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the houghton STAR

Houghton College's Student Newspaper Since 1909

DO YOU LIVE IN A GENERATIONAL BUBBLE? | OPINIONS, P. 6

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April 25, 2014

Vol. 110, No. 24



3 Bums Pizza to Open Location in Houghton



FACEBOOK.COM/3BUMSPIZZA

SARAH HUTCHINSON

Get your stomachs ready: 3 Bums Pizza is coming to Houghton.

The local favorite is preparing to move its operations from its current Belfast location into the building formerly occupied by the Allegany Har-

vest Cooperative Market at Houghton.

The reason for the move, according to owner Jake Hillman, is to better service the business that 3 Bums receives from the Houghton-Fillmore area.

The business "hopes to move fairly quickly" to Houghton, said Hill-

man, with a projected opening date of June 1. The business will be transferring some of its equipment from the Belfast location, but will also be renovating the new building to better suit the needs of a pizza restaurant.

In preparation for the move to Houghton, Hillman has been assisted by the Houghton College business department's Marketing Research class who have been surveying the student body to assess what students would prefer at a pizza place. Said Ken Bates, professor of business, "the owner is really interested in student opinion" and how the business could best appeal to students.

According to Bates, the new business is sure to meet a particular demand among the college-aged set. "A college community without pizza delivery is almost unheard of," said Bates, "I think they will do very well here."

Said Phyllis Gaerte on behalf of the Houghton River Group, an organization dedicated to promoting the Houghton community's economic development, "We are very excited about the prospect of 3 Bums coming to Houghton and what that will mean for our students."

"We're looking forward to it," said Hillman, "I hope our relationship with Houghton will last a long time." ★

Faculty Members Say Goodbye

GRETCHEN REEVES

At the end of this spring semester, Houghton will be bidding farewell to six of its current faculty: Mark Hijleh, associate dean for academic affairs and professor of composition and conducting; Keith Horn, associate dean for the natural sciences and mathematics; Brandon Johnson, associate professor of vocal music and conducting and director of choral activities; Jun-Koo Park, assistant professor of applied mathematics; Trini Rangel, assistant professor of physical education and chair of the department of physical education; and Jillian Sokso, associate professor of art and art department chair.

While Johnson, Park, Rangel, and Sokso will be departing voluntarily for varied reasons, Horn's departure after five years at Houghton will be happening with budget cuts passed as part of recent austerity measures enacted by the college and vice president for academic affairs, explained the reasoning behind the cut, stating that the goal is to "administratively have fewer areas so we're not investing in so many associate deans," adding that the priority is to cut administratively before cutting faculty.

The cutting of Horn's position will require faculty will require some transition. "What we are going to move toward there is a dean position that's more like

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Campus Highlights Stewardship on Earth Day

THOMAS ECKERT

This week, Houghton College was invited to celebrate Earth Day. Brian Webb oversaw and organized activities educating students to preserve the livelihood and the health of the planet. Events focused on appreciating and educating students on how best to live in harmony with our terraqueous nursery. They spanned both Earth Day itself--Tuesday, April 22--and the following day.

On Tuesday, the Brown House hosted a lecture titled "Social Justice and the Built Environment." On Wednesday was hosted both a chapel on environmentalism and a clothing swap.

At the Brown House, Dr. Rusty Pritchard spoke informally about how our constructed world impacts human life and the well being of the poor. Students were invited to interact with Dr. Pritchard who holds a Ph.D. in Resource Economics. He is the founder and president of Flourish, an organization that helps churches tend to humanity through their treatment of the environment.

The chapel, also led by Dr. Rusty Pritchard, took a lighthearted yet focused approach to the christian imperative of environmentalism. He opened the



Students browse through donated clothing during swap in the campus center basement Wednesday.

LUKE LAUIER

talk joking, "Let me take a few minutes to make you feel guilty." Growing up, Dr. Pritchard saw environmentalists as "Debbie Downers," disliking their fatalistic view of the world. He discovered, however, that they instead understood

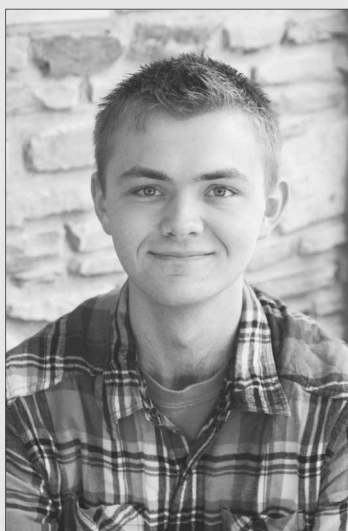
the effects of their actions at a distance in the context of the environment.

Dr. Pritchard demonstrated the convergence of environmentalism and Christianity. As the environment affects those who live off its fruits - all people,

but most notably the impoverished - so too does our damage to environment affect them. In this light, environmentalism is an issue of social justice. Instead of embracing the judgement and blame

See EARTH DAY page 2

WORLD // Trouble With Peacekeeping Bases in South Sudan



LUKE LAUER

CALEB JOHNSON

United Nations peacekeepers are struggling to stop a humanitarian catastrophe in South Sudan after hundreds of civilians were killed last week by anti-government forces. Attempting to escape a conflict between government and rebel forces that is growing increasingly ethnic in nature,

up to 22,000 civilians are seeking refuge within the U.N. base in the city of Bentiu. Water and sanitary facilities, however, are running low and peacekeepers fear that hundreds more could die within days as a result of these conditions.

The U.N. reports that on April 15 and 16, hundreds of people were massacred in Bentiu after rebel forces took the town from government forces in a conflict that first began in the summer of 2013. In one mosque alone, the rebels are accused of killing up to 200 people who had sought shelter there from the violence. The Washington Post reported that a top U.N. aid official described how “piles and piles” of bodies littered the streets, the mosque, and even hospitals during the rebel rampage. Currently, U.N. peacekeepers are helping to collect the bodies throughout Bentiu.

Violence in South Sudan, a volatile country that recently voted for independence from Sudan in 2011, erupted after President Salva Kiir accused his vice president, Riek Machar, of attempting a coup in July 2013. Machar was subsequently dismissed as vice president and now leads a rebel group seeking to overthrow Kiir’s government. Exacerbating the conflict, however, is the growing importance of ethnicity in determining who is friend or foe. President Kiir is an

ethnic Dinka while Machar is a Nuer. Al-Jazeera reports that in Bentiu, the capital of the ironically named Unity province where the recent massacre occurred, one can find numerous ethnic groups, including Dinka, Nuer, Darfuri, and Misseriya Arabs. Insecurities regarding whether one’s neighbor is a potential enemy for being a different ethnicity is thus polarizing the city, resulting in thousands of people fleeing the possibility of future massacres.

In an attempt to protect civilians from reprisal attacks throughout the country, U.N. peacekeepers have allowed thousands to seek refuge within their bases. While attempting to ensure safety for these civilians, however, the results are mixed. Reuters reports that after the mainly Nuer rebels seized Bentiu, Dinka residents of the town of Bor in South Sudan’s Jonglei state attacked a U.N. base that sheltered up to 5,000 mostly Nuer people. Some 58 people died and 98 were injured after the Dinka had deceived the peacekeepers into believing that their protest was peaceful before opening fire on the base.

Furthermore, sanitation and water supplies within the bases are being stretched thin as more and more civilians arrive to seek refuge by the day. Tony Lanzer, the U.N.’s representative

in South Sudan, stated that the base in Bentiu only had one liter of water per person available per day. Additionally, a growing public health crisis is emerging as sanitary facilities can no longer sustain the growing number of people inside the bases. Some 350 people, for example, are forced to share one toilet. Raphael Gorgeu, the head of Doctors Without Borders in South Sudan, warns that people will die inside Bentiu’s U.N. base within days because of the bleak water and sanitation situation.

Prospects for a quick resolution to the conflict in South Sudan are nil. Reuters reports that a January ceasefire between the belligerent parties has never taken hold. Meanwhile, the East African IGAD group has attempted to organize peace talks. The recent massacre, however, has led to the postponement of these talks until April 28. How this conflict will end is uncertain, but for a multiethnic country with one of the world’s lowest standards of living, one can assume that a successful resolution will not come quickly or easily. ★

Caleb is a senior international relations and history major.

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the deans of the other areas, which would be a teaching dean,” explained Mills-Woolsey. “Dr. Horn has been a consulting dean; he’s done a wonderful job for us when he first came on as associate dean. [But] it was going to be a temporary thing.” Mills-Woolsey went on to say that “because Dr. Horn has done such a good job and been very invested in the sciences and really provided some spiritual leadership as well as divisional and area leadership, obviously they [the faculty] are very sad, some of them are angry. They will be going through a grieving process over this, partly because there’s never a time when you feel like it’s a good time for it to happen.”

Also terminated was Hijleh’s position as associate dean for academic affairs. However, after considering an offer for a similar but distinct position at Houghton, he opted instead to head to The King’s College, a Christian institution with a student body of around 500, in New York City and take up a position as vice president for academic administration and dean of the faculty. “Both Dean-Mills Woolsey and President Mullen offered me something that I thought had a lot of good potential and was an exciting possibility,” said Hijleh, who has been at Houghton for 21 years. “As is always the case with these kinds of decisions, there was a weighing of a number of factors involved in that.” He explained, “I have been pursuing this kind of chief academic officer position for some time. Certainly,

[with] the kind of role I will be able to have there, I’m convinced that’s where the Lord wants me to be at this point in my career.”

Park, on the other hand, is making a move to Georgia Gwinnett College after two years at Houghton in order to better accommodate his growing family. “I’ll never forget the support that I have received from my department, area and the college,” he said. “There are many things; however, the one thing I would like to emphasize is being a Project NEXt Fellow. Houghton College was a sponsor for me to be the Project NEXt Fellow. I have learned a lot from the experience.”

Johnson, after 11 years at Houghton, is planning to move to Ann Arbor, Michigan in order to work as the director

of choral activities at Eastern Michigan University, a secular institution of around 25,000 undergraduates. “My family and I have been looking for opportunities to get a little bit closer to our home, which is in Minnesota,” he explained. “Houghton College has taught me far more than I have taught at Houghton,” he said. “While I’m excited to start this new chapter in my family’s life and in my professional life, I will cherish the time I had here at Houghton.” ★

Thanks to all our writers for a good year!



This is the final issue of the Star until next semester. We’re pleased to announce that Luke Lauer will be editor-in-chief for the 2014-2015 academic year.

DAILY CALENDAR

11 / FRIDAY

Senior Art Exhibition Reception
7:00 PM | Gallery

Athletics
3:30 PM | SB @ Utica College
3:30 PM | BB vs. St. John Fisher
4 PM | MT vs. Elmira

26 / SATURDAY

Soup Run
8 AM | Nielsen Center
Houghton Palooza
11:00 AM | Townhouse Quad

14 / MONDAY

Student Recitals: Simbarashe Kamuriwo, voice and Hannah-Renée Becker, voice
6:30 PM | CFA Recital Hall
Houghton Gospel Choir Concert
8:00 PM

15 / TUESDAY

Graduate Recital: Taylor Koepka, organ
6:30 PM | CFA Recital Hall
LAST DAY OF CLASSES

New Data Science Program In Discussion

SARAH HUTCHINSON

After a long period of deliberation, Houghton may well add a data science program to its educational offerings in the near future.

A key player in initiating data science at Houghton is alumna Carmen McKell, a data science professional who graduated from Houghton in 1987 with a degree in psychology. After graduation, McKell went on to attain a masters degree in statistics and applied research at the University of New Brunswick as well as another Masters in psychology. McKell has over twenty years of experience working in the field of data science. She is the co-founder and president of BaseMetrics which, according to its website, is "a full service Predictive Analytics and Software Development enterprise." BaseMetrics is centered in Ontario, Canada, with offices in the United States, Mexico, and India.

McKell approached the President's office last fall with the proposal to initiate a data science program at Houghton. Since that time, her company, BaseMetrics, has produced a report analyzing the demand and Houghton's ability to offer the program. According to Paul Young, professor of psychology, the results were positive and the program is now being in "the process of deciding to whether to go ahead."

What is data science? According to Young, the modern age is awash in data but "our ability to collect data has outpaced our ability to understand it." The discipline of data science, then, has formed in recent decades to "make sense" of the large amounts of data. The meanings that are then

derived from sets of data could be applicable to nearly every field of study. For instance, according to Wei Hu, professor of computer science, it is not unrealistic that an analysis of tweets on the social media site, Twitter, could generate information about the general health of a community—thereby providing valuable information to the field of healthcare.

To Hu, this is what makes data science an "exciting" field of study to introduce at Houghton in particular. "Data science is a connector that connects different disciplines together, which makes it very powerful at a liberal arts college," said Hu. At its core, said Hu, the field is based in a thorough understanding of computer science and statistics, but it bleeds into a number of the disciplines already offered at Houghton: business, the sciences, linguistics, economics, political science, international development, and others.

Additionally, though data can provide seemingly innumerable insights to various disciplines, the use and analysis of data often involves ethical questions. Hu said that this is also what makes it a "powerful" program to add at Houghton, an institution that regularly engages in ethics.

This was confirmed by Dean Linda Mills Woolsey who said in an email, "We have a proposed curriculum and are working on a business plan...We hope to pilot a course or two next year, and, if Data Science emerges as a priority, to bring it to the faculty for approval next year."

Though "the program is still far from settled," according to Young, it would most likely involve a core in computer science and statistics from which students would apply into a content area (such as business, political science, etc.), operating in much the same way as the intercultural studies major in which students are required to take on a second major. ★



Students browse through donated clothing during the swap.

LUKE LAUEF

EARTH DAY from page 1

that often comes from environmentalism, he encouraged Christians to care for creation as an act of compassion for humanity.

The clothing swap was coordinated by junior Hanna Kahler, one of the college's Eco-Reps. This is the first year that Houghton has Eco-Reps. The program selects students who are interested to help promote a mindset of sustainability to their peers, led by Webb.

"The clothing swap idea came about because it's something that my little sister and I have done with our friends

before, and so I thought that it would be a fun thing to do on a college-wide level. It was my Eco-Rep project this year and has come about with a lot of help from friends and other Eco-Reps," said Kahler.

In early April, bins were placed in each dorm in which students were encouraged to drop items of clothing that they no longer needed or wanted. On Wednesday, the clothes were set out in the basement of the Campus Center. Anyone was free to take as they pleased from the collection. The remaining clothes were donated to a local clothing shelter for the poor. ★

College Processes Applications From Prospective Chinese Students

GRETCHEN REEVES

With 11 processed applications from the Mainland and Hong Kong, it seems as though the college's efforts to recruit more incoming students from China has made some progress. According to Eric Currie, vice president for enrollment management, nine of the processed have been accepted and three of the nine students have confirmed their enrollment for next semester and made their initial deposits. Current numbers may increase,

though, as international students have until a June deadline to make deposits. Additionally, as of Wednesday, one of the committed students is enrolled in the Science Honors program.

While the college's focus last year was on Zinch, a social networking site which allows students to communicate with admissions officers from various undergraduate institutions across the United States, it has this year worked with a more hands-on approach, working with Dr. Richard Liu of Panda North America to reach out to high schools in China. About six or seven of the applicants to Houghton have applied through Liu or his contacts. Others have applied through Houghton contacts, while others still learned of Houghton through internet searches.

According to Currie, the majority of the applicants "had an expression of the Christian faith shared by the college." He added, "for a lot of families, that has been a positive expression because they know we're not a 'party school;' we hold to a 'moral code' in their words."

As is required for other international students, the incoming students will arrive on campus a week before regular fall orientation to attend informative sessions and further acclimate to living on an American campus. Students who score below an 80 on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) are required to attend intensive English classes in addition to regular classes.

Also in development, most likely for next summer, is a summer camp for high school students aged 16 and under who are interested in attending Houghton in the future. Currie described it as "kind of like an American cultural camp." He explained, "We have the dates already solidified and the space reserved; it's just to get families prepared financially to make that kind of commitment and come over" and added that "there are some other schools here locally that do similar programs." ★

Addie's Ice Cream Prepares for Grand Opening



Addie's Ice Cream, located on Route 19 beside the firehall parking lot, will officially open on May 9 at 4 p.m. Their summer hours are expected to be: 12-9 Sunday to Thursday and 12-10 Friday and Saturday. Said owners Addie and Andrew Silbert, "We're looking forward to the unique opportunity Houghton can provide our business and we're excited for the potential the community holds. We are grateful for the opportunity that will allow us to open our second location in our alma mater and look forward to a great season."

Custodian Don Taylor to Retire After Nearly Four Decades of Service



Don Taylor began working at Houghton in 1975.

LUKE LAUER

WYNN HORTON

You've probably noticed him sweeping the chapel or running a mop across the atrium floor in the music building. If you're not paying attention, Don Taylor and the work he does for Houghton College might be missed. But, focus in for just a moment, and you get a glimpse of one of the most dedicated staff members that has kept the wheels turning at Houghton for over 39 years.

Born in Butler, Pennsylvania in 1949, Don's father and mother were camp missionaries in the region. Growing up as middle child on a rural farmhouse near a bible college, he knew

his Bible stories from a very young age. They moved north to Little Valley, not far from Houghton, in 1960 when his father became part of an active mission in the area. Don had long hoped to obtain a Bible or religion degree and follow in the footsteps of his father – serving local communities and leading people to the Lord through Sunday schools and camps. In 1973, after completing college work as he'd planned (a degree in Bible and Christian Education from United Wesleyan College), Don moved to southern Ohio to work with a mission project there, but came home because he thought his heart for ministry was in southern New York. "But," he said,

"the Lord seemed to be closing that door and the Houghton door opened up when people didn't have as many jobs anymore and support for missions couldn't be raised easily." On January 21st, 1975 he came to work on custodial staff at Houghton College. "I was exempted from Vietnam so I came and joined the army here at Houghton," he said, grinning at the memory of that first day. (President Mullen would graduate a year later in 1976).

Ironically, he recalls, his first placement for cleaning was in the chapel and the old music building. During his first two years or so he was commuting from Little Valley on the weekends and

staying in town during the week. "I was a single guy for the first year or two," he said jokingly, "then some folks on custodial set me up with this girl I'd know in the past who now worked in the library." He and Darlene, his to-be-wife for over 30 years, were successfully paired by their coworkers and settled in the town for the life. Their two children both graduated from Houghton and he now has six energetic grandsons.

"I think over a thousand different students have been my workers over the years," he recalled thoughtfully. When asked about his favorite funny or memorable stories, Don grinned cheekily, savoring what is, I'm sure, a mountain of ridiculous memories. "I believe it was a homecoming weekend, I came in early and did some rounds and everything seemed fine. But as the daylight came in, I realized that there were seats missing, just the bottom pieces, in all three sections."

He paused, laughed to himself for a moment, and then continued on. "After the event we went through and marked all of the seats (which were all different sizes). When we finished the chart, the seats missing spell out GAO – one letter in each of the three sections. This was the old men's dorm that the college was going to tear down (it stood where Fancher is now). I think it was some kind of protest." We both chortled for a few moments and commented on the subtle cleverness of the scheme. "I also lived through many floods, particularly in the chapel and Presser Hall."

Don Taylor will retire in the coming days after almost 40 years of tireless service to Houghton College. He has worked through the administrations of 4 different presidents (Paine, Dayton, Chamberlain, Mullen) and set up the chairs for the graduation of more than 9,000 Houghton College graduates. He is a tireless worker and the oil that keeps this academic machine turning. Thank Don, thank you for everything. ★

After Houghton: Seniors Accepted to Graduate Programs

AVA BERGEN

For those of us enveloped in the familiar "Houghton bubble," the thought of life after college can easily get crushed under more immediate obligations: Assignments, exams, delicious oven-baked cookies in the dining hall.

Inevitably, the reality of life after Houghton must be acknowledged. As graduation rapidly approaches, many students contemplate leaving as they move on to the next step of furthering their education: graduate school.

Senior Ben Murphy is one such student, going to the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill for a PhD in English. His ultimate goal is to become an English professor, though while at school he hopes to focus on 20th century to contemporary American literature. "I want to study post-humanism. It has to do with science studies: how science and technology may change what it means to be human." When asked about the application process, Murphy commented, "It's not terribly expensive, but the GRE (Graduate Record Exam) is necessary and that's like 200 bucks...I spent a lot of time researching graduate programs...to get into the programs,

you have to be really specific about the professors you want to work with in your personal statement."

Outside of the English department, junior Rebekah Kimble is currently applying to schools in order to earn her PhD in history. For Kimble, this process has been extended and strenuous as Kimble admitted "Right now the history job market is terrible. It's completely flooded with people who have graduated and have a PhD. Most of the programs I want to get in are only accepting 6-10 students into their entire history program. There are around 400 applicants per program, so I'm actually applying to 18 schools."

However, this abysmally low acceptance rate has not deterred Kimble in the least. "I really love the subject, and I see it as an opportunity to be a Christian in a secular university... to be a witness without evangelizing per se, being an example without hitting people over the head with religion. Also, I just love researching. Going to graduate school enables me to research what I love and publish books." Despite the current job market, Kimble has decided to pursue her passions.

Senior Abigail Bruxvoort will attend

Northwestern University to procure her PhD in philosophy. Applying to a total of 11 schools, Bruxvoort described her application process: "I took the GRE last May, and I did some basic research on schools over the summer and created a list of schools to apply to. Then, in October and November I started preparing my writing sample, writing a statement of intent, and asking for letters of recommendation...The main difficulty with applying and visiting schools has been being a full time student in the midst of it all."

When asked about her decision to go to graduate school, Bruxvoort replied, "Why am I going? Because I would happily spend the rest of my life in philosophy classrooms."

While a PhD program may be what first comes to mind when it comes to talking about graduate school, some Houghton students have their eyes on different goals. Senior Jim Vitale anticipates working toward his Master of Divinity at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. When asked about his future plans, Vitale responded, "I have been pursuing an interest in ministry on and off for almost eight years now, and my love for theology has only grown in my

time at Houghton. I hope to use this degree to be ordained a Lutheran pastor and serve a church somewhere."

Senior Caleb Johnson plans to attend George Mason University to further his studies in International Relations. "I'm an IR major and I love it. I want to join the Foreign Service. Graduate school will present me with opportunities and internships, and give me the experience I need to pass the Foreign Service test."

From the science department, senior Esther Schow intends to enter Auburn University to pursue a degree in veterinary medicine. Speaking about her passion for becoming a veterinarian, Schow commented, "I love caring in a tangible way that conjoins the academic side of science, with the emotional side of animal husbandry... since high school, I have known that I wanted to either become a doctor or veterinarian, so graduate school has always been something I assumed I would do."

Applying for graduate school can be an arduous process which requires planning, research, time, and a moderate amount of cash, but for those with the desire, the opportunity to further their education and grab their goals is entirely worth the effort. ★

House of Cards Returns with a Shocking Second Season



House of Cards Season 2 advertisement.

JIM VITALE
CALEB JOHNSON

The smash hit political drama *House of Cards* came roaring back this year in its second season, continuing the story of Vice President Francis “Frank” Underwood’s lust for power.

The show takes its cue from Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. Francis and his wife Claire do whatever is necessary to take control and gain power in Washington, D.C. The political drama has it all: violence, murder, sex, revenge, drug abuse, and political manipulation. The show is also an exposition of the relationships that occur outside the political realm. Relationships between characters blur from the Capitol Building to a small barbeque stand in the city, of which Frank is a frequent customer. All the characters have their demons and passions, leading their own lives to satisfy their own desires. But the many side-characters that exist in the show are merely pawns to Frank and Claire’s grand scheme to take control. And yet for all this excitement the show takes a very slow pace. Climaxes are slow to build and slow to diffuse.

In a way, *House of Cards* attempts to mimic real life. Unlike shows like *24*, where the president is involved in gunfights and

assassination attempts, *House of Cards* is more political, with gears slowly turning, plans slowly unraveling, paths crossing, and enemies slowly building ammunition. This is a show that takes patience, and pays off only a little at a time. Despite the plot’s sluggish unraveling, there are enough shocking scenes to keep the viewer asking for more. The first episode of Season 2 may be the most shocking thing you have ever seen on television. But you will have to experience that for yourself.

Season 2 picks up the show’s plot from where it left off at the end of Season 1. The first season follows Underwood’s ascension from Majority Whip in the House of Representatives to United States Vice President. At the end of Season 1, we are left wondering how characters will respond to Frank Underwood’s immoral behavior as well the fate of a number of characters whose lives hang in the balance. In Season 2, Underwood continues to strong-arm President Garret Walker to the chagrin of Raymond Tusk, the President’s billionaire best friend, in an effort to consolidate his influence within the White House. After Underwood wins over the president, Tusk seeks revenge by attacking the reputation of everybody Frank loves. Underwood is forced to control the damage of Tusk’s actions while

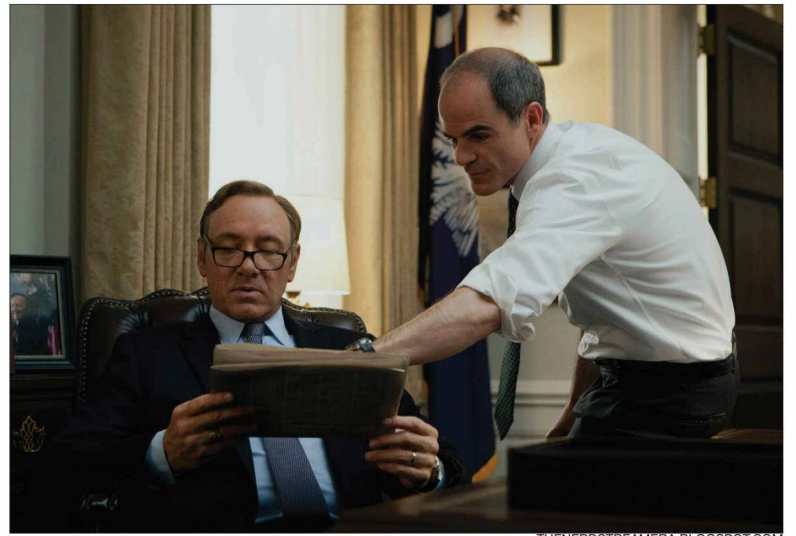
still maintaining his own influence over President Walker and Congress.

The slow pace of *House of Cards*, has the advantage in allowing the viewer to see the development of each character. Francis, for example, is calculating, aware of his plan to seize power from the very beginning. He is ruthless, willing to do whatever it takes to further his own career. He plays whatever role he needs and there are no limits to what he will do, and indeed, what he actually does. Claire is as calculating as her husband. She is Lady Macbeth, willing to sabotage anyone who stands in the way of her and her husband’s success. She is calm and seductive when she needs to be, but equally biting and harsh when the situation calls for it. Doug, Francis’ right-hand man, evokes a level of compassion that none of the other characters ever quite achieve. Among all of the backstabbing and power struggles, Doug appears to be the only one who is grappling with his own demons: alcoholism and sex. Yet his character is still guilty on some level in participating in his boss’s venomous power struggle and manipulation. Doug understands, however, that he is Frank’s pawn, and often tries to

work that to his advantage.

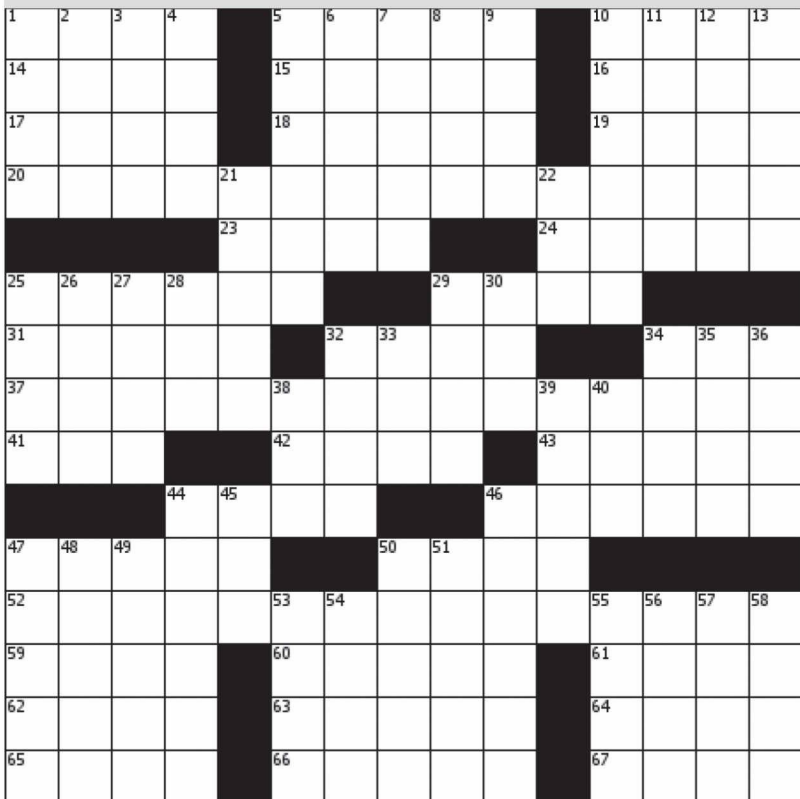
But before you go and decide that all of this amoral power struggling is not for you, it is well worth noting the quality of the acting that Kevin Spacey, Robin Wright, Kate Mara, and the rest of the cast deliver. Spacey’s gentle southern accent will have you convinced that he was born with a southern drawl and raised to southern hospitality. The actors live into their characters so well, it will become hard for you to remember that these are actors, and not cogs in the political machine. If you decide to watch *House of Cards* for no other reason, do it for Spacey’s superb acting.

The show is not for the faint of heart, however. This is a Netflix original series, which means that it is barely regulated. The language is very strong, there are some instances of graphic violence, and some of the sex-scenes are borderline pornographic. Unlike *Game of Thrones*, however, there is no important information contained in those scenes of graphic sexuality so it is easy to skip them. ★



Kevin Spacey as Frank Underwood with Michael Kelly as Doug Stempert.

CROSSWORD



ACROSS
1. Explorer Vasco da ____
5. Kauai salutation
10. Make ready

14. Suit to ____
15. Glaring error
16. Carson follower
17. Luminary

- 18. “__ to Kill” (Grisham novel)
- 19. New Testament book
- 20. Send into retirement
- 23. Sign gas
- 24. Articulate
- 25. White water
- 29. Boleyn, wife of Henry VIII
- 31. “The Color Purple” author Walker
- 32. Circular current
- 34. More than intuition
- 37. Urban blights
- 41. Rare shoe width
- 42. Ones of a kind?
- 43. Drying kilns
- 44. Third son
- 46. Finally!
- 47. Vampire slayer
- 50. Takes some hacks
- 52. Pioneer’s transport
- 59. Get deservedly
- 60. Shopworn
- 61. Art follower
- 62. Supply and demand subj.
- 63. “Put a ____ it” (hush)
- 64. Word with anchor or dead
- 65. Reject
- 66. Suggestive looks
- 67. Flounder relative

- 7. Vidalia, e.g.
- 8. Sackcloth material
- 9. It may be restricted
- 10. Nebraska river
- 11. Send to the minors again
- 12. ____ nous
- 13. Stumper
- 21. Subordinate to
- 22. Shining example?
- 25. What a lover’s heart may do
- 26. Tissue additive, perhaps
- 27. Languish
- 28. Org. terminated by Clinton
- 29. Noun modifiers (Abbr.)
- 30. Greenwich Village campus, briefly
- 32. Use acid artistically
- 33. Scottish river
- 34. “Lohengrin” heroine
- 35. Weightlifting units
- 36. Secretive attention getter
- 38. Have a date?
- 39. “That’s a lie!”
- 40. “Me and My ____” (Spencer Tracy film)
- 44. Without much flesh
- 45. Always, poetically
- 46. Site of the first modern Olympics
- 47. The going rate?
- 48. Minuscule amount
- 49. Slugger of note
- 50. Infrequently-played song
- 51. Role player
- 53. “__ be a cold day ...”
- 54. Cleveland’s lake
- 55. Companion of ends
- 56. He fiddled infamously
- 57. Biosphere sci.
- 58. You can skip it

What Are Peace and Reconciliation To Me, Anyway?



LUKE LAUER

BRITTANY LIBBY

With the popularity of the term ‘peace’, there seems to be a rather simplistic or impersonal understanding for its potential significance in daily life. For example, my early understanding of peace was limited to it being a lack of explicit violence and conflict altogether. Further contemplating the nature of peace during my time at Houghton has challenged me to view reconciliation as a means to peace, moving beyond considering only the explicit indicators of violence and conflict. While studying ideals of peace in the classroom, however, there had been a disconnect between my thought process and my daily actions. I wanted to implement reconciliation and sustained peace in my personal life but lacked a heartfelt understanding of how to do so.

There has been some recent media attention on reconciliation in the nation of Rwanda as April 7 commemorated twenty-years since the 1994 genocide. In reflecting upon the last twenty years in Rwanda, my perceptions of reconciliation have been transformed, challenging me to more personally consider the deep nature of peace through reconcili-

ation as a transformative process for both individuals and communities. This transformation began in the spring of 2013 as I had the opportunity to study in Rwanda through the GoED study abroad program. Classes during this semester included a study of Rwanda’s extensive history, highlighting the continual reconciliation process since 1994. In April 1994, approximately 800,000 to 1,000,000 people were killed within 100 days as a result of a complicated political, social, and historical conflict. Hearing first-hand accounts from survivors of the genocide began to stir difficult questions in my mind, challenging my reflection upon an individual’s reconciliation and peace building processes. A specific story of continual transformation between two Rwandan individuals has particularly influenced me in my daily reflections.

On a particularly sunny day in February 2013, the ten other GoED students and I sat under the tin roof of our outdoor classroom in Kigali (the capital city of Rwanda). We were introduced one-by-one to John and Grace*, two middle-aged Rwandan citizens who had come to share their personal experiences of reconciliation since April 1994. Awaiting details of their stories, I noticed the deep scar across Grace’s face and the absence of her right hand, prefacing the depth of her and John’s accounts.

On April 29, 1994 John violently attacked Grace after committing a series of murders amongst a group of soldiers and civilians. John killed the baby on Grace’s back and maimed her, assuming that she was left for dead. Grace, however, survived and remained in a small Rwandan hospital for nearly two months. During the numerous days she recovered in the hospital, Grace was overwhelmed with despair, crying out angrily to God and grappling with difficult questions she has yet to fully answer. Within her questioning, Grace

began the long journey of healing as she prayed for strength to forgive whoever her perpetrator had been.

Grace longed to know inner and communal reconciliation in the years following the genocide. She became a respected member of her community and was provided opportunities for leadership. In 2001, Grace became a community representative for May Truth Prevail, an organization established to facilitate the reconciliation of perpetrators with genocide survivors and/or their families. While seeking reconciliation with another man through this organization, John came upon Grace for the first time since 1994.

Having long desired reconciliation for his previous actions, John knew he needed to reveal the truth and confront his aggressions towards Grace, who did not initially recognize John as her perpetrator. John approached Grace with a burdened heart, seeking forgiveness. After John served a prison sentence, he and Grace began working together in a May Truth Prevail village, created for survivors and perpetrators to reconcile their relationship while living as neighbors. They expressed the difficult process of continual healing in the hopes of building a greater trust. Such a process entails great sorrow and bravery while instilling a reconciled hope for peace. Stories like John and Grace’s are coming out throughout Rwanda during this commemorative month of April. They represent opportunities and challenges for reconciliation amidst rather complicated situations related to the genocide.

Throughout this month of April, global citizens reflect upon the twenty years since the Rwandan genocide, highlighting the resilience of Rwandans like Grace and John who continue to confront internal and external aspects of trauma, preventing further conflicts in their day-to-day lives. In essence, Grace and John’s process of reconciliation gives testimony to the resto-

ration of humanity through healthy relationships. Such healthy relationships entail healthful conflict resolution, respect, self-reflection, and trust. In this perspective, I have begun to re-conceptualize reconciliation as related to a deeper understanding of peace known as “positive peace”.

Positive peace challenges individuals to recognize any areas of tension in their life in order to self-reflect and confront implicit and/or explicit conflicts in a healthy manner. In seeking positive peace, the well being of an individual and/or community should not be prioritized at the expense of another, highlighting broken relationships as foundational to implicit and explicit conflicts. Positive peace often requires the contemplation of uncomfortable truths and action in order to confront associated brokenness. Confronting the underlying areas of tension within the here and now requires a bravery in seeking to heal broken relationships, often entailing systemic, environmental, psychological, physical, emotional, spiritual, interpersonal, and/or intrapersonal transformations. Positive peace prioritizes a truthful relationship with God and oneself, further allowing for healthy reconciliation with elements that may be beyond oneself.

While the context of Rwanda remains different from Houghton, human brokenness and the pursuit of positive peace have continual relevance to daily life at Houghton College. Reflecting upon the example of John and Grace, I can’t help but be challenged by a deeper conceptualization of peace and reconciliation in the here and now. ★

*note: individual’s names have been changed for their privacy.

Brittany is a senior intercultural studies major

Do You Live in a Generational Bubble?



LUKE LAUER

ABIGAIL BRUXVOORT

After four years at this college, I have heard my share of depreciating remarks about the “Houghton bubble.” We’re a geographical bubble. A religious bubble. Perhaps a socio-economic bubble, and sometimes even a racial bubble. And none of these bubbles are bubbles you want to live in, since living in a bubble means residing in a state of relative ignorance and naiveté, cut off from the rest of civilization in a more-or-less pathetic way. People who live in bubbles are clueless. They make sweeping and misdirected assumptions about the world outside their bubble. They don’t get it. Now, to be frank,

I’m not so sure that Houghton is a bubble. At least, Houghton doesn’t have to be a bubble for anyone. However, this doesn’t mean that we’re not in danger of slipping into bubble life, at certain points.

Here is a kind of bubble that you may not have thought about before: generational bubbles. College students, perhaps more than any other demographic, live in a generational bubble, since to be a residential college student is to live entirely among one’s peer group. We share rooms with our peers. We eat with, attend class with, study with, and hang out with them. We are constantly around others our age. But isn’t that the point? It’s the “best” age group and a high concentration of the age group to boot. No wonder your college years are the “best” time of your life!

This is bubble thinking at its worst. College students are not self-sufficient

Being friends with people who are younger or older helps us to get outside of ourselves and remember that non-college students have lives and worries too.

into their own age group. We need friendships with those from other generations, whether younger or older. In

part, we need these relationships in order to counteract bubble life. Being friends with people who are younger or older helps us to get outside of ourselves and remember that non-college students have lives and worries too. Getting to know empty nesters, for instance, offers us insight into the lives of our own parents. Meeting the parents of young children makes us feel embarrassed about our own pretense to busyness and sleep-deprivation. Interacting with the children themselves is, usually, plain-old delightful.

Moreover, although we toss around phrases like “older and wiser” with carelessness, there is truth to the idea. We ought to treat experience with living as something of great value, and accordingly, we should seek out those from older generations. Furthermore, we ought to put the experience of these people to use by asking for advice, in mundane and deep matters both. In some cases, we will reject the advice upon reflection, but the practice of asking for advice is still a helpful one, since we practice not-knowing-it-all when we

ask for advice. Additionally, when we find ourselves returning repeatedly to a particular person for advice,

A happy side effect of attending a tiny college in the middle of nowhere is that we have an abundance of opportunities to meet and get to know people from other generations.

we form a mentoring relationship. Or, as I like to think of it, a well-established mentor relationship is a kind of apprenticeship, in which the skill being

learned is how to live well.

Thankfully, Houghton students are well positioned to counteract the generational bubble. A happy side effect of attending a tiny college in the middle of nowhere is that we have an abundance of opportunities to meet and get to know people from other generations. Our professors are an obvious starting point, as are Houghton’s staff members. Churches, bible studies, and small groups are another good place to look. But, regardless of how we counteract the bubble, this much is clear to me: there is more to life than being a college student. Interacting with other generations will help us remember this. ★

Abigail is a senior philosophy major

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

In behalf of my family, I would like to thank everyone at Houghton College who prayed for my daughter Bonnie. It was our hope that God would heal Bonnie so she could continue to serve the Lord. But God had other plans and took Bonnie to Himself in heaven. That is the greatest miracle any of us can ever experience. God has promised an awesome eternal life in heaven for those who trust in Jesus and make Him Lord of their life. I know Bonnie is in heaven now.

I still miss Bonnie every day and feel great sorrow at her absence. I can no longer embrace her, experience her love and concern, hear her joyous laughter or enjoy her beautiful voice. There is a huge void without Bonnie and I must ask the Lord to daily fill that void with His presence.

I need a revival. Revival is not mentioned in the Bible but the words revive and revival are used in Scripture. To revive is to bring back or come back to life. As Bonnie's father I need revival to move me from the effects of death to life once again.

In the last Houghton Star letter to the editor, a student did not think revival was possible in Houghton because there are so many Christians living here. I disagree with that statement because I believe Christians can experience revival. As a believer in Jesus Christ, I am in great need of revival. Christians struggle in life. Every Christian is a work in progress. We need ongoing renewal and revival that will transform us into the image of Christ. Holiness does not occur at conversion, it is an ongoing process.

For revival to occur, Christians must surrender their whole lives to God. We must turn away from destructive behavior, selfishness, pride, arrogance, etc. and confess all of our sins to Jesus. He will always forgive us when we seek Him with our whole heart. God can use this to bring revival in individual lives and He can bring about corporate revival in a community as He did during the Houghton revival services in February 1926, February 1942 and October 1951. Revival could certainly happen here again as we humble ourselves before God. I pray revival will occur in our nation and world. Through revival Jesus brings people back into a renewed relationship with God. He also gives eternal life to everyone who puts their trust in Him. Thank God for His greatness now and forevermore.

In Christ's love,

Jim Szymanski, class of '83

Dear Editor,

In reference to: "So, is abortion murder? Who cares? The truth is, abortion does not matter. It doesn't. If the main bone you have to pick is simply a question of the beginning and end of life, you need to broaden your focus to include any kind of death—death from war, death from starvation, death from disease. All of these deaths, including death from abortion, grow out of the same causes—poverty, power and control, lack of education, terrible situ-

ations."

I read the last paragraph of the paper and I found it tragic. This article reminds me of the book *Slaughterhouse V* where the protagonist Billy Pilgrim and other soldiers in captivity in Dresden lose their sensitivity to care about death thus uttering the phrase "so it goes." The author—Kurt Vonnegut—was using this phrase reflecting the tragedy of war and the amount of deaths that occur from it. The message of Vonnegut's book is to demonstrate an anti-war message that no life should be in vain nor be sacrificed. This Houghton Star article seems to give the message "so it goes" and we should accept abortion because humans seem to overlook death by war, disease, and starvation. The argument suggests that since these morally equivalent issues take a back seat to abortion then abortion should not be brought up. It's an argument that works only in a culture of death. I agree all culture of death issues should have a forum; but it does not take away validity from the abortion debate. However, there is one difference between abortion and the other tragic deaths that the author fails to look at which is the benefits of life. Yes man is merely a mortal, but they get to experience life and God's creation. Ronald Reagan once said "I've noticed that everyone who is for abortion has already been born." I am very happy my parents chose life and gave me the opportunity to live on God's green earth.

Best,

Joe Gilligan, 17

Dear Editor,

I believe that the Star's recent article *Why I Don't Care About Abortion* is a very poor reflection on Houghton's English, Philosophy and Theology departments for the following reasons.

The writer argues that pro-choice is not the opposite of pro-life without realizing that the CHOICE in pro-choice involves choosing death for another human being. This implies that the groups are not talking past one another at all which is why no middle ground can be reached. Is not the 'choice' in 'pro-choice' a conversation about life or death? How is it possible to get around such a distinction? The words in and of themselves may not be opposites but the philosophies they represent are opposites.

We agree that murder is an act of the highest injustice. Therefore, assuming that a fetus is a person, no one has the "right" to kill that person. Arguing that someone should have the "right to have an abortion" is the same thing as saying they have a "right to murder." This issue runs deeper than the mere question of choice. Naturally a person has the "right" to make bad choices— even sinful ones. However, when those choices affect another person we cannot always indulge an individual's desires. A rapist has a desire that affects someone else's dignity and we justly deny him the right to make that choice.

Although the author makes a valid point that injustices occur on many levels, this does not logically lead to the conclusion that abortion is a non-issue. The author's argument could apply to pimps and sex trafficking as well. By her line of thought, underlying causes must be dealt with before surface issues. Therefore, con-

sidering that many pimps and gangsters were victimized and traumatized as children, we should not deny them the right to be involved in sex trafficking. Would she say "in the meantime, yes: men should have the right to engage in sex trafficking. And no: we should not talk about whether or not that's wrong. Because the way to prevent sex trafficking, and war, every other kind of injustice in the world is not to tell people to "just stop." The way to prevent it is to make it unnecessary." Clearly the author has not followed every possible logical outcome of her position— we surely cannot bless an injustice because its causes were themselves unjust. As followers of Christ, we must love and understand all the victims involved without condoning any of the injustices committed.

Our author goes on to write "So, these are the questions that we should be asking, to replace the extraneous question of life: What are the reasons for abortion? And, what can we do to eliminate those reasons?" How can the questions of life be extraneous? Is not life the business of living things? No one chooses their own existence, no one choose the existence of another. Life is both the most sacred and the most fragile feature of a human. The author brushes off the matter of life as a mere triviality— as if dead humans were somehow also part of the conversation and therefore that life is of no great consequence in the question of existence. Surely the question of life and how we define it is the very highest importance in a discussion surrounding a humans' right to this luxury.

So what should a Christian response be? The author is right that we do not solve the world's injustices by shouting, 'just stop!' at the top of our lungs; we solve the world's injustices by spreading the Gospel, and we give each person— whether conceived in rape, poverty and the like—the fighting chance to both hear as well as to respond to the Gospel. I only hope Houghton students will think this very important issue through carefully and not compromise their values as they seek to serve this broken and hurting world.

Best,

Abigail Taber, 2011 alumna

Dear Editor,

Through the incarnation Jesus identifies with our humanity from the moment of His earthly conception. He experiences the entirety of gestational life. As the angel proclaims, "What is conceived in her (Mary) is from the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:20). Mary's pregnancy is described as "the virgin will be with child" (1:23 and Isaiah 7:14). While growing within the womb of Mary was Jesus a person or a non-person?

Representative of the thought many during the heightened abortion debate in the late 1980's, Charles Gardner asserts that the embryo would not be a person: "we know the potential of the fertilized egg and the early embryo because we have awareness, thoughts and feelings. But the early embryo has none of these things. This group of cells cannot know its fate or want to become anything... The

embryo is not a child. It is not a baby. It is not a human being" ("Is an Embryo a Person", *The Nation*, Nov 13, 1989 p. 559).

Gardner contends that personhood is connected to performance or function with attributes such as self-awareness, thoughts and feelings. I disagree with Gardner's assertion. I believe human personhood is not contingent upon performance or function, but rather upon essence. God is "I AM" (Eternal Essence) and we are uniquely created in His image. At what point in our existence do we bear the image of God? I believe the incarnation provides a meaningful clue. Just as Jesus identifies with our humanity at the moment of His earthly conception, we identify with His image at the moment of our conception. Beginning at conception every single moment of our human existence is one of complete dependence upon God. Sin is often evidenced as a self-absorbed repudiation of this dependence.

As parents we are entrusted stewards (not owners) of the children we bear. According to Ezekiel, God admonished His people when they chose to sacrifice their sons and daughters to pagan idols. "You took your sons and daughter whom you bore to me and sacrificed them as food to the idols... You slaughtered my children" (Ezekiel 16:20-21). Our children belong to God— they, like ourselves, are His possession and not our choice.

Is there a parallel between holocaust and abortion? Yes— the common thread is the de-valuation of human life. Born and unborn people groups are marginalized and deemed less than human through an array of deceitful euphemistic pronouncements. In his book, *The Abortion Holocaust*, William Brennan observes: "The central horror of any holocaust— whether it involves the extermination of Jews by the Nazis, the massacre of Russians by the (former) Soviet regime, the eradication of Cambodians by the Khmer Rouge, or the slaughter of unborn children by medical doctors— it is the systematic destruction of millions looked upon as indiscriminate masses of subhuman expendables. The basic ingredients for a holocaust exist whenever any society can be misled into defining individuals as less than human and therefore devoid of value. When the rights of some are extinguished, the rights of all are placed in dire jeopardy."

Humans conceive humans. It is irrefutable that the conceived child is alive and is human. The crux of the question is not when does life begin, but rather when do we bear the image of God? The burden of proof rests squarely upon the advocates of abortion. They must with all certainty believe that the destruction of conceived human life is not coincidentally the destruction of one who bears the image of God (Genesis 9:6).

Best,

David Lewis, D.Min

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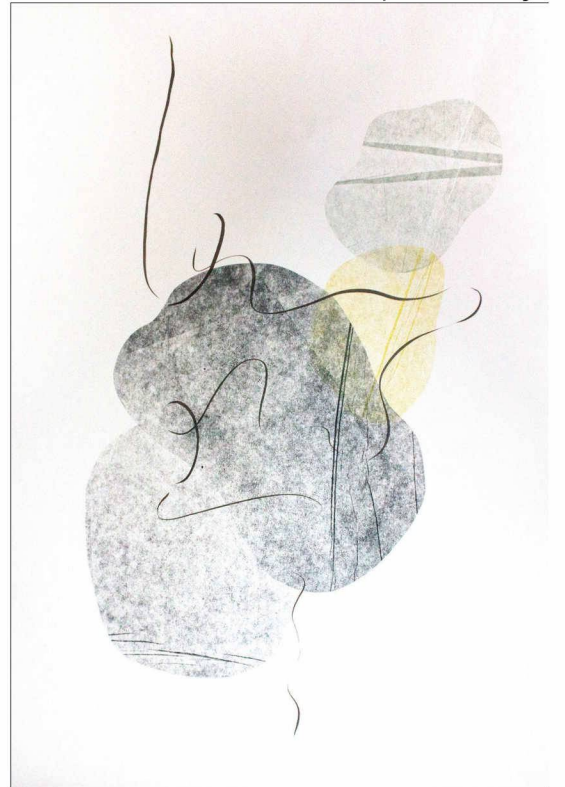
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Ortlip Gallery



Antagonist, oil on panel, Peter Mercincavage



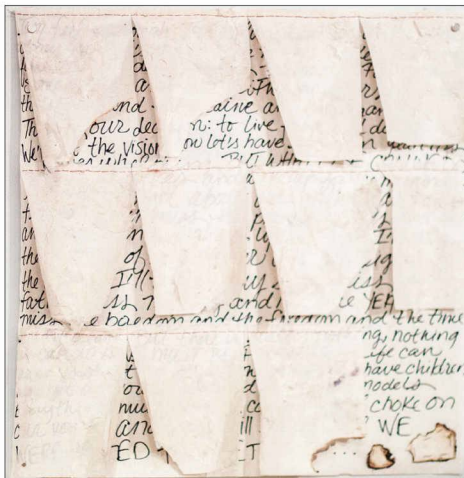
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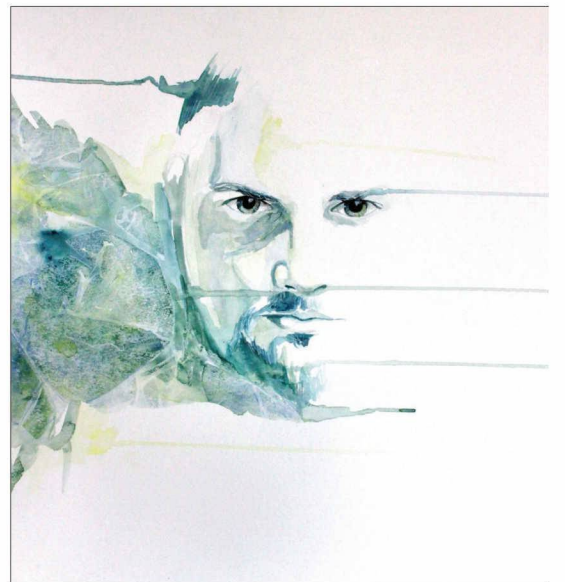
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