long fundraiser at GW to help fund supplies like masks and gloves for GW Hospital. She said fundraiser organizers donated 10 percent of its proceeds to the hospital because it's a cause "personal" to the GW community.

"It was becoming apparent that colleges weren't able to have any on-campus events," she said. "Immediately, the reaction from a lot of us with UTees to all the campus managers was, 'Well, what can we do to make philanthropy still happen?'"

Students could purchase sweatshirts or T-shirts emblazoned with the words "The Social Distancing Club" or with photos of Foggy Bottom locations, like Tonic and Crepeaway, for \$20 to \$38 starting earlier this month until last Friday. Walley said UniversityTees, which typically produces apparel for student organizations, originally started donating funds to each specific organization's cause of choice when schools began canceling on-campus events and decided to expand to campus-wide fundraisers about three weeks ago.

She said the company hoped the T-shirt sales could bring students positivity through committing to a good cause after their semesters were cut short.

"In this instance, it was something that was so near and dear to all of our hearts, and I saw how much people were missing their friends and

Walley said a University of Michigan UniversityTees chapter sold apparel and earned about \$2,000 and donated 10 percent of the company's profits to a local food bank. New York University's UTees chapter donated proceeds from a sorority's merchandise sales to health care workers, police officers, firefighters, janitors and other essential workers during the pandemic.

"One of the things I noticed the most about being involved with these sorts of groups, like philanthropies and social organizations, is that people will love to give if they can get something for themselves," she said. "Being able to have a T-shirt or something to hold on to to remember these occasions was a no-brainer for me."

Nando's PERI-PERI, a restaurant chain with locations throughout D.C., has donated more than 6,000 meals to District hospital workers, including those at GW Hospital and unemployed restaurant workers. Twenty Tables, an app-based food truck company that partners with GW Dining, also donated hundreds of meals to GW Hospital workers earlier this month.

Walley said she started another T-shirt and hoodie fundraiser for the hospital last week with the words "I miss Foggy Bottom" and "I miss D.C." written on the apparel.

She said students responded positively to the fundraiser's Facebook post with likes and comments. She said one couple decided to purchase identical T-shirts from the fundraiser because the designs were "trendy."

"For me, this is an important fundraiser because I thought it was an opportunity for people who are so far away from each other to come together and to have one goal in mind, which is to help as much as possible," Walley said.

Tonic owner raises funds to support furloughed employees after closure

ILENA PENG
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

The owner of Tonic is raising funds to support his furloughed employees after the Foggy Bottom restaurant shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jeremy Pollok, the restaurant's owner, had tried offering takeout and delivery for a week after COVID-19 hit D.C., but Tonic experienced a drop in visitors similar to other Foggy Bottom restaurants, which led the business to close. Pollok said he launched a GoFundMe page earlier this month as his more than 80 employees wait for unemployment benefits, raising nearly \$15,000 as of Sunday for his staff.

"It's very difficult for all of us to not be able to work together and be together," Pollok said. "I always tell them that they're the family I chose, and it's just heartbreaking how much it's affecting people."

Pollok said all funds raised will go to his employees and will be distributed through checks based on who needs support the most, like those with families and those who rely on Tonic as their only source of income.

He said many of Tonic's regular customers have donated to the fundraiser, which has garnered almost 200 donations, according to the GoFundMe page. Pollok is promoting the fundraiser through social media platforms like Instagram and Facebook, as well as word of mouth, he said.

"So many regulars have donated to the fundraiser and have sent me little notes of 'thank you' and how much they miss Tonic, and it's really raised my spirits," he said. "I'm looking forward to seeing all those people and being open and saying 'thank you' and getting back to normal, whatever that may be."

Pollok said he has applied for

almost 10 grants and government program funds, like the Paycheck Protection Program and the James Beard Foundation relief fund, which support small businesses, to compensate for the restaurant's loss of income. He has not yet received any grants but has kept busy completing applications and communicating with Tonic's vendors during the store's closure, he said.

"We've been applying for every government program and grant and whatever else we can do to try to get some funds to exist," he said. "And you know, frankly, we just have not had any luck with that so far."

Pollok said he goes into Tonic's location at 21st and G streets several days a week, which helps him keep "some semblance of normalcy." He spends time in the restaurant completing tasks like painting the floors, cleaning the carpets and making a calendar with his employees' birthdays, he said.

"Things like that, small projects, things that have been on the bottom of my to-do list for several years are now getting done," he said.

Isabel Janetos, who has worked at Tonic for six years, said she has lost the majority of her income because of the restaurant's closure. She said her other job, a part-time position that has since become a full-time job amid the stay-at-home orders, is keeping her financially "afloat."

Local restaurants made the switch to selling meals through pickup and delivery after D.C. Mayor Muriel Bowser ordered the closure of all non-essential businesses late last month. She issued a stay-at-home order six days later, prompting a number of restaurants to close because of a widespread drop in customers.

"It's been difficult nevertheless



ERIC LEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

A fund for Tonic employees has received almost 200 donations and nearly \$15,000 for the on-campus restaurant's 80 employees.

because there is literally no financial wiggle room, and it will be tight for a while," Janetos said in an email.

She said Tonic's closure on March 16 left her feeling "heartbroken immediately" for Pollok, who she said serves as a "paternal figure" to many Tonic employees. Janetos, who first saw Pollok's GoFundMe on her Facebook feed, said the fundraiser was "exactly something he would do," adding that he is a business owner who puts his employers' happiness "above all."

"His steady demeanor is exactly what we need to hear right now,"

Janetos said. "He signs off on his emails with 'We will get through this' and 'Tonic will be back better than ever.' I am just so grateful to have a boss and a friend like Jeremy."

Floyd White, a part-time Tonic employee, said he is in a "much better situation" than other full-time Tonic employees because he works multiple jobs. But he said being separated from his usual Tonic job has been difficult because of his close connections with other Tonic employees.

"I'm at a loss just from not being able to go there," he said. "I feel like part of me is missing."

White, who has worked at Tonic since 2009, said he has stayed in touch with Pollok and other employees since the stay-at-home order was first issued but was unaware that Pollok planned to launch the GoFundMe before seeing the fund online. He said Pollok's fundraiser is the first GoFundMe he has ever donated to.

"I'm still very impressed with the folks that have gone through and made donations," White said. "I definitely think it speaks volumes as to what Tonic means to the community and to fellow staffers and past staffers."

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CRIME LOG

DRUG LAW VIOLATION

Thurston Hall
4/16/2020 – 5:31 p.m.
Closed Case
GW Police Department officers responded to Thurston Hall where an area coordinator found a pipe in a female student's room. The officers collected the pipe and brought it to the Academic Center
Referred to DSA

TRAFFIC ACCIDENT: HIT AND RUN

Off Campus
4/17/2020 – 7:30 a.m.
Closed Case
A female student reported being the victim of a hit and run while riding her bike off-campus.
Off-campus incident

THREATS TO DO BODILY HARM

Off Campus
4/13/2020 – 4:55 p.m.
Closed Case
A male student reported that his female roommate threatened him in an off-campus residence. He said the female threatened that her brother would cause the student bodily harm.
Off-campus incident

DRUG LAW VIOLATION

Thurston Hall
4/17/2020 – 7:00 p.m.
Closed Case
GWPD officers responded to Thurston Hall where an area coordinator found a pipe in a male student's room. The officers collected the pipe and brought it to the Academic Center.
Referred to DSA

THEFT II/FROM MOTOR VEHICLE

Public Property On Campus (2300 Block of G Street)
4/20/2020 – 9:00 a.m.
Closed Case
A male staff member reported that a male subject stole his toolbag from his work vehicle.
No identifiable suspects

POSSESSION OF DRUGS W/ INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE

Statesman Apartments
4/20/2020 – 9:37 p.m.
Closed Case
GWPD and the Metropolitan Police Department responded to a report of marijuana in a male student's room. D.C. Fire and Emergency Medical Services informed MPD that FEMS observed the contraband in plain view while extinguishing a fire in the kitchen. The student accidentally started the fire while attempting to flavor the marijuana. MPD searched the residence upon receiving the student's verbal consent and discovered and confiscated the contraband.
Referred to the Metropolitan Police Department

—Compiled by Kateryna Stepanenko



FILE PHOTO BY ARI GOLUB | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Patty Carocci, the associate vice president of alumni relations and annual giving, said her office has encouraged alumni to donate to a student assistance fund and to mentor graduating seniors through GW's Career Connect program.

Fundraising officials seek other avenues for donations during pandemic

MEREDITH ROATEN
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With in-person interactions banned for the foreseeable future, fundraising officials have been forced to rethink how to maintain one of the University's main revenue streams during the pandemic.

Patty Carocci, the associate vice president of alumni relations and annual giving, said staff are connecting with alumni through virtual events and with current students through professional development programs while building up two new emergency financial relief programs available for students and those with critical medical needs. Experts in higher education fundraising said checking in on alumni and other donors during this time can help remind donors about the value of their philanthropy even if economic strain creates short-term revenue shortfalls.

Carocci said all in-person events, including some alumni receptions around the country, have been postponed, and many have been transformed into virtual events. The development office has been promoting virtual networking and online webinars through a new weekly email blast to streamline communication to supporters, she said.

"Our hope is to safely engage with our amazing GW alumni community as soon as possible," she said in an email. "We have a bicentennial to celebrate and look forward to the opportunity when we can gather together

safely."

Carocci said fundraising staff have encouraged alumni to contribute directly to relief efforts for students by donating to the GW Cares Student Assistance Fund and by mentoring graduating students through Career Connect that sets up students with alumni in their field.

"We are hoping to call on our alumni in the upcoming month to offer support, advice and congratulations to the members of the Class of 2020," she said.

Consultant Washburn & McGoldrick released a survey of more than 400 higher education fundraising staff earlier this month, finding that more than 40 percent of surveyed staff worried that they wouldn't be able to meet fundraising goals for the year. University President Thomas LeBlanc said the University is expected to lose \$25 million by June 30 because of the impacts of the pandemic.

GW has recorded the lowest alumni giving rate among its peer institutions for two consecutive years but raised its third-highest donation total ever in fiscal year 2019.

Fundraising experts said continuing to provide professional support and check-ins with donors will ensure donations after the pandemic.

Matthew Lambert, the vice president for advancement at The College of William & Mary, said COVID-19 has changed the way his staff approach alumni events. Lambert said the office is emphasizing professional development and networking for alumni as unemployment numbers over the past month

reach record highs.

He said his staff has been mostly making calls to thank donors for their past support, then quickly pivot the conversation to how the donor is holding up under the strain of the pandemic response. He said fundraising is a long-term business and being patient and supportive of alumni and donors now will pay off later.

"What we have found is that if you've done a good job over time making the case to your donors for why that support is important, now is just a time to reinforce again why that support is so critical right now," he said.

Lambert said economic uncertainty is scaring fundraisers, but universities should analyze and survey top donors before undertaking a drastic measure like canceling a major fundraising campaign. GW's next capital campaign is scheduled to launch in early 2021, the 200th anniversary of the University's charter.

Lambert said donors' attitudes and personal situations can change many times before the bicentennial, especially considering how rapidly the response to coronavirus pandemic evolves every day. How long the pandemic persists will impact how donors will be able to support the University's major campaign and in turn how the development office will plan its work, he said.

Michael Worth, a GW professor of nonprofit management and the former vice president for development and alumni affairs, said officials might have more dif-

iculty maintaining connections during the pandemic, but they can't wait for the country to reopen to start fundraising again.

"I've been fundraising a long time and I've seen recessions before – more than one – and better days do come," he said. "You go out to talk to a donor three years from now and that donor says 'where you been? I haven't heard from you.' That's not a good thing."

He said marketing to promote GW's bicentennial will likely continue even if the campaign was delayed, which would still bring in money for the University.

Eric Streiff, a senior managing consultant at the philanthropy firm American Philanthropic, said his firm is advising clients to continue to invest in fundraising. He said it's a "knee-jerk" reaction to cut funding for staff and marketing in the development office during times of financial stress, but universities and other organizations who stop focusing on fundraising will create a disconnect with their donors in the long-term.

He added that the pandemic has the unintended effect of weeding out donors who aren't serious about the organizations they donate to and gives supporters the opportunity to show their loyalty.

"The people that were fair-weather friends so to speak, who are not as committed, are going to go on, which is fine," he said. "We're going to end up with a stronger base that's going to have a stronger capacity for the future for most organizations."

Officials launch fund to support research related to COVID-19



FILE PHOTO BY ALEXANDER WELLING | ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR
Vice President for Research Bob Miller said full-time faculty can request \$5,000 to \$25,000 through the fund for research related to the pandemic.

RACHEL ANNEX
STAFF WRITER

The University is debuting a research fund for regular full-time faculty interested in studying how to mitigate the effects of COVID-19.

Staff in the Office of the Vice President for Research developed the fund in collaboration with the Milken Institute School of Public Health and the School of Medicine and Health Sciences to support research proj-

ects that seek to understand COVID-19 using GW facilities and resources. Faculty said the fund will provide researchers with the necessary financial resources to gather preliminary data and receive more substantial funding from external organizations.

Vice President for Research Robert Miller said officials launched the fund April 17 with the approval of the provost's office using previously budgeted funding for intramural programs. The OVPR will not seek ad-

ditional financial support for the fund, which will disburse grants between \$5,000 and \$25,000 in value, and researchers are encouraged to apply for external support, he said.

"Their projects have the potential to prevent suffering, inform policy and responses to future outbreaks and strengthen the resiliency of individuals and communities," Miller said in an email. "Discovering and disseminating new knowledge for the public good is at the heart

of the University's mission."

Miller said given the limited availability of funds, faculty should only apply for funding if it is "critical to their project" or if they are unable to secure funding from other sources.

He added that the OVPR will share the costs of allocating grants with the public health and medical schools depending on the applicant's affiliation.

"Even in these difficult times, we felt this was an important investment to make to contribute new scholarship and research to the global pandemic response and to secure the future success of our faculty," Miller said.

OVPR staff will prioritize funding projects that yield external funding opportunities or bring recognition to the primary investigator and University, according to the research office website. Priority consideration will be given to projects that generate rapid preliminary data, promote the use of existing drugs and therapies, use GW's "core" services and facilities and address aspects of telehealth.

Full-time professors working at GW next academic year are eligible to apply for a grant through June 1, the website states.

Murray Loew, a professor of biomedical engineering, said the fund will en-

able academics outside of the medical field, like those in engineering and computer science fields, to receive the funding needed to contribute to research on how to most effectively carry out epidemiological measures, like contact tracing, to mitigate the pandemic.

Loew said he hopes the fund will advance research his department is already conducting on N95 masks and respirators.

He added that the goals officials are prioritizing with respect to research on COVID-19 could raise GW's research reputation given the pandemic's high profile.

Researchers in the public health school have explored topics ranging from the effects of COVID-19 on displaced populations to sustaining the health care workforce during the pandemic.

"I hope that whatever research is funded will be useful, No. 1, and recognized beyond the University," Loew said. "We have a lot of very good people in the University, and we always are interested in making the University more visible to increase its reputation."

Researchers said dedicating a fund specifically for COVID-19 projects will reduce financial barriers to conducting research and expedite the publication of

studies related to the effects of the virus.

Yang Feng, an associate professor of biostatistics at New York University, said the fund will support interdisciplinary research efforts between epidemiologists and specialists in fields like statistics and computer science.

He said these diverse fields play an important role in combating the pandemic – engineering researchers can develop more efficient methods to produce robust protective medical equipment and statisticians can study how officials allocate medical supplies nationwide.

"It's not just about understanding the disease spread – it's also a large influence to different areas of our society," Feng said. "A lot of different research fields can play a role in this epidemic. Pretty much everybody can participate to help us understand it."

Rebecca Dutch, a professor of molecular and cellular chemistry at the University of Kentucky, said her university has a similar fund that provides "seed funding" – financial support for preliminary research – for COVID-19 projects. She said researchers have to present preliminary data to larger research funding agencies to be competitive for more substantial funding.

Nonprofit kitchen teams up with Nationals to feed thousands

JARROD WARDWELL
STAFF WRITER

A community kitchen has taken over Nationals Park to deliver thousands of meals daily to community members cut off from food resources while D.C. residents self-isolate.

Josh Phelps – a relief operations manager for World Central Kitchen, a nonprofit combating world hunger and poverty – said the kitchen is cooking 10,000 meals per day out of Nationals Park to deliver food to local residents isolated from accessible food resources. He said the kitchen began operating out of the ballpark on March 7 to supply local communities with meals the kitchen purchases from local restaurants throughout the District.

“We’re filling a lot of pockets of need throughout D.C.,” he said. “Partnering with the Nats, we’re able to take over feeding of some of the communities that they serve as part of their philanthropic mission.”

The kitchen partnered with Nationals Philanthropies earlier this month to pump thousands of meals out of the team’s venue every day. José Andrés, a local chef and a GW visiting professor, has been heading WCK and numerous other community

kitchens serving people affected by the COVID-19 outbreak throughout the DMV and the country.

Phelps said the stadium’s size has helped volunteers stay safe through social distancing while banding together to mass-produce meals out of a single location.

“We’re trying to do the maximum with the minimum,” Phelps said. “Obviously in the age of COVID, you want to be able to have a large enough space to practice social distancing.”

The kitchen cooks most of its meals in the morning and then hopes to distribute the entire load to the community by early afternoon, Phelps said. He said the kitchen is delivering meals through Uber and other delivery services that have waived delivery fees for the kitchen.

Phelps said police officers have also visited the kitchen to either pick up their own meals or deliver them to local neighborhoods.

“The ultimate goal would just be that somebody has an extra meal every day, whether it’s a hot meal or something that’s given to them refrigerated, they can eat up later – just to add supplemental meals to people’s diet,” he said.

Phelps said the kitchen has been working closely with several wards across

D.C. through phone calls to coordinate its relief efforts with local residents’ needs. He said nonprofits have been the organization’s “eyes and ears” in relaying local neighborhoods’ needs back to the kitchen.

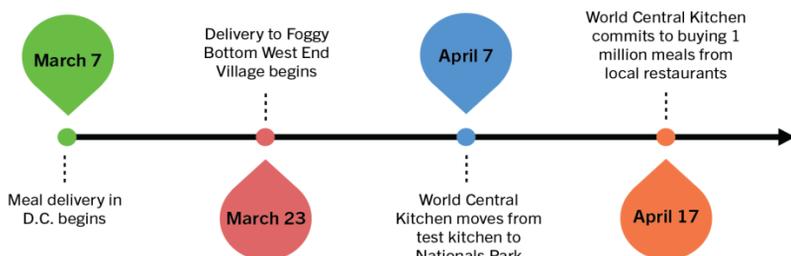
“It’s just what we do,” Phelps said. “Whether it’s after a national disaster, humanitarian crisis or now this unprecedented pandemic, we like to hop in and help people get fed.”

Phelps said GW Hospital has been supplying WCK with thermometers to check volunteers’ temperatures every time they come to work.

“Working with hospitals and clinics is a big part of what we’re doing, is feeding the frontline workers,” he said.

Patrick Kennedy, the chair of the Foggy Bottom and West End Advisory Neighborhood Commission, said WCK originally contacted GW Hospital with free meals to feed hospital workers five or six weeks ago, but the hospital directed the kitchen to the Foggy Bottom Association, a local neighborhood group. Kennedy said the hospital could no longer run its discount program, which provided local seniors with affordable meals from the hospital’s cafeteria, because of restricted entry into the hospital flooded with COVID-19 patients.

World Central Kitchen’s community work



SIDNEY LEE | STAFF DESIGNER

He said the Foggy Bottom Association alerted Foggy Bottom West End Village, a group providing aid to local seniors, of the redirected meal deliveries and began regularly supplying the senior-care group with meals on a consistent basis, with help from other community leaders who distribute meals.

World Central Kitchen has been delivering meals to Foggy Bottom West End Village for nearly a month.

“It’s not just the fact that it’s meals,” he said. “It’s quality meals, companionship and it’s just so important I think at times like this especially. And it would not be possible without World Central Kitchen. There really would be no one else with the capability of meeting this

need.”

Kennedy said food insecurity is “hidden” yet widespread in the Ward 2 community and has intensified its grip on locals since the pandemic’s outbreak. He said the hospital’s cancellation of its discount program added to the community-wide struggle.

“This crisis is hitting people at every socioeconomic strata, at every age level, and I think for us, what we really want to do is we want to meet the needs,” he said.

Kennedy said he has been exchanging phone calls and emails with local residents and has contacted building managers to relay messages to low-income residents without internet access to keep in touch with the Ward 2 community. He said

locals have worked together to share resources and cater to each other’s needs.

“People are really just pitching in to help out one another, and I think that that really shows the promise and the potential of engagement at the community level,” he said.

Kennedy said local residents have been “enormously grateful” for meal deliveries from the kitchen because of the food as well as the social interaction. He said local relief efforts have aimed at combating both loneliness and hunger as seniors isolate during the pandemic.

“Just seeing another human face and being able to connect with someone is I think really what people appreciate the most about it,” he said.

Dupont Circle farmers market continues serving shoppers

JARROD WARDWELL
STAFF WRITER

The Dupont Circle farmers market is continuing to sell fresh produce outdoors every Sunday despite the shutdown of surrounding markets under the public health threat of COVID-19.

Molly Scalise, the communications and outreach director of FRESHFARM, a D.C.-area nonprofit farmers market chain, said Dupont Circle Market has utilized new safety measures like hand-washing stations, online pre-orders and one-way roads passing through the market to keep shoppers safe. She said the farmers market expanded opportunities for local vendors to sell goods to online shoppers and low-income residents and posted an online list of alternate resources like pickup and delivery offers from nearby farmers to boost local farmers’ sales.

“We at FRESHFARM really strongly believe that farmers markets are an essential service,” Scalise said. “We provide fresh local food to our communities all year round, and during the pandemic is no different.”

She said FRESHFARM has focused on its “pop-up food hub,” in which farmers bring extra food from their farms to its market delivery sites. She said FRESHFARM packs the food at these sites and delivers it to nearby low-income families registered with institutions like senior centers, daycare facilities and nonprofits like Bread for the City throughout the District.

Scalise said the pop-up hub could be another source of revenue for farmers who might be struggling to reach the same clientele during the pandemic.

“We’ve really ramped that program up during the pandemic, which not only is helping people

who have limited access to fresh food and potentially have limited access to groceries in general, but it’s also providing an additional revenue outlet for farmers,” she said.

FRESHFARM is helping farmers sell and promote their businesses online while in-person sales may be limited as regular shoppers self-isolate, Scalise said. She said the number of weekly spring customers has declined from 4,000 to 5,000 a year ago to 2,000 during the pandemic.

Scalise said the number of vendors for FRESHFARM has also decreased by a third, as the market has less space available because of added space between stands to facilitate social distancing. She said some farmers have opted out of attending the market “due to safety concerns.”

The company posted a support page earlier this month for farmers on its website, which includes “action items” like a farmers’ relief fund, business loans and financial, business and legal resources.

“Our first priority is being there for our farmers,” she said.

Scalise said FRESHFARM is working closely with its farmers to ensure they can continue to maintain a financially stable business through continued sales and the company’s expanded online resources.

“We always have a really close ongoing relationship with our farmers,” Scalise said. “And so we’re offering guidance on how they can get online, implementing systems that make it easier for them to sell their products.”

She said the market is constantly improving its safety measures to avoid dangerous crowding on the market’s usually packed walkways between food stands.

The market posted a list of shopping alternatives to the market on its website, including almost 200 pre-order, pickup and delivery options from nearby farmers and businesses in Dupont Circle and other neighborhoods in D.C. She said the resources are meant for local shoppers who don’t want to travel to any of FRESHFARM’s operating DMV locations.

Scalise said consumers can place a pre-order directly with vendors to expedite their shopping and reduce their risk of infection. Scalise said shopping at the market is “grab and go” as vendors are pre-packaging food before shoppers select their purchases to cut down on market congestion.

“Everybody I think realizes that we’re all doing everything we can to keep each other safe and that it’s on all of us to follow those rules to make sure that we’re protecting each other,” she said.

Scalise said the market has been reviewing its operations every day to ensure the shopping space is clean. She said the market is limiting the number of shoppers in the outlet at one to two people per group, requiring all shoppers to wear masks and marking shopping lines to facilitate safe social distancing.

Scalise said purchases have jumped despite the drop in customers because shoppers are trying to minimize trips and avoid going to indoor grocery stores, which she said are more dangerous than the open-air markets. She said she has heard customers say they feel more comfortable and safer shopping at farmers markets instead of grocery stores.

“It is a major destination for a lot of people, and so as long as people need to eat, we want to be there and serve our community,” Scalise said.



Undergraduate and graduate students can sign up to buy groceries and babysit for health care professionals on the front lines of the fight against the pandemic.

Students launch program serving families of health care workers

JARROD WARDWELL
STAFF WRITER

A group of medical school students is spearheading a program to provide hospital workers with childcare services while parents are on the frontlines of the fight against COVID-19.

Kime McClintock, the co-director of internal affairs for DC COVID Sitters – a D.C.-area medical student group assisting health care workers’ household needs – said students are babysitting, tutoring, grocery shopping and dog walking for local health care workers during the pandemic. She said students who volunteer with the program are matched with nearby families to help with childcare and household services while parents are out treating COVID-19 patients.

“We felt that this was something that was in need, given that we had heard so many families saying they needed help with childcare for their kids because they had to go into work themselves or they have telemedicine appointments all day long,” McClintock said.

Health care providers in the D.C.-area can sign up for the program after uploading their hospital badge and listing the household assistance they need, like grocery shopping or babysitting, McClintock said.

She said local undergraduate and graduate students from GW and other schools like Georgetown and Howard universities can apply to the program by visiting the organization’s website. She said the students can use an online map of registered families displaying the help they are requesting to match with a family.

McClintock said nationwide efforts to provide hospital workers with childcare assistance in Minnesota, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Oregon and California inspired the group to carry out their program in D.C. She said GW students make up “a significant

portion” of the group’s student volunteers who work with families.

“We were a small group of people who saw a need and wanted to start going as quickly as possible, but we’re doing the best we could the whole time,” McClintock said.

She said the program requires that each student works with only one family at a time until the family no longer needs help “to contain exposure” to households at risk of infection. She said the group has spoken with representatives from GW’s Division of Infectious Diseases who have suggested frequent hand washing and social distancing as ways to protect health while students are working with families.

McClintock said some students have expressed concern about volunteering with the organization out of fear they might carry COVID-19 into their own homes with at-risk parents.

“I would definitely reiterate that this type of volunteer effort isn’t for everyone because it does carry inherent risk and that there are so many ways for students to be able to volunteer and give back in a way that is safer,” she said.

McClintock said grandparents were previously leaving their own homes to provide household care to many of the program’s families, placing the grandparents at greater risk from the virus. She said the pandemic has displaced some seniors who were previously living with their children who work as health care workers.

“The thing with COVID-19 is that there’s so much fear, especially for anyone who’s a little bit elderly or might have some underlying health condition and fear of transmission, and so a lot of health care workers didn’t want to rely on their own parent for child care anymore,” McClintock said.

Moena Nishikawa, the organization’s co-director

of communications, said more than 50 students from schools throughout the D.C.-area have assisted about 40 health care workers’ families so far. The program serves workers from hospitals across the D.C.-area like GW Hospital, MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, Howard University Hospital, Washington Hospital Center and Children’s National Hospital, McClintock said.

“It’s been amazing to see the community come together in this manner during such a rough time for so many people and how willing people are to help one another out in a time of need,” she said.

Nishikawa said school and daycare closures and hospital schedule fluctuations have rattled families with health care workers.

“Not only are their work schedules changing day-by-day with demand but also the availability of people helping them out – their schedules changing as well – so there’s a lot of moving parts that I think everyone has had to find ways to figure out,” she said.

Alison Distler, a GW medical school student who began volunteering with the program last month, said she has been cooking and providing homework help and entertainment for a family’s children a few days per week. She said the children’s parents both work in the medical field at GW and Howard universities’ hospitals.

Distler said she and other medical students were “frustrated” when they were pulled from their clinical rotations as the pandemic began to intensify in the District. She said they were eager to help the medical community in any way possible.

“While I can’t be in the hospital playing the part of a trusted medical team member, I can at least play the part of a trusted individual who can support health professionals in an entirely new way,” she said.



FRESHFARM, which operates the Dupont Circle farmers market, is taking extra precautions – like distancing stalls – to ensure customer safety.

Student affairs office holds virtual programs during instructional continuity

TIFFANY GARCIA
STAFF WRITER

Division for Student Affairs officials are providing emotional and mental support for students via online programming as a substitute for in-person activities during the virtual learning period.

DSA officials released a series of programming and mental health resources like anxiety tool kits and virtual sports competitions for students to participate in while most remain off campus. Students said the virtual programming events are beneficial to students struggling with disruptions to their social and daily lives but added that the times of the events often conflict with their new schedules at home.

"When we can't be together in person, we connect virtually," Cissy Petty, the vice president for student affairs and dean of students, said in an email. "We are a community. We are going to continue to be a community, and through these events we hope we will continue to provide connections with and among students with similar interests."

Petty said the events, ranging from mental wellness discussions to Netflix parties, are designed to offer students a space to connect with each other virtually by sharing similar interests. Programming is planned to run until May 13, according to the DSA website.

Petty said officials are promoting their events through other University departments' social media,

newsletters and student leaders' assistance. She said officials hope the events can help students "find a sense of balance between academics and self-care" during the instructional continuity period.

Petty said officials have seen a "positive" turnout from students who have participated in programming. She said some of the DSA's social events, like the Lerner Health and Wellness Center's sponsored virtual trivia – a national quiz event where teams of students compete against each other for college gear on the platform Twitch – is attracting more than 50 students each week.

"We are happy to be seeing a lot of students returning each week and creating virtual teams," Petty said. "An added bonus to the trivia is that our students are competing against students at other colleges."

In addition to virtual social gatherings, the DSA is offering virtual mental health-focused sessions like group counseling and self help toolkits to teach students tips for managing stress and anxiety symptoms. Petty said some of the mental health discussion series events like the "anxiety toolbox," which is designed to increase students' understanding of their anxiety, typically host three to five students per session because officials offer them "often."

Students said mental health services officials are offering to provide a space for students struggling with anxiety and isolation from peers to talk through their emotional struggles.

Rubin Roy, a freshman majoring in computer science, said he is a member of multiple student organizations including the Hindu Students Association and Association for Computing Machinery, making his transition to online learning a larger adjustment after he lost his daily interaction with people.

He said he has not attended any of the DSA's events but has taken advantage of other online virtual learning seminars specific to his interests like the Nashman Center for Civic Engagement and Public Service's advocacy workshop on virtual service work.

"It can't hurt to just go there and learn more about something that they offer," Roy said. "All of them have really been giving me the chance to interact with GW in ways that I'd have liked to before this all happened and definitely not the same, but it's close enough, and it's something I'm really appreciative about."

Roy added that he would be interested in attending DSA's events because of the chance to virtually socialize. He said the group counseling sessions are a "great" resource for students to air their grievances as stress from finals, online classes and the COVID-19 pandemic weigh on student's mental health.

"I think everybody could use the opportunity to just at the very least talk or relieve some stress, especially right now because on top of everything that's happened to finals season and we're



FILE PHOTO BY DEAN WHITELAW | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
Vice President of Student Affairs Cissy Petty said her department is holding online events like virtual sports competitions and Netflix streaming parties to substitute for on-campus activities.

all getting our housing assignments and classes for next year and things feel like they're moving really fast, and we don't even know about the fall yet," Roy said.

Administrators plan for students to resume in-person classes and residency in the fall 2020 semester, but other institutions like Boston University are considering pushing back the start of the fall semester to January 2021 if public health authorities continue to limit mass gatherings.

Sofia Campo, a freshman majoring in psychology, said she has not attended any of the events because she has been busy with her online classes, but she felt her professors have done a good job

of alerting students about resources being offered. She said students coping with the changes to their daily routines could benefit from interacting with each other, and she is interested in participating in the events in the coming two weeks.

"Just like with anything, a big change in your daily routine, or the way that you're learning can affect your mental health negatively," Campo said. "It's important to have those resources there."

Freshman Maya Younes said they do not plan to attend the social virtual planning events because they do not cater to her general interests. They said DSA should have asked for student input

via polls to make the events more enticing to join.

"They just haven't sparked my interest," Younes said. "I think I saw one for a movie night. I can just watch movies with friends online."

Younes added that the mental health services offered are "a lot" more beneficial to students than social events like Netflix parties because many students have lost safe spaces on campus and forms of support with the transition home.

"Mental health services are really important especially right now," Younes said. "A lot of change is really disruptive for people's schedules and regimes and there's a lot of uncertainty about what's going to happen next."

Asian, Pacific Islander students hold annual celebration on social media

MAKENA ROBERTS
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

Asian and Pacific Islander student organizations are observing this year's Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration through a social media challenge.

The APIHC Challenge, a social media campaign launched by members of the Asian American Student Association on April 17, asks students to post pictures of Asian heritage, like cuisine or television shows, on Facebook and Instagram with #BroadcastingFromHome, according to the Multicultural Student Services Center Instagram. This year's Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration focuses on the theme "Broadcasting Ourselves" to promote Asian and Pacific Islander culture in the media, according to the MSSC website.

MSSC director Michael Tapscott said the AASA created the challenge so Asian students could continue to show their cultural values like family on social media and share them with others. He said the challenge will "supplement" canceled APIHC in-person events, which originally included the annual Philippine Cultural Society's Culture Show and a Korean night market in Kogan Plaza called Korean Culture Night: Moonlight Memories.

"The students have been very inviting and inclusive of this transition and have worked together to develop the Virtual APIHC Challenge," Tapscott said.

The national Asian American Heritage month takes place in May, but

MSSC officials switched the University's celebration to April in 2004 so all students have the opportunity to participate in various cultural events for the Asian Pacific Islander celebration, according to the MSSC. Ten student organizations sponsored this year's joint heritage celebration with the MSSC.

Nina Mellor, a junior and the vice president of the Asian American Student Association, said AASA members planned a "Let's Unpack That" networking conference for the organization's APIHC event, but the plans were canceled because of the pandemic. She said the event would have included small group discussions between participants centered around sensitive topics in Asian American culture and identity like cultural appropriation and social misconceptions for students to examine the issues affecting Asian communities.

Mellor said AASA members decided to develop the "APIHC Challenge" so students can continue celebrating their Asian heritage virtually. She said the organization intends have participants share images of their culture like family recipes with their peers across the world to provide students with a sense of community.

"I think people are trying to find normality in this not normal time, and hopefully seeing their familiar students posting about what would have been is comforting," Mellor said.

Carolyne Im, a sophomore majoring in political communication and the external relations chair for

the Korean Cultural Society, said there is "very little" representation of Asians or Asian Americans on mainstream media, which can contribute to perpetuating stereotypes.

Im said the virtual challenge promotes Asian culture on social media in line with the APIHC theme this year. She said the theme of broadcasting one's heritage and identity is a lighthearted activity to engage with amid the global pandemic.

"I think it's a really nice way to promote these different things that people can be doing to be active in the community and to support each other, especially now, with this lighter theme that people can just engage in without being too stressed about it, especially now that we're all kind of stuck at home and not really sure what to do," Im said.

Britney Gho, a sophomore and a program director for KCO, said the group's members planned to have multiple karaoke, Korean jewelry-making and ring toss booths set up in Kogan Plaza with Korean street food and traditional instrumental performances but are now helping facilitate the APIHC virtual challenge. She said members have been posting Korean recipes and Korean television drama shows.

"Over the past year, I've definitely seen KCO has brought a lot of people who aren't Korean into Korean culture," she said. "And I think the best part of just having these events and being a part in creating it is that it's really nice to meet people and really get to enjoy the culture."



FILE PHOTO BY SYDNEY WALSH | PHOTOGRAPHER
This academic year, the Student Court issued opinions on cases dealing with graduate student representation in the SA and whether executive branch members could serve on a special senate committee.

Student Court held most active session in nearly two decades

SAMANTHA SERAFIN
REPORTER

Student Court judges said they tackled four cases this academic year, making this year's court the most active one in nearly 20 years.

The court worked on cases this year ruling on the separation of powers between executive members within the Student Association, closing a two-year case between an SA graduate senator and the SA and overseeing two complaints filed between SA members. Court judges said they worked to amend the court bylaws into the new SA constitution this year and advised future court leaders to continue explaining their opinions after closing a case to increase the court's campus presence.

SA Chief Court Justice Wayne Arminivage said he worked to add the court's bylaws into the SA's online governing documents to ease access. He said he used his constitutional law knowledge from studying as an undergraduate at Penn State University to increase transparency between members involved in a court case, speaking regularly with The Hatchet to explain case opinions.

The court is an independent judicial branch that decides on complaints in the SA executive and legislative branches and determines the constitutionality of SA actions, according to the SA's website. This year's court consisted of one chief judge and three associate

ate seat vacant, the website states.

Arminivage said he began serving as chief judge last fall continuing to work on a case between an SA graduate senator and the SA that alleged misrepresentation of graduate students – a case in progress for nearly two years. He said the case should not have taken two years to close, but the court refiled the case twice, which delayed the judges from making a final ruling.

Arminivage said he had hoped to digitize case opinions and place them on the SA website, but he could not fulfill his goal because of the relatively large number of court cases this year and the switch to online classes. He said digitizing the past court opinions would provide SA senators and students seeking the court's help easier access to the documents when filing lawsuits.

He said the physical documents for court precedents are currently stored in the GW Library archives in Virginia, which required him to comb through decade-old boxes of SA documents when working on decisions for this year's cases.

He said the most challenging case the court heard this year questioned the constitutionality of three members of the SA executive – SA President SJ Matthews, Executive Vice President Amy Martin and Vice President for Judicial and Legislative Affairs Logan Basch – serving on the constitutional committee. The court ruled that the trio could not constitutionally serve on the committee be-

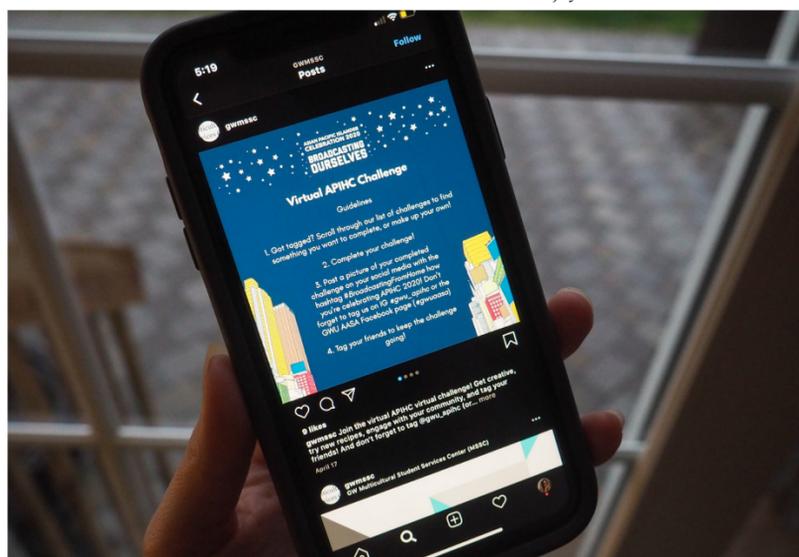
cause permitting executive members to serve on senate committees would breach the standard of separation of powers.

"It was a very learnable moment for everyone on the court to have to make that decision while knowing the correct legal answer might result in people's feelings getting hurt," he said. "That was a difficult choice for us."

SA Associate Court Justice Ian Haimowitz, a senior majoring in international affairs, said he wrote the court's opinion regarding the question of the SA's separation of powers, stating the principle is "inherent" in the constitution. He said writing the court opinions for a case challenged him as an undergraduate because he had not learned how to write an opinion piece – a skill taught in law school.

SA Associate Court Justice Britt Lewis said the court did not discourage hearing any case filed from a student, contributing to the relatively large number of cases the court addressed this year. Lewis said he hopes the new SA president will select justices who represent both the undergraduate and graduate student body to ensure adequate representation.

"I think that it's really important to have a mixture of undergraduate and graduate students, and the GW student body is pretty unique in that there are more graduate students than undergraduate students, and it can feel pretty separate on campus a lot," Britt said.



FILE PHOTO BY GRACE HRONIN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER
COVID-19 may have canceled all on-campus Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration events, but Asian American Student Association members launched a social media campaign to commemorate the month.

Professor contributes to research on effect of anxiety in parents on children

JULIA RUSSO
STAFF WRITER

A psychology professor contributed to research showing how both a child's environment and genetics can affect the emergence of anxiety.

Jody Ganiban, a professor of clinical and development psychology, participated in research that will be published in May on the chances of parents passing on their anxiety to their children. Ganiban said her project studied parents' effects on children developing anxiety during early childhood and whether these effects are best explained by environmental or genetic processes, finding that parent anxiety has a small effect on the development of childhood anxiety.

The researchers tracked 561 adopted children and looked for the emergence of anxiety when the subjects were between 18 months and four and a half years of age. The study found parent anxiety had a "trivial" effect on children developing anxiety from 18 months of age through preschool, with anxious mothers and fathers' child-raising practices having a roughly equivalent influence.

"Since our study sample includes adopted children, along with their adopted parents and biological parents, we are able to explore if parental influences on men-

tal health are independent of children's heritable risks, and if parenting amplifies or dampens the expression of heritable risks," Ganiban said in an email.

She said Andy Field, the study's lead author, designed the project to include adopted children with both their adopted parents and biological parents to explore whether children developed anxiety from environmental impacts or from genetic inheritance.

"It is also important to note that very few studies have explored the importance of fathers in the development of child anxiety," Ganiban said.

Leslie Leve, an alumni faculty professor of education at the University of Oregon and a contributor to the study, said parental anxiety may influence whether their children will become anxious, but many other factors not measured in the study could also play a role in determining incidences of anxiety disorders.

She said the research team plans to follow up with the same children at the ages of 11, 13 and 15 to learn more about how early childhood anxiety levels predict the condition during adolescence. Leve said the team has been "fortunate" to have received funding from the National Institutes of Health for the past 18 years.

"This allowed us to start

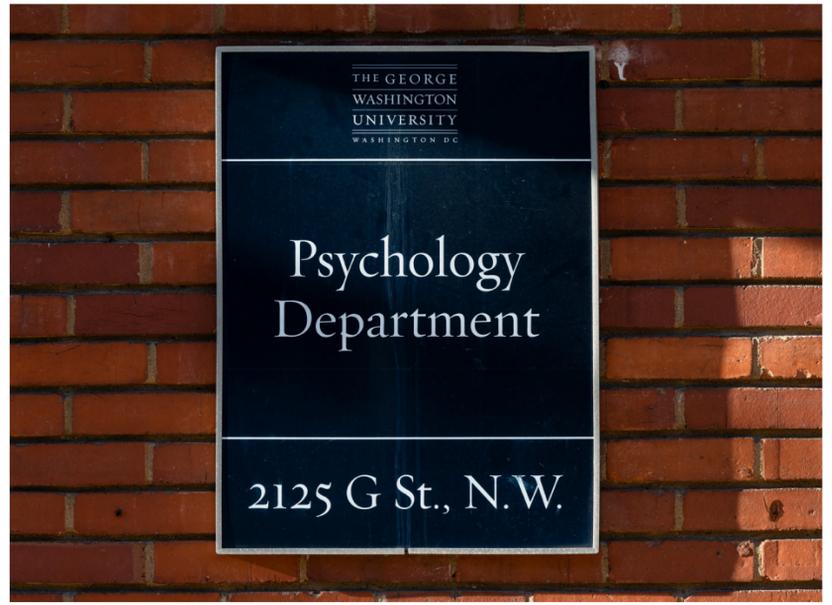
the study initially in 2002 when the children were not even yet born and to follow them across development," Leve said in an email. "Some of them are now 17 years old!"

Researchers used the NIH funding to design the study, recruit families, collect and code the data, compensate families for their time and disseminate findings to research and practitioner audiences, Leve said.

"This study shows that we need to keep in mind that just because a mother or father is anxious, that doesn't mean that the child will also be anxious," Leve said. "There are lots of other factors not measured in this study that also play a role. It also serves as a reminder that it's important to study both mothers and fathers when there are two parents in the home."

Leve said most of the project's researchers have been studying anxiety together for more than 20 years and were introduced to one another by their graduate school advisers. She said the research team eventually expanded to include faculty from around the world – some of whom were co-authors of this research paper – because the unique nature of the study drew psychology scholars to the project.

"This happened in part because our study is quite rare, and it can draw the at-



Jody Ganiban, a professor of clinical and development psychology, participated in a study that examined whether anxiety in children is an environmental or a genetic phenomenon. ERIC LEE | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

temptation of researchers who are interested in understanding how genes and the environment work together to influence child development," Leve said.

She said the researchers first discussed the original study design in 1995. She said they did not receive NIH funding until 2002, and each of the papers they have written has taken about two years from conception to publication.

"Doing this type of longitudinal research with

families is hard work, takes a really long time and takes a team effort to be successful," Leve said. "I feel fortunate to be part of such a strong and collaborative team!"

Jenae Neiderhiser, a professor of psychology and human development and family studies at Penn State University and a contributor to the study, said she first met Ganiban in 1994 when she began working at GW and they collaborated at the Center for Family Research. She said they began working

with Leve after joining CFR Director David Reiss' Early Growth and Development study on environmental influences on child health outcomes.

"We have a number of team members, graduate students, postdoctoral researchers and faculty at different universities who are interested in understanding the development of anxiety symptoms in children who will continue to examine questions related to this publication," Neiderhiser said.



FILE PHOTO BY SYDNEY WALSH | PHOTOGRAPHER
Carol Hayes, the director of the writing center, said her team created the program after hearing from students that they lacked motivation to complete their assignments while at home.

Writing center holds virtual cafes to push students to finish papers on time

ISHA TRIVEDI
STAFF WRITER

The GW Writing Center debuted a virtual writing cafe earlier this month to motivate students to collaborate with peers on writing assignments during the instructional continuity period.

The cafes, which are similar to a virtual study group, accommodate up to 15 students at one time to discuss and work on their writing assignments in the presence of other students over Zoom. Officials said the cafes are designed to help students who face difficulties keeping up with school work and meeting the deadlines necessary for their classes during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Carol Hayes, the director of the writing center and an assistant professor of writing, said staff created the cafes in response to feedback she heard in talking with students, who said they struggle to establish a daily schedule and stay motivated to complete writing assignments on time.

"Those things combined to make me think that we needed to have something where writers could write in the company of others, to have that connection to others," she said.

Hayes said students briefly discuss the goals they want to accomplish in terms of their writing assignments at the beginning of the cafe. She said the students spend most of the two-hour meeting working individually on their assignments, with time allotted for a break in the middle and a discussion at the end about what students were able to complete.

"You come to these sessions with a specific writing goal in mind, you articulate it to others and then you sit

down and you do it," she said. "The cafes are really about writing, but they're also about writing in the company of others."

Hayes said the cafes are offered five days a week at several times to accommodate students in different time zones, with writing center consultants present during each meeting to check in on students' progress and "provide quick advice" using the chat function on Zoom.

"There's some accountability there," she said.

Hayes said the cafes are not designed to replace one-on-one tutoring appointments that the writing center continues to offer online but rather to encourage students to get their work done on time.

"It's not really about providing that kind of tutoring support in the moment," she said. "It's really about just giving people the motivation to sit down and write on whatever project they want."

Anna C, an undergraduate consultant for the writing center who asked her full last name be omitted due to the center's general academic confidentiality policies, said the cafes have helped keep students on track with their assignments and promote productivity. She said undergraduates have primarily been utilizing the cafes, although the sessions are open to graduate and doctoral students as well on the writing center's website.

She said the students in the cafes she has hosted were "pleasantly surprised" at how productive they were when in the presence of other students on Zoom.

"I think people are surprised by the positive synergy that comes on, even though it is over Zoom, and it's over with people who you

might not know before," she said.

Anna C said the cafes have also been helpful to her since she is able to spend time on her own work.

"I like it a lot as a consultant because I'm able to get some of my own work done at the same time, so it's not like I'm just sitting there watching everybody else do work," she said.

She said since the cafes began two weeks ago, attendance has been low in the beginning of the week at about three to four students and has increased as the week progresses, reaching around eight students in sessions at the end of the week.

"It kind of depends on where people are in their homework load and things like that, but I have noticed it gets higher toward the end of the week, probably because people want to get started with a productive weekend," she said.

Olivia, an undergraduate consultant for the writing center who also asked her last name be omitted due to the center's general academic confidentiality policies, said the cafes were implemented to virtually recreate the experience many students are accustomed to of working at a library or coffee shop with classmates or friends.

She said writing center staff knew students would struggle without the same "academic routine" during the instructional continuity period and hope the cafes can help provide structure in students' daily schedule.

"Everyone is definitely in a different place in terms of their workload and in terms of their headspace regarding the pandemic, so that's something that is definitely ever-changing in the cafes that we do have to adapt to," she said.

IT, Libraries staff adapt emergency continuity plans to COVID-19

ILENA PENG
CONTRIBUTING NEWS EDITOR

Five weeks into the instructional continuity period, technology support staff said they have successfully supported faculty and students through the unexpected crisis.

Officials said they have bolstered GW's efforts to move administrative and academic operations to online learning with live chats, remote desktop support and a four-fold increase in faculty workshops to address technology issues and ensure students and faculty have access to the software they need. GW Information Technology and Libraries and Academic Innovation staff said planning ahead of time enabled their departments to assist the University in moving operations virtually.

"While no one could have expected the impact COVID-19 made across higher education, GW IT had prepared business continuity plans for possible situations which would require remote work and online instruction," Chief Information Officer Loretta Early said in an email. "Teams were able to leverage these plans to make the sudden transition as streamlined as possible."

IT staff experienced a slight increase in support requests during the beginning of the instructional continuity period, at about 1,800 incident tickets processed from mid-March to mid-April, and the most significant increase in users accessing University self-help articles, Early said.

She said that in the same period, the number of views on University self-help articles hosted on the

IT department's website, which include information on topics like using Blackboard Collaborate and logging into Adobe Creative Cloud, were accessed nearly 14,000 times over the course of four weeks, compared to 3,500 in a similar timeframe normally.

Early said her department's COVID-19 IT Task Force, which launched in March with IT leadership from across GW's schools and departments, have addressed the "most common technology obstacles" raised by remote learning. "Teams were able to ensure continuity of operations and business processes even during a global crisis which is not an easy task," she said. "It is through the focused efforts of crisis planning, strategic technology investments and ongoing collaboration across diverse teams that we can remain such a strong community during this historic time."

Dean of Libraries and Academic Innovation Geneva Henry said her department offered more than 50 workshops that trained 800 instructors in online teaching skills and tools since March 9 – four times the number of workshops usually held in this time period. She said all available library, Academic Commons and Academic Technologies staff members were prepared to support faculty during the transition to online classes.

"While the library buildings may be physically closed, services including personal assistance and consultation, workshops, tutoring, access to specialized software and much more remain available during GW's virtual learning period," Henry said.

Libraries and Academic

Innovation has also received more than 950 support requests since online learning began on March 23 – a 180 percent increase relative to requests received during the fall semester, Henry said.

Henry said the Libraries and Academic Innovation team followed a plan developed last year aimed at continuing instruction in the case of weather closures, which included plans for library staff to work remotely.

"Although that planning was done mostly with weather closures in mind, it proved an invaluable guide for faculty in the transition to this virtual learning period," Henry said.

Aisha Jackson, the director of academic technology applications and design at the University of Colorado Boulder, said the instructional continuity period across higher education caused by COVID-19 is more akin to "emergency remote learning" than traditional online learning, which requires additional advanced planning.

She said the university's officials have also worked with companies to offer temporary free licenses for software like the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite and statistical package SPSS, since students can no longer access computer labs.

GW Academic Technologies launched a virtual computing lab, allowing students to access software like RStudio, SAS and SPSS, and Academic Technologies obtained a license for all GW students to download Stata until June 1, Henry said. All GW students have access to the Adobe Creative Cloud Suite.



FILE PHOTO BY ARIELLE BADER | SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR
Libraries and Academic Innovation Dean Geneva Henry said her division held more than 50 workshops with about 800 faculty to ensure a smooth transition to online classes.

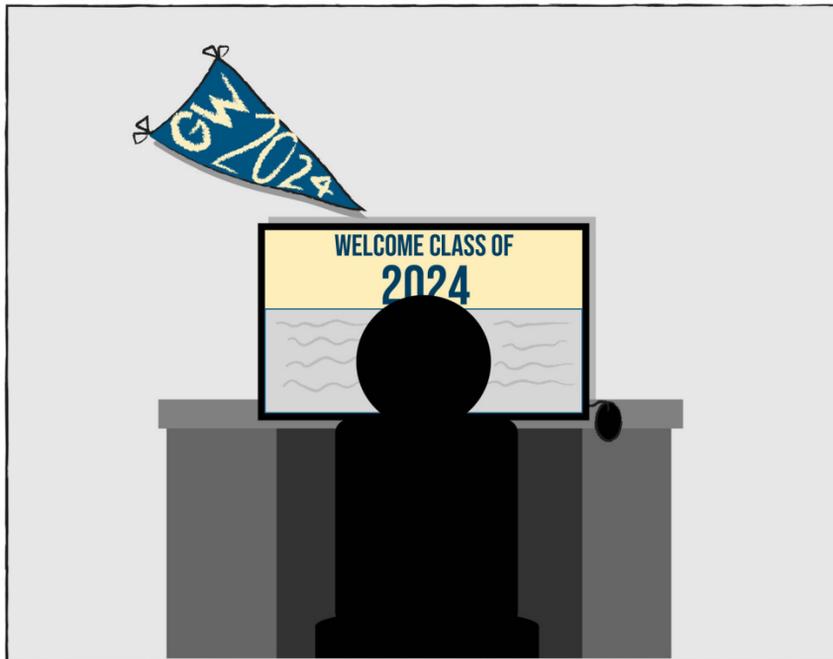
Officials must keep students in the loop about fall semester plans

STAFF EDITORIAL

As the May 1 deadline for college decisions approach, many high school seniors are considering staying closer to home and attending in-state public colleges come fall. On the other hand, current students might feel anxiety about another semester online and need more financial support from GW. The University must remedy both concerns.

Among potential students' biggest concerns is the uncertainty of enrolling at a campus that they have not had the opportunity to tour. Both potential and current students may ultimately choose to attend a school closer to home or a cheaper option because of the fear and anxiety surrounding COVID-19, employment and travel across the country. To alleviate stresses on both ends, officials should communicate clearly about academics online to reassure students about the quality of their education and make financial changes that reduce some of the uncertainty about the cost of college.

The University's communication with admitted students must convince them why they should still attend GW. The University sends out frequent emails concerning COVID-19 to give potential students an idea of what GW is like, but tour guides, resident advisers, area coordinators and faculty should make themselves available to field questions through Zoom or over email. These employees can answer questions students may have about campus life that could have been answered on a campus tour or at an admitted students day. Effective outreach from RAs or tour guides would also alleviate concerns among parents, who play an active role in their child's college



Cartoon by Hannah Thacker

decision-making processes.

Officials should also lay out a clear contingency plan for online classes in the fall if the threat posed by the pandemic does not subside. Administrators should proactively detail what will happen to classes that rely on University infrastructure, like labs and fine arts courses. Administrators should let incoming and current students both know how to access resources like career and academic advising online so students are able to have the "full"

GW experience, should classes stay online. Communicating clearly about online classes and support services will reassure existing students and convince prospective students that GW still has much to offer them – even if we end up online for a bit longer.

The University should ensure coming to GW is financially feasible despite the economic effects of the pandemic. GW could roll back its new floating tuition policy, intended to fund projects like the Thurston Hall renovation, and return to a fixed-tuition model, which previously allowed parents and students to gain an accurate sense of their cost of tuition over five years. An accurate estimate of the total cost of attending college is crucial for incoming students worried about their financial situation as coronavirus-related unemployment continues to climb.

The University should also be more transparent about the fall semester with current students and

faculty, whether that means presenting potential contingency plans or benchmarks officials are using to decide whether to hold in-person class. Universities like California State Fullerton have announced their classes will be held online in the fall, and peer school Boston University announced it is creating a plan for what will happen if classes must be held online until 2021. GW does not need to announce definitively if they are holding classes online in the fall, but they need to be clear about how they will handle the situation if they must.

That being said, the University's efforts to entice high school seniors to choose GW should not negatively impact returning students, nor can the concerns of already enrolled students be ignored. The University should increase tuition discounts in the face of demonstrated additional hardship where possible by approving more change-of-circumstances requests so families struggling financially are able to afford GW. The University has taken some steps – like establishing a fund through which people can give to students in need – but more should be done. Taking these additional steps will ensure GW is affordable for not only low-income families, but also for those who have come under pandemic-related hardship.

Economic concerns and pandemic-related stress are real for many GW families amid the ongoing crisis. It is essential that all students – incoming and returning alike – and their families be kept in the loop about how the University plans to respond. Doing so will ensure GW remains an option for those seeking to begin their undergraduate experience.

GW's reluctance to divest contributes to climate genocide

It's a landmark that every student, passing through Kogan Plaza on the way to class, knows well – a large concrete slab, laid on the ground next to the dome, with the words "FREE MANDELA" carved in capital letters. The slab has been around since 1985, when student activists carved the words into drying cement in a campus alleyway as an act of protest against the South African apartheid regime. In 1999, when Kogan was remodeled, former University President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg chose to preserve the slab to serve as a sign of students' commitment to political and social activism.

Pranay Somayajula
Sunrise GW Organizer

But the cruel irony of the memorial is that unlike 155 other colleges and universities across the country – including D.C. neighbor Georgetown University – GW never divested from South African apartheid. Instead, officials allowed the University to remain financially complicit, and we waited until years after the fact to cynically co-opt the work of student activists and use it as a selling point for admissions officers.

Now, four decades later, GW is again financially complicit in another moral issue: the climate crisis. The science is clear and unequivocal – climate change is real, it is caused by human activity and just 100 fossil fuel companies are responsible for 71 percent of global carbon emissions. Just as clear is the fact that left unaddressed, climate change is going to deny an entire generation any hope of a livable future. Its devastating effects are already being felt by communities of color and communities across the Global South, delivering the most acute harm to those who are the least responsible for this crisis. The term "climate change" is a sanitized euphemism. Let's call it what it is – climate genocide.

And what is GW's response to this sobering reality? Instead of acting swiftly, GW still has \$50 million invested in the fossil fuel companies that are causing this crisis, or 3 percent of the University's \$1.78 billion endowment. As a point of comparison, GW's Sustainable Investment Fund is worth a paltry \$2 million, or just more than one-tenth of 1 percent of the endowment. Meanwhile, GW continues to remain the home of the Koch- and Exxon-funded Regulatory Studies

Center, a corporate propaganda factory that advocates for the deregulation of the industries that are destroying our planet.

Our neighboring peer institutions understand that by investing their endowments in the fossil fuel industry, they are selling out their students' futures and placing profit over people. As a result of years of tireless organizing by campus activists, AU announced April 22 – the 50th anniversary of Earth Day – it has fully divested from all direct and indirect investments in the fossil fuel industry, joining Georgetown, which announced its plans to divest on February 7.

Always one to stand out from the crowd, GW has opted for a slightly different approach to divestment. Whereas AU President Sylvia Burwell responded to students demanding divestment by offering them a meeting, University President Thomas LeBlanc compared divestment to "shooting all the black people here." Whereas Georgetown responded to divestment protests by heeding calls for a change, GW sent its campus police force to assault peaceful student protesters. Instead of listening to 86 percent of the student body who voted in favor of divestment, Board of Trustees Chair Grace Speights issued a noncommittal response and declined to commit to divesting.

GW's steadfast refusal to divest from fossil fuels is the most recent symptom of a corrupt, power-hungry administration that is more concerned with holding onto its own power than it is with acting in the best interests of students and their futures. It illustrates the extent to which GW is a poster child for what happens when an unaccountable administration and undemocratic decision-making processes run a university like a private business rather than an esteemed institution of higher learning.

There are 17 days until the Board's spring meeting on May 14. That's 17 days for the Board to finally see the light and decide they no longer want to have blood on their hands. 17 days for the Board to heed the call of science, justice and the overwhelming majority of GW's student body, and make clear with a vote to divest that they will no longer allow our university to remain complicit in climate genocide.

To LeBlanc, Speights and other Board members: the GW community is watching. If you choose once again to sell out our futures to the fossil fuel oligarchs, we will not forget it.

—Pranay Somayajula, a sophomore double majoring in political science and international affairs, is a Sunrise GW organizer.

OK boomer, young generations are not as coddled you think

New York Times columnist David Brooks earlier this month wrote a piece about "learning what hardship has to teach us," headlining the piece "The age of coddling is over." Brooks, a Baby Boomer, echoed the opinions of many in his generation, choosing to peg the ongoing pandemic and impending recession to his belief that millennials and members of Generation Z have not experienced true hardship until now.

Hannah Thacker
Contributing Opinions
Editor

Brooks claims that "safetyism," the belief that safety is more important than anything else, has led to over-protective parents that raise weak and sheltered children. He highlights higher rates of anxiety, depression and suicide among young people as evidence that parents are unable to teach their children how to function in the world. He feels that the hardship induced by coronavirus will help shape young people into stronger versions of themselves and curb "safetyism." But Brooks' vague descriptions of trivial examples of "coddling" young people is frankly offensive to all of the hardships that younger generations have endured.

If hardship shapes character, like Brooks says, then he needs to educate himself on what Gen Z and millennials have lived through. Growing up during multiple national crises, and now a pandemic, has shaped and continues to shape how these generations view the world and what they want to do with it.

Both generations have lived through 9/11, three or four recessions, endless wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, near-routine mass school shootings and a worsening climate. The

mental health issues younger people face are not caused by coddling. If anything, they're caused by the serious issues younger generations have faced and will continue to deal with their entire lives. Young people are anything but coddled, and suggesting otherwise demonstrates Brooks' ignorance.

Boomers look at the younger generation and blame their poor economic prospects and lack of money on \$5 Starbucks coffee and \$15 avocado toast. But the reality is the younger generation is trying to make a living in the aftermath of the Great Recession, which caused a boom in student loan debt as the job market collapsed, and in an economy ruined by Baby Boomer politicians. On top of that, the pandemic is leading to increased economic insecurity, job loss, a looming recession and the potential destruction of future job markets.

Millennials and Gen Z have also never experienced an America not at war. We have been at war in Afghanistan since 1999, and many grew up during the Iraq war between 2003 and 2011. And yet older generations seem perplexed when young people are reported to be less patriotic than former generations. They have witnessed what are seen as pointless wars for their entire lives: one war based on lies about weapons of mass destruction and another that was revealed to be a failure that we were misled about. The younger generations are used as pawns to fight the wars that those in D.C. deemed politically important. Now, they question the systems of power that led them there.

Let's not forget that millennials and Gen Z have grown up with the constant threat of school shootings. Some millennials and members of Gen Z were in school during what is considered the first major school shooting

in the United States at Columbine High School in 1999. Since then, there have been school shootings every year until March, when schools closed due to the coronavirus. Because schools closed, last month was the first March without a school shooting since 2002. And yet, despite their peers being shot and killed at school, millennials and Gen Z have seen no substantive gun control measures from older generations that hold political power. While Brooks' and older generations have failed to act, the younger generation have been dying in schools for at least a decade. Saying the generations have been closed off to the dangers of the world is insensitive and wrong.

One of the biggest problems the younger generation is being handed from the older generation is not a tanking economy, endless wars or school shootings – it's the climate crisis.

Members of Gen Z view climate change as the top challenge of the time. But Brooks' generation failed on its response to the issue. As a result, the younger generation is being handed an earth suffocated by carbon pollution, increased temperatures and extreme weather like hurricanes and floods. Younger generations are and will need to deal with a crumbling Earth. They do not have the privilege to be coddled. If they were, the planet would not be able to support us when we get to be Brooks' age.

Baby boomers like Brooks are responsible for many of the situations that millennials and Gen Z have been put in. Do not lecture millennials and Gen Z on how they have not faced real hardship. Their futures are being destroyed by older generations which do not need to deal with the consequences of their actions.

—Hannah Thacker, a sophomore majoring in political communication, is the contributing opinions editor.

Culture

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THE SCENE

CHRISTOPHER TITUS

May 2 • \$10
YouTube Livestream
Comedian Christopher Titus will bring his new show "Carrying Monsters" to a one-time-only YouTube event.

MURIEL ANDERSON

April 30 • Suggested \$10-\$20 donation
YouTube Livestream
Folk singer and guitarist Muriel Anderson will hold a YouTube concert supported by stunning backgrounds photographed by Bryan Allen.

RELEASED THIS WEEK:

"WAKE UP!" AN ALBUM BY HAZEL ENGLISH

A guide to choosing your ideal streaming service

CLARA DUHON
REPORTER

We now have more time than ever to explore new TV shows and movies to distract us from the pandemic or fill time.

There are luckily several streaming services to choose from to find dozens of movies and shows, but choosing one subscription can be overwhelming. After reviewing contenders in the market, I've selected the top services for the content they stream.

Here is a rundown of streaming services you can subscribe to, based on your entertainment preferences:

Best for quarantine: Disney+

If you're a Disney fanatic looking, Disney+ is the choice for you. Members can choose from a catalog of newly released content like the Star Wars sequel TV series "The Mandalorian" and any hit movie you can imagine from Marvel, Pixar and Disney Studios.

Take yourself back to your childhood watching classics like "Cinderella" or "Toy Story," or relive the humor of TV shows you grew up with like "Phineas and Ferb" or "Wizards of Waverly Place." Disney+ is the

best fit for a rainy day or a craving for childhood memories.

Subscribe to Disney+ for \$6.99/month.

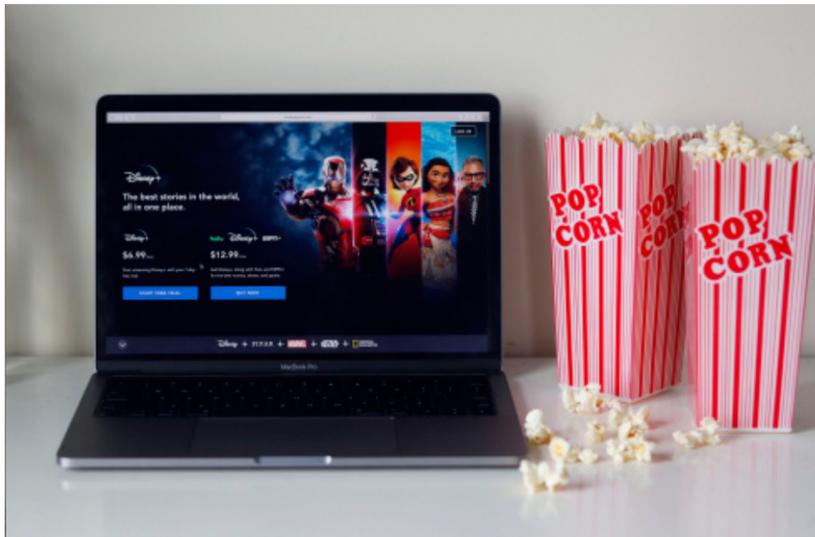
Best for learning something new: Kanopy

Kanopy is your best bet for finding academic videos, documentaries and independent films. Especially notable is its selection of award-winning international films and the Criterion Collection, which features hundreds of classic, independent and art-house films.

If you want to pick up some photography skills, watch National Geographic's "Fundamentals of Photography." Or explore a new hobby by watching tutorials on everything from yoga poses to how to cut your bangs.

GW partners with Kanopy, giving students free access to the library of films that professors have requested for viewing. Students can sign into their complimentary GW Kanopy accounts using their GW email. Students who have a valid public library card can also ask their local public library if it offers Kanopy to gain access to whichever films the library has licensed.

Kanopy, log in with your participating library, free for students.



For a trip down memory lane, consider a subscription to Disney+, a single platform that includes all the Disney classics.

Best on a budget: Amazon Prime Video

Prime Video is included in an Amazon Prime membership, giving you all the shows and movies for a lesser cost than other services. Being a student makes the deal even more enticing with the discounted student membership price of \$59 annually.

Prime Video has a sizable content selection of TV and films like "Midsummer," "A Quiet Place" and "Sex and the City." Access to a larger selection

of films still requires a rental fee.

Amazon has also made an effort in recent years to increase its original content, producing shows like "Fleabag" and "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" and movies like "The Big Sick" and "Honey Boy."

Purchase a student Prime membership for \$59 annually.

Best binge-worthy television: Hulu

Hulu takes the cake for television selection, offering a range of critically-acclaimed shows

like "Atlanta," guilty pleasures like "The Bachelor" and classics like "I Love Lucy." Hulu is like the fast food of television in the streaming service world. Unlike Netflix which usually releases full seasons of TV shows at a time, Hulu releases new episodes within days of them airing on TV.

This streaming service also excels in the rom-com category with an extensive selection of films like "The Spy Who Dumped Me" to give you a good laugh. Hulu is also trying to step up its game

by adding new critically acclaimed movies like "Parasite" to the selection.

Subscribe to Hulu for \$5.99/month.

Best variety and original content: Netflix

In 2019, Netflix spent most of its \$15 billion in content spending on original content, which has certainly paid off with the development of cutting-edge shows like "Stranger Things" and "Tiger King: Murder, Mayhem and Madness." Netflix continued to widen eyes by leading all other film studios in Oscar nominations earlier this year, redefining what it means to be a major player in the world of cinema.

This streaming service is among the most expensive with its most basic plan at \$8.99/month, in which you can only stream content on one device at a time, compared to its Premium Plan for \$15.99/month which lets members access content on four screens at the same time in ultra-high definition. If you're willing to pay, Netflix's extensive offerings along with its award-winning original content make it worth paying.

Subscribe to Netflix starting at \$8.99/month.

Restaurants alter menus during pandemic

DIEGO MENDOZA
STAFF WRITER

Chefs and restaurant owners have come to know that the best way to help people through quarantine is through what they know best: food.

With D.C. social distancing rules in place until May 15, restaurants across the District are switching up their menus to include new dishes that are meant to comfort and warm souls. From hearty quick bites to DIY desserts, mastering take-out menus is becoming commonplace for food establishments.

Here are four restaurants that have gone the extra mile to give customers an extraordinary at-home dining experience.

Fedwich

For those who miss Southern barbecue, Federalist Pig's pitmaster, Rob Sonderman, is offering quick lunch options through a new sandwich pop-up, chiefly named "Fedwich." The pop-up is located in the Kramerbooks and Afterwords Cafe in Dupont Circle.

The sandwich shop lacks its mother restaurant's giant smokers, but the shop includes a flat top grill where the meats are seared to a brilliant and flavorful crisp. Sonderman said he is still trying to balance fat, acid and heat at the pop-up with several menu offerings.

Guests can expect six types of hearty, juicy sandwiches which are stuffed with some of Federalist Pig's most popular proteins, including pulled pork and shaved ribeye. Sonderman said patrons can also find lighter options like veggie sandwiches and salads.

He said his favorite sandwich is the pulled pork melt (\$14), but customers seem to love the "Feddy" cheesesteak (\$15) too.

Sonderman said he wants to offer a menu diverse enough that someone can eat there several times a week without getting bored of the food.

"The menu is inspired by some of the great sandwich and burger places we've been to and of course with a little bit of the Fed Pig barbecue flair we have become known for in our sandwiches here," Sonderman said.

Customers can order delivery via Postmates or DoorDash or place an order for curbside pickup at Kramerbooks every day from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Midlands Beer Garden

If you're craving a crisp European growler beer, order dinner from Midlands Beer Garden and you can enjoy a refreshing IPA or a warming brown ale of your choice.

Robin Webb, the co-owner of the spring-time

oasis along with her husband Trent Allen, said they are the only two workers running the modified take-out service. She said the restaurant's European and local beers and "rich and comforting" foods like homemade soups are meant to cheer people up during the pandemic.

"We can all share a salad and go for a run when this is over," Webb said.

Webb said her favorite item on the menu is the cheesy, savory waffle paired with barbecue pulled pork. You can also pick up a bowl of their award-winning chili (\$8), which she said includes an "absurd amount of Guinness."

"Pair it with a Manhattan and call it a night - or breakfast?" she said. "Who are we kidding, there are no rules anymore."

For those with a sweet tooth, customers can enjoy a tube of raw cookie dough (\$5), either to eat as is or bake at home. Webb said she and Allen have also re-introduced \$1 chocolate truffles - a staple from the now-closed Kangaroo Boxing Club where Allen used to be the head chef.

In order to purchase any growler, a barrel-aged Manhattan or a nitro lemon drop, Midlands asks that customers order some food items, even if that means ordering a single truffle. Midlands is open for pick-up Thursday through Sunday from 1 to 8 p.m.



Looking for ways to kill time in isolation? Check out these faculty recommendations for books to pass the time.

Book recommendations from professors

JULIA RUSSO &
ZEINA MOHAMMED
REPORTERS

You may have blown through all the books you fit in your suitcase home, but there is more in store after you wrap up finals.

We asked professors from different academic departments to tell us about the books they're enjoying right now or some of their all-time favorites. From books related to the pandemic to the history of America, here's a rundown of top picks they emailed to us.

Langston Hughes' "Let America Be America Again" or John Dos Passos' "USA Trilogy"

Peter Loge, associate professor of media and public affairs, suggested reading "Let America Be America Again" for people short on time. He said this poem by Langston Hughes argues that the United States hasn't lived up to its promise of the American dream, but "we must try."

For those with more time on their hands, Loge recommended "USA Trilogy," which examines the first three decades of 20th century America through a trio of smaller novels. Loge pointed to Matt Hanson, a writer for The New Yorker, who said the book was a "linguistically adventurous" picture of

American life.

"Dos Passos captured early 20th Century American hopes, fears and often brutal reality in a style and with substance that rings true in 2020" Loge said.

W. G. Sebald's "Austerlitz"

English professor David McAleavey said he has always found the voice of Sebald's books to be calming and his perspective to be "deeply humanist and philosophical."

"Austerlitz" follows the character Austerlitz, a Czech Jew who was sent away during World War II with hundreds of other children on a train to safety in England when he was 4 years old. McAleavey said that while the book is somber, it can help us escape to a time when the world faced different struggles.

"In our age of political discontent and international distress, a book like this one which offers a wide historical glimpse into another era of tremendous social agony could be useful medicine," he said.

Daniel E. Dawes' "The Political Determinants of Health"

Assistant professor of writing Jameta Barlow, a specialist in black women's health, suggested reading

"The Political Determinants of Health," which was recommended to her by a mentor. Barlow said she also worked with Dawes on a statement addressing the health of black Americans amid the pandemic.

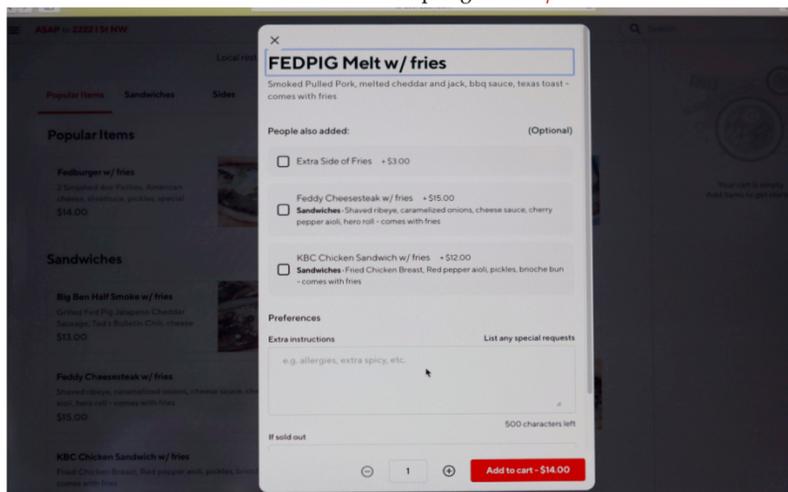
Dawes writes in the book that factors like environment, living conditions and inadequate food options affect people's access to health care. Barlow said he draws on a "critical inflection point" in America that has caused a greater push for health equity.

"He describes structural inequities and offers a model for strategically addressing it," she said. "Not only is his perspective timely, but necessary for understanding how to address health inequities among Americans."

T. Kira Madden's "Long Live the Tribe of Fatherless Girls: A Memoir"

Director of creative writing Lisa Page suggested exploring childhood trauma through Madden's memoir. Page said the story navigates multi-racial identity, gender and class.

"It's also about privilege, about parental neglect, trauma and substance abuse," Page said. "Her father is mostly neglectful, yet his death kicks off the writer's decision to write this book. It's brilliant, funny and insightful."



A new pop-up called Fedwich, based out of the Kramerbooks and Afterwords Cafe in Dupont Circle, is offering six hearty sandwiches and some lighter options for order online.



MEN'S GOLF
at A-10 Championships
Saturday, April 27, 2013
Men's golf tied for seventh overall at the conference championships.



SOFTBALL
vs. Temple
Wednesday, May 3, 2013
GW's win over Temple put them in first place in the A-10 standings.

NUMBER CRUNCH

15

The number under par men's golf recorded in the opening round of the 2017 A-10 Championship, setting a program record.

Christian draws inspiration from past men's basketball teams, coaches

EMILY MAISE
SPORTS EDITOR

Marked by a Sweet Sixteen run and consecutive trips to the Big Dance, men's basketball head coach Jamion Christian has leafed through old clips of the team through the 1990s and 2000s to understand its history.

The Colonials have gone dancing 11 times under four head coaches and are in the thick of rebuilding the program to its former pedigree. With GW's winning history in his rearview mirror, Christian said he has analyzed how past teams played and is "inspired" to lift the squad to its former glory, sharing clips of old games on Twitter.

"Over this time I've just been obsessed with watching how it was, and I'm really determined about how we can get it back there and make it our own," Christian said.

The Colonials' first two trips to the NCAA Tournament were in 1954 and 1961 under head coach William Reinhart. He spent 24 seasons at the helm of men's basketball, but his teams could not escape the first round.

A 32-year drought would plague men's basketball before it reappeared at the NCAA Tournament. With the program manned by Mike Jarvis at the time, the squad returned with a vengeance to reach the Sweet Sixteen. Despite a 21-9 record, the Colonials were a Cinderella team – a No. 12 seed who hadn't hit the court since losing in the first round of the Atlantic 10 Tournament.

Christian said Jarvis played with a "cerebral" style that featured aggressive guards and talented forwards.

The team upset then-No. 5 New Mexico in the first round and held then-No. 13 Southern off to reach the third round of the tournament – a feat no team on the men's or women's side had previously attained. The squad squared up with Michigan's Fab Five and took the contest down to the wire, ultimately falling to the

eventual runner-ups.

Christian said Colonials in the past played with "swagger" and had confidence when they stepped onto the court. He added that he loved the emotion and pride the teams exuded about playing at GW.

"Those are things that great programs have, just a great level of pride," Christian said. "You could see it every time they played. Every game you watched, home or away, they just had the confidence they were the best team on the floor, and it's just fun to watch."

Jarvis stayed behind the bench for seven seasons, leading the squad to three more NCAA Tournament appearances. The then-No. 10 Colonials knocked off the University of Alabama at Birmingham before falling to then-No. 2 UConn in the second round of the 1994 NCAA Tournament. The team was ousted in the first round in 1996 and 1998, falling to Iowa and Oklahoma State, respectively.

Jarvis was an international recruiter, bringing in players from four continents during his time at GW. Christian said the success on the national stage drove people into Foggy Bottom.

He added that he and his coaching staff are setting up the infrastructure to start recruiting internationally within the next "two or three years." He is currently focused on nabbing transferring student-athletes, a market Christian said is "big right now."

"You'll have a great familiarity with more players because guys are transferring and moving around more," Christian said. "You want to make sure that you're doing some leg work with some guys that might be a little bit above you because you want to have a relationship with them if they decide to leave."

After Jarvis departed for St. John's, Tom Penders took the reins of the program, leading it to its second straight Big Dance. But the Colonials, a No. 11 seed, couldn't shake their streak of one-and-done finishes, bowing out of the



FILE PHOTO BY ZACH BRIEN | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

As college athletics grind to a halt amid COVID-19, men's basketball head coach Jamion Christian has spent his time looking back at old squads to analyze their strengths.

tournament in a 20-point loss to Indiana.

Christian said Penders emphasized guard play, which allowed them to score and be quick on the hardwood.

After three seasons, Penders was replaced by Karl Hobbs, who stayed a decade and led the program to three straight NCAA Tournament appearances, two A-10 championships and one regular season A-10 crown.

Christian said Hobbs played a fast-paced, aggressive style of basketball that "pressed and trapped," which helped produce high-level athletes.

After cutting down the nets at the A-10 Championship in 2005, the Colonials turned their attention to its first tournament game in six seasons. The team, slated as a No. 12 seed, made an early exit, falling

to Georgia.

After nabbing the regular season A-10 title in 2006, the Colonials won an at-large bid to its second consecutive NCAA Tournament. The squad bested UNC-Wilmington by three points before facing off with top-seeded Duke. The Colonials fell 74-61 to the Blue Devils, ending their season in the second round.

With another A-10 Championship under its belt, Hobbs' squad earned another tournament berth. At the No. 11 seed, the Colonials were trounced by No. 6 Vanderbilt in the first round.

Hobbs ended his tenure with two seasons creeping above .500, and the athletic department brought in Mike Lonergan to strengthen the program. After two losing seasons, Lonergan took the team to its final NCAA Tournament appearance in

2014 as a No. 9 seed. The Colonials left early, losing a five-point decision to Memphis in the first round.

Lonergan was fired from the program in 2016, and GW brought in Maurice Joseph to helm the team for three seasons before he was also dismissed.

Christian took the reins in 2019, leading his team to a 12-20 overall record in his first season. He said his team needs to have confidence, utilize its size and three-point shot but ultimately play as a team to get back to its former glory.

"It is about making sure your talented guys are playing well together and understand the importance of being on a team and see the barriers within themselves," Christian said. "We're trying to attract players to GW who understand the bigger picture and who they can become."

Professional sports drafts bring new additions to D.C.



HATCHET FILE PHOTO

The Washington Mystics picked up two players, Jaylyn Agnew and Sug Sutton, at this year's Women's National Basketball Association draft earlier this month.

EMILY MAISE
SPORTS EDITOR

With competition around the world on pause because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all eyes were on the Women's National Basketball Association and National Football League drafts over the past two weeks.

Two D.C. teams – the Washington Mystics and Washington Redskins – grabbed selections to bolster squads that were heading in opposite directions last season. The Mystics, who are reigning WNBA Champions, nabbed two selections while the Redskins, who finished last season 3-13, selected eight players.

The drafts were modified to comply with stay-at-home orders, with cameras present in players' homes to capture their reactions. Meet the Mystics and Redskins' newest additions:

Washington Mystics Jaylyn Agnew

Agnew is a 5-foot-11-inch forward out of Creighton and was selected No. 24 overall. After redshirting her first season with the Bluejays, she nabbed Big East Freshman of the Year. She kept the momentum up in her second season, earning a Big East Second Team All-Conference selection after starting in 31 of

32 games.

She battled through injury in her third year on the hardwood but still netted more than 10 points per game. As a senior, Agnew led the Big East in scoring, averaging 20.8 points per game and firing at a .440 clip from the field and .374 from three-point range. She tacked on 6.3 rebounds, 3.3 assists and one blocked shot per game on 37.7 minutes per contest.

Sug Sutton

Sutton is a 5-foot-8-inch guard out of Texas and was taken No. 36 overall. She racked up much of her playing time during her freshman and sophomore seasons, starting in a total of three games and averaging 3.8 and 6.8 points, respectively.

She exploded during the 2018-19 season, starting in all 33 games, averaging 12.7 points, 5.4 assists and 5.4 rebounds per game en route to spots on the Big 12 All-Conference First Team and Big 12 All-Tournament Team. Sutton kept her momentum up her senior season, averaging the fifth most assists per game in the Big 12 (4.1) and 10.4 points.

Washington Redskins Chase Young

Young is a 6-foot-5-inch, 265-pound defensive end from

Ohio State and was drafted No. 2 overall. In 38 games played with the Buckeyes, he amassed 30 sacks, increasing his takedowns every year. His defensive prowess earned him a finalist spot in this season's Heisman voting, making him the ninth defensive player to reach the feat since 1982.

He led the Big Ten and NCAA with 14 unassisted sacks for 117 yards, averaging 1.38 sacks per game this year. He finished fourth in the NCAA and first in the Big Ten in tackles for loss, with 16 under his belt. With six forced fumbles, Young led the NCAA and conference again, averaging .5 per game.

Antonio Gibson

Gibson is a 6-foot-2-inch, 220-pound wide receiver out of Memphis and was taken No. 66 overall. He came to Memphis by way of East Central Community College, where he ran for 1,120 yards and scored 16 touchdowns.

A jack-of-all-trades, Gibson saw most of his time on the field as a wide receiver, scoring eight touchdowns and making 38 catches for 735 yards. But he also stepped in at running back and took a few snaps at quarterback this season. He served as the primary kick returner, recording 23 catches and running for 645

yards. His efforts landed him second-team All-American Athletic Conference and AAC Co-Special Teams Player of the Year this season.

Saahdiq Charles

Charles is a 6-foot-4-inch, 295-pound offensive tackle from LSU and was selected No. 108 overall. A 2020 National Champion, he played most of his minutes at left tackle but also nabbed minutes at right tackle and right guard.

He notched nine starts in his freshman season, playing a total of 687 snaps to earn a spot on the Freshman All-SEC Team. He played in and started 10 games at left tackle during his sophomore year, for a total of 762 snaps.

After missing the nonconference schedule due to a violation of team rules, he started the nine remaining games at left tackle during his final season with the Tigers. With 653 snaps under his belt on the offensive line, his unit won the Joe Moore Award for the top offensive line in the nation this year.

Antonio Gandy-Golden

Gandy-Golden is a 6-foot-4-inch, 220-pound wide receiver from Liberty and was drafted No. 142 overall. Gandy-Golden made an immediate impact his freshman season, finishing second on the team in receiving yards (315) on 21 catches.

He exploded in his sophomore season, to lead the Big South in receiving yards (1,066) and receptions (69). He started eight of 10 games and nabbed Big South All-Conference first-team honors.

He recorded two more 1,000-plus receiving yard seasons and ranked in the top-five nationally in the category his senior season. He claimed back-to-back 10 touchdown seasons, starting out wide in all games to wrap his career as a Flame.

Keith Ismael

Ismael is a 6-foot-3-inch, 310-pound offensive lineman out of San Diego State and was drafted No. 156 overall. He made an immediate impact his freshman year, starting in all 13 games as a center and right guard. He played the most snaps (829) of any player en route to a second-team all-Mountain West honor.

He started all but one game his sophomore season, taking

821 snaps. A versatile lineman, Ismael saw time at the left guard, center and right guard positions and was named to the All-Mountain West first-team. He was a mainstay for the Aztecs in his final season, playing 954 of the team's 956 offensive snaps at center. He earned another All-Mountain West first-team selection.

Khaleke Hudson

Hudson is a 6-foot, 220-pound linebacker out of Michigan and was drafted No. 162 overall. Hudson saw time as a safety and linebacker, starting 37 of 52 career games.

He played as a safety and on special teams his first season, blocking two punts. He had a breakout sophomore season, completing 83 tackles, 18.5 tackles for losses and nabbing two interceptions on his way to an All-Big Ten third-team selection.

In his junior and senior seasons, he started 24 games at viper, securing 146 tackles, four sacks and three blocked punts. He nabbed an All-Big Ten honorable mention his junior year.

Kamren Curl

Curl is a 6-foot-2-inch, 198-pound safety from Arkansas and was picked No. 216 overall. He made an immediate impact, starting 11 of 12 games as a freshman cornerback and tying for the team lead in pass breakups (eight). He moved to the strong safety for his final two years with the team, starting 22 games for the Razorbacks.

As a sophomore, Curl played 722 snaps and recorded three or more tackles in every game. A Preseason All-SEC Third Team selection prior to his junior season, Curl notched 789 snaps. His 76 tackles were the fourth-most on the squad and his 46 solo tackles ranked No. 2 on the team.

James Smith-Williams

Smith-Williams is a 6-foot-3-inch, 265-pound edge defender from NC State and went No. 229 overall. His college playing days were truncated by injuries in his first two years.

In a return to the field, Smith-Williams blocked a punt that led to a touchdown and notched 37 total tackles. He finished his collegiate career with 82 tackles, 12 tackles for loss and three pass deflections.

Graduating seniors reflect on their time at The Hatchet

Each year, graduating editors are given 30 final column inches – “30” was historically used to signify the end of a story – to reflect on their time at The Hatchet, published in the final issues of the year.

With a little help from my friends



LEAH POTTER
MANAGING DIRECTOR

It's starting to smell like spring. The cherry blossoms are erupting in delicate shades of pink and white, and bees can be found hovering over flowers or compost piles. It was around this time three years ago that I came to know The Hatchet's townhouse as my home and the paper's staff as my family.

Before I officially joined The Hatchet's staff, I was kind of all over the place. I wasn't sure what classes I should be taking, I was horrible at managing my time and I felt a bit lost. I wasn't even sure about studying journalism; I came to GW with biochemistry as my second-choice major, and I thought I would eventually pursue a more science-oriented career. I even thought I'd attempt the pre-med route.

Ultimately, my love of writing compelled me to focus on journalism, and I joined The Hatchet as a reporter my freshman year. A weekly reporting schedule kept me grounded. Tight deadlines meant I had to stay organized. And Friday reporting days in the townhouse I looked forward to.

In the spring of my freshman year, I got the call that I was going to be a news editor. I was ecstatic. But my excitement quickly morphed into apprehension as I attempted to take on an intensive reporting schedule and juggle dozens of stories each week. Imposter syndrome set in. Considering my dyslexia and anxiety, I questioned if I could really do this – a job that required impeccable writing and grace under pressure.

I'm sure in part it was my hard work and dedication to this institution that got me

through the long hours and looming deadlines. But looking back, what really helped me persevere was the extraordinary group of women working on the same news team. And later, especially when I became managing director, it would be the entire staff.

You meet so many people during your time as a college student. Some people you might only encounter once. Others you might only interact with for a semester. But each time I got to know someone new at The Hatchet, I had a feeling that they weren't going to be just another acquaintance.

The Hatchet's townhouse is a place where I've found love and camaraderie for four years. It's where I wrote song parodies in between editing drafts. And it's where I spent more than six hours decorating the basement with a friend for the holidays.

Of course, it's also a place where I've stayed up until 3 a.m. working on stories, and encountered the largest, reddest cockroach I've ever seen in my life. But through it all, the townhouse will remain the place where lifelong friendships originated.

Saying goodbye to The Hatchet's townhouse feels like the end of a long-running sitcom. It's as though I should be packing up boxes as wistful music plays, and I'm surrounded by everyone who made these past four years so special. Let's hope this isn't really goodbye, and that the reunion special is just a little ways down the road.

I love my friends and family more than anything. What truly defined my college experience – and my time on The Hatchet – were the human beings that made even the toughest of times worth while.

A helping hand



MEREDITH ROATEN
DIGITAL EDITOR

One month at a summer program. Four or five yearbook layouts. Three photos carefully shot in automatic mode. A deep-rooted love of public radio. That's what I had when I decided that I should write the news for the rest of my life.

I didn't know how to write a lede or what a graf was but I was determined to sign up for everything. I quickly found out that after you write for The Hatchet, you can't write for the TV station or radio.

I may have stumbled over the first hurdle but I was ready for anything. At least until I sat down to write my first blog. I sat at an hour long lecture on urban agriculture, a topic which I had no background in, and took what I at the time thought were extremely tedious notes.

When I got back to the townhouse, I found a buzzing newsroom full of reporters turning around last minute stories for Monday's print edition before the end of the business day. My editor gave me two hours to write up about 500 words about the lecture, easy.

I sat on the newsroom couch, staring almost unseeingly at my computer screen and flicking back and forth between the Google Doc that I had just learned how to use and a recording of the lecture. Nothing more than an outline went on to that document for a whole hour.

When I finally broke out of my daze of paralyzing fear, there was another reporter sitting by my side. She smiled at me and asked to see what I had so far. I had nothing to show her but my pulse grew steadier as she asked me questions about what had

happened and she helped me write words until I had a whole story.

The Hatchet took me in when I had no experience, a small amount of talent and a lot of ambition. Its editors, photographers and reporters invested their time and effort into a bumbling freshmen who had nothing to give but dedication.

Within a month of my first blog, I was standing in a roomful of members of the College Republicans celebrating a Trump victory. The month after that I interviewed the restaurant owner at the center of the PizzaGate conspiracy theory. And a few weeks after that I ran away from the sounds of protestors screaming from tear gas at the inauguration day protests.

In a matter of a few stories and several thousand words, my idea of what reporting was actually like was completely transformed. But my belief that it was the business that I should be in was stronger than ever.

I have done a lot more than stumble blindly into different events and write down a few words. I helped launch a podcast. I learned how to review tax documents and translate Faculty Senate policy. My byline has been on the front page many times and 350 of The Hatchet's posts are mine.

But nothing has meant more to me than that first blog that another reporter had to drag out of me. Because that's what this institution does. Though informing the community is The Hatchet's biggest mandate, training the next generation of journalists to fall in love with their profession is what makes it great.

The beauty is in the details



NATALIE PRIEB
COPY EDITOR

The biggest thing I've learned as a copy editor is that the role is inextricably linked to the importance of detail. You watch for every accidental Oxford comma, every abbreviation that should be spelled out and every spelled out word that should be abbreviated. You learn that AP style has some rules that are very easy to remember and some that seemingly make no sense at all. You look for style and grammar errors on your laptop screen until 2 a.m. when your eyes are red and your head feels like mush. All you want is to get into bed because the next morning you need to do the reading you didn't do on prodo day, but you keep going.

It's a strange experience doing a job that most people don't see the results of – that is, except when you mess up. No one knows that you fixed a Hatchet or AP style error in the third graf, but everyone will see the grammar mistake you didn't catch in the sixth graf. I don't write this with frustration or annoyance, however, because I've come to love the importance of small details. It feels like a little secret, doing a job that only you and a select few realize the importance of.

Being a copy editor has taught me that the details matter, even the ones most people fail to notice. I've learned this watching for grammar or AP style, but when you read every story every single week, you see the beautiful details that editors and writers put into the stories they produce. It's the details in a culture profile that bring a local restaurant owner or student leader to life. It's the details in a news story that demonstrate the state of old buildings on campus or the impact of a professor's research on finding a

cure to a disease. It's the details in a sports story that make you feel like you were sitting on the edge of your seat at that game, and it's the details in an opinions piece, the section closest to my heart, that make you look at an issue in a way you'd never thought about.

Some might say that being on staff for only a year of my college experience makes it a detail in the overall scope of things, and in a way, that's true. I didn't spend as much time in The Hatchet townhouse as students who are on staff for most of their college careers, and I've only known most of the people on Volume 116 since last April, with very few exceptions.

Yet this past year on staff has given me some of the most cherished details of my time at GW, ones I can't imagine not having. All those late Sunday nights goofing off in the basement and singing along to Spotify playlists. Editorial board meetings that always resulted in laughter and getting completely off-topic. Deliberating Student Association endorsements in the townhouse until 4 a.m. Hatchet Halloween, Thanksgiving and Holiday. Most of all, a talented, wonderful group of people who I will forever be grateful that I got to know.

The Hatchet is the biggest, brightest detail of my college life, and I can't imagine the last four years without it. I can't imagine not having had the opportunity to learn from the people listed below, all of whom directly or indirectly made me a better writer and editor. It breaks my heart that I won't get to say goodbye to the current Hatchet staff in person, but I hope this piece sums up how much they mean to me.

Finding my own form of advocacy



DANI GRACE
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

In high school, I suffered from “big fish, small pond” syndrome. I thought my performance in the next musical would be the talk of the town or that surely people would be thinking about the fall's homecoming game months afterward. I filled my days from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m., shuttling myself between school and practice and rehearsals with barely a thought about how I impacted the outside world.

After I decided to attend GW, in a “big” city with thousands of people working to generate change on national and international levels, I realized just how small of a bubble I had been living in.

Foggy Bottom is still a niche environment, but I was suddenly surrounded by so much more drive and culture and opportunity than I had previously encountered. I still wanted to pack my days with new activities and try my hand at everything, but this time I wanted to ensure I could feel the mark my work left on the world.

Then I joined The Hatchet and started taking journalism classes. I soon learned that journalists were highly encouraged to pocket personal advocacy to ensure that our articles were free of bias.

As a journalist, you don't sign petitions, you limit or eliminate the number of political conversations you enter and you're careful about what you post on social media. How quickly my vision of attaining Twitter fame for opinionated quips flitted out the window.

This new understanding brought me to the conclusion I couldn't be the memorable, strong-voiced campaigner I had planned to

become.

Throughout my four years at the paper, however, I realized I had become one of the biggest activists in the community just in the myriad articles I wrote or edited and published.

We student reporters conducted interviews, crunched the University's budget numbers late into the night and ran down the street to be the first to report about a student group protesting to lobby administrators for change in one area or another.

We've shed light on the University's problem areas brought in lawsuits against administrators or departments. We've given a platform to small business owners worried about their stability in the community among construction or new competition.

One of the best parts about joining student news was learning that not everyone's favorite book is *Eats, Shoots and Leaves* – Hatchet staff members are often aspiring journalists, but we're also future international affairs, finance, psychology and computer science specialists.

We've learned first hand that the countless hours of interviewing, writing, videoing and editing has brought visibility to groups that might not have the resources to advocate for themselves. And I've learned that I can channel my activism in the topics and people I report on.

Looking back, I'm proud to have spent so much time getting to know the Foggy Bottom and GW communities and realize now I can use the written word to attain that level of social responsibility I was looking to fulfill.