



THE DISPATCH

SCHOOL NEWSPAPER

"THE BEACON OF TRUTH SINCE 1974"

Issue II, Volume 47

HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL

OAKWOOD AND MCKAY ROADS HUNTINGTON, NY 11743

December 2017



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ISSUE:



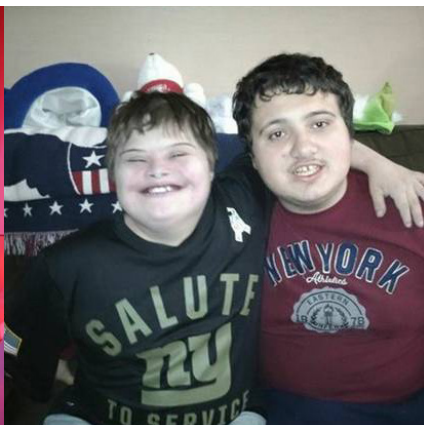
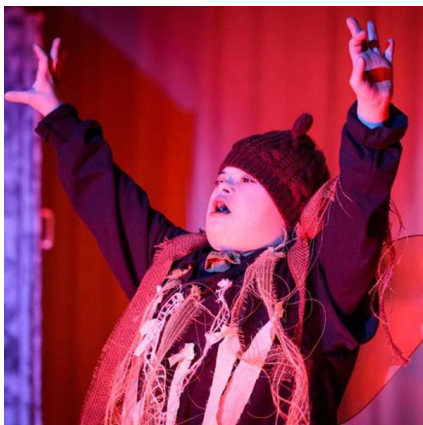
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IN MEMORY OF JOEY MANAKER

BY ABBY
SEMELSBERGER

Merriam Webster defines the word friend as "a person attached to another by feeling of affection or personal regard." By this definition, Joey Manaker was a friend to every single student, faculty member, and member of the Huntington Community. Joey was loving, kindhearted, and always ready to offer a warm smile or a hug to anyone he met. He spread joy, love and happiness to everyone he met and our lives are all a little less bright without him here with us.

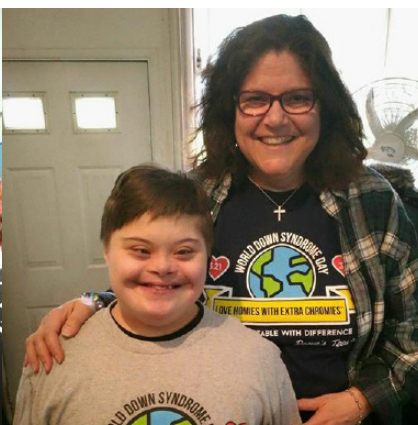
Joey loved to perform. I was lucky enough to have met Joey during our seventh grade musical, and we became fast friends. The show's

finale was a song called "Happiness." I have found this to be extremely fitting to who Joey was, as despite every obstacle thrown at him, he still found a way to exude happiness, and bring happiness to everyone he met.

Joey's permanent smile and magnetic positivity made me realize I could be happier in my life if I was just more optimistic and as kind to others as Joey. He did not have an easy life, by any stretch of the imagination. However, he did not let the

hand dealt to him in life bring him down—I never saw him without a giant, toothy smile. He didn't let his circumstances define him.

I urge people to follow the example of Joey Manaker, and take some time to be kind, loving, and open towards others. Appreciate how lucky you are to be living your life and all the opportunities you have been given. I have been inspired by him since I met him in the Finley Middle School auditorium, and it is my sincere hope that everyone here at Huntington can spread a little "Happiness" now that we don't have Joey to do it for us.



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2017-2018 Staff

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

MAX ROBINS

LAYOUT EDITOR

ERICA VAZQUEZ

COPY EDITORS

SAMANTHA SGRIZZI

ZACH MCGINNIS

SPANISH EDITORS

ARIANA STRIEB | ROCÍO RIVAS-LIZAMA

CONTRIBUTING STAFF

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CHRISTIAN BELLISSIMO, CRAIG HAAS,
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NOLAN PICCOLA, AMELIA REILLY

ADVISORS

MS. AIMEE ANTORINO, MR. EDWARD FLOREA, AND
MR. STEVEN KROLL



The Dispatch is Huntington High School's official student publication. Written for over 1200 students attending HHS, *The Dispatch* is distributed to all students, staff and school community members at the school free of charge.

The Editorial Board is the newspaper's decision-making body, organizing and directing its operation. *The Dispatch* staff has adopted the following editorial policy to express the rights, responsibilities and philosophy of the newspaper for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Dispatch of Huntington High School is a public forum, with its student editorial board making all decisions concerning its content. Unsigned editorials express the views of the majority of the editorial board.

Letters to the editor are welcomed and will be published as space allows. Letters are preferred signed, but may be published by request. The Editorial Board reserves the right to edit letters for grammar and clarity, and all letters are subject to laws governing obscenity, libel, privacy, and disruption of the school process, as are all contents of the paper. Questions, comments, and letters to the editor should be sent electronically to hhsdispatch@gmail.com or submitted to *The Dispatch* mailbox located in the main office.

Opinions in letters are not necessarily those of the staff, nor should any opinion expressed in a public forum be construed as the opinion of the administration, unless so attributed.

The Dispatch's goal is to provide readers with interesting content in a wide variety of areas. Such areas include the news coverage of school and community events, as well as features on relevant topics. In addition, *The Dispatch* will provide opinionated editorials on controversial topics, as well as provide previews and reviews for upcoming school and professional sports seasons and other forms of entertainment.

EDITORIAL

GERRYMANDERING: DEMOCRATS HEED THE CALL

BY MAX ROBINS

Tuesday, November 7th was an important day for Democrats throughout the nation. From taking two governors' mansions (Virginia and New Jersey) and flipping or making notable gains in numerous legislatures throughout the nation, to smaller yet key municipal victories, the Democratic Party is widely considered to have come out on top this election day.

One particular race of note was the Virginia House of Delegates contest. The state's lower house drew national attention after the degradation of the Republican's super-majority over the body. Entering the night holding 66 seats to the Democrats' 34, the Virginia G.O.P. was shocked to

*We would soon be
living in an America
that's incredibly
skewed to the left.*

watch its hold on the house dwindle to a near loss of its majority with Democrats flipping seats left and right.

The final tally for the Democrats' gains and the Republicans' losses has yet to be determined; incredibly close margins of victory in three districts have triggered recounts. The current tally stands with the G.O.P. leading Democrats 51-49, according to the Election Day counts. Regardless, the recounts pose a good possibility of a shakeup in house leadership.

If the Democrats take control of this body, they will have the tremendously important task of redistricting Virginia's legislative districts come 2022, following the 2020 census.

In 2010, after a conservative sweep of Congress and many state legislative bodies, Republicans controlled the redistricting that would shape the next ten years. They then proceeded to politically gerrymander those districts to unprecedented levels.

Take Wisconsin, where Republicans controlled redistricting, for example. Despite clearing a solid majority for the overall assembly vote, Democrats exited the

November 2012 election with only 39 of the 99 total seats. Granted, Democrats have also been guilty; Illinois, for instance, is rather slanted towards the Democrats as a result of their gerrymandering. Nonetheless, the numbers speak for themselves: Congressional representation in the United States is significantly skewed towards Republicans, despite Democrats often receiving more votes in Congressional elections.

Should the 2018 midterm elections follow the trend we've seen this past Election Day, as well as in Alabama's Senate election, the Democrats will be on target to control redistricting in far more than just Virginia, come 2020. With great power comes great responsibility. Just as the Republicans shaped this decade, the Democrats will have their opportunity to shape the next one.

If Democrats were to act by precedence and follow the G.O.P.'s actions, we will soon be living in an America that's incredibly skewed to the left, politically disadvantaging Republicans. Politically gerrymandering to any degree results in the disenfranchising of voters, a reprehensible action for which our founding fathers roll over in their graves. The Democrats would finally have the chance to take the moral high road on this matter in two years.

While it may be politically tempting to act as the Republicans did and disadvantage their adversaries, *The Dispatch* implores Democrats to act otherwise. For once, a party will have the prospect of setting a proper example on this issue. By choosing *not* to gerrymander in 2020, the Democrats will be doing what is right, not what is simply politically advantageous to their party. Their goal should be to create fair and evenly drawn electoral districts, not ones that favorably advantage one party over another.

If Democrats have the opportunity to do so in 2020, let's hope they'll make the right choice and let all of the voters' voices be heard.

#METOO & WHY WE NEED IT

BY JULIA GILES

If you've gone online at least once during these past few months, you know that many Hollywood sexual predators are being outed to the public, and for very good reason.

It all started in October when *The New York Times* and *The New Yorker* revealed that Harvey Weinstein, a famous film producer and co-founder of the Weinstein Company, had sexually harassed, assaulted, and even raped dozens of women in Hollywood.

More than 80 women have confirmed these claims, including Angelina

Jolie, Gwyneth Paltrow, Lupita Nyong'o, Lena Headey, and many others. Weinstein denies these allegations, but he has since been fired from the Weinstein Company and removed

...most of the people who harassed them are being properly called out.

of sexual harassment against women of color, but has since been reintroduced by actress Alyssa Milano to show the scale of the problem of sexual harassment (don't worry, Milano has credited Burke for the phrase).

Tracy Lysette, Viola Davis, Charlyne Yi, McKayla Maroney, Maureen Ryan, Janis Hirsch, Laura Dern, Anna Faris, Jessica Barth, Gabby Douglas, *and so many more.*

If that list depresses the hell out of you (which it should), don't worry, most of the people who harassed them are being properly called out. Actors such as Kevin Spacey and George Takei have been revealed to have made unwanted sexual advances towards people (in Spacey's case, *a 14-year-old*), as well as comedians Louis C.K. and Al Franken (the latter being a sitting US senator).

Some actions have been made against the men being accused, such as Brett Ratner, a producer accused of sexual assault, being removed from the *Wonder Woman* sequel and Roy Price, former head of Amazon studios also accused of assault, quitting his position. Just several days ago, Senator Franken announced his retirement from the Senate.

Despite the



bravery of those coming out and the actions being taken against those who have harassed people, this issue is not going away anytime soon. Roy Moore, a former far-right judge and the Republican candidate for Alabama's Senate seat, has been accused of sexually harassing *multiple* minors (he also report-

tape that he harasses women and even bragged about it, and yet he was still elected and hasn't been held accountable for any of these remarks!

That is why we need this #MeToo campaign: to make sure that all women are safe from humiliating and disgusting treatment, to stop people who treat those with less power with disrespect, and to let women be comfortable with telling the world about their abuse. Even though the #MeToo campaign doesn't have a clear solution, it still gives women a voice and is a stepping stone to make sure that nobody gets treated like this, regardless of their fame.

Even the President has admitted on

• • •



from the Academy of Motion Pictures Art and Science.

Some actions have been made against the men being accused.

The Weinstein accusations have resulted in a snowball

Celebrities who have come out about harassment include Reese Witherspoon, America Ferrera, Jennifer Lawrence, Molly Ringwald, Lady Gaga, Gabrielle Union, Evan Rachel Wood, Melanie Lynskey, Björk, Patricia Arquette, Isa Dick Hackett, Hilarie Burton, Terry Crews, James Van Der Beek, Javier Munoz, Jenny Slate, Rosario Dawson, Anna Paquin, Anika Noni Rose, Debra Messing, Felicia Day, Kimya Dawson, Ilana Glazer,

Even though the #MeToo campaign doesn't have a clear solution, it still gives women a voice

edly met his wife at a recital when *she was 15*), and didn't lose any traction in the polls for some time!

ARE YOU FEELING PASSIONATE ABOUT A TOPIC? WRITE ABOUT IT!

The Dispatch is always looking for writers and photographers to submit articles they feel passionately about.

Drop in during one of our Weekly Wednesday Meetings after school

OR

Contact Max Robins about submitting your work for The Dispatch.

@DISPATCH@HUFSD.EDU



UP IN ARMS: THE GUN CONTROL DEBATE THE LIBERAL PERSPECTIVE

BY
ZACH MCGINNISS

Republican second amendment absolutists have recently decided to do their best imitation of “snowflakes” (the derogatory term referring to those who need “safe spaces” and the like to avoid soul-crushing offenses). They have decided to feign offense at Democrats who have had enough of the hypocrisy in the wake of mass shootings. The topic is the hollow “thoughts and prayers” Republicans offer up in lieu of responsible legislative action.

“It’s disappointing, it’s sad, and this is what you’ll get from the far secular left. People who do not have faith don’t understand faith, I guess I’d have to say. And it is the right thing to do is to pray in moments like this, because you know what? Prayer works. And I know you believe that, and I believe that and when you

hear the secular left doing this thing, it’s no wonder you have so much polarization and disunity in this country when people think like that.” -House Speaker Paul Ryan
Ryan would like to have us be-

to address “mental health” and guns—are godless atheists.

That’s not only cheeky of him, but it’s decidedly un-Christian to question critics’ faith. Actually, many of his critics are deeply religious

every abortion regulation and restriction. One can only fathom how Ryan would respond if liberals offered “thoughts and prayers” for those slaughtered by terrorists, but refused to vote for effective measures to re-

gle step without a hall pass from the NRA.

Even worse is the fatalism of pro-gun lawmakers. “You know, it’s hard to envision a foolproof way

Prayers are no excuse for refusal to act in a responsible manner in addressing the menace of gun violence.



Paul Ryan rejects calls for new gun control legislation after Texas church shooting.

lieve that those criticizing his response—his utter capitulation to the

Republicans will use any excuse in the book... to avoid having the debate about gun violence.

National Rifle Association and his stubborn refusal

folks who are appalled that “pro-gun” now takes precedence over “pro-life.” Ryan’s critics are people who understand that prayers are no excuse for refusal to act in a responsible manner in addressing the menace of gun violence—not just mass killings, but also the day-to-day suicides and murders across the country that are the consequence of the pull of a trigger.

Imagine how Ryan would react if liberal lawmakers offered “thoughts and prayers” for the unborn, and then voted against

duce the threat of terrorism.

Republicans pretend (although the question arises: do they pretend, or are they professional victims of “elites” safely within the Fox News bubble?) that Democrats have suddenly developed an objection to prayer. Ryan couldn’t be further away for the truth. Democrats are expressing their fury at the post-mass shooting ritual in which “thoughts and prayers” are supposed to show the pious empathy of those who refuse to take a sin-

to prevent individual outrages by evil people,” Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., declared. “I mean, last week in New York you had a person who figured out he could kill people by driving his automobile up on the sidewalks. It’s a very, very challenging thing.” And yet, Sen. McConnell, you do take every reasonable action—including sending young men and women to fight terrorists abroad—to diminish the terrorism threat. In fact, Republicans have devised all sorts of entirely non-responsive measures (e.g. the anti-Muslim travel ban) because they feel compelled to do something about the threat of Islamist terrorism.

Gun control would not be the

CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE



Liberal Perspective on Gun Control.

end-all, be-all of violent crimes and “individual outrages by evil people.” No one is contending that, liberal or not. However, it is impossible to allege that these outrages couldn’t, at the bare minimum even be stymied by the slightest degree of increased gun control.

Maybe the

recent Las Vegas massacre may have still occurred in some other fashion, even if Stephen Paddock was unable to get his hands on guns—who knows! But isn’t there the high possibility that at least the terror he caused could have been minimized?

Republicans will use any excuse

in the book—Not the right time! Disrespectful to the

But isn’t there the high possibility that at least the terror he caused could have been minimized?

dead!—to avoid having the debate about concrete,

reasonable measures to reduce gun violence, including suicides. Now they want to shame critics who would point out their craven hypocrisy.

Of course, offer prayers for the victims of gun violence. But also pray that lawmakers discover a sense of moral obligation to break free from the

grasp of the gun lobby, and to show the same concern and legislative determination that they demonstrate in the war against Islamist terrorism when it comes to mass killings in Las Vegas, Texas and elsewhere.

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THE CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE

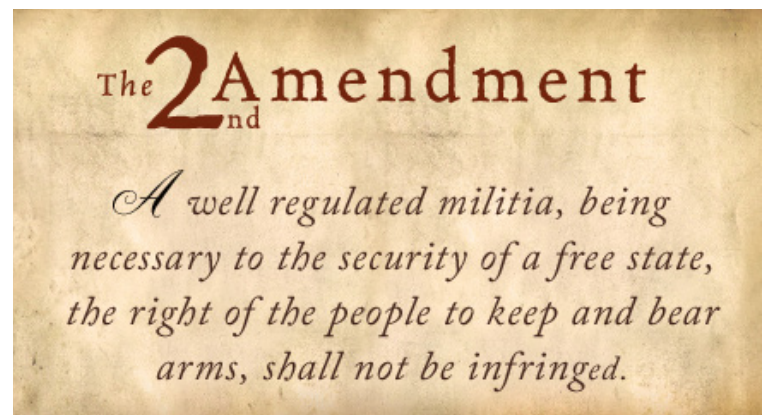
BY
CRAIG HAAS

Just a few weeks ago, people who traveled to the Las Vegas Route 91 Music Festival with the intent of submerging themselves in good music, were greeted with a tragic turn of events. While Jason Aldean was in the midst of performing during what was supposed to be a night of fun, gunshots rang out from a Mandalay Bay hotel room into the

Throughout the night, heroes were born, as people performed acts of bravery and compassion towards complete strangers. Mothers and fathers not only shielded their children but shielded others as well. People used their personal vehicles to transport the injured to the hospital due to ambulance shortages. Taylor Winston, a Marine veteran—who was also a concertgoer—told KGTV that

Along with the bravery and willingness to help anyone at the concert, the country subsequently came together to mourn for all of the victims of the shooting.

As the week went on, findings and observations were released. The shooter was found to be Stephen Paddock, a man with a background free of crime and violence. Paddock’s family made a small fortune through real estate success. His



including assault rifles that had bump-fire stocks, which modify weapons into something comparable to an automatic rifle. As news of this spread across the country, people began to wonder why a man with no criminal history would be provoked to commit the largest shooting in U.S. history. Consequently, many democratic and liberal leaders jumped on the change to used the massacre to push their gun-law agendas.

The critical goal for Democrats was to create a sense of urgency for stricter gun laws and gun-free zones around the country. They argued that gun-free zones would prevent future attacks and significantly decrease the amount of firearm violence in the country. The Democrats also argued that stricter gun laws would decrease the number of guns sold

per year.

Gun-free zones only help people feel safe while they, in truth, don’t protect people. This is because gun-free zones aren’t enforced; people aren’t checked for guns in the middle of public parks, public fairs, and public outdoor events. If a person wants to commit an attack using fire-

Gun-free zones only help people feel safe while they, in truth, don’t protect people.

arms, nothing stops them from doing so. Signs that merely warn against the use of firearms in a particular area are ineffective. If a person is going to open fire in a public place, a gun-free zone is the safest place for them to do so, as every other law-obeying citizen wouldn’t be carry-

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The “Welcome to Las Vegas” sign is surrounded by flowers and items after shooting.

large crowd. With no shelter, people lay on top of each other to save the lives of those they’ve never met before. 58 people wound up dead, while over 500 ended up with injuries, some life-threatening.

he “looked for victims with the most serious injuries first, loaded them into his truck bed and drove them to Desert Springs Hospital Medical Center,” making two trips before ambulances arrived on the scene.

father, once a bank robber, was actually well-known to the FBI, having made it onto the FBI’s Most Wanted list in the late 1960s.

Investigating the hotel room that he stayed in, the FBI found 23 weapons,

CATALONIA: AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE FOR THE SMALL PROVINCE

BY DOMINICK STANLEY

On the Morning of October 1st, 2017, the people of the world were getting up for work or school, and beginning the day like any other day. However, unlike the rest of the world, the people of the small Spanish province of Catalonia were getting up to partake in a province-wide referendum that asked the simple question: “Do you want Catalonia to become an independent state in the form of a republic?”

The vote was approved by the Catalan provincial government months prior to the vote taking place. However the Spanish federal authorities began to publicly speak out against the referendum, citing it as treasonous, and illegal according to Spain’s

This is not the first time that Catalonia has tried to secede from the rest of Spain.

constitution. However, Catalonia’s Governor, Carles Puigdemont, chose to push forward with the vote.

The argument over Catalonia’s democratic right to push for independence from Madrid originally seemed like nothing more than a minor dispute on legality, yet would turn much more serious. The morning of the

vote, Spanish federal police were sent to cities and towns all over the province, attacking polling stations and arresting those who had been attempting to exercise their democratic rights. Police broke down doors, beat the crowds of Catalonians waiting in line

counted, amounting to a 43% voter turnout, with 90% of the vote going in favor of independence, and 10% against.

Millions funneled out into the streets in cheers of joy, as well as fits of rage, now even more steadfast in their convictions of indepen-

velopments unfold, one might wonder what instigated the independence movement in the first place. Given the overwhelming speed in which events are transpiring, much can take place between when this article is written and when it is published.

French and Arabic. Catalonians celebrate their own holidays and traditions, such as September 11th, their national holiday, and even their own foods native to the region, such as the Calçot and Esqueixada.

The people of Catalonia are distinct from the people of Spain, just as the people of China are distinct from the people of Japan; they have a unique way of life that is different from every other culture on the planet. Many see this as why Catalonia deserves freedom from the

Catalonia’s story is complex and forever changing as time goes on.



Catalonians celebrate independence.

at the ballot boxes, and seized completed ballots to prevent them from being counted.

In total, it is estimated that over 700 people were injured and/or hospitalized from the brutality of the police, and hundreds of thousands of completed ballot papers had been seized by the state, therefore nullifying the voices of those who had chosen to partake in the vote earlier in the day.

Despite this however, millions of ballots were snuck through the back rooms of buildings, and even dropped from windows into trucks where they could be counted elsewhere. In total, 2.3 million votes were

dence for the land they call home. The vote itself prompted Puigdemont to propose independence to the Catalan Parliament, where it was approved by a large majority on October 27th, 2017, officially declaring itself its own country.

While these de-

To begin, tensions have always been high between Catalonia and Madrid, primarily due to the heavy cultural differences of each region. Catalans speak a language called “catalan,” a distinct language from Spanish that is heavily influenced by

Spanish Central Authorities.

This is not the first time that Catalonia has tried to secede from the rest of Spain. In fact, many secession attempts have been made throughout the last

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NEXT PAGE*



Catalonians fight for independence.

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PREVIOUS PAGE
few hundred years.
The first of these was the Reap-er's war, which last-
ed from 1640-1652. Caused when Span-
ish troops were sent to the region to fight
invading French forces, the native

Catalans, seeing the Spanish as invaders
themselves, teamed up with the French
to kick the Spanish out, although this
would eventually end in failure.
The most re-cent Catalan bid for
independence was during the Spanish

Civil War. When An-archists and Commu-
nists saw the Repub-lic of Spain as being
a weak entity, they overthrew the gov-
ernment of the region and declared inde-
pendence, setting up a state that matched
their idealistic social-ist worldview. This

experimental country would last three years
from 1936-1939, un-til it was crushed by
the Spanish General and avowed nation-
alist Francisco Fran-co, who would serve
as dictator of Spain from 1936-1975.
Catalonia's sto-ry is complex and

forever changing as time goes on. How-
ever, as time goes on, so does progress; as
freedom and democ-racy become the lan-
guage of the world, it becomes even more
fitting that the peo-ple of Catalonia get
their chance at it as well.

STARBUCKS HOLIDAY CUP-TROVERSY

BY KERRIE
JOYCE

Over the past twen-ty years, the popular
coffee chain Star-bucks has released a
new festive cup ev-ery November as the
holiday season ap-proaches. The cup
usually features holi-day or winter designs
such as snowflakes, Christmas trees,
snowmen, ice skates, etc.



However, in 2015 the chain re-
leased a plain red cup for the holiday
season, which sur-prisingly led to out-
rage from many cus-tomers. Some felt
that the removal of Christmas trees was
an attack on Christi-anity or an exclusion
of religion.
While most customers didn't
mind the cup or its design, some people,

primarily those who celebrated Christ-
mas, were extremely passionate about the
controversy, even naming it "Cupgate."
A slew of people went as far as boy-
cotting the company, including then-pres-
idential candidate Donald Trump, who
proposed boycotting the company at one
of his campaign ral-lies.
The follow-ing year, Starbucks
released their new holiday cup design,
different from all of their past designs.
Featuring a green background and a
drawing of a crowd of people, after fac-
ing criticism, the company released a
statement explain-ing that the cup was
meant to represent



unity. Again, the company faced out-
lash from many cus-tomers who felt that
the cup wasn't fes-tive enough and, like
the previous year, was participating in a
"War on Christmas."
As a result of the many past con-
troversies over their cups, the company re-
vealed their 2017 cup to be mostly white,
covered in festive doodles. The compa-
ny released the cup to be their first cup ever
that customers could

color in with which-ever colors they
pleased. The newest cup design has not
yet received much criticism, hopefully
meaning the chain has reached a solu-
tion to their multi-ple year saga of cup
drama. May we all go back to drinking our
lattes in peace!



THE CONSERVATIVE PERSPECTIVE

CONTINUED FROM
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ing a firearm to use in self-defense. The
ideology of a gun-free-zone does not
make sense on the basis of ensuring the
safety of the general public.
These Dem-ocratic officials should
familiarize themselves with the 2nd
Amendment

before publicizing their beliefs against
guns and the restric-tion of firearms. The
2nd Amendment was made to protect peo-
ple from government tyranny and give peo-
ple protection from home-intrusion.
When looking back into global history,
cruel leaders such as Adolf Hitler and Fi-
del Castro took guns away from their peo-

ple to prevent revolt against their authori-
tarian and tyranni-
***The ideology of a gun-free-zone
does not make sense on the ba-
sis of ensuring the safety of the
general public.***
cal governments. The amendment was
made to prevent such

actions from happen-ing and to give the
people the right to restrict the power of
their leader to avoid tyranny. Even though
the United States possesses stable and
excellent leadership in today's times, the
amendment may very well become useful
in decades or centu-ries to come.
The Democrat-ic and liberal officials

should be ashamed of themselves for
using the recent at-tack on Las Vegas as
a platform to pro-mote their agendas.
They should likewise be ashamed of them-
selves for trying to persuade Americans
into following poli-cies that leave the
public open to such horrific attacks.

• • •

THE FLORIDA KEYS: THE 'KEY' TO A GREAT VACATION

BY KIARA
GELBMAN

The Florida Keys are an archipelago of islands located off the southern coast of Florida. This beautiful destination is known for its gorgeous seas, incredible scuba diving, fishing, and hot temperatures.

While there are many different Keys on this long chain of islands, one of the most popular is Key West--the most southern point of Florida, an extremely popular tourist destination. While this 7.24 square mile key may seem small, there are many things to do and places to explore.

The town of Key West is primarily one incredibly long street, Duval Street, with other side streets branching off. While Duval Street may seem reminiscent of typical towns, when you

take a closer look it has many differences making it unique!

As you journey down, you can't miss one of the most popular food

have a business called the Key West Lime Pie Company, which not only serves homemade pie but makes it for other destinations

Conch is so famous that the Keys earned the nickname, "The Conch Republic!"

Besides the specialty food options that are found

joy food from local vendors, be amazed by local magicians, jugglers and musicians, and most importantly: watch the sunset. Many tour-



This beautiful destination is known for its gorgeous seas, incredible scuba diving, fishing, and hot temperatures.

items in The Keys: Key Lime Pie. At almost every res-

Conch is so famous that the Keys earned the nickname, "The Conch Republic!"

taurant in the Key West, this delicacy is served! They even

in Key West.

Another food staple that you will find is conch, commonly found in the form of conch fritters, which is conch covered in dough. This can be found as an appetizer at many restaurants and specialty conch restaurants like The Conch Shack.

throughout the town, Key West's culture makes it different as well. Due to its sizeable European population, there are a diverse range of beliefs and viewpoints. While you may think these differences would only separate the community, it does the opposite. Jake Rushent, a visitor of Key West, said, "It has a unique sort of culture there. Everyone does their own bit to make the island the way it is, which you wouldn't normally see in traditional tourist attractions."

Malory Square is also an excellent place to visit in the Key. Every night, the Square, a gorgeous waterside location, has the Key West Sunset Celebration. Here, tourists go to en-

ists also enjoy touring the house of Ernest Hemingway, a prominent twentieth-century author, and former Key West resident.

Another popular activity in Key West is scuba diving and snorkeling. There are a plethora of dive companies throughout the town. While diving with Captain's Corner Dive Center, for instance, I saw turtles, moray eels, crabs, beautiful fish, and many other sea creatures. You can also dive the Vandenberg, a sunken ship in the area!

While Key West seems like a fantastic place to travel, there is one major problem. Following Hurricane Irma, a category three hurricane that hit the Keys with 74 mph winds on September 10th, the islands are struggling to rebuild and recover. It is estimated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency that 25% of



the houses throughout the Keys were destroyed.

In Key West, the interior of the Hemingway house survived and is expected to reopen soon. On Duval Street, many restaurants are still boarded up, but the streets have been cleared by public works employees.

Besides all of the destruction that occurred to property, the tourism market took a huge hit.

According to a Keys tourism website, Key West wouldn't be ready for tourists until at least October 20th. Following the fantastic trip he and his family had, Mr. Rushent said, "We were actually looking at going back in February but not anymore after the storm." This shows how much Hurricane Irma will affect the beautiful Florida Keys not only now but into the future.

A 'BRECK' FROM REALITY

BY KIARA GELBMAN

After saying many goodbyes, on Saturday, November 4th, 2017, my family and I left our life in Huntington and began the journey across the country to Breckenridge, Colorado.

different.

Nine hours later, I arrived in Toronto. Although its population is much smaller, this Canadian city is very similar to New York because of the skyscrapers and sports



I also was able to experience a historic hockey game in which the Vegas Golden Knights played the Toronto Maple Leafs for the first time ever in the Air Canada Centre. Before leaving, I tried a staple food from Canada, Poutine—french fries and cheese curds covered in gravy, which was delicious and very different than our common fries with ketchup.

After three days in Toronto, we continued west to Detroit. This once thriving "Motor City" and location of the start of Motown Records is currently run down,

deep dish pizza! When I arrived at Pizzeria Due to pick up a slice of pizza, I learned that deep dish pizza is freshly baked and not a fast food like in New York. After waiting, I received my circular, individual pie. The crust of this pizza was crumbly and similar to pie

My family and I left our life in Huntington and began the journey across the country to Breckenridge, Colorado.

crust. Although it was delicious, I prefer pizza from New York.

From Chicago, we continued to the University of Wisconsin for dinner with my cousin at a restaurant in Madison called Graze, where I tried a Wisconsin specialty: cheese. Almost artisanal, this the best cheese I have ever eaten, and was far more unique than the typical cheese we have on an everyday basis.

When my waiter, Trevor, arrived at our table, he greeted us by saying, "How do we feel about this new cold? It doesn't

go up until spring so the best thing to do is stay inside and eat cheese curds," showing the prominence of cheese as well as the cold weather's effect in Wisconsin. I got to taste cheese curds and found them delicious and similar to a mozzarella stick.

Following Wisconsin, we drove through the South Dakota Badlands which is 60 miles worth of sedimentary rock with many layers and colors. It was gorgeous and like nothing I had ever seen before.

As I continued driving, all I saw were flat fields with roaming animals. Most towns had incredibly low populations, one being just four people! A woman from a town in this area mentioned to us, "I cannot imagine living in a place like New York City with such a large population."

After already seeing so many differences throughout the country from our hometown of Huntington, I cannot wait to see what awaits me while living in Breckenridge, Colorado. Stay tuned for what comes next!

• • •



Leaving town, we passed Huntington High School and I realized the next six months of my life will be extremely

teams. I dined at the top of the CN tower, a skyscraper rising 1,815 feet—higher than any building in New York City!

and is very different than our town of Huntington.

Our next stop was Chicago, where I tried the famous

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

SIGRID CASSELL

My name is Sigrid Cassell and I am a senior. Ever since I was young, I have always been very fond of artistic expression. I generally gravitate towards drawing and ceramics. However I do experiment with other forms of art as well.

Before I start on a new project, I usually have the idea already set in my mind. My pieces always have an inspiration, and I tend to draw whatever I have a passion towards. For example, my water color piece was inspired by Michelangelo's work in the Sistine Chapel; I have a lot of appreciation towards the way the work is depicted.

My "Survivor" piece is inspired by Kakashi Hatake, a main character in an anime series I've followed for a few years called Naruto, which I very much enjoy. Although my pieces are usually based off of other ideas, I always add my own touch to them, such as how I've added the light and dark contrast in my watercolor piece to symbolize Good v. Evil. Similarly, in my Survivor piece mostly my own creativity is displayed, besides the clothing design and eyes, which were based on the character.

I committed to SUNY Purchase late July. The school is definitely more on the artistic side, and I feel that it is the best fit for me, being a place where I will be able to improve my art and ideas.



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

KENNETH FAJARDO



My name is Kenneth Fajardo, and I'm in 12th Grade. Ever since I was young, I've always loved taking pictures, and that passion has stuck with me ever since. In my photography, my primary goals are for the viewer to either feel emotion, look at a story unfold, or enjoy the natural beauty of the moment portrayed in the photo.

The first image depicts a protest for the crisis in Puerto Rico located in front of the capitol building in Washington D.C. It was amazing to see such a large group of people protesting for the right to be treated as citizens of our country, yet also heartbreaking to see that this is what our country is coming to lately.

The remaining two pictures are both from a trip I took to New York City. The fast-paced movement of people in the city makes for an excellent representation of how quickly our lives are changing, and how important it is to slow down every once in awhile to take in everything that this world has to offer.

It has always been a great interest of mine to capture the world in candid moments, achieving its true reality. Whether or not that reality is the one people believe in is up to the audience. What matters most is being able to send those messages through my photography.



LAS PÁGINAS EN ESPAÑOL

TRANSLATIONS BY ARIANA STRIEB

PELEANDO UN CAMBIO

**POR MARILYN
MENJIVAR**

Detallamos nuestras vidas con tanta perfección que nos olvidamos de nuestra propia creación. Soy un ser en este mundo agobiado por una sociedad frecuente a la lengua, oprimidos a tener opinión, sintiendo satisfacción por mirar a los otros caer. Ruego a nuestra sociedad a llegar un punto de conciencia hacia cada uno de nosotros.

Vengo de una historia pasada llena de problemas y hambruna por salir adelante, crucé fron-

Mi mayor objetivo es crear un cambio en esta sociedad llena de sueños nunca traídos a la realidad.

teras prohibidas, llore en los mares y desiertos por obtener un milagro en mi vida y llegar a conocer a mi familia desde que sus ros-

tros y caricias se habían borrado de mi mente. Los recuerdos herían lo insondable en mi corazón y se partían en trozos de realidad.

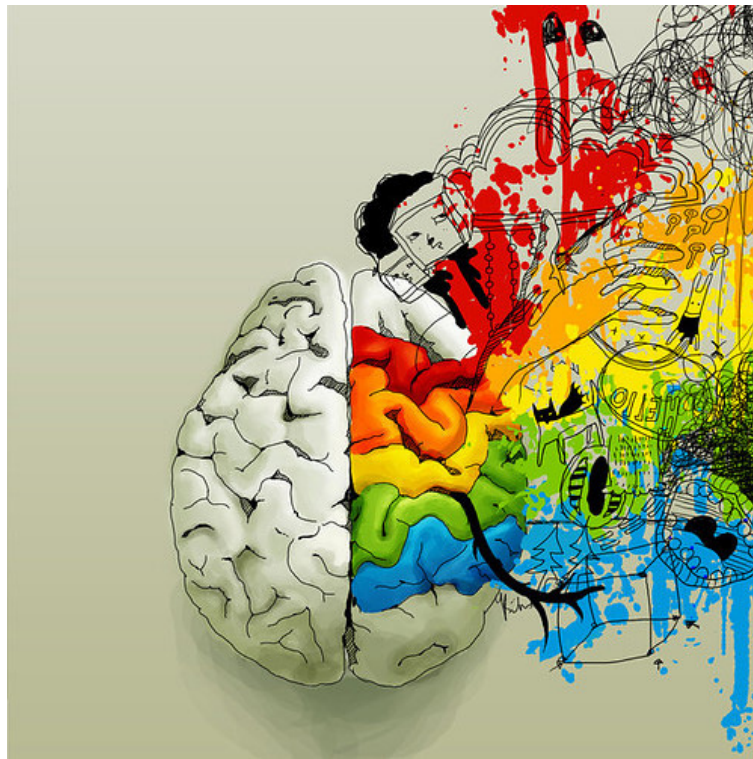
Soy una niña no muy distinguida por esta sociedad. Soy común, como cualquier otro ser. Sin embargo, mi imaginación es increíblemente monumental. No me diferencio, pero mi orgullo hacia mis raíces las tengo en alto, y lo hago de tal manera porque estamos establecidos en un mundo lleno de insolentes segregacionistas intentando jubilar la sangre roja que cada ser humano contiene alrededor de nuestras venas. Desearía poder tener suficiente supremacía para levantar en alto el orgullo por mis rasgos, los cuales serán mortales y quedarán marcados en una sociedad perdida.

Mi mayor objetivo es crear un cambio en esta so-

ciudad llena de sueños nunca traídos a la realidad. Somos competitivos, egoístas, y racistas. Quisiera que hubie-

mentos, y a la vez consuelo las almas perdidas de tantas personas llenas de odio y egoísmo.

Me puedo co-



sen otros términos para que no se escuchase tan fuerte y decepcionante pero es la realidad. Mi camino está lleno de miedos tan frecuentes que las ansias de caer en un lago de lágrimas son tan fuertes que en ese mismo lago de lágrimas lloro por fuerzas a no darme por vencida. Llevo en mis hombros el peso de muchas

nectar con la vida de muchos, al igual que ellos yo tengo un acento, diferente tono de piel, diferente rasgos faciales, pero soy igual. Tuve que renunciar a lo que en toda mi vida había trabajado para que fuese exitoso y ahora estoy acá creando nuevas metas. Dejé una vida donde la tierra me miró crecer como una rosa roja fortalecida

por una vida perfecta al estar rodeada de sus seres queridos. Pero al crecer y llegar a tener suficiente conocimiento, se dió cuando que tenía espinas. Era un rosa bella con hojas infectadas y espinas puntiagudas, las cuales la incomodaba cuando su mayor meta era ayudar y abrazar al que más lo necesite en los tiempos de ansiedad. Así mismo, encontró su propia manera en la cual se pudiese comunicar con los demás. Las palabras son muy poderosas, me di cuenta. La escritura una estrategia para liberar lo que mata a mi mente. Encontré mi camino y el cuidar de los demás satisface mi ser, así también espero poder entrar en muchas mentes, y cambiar los intrigados sueños que algunos mantienen.

• • •

¡EL TIEMPO SIGNIFICA PROGRESO!

Todo lo que existe hasta hoy es obra de nuestra especie, el ser humano, el

creador de lo que hoy en día nos sostiene, creador de los autos, los grandes

**POR DANIELA
RAMOS**

edificios, la cura a muchas enfermedades, la electricidad, el internet, los libros, el álgebra, la justicia, la democracia, la ciencia, las teorías, el amor, la paz, la armonía, la igualdad, la felicidad..., pero también

ha sido el creador de las guerras, las bombas radioactivas, las armas, creador de las enfermedades, la hambruna, el calentamiento global, la corrupción, el sufrimiento, la injusticia, la lujuria, el odio, el rencor, la desigualdad, la discriminación, y de un sin fin de cosas más.

Sin embargo, no es del todo mal (el ser humano). Hace 100 años, una carta tardaba días e incluso hasta semanas en llegar de una ciudad a otra, hoy en un segundo le dices a alguien en China ¡hola!, eso es evolucionar, pero si es esto así, ¿Por qué

**CONTINÚA EN LA
SIGUIENTE PÁGINA**

SI TU QUIERES A ESCRIBIR PARA ESTO SECCIÓN, USA EL REMIND PARA EL DISPATCH (TEXTO @HDISP A 81010), VEN A NUESTRO SESIONES MIÉRCOLES DESPUÉS DE ESCUELA, Y EMAIL ARTÍCULOS Y PREGUNTAS A HHSDISPATCH@GMAIL.COM



CONTINUACIÓN DE LA
PÁGINA ANTERIOR
nos destruimos con tanta facilidad?

El ser humano es capaz de

tantas cosas que sin darse cuenta se está destruyendo a sí mismo, se ha enfocado en la tec-

nología porque “los avances de hoy ayudan al mundo del mañana” y “mejoran nuestras vidas”; pero ya tenemos suficientes aparatos tecnológicos. Al parecer no hemos comprendido que estamos acabando con nuestra propia esencia. Que aunque estamos mejorando al mundo, estamos acabando al planeta. Que aunque las estrategias políticas

han logrado un desarrollo, mejorando muchos niños es-

El ser humano es capaz de tantas cosas que sin darse cuenta se está destruyendo a sí mismo...

tán muriendo. Y que aunque estamos contribuyendo a la ciencia, estamos matando a la natu-

raleza.

¡Tal vez esto ya lo sabías! Pero yo sólo quería recordártelo para no olvidarlo yo tampoco. Por eso es que te digo que tú y yo seguimos aquí y principalmente por eso quiero que sepas que ¡El tiempo significa progreso!

• • •

FIGHTING A CHANGE

BY MARILYN
MENJIVAR

We detail our lives with such perfection that we forget about our true purpose. I am an individual in this world, overwhelmed by a society full of language, oppressed in opinions, satisfied for watching others fall. I beg for our society to reach a point of awareness of every single one of us.

I come from a history full of past problems and fleeing from famine, crossing prohibited borders, crying in the rivers and deserts trying to get a miracle in my life and trying to get to know my family who's faces and caresses have been erased from my mind. Memories hurt the unfathomable in my heart, which begins my re-

ality.

I am a girl, not very distinguished by society. I am common, like anyone else. However, my imagination is incredibly monumental. I do not differentiate, but I have heightened pride

Words are very powerful, I realized.

towards my roots, and I do this in every way because we are established in a world full of isolating segregation trying to retire the red blood that every human has in our veins. I wish I could have enough power to raise my pride for my traits, which will be deadly and will be marked in a lost society.

My biggest objective is to create change in this society full of dreams never turning into reality. We are com-

petitive, selfish, and racist. I wish they had other terms so that it would not sound as loud and disappointing, but it's the reality. My path is full of frequent fears that fall into a lake, that this same lake of tears is what forces me to not give up. I carry on my shoulders the weight of many minds, and at the same time I comfort the lost souls of so many people full of hate and selfishness.

I can connect with the lives of many, just like them I have an accent, a different skin tone, different facial features, but we are the same. I had to give up everything, everything in my life that I had worked for to be successful, and now I am here creating new goals. I left a life when the ground watched me grow like a pink rose strengthened by a

perfect life, a perfect life surrounded by your loved ones. But while growing and once reaching sufficient knowledge, I was given thorns. It was a beautiful rose with infected leaves and sharp thorns, which made her uncomfortable when her greatest goal was to help and embrace those who need it the most in times of anxiety.

Likewise, she found the best way

in which she could communicate with others. Words are very powerful, I realized. Writing is a strategy to free what kills my mind. I found my path, taking care of others satisfies my being, for also I hope to be able to enter many minds, and change the intriguing dreams that some maintain.

• • •



HURRICANES HAVE THEIR 'EYES' ON US

BY KIARA
GELBMAN

The proximity and strength of the recent hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean have set new records regarding these tragic storms. Between August 25th and October 8th, 2017, four hurricanes hit the United States—the highest amount to hit the same area since 2005, when four storms also devastated the country.

On August 25th, Hurricane Harvey, the first of the four, made landfall in Rockport, Texas as a category 4 storm. On September 10th, Hurricane Irma made landfall striking the first Cudjoe Key with 155 mph winds, just shy of being a category 5. Hurricane Nate first reached land at the bottom

Hurricane Maria struck on October 10th with winds of 155 mph.

of the Mississippi River in Louisiana with 85 mph winds on October 7th.

These four hurricanes set the record for the most ever hurricanes to hit areas in the Atlantic Ocean in one month. Hurricanes Maria, Irma and Harvey set the record for most category four hurricanes to ever hit the nation in the same locations. As a result of this strong hurricane season,

same year. It was also the first time that two storms (in this case Irma and Jose) both occurred in the Atlantic Ocean at the same time with speeds over 150 mph over the Atlantic.

Outside of the United States in Puerto Rico, which had only previously endured four category 4 or stronger

has set the record of most storms since 1893.

After seeing all of these records, you may be thinking, “Why are there so many hurricanes this year?” This has to do with the weather and heat. During the course of this hurricane season, the Atlantic Ocean’s temperature has been much

other factors, not solely the storm’s strength. This includes a higher sea level resulting from

Overall, this hurricane season has set the record of most storms since 1893.



climate change which can lead to a higher risk of storm surge. Here, winds from the storm push water towards the shore, which combine with the normal tides to greatly increase the water level. Another likely reason for these storms is global warming, as rising temperatures may have caused an increase in rainfall.

These factors all lead to this storm being considered an “Extremely Active” Atlantic Hurricane Season. According to The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Organization, an extremely active hurricane must have 152.5 units of accumulated cyclone energy (which measures the intensity of a storm), and must satisfy two of these three following conditions: having thirteen or more storms that were given a name; seven or more total hurricanes; three or more major hurricanes. All of these factors contributed to the records that were broken by the recent hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean.

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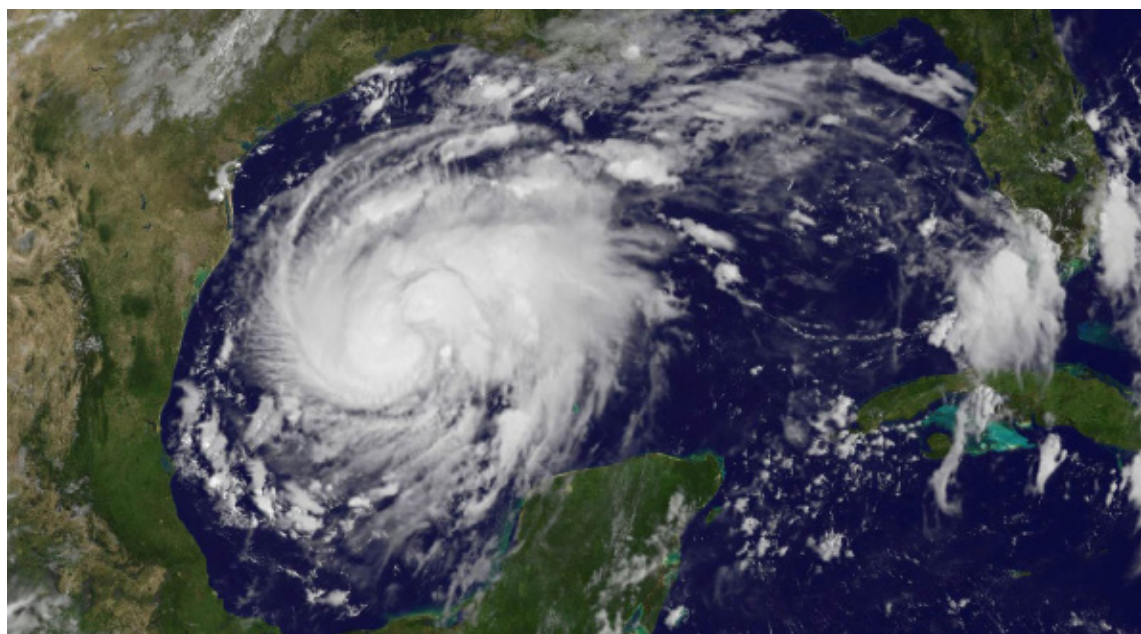
many United States weather records were broken.

Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma set the record for the first time two hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean hit the United States in the

hurricanes in total since the year 1928, Hurricane Maria struck on October 10th with winds of 155 mph, making it the strongest hurricane to hit Puerto Rico since the year 1928. Overall, this hurricane season

warmer than usual. This contributes to hurricanes’ strength because storms absorb heat from the water causing the weather system in them to churn at a faster pace. This gives the storm more power and can cause the category of the storm to change due to its increased strength. This season was also ENSO-neutral, meaning it lacked an El Niño which has previously provided wind shear to rip storms apart.

The devastation caused by these storms was also caused by many



THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

BY HANNAH
BAILIN

On October 5, the National Space Council met for the first time in 25 years. This was possible because of the executive order Presi-

timonies from the civil space, commercial space, and national security space industries' representatives were present. These industries will be able to provide NASA the aid they need to

cial and international partners to enable human expansion across the solar system." A possible approach to this could be the Deep Space Gateway, which was hinted in conversations with the coun-

missions. NASA actually stated that they will be "working in close coordination across the government through the new National Space Council, and with our commercial and international partners, we are going to chart a new future in space with opportunities for all."

This opens up many possibilities for NASA. One such possibility would be the utilisation of the Moon as a "stepping stone and a training ground" for future missions, as stated by Mike Pence.

The Deep Space Gateway paired with the new spacecraft that will be produced by Boeing and SpaceX will send humanity deeper into space than ever before, and catapult the U.S. forward as leaders on this frontier. By bringing the space business back into the U.S., the Trump administration has opened doors for NASA, such as the modification of the existing National Space Policy and removing the guide-

line that NASA should lead a human mission to an asteroid as the next human spaceflight milestone.

Now, NASA will be able to go back to the moon, and even send astronauts to Mars for the first time. However, the impacts of this first meeting are yet to be seen, and as the months go on, the public will

***This opens
up many
possibilities for
NASA.***

come to learn what NASA has planned in terms of missions and technology. For those who want to know more, NASA has provided video coverage of the meeting of the National Space Council here: <https://www.nasa.gov/videofile>. To see even more from the NASA team, check out their website, <https://www.nasa.gov/>, or their Instagram, [@nasa](https://www.instagram.com/nasa).

• • •



dent Trump signed on June 30 to re-establish the National Space Council.

The meeting was held at the Smithsonian National Air and Space

***On October 5th,
the National
Space Council
met for the first
time in 25 years.***

Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, chaired by Vice President Mike Pence. Pence made it evidently clear that "space is a national priority," and called for the United States to renew its leadership in space.

To make this leap one again, tes-

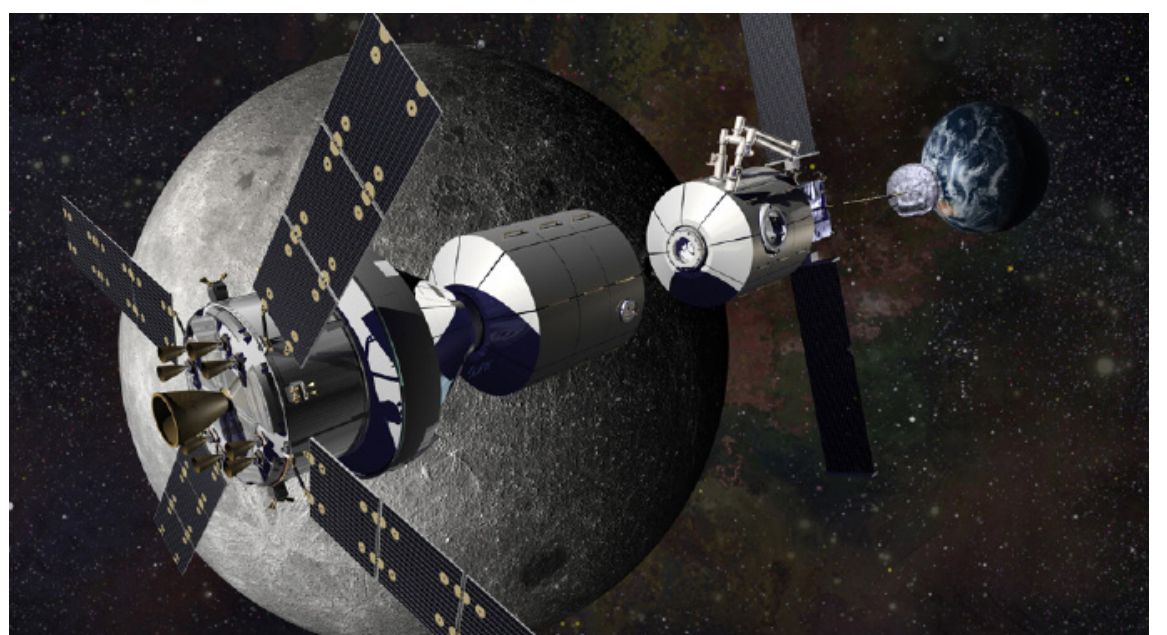
build spacecraft and other technologies for future missions.

For the past six years, NASA has relied on Russian rockets to transport their astronauts to the International Space Station. With the help of Boeing and SpaceX, American astronauts will be able to fly into space once again. With their new contract with NASA, both companies will help to develop spacecraft that can fly astronauts even farther into the cosmos.

Pence tasked NASA to "develop a plan for an innovative and sustainable program of exploration with commer-

cil. This project is predicted to begin within the next five years, where astronauts will bring the first elements of the gate out into space.

The Deep Space Gateway will serve the purpose of an outpost that could potentially support future robotic and human



TOP 20 SONGS OF 2017

BY AFRODITI MOUNTANOS



1. Shape Of You

Artist: Ed Sheeran

Album: ÷

Genre: Pop

Originally written at a writing camp with Rihanna in mind, Sheeran and the other songwriters instead chose to reference Irish singer Van Morrison. The song broke a Spotify record for streams in a single day when it was played over six million times in the first day, breaking One Direction's previous record with "Drag Me Down."

"Young Dumb & Broke" finds Khalid convincing a love interest that their youth allows them to be "young" and "dumb." Though Khalid feels like there's no need for romantic commitment, he still has love to give.



3. Unforgettable

Artist: French Montana

ft. Swae Lee

Album: *Single*

Genre: Hip hop, dancehall

2. Young Dumb & Broke

Artist: Khalid

Album: *American Dream*

Genre: R&B/Soul



The remixed version of this song comes with an emotional backstory from Montana in an Instagram post, where he describes his family's immigration from Morocco to America. French Montana actually spent a massive \$600,000 out of his pocket on the song - \$300,000 to clear the sample and another \$300,000 to shoot the video.

John Gourley has explained that was this song was inspired by Bernie Sanders. Gourley explained, "The fact at all that Bernie had to run as a Democrat is kind of what the song is about."



5. Havana

Artist: Camila Cabello

Album: *The Hurting. The Healing. The Loving.*

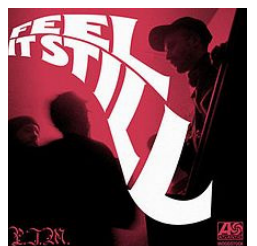
Genre: Latin, Pop

4. Fell it Still

Artist: Portugal. The Man

Album: *Woodstock*

Genre: Alternative/Indie



In this fantastic song, Camila Cabello pays tribute to the capital of her home country of Cuba. The pop star moved back and forth between Havana and Mexico City as a child before settling in Miami. She sings about her Cuban heritage and also muses about a former flame she left back in her native land.

A fusion of Afro-beat, Reggaeton, Latin pop and Electronic, Balvin has told E! News that "Mi Gente" is a song that embodies a special moment in music: a new sound of a Latino culture on the rise and being embraced globally, by erasing barriers of races, colors, continents, genres or languages.



7. Something Just Like This

Artist: Chainsmokers & Coldplay

Album: *Memories...Do Not Open*

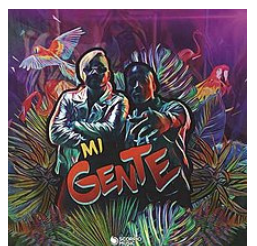
Genre: Dance/electronic

6. Mi Gente

Artist: J Balvin/ Willy William

Album: *Single*

Genre: Reggaeton



An incredible song, the Chainsmokers explained, "This is about a relationship that doesn't need to be superhumanly perfect, an ordinary love, a love everyone deserves like the boy on the cover art whose childhood memories are now boxed up."

This song features Chance the Rapper, Justin Bieber, Quavo and Lil Wayne all bragging to the ladies in their lives that they are "the only one" for them. The Biebs handles hook duties where he tells his girl he's "the real one" before Quavo, Chance and Wayne slide in with verses of their own.



9. Rockstar

Artist: Post Malone ft 21 Savage

Album: *Beerbongs & Bentleys*

Genre: Hip-hop/rap/trap

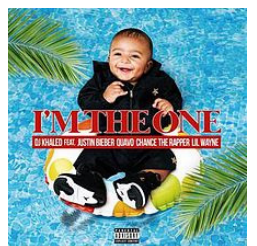
8. I'm the One

Artist: DJ Khaled/Bieber/

Quave/Chance

Album: *Grateful*

Genre: Pop music, Hip-hop/rap



Post Malone is joined on the track by 21 Savage, where both artists brag about their extravagant rock 'n' roll lifestyles, which incorporate copious amounts of sex and drugs. Taking after "Sex and Drugs and Rock And Roll," the debut single of English singer-songwriter Ian Dury, both songs describe the hedonistic lifestyle of rock stars.

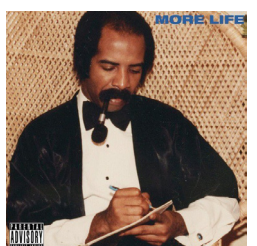
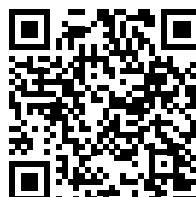
Born Belcalis Almanzar in the Bronx, Cardi B first earned money as an exotic dancer, before becoming an internet celebrity. The rapper references her past as a stripper in this song, and her more current occupation.

10. Bodak Yellow

Artist: Cardi B

Album: *Single*

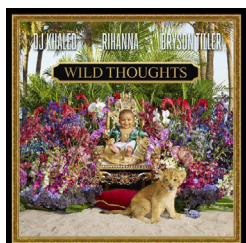
Genre: Hip-hop/rap



TOP 20 SONGS OF 2017

BY AFRODITI MOUNTANOS

The lead single from Demi Lovato's sixth studio album is a savage, "girl-power" anthem about rising above those trying to bring you down. A song aimed at the haters, the lyrics make themselves clear, saying, "I am good now, I am sorry I am not sorry that you may not be loving where your life is at the moment."

12. Wild Thoughts

Artist: DJ Khaled ft. Rihanna/
Tiller
Album: *Grateful*
Genre: Contemporary R&B

This song finds Shawn Mendes singing about a relationship that's helping him feel free to be himself. This girl makes Shawn feel so excited, especially when she's acting crazy, he stops feeling self-conscious and is willing to be taken to places he's never been before.

14. Thunder

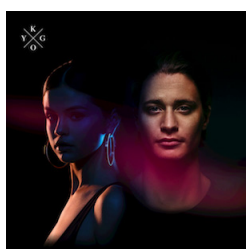
Artist: Imagine Dragons
Album: *Evolve*
Genre: Synth-pop

With this urban jam, Liam Payne became the final member of One Direction to release solo material. Recorded at Rokstone Studios in London, the track features Quavo, a founding member of the US hip-hop group Migos.

16. Walk on Water

Artist: Eminem ft Beyoncé
Album: *Walk on Water*
Genre: Alternative Hip-hop

In his debut album, *In the Lonely Hour*, Sam Smith found himself writing songs about unrequited love and loneliness. Three years later, Smith dropped this lead single from his sophomore record, which finds him still singing about failing relationships.

18. It Ain't Me

Artist: Kygo & Selena Gomez
Album: *Stargazing*
Genre: Dance Pop

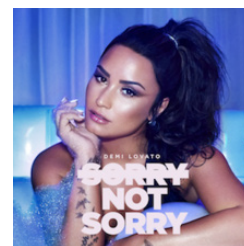
Hus told *Vice* the story behind this song: "I went to this BBQ with my one friend in his black Benz, and my other mate picked me up in his white car and took me home. It's just what happened, and I was singing that line the next day, and my manager was like 'That's hard, record that.' I went to the studio and recorded it."

20. Plain Jane

Artist: A\$AP Ferg
Album: A\$AP Ferg
Genre: Hip-hop

11. Sorry Not Sorry

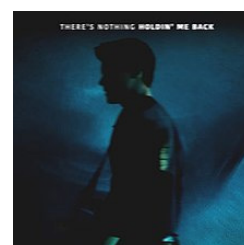
Artist: Demi Lovato
Album: *Single*
Genre: Pop



DJ Khaled recruited R&B singers Rihanna and Bryson Tiller for this summer-time tune. Virtually a cover, the new and vibrant lyrics distinguish song from Carlos Santana's Maria Maria.

13. There's Nothing
Holdin' Me Back

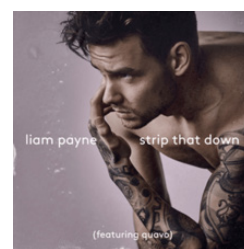
Artist: Shawn Mendes
Album: *Illuminate*
Genre: Pop rock



Dan Reynolds sings about having big dreams of being a star on stage as a kid. He recalls being laughed at by his classmates for having such lofty ambitions, yet in the second verse, the Dragons' frontman flips the script on those who mocked him.

15. Strip That Down

Artist: Liam Payne ft Quavo
Album: *Single*
Genre: Pop, R&B



Eminem has never been shy about expressing his anxieties, but he's never questioned his skills or his legacy like he does in this song. With Beyoncé on the hook, Eminem comes down from the heavens to explain that he's just a man, not a god, and he cannot walk on water unless it's frozen.

17. Too Good at
Goodbyes

Artist: Sam Smith
Album: *The Thrill of It All*
Genre: Pop



Since 2015, this is Selena Gomez's first new song: a collaboration with Norwegian DJ Kygo. Together they created the tune with former California Breed guitarist Andrew Wotman, Korean-American songwriter Brian Lee, and Ali Tamposi. The song finds Gomez having lost patience with her lover staying out drinking all night.

19. Did You See

Artist: J HUS
Album: *Common Sense*
Genre: Afrobeat, hip-hop,
Dancehall, R&B



A fantastic song that just bumps, A\$AP Ferg explained to *Genius* how the song originated: "I wanted to create something on that original new Juicy J joint. That's what I wrote the song to, and then I used that as the skeleton, took it to Kirk Knight and I was like, 'Yo... make it happen.'"

THE BLIND PILOT EXPERIENCE

BY QUINN
BLACKBURN

Going to see your favorite band is one thing; being on the guest list is another. On October 12th, I was lucky enough to

find myself photographing Blind Pilot, an American indie folk band.

While Blind Pilot might seem like



Original Photos by Quinn Blackburn.

a terrifying airplane flight for most, to me it was one more thing to be crossed off my bucket list. Performing at Irving Plaza in New York City, a comfortably sized venue, the nationally renowned band was able to exude an intimate vibe.

Opening the show was Charlie Cunningham. With just a guitar and mic, Charlie gave a short and welcoming performance to warm the crowd up for the “feels” night to follow.

His set ended early, giving my friend and me time to roam the upstairs area. We took pictures in a free photo booth to pass the time, and the elevated position allowed me to get a different



perspective of the stage to shoot from.

Blind Pilot began at 9:00 and I made sure I had a good spot in front of the gate, competing for prime placement with the other three photographers. During the first three songs, all I did was continuously shoot, moving into different spots and getting angles to capture the perfect shot. Their opening song, “Go On, Say It,” got the crowd cheering with its upbeat

rhythm.

I went back to general admission after the first three songs but was still able to get front row spots. Their set consisted of fourteen songs, and two encores of “New York” and “One Red Thread” would end the concert at around 11:00. It’s safe to say the concert was a complete success, leaving the audience with total euphoria.

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MAKE-A-WISH THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!

BY MADDY KYE

In seventh grade, Maggie Giles, Erica Vazquez, and Gaia D’Anna started fundraising for the Make-A-Wish foundation.

Their first year they raised \$350, and their second year they began selling cards instead of just asking for donations, raising \$1400 and being recognized by the town



Gaia D’Anna, Maggie Giles, & Erica Vazquez raise \$1,863 last year days before hitting \$2,000.



Designs by Josie Fasolino, Julia Giles & Eli Mollineaux.

of Huntington and Suffolk County for their efforts. When they were freshmen, they brought the holiday card sale to Huntington’s Key Club, with the event having grown significantly last year, with \$2000 being raised. \$2000 is the goal for this year, but the Key Club hopes to surpass that.

Now a senior, Maggie Giles said, “It’s sad to think that this is our sixth and last year with the event. It has brought me closer

to my community and a sense of hope that carries me through the season. This opportunity to give back is what makes the holidays my favorite time of year. I know our Key Clubbers will go above and beyond as they always do, and I hope to see the fundraiser carry on after we graduate. There is nothing I love more than receiving that letter from Make-A-Wish each year, showing us whose wish came true because of

our efforts.”

This year, there are three different card designs. A card with a heart on it created by Eli Mollineaux, a Christmas themed card designed by Julia Giles, and black and white card depicting a forest with an owl by Josie Fasolino.

A single holiday card is \$1, and it costs \$10 for a dozen. Order holiday cards this December, and help make a child’s wish come true!

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ANNUAL WINTER PLANT SALE

BY AMELIA REILLY

It's the holiday season, and the annual winter plant sale is upon us. This sale is once again hosted by the Science National Honor Society, dedicated to providing a sense of community and spreading science to all. All proceeds from this sale will go towards scholarships for science students.

There are a wide variety of plants that may be purchased. Poinsettias are starting at six dollars a plant. These come in either red, white, or pink, ranging from a four inch single-branch plant with over three blooms, to a ten inch large, multibranched

plant. Balsam wreaths are also available, starting at nine dollars, and come either undecorated or decorated; they range from ten inches round to thirty inches round. There are also assortments of holiday decorations, live Alberta spruces, and roping garland.

These beautiful plants will be coming from White Post Farms of Melville and are lively and healthy. Mrs. Forbes, co-advisor of the Science National Honor Society, said, "who doesn't love a good plant?" adding that "the winter plant sale has been one of our most successful fundraising ventures."

Mrs. Forbes



Science Honor Society officers with Karen Miller at the Science Honor Society Induction.

also commented on the importance of scholarships for STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) students. She said, "As the cost of a college education rises, it is important that as a society dedicated to

STEM education, we do our part to support the endeavors of our youth."

SNHS President Rachel Moss expressed her excitement about the upcoming plant sale. "All of the Science National Honor Society

members, including myself, are looking forward to selling and receiving these high-quality plants," said Moss. She encourages everyone to help the cause by buying a plant.

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SPANISH HONOR SOCIETY AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS

BY ROCIO
RIVAS-LIZAMA

The Spanish Honor Society is awarding scholarships to seniors of Huntington High School at the end of the 2017-2018 year. These scholar-

ships will reward students with financial need, and will help them accomplish a professional career.

The Spanish Honor Society continues this program annually as plenty of students that show valiant effort and ded-

ication have continuously benefited from these scholarships. Erick Joya, a Huntington senior, and this year's president of the society said, "being part of the Spanish Honor Society has proved to me that what we do helps students with college and gets them closer to the community."

At the end of the school year, the Spanish Honor Society will open spots for students that want to apply. Erick Joya commented, "the only requirements are that students need to be enrolled in a Spanish class and have a 90+ average." Once the



students meet these requirements, their eligibility can be ensured.

One might wonder how the Spanish Honor Society is able to provide these scholarships; where

These scholarships will reward students with financial need.

exactly are these funds coming from? The answer is simple; during the school year, the society holds a

myriad of fundraising events for this very purpose. At the same time, they involve the students in activities that break school's normal rhythm. "We raise money through school activities such as bake sales or soccer tournaments," Erick Joya said. At the end of the day, the Spanish Honor Society is able to supply adequate funds to support any Blue Devils in need.

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Spanish Honor Society Members at their monthly social group.



HUNTINGTON ROBOTICS RECEIVES OVER \$15,000 AT ANNUAL FUNDRAISING EVENT

BY
NOLAN PICCOLA

The clang of metal against metal. The screams of hundreds of fans cheering on their robots. The sound of music blasting in your ears at every direc-

The team reached their goal for the night and received enough money to buy everything on their wishlist.

tion. These are the common sounds of a FIRST Robotics competition. Before they can become a reality, however, Huntington Robotics must prepare for the stressful months of building, constructing, writing, and planning ahead.

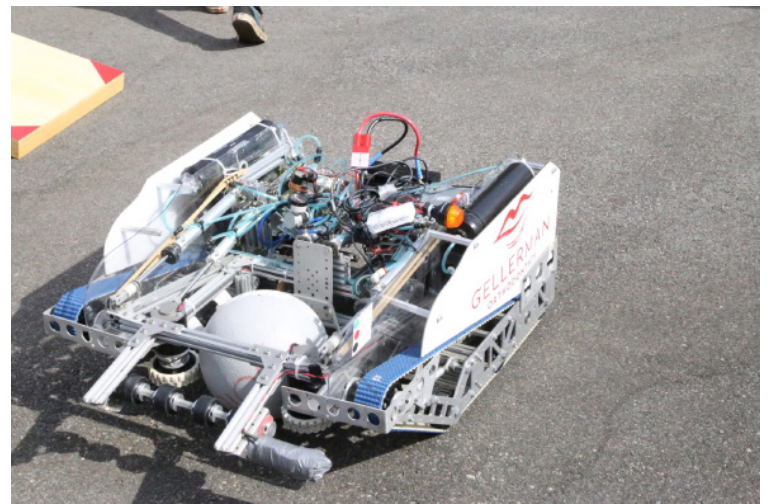
On Wednesday, Nov. 1, the robotics club hosted their annual fundraiser at LaunchPad, a coworking community located in Huntington meant

to aid those who are attempting to form various start-up companies and businesses. The venue was kind enough to rent out their area to the Huntington team and dedicate their resources for the night.

Over 75+ guests were invited to the event, including team sponsors Gell-

erman Orthodontics, LuHi, National Grid, CDFS (Carter, Deluca, Farrell, & Schmidt, LLP), and many others that can be found on the bottom of the team's website (team5016.com). Throughout the night, the team presented their guests with a wishlist, which consisted of all the items they hoped to buy with the funds generated from the fundraiser.

The results that followed were unexpected, and Huntington Robotics was



Team 5016's Robot.

At the end of the night, over \$15,000 in funds was raised for the team. The team reached

senior Bella McGinniss, Head of Promotions. "It's safe to say that this year's fundraiser definitely exceeded our expectations, and we are sincerely grateful for that."

This year's fundraiser was just one of the few remaining events Huntington Robotics will be conducting this year. The team is also pre-

It's safe to say that this year's fundraiser definitely exceeded our expectations, and we are sincerely grateful for that.



Members of Team 5016

erman Orthodontics, LuHi, National Grid, CDFS (Carter, Deluca, Farrell, & Schmidt, LLP), and

amazed at how many people stood up to support their cause. "The fundraiser was very successful, and I am glad we can start off our season with a large portion of our budget raised," said senior Lindsay Saginaw, Head of the team's Business division. "I am so grateful we have such generous sponsors; it was definitely an amazing last fundraiser for our seniors."

their goal for the night and received enough money to buy everything on their wishlist. This includes a 3-D printer, a vinyl cutter, and a robot control system. All materials will help the team during their build season, which begins early January. "Without our sponsors and the generous parents at the fundraiser, we wouldn't be where we are as a team," said



Huntington Robotics Members and their robot.

paring for the annual invitational hosting by Half Hollow Hills. The team will be able to compete with other teams at the event, and will help them prepare for the rigorous competition season to take place in the spring of 2018.

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