



# THE CAMPANILE

MOUNT SAINT JOSEPH ACADEMY

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*Glee Club performs in the annual Christmas Concert, held on December 11 and 12. The concert opened with the procession of the Glee Club down the middle aisles while singing “Veni, Veni, Emanuel” (“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”) in its original Latin. Director of Music Ms. Danielle Molan said she chose the advent hymn to “open the concert with a sense of waiting.” When the girls reached the stage in the front of the auditorium, the concert moved from advent to Christmas with the second song, “Carol of the Bells.” Sweet Madelines, Handbell Choir, Orchestra and senior and junior Piano and Vocal Scholars also showcased their talents in the concert, celebrating both the sacred and secular traditions of Christmas.*

## Theme Tuesdays celebrate Unity and Reconciliation

By Sammy Knoblauch '20

This year, the Mount community is celebrating our annual theme a little differently. Throughout the school year, we will listen to Theme Tuesday presentations by the Sisters of Saint Joseph on various topics related to this year's theme of Unity and Reconciliation.

Campus Minister Mrs. Rebecca Conte told *The Campanile*, “The presentations are intended for us to be able to go further with our theme of the year.”

She, Dean of Students Mrs. Kathleen Guyger and Director of Guidance Mrs. Amy Balcer came up with the idea for the presentations last year. Referring to their decision, Mrs. Conte said, “We felt that our students and colleagues could use time carved out of the schedule to focus on spirituality and our personal connections with the theme, which is based on the Mission of the Sisters of St. Joseph.”

This reflection surrounding the theme will be accomplished through the Sisters' presentations themselves, but also the reflection questions that they will create to be discussed in advisory, following the presentations.

In addition to providing insights into the theme, the presentations are “an opportunity for our school community to get to know the SSJs better. Some of the sisters may be familiar to us, some sisters may be brand new,” said Mrs. Conte.

Interim President Sister Mary Dacey, a new presence in the Mount community for many this year, delivered the first presentation on October 8, speaking about the overarching theme of Unity and Reconciliation. S. Mary Dacey said she greatly enjoyed giving

this presentation, which was different from any other presentation she has given this year in that it was personal.

S. Mary said, “What I think is really amazing about [Theme Tuesday presentations] at the Mount is that I have the opportunity to share my own spirituality, my own way of living the mission with this community. . . . It really touches me that this community is trying to live the mission in the same way I am.”

From her experience as a Sister of Saint Joseph, S. Mary has learned that “A very basic understanding [of unity] is self-emptying . . . to bring in God and the dear neighbor.” Although we are naturally drawn to think of ourselves, we must first create space for God. S. Mary said, “If I don't create space for God, there is no way I can create that space for others. . . . And then it's that relationship [with God] that spills over to the dear neighbor.”

According to S. Mary, we must practice Unity and Reconciliation together. She said, “I can't reconcile. I can't make whole again what has been broken or what is lacking in my life and my relationships if [unity] doesn't happen first. The two pieces go together. You can't have one without the other.” However, this is not to suggest that reconciliation is a simple fallout of unity. Referring to reconciliation, S. Mary said, “This is a challenge. This is difficult. . . . It's a real commitment, and it's not easy,” but it is something we can all accomplish.

On November 26, the Mount community listened to a different perspective on the theme through Sister Jean Laurich's presentation on compassion. In her presentation, S. Jean said, “Our mission flows from the purpose for which

we were founded. We live and work so that all might be united with one another.” Compassion is necessary in order to achieve this unity because “our compassionate good gathers all our hearts into one great love.”

Through her presentation, S. Jean sought to connect the mission of the sisters in Le Puy to the actions of the Sisters of Saint Joseph today by sharing anecdotal stories about current sisters and speaking about her volunteer work at Dawn's Place, an organization that serves women who have been victims of sex-traffick-

S. Joannie related the theme of inclusivity to everyday life and Unity and Reconciliation through stories from her own life.

She began by speaking of her time volunteering in an immigrant processing center at the Mexico-El Paso border and her encounter with Sonya and Sonya's daughter. They had been living in a tent encampment for four months, and Sonya was forced to wear a GPS tracker to remain in the United States. After this encounter and others, S. Joannie, thinking about the “children and women seeking home,” reflected on how she is sometimes “un-free to reach out to someone who is different than I am.” We all demonstrate this exclusivity sometimes because of our insecurities, fears and worries about what others might think of us, according to S. Joannie. We should all strive for inclusive love. “Inclusive love calls me to reach out crossing visible and invisible borders to the other,” said S. Joannie.

While volunteering locally at Saint Francis Inn, she met a homeless man who posed the question, “Do you see me?” After asking her the same question a few more times, he said, “You see me, but not as a homeless person.” She then listened to him recount stories from his life in Kensington, and after he finished, she was left to reflect on how she views those around her. Speaking about this experience, S. Joannie said, “There are invitations to cross the borders every day and truly see, truly listen.”

Describing these borders, S. Joannie said, “Sometimes [these divides] are far away and sometimes they are close to home. It could be a visible threshold like walking in the cafeteria, going to

Fontbonne and class. There are others not so visible. Seeing and listening and crossing the borders says, ‘You matter. I see you. I'm here. I'm listening to what's underneath.’ To be inclusive changes everything.”

S. Joannie left the Mount community with this message: “This is our legacy. To be women of unity. So, my hope is in you. That you will be carriers of the charism and mission, crossing over boundaries, visible and those still hidden and invisible, wherever you are. And that inclusive love won't be just words on a poster or a flier or left on the walls in this building, but rather in your hearts and by your very presence. ‘Spes messis in semine’: it's in you. That seed is in you.”

Throughout the rest of the year, we will continue to expand our understanding of Unity and Reconciliation as we listen to other insightful presentations. The remainder of the presentations include Sister Pat Mensing's presentation on forgiveness (February 11), Sister Cathie Meighan's presentation on relationships (March 10) and Sister Colleen Gibson's presentation on sisterhood (April 7).

As we listen to the sisters, we will all come to see that the Sisters of Saint Joseph do not have the charism of the mission, but rather, as S. Mary shared with *The Campanile*, “The charism has the Sister of Saint Joseph because it really is the charism that calls and draws us forth. It's true of every member of this Mount community. The charism has you.”



ing or prostitution.

Additionally, she showed us that “The Mount's mission, your mission, is so connected to the mission of the Sisters of Saint Joseph.” To live this mission, we are “challenged to look at each other in the room to look with our eyes into the eyes of the other” so that we can truly see each other. Then, “Compassion invites us to welcome and be with all our dear neighbors without distinction,” said S. Jean.

On December 10, the Mount Community listened to Sister Joannie Cassidy's presentation on inclusivity. In her presentation,

## Cast of MSJ Today works to inform mounties

By Noelle Au-Wallick '20

MSJ Today is making strides in the Mount community with the help of an ambitious TV production class and new production studio!

Alyssa Mattia '17 and Kathryn Murphy '17 created MSJ Today, formally WMAG TV, as their final project for the Women as Founders course. Mattia and Murphy chose their project as a means to empower women and voice their opinions in the Mount community.

When asked why she chose TV production as her final project, Murphy told *The Campanile*, "I think that the TV studio spreads the Mount mission by encouraging young women to explore any interest they have in areas that are typically male-dominated, like TV production. I wanted to encourage women that they can be successful on and off screen, with both being equally as valuable."

With the establishment of the TV Production course, MSJ Today has come a long way since 2017. When speaking about the progress MSJ Today has made, Instructional Technology Coordinator and teacher of the TV



TV Production students, Jaylen Baron and Libby Fecak film an introduction.

Production course, Mrs. Meridith Herne, told *The Campanile*, "We now are running the program as a course first so that I have time to train the students how to use the equipment and teach them about all aspects of television production. We've been building slowly over the past three years, and I'm hopeful that this will be our best year yet."

The addition of a new production studio this year is a key factor in MSJ Today. "Having a

permanent studio space makes it much easier to produce our shows. We don't have to worry so much about the noise level or other outside interference affecting the quality of the show. In the new studio, we also have more space so we can hopefully add in more equipment in the future," said Mrs. Herne.

When speaking about the importance of MSJ Today, Mrs. Herne told *The Campanile*, "MSJ Today brings a voice to the stu-

dent body. It's an opportunity to bring awareness to issues, ideas and causes that are important to you with a built-in audience of over 500 people. It's so important in today's society for young women to use their voices to speak up and speak out. MSJ Today is a platform where students at the Mount can have their voices heard."

A dedicated cast is key to the success of the MSJ Today productions, and above all else this

year's student cast is just that: dedicated. Comprised of both seniors and juniors, the cast of Noelle Au-Wallick, Jaylon Baron, Ali Dobbs, Libby Donahue, Libby Fecak, Annia Hobe, Anna Paz and Mae Sweeney learns the mechanics of putting on a show. In addition to learning the mechanics, students create "packages" which consist of small stories or news happening here at the Mount that can be used throughout the year in the MSJ Today episodes. When speaking to the students in the course about the progress of the show, senior Libby Fecak reflected on the importance of a unified cast.

"We got really lucky because our class just clicks. We all think alike and bounce ideas off each other when it comes to brainstorming. It's really great. We're all so dedicated to making MSJ Today work and want it to become something all students hope to participate in during their time here at the Mount. Overall I think having such a great cast will help MSJ Today make strides during this school year."

## Ellie Slawek Kodes

By Alyssa Charlton '20

For the past two summers, senior Ellie Slawek was selected to participate in the Kode with Klossy (KWK) intensive coding program. Karlie Kloss is most well known as a supermodel; however, she also attended New York University's Gallatin School, majoring in Computer Science. Kloss believes in the benefit of a STEM education and takes advantage of her influential platform to spread that message. She established this summer coding camp for young girls with the mission of inspiring a new generation of empowered women through STEM.

Slawek commented on this mission statement saying, "KWK calls coding a 'superpower' because it is limitless and can do so much for the world. And when this power is in the right hands, it can lead to monumental developments."

Each day during the camp, girls are exposed to different applications of coding. For the most part, mornings are spent learning new material, followed by a "brain break," which Slawek deemed to be the "best part of the day." They interact with fun games, watch entertaining videos related to coding and speak with inspiring women from around the world.

As the two-week program comes to an end, the camp scholars spend their afternoons working on their final projects. For Slawek, her first summer was

spent designing a website called "SHEinspires," meant to spread positivity through unique quotes and personalized playlists. This past summer, she worked in the Mobile Applications Camp in order to create an IOS app called "Fill-A-Bucket," a bucket list application for people visiting Philadelphia.

Through the KWK summer coding program, Slawek not only discovered and explored a whole new world of coding, but also experienced many opportunities enhanced by a network of inspiring women in STEM. Slawek spoke of her involvement saying, "I not only gained so much knowledge about programming, but I also gained an empowering group of females who will rally behind me for any cause; I gained a family. KWK opens you up to so many amazing resources and people. Just because of this program, I have been featured in videos, articles and even summit panels. KWK connects you with a whole network of female role models."

As she intends on pursuing an undergraduate major in Mechanical Engineering, Slawek strongly believes that having a background in computer science will be extremely beneficial.

"Programming is much more than numbers and letters and nerds sitting in a basement. Understanding the basics to coding will change the way you approach life. You learn to break down problems and situations into steps and pieces and tackle them one at a time," she said.

## PA honors Brigit Ferry for service

By Caroline Jakubik '20

Senior Brigit Ferry was recognized by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on October 22 for her work with the Christian Legal Clinic of Philadelphia. The legal aid clinic offers free legal resources to Philadelphia's poorest residents, an effort Ferry has been involved with for two years.

"I've always been interested in being a lawyer," said Ferry. "Along with her law practice, my nana frequently volunteers at the clinic and since I was interested in being a lawyer, she asked me to come with her so I could learn and observe and help check in and direct the clients attending."

Ferry said that she expected to learn about life as a lawyer, but what she gained from the clinic was "so much more."

At the clinic, Ferry met a woman whose abusive ex-husband locked her and her disabled son out of their house. Ferry's experience helping the lawyers at the clinic defend this woman inspired her to do more. She launched a fundraising campaign to assist in hiring the clinic's first full-time family law attorney, an effort that has included presentations at local parishes, a GoFundMe page, direct solicitation to local law firms and development of marketing materials. Her campaign has raised \$13,000 so far.

Ferry's campaign caught the attention of Benjamin Sanchez, 153rd District Montgomery County Representative, who wanted to recognize Ferry of-



Brigit Ferry accepts citation from Speaker of the House, Mike Turzai, and Representative Ben Sanchez.

ficially, and so he invited her to Harrisburg to be presented with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania House of Representatives Citation.

Ferry hopes to go into a profession where she can help people as she has been able to at the clinic. Speaking of the clients she has worked with, Ferry said, "Even

though we are all so different, we are all the same."

Ferry plans to continue her work with the Christian Legal Clinic of Philadelphia in the future.

"It's really humbling work and it's refreshing to step out of a bubble and get this real-world experience," she said.

## Student Council begins new Mount traditions

### Mount bakers compete in holiday-themed contests

By Caroline Andress '21 and Gianna Tancredi '21

On October 30, Mount hosted its first ever Halloween Baking Competition. The event, hosted by the Student Leadership Council, was held in Moderator Mrs. Margaret DeStefano's classroom during both lunches.

Twenty students and five teachers signed up to make bite-sized, pumpkin-themed Halloween treats, but only five could win the title of best bakers.

"I decided to sign up for the competition because I have been baking since I was little. I also love the feeling of when someone loves what you baked," said sophomore Ellie Devine.

Math teacher Mrs. Lisa Rovner said she really enjoys baking, and "finds it very satisfying and therapeutic. I just love to see people enjoying what I have made. It makes me smile knowing that I made someone happy."

When asked who they thought was their biggest competitor, Mrs. Katie Kennedy, Mr. Matthew Dominick and Mrs. Alaina Schools all said, "Mrs. Rovner!"

"Mrs. Rovner, is a given. She is like a pro!" said Mrs. Schools.

"She is an 'award-winning baker!'" added Mrs. Kennedy.

Mr. Anthony Nardini had an unusual take on the competition, telling *The Campanile*, "My biggest competitor is myself - if my baking doesn't taste good, or if it comes out wrong, then there's nothing I can do."

To ensure the bakers remained anonymous, the twenty-five entries were displayed in groups of five on five different tables without names. Approximately 100 students paid five dollars to try



Winners Catherine Magtibay, Mrs. Schools, Mrs. Quinones, Mrs. Kennedy and Mrs. Rovner



Two-time winner Catherine Magtibay and winner Ava Solecki display their prize spatulas.

five different desserts. Each student was assigned to one of the five tables and then voted for her favorite.

The five winners included: Mrs. Kennedy for her mini-pumpkin whoopie pies, junior Catherine Magtibay for her mini-pumpkin spice cakes, Mrs. Rovner for her pumpkin caramel poke cake, Mrs. Schools for her creamy pumpkin delight and senior Ava Solecki for her pumpkin pie brownies. Winners received a Halloween-themed spatula.

"I would definitely compete again if there were to be another baking competition," said Magtibay. "Although I am not a competitive person, this was such an exciting experience for me."

"My experience with this baking competition was also surprisingly educative," she added. "I learned how to work with miniature baked goods, which is something that I have never done before."

The competition raised around five hundred dollars, which Student Council will use to support future school events and also charities.

In response to student enthusiasm for the Halloween contest, Student Council hosted a Christmas Cookie Competition on December 4.

The five winners included: repeat winner Magtibay for her peppermint-frosted chocolate snow globe cookies, freshman Janey Amons for her peppermint crunch cookies, junior Arlyn Kryst for her peppermint macarons, Mrs. Lydia Quiñones for her chocolate caramel shortbread cookies and senior Maura Scanlon for her gingerbread sugar cookies.

## Student Leadership Council empowers student body

By Brigit Ferry '20

On Founders' Day, Student Leadership Council (SLC) created a video emphasizing the importance of living out this year's school theme, Unity and Reconciliation. Since then, officers, President Bernadette Shields, Vice President McLaughlin and Secretary Dariya Brann have continued to work hard to foster unity in the school community. The officers are focused on increasing efficiency within the council itself as well as increasing their role in acting as mediators between the student body and administration.

"We implemented new internal and external reforms to Student Council," said Shields.

"Within student council, we've implemented a system of committees so every [advisory] representative is a major leader of two events," Brann added.

Specific committees have delegated responsibilities such as the Public Relations Committee, who takes responsibility for advertising events on the Student Leadership Council Instagram. With the addition of advisory representatives taking on a larger role, the officers have also implemented a more organized structure to meetings.

McLaughlin said, "We have added detailed agendas for meetings and official proposals to create new ideas and events."

The officers have also attended leadership conferences hosted by the Pennsylvania Association of Student Council (PASC) to learn how to improve the schools' council and be the best leaders possible.

Externally, Shields, McLaughlin and Brann are focusing on improving communication between students and administration as well as planning fun events to get

everyone involved.

To improve communication between the student council and the student body, the officers created Magic Minutes. A magic minute is a one-minute, biweekly update video with information regarding upcoming events throughout the week. Students can view Magic Minutes on the SLC Instagram! The SLC also implemented Town Hall Meetings, where any student can offer feedback or suggestions.

"Our Town Hall Meetings help to give students a voice in the community to make changes and create ideas even if they are not a part of student council," said McLaughlin.

Students can give feedback and suggestions through student council's monthly update emails, where Mounties can rate the performance of student council that month and offer new ideas.

The SLC has also made changes to favorite Mount tradi-

tions such as Pink Week, Mount's Breast Cancer Awareness Week, to get the school more involved and excited! This year during Pink Week, the officers, advisory representatives, teachers and administrators made TikToks to promote fundraising and involvement in pink dress-down days.

SLC is excited for the rest of the school year with upcoming events such as a giving drive to make Christmas baskets for the Sisters of St. Joseph, the winter sports pep-rally and of course Soph Hop and Junior and Senior Winter formal. The SLC is also planning a Mother/Daughter event and possibly a field day in the spring.

"I've loved working with the representatives and other officers. We have such a great group of passionate and excited girls, and I can't wait to see everything that we'll accomplish together," said Brann.

"I am so proud to lead and represent Mount because Mount girls are motivated and intelligent individuals. I am honored everyday to brag about my school to anyone I talk to," added Shields.

"Overall, the SLC is excited to create as many positive changes as possible at the Mount, and we hope the students are having and will have the best year ever," said McLaughlin.

SLC Moderator Mrs. Margaret DeStefano said, "Bern, Lauren and Dariya, whose leadership skills are seamlessly complementary, are recognized and respected for those skills by adults and students alike. I never cease to be amazed not only by their endless stream of creative ideas but also by their meticulous, organized and coordinated execution of those ideas. Truly, we are all blessed to have the three of them as the 2019-2020 Student Leadership Council Officers."

## House to vote on articles of impeachment

By Meghan Scheffey '20

President Donald Trump is facing an impeachment inquiry led by House Democrats that may result in his removal from office. The central question is whether or not Trump sought foreign help from Ukraine in an attempt to win re-election in 2020 and if this action warrants impeachment. President Trump strongly denies allegations of any improper actions.

On December 10, the Judiciary Committee released two proposed articles of impeachment against Trump. Signed by Committee Chairman Jerry Nadler, the resolution reads, "Donald J. Trump, President of the United States is impeached for high crimes and misdemeanors and that the following articles of impeachment be exhibited to the United States Senate."

The first article charges the president with "[abusing] the powers of the Presidency" by soliciting "the interference of a foreign government, Ukraine, in the 2020 United States Presidential election."

The second article charges Trump with obstruction of Congress for blocking testimony of current and former White House officials and refusing to provide documents that were subpoenaed by the House in the impeachment inquiry.

As The Campanile goes to press, the Judiciary Committee is expected to vote and pass the two articles of impeachment by a party line vote. The articles will be up for a vote by the entire House of Representatives.

The timeline put forth by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the majority Democrat Judiciary Committee suggests an impeachment vote by the full House before Christmas. If the articles are passed by a simple majority, the Senate will begin the impeachment trial in January.

Discussions over impeachment began in August when an anonymous intelligence official wrote a whistleblower complaint expressing concern over President Trump's July 25 phone call with the president of Ukraine, Volodymyr Zelenskyy. The whistleblower said that he or she had an "urgent concern" that Trump was using his office to "solicit interference from a foreign country" in the upcoming presidential election. President Trump is accused of pressuring Ukraine to investigate possible damaging information on his political opponent, democratic presidential hopeful Joe Biden. Biden's son, Hunter Biden, worked for a Ukrainian oil company, Burisma, while Biden served as Vice President.

The House Democrats have accused Trump of withholding 400 million dollars in military aid which had been previously approved by Congress, and holding a White House meeting with Zelenskyy contingent on Ukraine's cooperation in the investigation into the Bidens. This claim is supported by a released transcript of Trump's phone call with Zelenskyy in which Trump asks Zelenskyy to "do us a favor though."

This claim, which uses the power of the office "for personal political gain and to the detriment of national security," amounts to an abuse of presidential power, according to the BBC.

The public hearings phase of the impeachment inquiry began

### What is impeachment?

By Meghan Scheffey '20

Article II of the United States Constitution states that a president "shall be removed from office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes or misdemeanors."

The process of impeachment is a political one, rather than a criminal one. Unlike in criminal law, there is no clear rule for determining what actions warrant impeachment. The misdemeanors do not need to be crimes to qualify for impeachment. A president

may be impeached for abusing the powers of the office for financial or political gain or for acting in a manner that is considered "incompatible with the office," according to NBC.

The process begins in the House of Representatives. Six House committees, including the House Intelligence Committee, investigate the president and submit their findings to the House Judiciary Committee. The Judiciary Committee deems what evidence warrants impeachment and then writes articles of impeachment. The House votes on the articles. A fifty-one percent majority is required to move the process on to the Senate.

The Senate holds a trial to convict or acquit the president. A two-thirds majority in the Senate is required to remove the president from office. A majority vote to impeach Trump is highly unlikely due to the Republican controlled Senate.

If the president is removed from office, the Presidential Succession Act of 1947 establishes that the line of succession will go from the president to the vice president to the Speaker of the House.

Only two U.S. presidents, Andrew Johnson and Bill Clinton, were formally impeached, and both were acquitted. Richard Nixon resigned rather than face impeachment and certain removal from office.

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are not impeachable because Ukraine's president said that he felt no pressure, the Ukrainians were unaware the aid was held back and the U.S. military aid was eventually released.

However, text messages released by Trump appointees "showed that an aide to Zelenskyy, Andrey Yermak, knew about the aid stoppage in late August, nearly two weeks before aid was reinstated," according to The Washington Post.

After weeks of public testimony in the House Intelligence Committee, the impeachment process has moved to the House Judiciary Committee, which is responsible for drafting articles of impeachment against the president. At the direction of Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, the Committee began writing articles of impeachment, according to The New York Times.

On December 4, the Judiciary Committee held its first hearing on the impeachment investigation. Representatives brought in constitutional scholars to determine whether or not the President's actions towards Ukraine are impeachable offenses. The Democrats on the Judiciary Com-

mittee called the outside experts to establish a conceptual framework for the articles of impeachment and explain the process to the public, according to The New York Times.

The three scholars called by the Democrats, Noah Feldman of Harvard, Pamela Karlan of Stanford and Michael Gerhardt of the University of North Carolina, argued emphatically for impeachment. They believe that Trump's Ukraine scandal easily meets the bar for impeachment.

"If what we are talking about is not impeachable, then nothing is impeachable," said Gerhardt.

Feldman added that "if we cannot impeach a president who abused his office for personal advantage, we no longer live in a democracy."

Jonathan Turley of George Washington University, called by the Republicans, argued that the Democrats were rushing the process without taking time to complete the investigation.

He referred to the impeachment as an "abbreviated period" that creates an "incomplete and inadequate record" for applying the constitutional standards for removing a president from office.

The committee may hold another session for Trump's lawyers to argue a formal defense and call witnesses, according to The New York Times. The White House has yet to say if they will participate in this hearing.

White House counsel Pat Cipollone sent a letter to House Judiciary Chairman Jerry Nadler attacking Democrats' impeachment inquiry as "completely baseless," a "reckless abuse of power" and violating the "basic principles of due process and fundamental fairness."

Nadler responded that "Having declined this opportunity, [Trump] cannot claim that the process is unfair. The President's failure will not prevent us from carrying out our solemn constitutional duty."

### THE CAMPANILE 120 WEST WISSAHICKON AVENUE FLOURTOWN, PA 19031

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## Armenian Genocide officially recognized by U.S.

By *Gianna Tancredi '21*

On Tuesday, Oct. 29, the United States House of Representatives condemned the mass killing of 1.5 million Armenians in the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923 and recognized it as a Genocide. The U.S. record will provide “solemn remembrance of one of the great atrocities of the 20th century.”

“Too often, tragically, the truth of the staggering crime has been denied. . . . Today, let us clearly state the facts on the floor of this House to be etched forever into the Congressional Record: The barbarism committed against the Armenian people was a genocide,” said Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi.

According to The New York Times, “Livid at Turkey’s bloody military assault in northern Syria, some lawmakers saw an uneasy parallel between the Armenian genocide and the bitter warning from Kurdish forces that the withdrawal of American forces would lead to the ethnic cleansing of their people.”

“Recent attacks by the Turkish military against the Kurdish people are a stark reminder of the danger in our own time,” said Pelosi.

Support for the vote to recognize the Armenian genocide grew particularly among Democrats after Turkey’s recent offensive acts against the Kurds along the Syrian border. An estimate of 200 Kurds were killed and more than 200,000 were displaced.

“Given that the Turks are once again involved in ethnic cleansing the population — this time the Kurds who live along the Turkish-Syrian border — it seemed all the more appropriate to bring up a resolution about the Ottoman efforts to annihilate an entire people in the Armenian genocide,” said resolution sponsor Rep. Adam B. Schiff.

Armenian-American Congresswoman and Co-chair of the

Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, Jackie Speier, joined her colleagues in the House of Representatives, and formally recognized the Armenian Genocide.

“The House’s resounding 405-11 vote to recognize the Armenian genocide is a great victory for millions of Armenians around the world. Congress has failed to affirm the truth for far too long and I’m heartened that we have joined our allies around

The House resolution reads, “Resolved. That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that it is the policy of the United States to—(1) commemorate the Armenian Genocide through official recognition and remembrance; (2) reject efforts to enlist, engage, or otherwise associate the United States Government with denial of the Armenian Genocide or any other genocide; and (3) encourage education and public understanding of the facts

occurred in the twentieth century, but rejects the use of the term “genocide” to describe them. The government says other countries should not pass legislation judging another nation’s history.

According to The New York Times, “The Turkish ambassador warned that passage of the ‘biased’ House resolution would ‘poison’ American-Turkish relations, and implied that it would jeopardize Turkish investment in the United States which provides

key’s foreign minister, Mevlut Cavusoglu, took to Twitter. Cavusoglu saw the vote as an act of revenge from American lawmakers for Turkey’s military moves against the Kurds.

Cavusoglu tweeted: “Those whose projects were frustrated turn to antiquated resolutions. Circles believing that they will take revenge this way are mistaken. This shameful decision of those exploiting history in politics is null & void for our Government & people.”

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan, however, praised the move. Pashinyan publicly commended the US Congress on his Twitter.

Pashinyan tweeted: “I salute the U.S. Congress historic vote recognizing the Armenian Genocide. Resolution 296 is a bold step towards serving truth and historical justice that also offers comfort to millions of descendants of the Armenian Genocide survivors.”

Armenia’s government has been campaigning for international recognition of the genocide for a long time, and the Armenian foreign ministry thanked U.S. lawmakers for “their overwhelming commitment to truth, justice and humanity.”

In an Opinion piece in The New York Times, Samantha Power writes, “This sorrow has been compounded by Turkey’s denial of the killings; and while The House last recognized the genocide in 1984, Congress and successive administrations, both Republican and Democratic, have refused to use the word “genocide” for fear of offending Turkey.

There is an estimate of two million Armenian-Americans living in the United States today. Most Armenian-Americans are descendants of genocide survivors.

drowned Armenians in rivers, threw them off cliffs, crucified them and burned them alive. According to The New York Times, approximately 1.5 million Armenian were killed. It is reported that when the genocide was over, there were only 388,000 Armenians remaining in the Ottoman Empire. Those who were fortunate enough to escape fled all over the globe to the United States, Canada and parts of Europe.

According to The New York Times, “Indeed, in Turkey today it remains a crime — ‘insulting Turkishness’ — to even raise the issue of what happened to the Armenians.”

jobs for a ‘considerable number of American citizens.’”

The Turkish ambassador further noted that as the resolution can have no legal ramifications, it was passed solely in order to appease “the Armenian lobby and anti-Turkey groups.”

According to the Republic of Turkey Ministry of Foreign Affairs, “We reject the resolution H.Res.296 entitled ‘Affirming the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide’ that is adopted today by the U.S. House of Representatives as expressing the sense of the Latter. Since in the eyes of the Turkish government and the people, this resolution is totally null and void.”

In response to the vote, Tur-

### History of the Armenian Genocide

By *Gianna Tancredi '21*

The Armenian Genocide (1915-1923) was an organized persecution and expulsion of Armenians living in the Ottoman Empire. Armenians were viewed as second-class citizens to the Turks because they were Christians. After the collapse of the Ottoman Empire in the nineteenth century, the economy was declining and the Turks began to struggle financially. The Armenians were bet-

ter educated, wealthier and more prosperous than the Turks.

According to The New York Times, “By the end of the nineteenth century, the deposed Turkish Sultan Abdul Hamid II declared that he would solve the ‘Armenian question’ once and for all.”

The genocide began on April 24, 1915, when the government arrested and executed several hundred Armenian intellectuals. The persecution continued when Armenians were forced out of their homes, stripped naked and sent on marches to their deaths through the desert under the scorching sun without food or water. Killing squads made up of murderers and ex-convicts

the globe, and 49 U.S. states, in acknowledging that the Ottoman Empire perpetrated a genocide upon the Armenian people,” Rep. Speier said.

“This vote also sent a critically important message to the world in light of Turkey’s modern-day ethnic cleansing campaign of the Kurds in Syria. Today, we sent a message that history can’t be rewritten, that America will no longer abandon Armenians with feeble excuses for a so-called ally, and that we will never forget the atrocities of the past and present. Today we affirmed the Armenian Genocide was real and we stand against it and those who seek to perpetuate such evil again,” said Speier.

of the Armenian Genocide, including the United States role in the humanitarian relief effort, and the relevance of the Armenian Genocide to modern-day crimes against humanity.”

The House follows more than two dozen countries, and 49 of the 50 states by acknowledging the genocide with a vote of 405 to 11. Lawmakers have prolonged the addressment of the Genocide with concerns of damaging the United States’ political relationship with Turkey, a NATO ally. Turkey has, and continues to, deny all allegations of persecuting the Armenians in a “campaign of race extermination.”

Today the Turkish government acknowledges the killings that

## A personal account to ensure history never forgets

By *Gianna Tancredi '21*

The Armenian genocide remains an endless nightmare for its survivors. Those who were fortunate enough to escape were left with awful atrocities burned into their memories.

My grandmother and a descendant of Armenian genocide survivors, Millicent Asadoorian said, “My father never wanted to talk about the horrible atrocities that his family experienced. He wouldn’t want to talk about it because he tried to assimilate into American culture. My family and parents would only speak Armenian at home and he felt he owed his allegiance to this country [United States] for taking him in when it was unsafe in his own country.”

Millicent’s grandfather, Charles Garabed Zorzopian, originally Garabed Zorzopian, changed his name when entering the U.S. in an attempt to assimilate. Millicent is unsure of when her father fled Turkey, but knows that only he and his brother were able to escape. The rest of Charles’ family that remained in Turkey were massacred.

Those who weren’t able to escape Turkey were left to experience the torture afflicted upon them by the Turks. My cousin Silva Santerian interviewed her grandparents about their experience.

Many of the stories she gathered from her interview she told me were too gruesome to include; however, Silva and her family feel

strongly that they are important in order to never forget the genocide. She recounted one story to me about when her great-grandmother disguised her grandfather, who was very young during this event, as a little girl to protect him from the Turkish soldiers.

Silva said, “Word traveled from village to village because there were no phones, or papers.” My great-grandparents’ family received news from another town that something was happening and they needed to get their things together and leave. In preparation for the arrival of the Turkish soldiers, my great-grandmother started to grow out my grandfather’s hair because they heard that the soldiers were only taking men and boys, and leaving the elderly women and girls. The soldiers

came to their town and rounded up the men. They took my great-grandfather, along with the other men, and marched them off and beheaded them. My grandfather witnessed his own father’s beheading. The women, children and the elderly were forced out on foot, and had to leave everything else behind. My grandfather, who was dressed as a girl, and the rest of his family, started walking on a death march. My great-grandmother muddled up his face and made him look very unattractive because she was afraid, even as a little girl, the soldiers would take him, and assault or rape him. My great-grandmother carried my grandfather in a rolled up old carpet so he would be hidden and kept safe. They witnessed people dying all around them. Every

time I thought I had heard every horrible story there was, like the torture, the finger nails being pulled, the beheading, the playing with the heads like soccer balls, there was always more.”

Silva said, “My great-aunt Hripsime never talked and always wore black, like a black babushka thing on her head. My mother told us that her husband and four children were massacred in front of her. So this poor woman was a shell, there was nothing left of her. She would never let me interview her. When she finally did speak to me, she said, ‘Why would I tell you stories that still keep me awake at night?’”

# Friends Fur Life club aids paws in need

By Shannon Reilly '20

A new club joins the Mount community this year and is lending “helping hands for needy paws” throughout the surrounding areas. Friends Fur Life is a service-based club focused on helping animals in need and educating Mounties on how they can do the same.

Sophomores Grace Araya, Alanna Casciato, Giulianna Sorrentino and Grace Strange are officers of the club. Casciato said, “We all have rescued animals, and we all have a love for animals too. We saw that Mount didn’t have any clubs that were animal based, and thought that people here probably had the same passion as us.” They could not have been more correct; the club quickly gained popularity among the student body with over 200 sign ups at the activities fair earlier this year.

The girls quickly connected with Sister Gerry Sadowy who previously moderated CSC Animals and is known for her love of all “furry friends.” Casciato said, “We knew that we would want

her to be our moderator, and we are really fortunate to have her because she shares the same values as us and motivates us to want to do more.”

Working with Sister Gerry, Araya, Casciato, Sorrentino and Strange have brainstormed many plans for future meetings and events. At one of the first meetings, members worked together to make blankets for dogs and cats at local animal shelters. Through Friends Fur Life, students also have the opportunity to volunteer at the National Greyhound Adoption Program in Northeast Philadelphia, a shelter for ex-racing dogs who are looking for their forever home.

The club officers volunteered to walk some of the dogs and learn more about greyhounds in early November. Araya said of her experience, “It was amazing, and it was really hard to leave them. They are the sweetest animals you will ever meet. They look a little scary at first [with their muzzles on], but they are so nice and calm, and they are just amazing.” Casciato agreed, saying, “If my family didn’t already

have two, we would have definitely taken one home because they are just such a good family dog. That is something I want to advocate for people that are looking for a dog—to adopt a greyhound.”

The girls and Sister Gerry have many ideas for the club that they hope to bring to life over the course of the year. In addition to volunteering with greyhounds, “We also have an opportunity to volunteer at a horse stable, so it’s kind of cool that it is not just for dogs or cats, it’s a bigger variety of animals,” said Casciato. She also added, “With the approval of the administration, we’re hoping to do a 5K walk or bring back the therapy dogs from last year. We would have to really get into that now though since it would be in the spring.”

When asked what their main goal for the club was, the officers responded that they were “just trying to give them [homeless animals] a home.” Frequent updates and pictures of the club’s activities can be seen on the group’s Instagram @friends\_fur\_life.



Grace Araya



Alanna Chadwick



Giulianna Sorrentino



Friends fur life club officers Giulianna Sorrentino, Grace Strange, Alanna Chadwick and Grace Araya walk dogs from National Greyhound Adoption Program in Northeast Philadelphia.

# Christmas traditions across the world

By Margaret Anne Borneman '20

Christmas is celebrated around the world in many forms. In America, we remember Saint Nicholas who leaves us presents in our shoes on December 6, and Santa who shimmies down our chimneys, breaks into our homes and eats our cookies on the 25. But, he is polite enough to leave some presents under our Christmas trees on his way to the kitchen. Every country has a unique identity, and this is true when it comes to holiday traditions as well.



Krampus from Austria. Photograph- Inverse

Austria's Christmas character is one we are all familiar with: Krampus. He is the evil Santa of Europe, if you will. He is a half goat, half demon, who terrorizes the streets come the holiday season. Despite this horrifying legend, a Krampus Parade has become a tradition. Some men dress up as this demon-goat and walk

through the streets to simulate an ancient pagan ritual. If you are interested in "grinching-it-up" during the holiday season, there is The Krampus Cross Country 5K/10K in San Francisco every December. So, next year, grab your friends, pull your old Krampus costume out of your closet and book a flight!

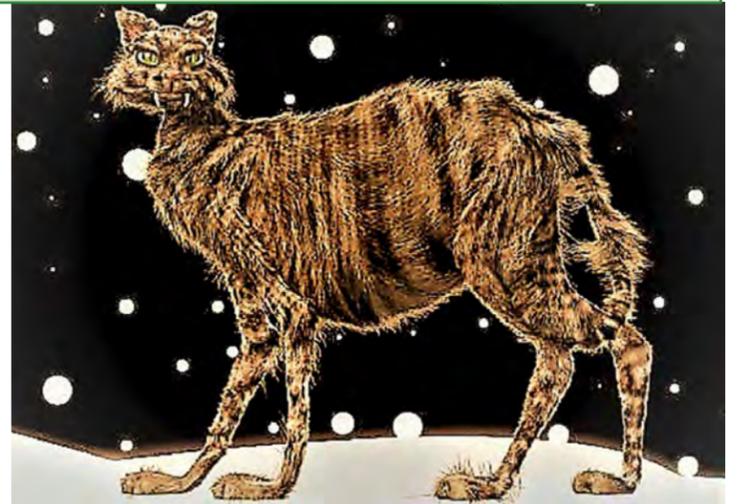


La Befana from Italy. Photograph- Magical Earth

Italy is home the Christmas witch, La Befana. The legend, created thousands of years ago, claims that the three Magi left bearing gifts for the new-born Jesus Christ. But, there was one elderly woman who did not join them on their journey. She was too busy with housework and said she would come when she could. The next day, she realized her mistake and wildly ran after the Magi. However, she was too late and the Magi had already left. She became known as La Befana,

or just Befana. On January 6, she delivers the presents she did not give to Jesus to the good Italian boys and girls. January 6 also marks the Feast of the Epiphany, and in Greek, her name means "epiphany." Her preferred mode of transportation is a broom. She is often seen sporting a black shawl on top of a dress dirty with soot from chimneys. For the bad children, she brings onions, garlic and coal. At least the bad kids get some good ingredients for cooking!

Iceland has a figure who takes the practice of fashion policing to a whole new level. Jólakötturinn, which translates to "Christmas Cat," is a giant cat that eats people who do not wear new clothes on Christmas Eve. The legend started as a bit of a ruse. Farmers used it as motivation for the workers to finish the Autumn wool harvest before Christmas. Those workers who helped out and got the work done got a fresh outfit to ward off the beast. So, if anyone is spending her Christmas break in Iceland, be sure to stop at Urban or Marshall's for a new 'fit.



Jólakötturinn from Iceland. Photograph- Wilder Utopia



Ded Moroz from Russia. Photograph- Quora

In Russia and surrounding countries, kids look forward to a visit from Father Frost. Father Frost (Ded Moroz in Russian) is their version of Santa Claus, but he delivers presents on New Year's Day. He is rumored to live in Veliky Ustyug, Russia. He is often seen adorned in a heel-length fur coat of silver, blue and red and a complementary fur hat. He has a magical staff and rides around town in a horse-drawn sleigh called a "torika." Naturally, he also has a long white beard. His little helper is his granddaughter, the gorgeous snow-maiden Snegurochka.

Gavle, Sweden has a rather interesting Christmas figure: the Yule goat. Since 1966, when the first goat was constructed, it has become a tradition. At the beginning of the holiday season, a goat is built out of straw. The Swedes enjoy seeing if the goat will stand until Christmas without being destroyed. Every year, someone tries to burn it down. However, the destruction is not limited to flames. One year, someone rammed into the back of the goat's legs with a car. Another year, two men tried to bribe a security guard to let them fly away with it. In the past fifty years, it has been destroyed thirty-five times.



Yule Goat from Sweden. Photograph- Tripfreakz

With Devon McElroy '20

Whether it is cats, goats, demons or elves, every culture has its traditions. What remains universal is the spirit of the season.



By Maura Scanlon '21 and Selina Sithya '21

Christmas in Philadelphia is a magical time of year! If you're feeling overwhelmed by the never-ending list of activities to do in the city, hopefully this will help you narrow down your plans.

## CHRISTMAS VILLAGE

A classic and annual tradition for many is the Christmas Village in Center City. This year, it is being held at LOVE Park and

is open from Thanksgiving Day all the way until Christmas Eve. There will be more than eighty vendors to shop from that sell ornaments, jewelry, toys, food and drinks and so much more.

## MACY'S LIGHTS SHOW

If you would rather remain indoors where it's warm during the holiday season, there is the Macy's Christmas Lights Show! The store puts on a show with LED lights and the world-renowned Wanamaker Grand Or-

gan, animatronic figures that tell the story of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens and a photo station with Santa at the end.

## CHRISTMAS UNDERWATER

Another way to get into the holiday spirit, maybe with your younger siblings, is by going to see Christmas Underwater at Adventure Aquarium. There will be underwater Christmas tree displays and even Santa and his elves scuba diving.

## HOLIDAY GARDEN RAILWAY

At the Morris Arboretum, which is only a short walk away from the Mount, there is a Holiday Garden Railway. There model train tracks loop around the garden, adorned with Christmas decorations, and little trains pass by miniature replicas of historical Philadelphia monuments.

## COMCAST HOLIDAY SPECTACULAR

The Comcast Holiday Spec-

tacular at the Comcast Center features a video wall that takes you on a musical journey filled with your favorite Christmas tunes.

## CITY HALL

Deck the Hall Light Show features colorful lights projected onto City Hall in the perfect setting of Dilworth Park. City Hall is also surrounded by the Rothman Orthopedics Ice Rink and Made in Philadelphia Holiday Market.



# Christmas events in Philadelphia

## “Little Women”

By Elena Granda '21

Over the decades Louisa May Alcott’s “Little Women” has seen many adaptations in film and even on the stage, but this year, Oscar-winning director, actress and screenwriter Greta Gerwig promises a revolutionary retelling of one of America’s classic novels.

In the film, Gerwig strives to highlight the modern feminism in “Little Women,” a mid-nineteenth century tale of sisterhood. The cast is full of acclaimed actors, such as Oscar-winning actress Meryl Streep, Oscar-nominated actor Timothée Chalamet and Oscar-nominated actress Saoirse Ronan as well as Florence Pugh and Emma Watson.

In an interview with The New York Times, Gerwig said that she cannot remember the first time that she read the novel. “I always

knew who the Marches were . . . It got absorbed into the fabric of who I was.”

One of the ways that Gerwig attempts to modernize the film is by exploring gender expression with the characters Laurie and Jo, swapping items from each other’s wardrobes and emphasizing the connection between them and the androgynous nature of their characters. Gerwig explained to Vanity Fair, “Jo is a girl with a boy’s name, Laurie is a boy with a girl’s name . . . In some ways they are each other’s twins.”

Critics are already enthusiastic to see Gerwig’s vision on December 25, the film’s release date.

Regarding the film’s ending, she said, “I felt if I could give Louisa an ending she actually wanted for Jo 150 years later, then maybe we’ve gotten somewhere.”

Go see “Little Women” this Christmas season!

## “Frozen II”

By Selina Sithya '21

“Frozen II,” Disney’s sequel to the beloved animated musical, “Frozen,” that hit theaters six years ago, premiered on November 22!

The sequel follows the adventures of sisters Elsa and Anna and their goofy friends: Kristoff, Anna’s outdoorsman boyfriend; Olaf, the adorable and free-spirited snowman and Sven, Kristoff’s loyal, reindeer companion, to a land far away from their home kingdom, Arendelle.

As children Elsa and Anna listened to their late parents tell a story of an enchanted forest that nobody could enter or leave. However, this forest is where the

group must go now that Arendelle is no longer safe.

Once again, Elsa seems to be battling her inner demons and hears a voice calling out to her



to travel North and into the unknown. She is compelled by this mysterious voice, and chooses to follow it with Anna and the rest of the group right beside her, reflecting the prominent theme of sisterhood portrayed throughout

the film.

Critics are praising the sequel’s soundtrack. Thanks to the extremely captivating storyline, “Frozen II” was able to create deeper, more meaningful lyrics to reflect the growth of the film’s characters. The Chicago Tribune raved about the soundtrack calling it “. . . a more emotional album than the first, more mature and internal.”

“Frozen” fans are beyond enthusiastic to experience the magic and fairy-tale feel that Disney never fails to bring. Over the opening five-day weekend, the film generated \$125 million domestically. In just its first two weeks, “Frozen II” has earned \$742 million worldwide.

## “Harriet”

By Sydney Okeke '22

Released on November 1, “Harriet,” a new film starring Tony Award winning actress, Cynthia Erivo, looks at Harriet Tubman’s journey from a unique, historical angle: her fight for emotional and physical freedom. Kasi Lemmons directs the biopic that follows Tubman’s journey to freedom.

During the film, many will wonder why she risks her freedom to save the other slaves. The movie emphasizes that Tubman may be physically free, but her emotional freedom is contingent on the safety of her family. The hard decision between freedom and family is all too familiar for slaves in this time period, and the movie contradicts the notion that the slaves are safe in the North.

Harriet receives asylum in

Philadelphia, but she must leave with the passing of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850. The law, under the direction of Congress, gave authority to the slave owners to reclaim their fugitive slaves from the North. Consequently, Harriet and her family seek refuge in Canada.

Religion is evident in the biopic in various ways. The film starts with a religious gathering of slaves. Reverend Green, a black preacher, teaches the slaves to be obedient to their masters. Harriet begins to acknowledge

the religious brainwashing, and she says, “God don’t mean people to own people.” Harriet has a dif-



ferent view of God because she experiences visions that help her to avoid danger.

The film presents music as a way of communication in the

slave community. It helps the slaves escape, and it contributes to the strong slave culture. The slave culture is evident for many generations after slavery.

One of my relatives, a descendant of slaves, taught some of the songs to members of my family. My grandmother was able to sing along to the songs in the theater. These songs are known in many black families across the country. The message of the movie be-

comes clear when Harriet faces a chance for revenge. During a scene in the woods, Harriet encounters the chance to kill her young master. Rather than focusing on her years of oppression, she takes the high road and lets him go. The scene has value in a time where physical violence is an imminent danger. The viewers are taught that violence is not necessary to get a point across. Harriet’s last words summarize the tone of the film: “I go to prepare a place for you.”

The story of Harriet Tubman demonstrates how one woman’s actions can change the world forever. The film provides a new take on the classic Harriet Tubman story. Regardless of race, everyone can take something away from this motivating film.

## “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood”

By Brynn Lynch '21

Released on November 22, “A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood” is a powerful film celebrating the life and work of the beloved children’s television host, Mister Rogers, played by Tom Hanks.

The movie is loosely based on the true story of Fred Rogers’ life and his incredible impact on real life journalist Tom Junod, the inspiration behind the character Lloyd Vogel.

Vogel, a cynical investigative journalist jaded by his troubled past, is tasked with interviewing Mister Rogers for a profile for Esquire magazine’s issue on “Heroes.” As Richard Brody of The New Yorker writes, “He assumes that the public figure of Mr. Rogers must be a character, even a put-on.”

In a delightful turn around

which confounds Vogel, Rogers becomes the interviewer as he senses Vogel’s inner struggles. Over time, Rogers positively transforms Vogel’s perspective, enabling him to confront and deal with his past with a more forgiving outlook. The two develop a true friendship.

Critic A.O. Scott from The New York Times writes, “‘A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood’ celebrates the virtues of patient listening, gentleness and the honest expression of feelings.”

Hanks, nominated for a Golden Globe as a best-supporting actor, “expertly captures Rogers’ calming and measured cadence, his sweet but never condescending persona, his ability to quietly command any room he was in, on or off camera,” according to Richard Roeper of The Chicago Sun Times.

In an interview with NPR’s

Terry Gross, Director Marielle Heller recalled watching Mister Rogers’ show as a parent with her 3-year-old son.

“I think I have a memory of thinking that the show was just all happy-go-lucky . . . [L]ooking back, I realized that he wasn’t afraid of any of the hardest parts of childhood or talking about the most uncomfortable things. He tells kids the truth. I mean, that is a radical notion, but he tells kids the truth,” said Heller.

The uplifting, yet melancholic drama is released at a perfect time, providing a relevant message that forgiveness can lead to understanding and hope.

“In an era that seems fatally mired in fear, anger and mistrust, ‘A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood’ arrives as something more than a movie. It feels like an answered prayer,” writes Ann Hornaday of The Washington Post.

## “Dickinson”

By Catherine Magtibay '21

“Dickinson,” created by Alena Smith, is the new original Apple TV+ series that reinterprets and modernizes the youth of the brilliant poet Emily Dickinson. This coming-of-age series follows the heroine as she explores her youth and ambitions in her hometown of Amherst, Massachusetts, during the 1850s. Hailee Steinfeld portrays the young, spirited Dickinson, who rebels against the expectations of women in her society by aspiring to become an accomplished poet. Through this defiance, Dickinson embodies the modern-day feminist icon that Smith intends her to be.

Smith said, “She was a modern consciousness trapped in a pre-modern era. She had a lot of constraints on her, but within those constraints took the most agency that she could and rebelled in

her own small way. That legacy of hers is still resonating with us today, and that’s part of what the show is celebrating.”

“Dickinson” incorporates contemporary elements, such as the modern vernacular, to resonate with today’s youth. Smith said, “The show uses the 1850’s as a funhouse mirror to reflect our culture and what it means to come of age in America today.”

Additionally, the series depicts a romantic relationship between Emily and her best friend and brother’s fiancée, Sue Gilbert, played by Ella Hunt. This queer romance parallels the struggles that today’s LGBTQ youth experience. “Dickinson” celebrates the rebelliousness and eccentricities of youth, all while representing the conflicts one faces in coming of age.

## Harry Styles releases second studio album “Fine Line”

By Grace Yaegel '22

In his anticipated return to the music industry, Harry Styles released his second studio album, “Fine Line,” on December 13. This announcement came two years after his 2017 self-titled debut album. With ten songs, Styles sold out stadiums around the world, grabbing listeners with a classic rock sound reminiscent of 70’s icons like The Beatles, Fleetwood Mac and even Elton John. So, will his new album live up to the success of his debut?

With the lead single on “Fine

Line,” ‘Lights Up,’ Styles certainly proved he can.

Styles also announced a tour for his album, entitled, “Love on Tour.” With dates from April to October across five continents, Styles, an international phenomenon, will travel all across the world so fans can experience his music live.

As for the rest of the album, Styles said in a Rolling Stone interview in September that the writing process involved, “Listening to Paul McCartney’s album, ‘Ram,’ in the sunshine,” and learning how to play the dulcimer

after becoming obsessed with Joni Mitchell’s album “Blue.” He also admits that while writing in Japan, he became majorly obsessed with Wings. With confessions like these, fans can assume they will be hearing more of the smooth 70’s rock that they heard in his debut.

With a name as big as his, Harry Styles has quite the reputation to live up to, and he has delivered both lyrically and melodically in his songs. “Fine Line” should be no exception.



Harry Styles poses on his “Fine Line” album cover.

## STYLE

## Jules Herbetko styles hair for Mount fashion show

By Anna Murphy '20

Mount’s fashion show this year featured thirty seniors who walked the runway wearing clothes from ellelauri, a business owned by Mount alumna Liz Ry-mar ’00.

One senior, in particular, played an essential role in helping the show run smoothly. Juliana Herbetko worked behind the scenes to make the models’ hair look equally as beautiful as their outfits. Herbetko worked alongside stylists from her mother’s salon, Bodhi Hair Boutique, and completed various hairstyles in the span of 2 two hours leading up to the show.

When The Campanile asked Herbetko when she first became interested in pursuing hairstyling, she said, “My mom always says since birth, but pretty much

since kindergarten. My mom never pushed me to it, but she started to notice that I loved it. I had the little salon chair for my American Girl Doll and my birthday parties [were beauty themed].”

Herbetko said her mother truly inspired her to consider a career in the beauty industry. Herbetko comes from a family of hairdressers who have all encouraged her to follow her dreams. To gain experience as a hairdresser, Herbetko decided to work at



Senior Lauren McLaughlin styled by Jules Herbetko.

Bodhi Hair Boutique. “I work twice a week, typically Wednesday and Saturday, because of school. I can’t do hair yet, because you need a license to do it in the salon. So, I work front desk, shampoo, clean up and stuff like that.” she said.

Herbetko fully intends to pursue her passion immediately after high school. She has a clear and well-thought-out plan of how she will become a hairdresser and hopefully take over her mom’s salon. “I am going to hair school in

September after graduation,” said Herbetko. “Basically, you have to enroll and they start classes in September every five weeks for new people. They only accept eight people per class where I am going, The Salon Professional Academy, also called TSPA, in Colledgeville.”

In order to graduate hair school, one needs a certain number of hours. Herbetko said she will have to complete 1,250 hours before she can take the state boards to get a license.

Herbetko plans to work at her mom’s salon. “Then [after I graduate] I will start working full time. While I am there, I will probably be my mom’s associate and work under her, so she can teach me more in-depth techniques, because at school I will just learn the basics . . . As trends change, you are always learning.”

## Fashion week addresses potential climate concerns

By Blair Bocklet '20

When Paris Fashion Week brought new Spring designs to the fashion world, it also brought new concerns about the environmental effects of producing luxury clothing. The central question brought to the runway: Can high-end clothing be both fashionable and good for the environment?

Two of the largest forces in Paris and designer clothing, LVMH and Kering Group, are working to reduce both the carbon footprint and the water consumption of clothing factories. François-Henri Pinault, CEO of the Kering Group, said “. . . we [the Kering Group] will offset emissions and support the conservation of vital forests and biodiversity around the world.”

Throughout the past year, the company has gone carbon neutral across its supply chain. LVMH has followed suit as it invested in renewable energy sources

and safeguarding the Amazon. Smaller companies are also taking a stand. Designer Gabriela Hearst exclusively uses biodegradable packaging and often reuses old fabric remnants in her

new designs.

So, what should a conscientious fashion-consumer buy? According to Dana Thomas, author of “Fashionopolis: The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of

Clothes,” one should invest a series of basic clothing that will not only last, but match everything you already own. Thomas believes that the “perfect” article of clothing is a white shirt cut from

organic cotton, so no toxins are released into the soil; have mother-of-pearl buttons over plastic stays; be roomy enough to wear with the shirttail hanging and sleek enough to wear with pencil skirt.

The problem with this “perfect” shirt is the price tag. A shirt that fits all of Thomas’s requirements costs roughly \$550 in the fashion world, making ethical fashion unrealistic for the average consumer. To support sustainable fashion, one does not necessarily need to spend hundreds on a plain white shirt, however.

With the average person buying 60 percent more clothing than fifteen years ago, more and more clothing is ending up in landfills rather than thrift shops. The best way to aid fashion in a time of climate change is to reuse old clothing, buy used clothing and donate to thrift shops or vintage stores.



Dior’s fully recyclable and plastic-free Spring collection at Paris Fashion Week this past October - Photograph L’Officiel

# Educating women aids in combating climate change

By Leah Scott '22

Women and climate change are inextricably woven together.

Women bear the brunt of climate change. According to New Security Beat, the blog of The Wilson Center's Environmental Change and Security Program, an estimated 90 percent of people killed in weather-related disasters are female. It is more probable for women to die from the after-effects of extreme weather because they are less likely to have access to early warning monitors or possess survival skills or freedom of movement.

Moreover, females in many developing countries are often deprived of food. Many women in Durban, South Africa, give their husbands and sons food while often denying themselves and their daughters. They also encounter higher threats to their mental, physical and emotional safety while bearing responsibility for their dependents. Usually, the mother stays home to care for her children, who are sick, possibly from air pollution, which reduces her efficacy and career growth. Climate change exacerbates the pattern of poverty and vulnerability.

Furthermore, in many third world countries, women and girls are kept out of school to collect food, water and other survival supplies. However, investing in girls' education is a key factor to preventing and adapting to climate change. It is the barrier between life and death.

New Security Beat writes that investing in girls' education develops "life-saving skills like literacy and risk assessment, to more complex competencies like the ability to negotiate against early marriage and advocate for their personal rights." The Notre Dame Global Adaptive Initiative explains that for every extra year of education a girl receives, on average, her country's adaptability to natural disasters increases by a significant 3.2 percent. The connection between a country's female-schooling levels and its



Women must search for food, fuel and water as their resources become scarce due to climate change, putting them at greater risk of violence. Photograph- CNN

resilience to climate disasters is more prominent in countries where girls have attended an average of at least ten years of schooling. Investing in girls' education for climate action ensures the increase of humanity's competence to create diverse technical and sociological solutions for adapting to and lessening climate change.

However, global efforts to educate more females have been aimed so far at adult females but neglected young girls. This method is problematic because change starts with the youth. Girls' education is a vital step to handling the challenge of climate change through solutions that do not merely include girls and women, but include their human potential to manage climate change.

Educating more females enlarges the likelihood of more women in leadership positions. Today, women comprise a fraction of the world's most influential environmental decision-making bodies. However, research shows that female leaders are remarkably effective in conservation and protection efforts. Women are also more likely to create more tenable futures for their communities than their male counterparts. Nevertheless, low female participation and leadership will continue if society does not engage girls' leadership development. Failing to acknowledge

women's needs in climate change policy threatens global food and security, for women make up the majority of small hold farmers worldwide. They are essentially the backbone of the global agricultural workforce.

Promoting women's and girls' control over their bodies ensures equitable climate action. To save money from weather damage, young women and girls are often married off by their families. However, girls' education reduces the likelihood of females being forced into marriage, which ultimately leads to more women in leadership positions to help stop climate change.

Eleanor Blomstrom, Senior Program Officer at the International Women's Health Coalition, explains that women are too often viewed as "perpetual victims and merely beneficiaries of assistance." However, women possess important knowledge to address extreme weather issues and have important perspectives. Specifically, Shampuyacu, a village near the Alto Mayo Protected Forest, reported a group of women creating solutions to the negative effects of climate change they experience. According to The New York Times, these women have "identified that the loss of their forest was impacting negatively their livelihoods as well as the intergenerational transmission of

their traditional knowledge."

These women teach younger generations about the disappearing plants and species and have been able to preserve many species and increase community food supply with the help of Conservation International's technical expertise. These women are not the only women who have offered solutions to the problems in their society.

However, most times, women are given little credit for their roles in positive outcomes in their society. Research done by Maria Stephan, Director of Nonviolent Action at the United States Institute of Peace, and Erica Chenoweth, Professor of Public Policy at the Harvard Kennedy School and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, found that most of the participants in successful nonviolent campaigns were women and young people. In fact, women and young people served as important "group multipliers," coming together to hold political candidates responsible for their political platforms regarding peace. They peacefully and successfully explained how violence from the ongoing civil war in the Casamance region of Senegal was negatively impacting them. Liz Hume, the Vice President of Alliance of Peacebuilding, explains that the four main goals for states in conflict also apply

to environmental deterioration and management. They include "preventing violence against women, equal participation in governance, protecting women's human rights, and ensuring women's ability to act as agents of relief and recovery." These two events are patently connected. However, there are underlying systemic issues within many international agreements that have obstructed the participation of women for too long. Including women in environmental decision-making requires changing social principles and norms, which will undoubtedly take time.

It is crucial for actors that focus on constructing and examining green skills for inclusive growth such as the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, the International Labour Organization and Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development to extend green-sector training and green skills development to women and female youth. This way, there will be more women in powerful political positions who will take action against climate change.

The first C40 Women4Climate conference was held in Manhattan, connecting female mayors around the world. New Security Beat describes C40 as "an umbrella organization representing more than 90 cities focused on handling climate change; Michael R. Bloomberg, former Mayor of New York City, is president of its board." New Security Beat explains that "City governments are more agile than their state and federal counterparts, and can more quickly move to put in place creative environmental solutions—such as limiting some downtown streets to pedestrians only, as has recently been done in New York City and Paris."

Investing in women's education is an effective means of addressing climate change that also grants many women and girls worldwide the human rights they are currently lacking.

## Implement climate change solutions in everyday life

By Viviana Carrasco '21

It may seem as if the only way to prevent the global catastrophe of climate change is through new technology, environmentally friendly laws, or green manufacturing; however, there are many things that we can do in our daily lives to fight climate change.

According to Scientific American, adapting just a few of these personal lifestyle changes can help reduce our carbon impact.

### Don't Waste Energy

According to Scientific American, in the US, more money is spent on electricity to power devices when off than when on.

Devices like televisions, stereo equipment, computers and battery chargers utilize more energy when they're switched off.

To combat this waste, we can unplug our devices when they're not in use. Other simple things such as turning off lights after leaving a room or making sure our car tires are properly inflated aid in using energy efficiently.

Buying efficient battery chargers is a great example of saving electricity, because it prevents the release of more than one million metric tons of greenhouse gases.

Another energy saving act is switching old incandescent lightbulbs for compact fluorescent lightbulbs. According to the

US Environmental Protection Agency, the replacement of one incandescent lightbulb in every American home would result in saving enough energy to provide electricity to three million homes.

### Carpool

The second leading source of greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. is transportation. Burning a single gallon of gasoline produces 20 pounds of carbon dioxide. According to the Energy Information Administration, in 2018 an average of about 391.40 million gallons of gasoline was consumed in the U.S. per day. That amounts to about 7.8 billion pounds of carbon dioxide produced in the U.S.

each day.

Scientific American suggests curtailing transportation fuel by moving closer to work, using mass transit or switching to cycling or another mode of transport that utilizes human energy.

### Consume Less

The easiest way to cut back on greenhouse emissions is to consume less. This means buying less stuff, which essentially leads to what we know as recycling.

Finding another use for a grocery bag, using refillable water bottles and cups, buying rechargeable batteries and recycling old ones and donating old clothes are all things you can do to recycle.

As students, by the end of the year, we have a lot of papers and other school supplies that we can reuse or recycle.

Being educated about how we can help the environment through larger purchases is also helpful. When your parents are buying a new car, help them choose one that will last the longest and have the least impact on the environment, like a hybrid vehicle.

Purchasing essential groceries in bulk can also help reduce the amount of packaging used (plastic wrap, cardboard boxes, etc.). Less consumption results in fewer fossil fuels being burned to extract, produce and ship products around the globe.

# Invasive spotted lanternflies pose threat to PA

By Jenny Seminack '20

You've seen them, you've heard about them and you've probably killed a few of them as well.

With the recent spike in the population of spotted lanternflies, Pennsylvania has undergone quarantine, and there's no end in sight.

Indigenous to Asia, the spotted lanternfly now mostly populates the East Coast. Scientifically known as the *Lycorma delicatula*, this species first appeared in the United States in Berks County, Pennsylvania, in 2014. It is believed to have been carried over from Asia in a shipment of stones, according to *The New York Times*.

As of November, fourteen counties in Southeastern Pennsylvania have been quarantined by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in order to stop, or at least slow, the spread of spotted lan-

ternflies. However, the infestation has already spread from Pennsylvania to New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia and Maryland.

Public officials and scientists are concerned because the insects pose a major threat to Pennsylvania agricultural industries as well as the ecosystem itself. Lanternflies feed on grapes, apples and various types of trees. They infect their hosts, which include at least forty different types of plants. The lanternflies infect their hosts by attracting a mold that is poisonous to most plants.

Lanternflies have recently become such a problem that in 2018 the federal Department of Agriculture pledged 17.5 million dollars in order to help stop the spread of the spotted lanternfly in Pennsylvania.

Efforts are being made by scientists to prevent the spread of lanternflies, which would be harmful to the United States agricultural economy. In October, scientists researching entomol-



An adult spotted lanternfly. Photo-MSU

ogy (the study of insects) were able to sequence the genome of a spotted lanternfly taken from Berks County, Pennsylvania, and publish their findings in the journal *Gigascience*.

Entomologist Scott M. Geib, an author of the study, said, "Having

the genome for this pest opens the door to a better understanding of its biology and behavior, and makes coming up with potential control methods much more likely to happen."

Scientists at the Pennsylvania State University and Cornell University are working together to complete extensive research on how to fight what is being called "The long war on spotted lantern-flies" by WHYY.

Penn State Emeritus Professor of Entomology Michael Saunders said, "[The lanternflies are] unbelievably eruptive in terms of its population. The first year we went out, in 2015, you had to really hunt for egg masses, and then over the next two years it was just spectacularly exponential in its growth. I've been through a few

waves of invasive species, and this is far and away the most incredible thing I've ever seen."

What can the public do to help control the spotted lanternfly population? According to scientists, killing the eggs before they hatch is a necessary measure. Right now, the lanternflies are at the point in their lifecycle where they are laying eggs for next year's population, which will begin to hatch in April. One lanternfly can lay up to fifty eggs on almost any type of surface, including trees, stones and yard furniture. If you see the eggs, try to scrape them off of the surface into a plastic bag containing rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer. Report any lanternfly sightings by calling 1-888-4BADFLY. And, if all else fails, follow the advice of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and "Kill it! Squash it, smash it, just get rid of it."

## Commentary: China's technology promotes authoritarianism

By Anna Wallace '20 and Meghan Scheffey '20

Is technology a tool for governance? In China, the answer is a resounding "yes." The Chinese government is investing in big data to understand and predict the actions of its people. China is using new technology, media influence and DNA phenotyping to challenge democracy on the world stage.

In 1823, President James Monroe issued the Monroe Doctrine, effectively telling other countries to stay out of our hemisphere. In the modern day, China increasingly encroaches in the Western hemisphere and on American dominance attempting to spread totalitarian government in Latin America, Africa, Europe and the Caribbean.

According to the MIT Technology Review, 5G technology is used in China to predict both the actions of society and individuals in relation to the government. 5G is the next upgrade to the global telecommunication network. Right now, most phones use LTE, but in the next few years all of the global telecommunication networks will need updating, providing an opportunity for the Chinese government to widen their sphere of influence.

In China, the government has used 5G to develop algorithms to track when and where citizens are planning to protest. Then they use the national rail system to identify which train the protesters will be on to arrest them before the protest even takes place. They use the same algorithms to predict characteristics that the government considers hallmarks of a rebellious citizen. Christina Larson from the Associated Press writes, "The algorithm is thought to highlight suspicious behaviors such as visiting a mosque or owning too many books."

In several Chinese provinces, the government has taken online monitoring a step further by instituting a system of social credit. The government monitors citizen activity, rewarding and punishing citizens by giving them points attached to their National ID card. The number of points associated with a citizen's ID will impact one's chances of buying a house and sending one's children to college. Offences such as jaywalking and fare-hopping can negatively impact a citizen's social credit score.

### Solutions to China's authoritarianism

By Anna Wallace '20

The United States has begun to counter China's attacks on democracy by working to persuade countries in NATO from purchasing telecom systems from Huawei, China's largest technology company.

This approach will not be aggressive enough for the coming century. To live up to the prom-

This system is particularly problematic because there is no way to dispute one's social credit score. Unlike in the United States where the accused has the right to challenge minor actions against them, like speeding tickets in front of a judge, the Chinese system has no recourse in cases of mistaken identity or unfair point deductions.

When testifying before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, Christopher Walker, Vice President of Studies and Analysis for the National Endowment for Democracy, suggested that the most concerning aspect of China's evolving technology is its ability to use 5G technology to

export authoritarianism to other nations.

For example, Former Ecuadorian President Rafael Correa negotiated a Chinese government-backed loan to purchase the EUC-911, an oppressive 5G surveillance system used to monitor civil society. The system consists of over 10,000 high resolution cameras able to identify individual citizens. This project will require millions of dollars of infrastructure investment, and, once fully installed, it will predict both social movement and

press and independent civil society in nascent democracies. This can be done by supporting educational exchanges and developing a vocal foreign policy that voices support for those protesting oppression. When America lives up to its promise as the designer and developer for global democracy, the world is a more peaceful place, we protect American business interests around the globe and we spread the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

individual action.

Walker writes, "As China's leadership has placed greater importance on shaping the political operating environment overseas, it has spent billions of dollars over the past decade to shape public opinion and perceptions around the world."

For example in Africa, China is targeting the free press through major investments in media infrastructure. In exchange for investment, African news outlets allow Beijing-based sensors to control the message on "sensitive" content such as the protests in Hong Kong or Chinese investment projects in the region. Throughout sub-Saharan Africa,

media outlets that have accepted investments from Chinese banks will have two sets of editors, African editors on local payroll and a group of Chinese editors based in Beijing to vet all content and decisions relating to topics that pertain to China. For journalists working in this new media environment, the government provides "training," bringing the journalists to visit China to teach them how to report on these issues in a manner that suits the Chinese government.

Chinese officials in Tumxuk

this tool to narrow a manhunt or eliminate suspects in criminal proceedings.

This technology also raises many ethical concerns. Professor of Law and Bioethics at the University of Wisconsin Pilar Ossorio warns that the police could use this tool to target ethnic groups.

According to *The New York Times*, experts are worried that China may use this tool to "justify and intensify racial profiling and other state discrimination against Uighurs." The experts also believe that it may be possible for China to use the images produced by the DNA samples in conjunction with their existing mass surveillance and facial recognition systems. Doing so would enable China to further tighten its grip on its citizens and increase its ability to monitor dissidents, protesters and criminals.

Chinese scientists have justified their development of the DNA technology by claiming that the men in Tumxuk gave their blood samples willingly. However, Uighurs in Xinjiang are being forced to give blood samples under the guise of a health checkup mandated by the government, according to *The New York Times*. This practice breaks ethical norms set by international associations of scientists.

China is already using this technology to infringe on the rights of the Uighurs and other ethnic minorities. The problem has already manifested itself in the detention camps in Xiajing, and advancements in DNA phenotyping only enhance China's ability to control its citizens.

The recent developments in facial recognition and DNA technology in the hands of an authoritarian government, such as China, threaten the existence of democracy around the world.

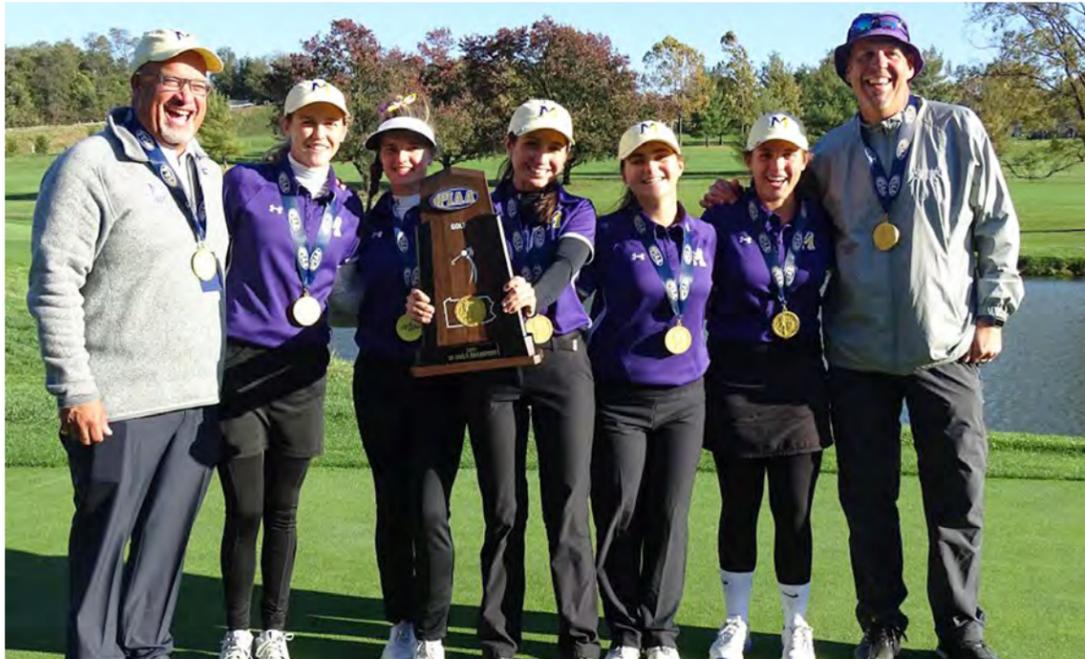
are currently collecting blood samples from hundreds of Uighurs, a Muslim minority group forced into Chinese detention camps. Chinese scientists are working on technology that could use a DNA sample to create an image of a person's face, according to *The New York Times*. This technology is currently being developed in the United States as well.

The process, known as DNA phenotyping, allows scientists to analyze genes for traits such as skin color, eye color and ancestry. Recent developments in this technology allow scientists to produce rough pictures from a DNA sample. Governments can utilize

## Fall sports finish outstanding seasons



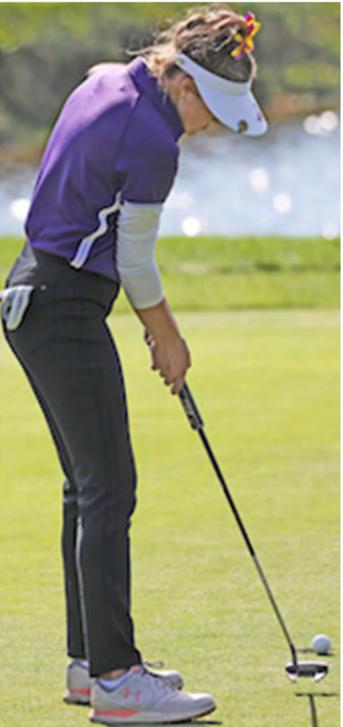
Rory Williamson dribbles ball down turf field. Photograph- Sam Fritch



Coach Jules Quinones, Nora Blatney, Clare Gimpel, Olivia Wirsching, Caroline Gola, Sofia Gambone and Coach John Mischler celebrate the State Championship victory.



Maggie Murphy represents the Mount at the State Championship. Photograph – Chestnut Hill Local



Clare Gimpel sinks a putt on the 18th hole at the State Championship. Photograph – Chestnut Hill Local

By Caroline Donahue '21, Emily Jones '21, Maggie Mikalic '21

### Golf

Golf brought home the ultimate gold this year on October 23, winning States for the 4th time.

Senior Olivia Wirsching, who shot the lowest score for the team, said, "Winning states was a magical moment for everyone on the team. It was something that we had been dreaming about and working for since the end of last year's season."

Junior Sofia Gambone, remembering the moment the win was announced, said, "We all waited, barely breathing. Looking around at each of my teammates, our coaches and our parents with firm expressions on their faces, I felt anxious yet excited."

### Tennis

This fall, the Varsity Tennis team finished their regular season with an astonishing record of 12-0. This undefeated record led the team to be named the AACA Team Champion for the 5th year

in a row! Grace Walker was named the AACA singles all-star, and Kennedy Cropper/Beth Murray and Nancy Mabry/Leah Scott were named the AACA doubles All-Stars. Once again, it is clear that Mount Tennis did not disappoint this season!

### Cross Country

Cross Country won AACA Champs for the second year in a row at Tyler State Park on October 15.

Freshman Maggie Murphy who qualified for States, finished 51st overall and 7th as a freshman.

"It gave me a taste of the competition throughout the state, and motivation to improve for indoor and outdoor track seasons," said Murphy.

### Field Hockey

In Districts, Field Hockey beat rival Gwynedd Mercy Academy when junior Megan Maransky scored the game-winning goal in overtime, sending the team into the first round of states where they faced Palmyra High School.

While the Magic lost 5-0, ending their 2019, senior Rory Williamson, juniors Megan McGinley and Maransky were named 2019 AACA All-Stars, and Williamson was named a Philadelphia Field Hockey senior All-Star.

### Volleyball

Volleyball finished their regular season with an overall record of 8-8. The Magic made it to round 2 of Districts where they lost to Pope John Paul II High School. Overall, the team tied for third place in Districts with Sun Valley. Seniors Shannon Reilly, Maggie Fitzpatrick and Olivia Esposito were named 2019 AACA All-Stars.

### Soccer

This season, Soccer placed 5th in the AACA with an overall record of 6-12. seniors Madison Hornig and Caroline Kelly, and junior Emily Friel were named 2019 AACA All-Stars.



Olivia Wirsching swings during Champs match. Photograph- Sam Fritch



Cross Country races against Villa Maria during a home meet. Photograph- Sam Fritch



Dylan Conroy, Grace Walker, Beth Murray, Kennedy Cropper, Leah Scott, Nancy Mabry and Rachel Zilligen celebrate Champs win. Photograph- The Chestnuthill Local