

# the PROSPECTUS

## JOE SMITH READY TO IMPROVE PARKLAND COLLEGE



nicolineHANSEN | Digital Editor

The new Student Government President Joe Smith

Image source: Joe Smith

With a brand-new semester comes many things: a fresh start, new opportunities and a new President of Parkland's Student Government. This is an important position that comes with a lot of responsibility. With the election scheduled for February 11, 12 and 13, it came as a huge shock when it was cancelled. However, the biggest shock came when it was announced that the election was cancelled because no student had decided to run for present.

After a lot of confusion, a new president has now been found. Secondary education major, Joe Smith, has accepted the title as President and will be the person to lead Parkland College's Student Government this semester.

Smith has previous experience with student government as he joined last semester as a

senator. "Luckily, I didn't really have to run. I'm so out of shape, that would have been a disaster," the newly announced President said, jokingly. "I honestly got tired of seeing those emails about being short of senators. I asked how I could help, and began my term of service on

Student Government." To the readers who are unsure what Student Government is involved with, Smith informs that they are basically involved in everything regarding student life. "We are the first to hear about tuition changes. We sponsor or co-sponsor

events, such as the Black History Month fashion show coming up. We are involved in granting extra funds to student organizations, and we're also the group of students that approves club formations," Smith says.

According to the Parkland College website, the overall goal of Student Government is to give Parkland students various opportunities to help them form relationships as well as leadership skills. Smith adds that Student Government provides a change for the students

to have a voice in their environment.

It is very clear that our new Student Government President has a deep passion for this school. His favorite thing about Parkland is the people that fill the building. This includes everyone from the students to the staff. "Parkland

To Smith, two of the things that need extra attention are interaction and connection. "I want people to talk to each other more face to face," Smith says.

Furthermore, the newly elected President wants to raise more awareness of the different organizations

that he wants to leave Parkland better than how he found it. "Parkland really does offer so much for us, the best we could do is maintain the culture of success for everyone," Smith says.

As for the future, someone will have to take on the role of President for the Student Government and maintain the work Smith will leave behind after his term. "Don't let your dreams be dreams. Do it! Fortune favors the bold. Go beyond, Plus Ultra! Those who dares win. Be change you want to see," Smith says as his final comment to any students considering joining Student Government. "Whatever motivational quote, bumper sticker, #hashtag you need to hear to get involved, I'll tell you."

To get information about the Student Government and how to run for a position, visit [parkland.edu](http://parkland.edu) and click on 'About Parkland'.

**"Hands down, our diverse people make this place."**

**— Joe Smith**

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# True Stories



Left to right: Lewis Cohn and Marthe Cohn

Photo by Paul Benson

## The true story of a French Jewish spy in Nazi Germany

paulBENSON | Reporter

On Wednesday February 13th, 2019, the Krannert Center's Foelinger Hall was packed with hundreds of people running around looking for seats at a free event. At the event, Marthe Cohn spoke about her experience as a spy

They met after the war, in 1956 while studying in Geneva. They then worked together for many years, she as a nurse and he as an anesthesiologist. After a friendly introduction she went into detail about growing up in the city of Metz at the border of Germany and France. She said

officers of the depot and questioned. She refused to give any answer, because the reason she was arrested was we had helped hundreds of people to escape Occupied France... We didn't know who these people were, we didn't know from where they were coming, but they

officers, "I am a nurse, I take care of people, I do not kill anybody, even the Germans I hate." This obviously did not help her case, but Marthe was stubborn and she was eventually enlisted as a sergeant "social worker". Marthe wasn't given any orders and she didn't know anything about being a social worker, so

handed it to him, afraid they would know it was a forged card. Luckily, they did not realize the I.D. was forged. She was able to follow the soldiers and learn their patrols. When she discovered important information she crawled back through the Swiss border and relayed the information back to the French army.

really funny how she was able to woo German men into giving her important information. No one expected the 4 feet 11 inches tall, 24 year old nurse to be a French spy. The amount of courage and strength that Marthe built up when faced with life threatening situations is truly inspiring. She did not start telling her story

**"In France, 75 percent of Jews survived, and they survived because so many non-Jews risked their lives to save ours." Cohn said.**

during World War II. Marthe Cohn started off the speech by saying, "I do not intend to offend any media attending the event, but I have to tell you that this has nothing to do with fake news." The audience gave a round of applause. Marthe Cohn had a very thick accent and was elderly. It was challenging to understand what she was saying sometimes, especially at the beginning. She was accompanied by her husband, Lewis Cohn, whom she jokingly referred to as her, "prompter, because he puts me back on track when I'm off track." The couple were incredibly adorable and had been together for 61 years.

that Metz was under control of the Germans from the Franco-Prussian War in 1870 until the end of World War I. While the Germans controlled the city, they forbid people from speaking French. Once Metz was freed, Marthe Cohn's parents taught her French. Being bilingual with blonde hair and blue eyes set her up for her unexpected career as a spy. Marthe Cohn talked about her city being occupied by the Germans, and her family going into hiding. She explained 'SiPo' as an abbreviation for a long word meaning German police. "My sister, Stephanie had been arrested by the SiPo." Cohn said. "She was taken to the

needed help." Cohn said. Marthe and her family tried to help Stephanie escape. Stephanie, as a medical student, refused, because she thought it was more important for her to help nurse the children in the camps who were hurt. Stephanie was later sent to the concentration camp in Auschwitz, where she was murdered. Once Paris was liberated in 1944, Marthe wanted to join the French army. "It was very difficult, because thousands of people wanted to join the army," Cohn said. The officers did not take Marthe Cohn seriously. They did not think she would be very helpful, or able to kill. Marthe told the

she helped in any way she could by providing troops with supplies from town. When the Colonel found out that Marthe Cohn could speak fluent German, she was then tasked with finding intel from behind enemy lines. She was eventually successful at walking into Germany from Schaffhausen Switzerland. She took on the identity of a German nurse looking for her fiancée. Cohn was very frightened before approaching the first group of German soldiers she saw. She built up courage and called out, "Heil Hitler!" The Sentinel officer asked for her identity card and she

Two major pieces of information that she was able to discover were that the German army evacuated the Siegfried line and that the remnant of the German army laid in ambush in the Black Forest. She found out about the remnant German army after pretending to be in distress in front of a German Colonel. Marthe said that the Colonel told her, "don't be so afraid, the war is not finished." And then he told me exactly where the Remnant army was waiting. Everyone in the audience was shocked when Marthe told how she easily tapped vital information from a high ranking officer. It was

about what happened to her during WWII until the 1990s, because she didn't think people would be interested in her story. For those interested in learning more about her story, she has a short video about her, and a book titled, Behind Enemy Lines : The True Story of a French Jewish Spy in Nazi Germany. "In France, 75 percent of Jews survived, and they survived because so many non-Jews risked their lives to save ours." Cohn said. It goes to show what people can accomplish when we look out for each other.



Students listening to the piano player while enjoying their meals.

Photo by Sid Mounts



Students decorated cookies for Valentine's Day. Photo by Sid Mounts



A good place to get school supplies. Photo by Sid Mounts

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PARKLAND COLLEGE CELEBRATES

## Black History Month February 2019

history, heritage, and hope: looking forward

FEB 5 "Reasons to Re-think Black History Month" by Joe Walwik Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140	FEB 21 "The Art of Kehinde Wiley, painter of former president Barack Obama's official portrait" by Laura O'Donnell and Lisa Costello 11a-noon, U140
FEB 6 Black Student Success Project 1-2p, U140	FEB 25 "Diversity in the Classroom" by Willie Fowler 10-11a, D105
FEB 12 "Black Muslims in the U.S." by Evelyn Reynolds Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140	FEB 26 "Donald Trump and African Americans: Has He Delivered?" by Willie Fowler 11a-noon, D105
FEB 13 "Leaning In and the Black Experience" by Marietta Turner noon-1p, U140	FEB 27 "Afro Puerto Rican Women in Popular Culture" by Maritza Quinones 11a-noon, D105
FEB 14 Black History Month Luncheon 1130a-1p, U140	Cultural Fashion Show noon-1p, cafeteria
FEB 19 "Black Panther and AfroFuturism" by Amber Landis Dine and Discuss series, noon-1p, U140	MAR 1 "Student Voices: Spoken Word and Original Songs by Parkland Students" conducted by the academic coaches of the Center for Academic Success Cafeteria Stage
FEB 20 "Racialized Stress/Trauma in Higher Education" by Nathan Stephens 11a-noon, U140	
Black Student Success Project 1-2p, U140	

PARKLAND COLLEGE

# Resources

# Project READ WELCOMES VOLUNTEER TUTORS

Ayla McDonald | Co-Editor

With National Volunteer Month coming up in April, now is the perfect time to consider volunteering as an English, math or reading tutor with the tutoring program, Project READ.

Part of a larger educational outreach organization through the Department of the Illinois Secretary of State and funded by the Illinois State Library, Project Read is a free tutoring program that serves the community of Champaign-Urbana and the Parkland College District by offering free literacy services to adults who are at or below a seventh-grade English reading level.

According to the Project READ webpage at parkland.edu, "Project READ provides free tutoring to adult learners who seek to improve their reading, writing, math, and/or English as a Second Language skills... Tutors work with learners in public locations such as libraries, churches, and Adult Basic Education classrooms. Most popular are the free drop-in tutoring sites offered in Champaign, Urbana, and the

surrounding area each week." During a one-week period, Project READ meets at several locations throughout the Champaign-Urbana area, all of which are accessible by public transport. Some locations offer trained childcare facilities during tutoring sessions. A list of Project READ locations and further information about the program can be found at parkland.edu.

Project READ tutors Maryann Mercer and Linda Bair told the Prospectus that volunteering with Project READ teaches respect of cultural boundaries and is a good opportunity, especially for young volunteers who are interested in education, to experience what it is like to teach.

Regarding teaching English to non-native speakers, "We are their television," Mercer said. "Learners can spend 6-10 hours a week with us to give themselves an intensive language experience that they bring home to their families. The golden target we're all trying to get to is usage."

Bair also shared her experience as a tutor. "I got started in tutoring in general because...



Left to right: Linda Bair and Maryann Mercer

Photo by Ayla McDonald

as I learned Spanish starting at the age of 59 or 60 I realized how difficult it was to learn a new language, especially as an adult, and I got interested in [ESL]... Once I started doing it I just fell in love with the process of teaching somebody to learn a new language." Bair said. "I really like the idea of the program because it's free. People are tested when they come in so we can

understand their level and to make measured improvements because the grant requires that, not only that you come and stand and deliver, but that you make a difference in their level of attainment."

Tutors can work with learners in group settings and one-on-one. The only requirements to be a volunteer tutor with Project READ are that applicants must

have graduated from high school and must go through a volunteer training process.

"All tutors have to go through training which I think is really good, that accounts for some of [it] being a good academic program, you're going to get decent tutoring," Bair said. "I would actually encourage people to take advantage of the flexibility and try out different aspects of the

program. If you have time to volunteer, maybe try out tutoring in a class or try out one-to-one or try out the drop-in. The drop-in is really good because you can try different things, you can maybe tutor math, you can maybe tutor your small group of people, or maybe tutor a larger group of people."

"I would say the biggest challenge for the program is getting enough tutors. There's no shortage of learners once they discover this program and discover how good it is," Bair said. "My advice would be just try it. Go through the training. I suspect that if you have teaching inclinations you'll fall in love with tutoring. The interaction excitement of helping somebody learn something, there's just nothing like it."

Information about volunteer training and a link to the Project READ training sign-up page can be accessed through the Project READ webpage online at parkland.edu.



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# Cobra Sports



Parkland College Men's Basketball Team

Source: Parkland Athletics Website

## Men's basketball team leading the M-WAC 4-0

emmaFLEMING | Co-Editor

**P**arkland's Men's Basketball team has a winning season with a record of 20-2 and, so far, is leading the Mid-West Athletic Conference 4-0. The team's only losses have been to Southeastern Community College of Iowa (59-73) and Rend Lake College (67-70). Recently, the team has had a couple of big wins against Lincoln Land Community College (88-62) and number 17 Illinois Central College (79-59), which ended Illinois Central's eight game winning streak. Based upon both their conference and season records, the men's basketball team has had a productive season thus far.

Coleco Buie, one of

the assistant coaches of the Parkland Men's Basketball team, said that the team has really impressed the coaching staff this season. "The season has exceeded our coaching staff's expectations," Buie said. "We knew we had a great group of guys coming in, but with 12 new guys, it would be a stretch saying we would win 20 of our first 22." With 12 new players, the transition could have been extremely difficult, but Buie explains that the new team dynamic has really benefited the players.

With the regional tournament quickly approaching, a quality team dynamic is important. "Right now, we are preaching to get better daily, being a team versus a bunch of individuals," Buie said.

"We are trying to motivate each individual to do their job for the betterment of the team." When it comes to post-season play, Buie believes that consistency, for both

Buie said.

Buie also noted that the players' actions off the court play a big part in what happens on the court. "We have a great group of guys,"

guys that fit in with our beliefs and goals is not always easy. All credit is due to the players for buying in, on and off the court."

will have one more home game versus Rend Lake College on Saturday, Mar. 7 at 3 p.m. before post-season play.

For more information about the Men's

**"We have been successful because we try to do things the right way," Buie said.**

players and coaches, is necessary for a successful post season. "We are playing well for the most part. We have to be more consistent on both ends of the floor; we as a team and as coaches are working together to play our best ball in the post season,"

Buie said. "They come from good homes and have been taught the fundamentals of life." These fundamentals appear to contribute to the overall success of the team. "We have been successful because we try to do things the right way," Buie said. "Finding

Basketball Team will have games coming up this week. On Saturday, Feb. 23, the men's team will take on John Wood in Quincy at 3 p.m., and Illinois Central College in Champaign at the Dodds Athletic Complex on Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m. The team

Basketball team, records, or game dates and times, please see the Parkland Athletics website which can be found at athletics.parkland.edu.

## Huey Newton and Bobby Seale

According to the African American Registry, Huey Newton, and friend Bobby Seale, founded the Black Panther Party in 1966. Newton and Seale's goals for the party were to improve education and housing, obtain full employment, end police brutality and exempt African Americans from military service. The two were also responsible for the party's Ten Point Program, which was a set of rules for party members intended to help shape the way the Black Panther Party was viewed by the public. Seale still speaks about social injustice and equality on college campuses, today.



Source: National Museum of African American History and Culture

## Women Leadership Panel

**February 27, 2019**

**Noon – 1 p.m.**

**Room U140**

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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.

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