



Talented Musician Tells All
Keila Delgado '17 shares details about her musical career.
PAGE 4 | ARTS

C-Squad Soccer Success Story
Learn about the undefeated season of Reserve's own C-squad soccer team.
PAGE 8 | SPORTS

Campanelli Speaks his Mind
Peter Campanelli '18 shares his thoughts on a pressing campus issue.
PAGE 9 | OPINION

Coin: Faculty Face-Off
Students contemplate stature while staff debate the emerging gig economy.
PAGE 10-11 | THE COIN

Millions of Dollars Raised for Massive Changes

By FRANCISCO BLANCO '18

Western Reserve Academy recently announced the most ambitious fundraising campaign the school has ever been a part of: "The Campaign For Excellence and Access." The Campaign will satisfy four major needs to maintain excellence and access, which include: raising money for faculty support, providing more financial aid to students, bolstering academics, and restoring Brick Row's signature architecture. The Campaign has already added two endowed faculty chairs, created more funds for financial aid and remodeled the exterior of the Chapel, including the renovations on the Maker's Space. According to Assistant Head of School for Advancement, Mark Lafontaine, The Campaign for Excellence and Access, has been in its "quiet phase" of raising donations. In the Campaign's quiet phase of raising money the school reached out to frequent donors and alumni. This group consists of roughly 100 donors, and the school raised around 70% of the approximate current total of 52,000,000 dollars from these donors alone.

The public phase of fundraising has begun now that the school has exhausted their generous group of donors. LaFontaine elaborated that the Advancement Office is "going further from the core group of do-



COURTESY OF WRA.NET

nors, thus it gets more difficult to raise money." The public phase is projected to last another three to four years and they hope to "put the fundraising to bed" by 2019. The public phase donors include, but are not limited to, Alumni still pursuing a higher education, current parents and friends of the WRA community. The WRA faculty is quite supportive of The Capital Campaign as 100% of the faculty has donated to the mission.

Historic Brick Row will be a major beneficiary of the campaign as the funds from the Capital Campaign will help remodel President's House, The Chapel, and Seymour Hall. The remodeling of Seymour

will depend on the amount of money raised and the level of need teachers have for new classrooms. Seymour Hall's renovations will prove to be the most complex as the school will look to create new spaces and classrooms that serve many uses and are efficient learning environments. Seymour Hall is currently being evaluated by architects looking to develop plans to make the building more energy efficient. Seymour's construction is expected to start hopefully either in the 2018 or the 2019 school year.

The Capital Campaign is moving along smoothly, but there is still money to be raised, and the Advancement Office will continue to

"hit the road and meet with Alumni and foundation representatives" to raise money and "ask the right people at the right time for the right gift." The school expects to have 57,000,000 dollars in funds by June 30, and the campaign will have a 65,000,000 dollar minimum. The ambitious goal has been set, now the challenge is convincing fringe donors that this plan will work. "We are lucky that we have a lot of people that will buy into the plan because they had great experiences here," explained LaFontaine. This plan hopes to further those great experiences and create an environment in which great experiences are possible.

A College Counseling Adventure

By YING KA LEUNG '18 and NIRAJ NAIK '16

Over mid-fall break, around two dozen students from Western Reserve Academy went on a college trip around the Boston area, which the College Counselling Office and College Visits Company hosted for our school. It was a three day tour including visits to schools such as: Northeastern, Boston University, Emerson, Brown, Harvard, MIT, Tufts, Boston College, Babson, Wheaton, Wellesley and Olin. Associate Director of College Counseling, Anna Barlow and Assistant Director of Admissions, Thomas Adams-Wall and College Visits representative, Meghan Gainey hosted this trip.

Students boarded their flight to Logan International Airport on Friday night. They checked into the Inn at Longwood in the Longwood Medical District late, and began to prepare for their many visits. Chaperones gave students \$10-15 for meals, and students explored the food court and local college town to find one-of-a-kind cuisine in Boston-area restaurants. On Saturday night, students were able to explore Quincy Market, a shopping district in Boston. Several languages carried across the market as shoppers bustled from store to store.

While the group had to suffer through the horrors of Boston's derelict mass transit system, they did manage to get an excellent taste of colleges aboveground. Northeastern's new dining hall received the highest accolades, thanks to its varied selection. "The cookies and brownies were placed on hot-plates to maintain a nice warm temperature," Adam Birch '16 explained through his third brownie. Tufts' dining hall was also commended for its ice cream area—with close to a dozen flavors. Sadly, Barlow dragged Ying Ka Leung '18 out of Tufts' dining hall before he could try them all.

During the trip, group members were also able to meet former members of the WRA community. Sophie Shen '15 led the group in a tour of Tufts, and the group also encountered Kelly Hedgspeth and Trevor Levin '15 at Harvard, who gave some students a wonderful tour of the university's lesser known treasures.

When asked about application strategies, our guides recommended to "just be yourself." The MIT and Harvard guides added, "And get perfect test scores, by the way." Students were deeply impressed with their Boston experience and eagerly look forward to another exciting college counselling trip to California in the spring.

Caterham Scholars Visit from Surrey, England

By BLANCA LOPEZ '16 and AJAY DAKAPPAGARI '16

From October 20 to October 28, nine students from the Caterham School in Surrey, England visited Western Reserve Academy. The WRA-Caterham Exchange Program annually sends students to Caterham over summer break, who then highly anticipate the arrival of the British scholars to WRA during the fall. As the British both hosted WRA students at their homes and school, they also graciously went out of their way to tour the stu-

dents from WRA around London and other parts of Surrey, England.

In return, during their week long stay at WRA, both students and faculty tried their best to reciprocate the favor. For most of their visit, Caterham students attended classes corresponding to their interests. As a prospective Government and Politics major, Caterham student Annabelle Vandort, found her class with AP Government and Politics teacher Matt Gerber quite helpful. After attending a few classes and attempting to take a test, Annabelle explained, "It was beyond

interesting to learn about American Government through an American lens compared to our British perspective." She went on to explain the different ways of teaching and methods that differ between Caterham and WRA.

Some students found their favorite classes to be those in the STEM fields rather than the humanities. One of the Caterham scholars, Alex Craston, plans to pursue studies in the former area, so he attended Calculus, Chemistry and Biology classes. Craston remarked, "The math classes covered the same material

as the British syllabus, so I was able to understand the material in class and even answer some questions." British students also noted some differences. Craston observed, "The Chemistry classes covered different topics than our British classes." Clearly, the overall style of American classes was a unique experience for the British students and this gave them a new perspective on the American education system.

The Caterham scholars were also exposed to the areas surrounding Hudson, Ohio. Their first trip after arriving to the United States took them to Cleveland where they toured The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Jamie Graham observed, "I was amazed at the beauty of the building and enjoyed all the displays." The British had a great experience attending their first Friday night football game when they visited Hudson High School to watch their football team play.

After their stay in Ohio, they embarked on yet another journey to Washington, D.C. to visit various government buildings and see all kinds of interesting sites around the capital city. The Western Reserve Academy community greatly appreciated the presence of the Caterham Scholars and will miss them all dearly.



MAX BORRMANN

The Caterham students pose for a photo with their American counterparts on a crisp autumn day.

The Reserve Record Established in 1925

Editor-in Chief *Ajay Dakappagari*
Editor-in Chief *Tim Lund*

Associate Editor *Max Borrman*
Managing Editor *Niraj Naik*
Copy Editor *Taryn Washburn*
Media Manager *Max Borrman*

News *Makena Hayes, Casey Semple*
Community *Harrison Ahn*
Arts *Chris Sprunt*
Entertainment *Olivia Chan*
Centerfold *Tim Lund*
Sports *Andrew Boniface*
Opinion *Grant Foksett*
The Coin *David Smith*
World News *Ying Ka Leung*
Additional Editing *Adam Redlich,*
Chung Hwa Suh, Mike Zeleznik

Faculty Advisor *Russell Morrison*

The *Reserve Record* is the student-run, monthly newspaper of Western Reserve Academy and the voice of and for the student body. It aims to educate its staff, writers and photographers on journalistic style, format, ethics and excellence, while entertaining and informing the student body and providing its readership a forum for community expression and discussion. The editors and staff have worked on every facet of this publication.

The opinions expressed in the *Reserve Record* do not necessarily represent those of the administration, trustees or student body. The editors assume full responsibility for the contents of the publication and invite community responses.

October Issue Corrections

In *Caleigh Tiley's Nostalgic Alumni Come Back For Rally*, the author was incorrectly marked as a freshman. Tiley is actually a junior.

In *Mike Zeleznik's The New England Patriots Cheat Again* on page 10, a comma was necessary in the bottom of the third column before the word "who" after the word after the word "opponents."

Preventing Gun Violence at WRA

By **PETER CAMPANELLI '18**

Recently more and more gun violence has started to appear on large school campuses. We may not think about it at a place like Western Reserve Academy, where the scariest things we face are Mr. Ong's tests, the Modern World History research paper and running out of Ramen noodles, but gun violence could happen anywhere, even here on the lawn's wide sweep.

It is scary to think how easy it would be for an intruder to enter our campus. A multitude of strangers stroll down Brick Row every day; any one of these people could be a threat to our safety. In addition to external causes, a potential threat could be sitting next to us in math class. Last month in Oregon, a student killed nine of his classmates and teachers at Umpqua Community College in Oregon.

There are quite a few things a

WRA student can do to protect themselves and others in the WRA community. Director of WRA Security Joe Bernabei stressed the importance of members of the WRA community staying proactive in keeping each other safe. "Our biggest asset is you guys," he remarked. Bernabei explained that the students know "what should be in [their] classrooms" and "who should be walking around campus and who shouldn't be."

Bernabei also mentioned that in the majority of shootings, somebody other than the shooter knows about it in advance. Therefore, Bernabei insists if anyone finds anything suspicious, that they must contact security. "Call the security number," he advised. "If you see something out of place, call. That's what we're here for."

Because of the large number of visitors at WRA including trustees, parents, tourists, prospective

students, visiting sports teams, film crews as well as those not even affiliated with WRA that come and walk around the WRA campus, Bernabei prefers that students not "[confront] people." Instead he prefers if students contact security if they "see someone who doesn't look like they belong." "I have no problem going up to somebody and [asking] 'How can I help you?' and 'Why are you on our campus?'," explained Bernabei.

Most of the time these visitors are parents or people interested in the WRA buildings, but Bernabei would "rather [security] go check something out and it be nothing, than not to go check it out and something would happen." If any students have concerns or questions about security on campus, Bernabei insists that they "call the security number immediately."

This year, WRA Security started using the ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training Institute. This system provides active shooter response training and curriculum for faculty, students, and employees. This system, created after the shooting at Columbine, teaches individuals to participate in their own survival while assisting others. The WRA staff and students will receive ALICE training in the coming months.

WRA security is also working on adding additional lockdown drills to the school year. From performing drills to give students experience in this type of situation to educating faculty on how to react, WRA Security is doing its best to prevent and prepare for intruders on campus.

WRA Security asks that anyone with any questions or concerns call (330) 903-0095 immediately.



MAX BORRMANN

One of the new technologies being used to ensure safety on campus.

Students Celebrate Dia De Los Muertos

By **KIA RUFFIN '17**

The Day of the Dead, also known as Dia De Los Muertos, a Mexican holiday celebrated on November 1 and 2 each year, focuses on the ancient Mexican belief that death and life are closely related. Death is not as mournful and negative in Mexico; instead it is celebrated because the loved one's soul is passing on to its next life. The Day of the Dead celebrates the loved one's soul returning to earth.

Those celebrating often spend lots of time preparing for this homecoming. The tombs of deceased friends and family members are decorated with flowers and candles.

Altars created for those deceased are adorned with pictures of the deceased, flowers, candles, religious figures, and incense. The spirits' favorite foods are placed on the altars for the spirits to enjoy when they return.

There is always plenty of food for the living to enjoy as well such as Day of the Dead Bread and sugar skulls decorated in brilliant colors.

Andres Loret de Mola '17 explained that in Merida, Mexico, his hometown, "everyone celebrates Dia De Los Muertos and everyone participates." Many students have school off to celebrate the holiday and spend time with their families. Loret de Mola described that in

days prior to the Day of the Dead, students often "make little altars" and "adorn [the altars] with lots of food."

Originally celebrated by the cultures indigenous to current day Mexico, the holiday celebrated today is a result of the Spaniards forcing their Catholic beliefs upon the Aztecs. The blend of two cultures continues to evolve today as Mexicans spread into new countries that, ultimately, adopt the holiday and add their own twist.

While the traditions for celebrating the Day of the Dead are varied and specific to each family, all are a true celebration of life in the Spanish-speaking world.

Doe Educates Community



ALAN DOE

Younger Doe yields excellent results from seminar for senior class.

By **MIKE ZELEZNIK '16**

Lindsey Doe '00 paid a visit to Western Reserve Academy on Sunday, October 18, to speak with the Class of 2016 and other interested students. Doe, a licensed sexologist, is best known for her comprehensive sexual education channel on YouTube known as "Sexplanations." To date, the channel has amassed over 190,000 subscribers with her most popular videos exceeding almost 2,500,000 views.

In her presentation to the seniors, Doe stressed the importance of avoiding the Bystander Effect, a social psychological phenomenon in which a group of people collectively ignores a glaring issue. She also delved into the importance of accepting people from all sexual backgrounds, the finer points of consent and fielded audience questions about her areas of expertise. Although the seminar and subsequent Question and Answer session was only meant to last one hour, most of those in the audience remained

in their seats for an additional forty-five minutes.

"Everything that she said was poignant and needed," Caitlin Fogg '16 recalled when asked about Doe's seminar. In Fogg's opinion, Doe's teachings are vital to the entirety of the WRA community and are "something that needs to be taught to all of WRA, not just the seniors."

"I think she's got some insights that are pretty helpful for us as a community," Fine & Performing Arts Chair, Alan Doe, commented of his daughter's return to campus, adding that he particularly appreciated her message of respect for all which she conveyed during her seminar. After listening to his daughter's seminar, Doe admitted, "[t]here's so much that I didn't know that the students and faculty and colleagues are learning with them."

Regardless of age, all in attendance walked out of the Knight Fine Art Center more knowledgeable citizens than when they walked in.

Academic Awards

By **ANNA ANDERSON '17**

The Western Reserve Academy community celebrated the students' academic excellence at the annual Fall Academic Awards on October 26, 2015. Nine students were inducted into the Cum Laude Society, seven students were awarded book prizes, forty-three students were recognized for receiving highest honors and thirteen students were recognized for receiving National Merit Recognition. In addition to the student recognition, Science Department Chair Wanda Boesch was awarded The Waring Chair and Biology teacher Dr. Beth Pethel was awarded The Roush/Wayburn Chair in Environmental Studies.

The tradition of rewarding the two students with the two highest grade point averages in their respective

class with a book prize was started by Headmaster Joel B. Hayden, of whom Hayden Hall is named. The recipients of the book prizes for the 2014-2015 academic year were Peter Campanelli '18, Ran Tao '18, Zachary Bloom '17, Danny Mylott '17, Alice Wu '17, Lynn Yang '16 and Jake Ha '16.

"I recall feeling excited to hear who would win! I remember feeling good when somebody's name was called, because we all knew each other so well; we celebrated and took pride in each other's accomplishments," Sasha Maseclall '96 reminisced about the Academic Awards during her student career at WRA.

The Academic Awards are a celebration of the academic excellence of WRA that will surely continue for many years to come.



ALAN DOE

The most excellent, just and honorable of Western Reserve Academy.

WRA Gets Into the Halloween Spirit with Events and Costumes

By KATIE WEINZIERL '17

As the leaves change color and the first flurries of snow fall slowly to the ground, the WRA community celebrated Halloween with annual festivities. As per tradition and popular demand, the activities celebrated the weekend before Halloween included Haunted Wood House and the Halloween Mixer.

The Haunted Wood House is a beloved Halloween activity with the Wood House residents, including freshman, sophomores, prefects and Modern and Classical Languages Chair, Jeff Namiotka's kids, scaring those who dare to enter. They lead brave souls through decorated hallways, rooms, bathrooms and staircases. Duncan Ostrom '17, a prefect and a resident in Wood House who partook in the scaring, stated, "Seeing people's faces as they were scared senseless was by far the best part." Ostrom also said that he would "participate again in a heartbeat. It is a great bonding activity for the dorm and loved by the WRA community."

WRA students who attended also had only positive things to say about the haunted house. "I thought this year's haunted house was phenomenal," Peter Lanzon '18 said excitedly, "I'm definitely going next year if it was as good as it was this year." Laina Wilson '19 observed the amount of effort that the Wood House boys put into the haunted house. She admitted that "it was really fun to go through the house knowing who was scaring you. I really liked the creepy little girls that followed us."

The WRA community also celebrated another tradition, the annual Halloween mixer. Students, dressed in their best Halloween costumes, are welcomed with loud dance music and refreshments. The mixer was



ALAN DOE AND NATALIE DAVIES

(Top left) Students dare the Haunted House. (Top right and bottom left) Creative Halloween costumes. (Bottom right) Woodhouse residents.

meant to be held in the Cartwright Garden but last-minute inclement weather conditions moved the mixer inside to the Green Key. Sarah Smith '17, who came to the mixer dressed as a devil, said that her "favorite part of the mixer was the fact that everyone actually got up and danced. Most of the time, people stand around kind of awkwardly, so it was great to see everyone come together like this."

Allison Landry '18 agreed with Smith. Landry added that she "would definitely attend next year. It was a lot of fun because everyone was having fun together. You ended up dancing next to people you may

not know very well which brought you closer to those people." These activities not only bring the Halloween spirit to campus, but also create bonding activities for all grades and bring the WRA community closer.

The final event that both students and faculty alike look forward to is the Halloween Parade. Students and faculty are given the chance to dress up in their most creative costumes during the school day and showcase them during an all-school parade during sit-down lunch. Prizes are awarded for the best costumes, which are usually determined by the crowd's applause and enthusi-

asm for each costume.

This year, the festivities took place on October 30, the Friday before Halloween, and the competition was very fierce. Avery Brewer '18, who dressed as Daphne from Scooby and the Gang, was a part of the group that won a prize in the costume contest. She exclaimed, "It was fun to win the costume contest and get some pictures. My favorite part of Halloween is getting really into it and watching seasonal movies."

Chemistry teacher Jonathan Butensky-Bartlett, also known as BB, was also very passionate and made sure to get into the Halloween spirit

this year. Butensky-Bartlett dressed up as Ricky Bobby from Talladega Nights. When asked why he chose this costume, Butensky-Bartlett said "Talladega Nights is one of my favorite films, as I am a long-time fan of Sir William Ferrell." BB also said that his "favorite part about Halloween is giving out candy. For some reason, kids seem to enjoy sugary snacks and it puts a smile on their faces!"

Halloween at WRA gives light to some of the most creative people on campus and is a time during which eating pounds of candy is somewhat acceptable. This year's festivities bode well for future years.

Students Participate in Cider Pressing

By CHARLIE KOLODZIEJ '18

On October 25, the Earth Initiative Club pressed apples for its biennial apple harvest. The apples were picked at an orchard behind Pierce House with the harvest proving bountiful. Six students braved the cold to harvest the fruit. The students obtained 10 boxes, or about 6 bushels, of apples.

English Department Chair Matt Peterson explained that "the orchard only produces fruit every two years." He then went on to say that although apples are picked every year, the orchard from which the apples are picked changes every other year.

A week after the apple picking, the pressing took place in the driveway of Long House. The first step in the process was to scour the apples clean. The apples were dumped into a large tub of water, in they were scrubbed to get rid of all the dirt and blemishes. Casey Semple '18 brought a large speaker from his car so the group could pass the time listening to music.

The next step was to run the apples through the apple ricer. The apples were fed two at a time into the ricer, which was fitted over a large wooden bucket with slats missing on the sides. The ricer's job was to break up the fruit into pieces



CHARLES VOSMIK

Students and Peterson scrub freshly picked apples in a tub of water.

small enough for pressing. The press itself was bought a few years ago for Mr. Peterson's ECHO module, "The Culture and Horticulture of Apples." Peterson, having no shortage of interesting facts about apples, entertained the students with various trivia and stories, including a story about the time when he tried to make hard cider in his basement.

The apple mash produced by the ricer fell into a mesh sac inside the bucket. Then, a wooden cap was fitted over the sac. A screw on the top compressed the lid of the bucket into the apples, crushing them. As the lid slowly squeezed the apples, the juice flowed out through the mesh bag and into a pitcher via a trough running around the bucket.

The product was sweet and crisp

apple cider. Once all the apples were through the press, the group filled a large dining hall juice cooler with cider. Admittedly, the product would have been twice as large if the students hadn't been drinking it almost as fast as they were pressing it.

After three hours of work, the apples yielded several gallons of the sweet beverage. The volunteers departed with water bottles and jugs of cider. The extra juice was wheeled over to the dining hall to be enjoyed by the rest of the school. Leaving with a gallon jug of cider, Makena Hayes '17 summed up the day and stated, "It's fun to do something simple like that for once. No stress, no deadlines, just enjoying a nice day in good company."

Meeting Entrepreneurs and Learning to Be One

By EAMON MULVIHILL '19

Junior Leadership Hudson, better known as JLH, offers many opportunities for students from Hudson High School and Western Reserve Academy to learn and apply leadership skills while helping the community. The main purpose of JLH is to meet, talk and learn from successful business owners.

This year there have been two JLH field trips. The first of the outings was a meeting with the Hudson City Panel of civil servants. There are many members on the panel but the most influential are the county executive, Russell Pry, and the mayor of Hudson, Bill Currin. Two members of JLH from HHS and WRA even had the opportunity to attend an entrepreneurship conference hosted at University School as the mayor's guests.

The group of young leaders was also visited by a panel of entrepreneurs in Hudson who informed them about their past successes and failures. It is difficult to create a successful business from scratch, so this session provided advice that could prove valuable.

For their second excursion, JLH visited Rashad Gray, WRA alumnus and founder of a small business

called Urban Sports Unlimited. After that, the students journeyed to the Key Bank building in downtown Cleveland to visit a group of professionals who explained risk management and market research. The students later toured Progressive Field, home of the Cleveland Indians, and explored the inner workings of a sports team.

The members of JLH are also active participants in community service. All members are required to complete a total of 16 hours of community service before the end of the school year. However, they have the opportunity to choose what they do, giving them the chance to pursue their passions.

Darcy Kuang added, "This project is a great opportunity for high school students from Hudson High School and WRA to learn from the experiences of successful leaders and really think about what we can do to give something back to society."

Because life operates much like a small business, the students in JLH can apply the lessons they learn about leading a business to everyday life. Studying business involves learning how to make smart choices, and advice from successful business leaders will greatly benefit the members of JLH.

Musician Spotlight: Flutist Keila Delgado-Cruz

By CALEIGH TILEY '17

As the entire student body observed during the recent Academic Awards ceremony, Keila Delgado-Cruz '17 is a proficient flutist. Delgado-Cruz is undeniably a gifted musician, but beyond her talent, her unrelenting passion and drive for success leads many to believe that she will be successful. This combination of a true love for music and a deep determination for success allows Delgado-Cruz to stand out on the competitive stage of professional music.

Delgado-Cruz was born in Houston, Texas, and currently lives in Saudi Arabia. In addition to being an adept flutist, she also excels at dance and enjoys reading, camping, singing and spending time with her family. Though her parents do not play any instruments, her great grandfather, Pablo Casals, was a famous cellist who continues to impact her playing and deeply rooted love of music.

Delgado-Cruz first began playing when she was about eleven years old and has continued to work diligently to widen the spectrum of her musical knowledge. Initially, Delgado-Cruz was under the tutelage of the band director at her school who saw great potential in her and directed her to pursue private instruction



ALAN DOE

Delgado-Cruz '17 performs flute during the 2015-2016 Fall Academic Awards and enjoys autumn weather.



MAX BORRMANN

under teachers Daniel Barker and Sergio Pallottelli.

Though she is only in her junior year of high school, Delgado-Cruz has already compiled an impressive resume by playing in downtown Houston, churches, musical ensembles, the prestigious Rice University and the Texas Music Educators Association (TMEA).

Although Delgado-Cruz admits she still experiences typical pre-recital nerves, she has learned to "shake them off," and she continues to deliver beautiful performances. For Delgado-Cruz, the driving factor in her pursuit for mastery of the flute is "the satisfaction you get when you play a piece and you just

play it with all your heart." The intense joy and satisfaction of seeing the progress she has made and the happiness she feels from seeing her audience and family respond positively from her performances also serves as fuel for her to continue pursuing her passion.

For Delgado-Cruz, the flute not only serves as a way to express herself, but the ability of being able to control herself through finger techniques, posture and breathing provides her with a "disciplined mindset," an asset evident in many of her daily activities.

So where does this promising flutist see herself in the future? "There's always room for more progress,"

Delgado-Cruz responded. In addition to music, science also interests her. She is hoping to graduate college with a double major. However, regardless of where her future endeavors lead her, Delgado-Cruz knows one thing for sure: "I never want to stop playing the flute [...] it's always going to be a part of my life."

She would one day like to pass her love for music down to future generations of her family, just as her great-grandfather did. Delgado-Cruz often looks to these powerful words from her great-grandfather for inspiration in times of adversity: "The greatest respect an artist can pay to music is to give it life."

Dr. John Learner Displays Art in Moos Gallery

By LOGAN SNELL '18

Opening on October 10th, Dr. John Learner's Moos Gallery show features some of his many shadow boxes and photography. Many would consider being a dentist a full time job in itself, but in his scarce spare time Dr. Learner finds enjoyment in artwork. He primarily focuses his work on shadow boxes, combining his family photos with mementos from cities he has visited with his family. He describes his shadow boxes as "my attempt to prevent my wife from throwing away all the junk I brought home from various vacations."

One such box, a commemoration of a Myrtle Beach vacation, is surrounded by an elaborate frame

of sea shells gathered on the trip. Another box focuses on the city of New Orleans, displaying Mardi Gras memorabilia, including a feathered mask and many strands of brightly colored beads.

But Dr. Learner's shadow boxes encompass more than just vacations; some contain hand-painted fishing lures as a tribute to a former Akron business that in its heyday produced five thousand hand-painted lures per day. Another box is a fitting tribute to the United States Armed Forces, displaying military challenge coins given to Dr. Learner by patients and relatives who have served this country. Some of Dr. Learner's dental expertise seeps through in this piece, as the coins are tied into the box using

orthodontic wire.

Dr. Learner's photography focuses exclusively on flowers, specifically dahlias. He finds that flowers are a good subject to photograph because "the flowers don't mind being photographed and will sit still and smile at you all day long." In his Moos Gallery show, one large "4D" dahlia piece is exhibited. The depth and "wave" shape of the photographs add additional dimensions to the individual 2D photos.

While Dr. Learner's artwork is primarily focused on his shadow boxes, he also has interests in other elaborate forms of art. He has been featured on the Today Show and on Fox 8, displaying some of his many exceptional gingerbread houses. Each intricately fabricated

house takes him years to construct, including a replica of Stan Hywet Hall for the museum's 100th anniversary. That project took Dr. Learner four years to complete.

For many years he has entered his beautiful creations in the Cleveland Botanical Garden's annual holiday show, "Glow". He spends many hours searching for just the right candy to embellish his detailed creations. In addition to these many hobbies, Dr. Learner also devotes time to another intricate process, model shipbuilding, a hobby he has loved since the eighth grade.

Be sure to stop by the Moos Gallery to view some of Dr. Learner's impressive artwork. Additional works can be viewed on his website, www.drlearnerdentistry.com



CHRIS SPRUNT



MAX BORRMANN

John Learner's work is currently being displayed in the Moos Gallery

Beach House: Review

By CHARLES VOSMIK '16

Given the underground nature of Beach House, many of you have probably not heard of the oddly named music group. For those of you who have not, here is a brief history of the up-and-coming indie group: Victoria Legrand and Alex Scally formed Beach House in 2004.

Legrand, a French born vocalist, leads the group and Scally provides killer backups. Beach House's official genre is dream pop. This genre includes groups like Cults, Passion Pit, Purity Ring, M83, Mac DeMarco and others. They recently released two new albums: *Depression Cherry* and *Thank Your Lucky Stars*. The two were recorded simultaneously, but the band thought that some of the songs were too contrasting to intermix with each other, so they decided to split the songs into two different albums entirely. I have yet to listen to *Thank Your Lucky Stars*, so this review will only explain to you why you should listen to *Depression Cherry*.

Depression Cherry is the fifth studio album from the group. It follows their usual style with graceful flowing lyrics. *Depression Cherry* is the ideal type of album to listen to while studying, taking a shower or other activities that warrant peaceful music. Ever since I first found the group, I have been hooked with their unique, intriguing, and mysterious sound. This album was no exception to their usual standards. *Depression Cherry* rose to number 8 on Billboard's top 200. My personal favorites are "Levitation" and "Space Song." They compliment each other quite well. Legrand's ability to jump up and down octaves adds flare to the already interesting tracks. Niraj Naik '16 also shares "Space Song" as his favorite on the album: "'Space Song' is one of the few songs I can listen to in order to take a minute and just breathe. It helps me remember the true pleasures of life." Scully's composition skills in creating the beat, synth rhythms and other backup sounds also add a plethora of effects and atmospheres to the overall product. Even when including tunes that may be dissonant to some, Beach House maintains a fantastic sound. The individual tracks flow together as one, providing an enjoyable listening experience.

If you are looking for some calm, relaxing and versatile music, then Beach House definitely serves that purpose. Their combinations of sounds exhibit an authentic and unique take on a popular style. In the future, I am sure they will continue to grow and develop as a group as they continue to publish more and more albums. They seem to have a large presence at various festivals and have fostered quite the following. In fact, they are currently on tour. They are scheduled to stop in Cleveland at the House of Blues on February 29 if you are wondering how you can experience them after reading this review. So, I commend you, Beach House. Keep producing great tracks for our enjoyment.

The Eggplant: Brick Path Abandoned and Replaced with Grass for Ease of Access

By ARTHUR AUBERGINE '00

Anyone who visits Western Reserve Academy knows that the main thoroughfare of the picturesque campus is an old red brick path. This path, often mistaken with the row of similarly clad buildings which lie on its banks, and its adjoining network of sidewalks provide a comprehensive means of traversing the expansive 190 acre property. However, change is in the air for the historic causeway of the Academy.

The maintenance department, in tandem with the recently employed grounds-care company, has announced the next major renovation project to hit campus. After the restoration of the outer layer of the chapel, there is more brickwork to be done. This job, in comparison, will be much easier; it involves simply tearing up all concrete and brick paths on campus. The project is scheduled to begin during the spring of 2016 and should be ready for the start of the coming academic year. "We hope to break ground as soon as the snow melts," stated a hopeful member of the grounds crew.

The major catalyst for this undertaking has been the recent, changing behavior of the students. "It has dawned on me that students don't look as if they are too keen on walking on paved and maintained hardscaped surfaces," mused an insightful groundskeeper, "never before have I witnessed such a mass



KEVIN THOMAS

Workers pull bricks up from historic pathway to replace with grass.

dismissal of conventional pathways constructed expressly for bipedal transportation." Behind the jargon of these observations, there rest cold, hard truths.

Students appear to be much more inclined to traipse aloofly across the manicured lawn's wide sweep than follow the carefully laid out pathways. "They really seem to take the sidewalks merely as a light suggestion. They are content to forge their own paths rather than allow their motion to be confined to the paved walks," expounded the groundskeeper. As a reflection of this burgeoning trend, all pavement will be torn up and replaced by grass. The plan will be implemented in stages, beginning at the center with the parallel brick paths.

This tremendous shift from tradition is likely to cause a stir in the alumni community; however it represents the new direction and pro-

gressive attitude of Western Reserve Academy. A business office representative explained in an exclusive interview, "We are simply reacting to the new use of our environment. Culture and habits shift over time, and we hope that our campus will remain dynamic and react fluidly to these changes."

The replacement of pavement with grass will also save time and energy on future maintenance and upkeep. "Now we can mow the grounds from edge to edge without stopping, and we won't need to spend time shoveling in the winter. The whole experience of traversing the campus will become more wild and adventurous," claimed a ground-care employee. While dramatic, this modification will allow the community to make better use of the space available and contribute to a more natural learning environment.

The Eggplant is a satirical sub-publication, not a real news article.

WRA Shows Fall Musical



ALAN DOE

Storytellers dazzle the audience at the beginning of *Children of Eden*.

By MARC FRANQUESA '18

Western Reserve Academy showcased *Children of Eden* as this year's fall musical. Composed by Steven Schwartz and written by John Caird, this production is an emotionally charged tale about growing up and letting go told through the lens of well-known biblical stories.

The first act tells the story of the creation through Adam and Eve's expulsion from Eden all the way to Cain's fall from grace. "I think that Cain is misjudged," Danny Mylott '17, in the role of Cain remarked. "He chooses to live passionately rather than not live at all." The second act conveys the story of Noah's family and the Flood. Their lives are transformed as the youngest son's forbidden love for the servant girl, Yonah, brings all their beliefs into question.

The musical puts the familiar tales in a new light. Often blurring the lines of antagonist and protagonist roles in the original tellings of the stories, it removes the

common black-and-white filter of myth showing everything in more realistic shades of grey. "I think the main takeaway is that growing up is painful and heartbreaking, but beautiful. Love overcomes all for our 'children,'" explained Mylott. Sydney Sutherland '16, who played Mama Noah, stated, "We all control our own destiny, and must grow up, but we are never truly alone. The show is very metaphorical."

As for the experience of participating in the musical, Sutherland commented, "I think musicals are such a great way to connect with people. Everyone is doing strange things while making beautiful music." Additionally, Mylott enthusiastically expressed, "The musical has made me love singing and performing even more than I did before. I recommend anyone to try out. It's a blast and, contrary to popular belief, it's not scary at all." *Children of Eden*, directed by Midge Karam, performed from Friday, October 30 to Sunday, November 1 in KFAC.

The Ong Review: The Martian

By ELLIOT ONG '17

Imagine this: you are an astronaut on the first manned mission to Mars. Hooray! As you and your five crew members are collecting samples and running tests, you see that NASA has made a mistake about the direction of a windstorm—the least realistic scene in the movie—and you are hit. While in the storm, you are separated from your crew by debris; they have no choice but to assume you died, and they lift off without you. Now what do you do?

This is the question that NASA Botanist, Mark Watney, played by Matt Damon, must decide, as he serves as the astronaut stranded in *The Martian*. As Watney embarks on his journey of survival, he faces two struggles. First, surviving the 1,400 sols (Martian days) it would take for the next manned mission to come to Mars and pick him up, keeping in mind his limited supply of food. Second, actually communicating with NASA and finding a way to transport that next crew to Mars as soon as possible.

Already, Mark Watney amazes the audience. Astounded, both from his ability to survive on a foreign planet and by his comedic outlook of his situation, you will soon find yourself wanting nothing more than to see this astronaut overcome every obstacle that is thrown at him to assure his safe return home. Going into this movie with a basic knowledge of the plot will not stop you from having a fantastic experience. Director, Ridley Scott hits all the right spots with this movie. At one moment, it will have you



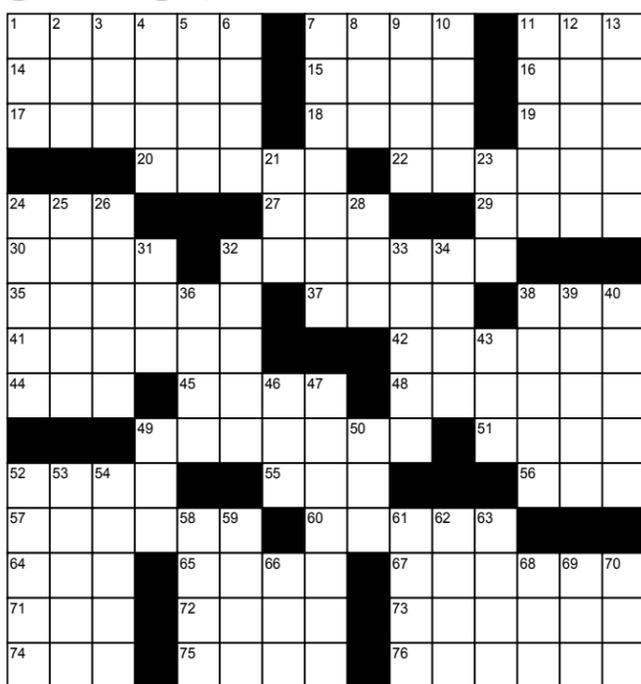
WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

fear for the life of our Martian, and five minutes later, you will be caught laughing at his wisecracks and self-deprecating sense of humor. While at times the movie's use of NASA engineering seems a little far fetched (Ares II seems a bit luxurious), we cannot blame Ridley Scott for staying loyal to the Andy Weir novel of which this movie is based upon. It is not hard for us to suspend our disbelief and assume that in the 2030's the scientific accomplishments that the characters in the movie use would indeed exist.

All in all, if the most scientifically inaccurate part of this movie is the wind storm at the beginning, then I would say Andy Weir and Ridley Scott did a pretty good job. If you want to see a movie that will have you at the edge of your seat for every minute, leave you wishing it never ended, and make you reconsider what your favorite movie is, absolutely see *The Martian*.

Friendsgiving | by Makena Hayes '17

Across
1. Abandoned arachnid home
7. Uncertain
11. Before
14. Not ready for harvest
15. Carbonated beverage
16. Edge
17. Skater hat
18. Dark brown or black
19. Self-esteem
20. Piece, fragment
22. A container that holds a dozen
24. Doctorate
27. Seven
29. Bird nest
30. Obtain in return
32. Turns into
35. Snobbish
37. A famous Kentucky fort
38. Club of religious sportsmen
41. To kiss up to
42. Conversation
44. The counterpart to 10 down
45. Seasonally adjusted annual rate
48. Colorless flammable gas
49. Psychopaths
51. Prayer ending



52. Small case for needles and cosmetics
55. An indefinitely long period of time
56. Established
57. Subject to death
60. Unit of measure
64. Eight month
65. A type of salad
67. Dismissal from a position
71. Anger
72. American Civil

Liberties Union
73. Food Network chef: Robert _____
74. Hallucinogenic drug
75. Fruit flavored gumdrop candy
76. Cut off

Down
1. Baby bear
2. Half of two
3. Undergarment
4. Victories
5. Of great magnitude
6. Alcoholic drink
7. Tool used to

break up ice
8. Pop punk group
9. A sheet of floating ice
10. The counterpart to 44 across
11. Derogatory term for someone of a lower rank
12. An exhaustive quality
13. Adhesive
21. Lumberjack's tool
23. A state of matter
24. Irritating
25. Capital of

Vietnam
26. To die of liquid
31. Adverb used to express negation
36. Throw
38. Fire
39. Ice cream bases
40. _____ Orange
43. Band known for "Take on Me"
46. Highest or lowest card
47. Quadrilateral
49. A type of bull that can walk on a leash
50. 2 down
52. Major form of Reserve communication
53. Travel visits
54. Strongly suggested
58. Abbreviated academy
59. Crazy
61. _____ and trouble
62. European currency
63. Commit to attendance
68. Advice
69. Chemistry suffix
70. Blood, fire, rubies

THANKSGIVING AROUND THE WORLD

With Thanksgiving Break fast approaching, the Americans on campus are getting prepped to celebrate Turkey Day. Yet, a large portion of the Western Reserve Academy student body is international, so it only makes sense to educate the community on Thanksgiving-type celebrations around the world.



MOON FESTIVAL - CHINA

The Moon Festival, though not really around the same date as Thanksgiving, is a similar celebration. The Moon Festival takes place on the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the Lunar Calendar. Like the turkey in Thanksgiving, the mooncake is the integral food in the Chinese Moon Festival. Though most of the mooncake fillings may seem strange to foreigners, to the Chinese people, they are rare delicacies.

PONGAL - INDIA

Pongal is a four-day celebration that takes place in Southern India. The first day of Pongal, known as Bhogi Pongal, is dedicated to Indra, god of rain and thunderstorms. Families make offerings to Indra in hopes that their crops will be watered. Also on this day is a tradition called Bhogi Mantalu. In this tradition, families throw their unnecessary possessions into a fire. The second day, called Surya Pongal, is a tribute to the sun god, Surya. A traditional dish called sarkkarai pongal, which features sugarcane sticks, banana and coconut, is enjoyed on this day. On the third day, Mattu Pongal, families give thanks to their animals for providing them with sustenance. Cows and Bulls are painted in bright colors on this day. Shepherds and farmers gather with their cattle in the town square. Cattle races and other events are held. The origin of this day comes from the legend of Shiva, who cursed his own cow, Basava, for delivering an incorrect message, and banished him to Earth. On the final day, Kaanum Pongal, people travel to visit their families and feast. The families give thanks for a plentiful harvest and enjoy the fruits of their labor.



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

ERNTEDANKFEST - GERMANY

Celebrated on the first Sunday in October, Erntedankfest is the German version of Thanksgiving. Though the traditional time date to celebrate is set on the first Sunday in October, the holiday is celebrated at various times. Unlike American Thanksgiving, there is no official observance of the holiday by the entire country. The celebration centers around the Church and the harvest. Types of celebration can vary greatly, but most people celebrate the holiday with a country-fair type atmosphere. Sermons, parades and singing all constitute the traditional Erntedankfest. The integral piece of the festival is the presentation of the harvest crown to the Harvest King and Queen. Like Americans, the Germans usually eat turkey during the celebration. Though the previous tradition was to eat goose, the Germans have taken after the Americans in recent years.

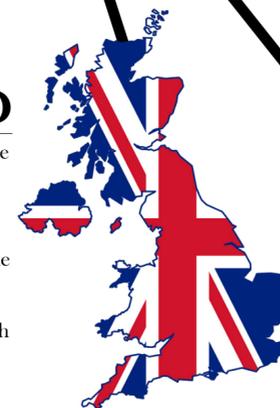


DAY OF THANKSGIVINGS - BRAZIL

Though it isn't an official national holiday, many Brazilians celebrate Dia de Ao de Graas on the fourth Tuesday of November. The tradition began when a Brazilian ambassador visited the U.S. during Thanksgiving. The ambassador was so enthused that the holiday was created in Brazil. The Day of Thanksgivings is meant to mirror American Thanksgiving, so all of the traditions are the same.

HARVEST FESTIVAL - ENGLAND

Long ago, British farmers celebrated the Harvest Festival by sacrificing an animal and the first ear of corn grown to a fertility god. Farmers would then use the corn husks to create dolls. These dolls were meant to protect the harvest, much like scarecrows in America. Nowadays, the Harvest Festival is much less brutal (no animals are sacrificed), but some traditions still remain. The Corn Dolls are still an essential part of the celebration, though they are no longer meant to guard the harvest. Instead, they are meant to be played with by the children. The festivities include a large feast, much like American Thanksgiving, which features much of the harvest from the growing season. Also, children traditionally take pieces of the harvest, like fruits and vegetables, and hand them out to workers at churches, schools and other public places. The Harvest Festival is no longer oriented solely around the harvest, but it is now more about community service and giving back to those in need.



TET TRUNG THU - VIETNAM

The Tet Trung Thu Festival is celebrated by the Vietnamese on the same day as the Chinese celebrate the Moon Festival, the fifteenth day of the eighth month of the Lunar cycle. Much like the Moon Festival, Tet Trung Thu is characterized by mooncakes. However, Tet Trung Thu is actually centered around children. Because parents spend much of their lives working and away from their kids, Tet Trung Thu is a day for parents to be with their children and to shower them with love. The Tet Trung Thu Festival also features a candlelit procession at dawn.



Athlete's Spotlight: Matt Waldeck

By STEVEN YANG '19

Matt Waldeck. Matty-Beatz. Call him whatever you like, but to the Western Reserve soccer community, he is just Matt. Although he appears to be an ordinary student, he is not an ordinary soccer player. After years of creating big plays and scoring mesmerizing goals, Waldeck positioned himself with the array of soccer greats who have gone through the soccer program during the sport's extensive history.

Waldeck has played soccer for thirteen years; his career started when he was four years old. At an early age, he knew that soccer was the best fit for him. "I've learned that there is nothing better than kicking a ball around," Waldeck remarked. Before coming to the school, Waldeck played for a local club outside of his hometown, Chicago. When playing for the team, he developed his personal skills that helped him as an attacking player. Playing club soccer served as a turning point in Waldeck's career. "Once I started to play club soccer, I realized that this is what I wanted to do." Getting to practice was tough at times, but Waldeck committed himself to becoming a better player and finding a way to get to the pitch. "In the summer, I would wake up at five in the morning and bike to the train station in Chicago," Waldeck noted. "After the train ride, I would bike out in the suburb in order to get to practice."

Waldeck's path to WRA had already been paved for him even before he was a freshman: his two older sisters previously attended the school. Once he arrived on campus, he had to let his club team go. However, his experience from playing at a young age earned him a spot on the varsity team his freshman year. From there, Waldeck had big shoes to fill.

His sister, Nicky Waldeck '13, considered a legend on the girl's team, placed herself as the top goal scorer in the program. She later went on to play college soccer at the University of Michigan. "Nicky is my biggest inspiration as a player. She has built an incredible legacy in which I would like to continue here at WRA. Currently, in my opinion, she is killing it at Michigan."

Waldeck has won a copious



DAN DORMAN

amount of games while at WRA. However, the best one came against long-time rival Walsh during his junior season. "I remember hearing rumors about how good Walsh's team was that year (and it was true, they were very good,) and we beat them 1-0. The goal was particularly memorable, and there was a lot of tension leading up to it. With about fifteen minutes to play in the game, Ryan Hassell '15 and I were in on a counter attack. I gave it over to Hassell, and he did the rest."

Waldeck has been a versatile player on the team. He prefers to play center forward, the main position he was put at this season. "I had always been an attacking player, but here at WRA, Coach Haller uses me almost everywhere except goalkeeper," Waldeck clarified. He enjoys the team aspect of the game. "Being a part of a team really is something special. Soccer is an escape. When you're with your teammates, it feels like they are a second family."

He embraces the aspect of being a leader on the team. "As a captain, I have really enjoyed working with

the younger guys on the team, and watching them grow as players and individuals." Waldeck attributes his leadership skills to his freshman season. "My freshman year was a very special season. Although I was not a key contributor to the team, it was amazing to be a part of that team because nobody could beat us, not even St. Ignatius."

Reflecting on this season, Waldeck stated that he knew that there were going to be bumps along the way. "This year, we were a very young team. Coming into the season, I knew it would not be easy. The starting line-up had a lot of deep holes to fill after the seniors of last year's team graduated. Despite our record, I think we've done well with our tough schedule."

Waldeck will be competing on the varsity hockey and lacrosse teams the rest of the year. He hopes to continue his education and soccer career at the collegiate level. "If I pursue division one soccer, I want to play at the University of Wisconsin-Madison," Waldeck commented.

Fall Season Comes To a Close

By JOEY RANDAZZO '17

Over the last few weeks the fall sports' season has come to a close for each team. Overall, it was a very successful season, with five of the six teams ending with a winning record. The final records for each team: Field Hockey: 8-8-2, Girls' Soccer: 8-8-2, Boys' Soccer: 8-6-2, Girls' Tennis: 16-3, Golf: 14-4, Volleyball: 3-21 and Football: 5-3

Cross country did not finish with statistics, as the sport does not traditionally keep a team record. However, both teams had notable seasons. For Elizabeth Downing '17, one meet stuck out in particular: their last meet of the year at the Sim Earich meet. "We were in the middle of the race and before we knew it there was snow falling from the sky," she told me, "but [we] still had PR's that day. A day in cross coun-

try is never complete without food and laughs with great teammates."

On the boys' side, team co-captain, Neel Ramakrishnan '16, commented that one of the meets that he looks back on most fondly is "The junior vs. rest of team meet." He noted that "a good amount of people came out to watch and we're grateful for that." Ramakrishnan also spoke highly of his coaches saying that "Señor Cheadle, Mr. Baldrige and Ms. Schnupp were all really fun to work with this year, and Señor Fraser was missed as always."

Jake Dachille '16 of the golf team, looks back on the season with humor. Dachille said that the times he most remembers from the season were "probably the countless times Owen Wiesner [16] used the wrong club and hit the ball into the group in front of him. He yelled

'fore' probably ten times all season."

At the fall athletic awards, celebrated on the afternoon of Monday, November 2, two student-athletes were recognized with the honor of the Gold Medal. The Gold Medal is the highest honor that an athlete can be awarded at Western Reserve Academy. Colt Roe '16 received a gold medal for his involvement and performance in the football program over the last four years as he has been an integral part to their recent successes. The second gold medal was given to Cristen Barnett '16 for her outstanding accomplishments as part of the field hockey program.

The Reserve Record would like to extend a warm congratulations to all the athletes recognized at the fall athletic awards ceremony, and all the teams on a great season. Well done!

Biomedical Research: A Meaningful Sport

By ALEC WILSON '16

While everyone puts on their cleats, straps on their shoulder pads or gets ready to hit some golf balls, a group of select students are in Wilson 216 participating in Biomedical Research and working with Biology teacher Dr. Robert Aguilar on cancer related projects. Each project is developed by individual groups that learn about the biology of cancer as they venture further into their research. The team of Blanca Lopez '16, Alec Wilson '16 and Anthony Rizk '16 are working on a project that involves citrus fruits and breast cancer. "We found a study online that says that citrus fruit helps reduce the chance of getting breast cancer," noted Lopez. The goal of Biomedical Research is to "do real world research here at Reserve" stated Aguilar. The idea came to him while finishing his graduate program at the Cleveland Clinic. Aguilar noted, "It benefits me and the students because it keeps me sharp and it shows students what cancer research is really all about."

The target group is sophomores,

as they already have the basic knowledge of biology from their freshman science requirement. It is important for students to start Biomedical Research as underclassmen so that they can develop their projects throughout the entirety of their WRA careers. Aguilar also mentions that "you can't do a one semester project and expect to win the Siemen's Science Fair." The more complex the project is, the higher the chance is to win an award. According to Aguilar, a thoroughly completed complex project requires "at minimum one year of dedicated time and research."

Biomedical Research is a unique alternative for students who are both interested in developing research projects and curious about cancer. It allows students to comprehend the knowledge that is critical for appreciating and developing research projects. Though not all projects are successful, the laboratory experience is the ultimate takeaway. Accepting failure with research projects is never the goal, but it is often the first step to finding success.

C-Squad Finishes Season Undefeated

By JOHN SMIDLEIN '19

On Saturday, October 17, the C-Squad boys soccer team did something unheard of: they finished the season undefeated. In the past, the C-Squad soccer team has focused on developing new players rather than winning games, but this year was different. Due to the strong freshman class, many experienced players were put on the C-squad team like top scorer, Tommy Wagner '19, who led the team with his exceptional play. "I believe our team broke so many records because of C-Squad's participation with the rest of the soccer program," noted Casey Semple '18, a C-Squad veteran.

Instead of practicing alone like past years, the C-Squad was integrated with all teams for practice. When asked about the unusual C-Squad success, Winger Danny La-Fontaine '19 elaborated on the simple yet effective strategy. "We truly play like a team as we move the ball well and score goals." According to Spenser Valentine '19, "Our coaches put us in the right positions which allowed us to score as much as possible and keep the opponents away from our goal."

Another instrumental player was team hero, Alex Lammers '19, who

scored a wonderful goal in the last minute of the Strongsville game. The C-Squad got off to a good start by beating their first opponent at home, one of the first times the C-Squad has started the season with a win. From the first game to the last, game, the players bonded during practice which showed up as team work on the field. "We worked so well together and played as a team because the guys who were in the games were always practicing with each other and had built great chemistry," observed Lammers.

The match against Strongsville was the hardest game C-Squad played during the season. There was great play all around by the Pioneers who faced a more skilled opponent in Strongsville. The difference in skill didn't stop the C-Squad's hard work, which eventually led to Lammers' last minute score off a cross by Wagner.

When word of the perfect season got out, Head of School Chris Burner '80 decided that the team had earned the community a break from the daily routine. On Friday, October 30, thanks to the C-Squad soccer team, WRA students had a half-day of school. All in all, the C-Squad had a tremendous season and should be proud of what they achieved this year.



TOMMY AWENDER

Studies Study Studying

By BRIGIE KELLEY '18

I would bet that most of us have heard the old adage, "Variety is the spice of life." I can hear my dad saying it to me as I write this—usually right before he wants me to try something new or exotic (code for "tastes awful but try it anyway").

Anyhow, there really is truth to the proverb and some pretty smart people besides my old man think so too.

Cognitive scientists have shown that our brains work in a very complex way and that there are better ways to study than the ways to which we've been conditioned. According to Benedict Carey, author of "How We Learn: The Surprising Truth About When, Where, and Why It Happens," changing locations while studying can stimulate brain activity, creating new associations and increasing memory. So, rather than sitting in a dorm room or the library for all of study hours every day of the week, students should move around and experience new scenery.

If we vary our studying environments—say, by hitting the books

in the Green Key or Open Door or even Lulu's rather than squirreling ourselves away in the same old stud room in the library or in our dorm rooms—we can make our young minds razor sharp. And who does not want that as we sit through standardized examinations that dictate which great university we will attend?

So by the logic of Carey and other experts, we should be allowed to move out of dorms and libraries if WRA wants us to achieve the best grades and standardized test scores.

I suggest that we petition to the Administration for permission to study somewhere other than the mandated library or our respective dorm rooms? Arguably, it is in our best interest as students to allow us to change up the landscape in which we study—variety truly is the spice of life and it's proven that we learn better when the locations of our studying are periodically changed.

So when the choice is up to me, I will be picking Open Door Coffee Co. with a side of Lulu's frozen yogurt to further my productivity and make my study time a little more eventful.

WRA Teaches Safe Sex



CHARLES VOSMIK

By PETER CAMPANELLI '18

Western Reserve Academy has zero sex education, which creates more danger than students having sex on campus.

Dr. Lindsey Doe '00 visited WRA to remedy this situation earlier this month. Dr. Doe is a sexologist, someone who studies human sexuality. She has a private practice and also uploads YouTube videos each week on her channel "Sexplanations" (as of writing time she has 190,866 subscribers).

Dr. Doe was thoroughly surprised that the majority of the students in attendance, despite being upperclassmen, did not know or did not have any formal education on how their bodies and the bodies of others work. Upon hearing that sex education is no longer taught in freshman biology, Dr. Doe came close to tears.

Dr. Doe advised students not to have sex on campus for three reasons: to rule out all possibility of an unwanted pregnancy, to significantly reduce the risk of sexually transmitted infections and to respect WRA. The student handbook also prohibits "sexual intimacy," and students receive "disciplinary action" if they are caught.

Students who knowingly break this rule are responsible for any con-

sequences from WRA, but also for the safety of themselves and others. Despite this, WRA students break and will continue to break this rule; teens will be teens. The true problem here is the lack of means for students who want to have safe, protected sex. Yes, they would still be breaking school rules, but there would be doing so with a lesser risk of an unwanted pregnancy or a sexually transmitted infection.

This is where the health center and administration need to step in. The administration needs to understand that providing accessible contraception, such as condoms, is necessary for the safety of all WRA students. They also need to advertise that contraception is available. Providing condoms will not make any more students have sex; rather, it will only significantly decrease the number of students who are having unsafe sex. The health center also needs to tell all students that tests for sexually transmitted infections are available through a simple appointment.

Lastly, the school should hold health seminars that educate about the human body, the reproductive system, contraception and sexually transmitted infections. If done right, proper sex education leads to a safer, more mature campus.

Ohio Interprets Results of Issue 3

By MADISON CLARK-BRUNO '16

On November 3, active Ohio voters voted no on Issue 3. Issue 3 would have allowed ten monopoly businesses around the state of Ohio to grow and sell marijuana to Ohioans over the age of twenty-one. If this had passed, Ohio would have been the only state to skip the step of legalizing medicinal marijuana, and going straight to it being legal for the general public. Although one would assume that our modern society would jump in favor of this Amendment, Issue 3 was turned down by voters. When the Amendment was introduced, it was expected to pass with a majority vote. But as election day approached, the majority turned into a close race, finally falling into a minority. The final results were 2:1, for every person who voted yes, two people voted no.

As a whole, Western Reserve Academy's eligible voters were against the legalization. Why? Well, if the Amendment were to pass, one of the ten growing establishments would be located in Summit county. The administration felt that if marijuana would be legal and more accessible, it would put the students at a higher risk of making bad—and considering the age group of our students, still illegal—decisions.

Although they may not be wrong, I would like to highlight the benefits that would have come if the Amendment had passed. For our environmentalists, by passing Issue 3, it would be legal to grow hemp in Ohio, thus lowering the prices of hemp products that are both healthy for consumption and the environment. Unlike cotton, the leading crop killing the south,



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

hemp which neutralizes the soil, will not erode fields. And for those who don't know, hemp does not contain THC, making it safe for all ages to consume and use.

Marijuana often becomes harmful due to the "black market" in which suppliers mix dangerous substances into the product. Another major benefit resulting from the Amendment would be that the marijuana being grown would be natural, traceable and not mixed with other harmful drugs. All ten of the growers across Ohio would have to regulate the strands of marijuana they grow, so if a person who is under the legal age is found with marijuana, authorities would be able to trace the drug back to what grow site is producing it. The threat of getting marijuana mixed with some other dangerous substance would

then also decrease.

Above all, the legalization of marijuana in Ohio would directly benefit those who have medical conditions. It is used for chronic pain relief for senior citizens, veterans and others, instead of prescription drugs, because marijuana is less harmful to the body and is not addictive. Studies have shown that medicinal marijuana can prevent seizures in people with epilepsy.

If the general public had known of the array of benefits that would come from legalization, perhaps the stigma of marijuana would disappear and the ways it can positively affect our health and environment would shine. Though Issue 3 did not pass this year, Responsible Ohio is already forming a new amendment that will be on the ballot for next year's election.

Lopez Review: Domi-yes or Domino's?

By MARCOS LOPEZ '16

I do not even know where to begin when I start to reflect on all my positive experiences with this prestigious dining establishment. Let me make this clear: Domino's is not your average pizza delivery chain store. They shine with originality, variety, professionalism, convenience and flavor. Their menu ranges from all sorts of pizzas, pastas, chicken and hot subs to breadsticks and desserts. All of their pizzas are handcrafted with the freshest toppings, layered with the finest cheeses, smothered in the most exquisite marinara sauce and rimmed with a garlicky, golden brown crust, baked to perfection. Have I begun to make you salivate with hunger? Well, I haven't even started: let me elaborate.

I also highly recommend their gourmet pastas. These pastas come either in a dish or in a hot but not burning, crispy but not rough, buttery but not overly sweet bread bowl. My favorite is the chicken alfredo pasta, but I encourage you to explore! Our Spaniard friend from across the Atlantic Ocean, Mario Marset-Ehrle '16, stated, "Holy ****, best money to pleasure ratio of any service I've ever had in my life!" Evidence of Domino's high reputation can be found anywhere.

I am currently a rewards member for Domino's. The benefits include



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

faster delivery, better deals and the occasional free pizza. They have memorized my dorm and name. When I think of Domino's, it's not just the pizza that comes to mind, but the people as well. Domino's has a refined staff that treats their customers like royalty. They always ask about my day, catching up with me and making sure I am doing okay. Such quality people are hard to come by. Domino's is not just my favorite pizza place, but they are also my friends. God knows I could use more of them since mine seem to be dropping like flies.

On a different note, I regret to

tell you Domino's single flaw. As you already know, I am not one to hold back the truth. That being said, Domino's hot subs are utterly disgusting. They are among some of the most atrocious things that have ever entered my mouth. But despite their poor excuse of a sub, Domino's is still loaded with a plethora of delicious foods! Their online ordering service is beyond our time. Their prices and deals are unbeatable. Domino's is just an overall excellent establishment. I hope the next time you sink your teeth into a slice of Domino's pizza, you think of me, Marcos Lopez.



Tall People: Benefits of Being Vertically Inclined



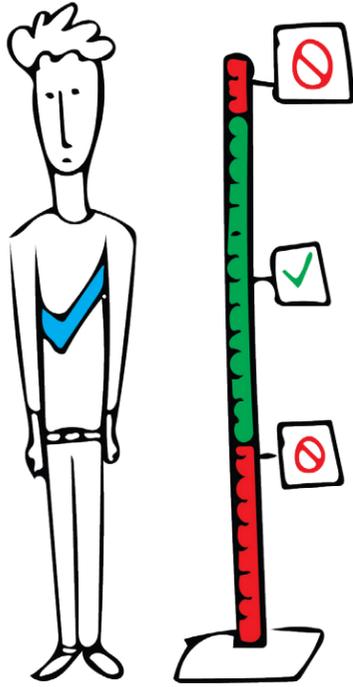
By ALEC WILSON '16

There is no doubt that being tall is fun. Your presence is always noticeable when you enter a room, you are always a help when getting boxes off the top shelf, and your speedy strides allow you to walk more quickly than everyone else. But is there any real benefit to standing a bit taller?

I say: Yes, there is a definite advantage. A greater height can actually lead to an increased income. Chitra Ramaswamy of *The Atlantic* wrote, "It is estimated that a six foot tall man is likely to earn \$150,000 more in a 30-year career than someone who is 5 feet 4 inches." Without any regard to intelligence, the sheer height of a man can determine how much dough he can rake in each year.

One thing that I personally hate being asked is, "Do you play basketball?" I can see why anyone who knows the sport may assume that I or anyone else above six feet tall would play basketball. Athletes like Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson

and Larry Bird surpass the six foot mark by at least six inches. However, this goes for practically every sport—basketball is no exception. There can always be an advantage to being the tallest player; whether you are the nimble goalie, the long stroked swimmer or the serving tennis player, height rarely comes



at a disadvantage. However, there are some activities where height can become a problem. I can never be a horse jockey or a crew coxswain. And if I grow another inch, I will be unable to ride the Top Thrill Dragster, Millennium Force or Maverick at Cedar Point.

In addition to all of the noticeable benefits of being tall, there are

many things that cannot be measured as easily. It is empowering to be tall. The reason for that is partially because of how tall people carry themselves. Tall people tend to hold themselves higher, walk with a straighter back, hold down their broad shoulders and keep their chin high. All of these things show authority and maturity. Though people with a height advantage do not always knowingly do this, these are all reasons why their presence is so noticeable.

To become tall takes immense amounts of hormones. These hormones are also prominent for the effects of metabolism. Teenagers, especially tall ones, have a metabolism that can work wonders. While writing this article I have consumed an entire bag of Fritos and two liters of Arnold Palmer. When I go to class tomorrow, no one will notice how many calories I have devoured. But it also takes more food to make me feel full.

Tall people tend to hold themselves higher, walk with a straight back, hold down their broad shoulders and keep their chin high.

On the note of eating junk food, you would expect that because we towering sasquatches eat in immense amounts, we have a higher risk of having future heart prob-



lems. The *New England Journal of Medicine* published an article that said the opposite. For adults, every 2.5 inches that you are under 5'3" increases your risk of heart disease by 13.5%. Regardless of how much running or eating one does, genes can be the greatest or the worst thing for your heart. The leading cause of death among people with dwarfism (4'10") are heart related problems.

I do not often come across serious problems being tall. At most there are day to day things that are just annoying. I am always at least four inches above the shower head, and I have smacked my head on the Woodhouse doorway countless times. Also, more often than not, I can never seem to find my size in shoes or pants in stores and I have to lay diagonally in my Bicknell bed to fit snugly.

But there are plenty of day to day benefits that brighten my day.

I never have to worry about sitting behind someone tall in the movie theater, I give monstrous hugs, I am very good at picking apples and changing light bulbs, I can very comfortably walk up a flight of stairs two steps at a time and I can play the piano and guitar more easily with my long fingers.

Height is only a measurement. It does not determine how many friends that you have or how happy you are. Though there are some things that may make one seem more favorable than the other, it is nothing in comparison to the things that truly make a difference. How you live your life is only influenced by your values and your hospitality, not a number recorded on a wall. Tall people, don't forget that on the inside we are all at equal eye level. Short people, try not to get stepped on, and remember that maybe you just haven't hit your growth spurt yet.

Short People: Less Height, Fewer Problems



By EMILY CREMER '16

I have always been one of the shortest kids among my friends. Whenever teachers would line up all the students in my class according to height, I always trudged myself to the back of the line, because I always knew immediately that I would be nowhere up front with the tall kids. Throughout my life, I have had to deal with the downsides of my petite 5'1" self. For instance, I am always the prime target for foreboding elbows: other people tend to use my head and shoulders as an armrest (an extracurricular activity that unfortunately, I cannot put on the CommonApp). But despite these difficulties, over time I have learned to embrace my height, and as a result, it has become a major part of who I am today. So to all my fellow short friends wallowing in armrest-misery, listen up:

there are definite advantages to being vertically challenged, and we all need to take full advantage of these privileges.

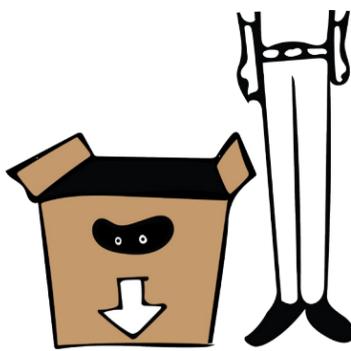
As a small person, I always have more room and am more comfortable than someone your average height. Whenever I am on a plane, bus, train, or any other mode of transportation that has a seat, I can always sit comfortably and enjoy an endless oasis of legroom. I do not find myself as cramped and congested as a 6'0" counterpart. I fit perfectly into most spaces, and I can sleep pleasantly while the giants of the world attempt to fold themselves into a space half their size. Furthermore, my small stature allows me to easily curl up into a seat to find optimum comfort. I have an array of options when it comes to

Short height can also come to great use when playing games. As an experienced hide-and-go-seek player, I know that a tiny physique can allow one to "hide" in the smallest of places.

how to situate my body: there's the little baby fetus curl, the half lotus, the legs-in-the-air-just-don't-care...I

can get as creative as I want.

Financially, being on the shorter side has advantages, as well. I think all the short people in the world enjoy shopping for clothes in the



much cheaper, just-as-nice, kid's size clothing section. If you are lucky enough to be a certain size, whenever you are at a store, you may find yourself in the "Kids" section at a store and able to take advantage of the lower prices. Sometimes you may also be fortunate and receive a discount because your size is misleading and they assume you are a kid (pigtails and pink help). This completely transforms the shopping experience. You're no longer begrudgingly buying a \$20 hoodie, you're being a sly rebel, slipping through the cracks, cheating through the system, and screaming "mommy" to get the price you deserve.

But in a way, it's not just an act: short people have the great advan-

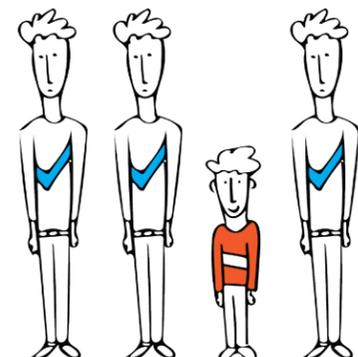
tage of forever looking young. This benefit is overlooked since we are all already young (because teenagers always want to look older and every age after that era wants to look like a teenager), but I know I will be grateful later on. When I'm 40 and craving the days of my youth, I will still get carded at restaurants and other establishments, and feel like a teenager again.

There's still more: given our short stature and relative closeness to the ground, short people have a low center of gravity and are not as prone to falling over. As I watch models take forever to fall to the ground on the runway (it's such a long journey from their heads to the floor), I can smile, knowing that even if I do ever fall, it will not be nearly as dramatic/scary/prolonged. I never have to be worried about standing out too much from a group of people, or awkwardly teetering over others. Short people

can successfully complete various acrobatic maneuvers and still stay on our feet. This is evident in gymnastics, as many of the competitors take full advantage of their short stature.

Short height can also come to great use when playing games. As an experienced hide-and-go-seek player, I know that a tiny physique can allow one to "hide" in the smallest of places. A nook or cranny which may seem too small for an average-sized person is our haven as we snuggle in and become invisible to the taller world. Our advantages with games even extends to "Limbo": even the smallest of heights is not a great challenge for us.

So to all my fellow 5'1" and under, you should own your height; we have it pretty good. And if you're taller and reading this, I hope you feel very, very jealous and you think about that the next time you try to rest your elbow on my head.



Uber and Airbnb: The Future of Consumerism



By ADAM YANKAY

Gig-economy services like Uber and Airbnb have emerged in our down economy, giving jobs and income to people seeking them in their current forms and services to people who have determined that they need them. Consenting adults have entered into at-will contracts, exchanged services for money and gone on their way in further pursuit of life, liberty and happiness.

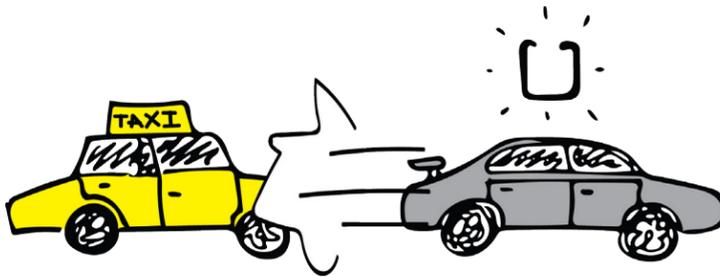
There are two simple reasons why customers choose Uber: 1) it's cheaper and 2) it's a better experience. Why do people work for Uber? They choose their own hours. They are fairly compensated for their work. A Benenson Strategy group survey of Uber drivers revealed: 78% of drivers are very satisfied or somewhat satisfied with Uber, 71% report an income boost and 74% of drivers say that Uber has made their life more enjoyable due to the flexible hours. Only 5% disagree with the last statement. If Uber drivers are not unhappy with their working conditions, who are

we to force legal restraints upon them? Who is pushing for them?

In New York, Uber and other ride-sharing services have come under siege from multi-million dollar taxi companies, their unionized drivers and the politicians funded by those well-established groups who have realized that their cabal is in danger and competition cannot be tolerated. Similarly, Airbnb has been threatened with litigation by the city of San Francisco at the behest of billion dollar corporate hotels for allowing residents to offer their homes to travelers in need of a bed. I'm sure the motivations are now clear to you. According to these corporations and politicians, gig-economy companies are "exploiting workers" and jeopardizing "customer safety." You know, the same way that happens when you give a friend a ride home and he gives you gas money. This is the same kind of legal reasoning that forbids Sally

There are two simple reasons why customers choose Uber: 1) it's cheaper and 2) it's a better experience.

from working a lemonade stand in her front yard for too long without paying for a health inspection. (Students, you'll have to ask your parents about a time when it was legal for you to make lemonade in your kitchen, sell it to people pass-



ing by, and for them to purchase it from you. Scary, wild times, right?) Are Uber customers worried that the driver might have been working for more than 8 hours or that the car hasn't been legally designated as a "taxi" or that his insurance might not be sufficient or that any of these endangers them? Obviously not. Uber's success is evident. In other words, those "protections" that were supposedly demanded by a citizenry in fear of being victimized, are revealed to be a sham. People who are free to choose between government certified "safety" and Uber, often choose Uber.

What we are seeing played out in modern times, is the more-than-a-century-old Supreme Court case, *Lochner v. New York*. In 1895, New York issued a law proclaiming that no bakery employee should be allowed to work more than 10 hours a day and 60 hours each week. While the premise of this legislation was to protect workers from evil, exploitative employers, it was actually backed and supported in the usual way (campaign donations, etc.) by large corporate bakeries whose goals were to both satisfy their workers'

union and drive the smaller bakeries out of business. It was opposed by one Joseph Lochner, owner of a small, family-run bakery which, in order to stay in operation, required his family members and employees to sometimes work longer than 10 hours on days, if not more than 60 hours in some weeks. The majority opinion supported Lochner, suggesting that it was wrongful for the government to interfere with the right of individuals to freely associate and enter into contract with each other.

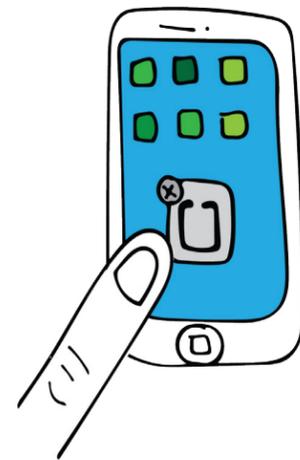
In his dissent, Justice Holmes stat-

The success of Uber and Airbnb tell the story. Consumers and workers prefer freedom of association over the Hobbesian leviathan of the nanny state.

ed his belief in the "right of a majority to embody their opinion in law." Holmes concludes: "I think that the word liberty in the 14th Amendment is perverted when it

is held to prevent the natural outcome of a dominant opinion." If Holmes is correct, then I have mistakenly thought that our Constitution guaranteed the rights and freedoms of individuals and minorities against the tyranny of the majority.

Consider that both of these beliefs that must be held in majority opinion for *Lochner* to have been so abandoned as it is today and for



Uber drivers to be subjected to the shake-down suggested in New York: 1) people cannot be trusted to make mutually beneficial decisions of association; 2) government (ironically made up of people) is uniquely capable of determining which of these associations and the manner in which they are carried out is "safe." For the time being, the jury is in. The success of Uber and Airbnb tell the story. Consumers and workers prefer freedom of association over the Hobbesian leviathan of the nanny state.

The Gig-Economy: The Next Harmful Monopoly



By NICK CHEADLE

In an ever-growing number of urban centers across the globe, simply pulling out your smartphone and tapping the screen a handful of times brings an Uber curbside within mere minutes, ready to take you wherever you need to go at a generally affordable price. No one is going to argue that this is not convenient. The mixture of a sleek app and immediate satisfaction prove a winning combination for a host of consumers in 2015 and this car-service is just one of the multitude of goods and services increasingly provided through what we will refer to as the gig-economy. While all may be tinted rose at first sight (or the ambient blue of your smartphone screen, whichever you prefer), if we do not take the time to analyze the structural complications and the long-term consequences in store should this "gig-economy" grow further, we are doing society and therefore ourselves a great dis-service.

Simply put, the gig-economy is in severe conflict with the current structures of the American welfare state and is therefore harmful both to the individuals involved and to the economic well-being of our society at large. The surge of these unregulated commercial activities contributes to the deterioration of a valuable employer-employee relationship and all the benefits that the state, under our current system, chooses to bestow upon individuals via their employer. This type of commerce is the latest iteration of a decades old trend that is harming the middle class in America. While

If nothing is done to combat apps from becoming the new multinationals, we can only expect the increased deterioration of employment rights and job security

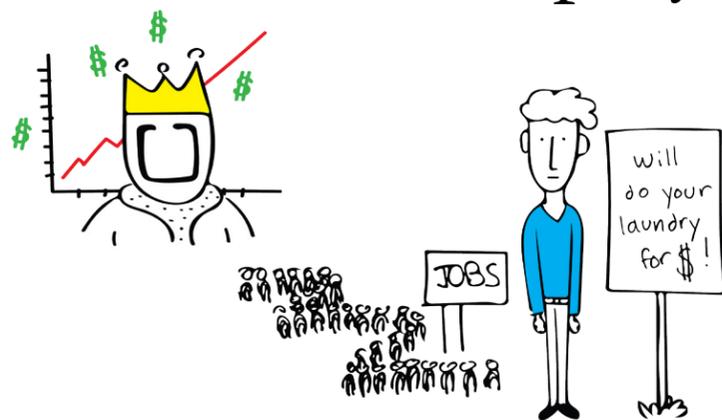
the possible solutions are numerous and diverse, action must be taken soon to ensure that the state upholds its promise to protect and provide for its citizens.

The growing gig-economy denies millions of people who might otherwise be fully employed in comfort and security, and places them on a tightrope, high in the air, with a very shabby safety net below. A citizen who makes their earnings in the gig-economy does not have access to the innumerable benefits pro-

vided in our current system via the employer-employee relationship such as, but not limited to, wage security, health insurance, retirement benefits, paid sick and vacation days and a significant portion of unemployment pay should the employee be laid off. This June, the California Labor Commissioner recognized these issues regarding Uber in particular and declared that all of its "contractors" now be considered "employees" under the law, requiring Uber to provide them with the types of benefits listed above.

You may now be asking, if working in the gig-economy provides so few benefits, why would someone choose to do so? The temptation seems clear enough: flexible hours. One can choose when they work, with whom and how much (to a point) they want to make. Neoliberal marketing would make it seem that driving an Uber on the weekend or renting out your extra room on Airbnb is just the ticket you need to staying in control of your own economic destiny; however this view is incredibly shortsighted as it neglects to mention the lack of essential benefits that are being implicitly denied and the negative effect this has on the entire economic community. A society is, after all, only as rich as its poorest citizen.

It is essential that we not see this latest trend in commerce as one isolated to the tech-boom, but rather one that began decades ago in the 1970's as major corporations began to outsource much of their neces-



sary labor. The Uberization of the economy is therefore simply the next iteration of big companies shirking the responsibilities they have to their employees. It is important here to note the strong correlation between and increased level of outsourcing and the steady decline of the American middle class. Venture capitalist Nick Hanauer and labor leader David Rolf point out that the outsourcing trend "... has evolved beyond what anyone imagined: Companies began to see themselves as thin, Uber-like slivers standing between customers on one side and their work forces on the other." If nothing is done to combat apps from becoming the new multinationals, we can only expect the increased deterioration of employment rights and job security—in short, a future of even greater inequality.

In closing, if we can no longer rely on employers to provide benefits to their employees, we must either create laws that force them to

do so, as is being attempted in California with Uber, or we must fully disconnect such benefits as health insurance and retirement from the employer-employee relationship and put them in the hands of the government alone. The former seems retroactive and quite frankly unfeasible. The only way therefore that I can imagine the gig-economy serving both consumers and workers is for the government to ensure all citizens, regardless of their employment, basic human rights such as health care, a reliable salary and paid leave. Perhaps the augmented inequality that will undoubtedly result from continued outsourcing and "gigging" will be severe enough to motivate citizens and politicians to dissociate basic rights from employment. Until then, let us be conscious of the precarious position in which so many people who work in the gig economy find themselves and perhaps reconsider before tapping the U on our smartphone screens.

Plane Crashes in Egypt

By HARRY KANG '17

On October 31, a devastating plane crash killed 224 passengers onboard Metrojet Flight 9268. The debris was strewn around the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt, a geopolitically unstable region. Approximately twenty minutes after departure, Flight 9268 disappeared from radar after a decrease in airspeed. So far, it is the deadliest plane crash of 2015, and the most fatal involving the Airbus A320.

What is scarier than the crash itself, however, is perhaps the reason behind it. The experts are yet to find what happened after its disappearance from radar. Right after this tragic situation, the Islamic State's Sinai branch claimed responsibility for the incident—ISIS has not, so far, claimed responsibility for an attack they did not commit. The cockpit voice recorder and

flight data recorder both indicated a loud, explosive noise, and the body of a child found 5 miles away from the crash site evinced that the plane disintegrated mid-air. An American satellite detected an infrared flash at the time of the incident. Officials in both the U.S. and Egypt are now pointing to a bomb as the main cause of the crash, but they say that other causes are not been ruled out. The same aircraft suffered a tailstrike years ago, leading to a hypothesis that incorrect repair of the rear pressure bulkhead could lead to explosive decompression and catastrophic failure.

This incident echoes the dangers of flying aircrafts near unstable regions, another flight, MH17, was shot down over eastern Ukraine by pro-Russian rebels. But if it is confirmed that ISIS committed the attack, it would escalate their terrorism to another level.



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

Potential Alien Artifact Found by Telescope

By JULIA KING '19

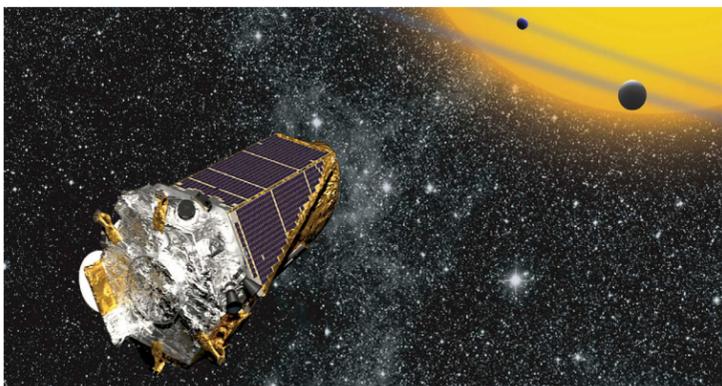
Recently, scientists have found information near an extrasolar star system that might lead to a possible alien discovery. The Kepler Space Telescope has observed transit photometry pattern anomalies. In a normal star system, exoplanets can be found when the light intensity from a star dips in regular intervals due to orbiting planets that block part of the flux as they pass between the telescope and the star. It has been discovered, however, that the star “flickers in a highly unusual way as if something is observing it,” which has led us to believe that there might be a connection with extraterrestrial life; this is the only data we have from this star system.

The KIC 8462852 is a star more than 1,400 light years from Earth. Strange blob-like masses have been discovered around the star that block off some of the light, dimming parts of the star. These blobs are not planets because they do not have a regular orbit pattern, and the star's age rules out the commonly accepted hypothesis that dust clouds contribute to this phenomenon. This leaves another possible explanation, that the cause of the light distortion is a Dyson sphere—

a series of solar panels orbiting the star to harvest energy which was built by an advanced civilization. Thus there is a possibility aliens could build a “megastructure”.

There is a theory that seems to be a more likely explanation of this phenomenon that does not involve aliens or anything of that nature at all. In this study, the researchers noted: “When a star is oblate, it has a larger radius at its equator than it does at either of its poles. As a result, the poles have a higher surface gravity, and thus higher temperature and brightness. Thus, the poles are ‘gravity brightened,’ and the equator ‘gravity darkened.’ The star becomes oblate (and hence gravity darkening occurs) because the centrifugal force resulting from rotation creates additional outward pressure on the star.”

Although this explanation seems to be the most reasonable, the Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) Institute is making further investigations. There is a good degree of uncertainty about this discovery and many theories about it. There is no definite evidence of other intelligent life forms and the search continues to find these “alien” forms. What do you think? Could this possibly be extraterrestrial activity?



WIKIPEDIA

The Kepler Space Telescope, designed to find habitable exoplanets.

Doctors Without Borders Hospital Destroyed in American Airstrike



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

By ZANNA LECIEJEWSKI '17

On October 3, tragedy struck Kunduz, Afghanistan. The United States military bombed a Doctors Without Borders hospital during an airstrike that they claimed was targeted against the Taliban. The military knew nothing of the hospital working with Doctors Without Borders, also known by its French name: *Médecins Sans Frontières* (MSF). President Obama himself apologized to Joanne Liu, president of MSF, commenting that he would ensure “transparent, thorough and objective accounting of the facts.” The latest death toll now stands at thirty, which includes thirteen staff members and ten patients; the other seven have not been identified so far.

However, an apology cannot cover the very real impact of the bombing. In order to better understand the impact of this, one must understand the organization's philosophy. MSF's main beliefs of independence and impartiality mean that the organization goes to war torn or impoverished countries and gives medical help to all, no mat-

ter their side or beliefs. The sign on the hospital in Kunduz reads that MSF provides treatment “without regard to their ethnicity or political affiliations...No fee charged” Private donors fund the organization, giving rare chances for this charity to support struggling countries.

The U.S. military initially claimed that the attack was used to support American ground forces; this was later changed to say that Afghan forces requested air support, and that the hospital was hit mistakenly in the process.

However, the organization tells a different story of the bombing. It was the only hospital of its kind in Northeastern Afghanistan, able to provide high-quality care and surgery to many, and is now unoperational. MSF says that the hospital's coordinates were given to all sides in the conflict, and that it was reconfirmed with U.S. forces a few days before the bombing. A press release there also reads that MSF notified the military officials that they were bombing a hospital 30 minutes after the airstrike began, but the

bombing continued for almost another half hour, as an AC-130 gunship raked the facility with heavy cannon fire every ten minutes.

In response to Obama's statement, Liu, on behalf of the whole association, replied, “we reiterate our ask that the US government consent to an independent investigation led by the International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission to establish what happened in Kunduz, how it happened, and why it happened,” in addition to the U.S., Afghan and NATO investigations.

One doctor, who stood witness to the bombing, said “I have no words to express this. It is unspeakable.” MSF also recently tweeted about the independent investigation, writing, “If #Kunduz dismissed as ‘mistake’ or ‘fog of war’ then other #MSF projects, patients at risk.”

The bombing, although it could not have been stopped under the circumstances, could have been lessened. In thirty minutes it took lives of doctors and unprotected patients in Kunduz. Now, only time will tell the fate of this tragedy's judgement.

New Canadian Prime Minister

By MANAS SRINIVASIAH '18

A new change is coming in from the north, and no, it is not more Canadian geese, it is something significant. On October 19, Canada held its forty-second election. It was the culmination of a 78-day campaign, the longest since the 19th century. It may seem ironic that they consider this a long campaign, but to their credit, they have managed to pack a lot into those 78 days. Among the many candidates, as Canada is a parliamentary democracy, the three party leaders in this election were incumbent Stephen Harper, Justin Trudeau and Tom Mulcair. There were of course candidates that had to drop out, such as a local Conservative candidate Jerry Bance, who was caught on video urinating in a homeowner's mug before placing it back in the sink.

As election day came closer, the NDP party was third, Stephen Harper's Conservative Party was second and Justin Trudeau of the Liberal Party was first in the polls. This foreshadowed the loss of the Harper government in the election that was to come.

The lack of a term limit in Canada has allowed Harper to remain in power for almost ten years and



CANADIAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION

Justin Trudeau and his Liberal Party swept to power in an easy win.

during those ten years he has held unpopular positions for Canada's liberal populace—weakening environmental protection, such as the Kyoto Protocol, a pro-Israel foreign policy and a bill that scaled back health care for refugees. This type of government and the era of government that Harper represents, has now been defeated by the liberals.

On Election Day, Trudeau and his fellow liberals managed to win the majority of seats in parliament, capturing 54% of the votes. He is the first president to represent this generation, and this was reflected in the fact that he captured votes

of most of the younger population. And much like his father, who was also a prime minister of Canada (Pierre Trudeau), he is a progressive leader seeking positive change in the country.

Already as prime minister he has notified the United States that he will be pulling Canadian warplanes from the bombing campaign in the Middle East, and this is just the cusp of what he might do for the country. The next four years of his term will reflect the decision of Canada and whether or not he will rise to the expectations set before him.