

THE CAMPANILE

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

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Seniors network with alumnae in NYC

By Brenna Reilly '18

Mount seniors hit the Big Apple on November 16! Each year twelve seniors are invited to New York City to take part in the Mount's New York Initiative where they meet with a diverse group of Mount alumnae who share some aspects of their prestigious careers and the various paths they took to find themselves in the positions they hold today.

This year Nina Chae-Gordon, Maddie Feeney, Zoe Ferraro, Lizzie Friel, Caroline Hladik, Danielle Hughes, Becca Koestler, Claudia Langella, Bridget Malott, Maeve McCormick, Mollie Mullen and Jacquelyn Nyzio were selected to participate.

Alumnae Director Mrs. Theresa Moyer said, "The Initiative provides the girls with wonderful alumnae contacts for internships and networking."

"Some of the alums' jobs are unique where it encourages our students to think outside of the box regarding career," added guidance counselor Ms. Marybeth Competelli, who accompanied the girls on the trip.

Each year the girls are met by Mount alumna Kate McCauley Hathaway '71, mother of renowned actress Anne Hathaway, who is very involved in the coordinating and organizing of the event itself.

Hathaway introduced the idea of the Initiative to the Mount in 2011, and it was brought to life in 2013. Her husband, an alumni of LaSalle College High School, was involved in a similar event at LaSalle, and she was interested in giving Mount girls the same opportunity. Today, Hathaway works closely with the Mount to coordinate presenters and the itinerary for the day.

The alumnae present for the event this year included Elizabeth Bouquard '02, Vice President of Institutional Equity Sales at Citibank; Karen Bronster '96, who previously worked in the luxury sector in Human Resources at Louis Vuitton Moët Hennessy in their perfumes and cosmetics division and Procter & Gamble

in their luxury fragrance division and now stays home with her daughters Eden and Beatrice; and Kerry Roman Columbro '06, who works in a Marketing Strategy position at TD Ameritrade where she focuses on digital marketing including media budget management, creative strategy and technology and innovation initiatives. Other notable alumnae that participated in the Initiative this year are Elle Hagedorn '09, a Broadcast Associate on the Features team at CBS This Morning; Susan Horan '99, who recently began a new branch of

Presenters in the past have included an attorney at Ralph Lauren, CEOs from Jefferies and Co. and JP Morgan, a journalist from FOX News, a Director from The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, a criminal investigator for NYC Forensic Biology Department, investment bankers, commercial real estate brokers, actresses, producers and so many more.

The students usually begin the day with a panel of Mount alumnae each of whom discusses her own career path and a summary of her job. The panel is followed

was definitely hearing from the alums, particularly Elle Hagedorn, who played basketball at Harvard. It was so interesting hearing about how being a student athlete has influenced her career," said Maddie Feeney.

In some years, the girls have had the opportunity to visit and take tours of various locations throughout New York City including NBC Studios and Lincoln Center. They have even toured and sat in on a taping at Fox News Studios.

This year, the students visited the United Nations Women Office

girls around the globe, Mlambo-Ngcuka said, "Going to school should not be an act of bravery for girls."

"This really struck me because I had never thought about it this way. Girls in third-world countries have to worry about being shot just for going to school everyday. That is such a terrifying way to live. Either worry about dying or do not attend school. This is why everyone in the world should fight for gender equality, so little girls do not have to drop out of school to avoid being murdered, but can attend school, receive an education, and change the world," reflected Maeve McCormick.

"For me, the chance to go to the UN Women Headquarters was awe-inspiring and humbling. As someone who has closely followed the HeForShe campaign, being able to meet the organizer of this campaign was mind-blowing. The work they do to help women both in the United States and around the globe is so important to helping our generation and the next to achieve equal rights," said McCormick.

The Initiative has already expanded to Philadelphia and hopefully will expand to Washington DC in the future.

The New York Initiative is an opportunity like no other offered at the Mount. Many girls who participate in the event strongly encourage underclassmen to apply.

"Overall, the NYC Initiative was a riveting and wonderful experience. I highly recommend it for younger girls. It is a great opportunity to reach out to Mount sisters and see the impact the Mount has made in their lives after high school and college," said McCormick.

"Having the chance to network with alumni that have such great connections and are willing to help any Mount student is of immeasurable importance," said Caroline Hladik.



Mount seniors pose in New York City with Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka; Kate McCauley Hathaway '71; and Senior Advisor to the Executive Director of UN Women and Head of the HeForShe campaign, Elizabeth Nyamayaro.

her career as a DNA Specialist with the Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, the first position of its kind in New York State; Lisa Kampf Lopez '85, a Managing Director of Investor Relations at Ambac Financial; and Emily Walker Reynolds '07, a researcher at NBC for Megyn Kelly.

by a question and answer session.

Danielle Hughes shared a popular theme of the day: "Just say yes. Accept a job even if it isn't your dream job." [An alumna] explained that you have to start somewhere and you never know where an opportunity may lead!"

"My favorite part of the day

es and met with the Executive Director of UN Women, Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, as well as the head of the HeForShe campaign, Elizabeth Nyamayaro, for a presentation on the Four Key Pillars of UN Women.

In response to how difficult getting an education can be for

Women as Founders Week highlights work for social justice

By Claudia Langella '18

The 4th Annual Women as Founders Week spanned from Monday, Nov. 27 to Friday, Dec. 1.

The week was a culmination of the senior seminar course Women as Founders (WAF).

"I enjoyed working with the seniors," said moderator Mrs. Paula Soley, "and look forward to the completion of the remaining projects."

Moderator Mrs. Katie Kennedy, who served as a mentor to a number of the girls, was also inspired by the seniors' enthusiasm.

"It is exciting to see new ideas and programs, as well as the continuation of previous programs with a new, creative vision," she said. "It is energizing to hear how the students incorporated the aca-

dem portion of the course into their project concepts, both from my portion and the work of my esteemed colleagues."

The first semester of the WAF course educates students on the power of feminism in the face of injustice. Guided by their mentors, students develop projects throughout the second half of the course. The seniors presented their projects to the student body on Monday and Thursday.

Ms. Megan Kristel addressed the student body about social media and personal branding on Tuesday.

"I think it's especially important to empower younger age women, because the sooner you realize you are the future, the better that future will be for all of us," she said. "I try to dedicate as much time as possible to working

with young women because I had a ton of support and encouragement at all phases in my life so far, and I truly believe it's the reason I have reached a certain level of success and have so many opportunities."

Kristel also explained how young women should present their best selves on social media. "Think about the long term effects of your posts and try to take a step back and consider how it might be interpreted by someone else," she said.

On Wednesday, senior Kat Mokrynski welcomed five alumnae to speak about their experience working to promote social justice.

Annabel Lee Genevitz '09 currently works at Regional Housing Legal Services, a nonprofit law firm that works on policy issues

to facilitate the creation of affordable housing across Pennsylvania. She said that her "foundation" of social justice was formed during her time at the Mount.

Karly Pulcinella '08 is a Senior Program Manager at City Year. She joined the nonprofit in college when she wanted to serve underprivileged students in Philadelphia.

Cristina Bernal '08 also spent a year at City Year before she became the Evaluation Manager of the organization. She is currently working towards her doctorate in Clinical Psychology at Chestnut Hill College.

Jaclyn Newns '05 began her career while a student at the University of Scranton. She went on to work at the Boston College Women's Center where she learned even more about empow-

erment and justice. Currently, Newns is the Campus Minister at Saint Joseph's University, focusing on art retreats.

Megan Schluckebier '08 is currently a nurse in the emergency room at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. She credits two trips she took with Operation Smile with strengthening her work in social justice. Schluckebier will begin school to earn her Master's degree and Nurse Practitioner license.

On Friday, each advisory and homeroom participated in an Hour of CODE. The Hour of CODE encourages students of all ages to get involved with computer engineering. The Mount was one of 123,168 coding events scheduled for the 2017 International Hour of CODE.

Women as Founders projects serve the dear neighbor

Abby Schwenger - Mini-Thon

As Senior Co-Chair of the Mini-Thon committee, Schwenger will raise money to aid pediatric cancer patients.

Bridget Malott and Mary Mancini - I Am That Girl Club

Malott and Mancini plan to take members of the club on trips to local middle schools to speak to young girls and will lead group discussions with Mount students.

Nina Chae-Gordon and Annie Meko - A Very Villa Valentine

Chae-Gordon and Meko are planning a Valentine's Day dance for residents of the Villa on February 8. Performing is open to the entire Mount community.

Danielle Hughes - Forward in Health Sock Puppets

Hughes is organizing a "puppet-making party" and will then go with the Forward in Health organization and Miss G. to Haiti over spring break to give the children the puppets.

Kat Mokrynski - Women in Social Justice Panel

Mokrynski presented a panel of Mount alumnae who work in the social justice field.



Brenna Reilly and Kelly Ryan - A Day on the Diamond

Reilly and Ryan will host a softball tournament in April during which a child or adult with special needs will be paired with a student volunteer.

Claudia Langella and Mollie Mullen - Face to Face Car Wash

Langella and Mullen will host a carwash on April 28 to raise money for Face to Face, a charity based in Germantown.

Liana Alcaro - Fighting Apathy

Alcaro said, "The main goal of my project is to eradicate apathy

within the student body by giving [students] a voice and creating a sense of unity."

Mady Taylor and Lily Tubman - Veteran Affairs Visits

Taylor and Tubman work with veterans to help them "re-acclimate to society and their lives" once they return home from service.

Maddie Curran - Cristo-Rey Day of Service

Curran is teaming up with Cristo-Rey High School to initiate a day of service on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Alexa Silvestri and Mary Skobieranda - Travis Manion Foundation Basketball Tournament

Silvestri and Skobieranda are organizing a 3-on-3 basketball tournament to benefit the Travis Manion Foundation, a charity that empowers veterans and the families of fallen soldiers.

Maddie Feeney and Maeve McCormick - Down Syndrome Models at the Mount Fashion Show

During the annual Mount runway this year, six girls with Down Syndrome from the Montgomery County Down Syndrome Interest Group walked down the runway,

raising awareness for a worthy cause.

Annie Princivalle - Soccer Without Borders Charity Game

Princivalle organized a charity soccer game to benefit Soccer Without Borders, an organization that provides young refugees with the athletic education they deserve through soccer. Princivalle raised over \$1,300 from bake sales and a GoFundMe page and was doubled by a nonprofit called Positive Tracks. The project raised \$3,200 in total.

Haley Brennan and Grace Sowa - Serving Dinner at Safe Harbor Easton

Safe Harbor is an educational facility mostly for recovering drug and alcohol addicts.

Ailene Woznicki - National Alliance for Mental Illness

Woznicki initiated a NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness) Club after working with the Montgomery County chapter this summer. She was honored with the Carol Caruso Innovation Scholarship Award, a \$1,000 grant that allows students to create a project to support mental health in their community.

Women in Physics

By Alyssa Charlton '20

On Friday, Oct. 27, the University of Pennsylvania hosted Dr. Jill Tarter for their third annual Women in Physics public lecture. Dr. Tarter's work involves research in the search for extraterrestrial intelligence (SETI). Physics teacher Ms. Kathleen Hennessy encouraged Mount girls to attend. Her reasoning: "Aliens are cool and interesting."

Eleven Mounties attended this event at Penn's Museum of Archeology, chaperoned by Ms. Hennessy and Mr. Alfonsi. Dr. Tarter described how the human race can find purpose in life through searching for aliens.

The 1997 science fiction movie "Contact" was based on Dr. Tarter's life and research. Dr. Ellie Arroway, the main character played by Jodie Foster, is a SETI scientist who discovers strong evidence of extraterrestrial life. The movie follows her journey to make contact with life outside of earth.

Ms. Hennessy said it is important for young women to take interest in a cosmic perspective.

"A cosmic perspective is essential in helping us appreciate the singularity of our home. Space exploration is so important if, for no other reason, it helps us to realize that fundamentally we are people of Earth," she said. "We

are all the same, made from the same star stuff. We are dust and to dust we shall return, and we need to work together as a species to make a viable future for this planet."

Ms. Hennessy said, "I loved that Dr. Tarter asked everyone to go home and change his/her personal profile on whatever social media you use to include, as a first fact about you, that you are an Earthling. We are Earthlings before we are anything else."

Senior Alex Reyes attended the lecture and was excited to hear what Dr. Tarter had to say.

"It was an amazing experience to learn not only about extraterrestrial life but space as a whole from such a highly regarded astronomer," she said. "I personally was very interested in the hypothetical aspect of the talk—what the future could hold and what we should be doing in order to ensure fruitful discovery in the years to come."

After attending the lecture and sharing a dinner at New Deck Tavern, everyone in the group agreed that she plans on attending more eye-opening lectures and other related activities in the future.

Just as Dr. Tarter described, we as the Mount community should strive to widen our perspective and desire to learn more about what lies beyond our world.

World Religions course fosters unity

By Maeve McCormick '18

In 2013, senior Mary Kate Glenn approached Mrs. Katie Kennedy with a request. Mary Kate had participated in the "Walking the Walk" Youth Initiative through the Interfaith Center of Greater Pennsylvania. This initiative provides teenagers from all different backgrounds and religions with a better understanding of how to live in a diverse world and helps to break down the participants' preconceived notions about different religions.

Glenn hoped to bring this program to the Mount, and after a set of meetings, fundraisers and planning sessions, about 30 students participated in a yearlong program with students from the Mount, Al Aqsa Muslim Academy, Germantown Jewish Center and Germantown Friends School.

"This experience was the first seed planted in my mind and heart to undertake the work of the interfaith dialogue," said Mrs. Kennedy.

For years, the Theology Department discussed the need for a course that focused on world religions in hopes of expanding Mount students' worldview.

"In recent years, we have seen a rise in violence, bigotry and prejudice based on religious stereotypes. I felt particularly compelled to respond to this reality,

and I believe challenging ignorance (our own and others') and standing with those on the margins is the best way to combat this hate and suffering," said Mrs. Kennedy.

To construct such a class, Mrs. Kennedy took an online class through Harvard and continued to participate in various programs and workshops sponsored by the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia.

Mrs. Kennedy reached out to a group of women that she met while participating in the Interfaith Center's "Visionary Women" yearlong program to talk about their faiths with the students. The students had the opportunity to Skype with Mrs. Kennedy's friend Ashvinder, a Sikh, and talk to Ellan, a conservative Jewish woman, to discuss their faiths and answer any questions the students had.

The highlight of the course was going on a field trip to the Bryn Athyn Cathedral and the New Church School, which was set up through another woman from Mrs. Kennedy's "Visionary Women" program, Bronwen. The students listened to a speaker who explained the New Church beliefs and learned about the cathedral's history. Then, they had the opportunity to converse with students from the New Church School.

Mrs. Kennedy said, "When I

shared this trip idea with the students, I was surprised to hear the stereotypes that were out there about this community. That is exactly why I think it was so important for us to go visit and meet folks from the New Church. That is the point of this course, remember? To break down stereotypes, to stand with the 'other' and to expand the lens through which we view the world! It was awesome."

Senior Jade Killion said of the course, "World Religions with Mrs. Kennedy opened my eyes to the fact that there is no 'us and them,' there is only 'us all.' Although we may label ourselves as different religions, we all share a similar moral compass and similar values."

"This class helped me realize that although the Christian faith plays a role in the lives of myself and a lot of my classmates, there are many other important faiths that we are uneducated about," said senior Maddie Getty.

Mrs. Kennedy said this quote-by Pope Francis guides her efforts: "This is important: to get to know people, listen, expand the circle of ideas. The world is criss-crossed by roads that come closer together and move apart, but the important thing is that they lead towards the Good."

Kelley Hodge '89 serves as Philadelphia Interim D.A.

By Teleri Broomhead '19

Kelley Hodge '89 was sworn in as Philadelphia's first female African American Interim District Attorney for the City of Philadelphia on July 24, 2017.

"I was selected for this position by the 88 members of the Board of Judges for the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania, which is Philadelphia County," said Hodge.

Hodge replaced former-D.A. Seth Williams, who is currently serving a five-year prison sentence for corruption.

Hodge, who said she tries to live by Mahatma Gandhi's mantra, "Be the change you wish to see in the world," hopes to leave a lasting legacy.

"It was an honor to be select-

ed for this position since I know how important it is to be elected to lead the office following a difficult time," she said.

During her time in office, which expires at the beginning of the new year with the end of former-D.A. Williams's term, Hodge is determined to work on many issues about which she feels passionately.

"I have spent time focusing on issues that center on gun violence, elder abuse, hate crimes and the opioid epidemic," said Hodge. "I was drawn to these issues based in part on what issues have had a longstanding negative impact on safety and the quality of life for individuals."



Mount alumna Kelley Hodge, accompanied by her son, is sworn in as Philadelphia District Attorney by Judge Sheila Woods-Skipper.

Although Ms. Hodge has accomplished many feats since her days at the Mount, she continues to remember her Mount educa-

tion and the environment that helped her grow to be the successful founder and role model she is today.

"I believe the Mount's mission rooted in faith amplified my focus on feelings of empathy, being a vocal advocate and never passing judgment on others and their life circumstance," said Hodge.

Hodge exemplifies what it means to be a founder through her courage, conviction and compassion, traits that all Mounties know well.

"Mounties should be confident, vocal and humble. As you look to college, always remember to care and look out for others even when they may not know they need your help," she advised. "Trust your gut, and do not be afraid to take a chance and possibly fail because you learn more from failures than successes."

Arthur F. Burns Fellowship takes journalist Zakrzewski '11 to Berlin

By Sarah Alessandrini '19

Cat Zakrzewski '11, a journalist for the Wall Street Journal, spent August and September in Berlin through a program offered by the International Center for Journalists.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Zakrzewski, who had never worked abroad before. "One of

the reasons I was drawn to journalism was the idea that it would allow me to travel and explore new places."

While in Berlin, Zakrzewski continued to write stories for the Wall Street Journal and also wrote for the German newspaper, Die Welt. This experience allowed Zakrzewski to see the major differences between German and American news. She was in Germany at the time of the violent protests

in Charlottesville and said it was interesting to see how Germans reacted to events happening in America.

The program, known as the Arthur F. Burns Fellowship, gave Zakrzewski a chance to broaden her perspective on journalism. Each year the program awards young journalists, age 40 and under, from the United States, Canada and Germany the opportunity to "switch places" and report from each other's home countries. This year's participants included 12 German, 10 American and 2 Canadian journalists. Zakrzewski learned about the program through her colleagues who

have participated in the program in recent years.

"[The program] gave me a different perspective that I hadn't had before coming into the media business," said Zakrzewski. "It made me think a little more about what it might be like to work in a country where not as many people are getting their news from Facebook and Twit-

more out of it."

Zakrzewski currently lives and works in San Francisco. She has been writing about technology and startup companies for the Wall Street Journal for almost two years.

"I think technology has been transformative for my generation growing up," she said. "I had Facebook in high school and now it's Instagram and Snapchat. It's interesting to see how those things change our society."

A graduate of Northwestern University, Zakrzewski's interest in journalism started in high school. At age fifteen she started an internship at a local newspaper and participated in a high school journalism camp. Zakrzewski first decided she wanted to pursue a career in journalism at the Mount, where she took journalism class and worked on The Campanile.

"Mount gave me the opportunity to try everything, and I found that journalism was the best fit for me," she said.

Zakrzewski is grateful for the support and encouragement she received from her teachers at the Mount. She said that learning the process of interviewing people and bringing to light issues in the Mount community was a great place to start her career in journalism. Her advice for any Mountie aspiring to be a journalist is to take journalism class and get involved in The Campanile.

"Just keep writing," she said. "And look for interesting stories, because the Mount is full of them!"



Cat at the East Side Gallery: memorial for freedom

ter...where more people are still reading physical newspapers."

Zakrzewski said one of her greatest challenges in the newsroom was not speaking fluent German. She immersed herself in the German culture outside of the newsroom by taking language and culture classes and visiting historical sites and museums. She also seized opportunities to visit neighboring countries like Poland and Switzerland.

"A lot of people put pressure on themselves to go study abroad when they're in college," said Zakrzewski. "You don't have to do it [then]. You can do it at different points in your life and maybe get

Dr. Hogan '97 invents Microbial Design Studio



By Nora Hogan '19

Dr. Karen Hogan '97 has recently invented a machine that is truly revolutionary—the Microbial Design Studio.

With the help of her team from the University of Pennsylvania's School of Design and Department of Biology, Dr. Hogan created this machine to help engineers, designers and scientists solve dire problems the world is currently facing, including the impending food shortage crisis and global warming.

How It Works

The Microbial Design Studio is "like a miniature greenhouse for microbes," said Hogan. With this machine, all the components of a "biology wetlab" are combined "into a single inexpensive piece of hardware to design, culture, and test genetically modified organisms." Once the users find their desired method of breeding, they can replicate and reproduce their work with ease and efficiency through the Microbial Design Studio. Users utilize the machine to culture microbes for the creation of fabrics, medicines and food in a sustainable and eco-friendly way.

Benefits

In a normal lab where microbes are typically cultured, scientists need several expensive and delicate pieces of equipment for their microbes and bacteria. They must experiment extensively to find ideal conditions. In-

stead of tampering with microbes in the lab for weeks, months or years, attempting to find the correct method of breeding, scientists can use the portable Design Studio to find the ideal conditions to breed and create their desired product anywhere. It can be compared to a 3-D printer, only without the plastic. With the help of this machine, products such as textiles, medications and all manufactured products imaginable can be produced in a sustainable method that is not harmful to the environment.

Future Goals

The Design Studio is too expensive at the present moment to be purchased by the everyday person. However, the eventual goal is to enable the product to be put on the market for all people, not just for universities or labs. Dr. Hogan and her team have been honored at several high-profile events for their work on the Microbial Design Studio, including TEDMED and SXSW (South by Southwest).

A Mountie's Inspiration

Dr. Hogan credits the Mount, specifically S. Mary Carrol, for her decision to pursue a career in the sciences. In her senior year, Dr. Hogan took Sister Mary's Honors Anatomy and Physiology course as an elective. She then majored in Environmental Biology at Dayton University and received her Ph.D. in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Pennsylvania, where she currently teaches.

Mueller uncovers Russian involvement in election

By Áine Playdon '19

Over the last few months, Robert Mueller has become a household name. A former federal prosecutor with an untainted reputation and illustrious career, Mueller was appointed special prosecutor by Deputy Attorney General Rod J. Rosenstein in May 2017 to investigate the alleged ties between Donald Trump's presidential campaign and the Russian government.

The position of special prosecutor was established in 1973 under President Richard Nixon as a way to investigate the Watergate scandal. After Nixon fired his special prosecutor, however, the Ethics in Government Act was put into effect. It was used in numerous investigations through the 1990s, with the act being renewed multiple times before expiring in 1999. A special prosecutor is appointed to investigate certain legal cases, in this case possible collusion with Russian foreign officials, and the position exists today by virtue of guidelines set by the U.S. Code of Federal Relations.

A special prosecutor does not need to be approved by Congress in order to fill the position. Rather, the prosecutor must be impartial and currently employed by an organization other than the United States government. In this position, Robert Mueller answers to Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein, but is not required to reveal any aspect of his investigation until Mueller deems fit. With this, Mueller is able to staff his commission with broad margins and without approval from the Department of Justice.

Additionally, the guidelines put into place after the Ethics in Government Act expired state that

Mueller can be fired, but only by Deputy Attorney General Rosenstein and only for "misconduct, dereliction of duty, incapacity, conflict of interest or for other good cause, including violation of Departmental policies," as published in an article by the Independent.

Mueller's appointment as spe-

cial prosecutor and the duties he has according to his post are different than those of an independent commission, which was used after the 9/11 attacks and can only report upon the investigation, and the special congressional committees, which are established by the House and the Senate.



Special prosecutor Robert Mueller has charged three prominent Trump campaign advisors and Trump's former national security advisor.

This special counsel, which Mueller has filled with 15 lawyers of different backgrounds and different areas of expertise, has thus far indicted, or formally accused, 3 people connected to Donald Trump's campaign: Paul Manafort, President Trump's former campaign advisor; Rick Gates, another former campaign advisor and Manafort's associate; and George Papadopoulos, a former foreign policy advisor to the

Trump campaign. Gates and Manafort, who were charged not with political collusion but with money laundering and 11 other cases of conspiracy against the United States, pleaded not guilty to the crimes. At this time, both Gates and Manafort have surrendered to the FBI and face up to 15 and a half years

in federal prison, as reported by CBS News. The third indictment came the same day as the news of Manafort's and Gates's charges. George Papadopoulos pleaded guilty to charges of making false statements to the government nearly a month before news of the indictment broke to the public. He has taken a plea deal, however, thus securing a minimal sentence of up to six months in prison.

His plea, which has been released to the public, contains important information concerning the alleged collusion between the Trump campaign and Russia during the election season. It also shows that, despite statements released by the White House stating that Papadopoulos was simply

a low-level volunteer for Trump, Papadopoulos was quite central within the campaign and had access to important information.

Information gathered by Mueller and his team shows that Papadopoulos had extensive talks with individuals closely tied with the Russian government, including a man who is allegedly part of the

After pleading guilty to charges of lying to the FBI about contact with a Russian ambassador, Flynn agreed to cooperate with the prosecutors; additionally, he has agreed to submit to a polygraph test and take part in covert investigations. Flynn's participation in investigations is unlikely, however, due to the public nature of his plea deal.

Flynn, who was in direct contact with Russian ambassador Sergey Kislyak, was part of a concerted effort by Mr. Trump's aides to create a foreign policy before the administration stepped into office, according to Flynn's plea deal.

Mr. Flynn was investigated previously by former FBI director James Comey, who was fired from his position by President Trump shortly after the president encouraged Comey to drop the investigation into Flynn.

Details from Mr. Flynn's plea deal indicate that the Trump administration have also lied about their involvement in Flynn's contact with Russia; it has been stated by the administration that Flynn lied to them about Russian contact, but this plea deal reveals that top transitional staff in the Trump administration were also involved in contact with Russia.

Flynn is the first top-ranking White House official to be indicted by the Mueller investigative team.

And the Mueller probe may be approaching Trump - on Wednesday, December 6, the Wall Street Journal reported that Deutsche Bank, the bank of President Trump, was subpoenaed by Mueller for financial documents and histories. Mueller is following the money trail, as it were, to see if it leads straight to Russia.

Russian foreign relations department and a woman Papadopoulos believed to be Vladimir Putin's niece.

According to the LA Times, these early indictments will provide leverage for Mueller as he furthers his investigation. With the early convictions of Manafort, Gates and Papadopoulos, Mueller has sent a message: Remaining persons of interest can either cooperate with the special counsel and receive a minimal sentence, like Papadopoulos, or face years in prison, like Gates and Manafort.

On Friday, Dec. 1, it was revealed to the public that Michael Flynn, the former national security advisor for President Trump, had received Mueller's message.

Social media ads bring Russian influence to Americans

By Áine Playdon '19

On Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, some 3,000 Facebook ads created by Russian operatives were published for the public. Following the release, Facebook stated that the ads, which were created in order to influence voters in the 2016 presidential election, were created by a known Russian troll farm: the Internet Research Agency.

Defined as "an organization whose employees or members attempt to create conflict and disruption in an online community by posting deliberately inflammatory or provocation comments" by the Collins Dictionary, troll farms are established with the intention of swaying public opinion in any matter.

Russian investigative journalist Lyudmila Savchuk said that troll farms such as the Internet Research Agency have been operating within Russia for quite some time now. In an interview with the Washington Post, Savchuk said, "Every online forum, every

comment section on every local site, everywhere I look, most of the commenters are trolls."

Savchuk and her lawyer said that they are interested in the promotion of free expression on social media, an idea so ingrained in American society that it is hard to imagine life without First Amendment rights. The purpose of the Internet Research Agency is not simply to brainwash citizens, effectively stripping them of their rights to free speech, however. Speaking with Adrian Chen of The New Yorker, Lenoid Volkov, a Russian

opposition activist, revealed that the trolls are too obvious and too brash to brainwash. Instead, they "overwhelm social media with a flood of fake content, seeding doubt and paranoia, and destroy-

ing the possibility of using the Internet as a democratic place."

Volkov added that the atmosphere created by the troll farms

is one so hateful that the general public has no desire to go near it. The New York Times reported that the Internet Research Agency, which is allegedly linked to the Kremlin, influenced an es-

timated 29 million U.S. voters through Facebook alone. The ads targeted the American public not only by promoting Donald Trump and damning Hillary Clinton, but by exploiting the country's divisive issues.

According to the Washington Post, the ads specifically targeted Americans in the areas of gun rights, immigration issues and the political activism of African Americans.

The ads released by The House Intelligence Committee on November 1 show a vast scale of content, ranging from memes to ads that are seemingly semi-professional. Although some clearly support a leftist message, such as one that condemns Donald Trump, the large majority favorably portray the president and right-wing ide-

als by condemning Hillary Clinton and, in some cases, Senator Bernie Sanders.

Despite the accounts being deactivated by Twitter and Facebook, the ads can still be found due to the mass circulation of the content. The largest compilation, which can be found on Medium.com, showcases a much greater volume of the ads than was released by American lawmakers. The researchers who put together the collection requested to remain anonymous, but found the advertisements through a Russian media site and through interviews with former employees of the Internet Research Agency, according to the New York Times.

The content released displays a definitive role played by Russia in the 2016 Presidential Election. Although the exact impact of the ads is unknown at this time, statistics published by the Washington Post show that the Internet Research Agency reached 126 million people through 80,000 posts last year.



One of the 80,000 ads posted to social media websites last year during the presidential election.

Congress cannot ignore gun control legislation

By Natalie Ward '18

Two years ago, British journalist Dan Hodges wrote on Twitter: “In retrospect Sandy Hook marked the end of the U.S. gun control debate. Once America decided killing children was bearable, it was over.”

After the attack that killed 20 children and several adults in an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, mass shootings became normalized, and so did the idea that nothing can be done to prevent these tragedies.

According to the Washington Post, the FBI defined a “mass murder” as “four or more victims slain, in one event, in one location” in the 1980s. After the 2012 shooting in Newtown, Congress defined “mass killings” as “3 or more killings in a single incident.”

The U.S. has faced over 1,500 mass shootings since the Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, according to data from the Gun Violence Archive.

Although Sandy Hook seemed to be the turning point in the gun control debate, Congress’s lack of action in response to mass shootings says otherwise.

What is Congress doing?

The Gun Control Act of 1968 made it illegal for certain people to ship, transport, receive and possess firearms. These people include, but are not limited to, people with certain criminal records or mental illnesses, illegal immigrants, drug addicts and veterans with a dishonorable discharge.

Under the Lautenberg Amendment of 1996, anyone convicted of domestic abuse is prohibited from buying firearms. Federal law also requires that licensed gun dealers conduct background checks

on potential customers through a database run by the FBI.

However, there are many loopholes in these laws. Most people with mental illnesses do not have a court statement as evidence, so their illnesses are often unrecorded. Similarly, many domestic abuse cases are unreported.

Small-scale sellers, including those who do business at gun shows, are not required to do background checks. This loophole allows many people to purchase firearms at the shows, including people prohibited from doing so under federal law.

According to the New York Times, the attackers in the 2007 Virginia Tech shooting and the 2017 Texas shooting were mentally ill and convicted of domestic abuse, respectively, yet both pieces of information failed to be entered into the background check database, allowing the shooters to purchase their weapons.

In 1994, the Federal Assault Weapons Ban was enacted. This ban included a prohibition on the manufacture for civilian use of specific semi-automatic weapons defined as assault weapons and large capacity magazines. The 10 year ban expired in 2004 and failed to be renewed.

Studies on the effects of the ban showed that although the ban did not appear to affect gun violence during the short period it was enacted, there was evidence to suggest that it could have reduced the

number of shootings if it were in effect for a longer period.

The Federal Assault Weapons Ban was the last major piece of gun control legislation to make it into law. Since the 1994 ban, legislation to increase gun control has been proposed and repeatedly shot down.

According to PBS, a FRONTLINE examination showed that after the Newtown shooting, states passed more than twice as

many laws expanding gun owners’ rights than they did gun control laws. By the end of 2013, only 43 gun control laws had passed, even though states were considering more than 500 pieces of gun control legislation within three months of the shooting. After the 2015 San Bernardino attack, the Senate rejected a bill to tighten background check requirements on potential gun buyers.

What are people lobbying for?

It is no secret that gun rights advocates led by the National Rifle Association (NRA) have a powerful lobby, one that most politicians will not confront. Lobbyists advocating for gun rights effectively argue that people should not politicize mass shootings and that after a shooting is not the time to debate the issue surrounding gun control.

Gun rights advocates claim that weapons make society safer by giving people the power of self-defense. Following the Newtown shooting, the

NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre said, “The only thing that stops a bad guy with a gun is a good guy with a gun.”

Not only do advocates led by the NRA make arguments for the protection of gun rights, but many gun rights interest groups fuel political campaigns and parties.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics (CRP), gun rights advocates gave roughly \$41.9 million to candidates, parties and outside spending groups since 1989. The NRA provided \$22.9 million since 1989 and

\$54.3 million in outside expenditures during the 2016 election alone.

On the other hand, gun control advocates argue that allowing more people to carry weapons makes an everyday dispute more likely to escalate to lethal force.

Gun control interest groups have provided \$4.2 million to candidates, parties and outside spending groups since 1989 and only \$3 million in outside spending during the 2016 election cycle, according to the CRP.

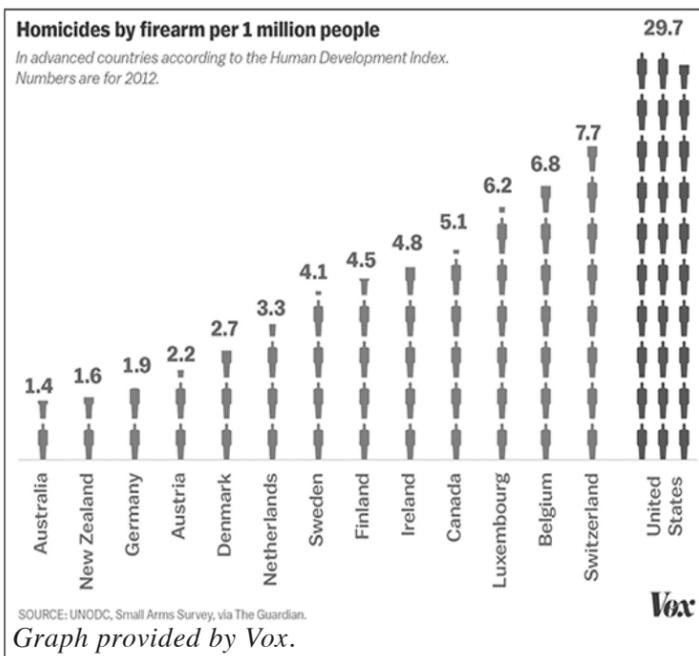
These numbers make clear the dominance that gun rights advocates have in lobbying Congress and the gun industry.

What changes need to be made?

For years, the NRA and gun rights lobbyists have intimidated gun manufacturers and politicians into opposing gun control legislation. Because of a strong lobby and extreme funding from the NRA, it seems impossible for politicians to support and pass gun control legislation without jeopardizing their careers.

After the Sandy Hook attack, thousands of members joined gun control groups. Gun control advocates speed-dialed legislators every Friday at exactly 9:30 a.m., the moment the horrific shooting began. Groups formed to march against gun violence, and advocates attended legislative hearings to show their support for gun control legislation.

As PBS Senior Reporter Sarah Childress said, Americans who want to see concrete and permanent change must take action and aim for the goal of creating “enough baseline support for legislators so they can vote for gun-control measures without fearing for their political lives.”



Major mass shootings in the U.S. from 2007-2017

By Maeve McCormick '18

April 16, 2007 - Blacksburg, VA
32 dead, 23 wounded

November 5, 2009 - Killeen, TX
13 dead, 30 wounded

February 12, 2010 - Huntsville, AL
3 dead

January 8, 2011 - Tucson, AZ
6 dead, over 14 wounded

July 20, 2012 - Aurora, CO
12 dead, 70 wounded

December 14, 2012 - Newtown, CT
27 dead, 2 wounded

September 16, 2013 - Washington D.C.
12 dead

April 2, 2014 - Killeen, TX
3 dead, 16 wounded

June 17, 2015 - Charleston, SC
9 dead

November 27, 2015 - Colorado Springs, CO
3 dead, 9 wounded

December 2, 2015 - San Bernardino, CA
14 dead, 17 wounded

June 12, 2016 - Orlando, FL
49 dead, 53 wounded

October 1, 2017 - Las Vegas, NV
58 dead, over 500 wounded

November 5, 2017 - Sutherland Springs, TX
26 dead, over 20 wounded

State Supreme Court reopens Sandy Hook vs. Remington Arms Company, LLC

By Nora Hogan '19

On Tuesday, Nov. 14, lawyers of the Sandy Hook victims’ families presented their case against the gun manufacturer Remington Arms Company, LLC and a local retailer in the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Remington is the company that produced and sold the semi-automatic assault rifle used by Adam Lanza to murder 26 people, including 20 children, at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. The families initially filed their case in 2014, but they were dismissed by a lower court judge in 2016. After the dismissal, the families filed an appeal and were granted a hearing by the Connecticut Supreme Court.

According to the New York Times, the families’ lawsuit claims that the gun companies who produce the weapon used by Lanza, the AR-15, “should have

never entrusted the rifle to an untrained civilian” as it was initially designed for military combat.

The lawsuit centers around the legal doctrine of negligent entrustment, in which a product is carelessly sold or given to a person at high risk of using it in a harmful way. Negligent entrustment is typically a charge brought against gun dealers, but the Sandy Hook families believe that, in this case, the charge can and should also be applied to Remington. The families argue that Remington advertises assault rifles through video games and militaristic marketing to “a population of mentally unstable young men—the same population that has used the guns to kill innocent people.”

The recent mass shootings in Las Vegas and Texas were caused by gunmen who used the same assault rifle, which some law experts believe further strengthens the families’ case. The Sandy

Hook families hope to hold these gun manufacturers responsible for the deaths of their children and their teachers by exposing the firearm industry’s internal communications and operations, which companies currently keep private.

With their potential victory, these families will pave a legal route “for the survivors and relatives of victims in other shootings as they pursue accountability.” Under the current law, gun manufacturers are not held accountable for the way their guns are used. However, if the families are successful in their attempt to charge Remington with negligent entrustment, a new precedent will be set to deal with gun violence cases. They may even bring their case to the U.S. Supreme Court, which would potentially allow for changes to be made to gun laws not just in Connecticut, but across the country.

Sexual assault allegations urge victims to speak up

By Sarah Alessandrini '19

An overwhelming number of sexual assault allegations against prominent men have surfaced since early October. Each day seems to bring new stories of powerful men abusing their power in the workplace from Hollywood to Capitol Hill, as the so-called “Weinstein Effect” ripples across the globe.

It all began with an exposé by writers Jodi Kantor and Megan Twohey, published by the New York Times on October 5, outlining decades of sexual harassment claims against the Academy-Award winning producer Harvey Weinstein. A following report by NBC reporter Ronan Farrow was released by The New Yorker less than 48 hours later, in which three women accused Weinstein of sexual assault and rape.

“I know he has crushed a lot of people before,” Italian actress Asia Argento said in Farrow’s report. Argento was assaulted by Weinstein in 1997 when she was 21 years old. “That’s why my story—in my case, it’s 20 years old, some are older—has never come out.”

Among the other women to speak out were Lucia Evans, Cara Delevingne, Mira Sorvino, Rose McGowan, Rosanna Arquette, Angelina Jolie and Gwyneth Paltrow.

“I thought he was going to fire me,” Paltrow told the New York Times. She described an incident in which she was harassed by Weinstein when she was 22, just as her acting career was starting to take off. “I was a kid, I was signed up, I was petrified.”

Many of the women who later came forward said they were either embarrassed or afraid to speak up. Farrow said he spoke with 16 of Weinstein’s current or former employees who either witnessed or had direct knowledge of their boss’s behavior. Several sources, including The New Yorker, later reported that Weinstein hired undercover spies to halt the investigations by the New York Times and The New Yorker. One of the companies he hired, Black Cube, promotes itself as “a select group of veterans from the Israeli elite intelligence units.”

“People [are] understanding in a way they haven’t before just how hard it is to speak,” Farrow said in a podcast interview with The New Yorker editor David Remnick. “Women are speaking up and they’re being believed.”

The Weinstein case is unlike any other sexual assault case seen in the past. The myriad of allegations against Weinstein—over 50 women came forward within a month after the first reports were published—inspired more survivors of sexual abuse to start speaking up. Since the release of both the New York Times report and The New Yorker story, many well-known Hollywood personalities, including Brett Ratner, Kirt Webster, Dustin Hoffman, Ben Affleck, Ed Westwick, Steven Seagal, Louis C.K. and Kevin Spacey have all been accused of sexual assault.

“Their expectation is that there will be no consequences,” Cynthia A. Henrie, a specialist in traumatic stress, said in an article by the Hollywood Reporter. “And they are not wrong: 99 percent of sexual cases are never prosecuted.”

Law enforcement officials in Los Angeles, New York and London have confirmed that they are building cases against Weinstein. The New York Police Department is the first to indicate the possibility of an arrest. Weinstein has said via his spokeswoman that he denies all allegations of nonconsensual sex.

“I came of age in the ‘60s and ‘70s when all the rules about behavior and workplaces were different,” Weinstein said in response to the Times report. “That was the culture then.”

Weinstein speaks of the era recently memorialized by the death of Hugh Hefner, founder of Playboy magazine. In 1977, the term sexual harassment had not even been defined in the law. While times and culture have certainly changed, the recent allegations brought to light by the “Weinstein Effect” prove that there is still a need for improvement.

In a podcast interview with The New Yorker editor David Remnick, Alexandra Schwartz and Ronan Farrow commented on why they believe the Wein-

as Angelina Jolie and Gwyneth Paltrow, were coming forward, rather than an ordinary woman becoming famous because she came forward with a sexual assault claim. Schwartz used Anita Hill as an example. Hill was a lawyer who, in 1991, spoke up against her former boss, Clarence Thomas, for sexually harassing her. Although Hill testified in front of the Senate, Thomas was still elected to the United States Supreme Court and remains there to this day.

“You can think of other cases, much like the Anita Hill case, where that was the first time where much of America thought of workplace sexual harassment,” Schwartz said in the podcast. “But no one knew who Anita Hill was

The New Yorker.

Schwartz discussed her hopes for the future in the world after Weinstein. “It is a relief that we can establish a fact and have that fact be seen as what a fact is, a neutral truth,” she told The New Yorker. “Growing up I was really taught that if something is wrong you can speak up and say it. Later [I] find out ‘oh, that’s not necessarily true.’ I would like it to be true. I would like it to be true for my generation and the women the generation after me.”

Hill said she hopes that more “everyday women” will feel the effect of Weinstein’s downfall. Those “everyday women” have found their voices through a platform not available to women in the ‘70s and ‘90s—social media. As the number of accusations against Weinstein began to grow, American actress Alyssa Milano asked her followers on Twitter to reply with the hashtag “#MeToo” if they have their own stories of sexual harassment. Millions of women replied and the campaign spread across the world. On November 12, the movement expanded beyond social media as hundreds of women, inspired by #MeToo, gathered at Hollywood’s Dolby Theater. This rally followed a similar march, “Take Back the Workplace,” which took place earlier that same day.

before the Clarence Thomas hearings. That’s what she became known for.”

In response to the Weinstein scandal and the numerous cases that followed it, Anita Hill, whose story of sexual assault is 26 years old, commended the immense impact of the case.

“This case may be bigger than some in the past, but I think we’re kidding ourselves if we think that everything is going to change overnight from one episode, even as big as this one,” Hill said. For many, that is the question that now remains: Will anything really change?

“We are still working from the starting point of not believing women coming forward with allegations like this,” Farrow told



(Top) Gwyneth Paltrow, Anita Hill; (bottom) Megan Twohey and Jodi Kantor have spoken out against sexual assault.

How do we respond to the art of the accused?

By Áine Playdon '19

In recent months, numerous sexual misconduct scandals in almost every industry, from entertainment to politics, have come to light. With famous men such as Matt Lauer, Louis C.K., Kevin Spacey and Charlie Rose being accused of various sexual harassment charges, the entertainment industry has been greatly impacted.

In an article following the news of Kevin Spacey’s harassment charges, New York Times journalists Sarah Lyall and Dave

Izkoff considered three sides to an extremely important question that follows these scandals: What should the public do with the art of the accused?

In support of separating the art from the artist, actor Colman Domingo—a star of last year’s production of “The Birth of a Nation,” which flopped at the box office following the news of sexual harassment charges against the writer-director Nate Parker—commented, “Yes, the art suffers.” After speaking about a good work relationship with Louis C.K., he added, “I think it’s

important for us to take a breath, assess and not respond impulsively.”

Director Judd Apatow, however, spoke in defense of the other extreme. He said, “We all have an instinct to instantly try to figure out how to redeem all these people and still be able to enjoy all this work, and it’s very selfish.” He continued, “All our energy should be with the victims.”

In the midst of these discoveries, however, a middle ground has formed, and many people have found themselves within it. Professor Laura Kipnis of North-

western University argues that what happens to the art wholly depends on the actions of the artist, though it is up to the consumer where to “draw the line” between acceptable and not. Responding to questions from the New York Times, Kipnis said, “In situations where you get these serial cases with Weinstein or Wieseltier, we’re on safe ground to say... we feel comfortable making the guilty charge and acting accordingly.” She continued, “In cases where standards have changed because we’re sensitive to things at the moment...or you just have

one or two accusations, you want to act carefully.”

The exact effect in the coming months and years of these misconduct scandals is uncertain. Whether or not these men will be able to rise back into the good graces of the public, like Mel Gibson has been able to, remains to be seen. One thing is certain, though: The women and men who have been silenced by predators now have the opportunity to thrive.

Sexual harassment contaminates U.S. politics

By Sarah Alessandrini '19

In 1991, an American lawyer named Anita Hill testified before the Senate that her former boss, Clarence Thomas, who was a candidate for the Supreme Court, had sexually assaulted her. Thomas, in spite of Hill's testimony, was elected and remains a Supreme Court justice to this day.

Today, while men in Hollywood are facing repercussions for their lewd behavior—Matt Lauer, Kevin Spacey and Harvey Weinstein have all lost their jobs—men in politics, such as Roy Moore and Donald Trump, continue running for or holding positions of high political power.

"Hollywood is like a fraternity," traumatic stress specialist Cynthia A. Henrie told the Hollywood Reporter. "There is a mentality that is built in early on that if you are going to achieve at a high level, you must play by a different set of rules. That feeds a level of entitlement. . . . But this isn't exclusive to Hollywood. Look at Washington, D.C. It's the exact same way."

Recent allegations against former Arizona representative Trent Franks, Michigan representative John Conyers, Senator Al Franken and Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore show that sexual misconduct isn't exclusive to Hollywood. In more than 50 interviews conducted by the New York Times, lawyers, lobbyists and former aides said that sexual harassment has been a major concern for women working in Capitol Hill.

"The Congress of the United States should be the one work environment where people are treated with respect," said Representative Jackie Speier of California. "And frankly, it's just the opposite. It's probably among the worst."

The recent allegations against

Alabama Senate candidate Roy Moore prompted a surprising response from Attorney General Jeff Sessions, who said he had "no reason to doubt these young women." Jeff Flake, the Republican senator from Arizona, denounced Moore's behavior, prompting backlash from the candidate's campaign spokesperson, who referred to Flake as an "agent of destruction" of the GOP. However, many Republicans rallied behind Moore during the recent Alabama Senate race, for which a Democratic win would narrow the Republican senate majority to 51.

Roy Moore, Alabama's Republican senate candidate, was accused of having sexual relations with teen girls, the youngest claiming to have been 14, when he was in his thirties. While he admits to having dated younger girls, he said he never did so without parental permission. Moore denied the allegations, calling them an attempt at "ritual defamation" against him.

The Republican National Committee, after initially cutting ties with the candidate, confirmed that it would resume supporting Moore's campaign. Senator Mitch McConnell, the Majority Leader who said he "believes the women," later said that he was "going to let the people of Alabama make the call." President

Trump has offered full endorsement of Moore and full criticism of his opponent, Doug Jones.

"We can't have a Pelosi/Schumer Liberal Democrat, Jones, in that important senate seat," Donald Trump said via Twitter. "For-

Trump tweeted his congratulations to Jones for a "hard-fought victory." However, an anonymous source close to the White House told CNN's Jim Acosta that the result was "devastating" and "an earthquake" for the President.

Meanwhile, Arizona Republican Trent Franks, Michigan Democrat John Conyers, and Senator Al Franken have all resigned from Congress following sexual harassment claims. Al Franken, a long-time favorite among the Democratic

all didn't make more of an impact," Jessica Leeds, who told the Times last year that Trump had groped her on a plane in the eighties, said in an interview with Slate Magazine. "But as the man himself said, he could stand on Fifth Avenue and shoot someone and his supporters wouldn't care."

But in regards to the way the public views sexual assault, the world has undoubtedly changed since last year. The downfall of Harvey Weinstein and other prominent men across the globe have resulted in a cultural shift, a reckoning, in which men are facing real consequences for what is and should be treated as criminal behavior. In this changed society, which commends "Silence Breakers," dubbed by Time Magazine, the women who spoke up against Trump feel comfortable enough to do so again.

"I think the main issue with the Trump allegations was that it wasn't so much a belief problem as it was a caring problem," Alexandra Schwartz told The New Yorker. Since the release of the Weinstein story, however, the accusations made against Trump have resurfaced.

"For us to put ourselves out there to try to show America who this man is, especially how he views women, and for them to say, we don't care...it hurt," Samantha Holvey told NBC's Megyn Kelly.

A few of Trump's accusers spoke out at a news conference on December 11. Samantha Holvey, the former Miss North Carolina 2006 who has accused Trump of inspecting the pageant contestants; Jessica Leeds; and Rachel Crooks, a former Group receptionist who accused Trump of kissing her on the mouth without her consent, all reiterated their accounts.

"This was serial misconduct and perversion on the part of Mr. Trump. Unfortunately, this behavior isn't rare in our society and people of all backgrounds can be victims," said Crooks.

Trump once again denied the renewed allegations. Recently he lashed out at Democratic Senator Kirsten Gillibrand of New York for saying he should resign from office because of the allegations. Taking to Twitter, the president called Senator Gillibrand a "lightweight" who "would do anything" for campaign contributions.

"You cannot silence me or the millions of women who have gotten off the sidelines to speak out against the unfitness and shame [Trump] has brought to the Oval Office," said Gillibrand, in response to the President's Twitter backlash. The debate continues as to how to deal with the renewed allegations against Trump. As powerful men in all industries bear the consequences of their misconduct, some of Trump's accusers wonder if and when the President might finally pay for his actions.



Rachel Crooks, Jessica Leeds and Samantha Holvey, three of Trump's accusers, reiterate their allegations against him.

ty years is a long time," he said. "[Moore] has run eight races, and this has never come up."

The extent of Trump's involvement in the senate election includes recording a call urging people to vote for Moore and praising him at a rally in Pensacola, FL. It remains unclear for both sides how much impact Trump's endorsement of Moore had on the election outcome.

"To me, he represents the worst values of the Old South," said Debbie Soniat, a 65 year old nurse from Birmingham, AL. Moore, an outspoken evangelical Christian, has been widely criticized for his radically conservative views. He has openly expressed his desires to ban homosexuality and to prevent Muslims from participating in government.

"When you believe in God and you acknowledge God, that automatically...paints you as a polarizing figure," Moore said in an interview with CNN.

As he was trailing Jones by more than 20,000 votes, Moore, speaking at what he believed would be a victory party in Birmingham, publicly refused to concede to his opponent.

"God is in control," he said. "What we've got to do is wait on God and let this process play out."

Jones narrowly defeated Moore with 49.92 percent of the vote to Moore's 48.38 percent. He will be the first Democratic Senator from Alabama in 25 years.

"Decency wins," Jeff Flake wrote on Twitter, in response to Jones's victory. He, as well as many others, views Moore's loss as indication that recent social movements, such as #MeToo, might be having an impact on the nation's culture and politics.

"We have shown this country the way that we can be unified," Mr. Jones said in response to his win. "This entire race has been about dignity and respect. This campaign has been about the rule of law."

party, saw his popularity decline following an eighth allegation of sexual harassment made against him. Franken has challenged the accusations but has also apologized repeatedly for his behavior. His Democratic colleagues, however, made it clear that his apologies are not enough.

"I consider Senator Franken a dear friend and greatly respect his accomplishments, but he has a higher obligation to his constituents and the Senate," said Senator Chuck Schumer of New York, the leader of the Democratic Party. "He should step down immediately."

With a majority of Democratic Senators pushing for his resignation, Franken finally announced that he would leave the Senate. On December 7 he gave his bitter resignation speech.

"I, of all people, am aware that there is some irony in the fact that I am leaving while a man who has bragged on tape about his history of sexual assault sits in the oval office," he said. Donald Trump, who last year was dismissive of his own sexual assault allegations, was quick to criticize Franken's behavior. When at least 13 women accused the presidential candidate of sexual harassment during last year's election, Trump not only denied the claims but labeled himself as the victim.

"I am a victim of one of the greatest political smear campaigns in the history of this country," he said at a rally in North Carolina in October 2016. Like the Anita Hill Case, the allegations against Trump, eclipsed by his presidential victory, had little long-term impact.

"With Trump, it was all brushed under a rug," said Temple Taggart, a former Miss USA contestant who said that Trump kissed her inappropriately twice. Trump's accusers, after over a year of silence, feel forgotten.

"I'm truly sorry that I didn't make more of an impact, that we

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Holiday Book Gift Guide

By Maeve McCormick '18

Having trouble deciding what to get someone for Christmas? Buying a book is always a good option! Here are some of the most popular books published in 2017.

If they like fiction try...

"The Hate U Give" by Angie Thomas

"Far From The Tree" by Robin Benway

"They Both Die at the End" by Adam Silvera

"It's Not Like It's a Secret" by Misa Sugiura

If they like historical fiction try...

"The Gentleman's Guide To Vice and Virtue" by Mackenzi Lee

"Lincoln in the Bardo" by George Saunders

"The Freemason's Daughter" by Shelley Sackier

"Wait for Me" by Caroline Leech

If they like science fiction try..

"Dare Mighty Things" by Heather Kaczynski

"This Mortal Coil" by Emily Suvada

"The Sandcastle Empire" by Kayla Olson

"Renegades" by Marissa Meyer

If they like mystery try...

"One of Us Is Lying" by Karen M. McManus

"City of Saints and Thieves" by Natalie Anderson

"Allegedly" by Tiffany Jackson

"The Becoming of Noah Shaw" by Michelle Hodkin

If they like fantasy try...

"Strange the Dreamer" by Laini Taylor

"The City of Brass" by S.A. Chakraborty

"Forest of a Thousand Lanterns" by Julie C. Dao

"The Bear and the Nightingale" by Katherine Arden

If they like romance try...

"When Dimple Met Rishi" by Sandhya Menon

"The Upside of Unrequited" by Becky Albertalli

"Carve the Mark" by Veronica Roth

"Once and for All" by Sarah Dessen

If they like poetry try...

"Milk and Vine" by Adam Gasiewski and Emily Beck

"The Sun and Her Flowers" by Rupi Kaur

"Inherit" by Ginger So

"Don't Call Us Dead" by Danez Smith

Green explores isolation of mental illness

By Kaitlyn Przydzial '19

"From one writer with OCD to another: Thank you," wrote Stacey Grant in an open letter to John Green about his new book, "Turtles All the Way Down."

Released on October 10, Green's new book tells the story of a teenage girl, Aza Holmes, who finds herself at the center of the search to find Russell Pickett, a billionaire construction magnate who has gone on the run after being accused of bribery and fraud.

The novel is made more intriguing by the fact that Aza has OCD, a condition with which Green himself is also afflicted. In a press release when the book was announced, Green said, "This is my first attempt to write directly about the kind of mental illness that has affected my life since childhood, so while the story is fictional, it is also quite personal."

In a video posted to his YouTube channel, Green discussed the effects that his OCD has had on his life, mentioning spe-

cifically the impact of what he calls "thought spirals." During these "spirals," which can last for weeks at a time, Green says that he will become fixated on one

thought, unable to focus on anything else.

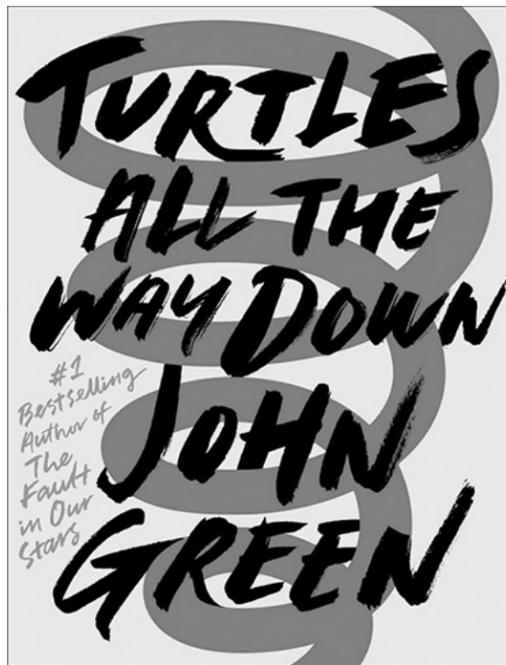
In "Turtles All the Way Down," Aza experiences her own thought spirals, ones that often center around her fear of contracting a deadly disease. The novel has several long stretches that include minimal dialogue and center entirely around describing what is going on inside Aza's mind. This makes readers feel as though they are in the middle of Aza's thought spirals, allowing those who do not suffer from OCD to understand what the illness is truly like.

In an interview with Time, Green said, "One of the main things

I wanted to do in the book was to get at how isolating it can be to live with mental illness and also how difficult it can be for the people who are around you because you're so isolated."

For those who suffer from any type of mental illness, expressing the full extent of their symptoms can often be extremely difficult. This struggle causes the afflicted and those who wish to help (both those with mental illnesses and those who want to help them) feel frustrated and helpless. Green provides a story, and specifically a protagonist, that helps to bridge this gap.

Through Aza, all readers have the ability to experience the intrusive thoughts that often plague those with OCD. "Turtles All the Way Down" has been praised by both critics and the general public; the book currently has over 30,000 ratings on Goodreads and has a rating of 4.23 stars out of 5. The novel is a lesson in empathy and serves as a good starting point for future discussions about mental health.



"Turtles All the Way Down," John Green's newest novel, was released on October 10.

In "What Happened" Hillary Clinton reveals impact of and reasons for loss

By Caroline Timoney '19

In the days leading up to the 2016 presidential election, nearly all polls predicted a victory for Hillary Clinton. This only made it more difficult for both Clinton and her supporters when Donald Trump won the general election on November 8th, becoming 45th president of the United States. As shocking as this outcome was for the world, one can only imagine how utterly debilitating it was for Clinton.

In her new book, "What Happened," released on September 12, Clinton describes what the loss of the presidency was like for her and delves into the reasons why she lost. This is not her first book, as she has written ten, but the first to show her authentic voice.

Her previous books, such as "Hard Choices" and "Living History," were carefully measured political statements that showed the polished and focus-grouped Hillary Clinton who would eventually run for president. Now, for the first time in her lengthy political career, Clinton shows a more vulnerable side to herself.

Clinton takes no shame in describing the months she spent mourning after the election. She tells stories of taking relaxing yoga classes, binge-watching Netflix and how she imagined vacationing in Bali during the 2017 inauguration. She even talks about "breathing first and

screaming later." This changed Clinton uses sarcasm and dark humor to describe her recovery, revealing the person behind the politics.

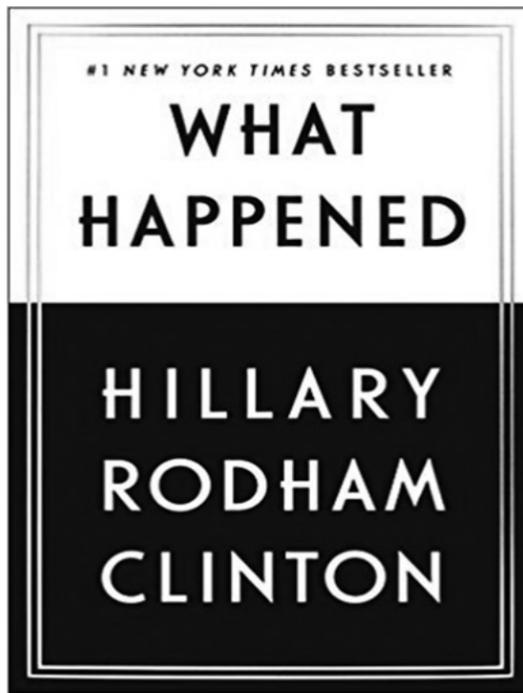
As it is titled, "What Hap-

ever, Clinton blames herself. She wrote, "I go back over my own shortcomings and the mistakes we made. I take responsibility for all of them. You can blame the data, blame the message, blame anything you want—but I was the candidate. It was my campaign. Those were my decisions."

"What Happened" was received with mixed reviews from critics. The Atlantic reporter James Fallows' review is titled "Why Hillary Clinton's Book is Worth Reading," while a Huffington Post review by Sam Kriss reads "What Should Have Happened in Hillary Clinton's Useless Book." Critics in favor of the book praise the honest, defiant and realistic Clinton who they see as having written a memoir that is strikingly poignant. Those such as

Kriss who gave negative reviews to the book described it as desperate and depressing, while some critics argue that Hillary should not have written a book at all. Some Democrats expressed concern that Clinton's memoir would do what she has always done—deflect attention from the various scandals of Trump's presidency.

Whatever side you were on in the 2016 election, it is undeniable that "What Happened" is a one of a kind book that gives a unique point of view of a real person having to deal with an astonishing loss on as great a scale as that of the presidential election.



Hillary Clinton examines her loss to Donald Trump in her memoir "What Happened."

Book Club turns over a new leaf

By Kelly Rothenberg '20

Do you like to read but are not up for the competition of Reading Olympics? Well, Book Club is back and it might be just what you are looking for!

After its short hiatus, Book Club has made its return under the student leadership of sophomores Micaelina Carter and Erin Taylor and faculty moderators Mrs. Mulligan and Mrs. Moser. Carter and Taylor were disappointed by the number of fiction books being removed from the library, so they took action and spoke to Mrs. Mulligan about reinstating the club. Carter said reading has always been an escape for her overactive imagination, and she believes that "with the right book anyone can become a bookworm!"

Meetings are held monthly and books are selected through a voting process by the members. However, reading every book is not required to be an active participant. Meetings allow members to freely express thoughts and opinions while interacting with students of all different grade levels.

The club hopes to foster a greater appreciation of reading among students and encourage reading outside the classroom.

If you did not get the chance to sign up, do not worry. The club is looking to grow. Contact the librarians or officers if you are interested in opening a new chapter in your life.

“Wonder” highlights *choosing kind*

The Novel

By Maggie McBride '20

R. J. Palacio's book “Wonder” follows fifth grade student August Pullman, who has Treacher Collins syndrome (severe craniofacial differences), as he enters a real school for the first time.

The idea of “Wonder” came to Palacio after an encounter with a

little girl with facial differences similar to “Auggie.” In an interview with NPR on September 12, 2013, Palacio recalled sitting next to the girl while taking her sons to get ice cream. Her youngest son, age three at the time, cried and screamed when he saw the girl's face. Palacio quickly got up and left with her children, afraid of not only hurting the little

girl's feelings, but also wanting to avoid her own fear or discomfort.

Unable to stop thinking about how hurtful her response to the little girl was, Palacio became angry with herself, and thought of how often the girl must deal with such situations. What it must be like to “face a world everyday who doesn't know how to face you back” was constantly on Palacio's mind. She wished that she had talked to the girl to teach her children that “there was nothing

to be afraid of.”

She began to write “Wonder” the night of the incident to teach her children and eventually so many others how to “choose kind”—a popular phrase in the book.

Critics have praised “Wonder,” describing it as a book written with “charm and heart.” Friendship, unity and kindness are all key themes in this truly uplifting and moving read. The New York Times describes “Wonder” as “rich and memorable. . . . It's Auggie and the rest of the children who are the real heart of ‘Wonder,’ and Palacio captures the voices of girls and boys, fifth graders and teenagers, with equal skill.”

Nicholas Sparks, the author of “The Notebook,” wrote, “‘Wonder’ touches the heart in the most life-affirming, unexpected ways, delivering in August Pullman a character whom readers will remember forever. Do yourself a favor and read this book—your life will be better for it.”

A truly impactful novel, “Wonder” urges readers of every age to, “when given the choice between being right, or being kind, choose kind.”

and nuance in speech, mannerisms, customs or even appearance. Many Americans of Mexi-

The Movie

By Hailey Tyrrell '19

Based on the bestselling novel by R. J. Palacio, Stephen Chbosky's film adaptation of “Wonder” has taken the nation by storm.

“Wonder” tells the inspiring story of Auggie Pullman, a fifth grader with Treacher Collins syndrome, a genetic disorder causing deformities of the ears, eyes, cheekbones and chin. Auggie, who has been home schooled up until fifth grade, enters middle school, but his worries do not stop there. He has to deal with the other fifth graders while they mature and learn to accept him and his differences.

Toggling back and forth between each character's point of view, Palacio and Chbosky take the audience on an emotional rollercoaster ride throughout the film.

The film begins with Auggie's point of view. Portrayed by actor Jacob Tremblay, Auggie is an extremely intelligent and humorous child who loves “Star Wars” and outer space, but because of his facial condition, he understands life differently than his classmates. Unfortunately, the other kids do not share this same level of maturity, making Auggie's first

year outside of homeschooling extremely challenging. Luckily, Auggie's friends and family are there to help him through these difficult times.

In addition to Auggie, the film follows the life of his older teenage sister Via, portrayed by Izabela Vidovic. Via has friendship struggles and is dealing with her new boyfriend. She wants nothing more than attention from her

Glenn Kenny wrote, “As Auggie's parents, Ms. Roberts and Mr. Wilson are doing things we love to see those actors doing. (Ms. Roberts lets loose her trademark ebullient laugh at least once, and Mr. Wilson explains life's issues to Auggie in a droll drawl.)”

Jacob Tremblay steals the show in “Wonder.” Director Stephen Chbosky said to KidsPost, “There was no need for an audition. . . . Jacob's a mischievous, curious kid who's so funny, so charming. Since we knew we wanted Auggie to always be a hero, never be a victim, Jacob was a perfect fit.”

Although the film is family-oriented, do not shy away from seeing it because it is both extremely entertaining and uplifting.

Kenny continued, “‘Wonder’ is that rare thing, a family picture that moves and amuses while never overtly pandering.”

“Wonder” is changing society's view on “deformity” for the better and encouraging people of every age to choose kindness whenever they are given the option. The film has already made an impact. It's overarching theme of kindness has already become a trending hashtag, #choosekind.

New York Times film critic



The cover of “Wonder” emphasizes one of the book's central themes: “You can't blend in when you were born to stand out.”



Owen Wilson, Jacob Tremblay and Julia Roberts star in the movie “Wonder” based on R.J. Palacio's thoughtful novel.

“Coco” represents Mexican culture

By Kaitlyn Przydzial '19

“Coco” took the box office by storm over Thanksgiving weekend, earning over \$70 million in the first five days after its release.

The film features Pixar's first leading minority character, Miguel Rivera, and his family as they prepare for their annual Day of the Dead celebration. The Day of the Dead is a Mexican holiday during which families celebrate and remember family members who have passed away. However, the story quickly develops into an adventure when Miguel finds himself stuck in the Land of the Dead trying to find a way home.

“Coco,” which centers itself around themes of family, music and love, paints a picture of a Mexican family that has been praised by many for its accuracy. Journalist Maira Garcia from the New York Times wrote, “Portrayals of Mexican families — animated or not — by Hollywood can often fail to capture details

and nuance in speech, mannerisms, customs or even appearance. Many Americans of Mexi-



The main character of “Coco,” Miguel, dances and sings with a skeleton friend, Hector, in the Land of the Dead where he learns about determination, teamwork and thankfulness.

can descent, like myself, were overcome with emotion upon seeing a depiction of a family and

household that closely resembles their own.”

Many Latino viewers have

the Riveras. One reviewer said, “[The] portrayal of all of the women in the movie was very

thoughtful and showed their enduring strength. From their facial expressions to the depths they'd

go to for their families.” Director Lee Unkrich, who has also worked on films such as “Toy Story” and “Monsters, Inc.” stated that misrepresentation was one of his chief worries when he began work on “Coco,” saying, “With me not being Latino myself, I knew that this project was going to come under heavy scrutiny.”

In an attempt to prevent any inaccuracies, Unkrich took several trips to Mexico and consulted with representatives from the Latino community, including the president of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, during the production of the movie.

By all accounts, Unkrich and Pixar's efforts seem to have paid off; as The Campanile went to press, “Coco” had a 97% Rotten Tomatoes rating and has already won the New York Film Critics Circle Award for Best Animated Film.

Fenty Beauty makes its mark in the beauty industry

By Kiara Pile '19

Rihanna's revolutionary make-up line, Fenty Beauty, officially launched on September 7, 2017.

So what made the launch so revolutionary? The cruelty free Pro Filt'r Soft Matte Longwear Foundation comes in 40 different shades from light to deep, a groundbreaking feat in the beauty industry. Most makeup lines that do carry darker colors usually only have about four or five shades to choose from, which does not give black women many options when it comes to choosing a foundation; this is why Fenty Beauty resonates so well with women of color. Fenty Beauty noticed and represented women of color in a positive way, but Rihanna did not stop there. The foundation line also offers coverage to the albino community, another group neglected in the beauty industry.

It was Rihanna's main goal to have a very lightweight and diverse makeup line that everyone



Rihanna launched her revolutionary line of foundations, concealers and more on Sept. 7, 2017. Fenty Beauty caters to a diverse audience, with 40 foundation options available.

can enjoy.

"Makeup is there for you to play. It's there for you to have fun with. It should never feel like pressure, and it should never feel like a uniform," she said on the Fenty Beauty website.

The other amazing products

available for purchase on the Fenty Beauty website are the Match Stix, the Pro Filt'r Instant Retouch Primer and the Killawatt Freestyle Highlighter. Another product that gained a lot of publicity was the Gloss Bomb Universal Lip Luminizer. It is avail-

able in one shade and creates the perfect combination of gloss and shimmer, beautiful on any skin tone.

Fenty Beauty took in a whopping \$73 million in the first month of its release, reports BET, and is expected to make even more

with the release of the Galaxy Collection, which launched in mid-October. The special edition collection includes the Galaxy Eyeshadow Palette, Hyper-Glitz Lipstick, 2-in-1 Glitter Release Eyeliner and Lip Glitter. Perfect for the holidays!

The revolutionary makeup line earned many great reviews, including one from Marissa Lewis, Associate Video Producer at Essence Magazine.

"The reason I was so excited to try this line is that Rihanna is aware and inclusive of women of color in everything she does—and her makeup line reflects that inclusivity," she said.

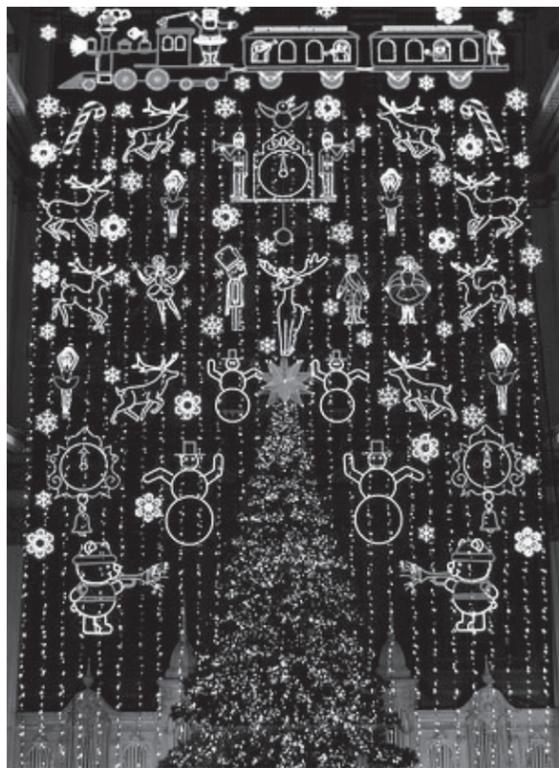
Fenty Beauty is a breath of fresh air for the beauty industry. Rihanna was able to represent those who were not being noticed, which in turn shattered a barrier that needed to be broken. Hopefully, other makeup companies take notice of what Fenty Beauty is able to achieve and follow in its footsteps.

Create holiday memories in Philadelphia and New York City

By Anna Murphy '20 and Anna Wallace '20

Christmas is coming soon! There are so many festive attractions to visit in the city of Brotherly Love and the Big Apple! If you want just a close trip, Philadelphia has everything from breathtaking light shows to ice skating rinks. Although farther away, New York City has several places that will ring in the holiday season!

PHILADELPHIA



From November 25, 2017, to December 31, 2017, Macy's Christmas Light Show in Center City will be playing. It features more than 100,000 LED lights throughout the free, indoor show, and the finale Christmas tree has 34,500 LED lights itself!

Visit City Hall if you want to be amazed by all the things nearby! The Christmas Village in Love Park is open from November 18, 2017, to December 24, 2017. Here you can do some last minute Christmas shopping! From November 10 to February 25, skate at the Rothman Institute Ice Rink at Dilworth Park. After skating, cozy up with a cup of hot chocolate in the Rothman Cabin!



Filled with huge LED light displays, the Comcast Center lobby displays a complimentary fifteen-minute show that runs every hour! Come enjoy this show from November 23, 2017, to January 1, 2018.



From November 13, 2017, to December 24, 2017 Grand Central Station's Vanderbilt Hall transforms into an indoor holiday market that is fun for all ages. The NY Transit Museum Gallery Annex and Store has a Holiday Toy Train display that is two levels and 34-foot long and features a trip from New York City to the North Pole!

NEW YORK CITY

Bryant Park features the only admission-free ice skating rink in New York City! There is a Christmas Market that features everything from chocolate shops to jewelry stores. It's a great place to get holiday gifts and enjoy the city at Christmas. The Holiday Shops at the Winter Village are open from October 28, 2017, to January 2, 2018.



Rockefeller Center is a delight during the holiday season. Come see the giant Christmas tree or watch the light show outside Saks Fifth Avenue. Take in views of the city from 850 feet above street level with the Top of the Rock Elevator. You can ice skate and enjoy the holiday spirit!



Mount Crew finds success during fall season



Varsity Coach Meg Kennedy '92; juniors Nora Hogan and Riley Gorman; senior Katie Hallahan; juniors Shayne McKernan and Sofi Bernal posing with their medals after placing 3rd at the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta in the JV4+A boat.

By Olivia Brogan '18

The fall season for the Mount crew team was full of success and excitement. Over the months of September, October and November, the team competed in a series of regattas.

The season kicked off with the Kings Head Regatta held on September 24 in Upper Merion. The JV4+ boats placed 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th. The V8+ boats finished in 2nd and 3rd place. Additionally, the JV8+ boats came in 2nd, 3rd and 5th.

At the Navy Day Regatta on October 14, the 1V and 3V won their races (and mugs!), and the rest of the team also placed well

on their home course in Philadelphia. The V4s placed 4th, 5th, 7th and 13th out of 31 boats. Alumnae came back to row in the Alumnae 8+ and finished 1st in their race.

At the Head of the Charles Regatta, held from October 21-22 in Boston, the V8+ placed 8th out of 85 boats and set the record for Mount's fastest individual time at 16:57.641 for that race. This is a huge improvement from last year. Senior Gabi Natale commented on the season, saying, "Head of the Charles was the main highlight. We did super well! Compared to last year, we placed nine spots better, from 17th to 8th."

On October 29, the team competed in



Coxswain Sarah Jordan '10; Rowers Erika McCormick '09, Dana Lerro '12, Alanna McCloy '10, Meredith Bracken '11, Dana Zielinski '12, Steph Eble '15, Kiera McCloy '13 and Maura O'Donnell '13 finished first at the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta.

the Head of the Schuylkill Regatta in Philadelphia. Despite the rainy day, the JV4+A managed to take home bronze and the Alumnae 8+ won gold. This regatta was especially difficult for the boats that raced, as many crews from across the United States and abroad came to compete.

At the final regattas of the fall season, the Philadelphia Frostbite Regatta and the Braxton Memorial Regatta, Mount boats showed the true depth of the program. These two regattas were held on November 11-12 at Mercer Lake in West Winsor, NJ. At Frostbite, the 1V and 3V finished 1st, the 2V finished 2nd and the fours finished 1st, 2nd and 4th. The next day, Mount

raced again in the bitter cold at the Braxton regatta. The 5V placed 1st, the 1V and 4V finished 2nd, the 3V finished 4th, the 2V finished 5th and the V4+ finished 6th. The weekend proved to be a victorious weekend for Mount Crew overall.

With a successful fall season under their belts, the team heads into winter training with plans to dominate the competition in the spring. Junior Nora Hogan said, "Although winter training may be a drag, the hours of work on the erg will make us as a team stronger, better and faster. I cannot wait to crush the competition come May and June! Big things ahead!"

Bracelet reminds Wentz of the "bigger picture"

By Alexa Silvestri '18

The 11-2 Eagles soared to first place in the NFC this season with some help from Carson Wentz and a little "Dutch Destroyer."

In 2015, Lukas Kusters was an eight-year-old boy living in a football-frenzied home in Wilmington, Delaware, who had a dream of making it to the NFL when he grew older. Lukas was a strong, feisty football player who earned the nickname "Dutch Destroyer." He was diagnosed with stomach cancer only a few days after his soon-to-be favorite player, Wentz, was drafted by the Philadelphia Eagles, Lukas's favorite team.

After a year of radiation and chemotherapy in a hospital room decked out in green and white, one of the radiation technicians shared Lukas's story with the Eagles.

Wentz took it upon himself to send Lukas a video message. Lukas's mother, Rebecca, told ESPN, "When he saw what [the message] was, and when he saw that it was for him, he just got this smile, just the most beautiful smile on his face, just ear to ear."

It was not long after this touching moment that Lukas's cancer worsened, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation stepped in. When Lukas was asked what his wish was, all he wanted to do was thank Wentz.

The Make-A-Wish Founda-



Wentz receives a bracelet from Lukas Kusters, "the Dutch Destroyer."

tion was able to set up a meeting with Lukas and his hero. Lukas was greeted by Wentz and Jordan Hicks, a linebacker for the Eagles, at the Eagles' practice facility in the early months of 2017. Lukas gave Wentz a bracelet with his nickname, "Dutch Destroyer," on it during their meeting.

Wentz brought Lukas into the locker room for autographs and to the cafeteria for a treat. When Lukas and the team said their goodbyes, Lukas asked Wentz and Hicks to rub his bald head for "good luck" and gave each of

them a long hug.

"It was a day that started as I thought would be just a simple hang out with this kid, and it went way deeper than that," said Wentz.

Sadly, on June 12, 2017, two weeks after this touching meeting and only four days after Lukas's 10th birthday, Lukas lost his battle to cancer. He was later buried in a Carson Wentz jersey.

"[The sport is] so much deeper than football is what it comes down to. It's so much more than just a game. Impactful. Meaning-

ful. Powerful. And just another reminder for me that it is more than a game; that it is an opportunity to do good, whatever that is, whatever that looks like, and to just be authentic and genuine with people," said Wentz.

The next Eagles' game, the season opener against the Washington Redskins on September 10, was not the same for the Kusters without Lukas. But, it felt as if Lukas were there when the family watched Wentz emerge from the tunnel. He never took off Lukas's bracelet.

"I wear it in games. I never take it off. And I really never wear bracelets like this, but this

one has definitely given me extra motivation, reminds me of that bigger-picture purpose," Wentz told ESPN.

"You know, my baby may not get to live his dream of being in the NFL, but he's awful close right now," said Rebecca Kusters. "He's there. He's there with Carson. It is not just a rubber bracelet. That's a little boy's dream, right there."

Remembering Roy Halladay

By Molly Duffy '19

One of the most respected men ever to play the game of baseball, beloved Phillie Roy "Doc" Halladay, leaves behind an unforgettable legacy after his tragic death on Tuesday, Nov. 7. Around noon, Halladay, 40, crashed his newly purchased, small, two-passenger plane off the coast of Florida in the Gulf of Mexico. He leaves behind his wife, Brandy, and two sons, Ryan, 17, and Brayden, 13.

Beginning his career with the Toronto Blue Jays in 1998, Halladay, an eight-time All-Star, earned two Cy Young Awards, one with the Blue Jays in 2003, and one with the Philadelphia Phillies in 2010. Also in 2010 while on the Phillies, Halladay pitched the 20th perfect game in the history of the MLB and the second no-hitter in the history of the postseason. Not only was his talent on the field remarkable, but his sincerity off the field made fans and players alike admire his character and generosity.

Dozens of his former teammates including Chase Utley and Jimmy Rollins remembered Halladay's work ethic and humility in his everyday life. Former Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard said in a statement, "We lost a great ball player but an even better human being."

Field Hockey finishes strong Back in the water

By Katie Greed '19

On November 7 at Methacton High School, Mount field hockey wrapped up one of their most successful seasons to date at the first round of the PIAA State Tournament. After a strong finish in the Catholic Academy League, the Magic moved onto the District Championship, and eventually to the PIAA State Tournament.

The team placed second in the District Championship, a testament to the girls' hard work all

the PIAA State Tournament on November 7.

"We were very excited to qualify for the State Tournament for the second year in a row, and went into the first round game ready to give it our all," junior Maddie Niekelski said.

The game, which was moved to 6:00 p.m. due to inclement weather, was at Methacton High School against Manheim Central. Despite heavy rain and high winds, the team persevered. With less than 10 minutes left to play, the

that [we] made it that far!" senior captain Mary Kate Stefanowicz said.

As a whole, the team grew close both on and off the field this season, creating an important level of trust among the teammates.

Stefanowicz added, "I think that our team dynamic this year really helped us. All of us were really close this year and I think that it really helped us on the field."

Senior captain Grace Wallis added, "Another thing that really

By Mari Kniewski '19

The Magic won its first meet on December 7 against Plymouth Whitmarsh, then fell to North Penn on December 13.

Seniors Cathryn Antonacio, Jen DeGroat, Rebecca Patti and

"In every race I swim, no matter how long or short, I know I can keep going because my coaches push me," said Mikalic. "I knew I was capable of making districts, and that confidence can always push anyone to go that extra step in order to accomplish her goals."



Captains, seniors Elizabeth Sullivan, Jen DeGroat, Rebecca Patti and Cathryn Antonacio lead the Magic.

Elizabeth Sullivan are leading the team as captains this season.

"Our first two meets went really well," said DeGroat. "We've had really fast swims, which is good because it is so early in the season. Some girls have already made districts."

"The team is also showing a lot of depth," added DeGroat, "which is really important for winning meets that have a close score. I am looking forward to the rest of the season because the team has a lot of potential that is going to help us in later meets and champs."

Talented freshman Maggie Mikalic made her mark at the Plymouth Whitmarsh meet. Mikalic made the district cut in the 500 freestyle and anchored her relay.

In particular, the team is looking forward to achieving their goals when they face off against biggest rival, Gwynedd Mercy.

Returning for her 17th season for the Magic, Coach Janet Tompkins said, "I am looking to help the swimmers stay focused on their goals and [be] supportive of one another as they push through the long hours of the season and recognize the value of striving to achieve those goals."

Coach Tompkins noted the girls' dedication: "It's amazing how pumped up the girls get for the meet, but even more impressive is how well they carry themselves outside of the pool; the character and sportsmanship is truly special."



Captain, senior Grace Wallis battles for possession during the first round districts on November 7 against Manheim Central. The Magic lost in overtime.

season. When asked her thoughts on the Championship game, goalie junior Maeve McCarthy said, "It was one of the toughest games we had played all season, and we fought hard until the very end. I do not think the final score reflected just how well we played, as I know every girl gave 110 percent."

Following the District Championship, the Magic continued their season at the first round of

Magic scored, but the goal was called back by the referee. This left the score tied at the end of normal play, which sent the game into overtime. During overtime Manheim scored, and unfortunately for the Magic, that won them the game.

"I think we played really well and that we fought it out until the last minute. I think that the weather had a major effect on the way we played, but I'm still proud

helped us was the experience of our defense led by three seniors. The experience of our backfield was very beneficial when it was a close game because they always stayed calm under pressure."

With the completion of such an exciting season, the Magic are enthusiastic for next year, and cannot wait to build on their accomplishments from this year.

Basketball tips off with tournament win

By Allie Prue '19

The Magic kicked off their season with a championship win at the Methacton Tip-Off Tournament at Methacton High School on December 8 and 9. Mount defeated Ridley High School 51-27 on Friday, Dec. 8, and went on to triumph over Oxford High School 46-33 in the championship game on Saturday.

Following the team's successful weekend, the Mount battled the Gwynedd Mercy Academy Monarchs in their league opener on Tuesday, Dec. 12. The Mount came out victorious with a score of 40-39 as captain, senior Grace DiGiovanni hit the game winning three-point shot with less than ten seconds left on the clock.

"Hitting the winning shot was an experience like no other. It still hasn't hit me yet that we won. Every single person stepped up in this game, and it was a team effort to get the win," said DiGiovanni.

"Coming out of the Methacton tournament, we knew what we needed to improve on to prepare for Gwynedd. We had a lot of turnovers during the tournament,

so we worked on making smart passes and keeping our cool in the hectic environment that we would be exposed to during the Gwynedd game," she added.

DiGiovanni is joined by fellow captains, seniors Erin Bethel and Deirdre Regan, as well as a new coaching staff.

New head coach, Jim Roynan, is committed to building on the success of the Mount Basketball program. "Coach Roynan was the most qualified candidate who has been coaching for many years. I believe his style fit the Mount mission, and he has many positive and innovative ideas to bring to the program," said A.D. Mrs. Janet Columbus.



Captains, seniors Deirdre Regan, Erin Bethel and Grace DiGiovanni lead the Magic for 2017-2018.

Coach Roynan, or "Jimmy Ro" as the players call him, was the assistant varsity coach for Lansdale Catholic High School's girls' basketball team for the past three years and has spent seventeen years as head coach for many boys and girls CYO teams at Saint Joseph-Saint Robert School and AAU teams at Renegades, Inc.

Coach Roynan said he is looking forward to "coaching a team of respectful and hard-working girls who enjoy one another's company and who think positively about themselves, their team, their school and their community."

Regan said, "Jimmy Ro really

stresses the importance of sharing the ball and passing a lot, so I think team camaraderie is going to be our biggest goal this season. We're excited for a great year and to be 'better together.'"

Assisting Coach Roynan is his daughter, Emily Roynan, as well as returning assistant coach, Rebecca Kaslow '06. Emily Roynan, who played for Archbishop Wood, assisted her father in his previous coaching positions.

Asked about his expectations for the season, Coach Roynan told The Campanile he expects the team "to be a better team than they were at the beginning of the season by giving their best effort every practice, every game, every event and every activity."

DiGiovanni added, "With the departure of our starting five and our head coach, this year Mount basketball will look a bit different from the outside. But on the inside, we remain a team committed to sisterhood, hard work and determination to succeed. We are very excited to welcome the new coaches and look forward to building the next generation of Mount basketball."