

LOCAL NEWS

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FITCHBURG STATE

College ready to aid Becker students

Submitted Article

FITCHBURG » Fitchburg State University stands ready to serve the students affected by Monday's announcement about the impending closure of Becker College in Worcester, according to a release from the university.

Fitchburg State President Richard S. Lapidus said the university outlined formal agreements with Becker that will allow students displaced by the announcement to continue their studies as

FSU

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seamlessly as possible while working toward valuable degrees in proven programs.

"We understand (yesterday was) a stressful day for everyone in the Becker community, but we appreciate that the college has worked with willing partners like Fitchburg State to make sure their students' needs are met," Lapidus said. "We are here for these students, and will do whatever we can to help them achieve their educational goals."

Fitchburg State's game design program, for example, the first at a public institution in Massachusetts,

is ready to accommodate dozens of students from Becker's game design program.

The students enrolled in Fitchburg State's capstone game studio course are working in teams to develop three complete games from scratch this semester, spanning genres from suspense to whimsy. For the capstone experience, the students receive regular feedback and mentorship from professional game developers in addition to faculty oversight.

The university will hold a transfer admissions session specifically for Becker students on Thursday, April 8, at 3:30 p.m. To learn more, please visit [fitchburgstate.edu/admissions-aid/serving-becker-college-students](https://www.fitchburgstate.edu/admissions-aid/serving-becker-college-students).

FITCHBURG

Development chief tours key downtown projects

By Matthew Bruun
Special to the Sentinel & Enterprise

FITCHBURG » Massachusetts Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy toured downtown Fitchburg this week to get a closeup look at the public and private development that is re-making the city.

Kennealy's tour included a look at Fitchburg State

University's Main Street Theater Block, already home to a state-of-the-art game design studio and interdisciplinary ideaLab, and the site of a planned redevelopment of the long-shuttered theater itself.

Fitchburg State President Richard Lapidus described the theater project as an anchor in the city's efforts to revitalize the downtown corridor.

"There's a gravitational

pull that will support restaurants and other businesses on Main Street," he said. "We're on our way."

Kennealy's tour also included the newly renovated legislative chamber adjacent to the redeveloped Fitchburg City Hall, the Activate Mill Street project off Boulder Drive, and future restaurants along Main Street. These included Tacos Tequilas on Main

TOUR » 8A



COURTESY MATT BRUNN

Housing and Economic Development Secretary Mike Kennealy, left, and Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus discuss redevelopment of the Main Street Theater Block while state Rep. Michael Kushmerek looks on. Secretary Kennealy toured a number of projects in development along Main Street on Wednesday.

Tour

FROM PAGE 1A

Street, owned by Elmer Melendez and set to open in the coming weeks, as well as existing eateries like Bion and El Bohio.

"We've really put all hands on deck to build back up downtown Fitchburg," said Fitchburg Department of Community Development and Planning Executive Director Tom Skwierawski, who led the tour that included Mayor Stephen DiNatale and representatives from

Fitchburg State, NewVue Communities, ReImagine North of Main, MassDevelopment, the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce, and members of the local legislative delegation including state Sen. John Cronin and state Rep. Michael Kushmerek.

Efforts to revitalize downtown Fitchburg have been supported by a number of state and federal programs that are helping connect small business owners with funding and technical support, noted ReImagine North of Main Director Joseph Ferguson. Those efforts were recently

reinforced with the announcement of a \$100,000 Urban Agenda grant from the Baker-Polito administration that is designed specifically to support minority-owned businesses.

"We love the partnership," DiNatale said.

"This is a great group of people and we're grateful for all the work done over this very challenging year," Kennealy said. "We need to support small businesses and we need to support our downtowns. They're the lifeblood of our communities, and we need everyone at the table to get this work done."

CORONAVIRUS

State universities to require vax

By Joe Dwinell

Boston Herald

Where UMass goes, the rest of the state's colleges follow.

Bridgewater, Fitchburg, Framingham, Salem, Westfield and Worcester State Universities, Massachusetts College of Art & Design, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, and the Massachusetts Maritime Academy will require students and other members of its campus community to be vaccinated

against the coronavirus come fall.

"Prior to the beginning of the fall semester and following state, federal and legal guidance, the Massachusetts State Universities will require all students to be fully immunized before returning to campus for the start of the fall semester," said Dr. James F. Birge, president of Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and chairman of the Massachusetts State University Council of Presi-

VACCINE » 8A



NICOLAUS CZARNECKI / BOSTON HERALD

Salem State University, like all state universities in Massachusetts, will require students to be vaccinated to return to campus.

Vaccine

FROM PAGE 1A

dents.

"Student safety and the safety of our communities remains at the forefront of our planning as we prepare to return to in-person learning and campus life in the fall," Birge added.

The state's flagship university said earlier this month it will "expect" students and other members of its campus community to be vaccinated against the coronavirus come fall as other colleges move to mandate the shots.

It's a move many — in not most — colleges are making.

"We are sharing this information now to give students, their families and our employees ample time to make plans to be vaccinated prior to the start of the fall term," Bir-

ge said.

Boston University and Northeastern University are also mandating students get vaccinated before returning to campus this fall. Students will also be required to provide proof of their inoculations.

Several other schools previously told the Herald they were considering the possibility as higher-education institutions push for a return to a somewhat more normal campus life after more than a year of largely remote learning.

All adults over the age of 16 are now eligible to sign up for shots in Massachusetts.

Lasell University will also require a COVID-19 vaccination for "all students who take classes or reside on campus by the start of the fall semester," Lasell President Michael Alexander wrote in a letter to students.

FITCHBURG STATE

Honors students create 'Positivity Tour'

Feel-good venues set up downtown

Staff Report

FITCHBURG » A new project spearheaded by a Fitchburg State University Honors class is designed to help make the community aware of the transformative changes now taking shape in downtown Fitchburg. The resulting "Positivity Tour" is now up and running, according to an announcement from the university.

With major private and public developments poised to transform the heart of the city, Professor Christa Marr from the university's Economics, History and Political Science Department and students in her current events and service learning wanted to get the community involved.

"I always like this class to be something that's community facing," Marr said, a member of the Fitchburg State faculty since 2015. In a previous iteration of the course, for example, students organized and ran a pop-up petting zoo and family fun fair at the redeveloped Mill Street corridor.

"We knew an event was out of the question this year, but we wanted to get people downtown," Marr said. "We decided, why not a positivity tour?"

Students in the class met with officials from the local and state agencies working on downtown redevelopment, and also contacted local businesses and institutions. From the installation of a small free library at the Activate Mill Street corridor to a kindness rock garden at the Fitchburg Public Library, the tour also includes a positive pen pal mailbox (equipped with stamped envelopes) at the Senior Center and artwork created by

FSU

FROM PAGE 1A

students at the Boys & Girls Club of Fitchburg and Leominster.

"Working on this project has made me feel more hopeful for downtown Fitchburg," said Anna Perham of Weymouth, a junior majoring in elementary education at Fitchburg State. "I think for younger students, and students looking at Fitchburg State, there is a lot to look forward to. I have always been really hopeful, and encouraged by Fitchburg, and its community. Most of all my hope is that this project will spread positivity, and make others want to do a random act of kindness.

"If our project was able to make anyone who passes by and views an art installation smile, that would be awesome," Perham said.

"I also hope that visitors will be inspired to take part in our project, and make a card to drop off at the Fitchburg Senior Center, or paint a kindness rock to leave outside Fitchburg Public Library," she said.

"Working on this project has allowed me to view Fitchburg in a new light and appreciate its potential to become a revered part of the New England university community," said David Gambone of Ashburnham, a sophomore studying professional communications.

"Understanding Fitchburg's history allowed me to appreciate its strengths and better understand its weaknesses. Seeing the new projects and plans are very exciting for me and I've been a neighbor to Fitchburg almost my entire life," Gambone said. "We hope visitors engaging with the Positivity Tour will be able to see the vision of what Fitchburg will become in the near

'Working on this project has made me feel more hopeful for downtown Fitchburg. I think for younger students, and students looking at Fitchburg State, there is a lot to look forward to. I have always been really hopeful, and encouraged by Fitchburg, and its community.'

Anna Perham of Weymouth, a junior majoring in elementary education at Fitchburg State, speaking about the Positivity Tour

future as well as experience some of the already existing businesses downtown."

Visitors can follow the tour on a customized Google map that describes attractions including notable buildings and institutions, public art installations, restaurants and shops, along with developments now in progress like the redeveloped City Hall, the arts community at the former B.F. Brown School and the university's own Theater Block.

The class also designed weekly scavenger hunts running through early May, highlighting existing art and architecture along Main Street as well as the new installations created by the class.

Follow the Positivity Tour online: Instagram: @FSUPositivityTour.

OPINION

Kevin Corrado, Regional Publisher
Bruce Castleberry, Senior Editor

Michael Sheehan, Regional VP of Circulation
Dennis West, Circulation Director

FITCHBURG-LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS

FITCHBURG SENTINEL, 1838

LEOMINSTER-ENTERPRISE, 1873 INCORPORATED 1973

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Editorial

Town-gown ties alive and well in FSU class

Do students attend a downtown university, or a university that just happens to be downtown?

Well, in at least one Fitchburg State University class, there's no debate about the advantages of community engagement.

A project coordinated by a Fitchburg State University Honors class aims to make residents aware of the transformative changes now taking shape in the city's downtown.

Professor Christa Marr from FSU's Economics, History and Political Science Department and students in her current events and service learning class wanted to spread the good news.

That "Positivity Tour" is now underway.

While unable to put on an actual event due to coronavirus concerns, students, after consulting with municipal and state agencies working on downtown redevelopment, as well as local businesses and institutions, came up with some creative options to get their message across.

They're highlighted in this "Positivity Tour," which includes the installation of a

small free library at the Activate Mill Street corridor, a kindness rock garden at the Fitchburg Public Library, and a positive pen-pal mailbox — replete with stamped envelopes — at the Senior Center.

The benefits from this project just don't flow one way; it was a learning experience both residents and students.

"Working on this project has allowed me to view Fitchburg in a new light and appreciate its potential to become a revered part of the New England university community," David Gambone of Ashburnham, a sophomore studying professional communications, told the newspaper.

The tour can also be viewed on a customized Google map that describes many city attractions.

A college education shouldn't just be an insular academic exercise. Expanding one's horizons with an appreciation of the challenges and rewards associated with living an urban environment molds a far more well-rounded graduate ready to take that step into the real world.

College Town

Scott O'Connell Telegram & Gazette Staff

Published 3:46 p.m. ET Apr. 7, 2021 | Updated 3:50 p.m. ET Apr. 7, 2021

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Trahan to give talk on women in leadership at Fitchburg State

U.S. Rep. Lori Trahan is headlining a virtual discussion next Thursday on women in leadership hosted by Fitchburg State University.

Trahan will take part in a talk with Fitchburg State President Richard S. Lapidus starting at 6 p.m., after which audience members will be able to ask questions.

“Congresswoman Trahan has been a friendly and familiar presence on our campus and in our community, as a strong supporter of public higher education, and a champion of our efforts to partner with the city of Fitchburg and the community’s economic revitalization,” Lapidus said in a statement. “We are honored to welcome her for this discussion on the importance of women in leadership.”

To join the event, visit <https://meet.google.com/ows-dtpr-qap>.

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FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Rep. Trahan to lead 'Women in Leadership' talk

Submitted Article

FITCHBURG » Fitchburg State University will host U.S. Rep.

Lori Trahan, D-Mass., for a virtual discussion on the theme of Women in Leadership on Thursday, April 15, at 6 p.m., according to an announcement from the

university.

Trahan will have a discussion with Fitchburg State President Richard S. Lapidus, after which there will be an opportunity for

members of the virtual audience to ask questions.

"Congresswoman Trahan has been a friendly and familiar presence on our campus and in

our community, as a strong supporter of public higher education, and a champion of our efforts to partner with the city of

TRAHAN » 6A

Trahan

FROM PAGE 3A

Fitchburg and the community's economic revitalization," Lapidus said.

"We are honored to welcome her for this discussion on the importance of women in leadership," Lapidus said.

To join the event, go to <https://meet.google.com/ows-dtpr-qap>. To view a livestream, go to shorturl.at/csAL3.

To join by phone, dial 1-434-481-1221 and enter PIN: 104 140 847#.

Growing up in a working-class family in Lowell, Trahan said she experienced firsthand the principles of sacrifice, hard work, and grit.

Her father was a union ironworker, and her mother, a domestic worker, juggled several part-time jobs while raising her and her three sisters, according to the announcement.

The first in her family to graduate college, Trahan earned a scholarship to play Division I volleyball at Georgetown University.



SENTINEL & ENTERPRISE FILE PHOTO

U.S. Rep. Lori Trahan addresses the crowd during her visit to the Waltham-based robot-developing company QinetiQ's ribbon cutting ceremony at their new facility on Devens in August 2019. Trahan will lead a virtual discussion at Fitchburg State University next week on Women in Leadership.

Like many, she was introduced to public service as a college student in Washington.

After completing her bachelor's degree in comparative and regional studies in international

relations, she joined former U.S. Rep. Marty Meehan's staff as a scheduler, eventually working

her way up to Chief of Staff.

Sickened by the deep polarization taking hold of Washington, Trahan moved to the private sector as the only female executive at a tech company.

Her passion for bringing women into leadership positions led her to be a co-founder of Concire, a women owned and operated consulting firm.

In her years spent at Concire, she advised various companies on business strategy and how to create the ideal conditions for employees — especially women — to thrive.

Trahan successfully ran for Congress in 2018, motivated to return to public service after seeing the detrimental gridlock and lack of accountability from the administration of former President Donald Trump.

Now, serving as a member of the powerful House Committee on Energy and Commerce, she is determined to advocate for Bay State residents on pressing issues, including making health care more affordable, addressing climate change, protecting kids online, and fighting disinformation in our media, the announcement stated.

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FITCHBURG STATE

Italian center talking about Fellini films

Submitted Article

FITCHBURG » Fitchburg State University's Center for Italian Culture will take a closer look at the works of celebrated filmmaker Federico Fellini with a series of virtual programs that will let audiences explore the

FILMS » 6A

Films

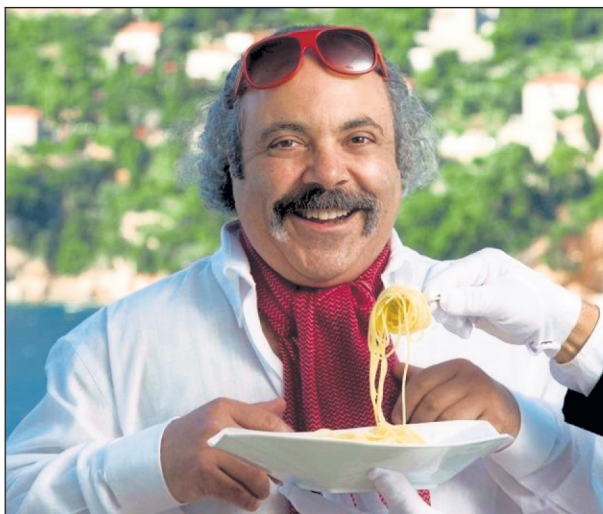
FROM PAGE 3A

work through the eyes of author and lecturer Fred Plotkin.

"Fellini 101: Conversations with Fred Plotkin" will start on Sunday, May 2, at 4 p.m., with a presentation on "La Strada" (1954). The series continues Sunday, May 9, at 4 p.m., with a discussion of "I Vitelloni" (1953), and concludes Sunday, May 16, at 4 p.m. with a look at "Amarcord" (1973).

This series is presented with the generous support of Fitchburg State University's Center for Italian Culture and the Sandro and Lillian Clementi Lecture Fund, in collaboration with the Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library at Fitchburg State University, the Fitchburg Public Library and the Leominster Public Library.

The first event will be preceded by a recorded introduction to this series and the first film, "La Strada," by our host and guide, Fred Plotkin. A link to this



COURTESY FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Lecturer Fred Plotkin is returning to Fitchburg State University next month to host series of discussions on Italian films by Federico Fellini.

recorded introduction will be made available by Sunday, April 25, so that participants will have a week to screen the series introduction and watch the first film on their own prior to the discussion of "La Strada" on May 2.

At the end of the first discussion, Plotkin will introduce the second film, "I Vitelloni," and send participants on their way to screen that film during the

following week in anticipation of the second meeting on Sunday, May 9. The third film, "Amarcord," will be discussed on Sunday, May 16.

Visits from Plotkin, a celebrated writer on opera, food, and all things Italian, have become a Fitchburg State tradition, including more than 10 years of presentations where he guided visitors on culinary tours of Italy.

This virtual event will allow his local fans another opportunity to learn about another treasured cultural export from Italy, that being the cinema of Federico Fellini.

The films in the series will be available to stream for free to Fitchburg State students, faculty and staff members, and are also available through local libraries and streaming services.

Information on how to join the discussions is below, and additional information and links can be found online at <http://fitchburgstate.edu/fellini>

■ 4 p.m. Sunday, May 2: "La Strada;" Meeting ID: meet.google.com/duo-khxb-gjr; Phone Numbers: 402-761-0129 , PIN: 288 801 215#\

■ 4 p.m. Sunday, May 9: "I Vitelloni;" Meeting ID: meet.google.com/sqn-qzge-rwk Phone Numbers: 385-325-1097 , PIN: 487 302 776#

■ 4 p.m. Sunday, May 16: "Amarcord;" Meeting ID: meet.google.com/hsg-jnnq-cpk Phone Numbers: 484-424-7347 , PIN: 926 928 756#

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ECONOMY

Grant aids minority business growth

Staff Report

FITCHBURG » Minority businesses in downtown Fitchburg will get assistance with accessing capital and other support thanks to a \$100,000 Urban Agenda grant announced this month by the administration of Gov. Charlie Baker.

The Fitchburg program is among 30 projects in 23 communities supported by the governor's \$2.5 million in awards.

The local project is a partner-

GRANT » 8A

Grant

FROM PAGE 1A

ship between Fitchburg State University, ReImagine North of Main, the city of Fitchburg, NewVue Communities, and the North Central Massachusetts Development Corp.

Fitchburg State is the fiscal agent for ReImagine North of Main and will serve as the lead entity for grant administration and program management. NewVue and the North Central Massachusetts Development Corp. will provide program services and delivery to minority-owned businesses.

“This grant funding will build upon our existing network and portfolio of work to help minority small business owners succeed,” said Fitchburg Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale. “Fitchburg is capitalizing on its diversity by becoming a gateway to arts and culture. This theme is attractive to minority small business owners in the creative economy who want to capitalize on the cultural diversity that their businesses often present.”

“This project will support the continued investment in the heart of our city and help create opportunities for existing and future entrepreneurs to realize their goals,” said Fitchburg State University President Richard S. Lapidus. “Our community’s diversity is one of its greatest strengths, and we are hopeful this program will help us connect entrepreneurs with the resources they can use to thrive.”

Fitchburg State’s commitment to the revitalization of downtown Fitchburg includes the redevelopment of the Main Street Theater Block, which is now home to the interdisciplinary ideaLab where NewVue Communities has offered an array of services for new businesses.

“Our work has shown us the importance of finding better ways to engage and understand the needs of minority business owners and prospective business owners,” said NewVue Communities Executive Director Marc Dohan. “With this state support, we can continue to build on our strategies in the service of inclusive success.”

“We are thrilled to collaborate on this important project to engage local minority owned businesses and ensure that they have access to much needed capital and other resources,” said Roy Nascimento, president and CEO of the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce and the North Central Massachusetts Development Corp. “Our goal is not only to help them overcome the economic challenges of COVID-19, but enable them to grow and prosper into the future.”

As the partnership not-

ed in its grant application, minority business owners are playing an important role in the community through their contribution to new business creation, yet national data and local research indicate that minorities are less likely to take advantage of available resources. For example, research conducted by the Worcester Business Journal indicated that only 6% of Paycheck Protection Loans in Worcester County were awarded to Latino businesses, as opposed to 84% going to white business owners.

The primary objective of this project is to better engage with minority businesses and connect them to resources and established networks, ultimately strengthening the minority business community by building capacity. The key components of this pilot project include:

- Overcome barriers by providing direct, multilingual and culturally competent technical assistance to assist minority-owned businesses with recovering from the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic and growing their business in the future. This will include one-on-one counseling and business guidance provided by the business advisers at NewVue as well as business trainings on topics such as marketing, bookkeeping and applying to grants and loans;

- Establish a working group composed of minority business owners to evaluate and understand root causes that make success for minority-owned business more difficult than for their white counterparts. Specifically, NewVue, NCMDC and the ReImagine North of Main team will lead a community conversation to understand the importance of inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystems for and identify programs and processes that need to be in place to develop ecosystems that are trusted by and support minority-owned businesses.

Launched by the Baker administration in 2015, the Urban Agenda Grant Program promotes economic vitality in urban neighborhoods by fostering partnerships that capitalize on unique local assets and community-driven responses to specific challenges. Urban Agenda grants are competitive one-year awards that offer these partnerships flexible funding to implement programming and projects based on creative, collaborative work models to support economic progress in urban communities.

The Urban Agenda Grant Program is now exclusively part of the administration’s Community One Stop for Growth, the recently established single-application portal that provides access to a variety of competitive community and economic development grant program.

FSU

Community read continues April 17

Submitted Article

FITCHBURG » Fitchburg State University's Community Read of "Underland" by Robert MacFarlane continues with university faculty leading a virtual discussion of the book's eighth chapter at 1 p.m. April 17.

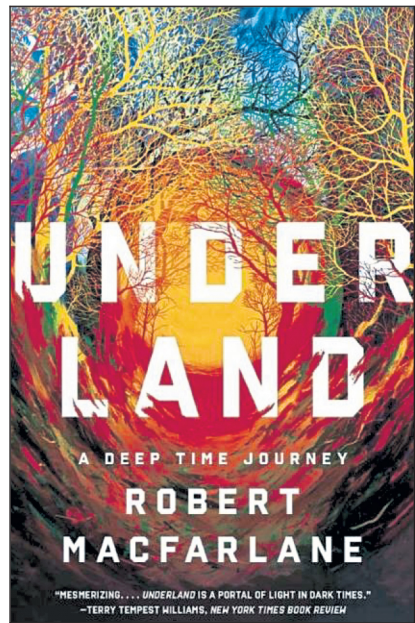
"Red Dancers: Art Emerging from the Darkness" will be hosted virtually by the Leominster Public Library, one of the university's Community Read partners. To attend the discussion, register in advance at [https://zoom.us/join/register/tJ0rde6vqj0sH9MGnVWji_hAXnu-K9k9F5L6](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/join/register/tJ0rde6vqj0sH9MGnVWji_hAXnu-K9k9F5L6).

This event features Fitchburg State professors Sarah Bromberg, Sally Moore and Jessica Robey, all of the Humanities Department.

Robey will provide an overview of the discovery of prehistoric cave art and its reception in the 20th century. She will discuss how these earliest examples of culture lead to a reassessment of what it means to be human.

Moore will give an overview of the role of the shaman in tribal society, discuss the inward versus outward journey, and will present examples of her own shamanic masks as well as those of her students.

Bromberg will present an overview and analysis of cave art imagery, particularly prehistoric cave art in France and Norway, with photographs. She'll discuss her students' sketching of cave paintings as a means to developing their own observations and interpretations of these ancient masters.



COURTESY FSU

FSU's Community Read this spring will focus on Robert MacFarlane's 'Underland.'

This event is sponsored by the Leominster Public Library's Eliane and Maurice Tonkin Memorial Fund.

Learn more at fitchburgcommunityread.com.

FITCHBURG STATE UNIVERSITY

Professor co-edits book on 'Hannibal'

By Danielle Ray

dray@sentinel
andenterprise.com

FITCHBURG » Fitchburg State University associate professor of Communications Media Kyle Moody sunk his teeth into co-editing a newly published book of essays focused on the cult favorite television

show "Hannibal."

"Hannibal for Dinner: Essays on America's Favorite Cannibal on Television," was recently released in the wake of the show's return to popularity thanks to Netflix streaming. Moody and co-editor Nicholas Yanes collected one-of-a-kind academic articles for their book published by

McFarland & Company Inc.

Moody, a Worcester resident, has taught for 13 years and at FSU since 2014. This is his first co-edited book, although his work exploring online communities, information sharing practices and more has been featured in "Springer" and "Iowa Jour-

nal of Communication."

"Nick and I have been friends since we were studying together at the University of Iowa, and we bonded over pop culture, including 'Hannibal,'" Moody said. "When the show originally ended, we thought we would see if there were other scholars and writers interested in

the bigger impact of 'Hannibal,' so we put together a call for papers and submitted it online. Little did we know we'd get such amazing scholarship in the process."

Some of the writers who were interviewed for the manuscript include Tom de Ville, writer for



COURTESY KYLE MOODY

Fitchburg State University professor Kyle Moody co-edited 'Hannibal for Dinner: Essays on America's Favorite Cannibal on Television' with Nicholas Yanes.

BOOK » 8A

Book

FROM PAGE 1A

"Lexx," "Urban Gothic," and "Lucky Man," Nick Antoscao, writer and creator of "The Act," "Channel Zero," and "Brand New Cherry Flavor," and Martha De Laurentiis, executive producer/producer of "Arctic," "Hannibal Rising," "Red Dragon," "Firestarter," and "Silver Bullet."

"These interviews and academic essays explore the 'Hannibal' franchise, its evolution, creatively bold risks, mythology, a culture of killers, and how to be an entertaining host when having friends over for dinner. (Well, the last one is a joke for the Fannibals.)," wrote the publisher in a press release.

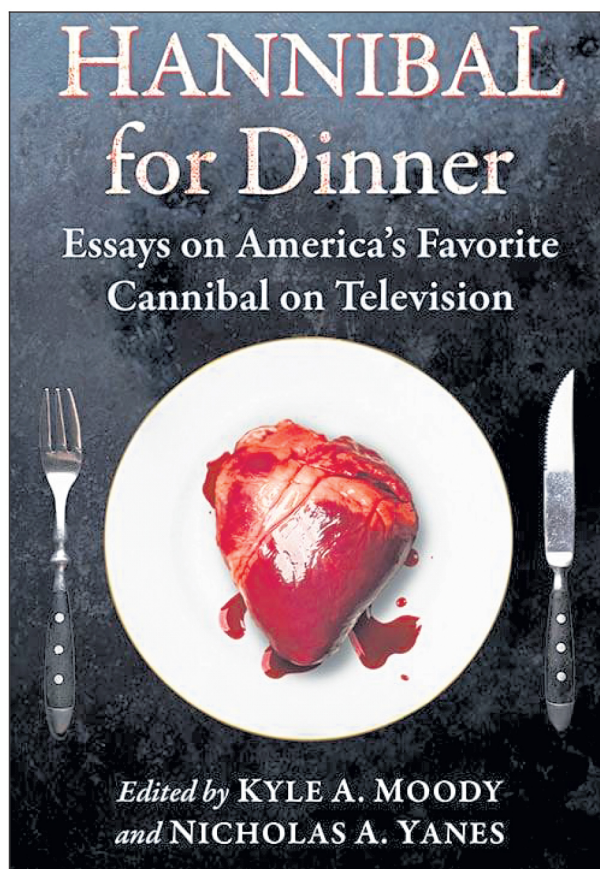
Moody said the work of the contributors "is the best part of the book."

"A shared love of 'Hannibal' allows us to teach each other about key concepts including sexuality, production, and Gothic studies," he said.

"Nick also interviewed multiple writers and producers throughout the process, and those behind-the-scenes pieces illustrate how the intentional artistry of the work was there from the very inception of the show. It's an honor to have worked with Nick on this excellent edited collection."

Moody said it took years to put the book together, a process that was "pretty arduous" due to juggling work and other commitments, and their dedication to producing an impeccable, quality piece of work that does "Hannibal" justice.

"It took four years for the full structure of the book to emerge and editing often required us to recognize where so many brilliant scholars and contributors were coming from while also striving to make it accessible to non-academic audiences," Moody said. "The editing process requires us to jump into the work and get into the heads of our



COURTESY KYLE MOODY

The cover of 'Hannibal for Dinner: Essays on America's Favorite Cannibal on Television.'

The book can be purchased on Amazon.

writers, much like Will Graham and Hannibal Lecter taught us to jump into the minds of their suspects."

According to the press release, "Hannibal" is the very definition of a cult show, one that only grew in stature after its cancellation.

Even when placed in context with Thomas Harris's popular novel and Academy Award-winning film series, "Hannibal" stood out as a singularly artistic experience. When it arrived back on Netflix in the United States in 2020, it shot into the top 10 and immediately sparked discussion of a possible cast reunion and new seasons.

Fortunately, academics had already spent years writing scholarship linking 'Hannibal' to changes in television production, mythological interpreta-

tion, food culture, and pop psychology, and now there is an edited collection that combines academic and insider production perspectives."

While Bryan Fuller's and NBC's "Hannibal" only lasted for three seasons, it continues to have a loyal fanbase five years after the show ended. Moody said the influence of "Hannibal" can be felt throughout pop and other cultures and that he and Yanes wanted to shine a light on that.

"The bigger theme of the book was the impact of 'Hannibal' on popular, social, and visual culture," he said.

We were naturally drawn to it as fans of the art and design of 'Hannibal,' and as we discovered through the collection and editing of the essays, we saw that 'Hannibal' expanded scholarship on mythology, sexuality, and food studies."

"Hannibal for Dinner: Essays on America's Favorite Cannibal on Television" can be purchased on Amazon.