

# Stars and stripes defiled at Brevard

**Devil's Advocate**  
**Brian Burgess**  
 Managing Editor

America is not perfect. Most of its citizens will be the first to admit this: whether it's a liberal calling fellow American conservatives "Nazis" or conservatives calling liberals "tree hugging hippies," we acknowledge there are problems with our country.

However, that's not to say we don't live in an incredible nation. America, for all its flaws, is still one of the greatest nations in the world.

We Americans enjoy a universe of luxuries and freedoms that a large portion of the world literally would die for; in fact, they do and have.

My ability to get a college education that will only help me further propagate my views on the fictitious and harmful nature of religion means a lot to me. It is something I would be killed for

in other nations. I personally enjoy this liberty everyday by simply breathing, and for this, I love America.

It concerns me deeply, then, that our college proudly flies a worn and mangled flag on its last leg, day and night, rain or shine in the middle of our residential quad. In fact, in more than one way, we are in breach of federal law in regards to proper flag etiquette.

According to the federal law on flying a flag, a flag flown must be lit by some form of light whether it be sunlight or artificial. It also is to be taken in during inclement weather.

What's more, when the flag is no longer fit for use it is to be disposed of through proper procedure.

Understanding that our school is low on funds, I would not ask for the flag to be lit at night, rather just to have a party responsible for showing it the respect it deserves. Even I would volunteer to lower the flag (given that it's in one piece) in the evenings and raise it in

the mornings should the need arise, and I know I am not alone in this.

BC senior Josh Thompson has voiced his concern to me on the matter. His father and great-grandfather were both members of the military, while one of his uncles is currently serving overseas with six of his close friends from high school. "It's just disrespectful to the people who have been killed for that flag," he says.

I encourage you, the reader, to step up and help correct this absent minded atrocity. Please voice your concerns on this matter to anyone and everyone that will hear you. Don't let this issue go unchecked, as you also enjoy the benefits of being an American.

For a nation that has given us opportunities so thanklessly that most people don't even stop to acknowledge them, the least we can do in return is to respect and care for her stars and stripes.

## LETTERS to the EDITOR

Dear Clarion,

Upon reading your publication (which was very well-written this week) I turned to the back to complete the crossword. I was very dismayed to realize that the clues and the puzzle did *not* match up. Please have the creator fired and shot for not checking the puzzle this week.

Only kidding, however, on a serious note, would it be possible to do a crossword with something other than movies as answers? Maybe include an impossibly difficult clue about an element from the periodic table or the nicknames of U.S. First Ladies. Even better might be "Judy Hoxit's favorite movie". Just a suggestion.

Thanks,

Kyle Jackola

*The Clarion welcomes letters to the editor from all readers. Send your feedback to [clarion@brevard.edu](mailto:clarion@brevard.edu)*

*The Sesquipedalian literary society presents:*

## The Word of the Week

Hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia (noun)

Definition:  
The fear of long words.

Etymology:  
Extension of sesqui(p)pedalophobia with monstrum "monster" and a truncated form of hippopotamus, intended to exaggerate the length of the word itself and the idea of the size of the words being feared. The word consists of 36 letters. Literally, the monster fear of long words.

Usage:  
However, we assume that despite the best endeavors of science, some phobias will always remain. These include paraskavedekatriaphobia, or fear of Friday the 13th. And hippopotomonstrosesquippedaliophobia, which is fear of long words. - Anon, *The Scotsman* (April 9, 2002) page 13.

**This space for rent!**

**Buy ad space in the Clarion**

For advertising rates and more information, visit us online:  
[www.brevard.edu/clarion](http://www.brevard.edu/clarion)