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Houghton to Hold Math and Science Day

ANNA WRAY

For the past eight years, Houghton has hosted Math and Science Day to expose high school students to the wide array of possibilities in STEM fields. The event also gives students the opportunity to take the American Mathematics Contest, a test that feeds into the International Mathematics Olympiad. This year's Math and Science Day takes place on Thursday, February 7th and will be held in the Paine Center for Science after a reception in the Center for the Arts.

Dr. Jill Jordan, who coordinates this event with help from the rest of the math and science departments, describes it as "primarily an outreach event. Specifically, to the students who might be more interested in math and science, it gives them some opportunities to learn about areas of math and science that might be outside the standard high school curriculum." One way students are able to learn about lesser-known aspects of math and science is through breakout sessions. These sessions are led by Houghton faculty, as well as students in these fields, and cover such topics as Alternate Values of Pi and Quantum Computing. There is also a large group



PH indicators on display in a chemistry lab in Houghton's Paine Science Center

COURTESY OF MELISSA HODDE

presentation, which this year will be given by alumnus Dr. Scott Zimmerman.

Current student Caleb Lyon, a junior majoring in math and computer science and minoring in data science, attended Math and Science Day during his junior and senior years of high school. He found the experience

to be impactful, especially the large group presentations, one of which was on the topic of his eventual minor. "That's what got me interested in data science," he says, "That's how I ended up with that minor." This year, Lyon, along another student, Katelyn Cook, will be leading one of the breakout sessions. Their topic

is Physics and Math in Music. Lyon says, "I think it's pretty neat that they [current students] get to share something they're interested in."

Local teachers also affirm the value of this event. Rollic Duttweiler, a math teacher at Genesee Valley Central School, has been bringing students to

this event for several years. He says, "Houghton does a great job of showing different aspects of mathematics and science as well as career opportunities. Too many times students think the only thing you can do with math is teach, but they see scientists and bankers who use math everyday." Duttweiler appreciates the opportunity the event gives students to interact with the ways math and science are used in the wider world outside the classroom. He believes it is important for students to see people who are passionate about doing math and/or science for a living.

At the time of writing, about 160 students were registered to attend this year's Math and Science Day, although Jordan was uncertain whether that many students would actually come, particularly those from farther away. Most of the students come from schools in Allegany County, including Hinsdale, Houghton Academy, Andover, and Alfred-Almond, although some come from as far as Rochester and Corning. This event not only allows them to take part in a competitive math exam, but also to learn about science and math fields that they might not otherwise know about. ★

HOUGHTON TO HOLD

STRESS FAIR

JAKOB KNUDSEN

With Houghton's spring semester already entering its sixth week and Spring break still several weeks away, college-wide stress levels are on the rise. To help students cope with the heightened levels of anxiety this time of the year often brings, the Counseling Center is partnering up with CAB to host Houghton's annual Stress Fair. From 3-6 pm on Tuesday, February 12th, the first floor of the Campus Center will be filled with a variety of stations where the stressed Houghton student can participate in a variety of fun, stress-relieving activities. The Stress Fair will be run by Houghton students, college counselors, and other members of the Houghton community. At these stations, students will be able to participate in activities ranging from receiving head and neck massages to taking a dive into a ball-pit. Live music will be provided throughout the fair, as will stations providing popcorn and cotton candy. "Our goal is to promote emotional wellness," comments

See **STRESS** page 2

Murphy Brings Horror to Houghton



Professor Murphy woodworking in the art building

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MARY TYRRELL

Calling all thrill seekers! Tentatively scheduled for the Fall 2019 semester, is a new course titled "Madness, Fear and Metaphor: What Horror Means". The number of credits has not been determined yet. It will be a course intent on pursuing an in-depth inquiry and analysis into the horror genre of film

with Professor Ted Murphy.

Ted Murphy, or "Murph," as some students affectionately refer to him as, is a distinguished Professor of the Arts here at Houghton College. Professor Murphy is excited to teach students who are interesting in the deeper metaphor of horror and not, "those chuckleheads who just want to watch movies for a semester." This course stems from Professor

Murphy's deep love of art coming together with his deep curiosity and study of humanity, and the exploration of human expression through painting, writing and film which are demonstrated in the content of his course history. Professor Murphy, when talking about the possibility and potential format of this course, described his enthusiasm and abiding interest in pursuing the big questions regarding the na-

ture of humanity and the symbols that we use to give form to our anxieties and fears. On a more lighthearted note, another inspiration for this class is Professor Murphy's family holiday tradition of skipping over the Hallmark movies and going straight for horror.

Sydney Jameson, a junior student-athlete, observed that the subject matter in this class is important to knowing who we are as a people and society because, "Thinking about what scares us and why is really important because it allows us to explore how we are affected by the things around us; what does society do to us? How are real issues in society given representation?" This class, designed in the seminar style, will look at horror film in three categories: monster movies, paranormal films and technology otherwise known as science-fiction, films. Each category gives clues to the way that fear, change and different influential social or political events are processed, internalized and then reflected on by the human mind. An example of this, which will be discussed in

See **HORROR** page 2

International Perspectives

PAIGE COLLINS

Here at Houghton College we have a wealth of cultural diversity. We have students from different backgrounds, lifestyles, cultures and countries. The goal of the International Perspectives Column is to make use of that richness, and to be a platform in which international students can speak. The Houghton STAR wants to hear the insights and reports of these students, and by doing so give the rest of the campus the opportunity

to discover what’s happening around the globe. It’s no secret that many college students are not as in touch with the news as they should be, let alone with international news. For some, their reason is that their lives are too busy. For others, there’s no news station they trust, and others still, just don’t know where to start. This is where the International Perspectives column can come into play. With the International Perspectives column Houghton students can be informed on what’s happening around the globe, as told through other

Houghton students’ experiences, expertices, insights, reports and education. Although the International Perspectives column can’t tell you all of the world news, it can tell you what’s happening in parts of the world where Houghton students are from, or connected to. This column has dual benefits. The college gets to be informed on what’s happening around the globe, and the international students, as well as students who have lived or studied abroad, get to share what their home country is currently experiencing and get the

chance to share what they’ve seen abroad. The STAR wants to hear the international students thoughts and reports on what’s happening in their home countries, and current events in countries where Houghton students used to live or have studied abroad. We want international students to tell us what’s happening in their home countries. If an international students home country just faced a presidential election, we want to hear about it. If a student used to be a missionary kid in a country that now persecutes Chris-

tians, we want to hear about it. If a student studied abroad for a semester or more, and saw something of significance during their time, we want to hear about it. These are but a few example of the countless possibilities this column holds. If you are interested in submitting an article to the International Perspectives column, or have any questions, please feel free to email the editor@houghtonstar.edu ★

Write for the International Perspectives Column

Are you an international student?

Do you want to report on current issues in your home country?

If so, the STAR wants to hear your insights!

Email editor@houghtonstar.com

STRESS from page 1

Wendy Baxter, one of Houghton’s counselors and one of the Stress Fair’s chief organizers. Whether this be via games to get one’s mind off stressful things, or via a good massage to relax tightened muscles, the Stress Fair has many tools to accomplish this task. Dr. Thomas Knudsen, who runs a psychology practice in Watertown, NY said stress is a common obstacle that college students face, and stress management a key tool for academic success. Though a small amount of stress can help motivate a person, excessive amounts of stress can cause a variety of problems both physically and mentally. Physical symptoms of stress include tense muscles, an upset stomach, headaches, neck aches, and a general tired/sickly feeling. High levels of stress can even lower one’s immune system, increasing one’s risk of contracting infectious diseases. Mental symptoms of stress include hyper-fixation on one’s stress and stress symptoms,

feelings of being overwhelmed, trouble sleeping, trouble concentrating, and an increase in one’s general sense of dissatisfaction. The Stress Fair offers students a place to try many activities known to reduce one’s stress. Offered activities such as massages, playing with Play Doh, and taking a swim in the ball pit provide the body with tactile sensations that can help alleviate physical stress. Other offered activities, such as watercolor painting, origami, and games help get one’s mind of both the cause and symptoms of stress, which helps alleviate mental stress. Many activities, such as making your own stress-ball and balloon tying, can decrease physical and mental stress at the same time. There are many options to choose from, including all the given examples and even more. The fun doesn’t have to stop when the fair ends, either; many of the activities offered are easy for one to pick up in one’s free time. According to Baxter, music especially is known to help people in overcoming stress, and the Stress Fair is calling all Houghton musicians to come and perform

during the fair. There will be fun, games, and music to be had and shared by all. ★ **HORROR** from page 1 the course, is the original Dracula movie based on the 1897 Gothic horror novel by Bram Stoker. This movie, and the novel, is thought to have been influenced by and to be a portrayal of the tuberculosis crisis in world history. This course will provide students with the opportunity to watch and to discuss issues that are present in the world around them, as they are portrayed through an artistic or entertaining medium. The seminar style of the course will enable students to voice their opinions and to create an educated, holistic view of the different approaches and behaviors that people exhibit when coming to grips with the disruptions, aversions and anxieties that exist in our daily lives. This class will explore what it means to be human in an age of change and uncertainty. ★

Houghton Holds Job and Internship Fair

SAMANTHA MOORE

For students looking for a summer job or internship the Job and Internship Fair might be the opportunity they’re looking for. Each year the Vocational Opportunities and Career Advising (VOCA) office hosts the Job and Internship Fair on campus, allowing students to learn about the many job and internship opportunities available to them for the upcoming summer. This year’s job fair will be taking place on February 14th, from 11 AM – 2 PM, in the Van Dyk Lounge of the Campus Center. The VOCA office brings many summer camps and other businesses such as Christian ministries, nonprofits, for-profit and a few government agencies. Speaking especially of the summer camps looking to hire counselors and other types of summer help, Associate Director of VOCA, Dennis Stack says, “They rely on Christian colleges like to Houghton to round out their staffs. They have a high regard for our students.”

This year, there will be many returning organizations but also new ones as well. Representatives are coming from Rochester YMCA, Land O’ Lakes Service

Collaborative of Western New York, Adventure Calls Outfitters, Baker Victory Services, and Camp Hebron. These are only a few of the thirty-seven organizations offering opportunities for students to work and gain experience. Stack says registration for organizations begins in the fall and has only continued to rise. Not all the camps and organizations are able to come to Houghton on the date chosen for the fair. For this reason, VOCA has arranged for these camps and organizations to come on different days, so that students are given even more opportunities for work. These will be announced at a later date. Stack says that the ideal time for students to have an internship or opportunity to gain other experience in their vocation would be in the summer following their sophomore or junior year. The sophomore year is especially a time for students to begin the process, which is why the VOCA office just hosted their third annual Sophomore Leadership Conference. The conference is also geared to equip students to have wise not had access to. ★

CORRECTION from last week's edition

The “Carry the Love” event was held on February 2nd and 3rd, there will be no event on the 10th.

Did you notice a named spelled wrong or a typo in an article?

Did you see a factual error?

Let us know! Email editor@houghtonstar.edu

STAR Rerun

Students Go To London

MICHELLE WINGFIELD

This rerun column features various Houghton STAR articles from our archives. These articles do not contain current information, but are meant to show the past culture and events on Houghton Campus throughout the College's history. This particular article is from Volume 92 Issue 4 of the STAR published on May 2nd, 1997.

This September 19, 25 students will arrive in London to participate in the first Houghton in London program. The program was first proposed late in 1995 during the planning for the first-year honors program which takes 30 first-year students to London for a semester. The college saw

the advantages of a complementary program which would balance the on campus absence of 30 students, allowing 30 more students for the year. The fall program also offers upperclassman who did not participate in the freshman honors program the opportunity to study overseas, and since both programs are run by Houghton, students' financial aid still applies and the college does not loose capital. By the spring semester of 1996, they began recruiting upperclassman for the fall of 1997.

Dr. Cameron Airhart, professor of history and chair of the department of history and political science, Dr. James Wardwell, associate professor of English, and Dr. Christopher Stewart, assistant professor of philosophy, are the visionaries and directors be-

hind the two programs. The three professors take turns teaching in London, where Airheart has been this spring semester.

Wardwell points out several of the advantages Houghton in London offers students and clarifying that the program is "clearly not a tour, its a study program." Students will experience life in the expanded social climate of a great metropolitan area, which has traditionally been one of the worlds great centers of the study of humanities. Students will also be exposed to the perspective of British faculty. Particularly as they interact with the four English faculty members and become involved in optional service opportunities.

Wardwell also points out the difference in community living. Students will live, cook,

and have some classes in their flats, and a faculty member will also live in the building. Finally, London is a prime area to develop sensitivity to the needs of the global community. Infact, the section of London where the students will be housed is a heavily Arabic neighborhood.

Airhart and Wardwell will work with the four British faculty members to teach seven courses this fall. Airhart will teach a humanities course exploring biographical writing, and a course on European history. Wardwells class "Dramatic Lines" uses "what's on" in London theatres to study various aspects of British drama. Dr. Mary Burke, Houghton's 1946 valedictorian is teaching Pre-Raphaelite Poetry, and an introduction to visual course will be taught by Professor Re-

becca Miles. Dr. Simon Steer, the education director of the Institute for Contemporary Christianity from which Houghton is renting facilities, is teaching a course on the "Gospel of Mark." A course on "Christianity and Modern European Politics" is offered by Dr. Alan Storkey, of Free University of Amsterdam.

Although the courses offered are currently humanities, the plans are to expand the classes into other disciplines and even purchase permanent facilities

Meetings for Houghton in London during the fall 1998 will begin this coming semester applicants must submit an application, two recommendations (including one from their faculty advisor) and have at least a 2.75 GPA.★

Houghton's Hidden History

CHRIS CILENTO

Hidden deep within the bowels of our campus library, sits a room full of history. Indeed, it is in this very room that Houghton's Hidden History can be found. Everything from epic adventures to the minutiae of daily college life is recorded and archived within. When Google fails, or when the internet is down, the physical history of Houghton is but a short walk away. Here are amassed the chronicles of each of our college presidents, from founder Willard J. Houghton to Shirley Mullen, the current president of Houghton College.

It is not just the history of Houghton College that is recorded here, but the history of Houghton itself that is collected on the Archivist's shelves. Everything from prehistoric artifacts to papers and books dat-



Laura Habecker, the college Archivist

Photographs are courtesy of Ravenworks Studios

ing to the 18th century can be found here. Records from when Houghton was a godless town full of drinking men, horse racing, gambling, and houses of ill repute. Indeed, one may find, as they rifle through our quaint little hamlet's history, that Houghton was known far and wide for its...robust...ac-

tivities. A major stop for canal barges, our town was once a city of sin. Few reminders of those lawless days remain. But with the help of the Archivist, one can root out these fascinating tales of antiquity.

What use are the college archives? What use indeed! What better way to get a feel

for history than to hold it in your hands. What better way to learn about our founders than to read their mission in their own handwriting? What better way to learn than from the very mouths of those who have gone before us? For not only do our archives hold a treasure trove of physical history, contained herein are thousands of hours of oral history. The very words spoken by past presidents, professors, students, and townspeople.

But these oral records are in peril. This vast collection of history and knowledge is in terrible danger of being lost forever. Due to the ravages of time, and budgetary constraints, the tapes upon which our predecessors recorded their memories are deteriorating. Indeed, some have already disintegrated into dust. The very history of our beloved institution is literally

crumbling away.

How can they be saved? A good question and one upon which many have pondered. The archives are a resource available to all and the Archivist a trove of knowledge. The archives are crumbling because they are not being used. In this world of electronic gadgetry and digital wonders, nobody, it seems, wants to delve into the dusty world of the Archivist. But that is where true history and knowledge can be found! The archives are a superb place to find subjects for research. Theological musings of our founders can be unearthed in abundance within these dark caverns. Guided by the Archivist, history itself can be held in the palms of your hands. Make use of this incredible resource and help bring our archives back from the brink of obliteration.★

Highlander of the Week

Brittany Lenart



Photo courtesy of Houghton Athletics website

PAIGE COLLINS

Brittany Lenart, a Senior at Houghton College, received the award of Female Highlander of the Week. Lenart is a player on the Women's Basketball team and is majoring in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. Lenart plays the position of Guard for the basketball team and averaged 16 points,7 rebounds, and 2 assists this week for the Highlanders, landing her the award.

Lenart is excited to achieve this award, she states "It means alot... There's so many athletes out there that work hard every day and are so dedicated to their sports that it means alot to get this honor" Lenart states that

her teammates helped her to reach such a productive week. She states "last week we came off a rough loss at Alfred and we all just bought into the week and knew that it was a big week for us... that we all had to work hard and push each other. I think that helps each one rise above"

Brittany attributes her personal success to her team as well, she remarks that "This year is a special year for us. I've been able to play with three of the Seniors all four years... I love playing with all of the girls, freshmen through seniors... You don't play basketball with just one person on the floor, it's all five that are out there, and not only the five, but all sixteen

that are on the team"

As the season progresses, Brittany Lenart says that her goal is not just the Tournament, but each game she plays, she testifies that "Every game is a little goal in itself, to win each game individually. You can't be successful at the end the season if you don't take it one step at a time and win each game. We're trying to take it one goal at a time, one game at a time, one win at a time and just get better with each win"

When asked what motivates her, Brittany declared "My love for the game, my passion for the game, my love for basketball" she continues, "Knowing it's the last season to be out there

is definitely a driving force to do whatever you can." Brittiany states that "I want to be the best I can on the court for my teammates." Women's basketball will continue throughout the month of February, with Empire 8 tournaments taking place towards the end of the month.

To get to know the Female Highlander of the Week a little better; Brittany's favourite sport (other than Basketball) is Volleyball. Her favorite TV show is The Office and her favorite food item and animal are strawberries and dogs respectively. When asked on how she feels about the Superbowl, Britinaly remarked "I hate the Patriots."★

Student Tackles Honors Project

TYGER DOELL

Each major’s senior seminar, essentially a summary of the student’s four years at Houghton, is designed to showcase student’s academic achievements. However, there is a little-known option for students who feel as though their talents can be showcased even more: the honors thesis.

Don’t be confused: while Houghton offers several honors programs, none of them are connected to the honors thesis itself; the name just happens to be a coincidence. Rather, the honors thesis is a culminating project that students in any major may choose to do to bring their academic talents to another level. The thesis often involves primary research, and is then presented to a panel in a style similar to a master’s thesis defense. However, in some majors such as writing, students may choose more creative options, like writing their own manuscript for a fiction novel. In the end, the project is intended to showcase what the student is capable of.

Anyone looking for a case study in the honors thesis should look no further than Katherine Stevick, who completed her honors thesis last semester. Stevick, who can often be found in Java

in her spare time pouring over political and philosophical texts, didn’t originally plan to write an honors thesis. “I can remember having a conversation with a friend freshman year, where we heard about somebody doing one of these,” she laughs, “and I thought, ‘Why would you ever want to do one of those?’ Then, fast-forward three years later, and I knew that if I wanted to go to grad school, I should probably do one.”

Stevick, a political science major, chose to do her honors thesis project on Latin American liberation theology. However, what sounds like a daunting task was a lot of fun for Stevick. “I was looking at economics, the people on the ground, all of the factors involved there. At its heart, it’s about how the church should respond politically and economically to the problems of poverty and state violence.” Her project culminated in a paper which she presented in front of a panel of professors. It might sound intimidating, but Stevick found it to be more exciting than terrifying. “They asked me some really difficult questions for about an hour,” she says, “but in the meantime we had some really good conversation that was actually pretty fun.”

One might ask: what are

some of the benefits of doing such an academically rigorous paper? Stevick made it clear that it’s not for the faint of heart: “Once it comes time to write... that’s the hard part. If you’re not dedicated to the writing part, you’ll just read the whole time and not produce anything.” Still, in addition to the potential of fascinating research, Stevick let slip that there’s one more potential draw: all honors theses are bound and published in the library. At any time students can access past honors theses from as far back as they go, allowing students to become a part of a growing body of knowledge. “I don’t necessarily feel like a published scholar,” Stevick says sheepishly, “but it’s a start and it’s really good practice for doing things like this later on in life. I have more questions now than I started with; it’s not necessarily the paper I wanted to write, but I’m proud of it. It was a learning experience.”

To any students thinking about tackling one of these papers, Stevick’s advice is clear: budget your time. “Make sure you’re taking as few other courses as you can and really carve out time to do a lot of writing,” she advises, “it’s a skill, and it’s very hard at first.” Still, Stevick says that for those who do



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNA SCHILKE

Katherine Stevick completed her honors project last semester.

undertake the project, it’s worth the effort. “It’s very satisfying to come up with a project and follow it through from beginning to end,” she smiles, “It becomes your baby; it grows and changes, and you have sudden moments of insight that strike at random times. It’s really nice to dig so deeply into a topic.”

Any students wishing to start an honors thesis can speak to their advisor about getting it started. In addition, if students would like to find previous honors theses written by Houghton students, these can be found by speaking to someone at the reference desk or the circulation desk in the library, in addition to being found on the library’s website under the search terms “honors thesis” or “honors paper.” Finally, be on the lookout for Katherine Stevick’s paper, “Immoral Economies: Liberation Theology as Ethical Criticism”, which is coming soon to a library near you. ★

Dr. Ritter Joins Global Studies

KAYLA SIMMONS

Dr. Michael Ritter has joined the Global Studies department this semester as an Assistant Professor of International Development, as well as Director of Houghton’s Center for Faith, Justice, and Global Engagement. A Pittsburgh native, Dr. Ritter studied at Grove City college before getting his masters in Public Health at Emory University.

Dr. Ritter also spent 7 years

in Haiti working with his non-profit organization that deals with safe water programs, before returning to complete his doctorate work at Tufts University. He said he grew interested in working at Houghton because of “The combination of Christian faith and international development, that’s one that’s rare in terms of colleges and universities.”

Dr. Ritter is currently teaching Intro to Global Issues, Issues in Development, and a Special Topics course, NGO

Management. “I hope that it’s as practical as possible,” he said of his courses. “I hope that as [students] go on to positions in the field or wherever they end up that they can take some of what we discuss and think about them there.” His NGO Management course, for example, is mainly project based, giving students a realistic taste of the field.

He noted that “I think students seem very committed and engaged and I’ve enjoyed interacting with students, and

faculty with different background and diversity of opinion.” Dr. Ritter also stressed the integration of Christian faith with this area of study and work. “When I look at my own experience and training, it’s interesting because I got those pieces in different times and ways, but not so much together,” he said. At Houghton, he hopes to have those two aspects working together, instead of separately.

“It’s critical in a field like international development,” Dr.

Ritter went on to say, “where I think we’re making a lot of implicit statements about what we think the good life is and why it’s important to be serving people in poverty. I think our Christian faith gives us such an overwhelming reason and motivation to do that, and it also should shape a lot of how to do that.”★

Photo
of the
Week

WANT YOUR PHOTO TO BE PHOTO OF THE WEEK?

EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO EDITOR@HOUGHTONSTAR.COM

Snow Offers Students Outdoor Adventures

KYLA NIES

Although 48 hour long movie marathons are great, apparently it is important for humans to leave their beds and occasionally enjoy the fresh air. This may seem like a tall order in light of the recent polar vortex, but there are multiple winter activities available to Houghton Students that can make this semester a bit more adventurous. The easiest to access of these activities is the ski and snowshoe rental right here on campus. Skis and snowshoes can be rented on snowy weekends (look for the campus wide emails). For a single day use ski's are \$10 and snowshoes are \$5 and for full weekend use skis are \$15 and snowshoes are \$10. The skis and snowshoes can be used throughout the campus's trail systems and the ski hill Trail maps can be found at the information desk in the campus center. There are also lots of

outdoor activities a reasonable distance from campus Every week, various New York State Parks offer guided snowshoes walks through the park, in which visitors can borrow the parks snowshoes. Letchworth State Park is offering one of these hikes Sunday, January 9th, at 2:30pm, and will be meeting at the Humphrey Nature Center. There are also guided cross country skiing opportunities at the parks. For those looking for a high speed getaway, there are multiple ski resorts with affordable day and weekend passes not far from Houghton. Swain Resort's mountain (in Swain) features many trails and the best deal for college students with their "College Nights" where students can ski from 3:00pm-Closing, Sunday-Thursday for only \$29 a day. HoliMont (in Ellicottville) doesn't have as many trails as Swain, but it does have the cheapest weekend pass for only \$62, making it ideal for beginners. Students who don't know how to ski - or simply don't want that much exercise - oth-



The view from the ski hill on Houghton Campus.

PHOTO COURTESY OF HOUGHTON SKI HILL FACEBOOK PAGE

er forms of outdoor recreation are available. Holiday Valley (also in Ellicottville) offers hourly rates or all day tubing for \$30. The town of Olean hosts an indoor ice skating rink with very inexpensive rates and rentals, and a weekly

"skate and shoot" for hockey fans. Akron Falls and Como Lake offer free ice skating in a more natural outdoor setting. So whether students tear it up on the slopes, channel their inner child on a sled, nail their triple axel on their skates or

simply visit the overlook via snowshoe, there is ample opportunity to escape into western New York's winter wonderland. ★

Library Updates Viewing Room

JACIE COOK

For students in need of a good place to study, whether individually or in groups, the library is home to multiple spaces designed for quiet work, a dedicated computer room, and a viewing room that recently has gained some new additions. Thanks to an anonymous donation, the library viewing room now has a flat screen television and a blu-ray dvd player. This gives a convenient area to watch movies or documentaries for class with a small group. The anonymous donor has also contributed heavily to the dvd collection on the main floor of the Library. Movies and documentary films/shows from this collection can be signed out by students. David Stevick, library director, spoke on the library's film section: "[The library has] a very fine DVD collection here that supports film studies and leisure both." Although not large, the room can also be signed out by clubs and organizations, as well as study groups. In addition to the viewing

room, the Chamberlain Reading Room, Group Study Room, and Mini Computer Lab are all available to be signed out by both students and clubs/organizations. Many students make use of spaces the library has to offer, such as Nicole Collins '22, who noted that "[The library] is the only place I can find enough quiet to fully focus on my homework." If a student or faculty member is unsure where to find a room, there is a visual guide online, accessible through the Houghton library website. The page will allow users to choose either the floor level or the specific room and pull up a diagram which shows the specific location. This also helps when looking for a specific book or section of books. The library has also stepped up their displays exhibited in the library lobby. For example, a faculty member is chosen once a month to shows works that inspired them and works they think students should look into; this month Dr. Derck has provided the book recommendations. A traveling, temporary display features the Women Suffrage movement, visible right next to the circulation desk. The library is in the process of getting started a small self-service coffee station by the doors when you walk in; not for



PHOTO COURTESY OF KAYLA SIMMONS

The library viewing room, located in the basement of the library next to the Lathern office.

profit, just small fees in order to restock. The library has now established a 24/7 service for when, "... there are no Houghton College librarians available for a live chat," according to the library website, "[students] can receive assistance from a librarian at another library who will have access to our re-

sources." This service connects students to librarians across the globe: if a student needs assistance at 2 o'clock in the morning, a librarian from a different time zone can help. The library plans on continuing on expanding its services and resources. Looking ahead, the library is in process of adding

more fine art books, recently donated by Roselynn Danner. To stay connected, the library has a Facebook and an Instagram page which highlight their events. ★

Why Modern “Liberalism” Isn’t Liberal



MICHAEL SIEVERS

SKYLAR HILLMAN

The Age of the Enlightenment is well known for the ideas of individual liberty, constitutionally limited government, free market capitalism, and peace. These formed the basis of 19th-century liberalism. Yes, liberalism. However, liberalism hardly means what it used to mean. In fact, I think modern usage of the term liberalism is actually regressive, not progressive. Here’s why.

As the old feudal and mercantilistic forms and theories of economics began to die, an entrepreneurial spirit emerged throughout Europe and the American colonies. A new way of attaining wealth was brought back to life. Laissez-faire emerged on the scene. Economic competition

was finally permitted in many Western nations. Guilds started to have less control over who could start a business, trading policies started to shift towards free-trade, and regulations dwindled. Adam Smith was the pioneer of free-market capitalism during the Enlightenment. His Wealth of Nations changed the world. These new economic ideas of the Enlightenment became part of liberalism. Private property became one of the cornerstones of liberalism, which was central to Smith’s ideas of economic progress. Other liberals during this period embrace property rights, including John Locke,

intersectional-liberalism, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez thinks it is perfectly rational and moral to tax the wealthy at rates of seventy-percent and higher. Clearly, this is a delusional deviation away from the factual-based necessity of property rights. Echoing the writings of Frederic Bastiat, if an individual’s labor is taxed beyond the translated aggregate good of society, including the individual being taxed, that becomes a form of theft. In short, if the benefit you receive from a public good in proportion to your tax bill is less than your contribution, an injustice is being done. If I pay,

“...Today, liberalism has devolved into a backward ideology masquerading as the champion of moral good...”

Frederic Bastiat, Montesque and many others. The Founding Fathers were also adamant about securing the right to private property.

Today liberalism has devolved into a backward ideology masquerading as the champion of moral good. While the liberals of the past articulated eloquently and logically the right of property, liberals today deviate from such philosophical truths. For example, the bastion of

for example, 90 percent of the city’s taxes, but only receive a 5 percent benefit, that is clearly an injustice. The Founding Fathers understood that raising revenue for the national, state, and local expenditures to support the functioning of the republic was beneficial and moral. However, they realized, as the American Revolution demonstrated, an excessive taking of one’s property is immoral and ineffective. Economic studies from all

over the political spectrum, including the Tax Foundation, Cato Institute, American Association of Economic Research, and the Brookings Institution show the insanity of Cortez’s economic policies, especially those that violate the principles of true-liberalism.

As the colonies broke free from British tyranny, the newly-identified Americans espoused a historically-radical approach to speech. All speech, except speech that created a clear and present danger, was permitted. Criticism of government was permitted and even encouraged. Americans cherished their natural right to speech. Free-speech was a quintessential piece of 19th-century liberalism. Fast-forward to today and liberalism is an aegis for avoiding triggering (in the sense of upsetting one’s feelings) in discourse. The early American politicians distinguished between actual danger that some speech could incite and ludicrous subjectively defined “hate-speech.” Anything that a contemporary liberal hears could be considered “hate-speech.” The ambiguity of it makes it absurd. Some states are even attempting to emulate Canadian laws that prohibit people from using any other pronoun to identify a transgender person than the transgender’s preferred pronoun. I could only imagine Patrick Henry and Alexander

Hamilton sitting in a tavern after a legal battle laughing at the insanity of Canadian laws if they were to live in the present. More examples of contemporary-liberalism repudiating classical principles of free-speech include leftist students and schools banning conservative speakers, using media to quash diversity of opinion, and using legal tools to shut others down who think differently than the “progressive norm.” Freedom of speech is no longer a platform of liberalism. Agree or be condemned is the contemporary liberal perspective.

From economic policy to inalienable rights, modern liberalism has deteriorated into an anti-progress, anti-liberty, big-government ideology. The only aspect of liberalism I think still functions today is equality and diversity. Other than that, it is a shadow of its former self. Bertrand Russell once wrote a book, “Why I am Not a Christian.” Borrowing his phraseology, my argument developed here can be simply stated as “Why I am Not a Liberal.” Don’t get me wrong, if liberalism today was what it meant during the Enlightenment period, I would unabashedly identify as a liberal. ★
Skylar is a Jnuior majoring in Political Science

Fear and Worship Don’t Go Together



COURTESY OF ANNA SCHILKE

ABBY AGUIRRE

For a long time, I was afraid of leading worship out of the fear of not being “good enough.” I’ve always loved to sing but after years of comparing myself to others who had leadership positions, I was beyond discouraged. I fell into the trap of thinking it wasn’t for me, and my mind came up with all sorts of excuses. I thought that leading was only for those with a bigger heart or a stronger voice or more confidence. I

hadn’t grown up in the church, and I didn’t think God could use a 19 year old girl who was too nervous to pray out loud in front of others. I felt like I didn’t have the right things to say because I still had so much to learn. Opportunities never really came, and I believed I wasn’t capable of leading in the first place.

After a long period of waiting, opportunities began to open up and I had a rough start. I would get off stage and be convinced that I could’ve done better. Over and over again, I was overly critical of myself. Eventually, I realized this was an extremely selfish way of thinking and that I couldn’t truly worship God if I was concerned about performing at the same time.

A few weeks ago I had lost my voice. It took its absence to

“...Fear holds us back. In worship and in life, fear will keep us from wholly being our true, authentic selves...”

realize how much I needed it. It was something I use every day and I took it for granted. I could barely speak in a whisper, let alone sing. I was supposed to lead Koinonia with my team that Sunday, and I knew I needed to be on complete vocal rest for a few days for the possibility of gaining my voice back in time.

Sunday came, and I knew I’d be able to do the service. Usually, I’m really anxious during day-

of rehearsals, but this time was different. I was just overjoyed to be able to sing at all. I carried a mindset of peace and a grateful heart and fear was nowhere to be found. I was able to do what I loved and I was able to do it all for His glory. It was the first time I got off stage and I knew that I did well because I wasn’t afraid.

When I lead worship, I want to give it my all. I shouldn’t have to worry about what I look like or getting every note right. What matters is surrendering my heart to God and meaning every word I sing. I’ve realized that if I get on stage to lead worship with any motive other than pointing out God’s greatness, I’ve completely missed the point. It’s not about me, or you, or what

anyone thinks, and it never will be. It will always be about Him and His unfailing love for us.

Fear hold us back. In worship and in life, fear will keep us from wholly being our true, authentic selves. God deserves all of us, and all of our praise. Despite our nerves, anxieties, and the fact that we are always learning how to be more like Jesus, we are all capable of leading others to God. Our Lord gives us strength, courage, and the ability to show His glory through our lives. Joey Signa, guitarist and tour director for Elevation Worship puts it best: “We can’t hold on to fear during worship and truly adore God at the same time. We have to get out of our heads and adore with our hearts.” It’s all about the heart, and having a heart that praises God in deed and truth will always be enough. ★

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“...Eventually I realized...I couldn’t truly worship God if I was concerned about performing at the same time...”

Make Womb For Jesus



DANIEL BERRYMENT

exclaimed is a curious one. In the original Greek, this is anaphōnéō. Throughout the Septuagint (which, recall from BibLit, is the preferred version of the Old Testament for most NT writers) anaphōnéō only appears five times, each in the context of the priesthood worshipping the Lord in the presence of the Ark of the Covenant, the sign of His special residence with Israel.

Just as the old Ark contained Manna, Aaron’s staff, and the Ten Commandments, inside of Mary is the Bread from Heaven, Great High Priest, and Love Himself—the Law’s fulfillment. For this reason early Christian commentators

“...let us not delude ourselves that God doesn’t care because the Bible does not explicitly condemn it...”

in a special way. According to Bible scholar I Howard Marshall, Mary has at this point only been pregnant for three or four days. And yet, this microscopic clump of cells inside of her is already the Lord, the God of Israel. Mary is not only with child because she has decided to keep the baby. No, she has a person in her womb, and that person is God’s divine

If we say God did not come to assume the fetus in Mary’s womb until, say, the third trimester this will amount to the ancient heresies of Monophysitism and Nestorianism. These were false teachings that Christ’s divinity could be separated from his humanity, as opposed to the orthodox teaching that Jesus, as full God and full man, mysteriously and interminably mingles these two natures into a single person.

So perhaps the Son of God did exist incarnationally as a zygote. But that’s God. What about plain human fetuses? The thing is that Jesus defines our humanity: that’s what it means for Him to be the firstborn of all creation. It was not just the cross that saved us, but the whole incarnation from conception to ascension was touched by divinity and gave the rest of us new dignity. It was the cross which sanctified suffering and death as Christ took the curse of Adam and Eve upon himself, but in conception he ensured the dignity of the human zygote. Human fetuses bear the image of Christ, which is the

image of God. It is a tough thing to recognize, but violence against the innocent can never be acceptable.

Of course, there are nontheological reasons why abortion is wrong, but let us not delude ourselves that God doesn’t care because the Bible does not explicitly condemn it. This is the greatest moral dilemma of our day—perhaps of all time—and we treat it as a matter of private belief or fodder for compromise. Don’t we think that God would care whether or not a fetus counts as a person? Whether or not my theology is convincing, realize that what we say is morally permissible has effects on who we think God is, and this oughtn’t be a matter of convenience. He decides who He is and it is up to us to recognize Him and His heart. When a fetus is aborted, Christ is rejected again and His wounds are opened anew. But this is the sign of His mercy for those who repent. As a child of God, you have a duty to speak the Word of Life into the chaos in the depths. What will it be? Are we willing to bear Him like Mary, or is this divine mission, too, aborted? ★

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“...So perhaps the Son of God did exist incarnationally as a zygote. But that’s God. What about plain human fetuses? The thing is that Jesus defines our humanity: that’s what it means for him to be firstborn...”

identified the pregnant virgin as the Ark of the New Covenant. Elizabeth and her family are members of the priestly lineages, and so this explains why the Evangelist would choose such a peculiar word to describe their celebration: in Mary’s visit to Elizabeth, God is really present

Son. All women who conceive bear persons in their wombs.

Some might wish to disregard the typology of the Ark as reading too much into the text. I don’t think this is true, but there is a deeper theological reason to recognize that the Son of God became incarnate as a zygote.

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