



Diplomas sit before empty seats in the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Foellinger Great Hall as Parkland staff work behind the scenes to set up the college's largest-ever commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.

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Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus

Parkland | Article Highlight

Check out another student-written article from last Spring; David Saveanu reports on Parkland's decision to not raise tuition.

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Parkland | Commencement 2018

See photos from Parkland's largest-ever commencement ceremony.

page4

Letter to the Editor

Submitted by Morgan Tapley

"Perils of an Open Border" was screened a few weeks ago for the first time ever at UIUC. Leftists chalked the concrete outside the door where the event was to be held with things like "Viva Viva Palestina" and "Say no to Fascism." (Given Hitler's and Mussolini's treatment of homosexuals, I really do not know how it was conceived that Wintrich is a fascist); and Lucian Wintrich, the creator of the film, is the youngest gay White House correspondent from Gateway Pundit and gave a light-hearted speech following the international premier.

The film was so entertaining that I did not space out at all despite my ADHD tendency towards daydreaming. The film is thought provoking and hilarious, and it was nice to see something that did not drone about white privilege, the patriarchy, and other mythology.

Since there is no conservative voice at Parkland, you may want to see the film, too, for exposure to a dose of humor that has effectively been banished from campus by the atmosphere of political correctness which is rumored to discriminate against conservative students in the grading of papers on subjective material and which may also be responsible for the fact that I have yet to meet a professor at Parkland over the past three semesters who described himself as

SEE LETTER PAGE 2

Article Highlight: April 11, 2018 Parkland students, staff volunteer in Flint

gregGANCARZ | Editor

For students seeking a departure from the typical spring break frivolities, Parkland's Office of Student Life organized an Alternative Spring Break to Michigan this year.

In conjunction with the Firestone Center, a non-profit organization that hosts service trips of Flint, Michigan, Parkland's Student Life Activities Program Manager Joshua Clark coordinated a trip to Flint. Students and staff volunteered their time over break to aid in construction in Flint through five separate charitable organizations.

Flint was declared to be in a state of emergency in 2014 after dangerous lead contamination was detected in the city's water supply.

The trip, which spanned from March 18-22, and included a total of 13 students, about half of whom were from Parkland's Construction Design and Management Program. The program partnered with

Student Life in organizing the trip. The other students came from the general student body. Two chaperones, Clark and Ruthie Counter, staff writer for marketing and public relations, went on the trip as well.

The Alternative Spring Break was organized by Clark after he was contacted by Annie Stoltman, the manager of the Firestone Center.

"Luckily, I am in a position to organize and lead a trip like this," Clark said.

The trip to Flint by Parkland bus took about six hours one-way. Upon arrival at their quarters at the Firestone Center in Flint on Sunday, March 18, the students and staff were allotted time to settle in before departing for a tour of the city. The next three days consisted of construction work at various charity locations including East Side Mission, Franklin Ave Mission, and a Habitat for Humanity home. Meals for the participants were provided at the Firestone Center.

Emily Grumish, who heard about the trip at a Service-Learning Advisory Council meeting in February, attended as a student representative of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Club Access. She said she did a bit of everything during her time volunteering.

"I helped scrape and paint walls in a classroom at the Sylvester Broome Empowerment Village. I also touched up walls in their gymnasium... helped clean and shine the gymnasium floor... [and] helped clean up a property for the Eastside Mission which was to become the future women's alcohol and drug treatment facility," Grumish said. "This included getting rid of all the trash, weeds, and other debris laying around on the property. At the Habitat for Humanity House Build, I helped with clean up and assisted in ren-



Photo provided by Joshua Clark | Student Life
Parkland students, staff and volunteers stand outside of a Habitat build site on March 22, 2018. Front: Crew Leader. First row (left to right): Sara Clavey, Emily Grumish, Francisco Gamino, Victoria Varner, Ruthie Counter, Asia Battle, Keyvontae Finley, Roumaissa Kibech, Jeff Reed, and two crew leaders. Second row: Volunteer Coordinator, Tommy Zander, Jason Brown, Asa Greathouse, and Nafissa Maiga.

ovating the property."

"The Firestone Center did an excellent job...connecting our service work to the community of Flint," Clark said.

Each evening, after construction work, the volunteers had a speaker from the community come in and share the effects of the charity work over dinner.

"We learned a lot about the city and all about different programs that are helping the community get back on its feet," Grumish said.

"With each speaker, we went around the table introducing ourselves and sharing what we learned that day. Everyone had a different perspec-

SEE FLINT PAGE 2

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FACT or FICTION?

Exposure to depictions of organ donation on TV shows reduces viewers' desire to become organ donors themselves.

• ANSWER ON PAGE 3

PARKLAND

Article Highlight: Feb. 28, 2018 Parkland tuition remains unaltered for first time since '92

davidSAVEANU | Reporter

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously on Feb. 21 to not raise tuition at Parkland for the first time in 26 years.

The decision was made that Parkland, because of increases in tuition over the past several years, will be able to keep the tuition rate the same next year.

Chris Randles, Parkland's Vice President of Administrative Services, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer, said that after a few years without steady state funding, Parkland is now in a better position, meaning that the college can afford to not raise tuition.

Randles said that the college hit a high point financially in 2012, after which the college's savings "dipped over a several year period because of [a] lack of state funding and lack of enrollment."

Since then, Parkland has seen its financial situation improve.

"Now we've had a couple of good years of state funding, so we just thought it was a good opportunity to be able to give you all, the students, the community, a break in terms of raising tuition, and still project a fairly balanced budget next year even if we don't raise tuition," Randles said.

State funding had dropped severely over the last couple of years, because of Illinois' budget impasse. As a result, Parkland struggled financially. Parkland's two other main sources of income are student tuition and local taxes.

"In an ideal situation, [students] would pay about a third in tuition, local government [which] is local taxes would pay about a third, and the state would pay a third," Randles said. "Well obviously, the state isn't paying their third, we can't raise taxes, at least not easily, so the burden has fallen to [students] over the years."

Raising taxes would be a significant challenge according to Randles, so instead the college has had to consistently increase tuition, shifting the burden onto students and their families.

At the trustee meeting the focus was on how tuition rates have gone up over the past 20 years. Aside from a couple of instances, tuition has been consistently increasing from \$51 per credit hour, including a \$3 fee. It has risen at an average rate of 6.27 percent.

One instance when the tuition was raised more was when the Student Union was built. "In 2009, when we built the Student Union, we issued bonds and raised the student fee from \$3 to \$8. So that \$5 extra is actually helping pay \$10 million in bonds that are helping pay for the union building specifically," Randles said.

This increase in the fees that came with tuition was the first in 18 fiscal years. Over the following nine years, fees and tuition were increased according to Randles. One of these increases was made to help the col-

lege pay for technology, something that has become more prominent in classes and common areas according to Randles.

"We raised the fees again \$7 this year... as a technology fee. The state wasn't funding us [and] we were falling behind in updating computer labs, infrastructure of technology, [and] bandwidth for WiFi," Randles said.

"Nonetheless, that was a cost passed onto [students]," Randles said.

Since the burden has been shifted to students in recent years, to relieve some of the weight of growing costs, Randles said that a recommendation was made to the Board of Trustees to not raise tuition by Parkland's administration.

The idea of not raising tuition has always been talked about, but the means weren't there before this year.

"The Board of Trustees has been interested in quite some time to not raise tuition or raise it less than normal. They're very aware. Many of them are parents and grandparents," Randles said. "Staff and faculty, really everyone's, concerned about what we charge for tuition. We want it to be fair and affordable."

Parkland aims to keep its fund balance, a measure of the college's financial resources, between 30 to 35 percent. This means that money for 30 to 35 percent of the expenses that keep Parkland running remain in the fund.

probably in the traditional classroom. [...] If you're in nursing, [there are more] labs, sinks, more insurance, more things that can go wrong."

Along with the different categories, the college is also funded on enrollment rates.

"We get funded on how many students we have and the amount of credit hours [students] take. The problem is the state hasn't been funding the community college system," Randles said.

According to Randles Parkland is receiving \$4.4 million this year from the state and will possibly receive less next year. The money received this year is more than has been received in the past few years though.

Often times the state budget is unpredictable, as is the case now.

"The governor's doing a budget, the legislature [has] not come to any agreement, and we don't even know if they will come to an agreement. It's possible we won't even be having a budget when the year starts," Randles said.

Randles said that the cost of business for the college has been rising, but since the state funding has not kept up with it and has decreased, the college has been trying to make due with less money.

"If they give you \$6.6 million in 2012, whether you're getting \$2 million or \$4 million, the cost of everything's gone up in 6 year; how are you supposed to manage with two to four million less, five years later?" Randles said.

Parkland has done things to try to control expenses and keep costs low.

"We've also done cuts...we're down 70 full time employees from several years ago, which is across all categories," Randles said.

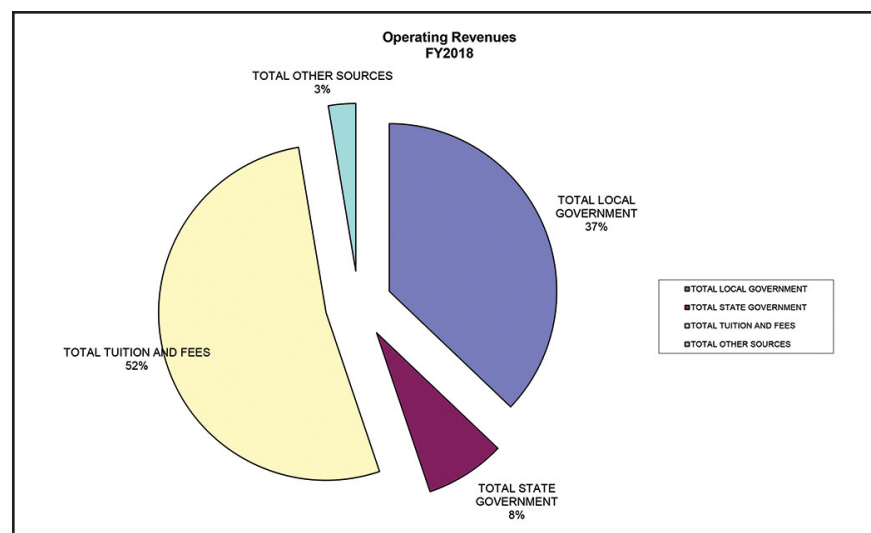
Parkland, in efforts to bounce back, has changed the insurance plans of its employees to a higher deductible plan. Along with this, Parkland began charging students the credit card fee that comes with paying for tuition with a credit card.

In terms of energy consumption and utilities, Parkland has also managed to keep costs fairly low.

"Several buildings have been newly installed over the years, including the U-wing, and the T-building, yet the utilities haven't increased much," Randles said.

Randles explained the main task of the college throughout all this is to make sure students' quality of education does not decrease, while Parkland cuts back on expenses.

"We need to provide [students] with quality instructors in the class, quality facilities which include the classrooms, having computers and projectors, obviously a safe environment, a clean environment, to study in," Randles said.



Graphic provided by Chris Randles | Vice President of Administrative Services, Chief Financial Officer, and Treasurer

This pie chart shows where Parkland receives its funding: approximately half coming from tuition and fees that students pay, a little over a third coming from local property taxes, 3 percent coming from other sources, and finally the last 8 percent coming from the state.

In the future however, it is likely that tuition will have to be raised, as it has been in the past, to keep up with increased costs, projected fluctuations of enrollment, and a lack of sufficient governmental funding according to Randles.

"The only way we can keep up with increased salaries, benefits, utilities, etc. was, unfortunately, to raise tuition, which is what we were doing," Randles said.

Without an increase in tuition sometime in the next couple of years, the college will likely be looking at deficit in its budget.

"There's some projections here that we discussed with the board...that starting next year, if we don't raise tuition, we'd have a slight deficit of \$479,000 which we can manage because we're going to have a surplus this year, but if in the following fiscal years, we don't raise tuition at all, and enrollment doesn't go up, and the state doesn't fund us more, it would be big deficits which we couldn't afford to sustain very long," Randles said.

"We bottomed out in fiscal 2012, our fund balance hitting a low of 15 percent," Randles said. "We dipped from our 35, which is the high end of our goal, to 15, in a mere four years."

But after this severe decrease in the fund balance, the increases in tuition have helped the college bounce back.

"We expect [by] June 30 of 2018, that it will be back up close to 31 percent, which is [...] healthier," said Randles, acknowledging that it isn't where the college once was, but it is in a more secure fiscal state.

Parkland's state funding depends on a number of factors, including the types of classes that students are enrolled in.

"We get funded based on amount of instruction we provide, and in what category," Randles said. "For example, health professions which can be nursing, dental hygiene, we get reimbursed more per credit hour than a baccalaureate class which is, say, a history class, and that in theory makes some sense. If you're in history you're

FROM PAGE 1

LETTER

conservative. Crush the stereotype of college students' needing safe spaces and view perhaps the only conservative thing you will come across in your years at Parkland College.

Note: any opinions expressed in a published letter to the editor do not represent the positions or opinions of the Prospectus, its staff, or Parkland College.

FROM PAGE 1

FLINT

tive. I was never expecting to form such a strong connection to students that were strangers to me just the week before."

According to participants, the local community was "receptive," "impressed," and "grateful" for the volunteer work provided by Parkland students.

"They were impressed with the sheer amount of work we accomplished. All the

evening speakers were impressed by how engaged, passionate, and thoughtful our students were. Everyone was encouraging, thankful, and wanted us to return," Clark said.

The group began their trip back to Parkland on Thursday morning on March 22.

Clark said the trip was an "eye opening" as well as "transformative."

"Just over the course of three days, I saw students become more confident, come together to work as a team, and get so much work accomplished at the non-profits we worked with. That is why this trip filled me

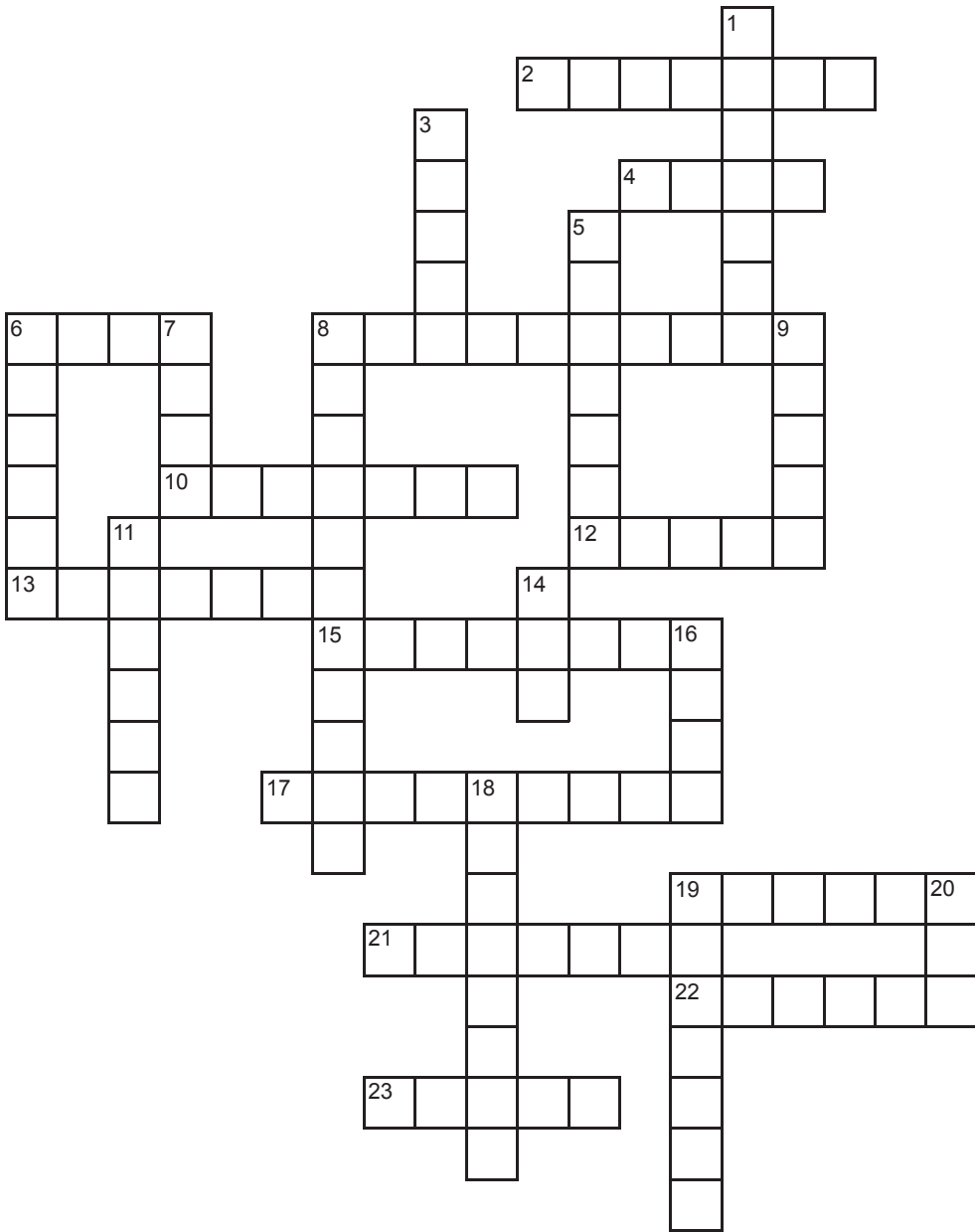
with pride, to see how engaged, committed, and hardworking the Parkland students were," Clark said.

Clark said that although most of the students began the trip as strangers to one another, they were still able to come together and leave a positive impact on the local community in addition to developing "both as individuals and as a team."

Grumish said that Parkland's Alternative Spring Break taught her that "even doing small things as one person can make an impact when working together as a group to accomplish a huge task."

**To our staff members among the
Graduates of 2018
thank you for working with us!**

PUZZLES & COMICS



ACROSS

- 2 Vegetable often used in pies (7)
- 4 Cheese in hors d'oeuvres (4)
- 6 Oft-said on Sunday (4)
- 8 Give praise; go well with (10)
- 10 Quality of a hero (7)
- 12 Wild dog runs with kangaroos (5)
- 13 Match by imitation (7)
- 15 Victoria's style of government (8)
- 17 Unseeable, like this ink (9)
- 19 Presenting oneself by the book (6)
- 21 Such energy can be devastating (7)
- 22 Not see-through (6)
- 23 Self-esteem in excess can be a detriment (5)

DOWN

- 1 Last name of a president and a city in Wisconsin (7)
- 3 'Any port in a _____' (5)
- 5 'The Emerald Isle' (7)
- 6 Scot's sock (6)
- 7 Slang, police officer on a bust (4)
- 8 Medieval king of Franks and first Holy Roman Emperor (11)
- 9 Behavior contrary to 19 ACROSS (5)
- 11 Give in, or belt up with it (6)
- 14 Texter's 'I need a quick break' (3)
- 16 Burns' alma mater, "The Simpsons" (4)
- 18 Particular and exact (8)
- 19 We, for example (7)
- 20 Bread in a Christie title (3)

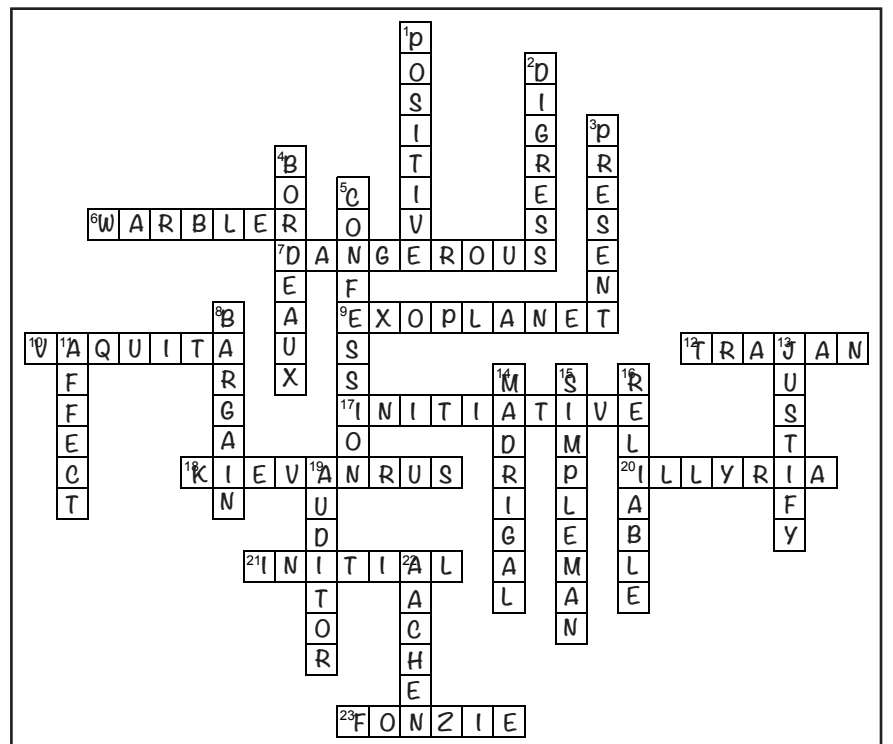
Crossword too easy? Too hard? Just right?

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• FACT! •

Two studies conducted in late 2017 found people were less likely to become organ donors after viewing depictions of organ donation on TV. According to Kelly L. Richardson, who conducted the research for her graduate project at Pacific University's School of Physician Assistant Studies, this is due to medical shows presenting "not only inaccurate, but often outright deceptive" information regarding organ donation to their viewers, "playing on the worst fears many people have about the...process."

PARKLAND COMMENCEMENT 2018



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
Graduates and staff bustle around the hallways behind the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts' Foellinger Great Hall in the minutes before Parkland's largest-ever commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
Members of the Parkland College Board of Trustees stand as graduates enter the Foellinger Great Hall for Parkland's largest-ever commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
Graduates, staff and guests join together in prayer and reflection at the start of Parkland's commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
Beth Rempe, a self-identified non-traditional student and graduate from Parkland's nursing program, speaks about her experiences at the college at Parkland's commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
Graduates sit amongst a full house and listen to Beth Rempe speak at Parkland's commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.



Photo by mattMOSS | The Prospectus
President of Parkland College Thomas Ramage speaks, congratulating graduates at Parkland's commencement ceremony, May 17, 2018.

• CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES OF 2018! •

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thePROSPECTUS
Parkland's campus-wide student newspaper
since 1968


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The Prospectus works to proliferate information relevant to Parkland-goers and provide its student workers with a space conducive to the learning environment.

The Prospectus is Parkland College's campus-wide student newspaper, and has been in constant production since late 1968. Our reporters and editors are exclusively students of Parkland College with a variety of majors and career interests, not just communications and journalism. We set out to provide an outlet for students to further develop their writing, photography, communication, time management, and critical thinking skills while producing a quality, trusted source of news for Parkland-goers. The Prospectus publishes weekly during Parkland's spring and fall semesters and three times during the summer semester.

thePROSPECTUS Staff

mattMOSS | Publications Manager
kaiderPOPE | Reporter



All unused issues of the Prospectus are recycled or donated to the Parkland College Veterinary Technology program.