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VOLUME 105, ISSUE 23

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FRIDAY/THURSDAY, APRIL 20-APRIL 26, 2018



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Story-telling pays off



The Cincinnati Enquirer wins a Pulitzer Prize for local reporting for their "Seven Days of Heroin" project Monday, April 16, 2018.

Alumna wins Pulitzer Prize

Eric Andrews Editor in Chief

Chrissie (Thompson) Fink ('08) and her team of reporters at the Cincinnati Enquirer received the Pulitzer Prize for their reporting on the heroin epidemic in Cincinnati.

Awarded on Monday, the Pulitzer Prize is among the most prestigious awards in journalism. Fink and her team of over 60 reporters covered Cincinnati's heroin problem in riveting fashion, going into the Cincinnati community for one full week in July 2017 — 24/7 — to see and share people's stories.

The project, entitled "Seven Days of Heroin," earned The Enquirer their second-ever Pulitzer Prize after a 27year drought.



Chrissie (Thompson) Fink ('08) won the Pulitzer Prize for her contributions to the Cincinnati Enquirer's "Seven Days of Heroin" project.

Fink, a former Editor in Chief of THE Есно while at Taylor, helped guide the project by coordinating the schedules for the other reporters. Fink noted the significance of the project went beyond just sharing the events of the week.

"The main goal was to be able to show how the heroin epidemic is affecting each person's life, even if they didn't realize it," Fink said. "I believe the stat that they used is something like two out of three people in the Cincinnati area know someone who is affected by the heroin epidemic. But, that means one in three don't, or they say they don't, and we want to show them that, even if you think you're not affected by this, it's not somebody else's problem. It is affecting the people on the road next to you, the people in the parking lot next to you, people who are in your neighborhood, also the economic background — all walks of life."

Throughout the course of the week, Fink and her team discovered some heartbreaking statistics. From July 10–16, 2017, the heroin epidemic claimed 18 lives and brought 15 babies into the world with heroin-related medical problems.

The piece compiled the testimonies and details from people involved on all sides of the issue in a powerful manner and aimed to spread awareness and generate hope for the people of Cincinnati.

The recognition came as no surprise to Department Chair and Associate **Professor of Communication Donna** Downs, who was the faculty adviser of THE ECHO when Fink served on staff.

"Chrissie probably is one of the top students I've seen come through Taylor," Downs said. "... She's always wanted to do her best work. She seeks excellence in everything she does. She not only seeks excellence in what she does, but she brings people alongside her who then want to do the same excellent work. To have her win a Pulitzer at such a young age is simply amazing, (and) I'm not surprised by it at all, because she's that good."

After graduating from Taylor, Fink interned with the Associated Press and worked at Automotive News and the Detroit Free Press before moving to The Enquirer.

Fink, affectionately called "Mama" by her friends at Taylor, met her husband, Chris Fink ('07), on a pick-a-date and has been been married for nine years.

"She has inspired me because she works in both a kind and assertive manner," said senior Mary Helen Thompson, Fink's sister. "... She teaches me to work hard both for the reward of the work itself and to benefit those around me."

To read the story from The Enquirer, go to www.cincinnati.com.

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Crime against cars: Hard-hitting evidence

Vandalism strikes Taylor and surrounding areas

Kelly Abraham Staff Writer

Late in the evening of last Monday, April 9, six vehicles on campus were vandalized. Multiple reports of intentional damage have occurred in Grant County and some surrounding areas, not solely at Taylor.

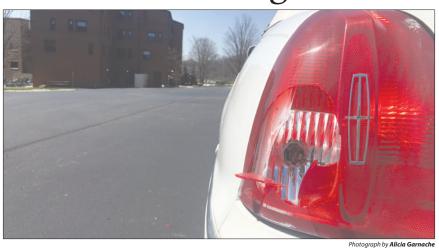
Passing through the Les Gerig Hall parking lot recently, students might have seen taped up windshields, broken rear-view mirrors or bashed-in headlights. Within one evening, six vehicles along the same row were damaged in various capacities.

According to the possible witness descriptions, the crime likely occurred between 11 p.m. April 9 and 2 a.m. April 10. That same Monday evening, there were reports of seven similar incidents in Upland, a number of reports in Van Buren, as well as multiple vandalisms in other outlying county areas. This means Taylor students can rest assured this was not a targeted offense.

Mechanical Engineering major Lee-Anna Davis was in a lab working with a partner on Tuesday when she received a phone call from campus police. They let her know about the series of vandalisms and that the left tail light of her 1999 Lincoln Town Car had been bashed in.

"It was so exciting to get a spot in the parking lot in the first place, and then to just have it end up negatively was, 'Oh man, do I want to park in this parking lot anymore?" Davis said. "It's life, things happen."

According to Chief of Police Jeff



Six vehicles along the same row were vandalized on Taylor's campus on Monday, April 9.

Wallace this type of "senseless destruction of property" is classified under criminal mischief and very rare but costly. The damage observed lines up consistently in impact, time and location with the damage done to off-campus vehicles.

In an unrelated incident on March 21, senior Nate Conley noticed a flat tire on his 2008 Black Mercury Milan, which nearly kept him from traveling home for spring break. When he took his car to get it fixed, Conley was told about the high chance his tire had been slashed. He believed the incident occurred in the Sammy parking lot.

"Obviously I wasn't too happy with any of that," Conley said. "Luckily, I had recently purchased a new set of tires, so the event didn't really hurt me financially because my tires had a warranty."

While the tire slashing occured in a separate lot on a different night, both vandalism cases remain as open and collaborative investigations, with law enforcement from surrounding communities sharing information. The tire slashing was an unrelated incident,

having happened in a different lot on a separate night. However, the vandalisms remain an open and collaborative investigation with law enforcement from surrounding communities sharing information.

Wallace emphasized the value in students coming forward to share something that seemed out of the ordinary.

"This was the kind of thing where, even after the fact, some students said, 'Hey, I saw something,' or 'I saw this vehicle, I don't know if that's helpful or not, but that's great," Wallace said. "That's what we want, because when we can't be everywhere at all times, students' eyes and ears are one of our best assets; that's part of our community. So, when they can see something that looks out of place, or something that might be helpful, to share that with us, sooner than later, is very helpful in us being proactive and finding some solvability for something like this, so any more information? (A)bsolutely let us know."

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The town of Upland will receive a \$1.4 million grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) to renovate the downtown area.

Town earns **INDOT** grant

Upland awarded \$1.4 million for downtown

Chrysa Keenon Managing Editor

The town of Upland will undergo a renovation of the downtown area in 2023 after receiving a \$1.4 million grant from the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT).

The upgrade will consist of the four main blocks of downtown streets and sidewalks, according to the press release.

The main areas targeted are Main Street at Railroad Street, north of the railroad overpass bridge, cross over Washington and Anson Streets and conclude at Urban Street. According to the town's press release, the project plans entail improvements such as upgrading street pavement, replacing sidewalks and assuring they are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, adding street lights, landscaping and traffic calming measures. There is also a plan for creating parking on Main Street for the businesses located there.

According to Town Manager Jonathan Perez, the process of applying for the grant has taken six months. The application was turned in mid-November, and held the extensive application as well as thirty-two individually attached supporting documents for projects that needed to be created and proofed.

The INDOT grant qualifies Upland for an 80/20 match, meaning federal funding will match more than half of what the town invests. Perez said the plans are to start road work construction in the fall of 2018.

"The town council deserves the credit," Perez said. "They're the ones who had the foresight to put the master plan together which lead them to. .. redefine the town manager position, in order to have somebody to start implementing and executing and pursuing the master plan."

This is the third grant for town improvement Upland has received since 2017. Previous grants include \$200,000 from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to create a one-mile long trail on the east side of town, and \$268,000 from INDOT's Community Crossings Grant to renovate eight sections of streets scheduled for this spring. Senior Director of Parent and Com-

munity Relations Joyce Wood has been a resident of Upland since she was four years old. She hopes the new downtown area will have a more continuity in color and building style. As a member of the Upland Chamber of Commerce, Wood expressed one of the main goals of the downtown renovations is to attract new businesses, families and individuals to come and live in the Upland area to spread new community.

"We believe this project is further evidence that good things are happening in our community," said Upland Town Council President John Bonham in a statement. "This allows our historic downtown area to receive an incredible upgrade that we believe will assist our efforts to facilitate the attraction of new businesses to our community."

FRIDAY

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The Echo

Interest starts to accrue



Students like freshman Moorea Reiskytl ask Registration and Course Schedule Coordinator Jana Taylor questions about their education.

Report claims students have misconceptions

> **Hope Bolinger** Contributor

At least \$1.48 trillion has been borrowed on a national level so far for 2018, according to Student Loan Hero. A total of 44 million people are in debt across the country.

To bring this to Upland, according to Financial Aid Counselor Lyn Kline, 61 percent of Taylor students take out loans and owe an average of \$24,500 on subsidized and unsubsidized loans at the end of four years. Students can take out \$2,000 in unsubsidized, and subsidized

(subsidized are only for students with financial need; unsubsidized do not require students to demonstrate financial need) rates vary based on year: \$3,500 (freshman), \$4,500 (sophomore), \$5,500 (junior and senior years). The interest on these loans is about \$7 per month according to Kline, a little under an hour's worth of extra work to pay off the interest.

"The expense of an education is increasing faster than the rate of inflation," said Professor of Economics Hadley Mitchell. "So what this means is that loans for many students are getting larger."

But writer of the Student Loan Hero report Rebecca Safier didn't just observe the numbers in the national poll in the article titled: "Survey: Majority of Student Loan Borrowers Don't Know How Interest or Forgiveness Works." Instead, what caught her interest was that large percentages of the 1,019 adult survey participants misunderstood aspects of the student loan process.

For instance, according to those she polled, 52 percent of students who borrowed did not know interest on unsubsidized loans continued to build while they attended school.

"In other words, more than half of student loan borrowers don't realize they will graduate with a

bigger balance than they took out (if they haven't started making payments while in school)," Safier said. "This misunderstanding could leave students unprepared to deal with their student loan bills once the grace period ends and repayment begins."

The report also claims one in every 10 students believed they didn't have to pay back the loans if they could not obtain a job after college. Furthermore, one-third of those surveyed did not understand the logistics of credit scores and co-signers.

Kline agrees that students should be knowledgeable about loans, as the Taylor University Financial Aid Office requires students to take entrance counseling prior to taking out loans. This session walks borrowers through various logistics and questions they need to understand before taking out loans.

"I'm willing to meet with any student who has questions (about) loans," Kline said. "I meet with students quite a bit this time of year. I want students to understand that while loans are helping you at Taylor, we want to be responsible in borrowing and knowing how much is too much."

One way for a Taylor student to know if it's too much is to gauge how much they will make in their first post-graduate year. If they plan to make \$25,000, then they can take out that much in loans.

Kline found some elements of the Student Hero Report to be either misconstrued or confusing.

For instance, the report uses an outlier example of a heavy \$9,500 loan with a fixed 4.45 percent interest, but most students would not be able to acquire such a loan

unless their government denied their parent a parent loan (not a typical phenomenon). She also found the fact that one in 10 students were unaware they had to pay back student loans if they didn't obtain a post-graduation job a bit unconvincing.

April 20, 2018

"I've never heard of a student who has come in here and said, 'I took out a loan and didn't realize I needed to repay it," Kline said.

In addition to receiving advice or entrance counseling from the Financial Aid Office, Taylor students can seek other ways to offset the debt.

Mitchell says some ways students currently attempt to offset such payments are through working 10-20 hour weeks at a parttime job and watching expenses on unneeded items.

Alumna Jessica Wise ('17) agrees with the latter suggestion.

"There were definitely some things I spent money on in college that I definitely didn't need or the money would be better used for student loans," Wise said.

She also would have advised herself to pay off some of the loans during her college years, allocating \$50 a month that she made working toward the bill.

In addition, Mitchell suggests taking a gap year or two to gain field experience or to save money to pay off the loans while in school.

"Maybe spread the education out over eight to 10 years, and walk away from the school with not only a diploma, but no debt," Mitchell said.

The full Student Loan Hero report can be read at studentloanhero.com.

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Upland Print and Stitch relocates

Print and Stitch moves down the road

> **Aubree DeVisser** Contributor

Upland Print and Stitch owners Andrew and Tammy Preston have moved their printing and embroidery business to 116 East Berry Street.

"We needed the space but considering the location and the development of small businesses, we realized it would be a high traffic area," Andrew Preston said. "This location allows customers a more convenient access to our services."

With several rooms and a large open space, this building will

allow Andrew Preston and his team to continue their work in custom printing and embroidery. The new location provides a professional and open space for customers to come in and check out merchandise and apparel as well as make and pick up orders.

This space is located near other new and old business that are thriving in the Upland community, including Ivanhoe's, Joe on the Go and Greek's Pizzeria.

"This location change gives us the space to spread out and be more efficient in production," employee Erin Wolf said. "It also puts us in a highly visible sector of the community."

The owners plan to create individual spaces for their employees,

which have tripled in the last year. They now have four employees to serve their customers, and the additional space will offer even more room to grow in the future.

Wolf explained her excitement to see new retail space and the wonderful vibe the shop continues to give even in the new location.

"This location should help with walk-in traffic and help others see that this is an actual business, not just a hobby," Tammy Preston said.

A grand reopening and ribbon-cutting ceremony will occur at noon on Friday, May 4, in celebration of their new location and continued commitment to the Upland community. All Upland



from their house on Main Street to 116 East Berry Street.

The Upland Print and Stitch moves locations

the ribbon-cutting ceremony, and it will include a raffle for an

gear will be 20 percent off after Ivanhoe's gift card. The ceremony will last until 5 p.m. echo@taylor.edu

Holly Kuzmich coming to campus to speak

Kuzmich will present on politics on Monday

> **Andrew Hoff Opinions Editor**

Holly Kuzmich, executive director of the George W. Bush Institute and senior vice president of the George W. Bush Presidential Center, will be at Taylor University on Monday, April 23. She will be giving a presentation in the Recital Hall in the Smith-Hermanson Music Center at 7:30 p.m. as a part of the Halbrook Lecture Series.

According to the Bush Center, "(Kuzmich) oversees the strategy and management of the Bush Institute, an action-oriented policy

organization that cultivates leaders, fosters policies to solve today's most pressing challenges, and takes action to save and change lives." The George W. Bush Institute works in a wide array of areas, from education reform to global health to military service. Kuzmich is also on the management team for the George W. Bush Presidential Center.

According to the Bush Center website, Kuzmich was vice president and Chief Operating Officer of policy consulting firm Margaret Spellings & Company before coming to the Bush Institute. She has also served as assistant secretary for Legislation and Congressional Affairs and deputy chief of

staff with the U.S. Department of Education. She was the main liaison to Congress, the White House and the Office of Management and Budget on the No Child Left Behind Act, the Higher Education Act and other topics in education policy. Kuzmich has also worked as associate director for education on the White House Domestic Policy Council and has advocated for education policy reform before the U.S. Senate.

Kuzmich received her bachelor's degree from Northwestern University and hails from South Bend, Indiana. The Halbrook Lecture Series is ecstatic to have her visiting campus on Monday.

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Student email has changed

Taylor's Information Technology (IT) department is upgrading the Taylor email over the next three weeks. IT will be upgrading the email to a mailbox on an updated server, which means the email program will have the updated features of the latest version of Microsoft Exchange 2016. This upgrade will include a new mailbox limit of one gigabyte, as opposed to the previous limit, which was 500 megabytes.



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"The creamers in the Rice cow creamer collection span three centuries and three continents — North America, Europe

From the archives: Cow creamer collection

April 20, 2018 FRIDAY

Examining environmental endeavors

Guebert and Grabowski impact global change

> **Kassidy Hall Staff Writer**

TheEchoNews.com

For Michael Guebert, earth and environmental science department chair and professor of earth and environmental science, it was Boy Scouts that started his passion for the outdoors at a young age. However, it was his wife that turned him toward the idea of geology in college.

Phil Grabowski, assistant professor of sustainable development, recalls having an interest for the rainforest as a teenager, which eventually evolved into an academic interest for ecology.

Today, Guebert and Grabowski use various types of environmental science to engage the gospel mission locally and internationally.

"The heart of my interests is connecting human needs, geological understanding and resources to meet those needs in a way that serves the people, cares for creation and honors God in the process," Guebert said.

When Guebert arrived at Taylor in 1999, he and his students assisted the town of Upland with developing a wellhead protection plan, a process required by the state for any city that provides water to the public. Since 1999, he has done two periodic reports as a follow-up for the plan.

Water is a main area of interest for Guebert. For 15 years, he has assisted the town of Upland in writing annual reports of the town's water quality. Guebert additionally worked with students from 2007-2012 in a study of the water quality in the Mississinewa River in Grant County.

Guebert's developments have been international as well as regional.



Earth and environmental science department chair and professor of earth and environmental science Michael Guebert has worked to ensure high water quality for Taylor and the town of Upland.

Through Taylor, Guebert has taken teams of students to different communities in Guatemala seven different times since 2003. Some of the projects include building wells and water filters, putting in suitable sanitation latrines and building stoves inside homes.

"One of the particular benefits of coming to Taylor was working specifically with J-term and Lighthouse and developing a course where I've taken students on a number of trips," Guebert said. "We look at water and sanitation and hygiene in developing countries as a way of ministering to people's needs and protecting their environment and loving God."

Grabowski and his wife lived in Malawi for six years as missionaries. After his time in Africa, he attended Michigan State University (MSU) for his postdoctoral and directed research to discover how agricultural economics can be meaningful for people all over the world.

This summer, Grabowski will travel to Ghana and Malawi with past colleagues from MSU. His other summer plans include helping another colleague from MSU write a paper following the analysis of soil samples.

"(In Malawi), we will be facilitating a workshop among government leaders and non-profit leaders to try and help them think about how their agriculture projects affect women and youth," Grabowski said. "If you don't think about it, usually it's the better educated men who benefit the most, just because that's the inequality that's there."

As this is only his second year at Taylor, Grabowski plans to soon research local food systems around the Upland area. He intends to study the supply and demand relationship of food in the immediate region, whether that be in relation to surrounding restaurants or even the Hodson Dining Commons. He will also be a part of a team entertaining the pros and cons of a cover crop, a crop put into the soil during the winter that optimally builds up the soil and holds onto nutrients during a field's off-season.

Additionally, Grabowski is also the faculty advisor for the club Stewards of Creation, which promotes environmental projects around campus and raises awareness for the caretaking of the planet.

"The call for stewardship comes through in many places in the Bible, but it's especially clear in the Garden of Eden," Grabowski said. "God is the sustainer of all creation, but He has given us a special responsibility as caretakers of the earth. Part of the Gospel is about not just saving our souls for heaven, but also about changing our whole lives on earth."

Grabowski encourages others to take individual action to try and

improve sustainability, even in responses as simple as recycling, taking shorter showers and composting food waste.

Guebert recommends supporting both non-Christian and Christian organizations that do environmental work, such as the Sierra Club, World Wildlife Fund and the Evangelical Environmental Network. In addition, he views stewardship as a call to obedience that benefits both us and nature. He acknowledges that through education and influence, the effect of environmentalism can be spread exponentially.

"We will not solve the issues of environment crisis we're in today by simple measures," Guebert said. "We have to make some radical changes in our lifestyles and our perceptions of our position and responsibility as believers, and then to take action and share that with others."

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The Echo

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Student journalists have published THE ECHO weekly since 913, except for January term, exam week and holidays THE ECHO is a member of the Associated Collegiate Press and the Indiana Collegiate Press Associat

THE ECHO offices are in the Rupp Communication Arts Building

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From the archives: Cow creamer collection

An uncovering of the mysterious figurines

> **Becca Eis Features Editor**

Hundreds of bottles of coffee creamers are used by the Taylor student population each year, but it is unlikely that many have used a cow creamer when doctoring up their beverage of choice.

Fitting to the cornfields of Upland, Indiana, the Ringenberg Archives and Special Collections houses a collection of these intricate and one-of-a-kind pieces in a collection donated by 1929 alumni Raymond and Garnet Rice in 1978. The special collection within the archives includes over 200 creamers, with 150 being antiques and the others modern collectibles.

Originally an essential part of a coffee or tea set, a cow creamer can be used to hold cream or milk. Today, cow creamers are also used as simple, elegant decorations. The liquid is poured into the cow using a hole in the cow's back and poured out from a smaller hole in



The cow creamer pictured is one of the most unique in the special collection due to its addition of a milk maid.

the mouth. The cow's tail is often curled and attached to the back to form a handle.

Older cow creamers are made out of sterling silver, while more modern version are molded from clay and glazed with various enamels and chemicals to bring out different colors and textures. Cow creamers are valued by age, artist, materials and current condition. As evidenced by the Rice family's collection, creamers do not only come in the shape of cows, but also elks, sheep, moose and bulls.

The creamers in the Rice cow creamer collection span three centuries and three continents - North America, Europe and Asia. The oldest piece in the

collection, allegedly from 1760, is believed to have been crafted by Thomas Whieldon, a British artisan, and was valued at \$250 in a 1978 appraisal. Also significant, the first creamer collected by the Rice family was thought to have been made by John Schuppe. Schuppe was a Dutch silversmith who popularized cow creamers in Western Europe after immigrating to England in 1750. The piece is sterling silver and branded "JTS."

Four creamers in the collection include flies on the cows' backs. When cow creamers were popular, this addition created aesthetic value by providing the piece with a realistic touch of everyday life. Back then, flies were associated with the milking operation and viewed negatively as carriers of diseases as they are today.

According to an article in Collector's News in July 2009, Raymond and Garnet Rice began collecting cow creamers due to their affiliation with the dairy industry. After acquiring their first Dairy Queen franchise in 1945, the Rice family ended up owning every Dairy Queen in Missouri, excluding those in St. Louis.

The Ringberg Archives and Special Collections have received a number of requests to view the collection throughout the years. Perhaps the most notable of these requests came from a graduate student in the United Kingdom who needed information on the Rice cow creamer collection for her thesis. She had found the collection online and contacted Ashley Chu, university archivist and librarian, for information such as pictures and measurements.

"We actually set up a Skype research session, and I got out all the ones that she was interested in and held them up," Chu said. "She had all these questions and it was the most interested I had ever seen anyone with a research interest in cow creamers, and so it was really cool to see them used in that way."

The Archives is transitioning the collection out of its large display case in the main room of the area that houses the archives in the Zondervan Library, but they hope to display a select few on a podium or in a shadow box in the future for passerby's viewing enjoyment.



The cow creamer collection has a wide variety, including pieces spanning three centuries and three continents.

"Nothing can beat a sunny day, group of friends and blades on your feet, shredding up the 'crete."

Spring things are happening (or should be)

Experiencing culture through performance

Mosaic Night entertains attendees

Caroline Shapley Staff Writer

Students, family and local community entered Rediger Chapel on Saturday evening. The attendees packed the seats, voices of anticipation and excitement filled the air. At 7 p.m., the lights dimmed and Mosaic Night began.

Held every spring, Mosaic Night is an event of prepared performances that showcase various cultures and traditions of Taylor students. Performances are done by Taylor organizations and student groups. A variety of artistic events showcases traditions of different cultures and celebrates one-of-a-kind traditions.

Taylor Gospel Choir was part of the show with their performance of "Rejoice for Mosaic Night." Freshman Michaela Stenerson thought it was a very cool experience to be able to sing at the event as member of the Gospel Choir.

"Watching and being a part of the community of people that came together to express their cultures to each other created a really unique atmosphere and I came away from



The Jungle Cats accompanied Taylor's swing dance club to create

The Swinging Cats and to provide the audience with an unforgettable performance. it with the desire to travel and learn even more about each of these incredible cultures," Stenerson said. "Mosaic Night opened my eyes to the uniqueness of each culture and also the unitedness of us all as one human race and body of Christ!"

Sophomore Heywon Son, performed with Asia Society for Intercultural Awareness. For the past couple of years, the group performed K-Pop, a popular music genre. This year, they decided to switch it up

A single performance split into three different parts, they did

showcased a Japanese traditional dance, Bollywood dance, and K-Pop. To complete the three-part act, they all came together with Asian flags that represent the various cultures at Taylor.

To prepare for this night, a lot of hard work and hours of preparation went into deciding, creating and practicing the performances. Meant for more than entertainment, the show is mean to bring different cultures together.

"I think it is a night to just, you know, leave behind your politics, just gather together to just enjoy each



Clad in tropical outfits and bright smiles, the Bohemians

represented their country with an exciting performance. other's cultures," Son said.

A little over two hours and one short intermission later, cheers and applause fill Rediger Chapel. The lights turn on again, revealing a room full of smiling faces in response to an incredible night of performance.

The audience left pleased and intrigued. Junior Eric Ruddell was an attendee of the show, and appreciated everything it encompassed.

"Mosaic Night proved to be a beautiful representation of how different cultures can come together to display God's creation of diversity, unity, and talent," Ruddell said.

So, what does one do in response to a night like this? It is very easy to only see the performances of the show as nothing more than entertainment for one evening. However, it is very important to not let that be where you leave it.

Ask questions about the different traditions that were performed. Get to know more about some of the cultures showcased that particularly caught your attention. A performance of diversity, such as this, is a starting point of unity for all that performed and attended.

echo@taylor.edu

TAYLOR UNIVERSITY SURVIVAL GUII)E

How to do homework in peace

> **Alyssa Roat** Contributor

The sounds of screams, yelling and thudding feet echo down the hallway. You ease your door shut, heart pounding, hoping they won't come

No, this isn't a scene from a horror movie. It's everyday life in the dorms.

College is a scary place. Deadlines loom like the Grim Reaper, ready to decapitate your GPA. Your shelf full of books threatens to topple on you, your heavy backpack threatens to drag you to the ground and pin you there. Words on a screen swim in front of your eyes, trying to drown you.

But, there is one horror even greater: peer distraction.

Students are desperate to escape one another, to find a safe place to study and conquer the deadly homework. But like zombies or the plague.

They're everywhere.

Fear not! The Taylor Survival Guide has the tips you need to survive the hordes and conquer Dark Lord Homework. Below, we outline seven methods to help you win.

1. The Dragon Method

Library study rooms are a great place to hide, but they are hard to get. Those who achieve these coveted rooms guard them as dragons guard their treasure. If you have the good fortune to obtain one, bring supplies (chamber pots discouraged) and don't move until all your homework is done, or a rival may take your fortress.

2. The Nocturnal Method

If a study room cannot be obtained, become nocturnal. Do homework at night, when all is quiet, and sleep during the loud, busy day. Our expert and doctor of procrastinology, Les Gerig resident freshman Stephen Dagher, attests this method results in quickly completed homework if performed at three in the morning.

3. The Barricade Method

Sometimes, the dread trials of class prevent you from sleeping all day, so you must sleep at night and do homework in daylight. This is the time to employ the Barricade Method. For many, a closed door is not enough to deter the hordes in the dorm. This is what heavy dorm furniture is for. Stack your bed, dresser and desk in front of the door. Use duct tape if necessary. Now you can do homework in peace.

4. The Squirt Bottle Method

Alas! Your roommate is now barricaded in the room with you, and she (or he) is very loud. She wants to talk about her day and show you her new socks and perhaps sing obnoxious songs. Take heart! Humans are like cats. Pull out your trusty squirt bottle and discipline your roommate every time he/she makes noise. Some roommates may be harder to train and require Super Soakers.

5. The Hobbit Hole Method

Your roommate disapproves of your barricade, so you must find another option. Luckily, it's hard to hear anyone underground. Using your expert digging skills, create a concealed hobbit burrow in the Taylor Wilderness and scribble furiously in dank, loamy solitude. (Note: Don't actually do this. You'll probably have a cave in, and get in trouble as well.)

6. The Skunk Method

If all else fails, you have one more method available to you. DO NOT shower under any circumstances. Wear the same clothes every day, and do NOT wash them. Work out or do something else that makes you extremely sweaty. If necessary, roll in questionable substances. Avoid brushing your teeth at all costs and eat a lot of garlic. You are now guaranteed solitude wherever it pleases you to go. (Side effects may include a decrease in social life and an absence of dates for pick-a-dates.)

7. Bonus: The **Second Dragon Method**

Just to be on the safe side, you can also hire an actual dragon to eat anyone who bothers you.

Do these things, and you are sure to get your homework done, avoid distraction, and rescue your GPA from the scythe of the Grim Reaper. Go forth and conquer!

(THE ECHO and Taylor Survival Guide are not liable for any loss of social life, angry roommates, crushing due to falling furniture, conquest by Dark Lord Homework or casualties due to independently contracted dragons. Taylor Survival Guide makes no guarantees for any of the statements above.)

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Spring things are happening (or should be)

Ways you can take advantage of this weather

> **Lauren Rink & Kassidy Weemhoff Life & Times Co-Editors**

Keep an eye on campus events

Taylor often has outdoor events planned as a way to take advantage of the nice weather. Always be on the lookout for posters or announcements with details about upcoming events. Toasting marshmallows to perfection over a LaRita Boren Campus Center fire pit is never a bad option for a cool spring night.

Find some wheels

Scooters, longboards, bikes and roller-skates always make a return appearance when the temperatures climb on campus. If you don't own one of your own sets of these wheels, someone on your wing or floor would probably be willing to let you borrow his or hers.

Sophomore Connor Legge loves rollerblading on campus with his friends.

"While biking and longboarding are great, no mode of transportation comes close to the pure joy one experiences when rollerblading," Legge said. "Nothing can beat a sunny day, group of friends and blades on your feet, shredding up the 'crete."



Freshman Anna Poel takes advantage of the weather by going on a bike ride!

Get a group together and hit up the sidewalks of campus or the greater Upland community.

Make homework happy

When you have a lot to do, your first thought might not be to head outdoors, but Taylor is much more accommodating than you might think. There are benches and picnic tables scattered throughout campus for students to use. This gives you a chance to allow the fresh air to fill your lungs and clear your head as you tackle the last homework push of the school year. If you are strategic, you

might even be able to find a shaded bench with a Wi-Fi connection.

Go on a walk or drive

Get off campus a little bit and explore Upland! Walking is a way to enjoy both the spring weather and a friend or two. You might even get the opportunity to connect with someone from the community on your walk. Not feeling the idea of physical activity? A great substitute is hopping in the car and going for a drive through the community. Nothing brings back the memories of summer like driving around with the windows down listening to some quality throwbacks.

Adopt a dog for a day

The Upland and Friends Shelter has a program that allows members of the community to adopt a dog or cat for a few hours or for a day.

"All you have to do is walk in and ask if you can hang out with one of the dogs for a day!" said sophomore Gracie Hall. "It happens all the time and they say 'of course!' Then you go back and pick out your doggie for the day, and you take it back at 4."

Not only will this be an enjoyable experience for you and your friends, but it is also great for the animals to get away from the human society for a while.

Eat outside

All you need to do is carve out your



As the weather gets warm on campus, the longboards make a return appearance.

spot with a blanket, gather some friends or hall-mates and snack together in the sun. Moving a Campus Center Southwest Salad date out onto the covered patio is another option for you. Whether you grab food at the Campus Center or prepare your own picnic, there are tons of spots on campus to enjoy a meal outdoors with friends.

Go Stargazing

Maybe you've noticed them when you've trekked to the dorm after finishing homework late at night or maybe you've never figured it out until now, but we have a breathtaking view of the stars of the Indiana night sky from virtually anywhere on campus. Grab a friend and a blanket and head outside. If you do some research before, you can even show off your knowledge of constellations. But most importantly, this is an awesome way to take some time to soak up God's creation.

TheEchoNews.com

The Echo

Chorale declares the arrival of Spring

"Love in Bloom" blossoms with love

> **Ethan Rice Staff Writer**

The Euler Atrium is a popular place for students to relax, converse and, from time to time, take a nap between classes and late nights doing homework.

But on Sunday, April 22 at 7:30 p.m., it will be hosting something very different — "Love in Bloom," the Taylor Chorale's spring concert.

The concert will feature a wide repertoire of different music styles gospel, folk, sacred and contemporary songs. All of the selections are tied together by the central theme, orchestrated by Professor of Music JoAnn Rediger. This spring concert will be her twenty-second since she began directing Chorale in 1996. She believes the message of "Love in Bloom" is intertwined with the purpose of the Chorale.

"The Chorale is about excellence, service and justice," Rediger said. "That's why we go to perform in Pendleton Prison (Pendleton Correctional Facility). It's about being a service, taking music to places where it needs to be heard. The theme is a natural response to the love chapter in 1 Corinthians. It's how we live in community with one another and make a difference."

Chorale student officers senior Micah Meleski and junior Jessica Miller both referred to the same idea that Chorale is not just a performance but a service, a mission of sharing love through music, carried out in particular by their visits



(L to R) Sophomore Paige Wagner, junior Sarah Lynn and sophomores Hannah Ewing and Katie Talbot are excited for the concert.

to places like Pendleton Correctional Facility.

The venue selected for the concert is also unique, and holds a new opportunity for the student singers to embrace a vastly different stage. The layout of the atrium posed a challenge to Miller, who oversees the arrangement of the performers in concert.

"My job is to get people where they're supposed to go, so that they're in position for songs and look nice," Miller said. "It's a lot harder to visualize because there's so many possibilities. There's more room for creativity, but it's trickier to capture the flow of the show."

The Chorale will be joined by numerous talented musicians, as well as the Woodlan High School Women's Choir, for the performance. Guests are invited to sit wherever they like,

as the performers will be spread out over the multiple levels of the atrium to perform music catering to the unique acoustic set up.

Those planning the concert share their enthusiasm for students to attend, not just to be entertained by music and to support their classmates, but to be ministered to and see God's love bloom in a whole new way. echo@taylor.edu

April 20, 2018



IFC's 5th annual NomNoms & NomNoms Orchestra

"I, Tonya": April 24 - 7:30 p.m. "Darkest Hour": April 25 -7:30 p.m.

'Lady Bird": April 27 - 7:30 p.m. Cornwall Auditorium



"Amalgamated" **Senior Graphic Arts** Exhibition

Today Tyndale Galleria and Metcalf Gallery



"A Night at the Opera" **Marion Philharmonic Orchestra**

April 21 - 7:30 p.m. Indiana Wesleyan's Phillippe Performing Arts Center

"Love in Bloom" **Taylor Chorale Concert**

April 22 - 7:30 p.m. **Euler Atrium**



William White will be conducting "A Night at the Opera."

Opera offers enjoyment

A night to remember at the opera

Elizabeth Carrier Staff Writer

Students put on their best evening wear to enjoy a formal and culturally rich night out at "A Night at the Opera."

This Saturday, April 21 at 7:30 p.m., the Marion Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) is putting on an opera variety show at Indiana Wesleyan's Phillippe Performing Arts Center.

"Opera combines artistic elements to tell stories in ways that engage the senses vividly," Associate Professor of Music Conor Angell said. "The Italian artists who came up with opera wanted a musical art form that would celebrate words. The musical setting heightens the meaning, and the orchestra provides its own voice."

The style of opera is unique in its intense vocal artistry meeting with high levels of instrumental discipline. In Upland, the chance to enjoy such an exquisite collaboration of artists is a rare one and should be taken advan-

"A Night at the Opera" will be the MPO's finale of the season. In this celebration concluding the season they

will present pieces from a variety of famous operas, including "Romeo and Juliette," "Carmen," "Candide" and "La Boheme."

"This final concert of the 2017–18 'A Season to Remember' series will feature the IWU Chorale with faculty and alumni soloists, Lisa Dawson, Tammie Huntington, Keith Brautigam, and Troy Castle," said the Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce on their website.

The Marion-Grant County Chamber of Commerce said that the MPO is committed to providing musical and educational opportunities for students of primary and secondary schooling to engage in. In this last season, the MPO is proud to have engaged more than 1,700 young people in their programs and performances.

The MPO is offering a discounted ticket price for students at \$10 each.

"Opera was an acquired taste for me when I was a college student," Angell said. "I developed an appreciation for the beautiful, intricate way opera conveys messages about existence."

Whether this night is one to get together with a group of friends, or maybe just one very "special" friend, this

event is not worth missing. echo@taylor.edu

Faith meets 'Legend of Zelda' in prayer

How a video game prayer mirrors our own

> **Derek Thompson Faculty Contributor**

If you haven't played "Legend of Zelda: Breath of the Wild" and are still reading this, I am about to spoil it.

In most "Legend of Zelda" games, Link is the hero on his way to rescue the Princess of Hyrule, Zelda, from the evil Ganon. However, "Breath of the Wild" begins with Link awakening 100 years after Ganon successfully attacks Hyrule. Up to that point, Link traveled with Zelda throughout Hyrule on a journey to prevent this attack. Zelda's bloodline is one with magical powers, and it was her duty to awaken that power — the power to seal Ganon away — before it was too late. She and Link traveled to a variety of holy sites to pray to the gods, that she might unlock this power.

In one flashback scene, Zelda is offering such prayers in front of a spirit statue at the Spring of Power. Or rather, it begins as a prayer, but quickly turns to a vent of frustration:

I come seeking help . . .

regarding this power that has been handed down over time . . . Prayer will awaken my power to

seal Ganon away... Or so I've been told all my life . . .

Grandmother heard them — the voices from the spirit realm . . . And Mother said her own power would develop with in me ...

But I don't hear . . . or feel anything! Father has told me time and time

He always says, "Quit wasting your time playing at being a scholar!" Curse you ...

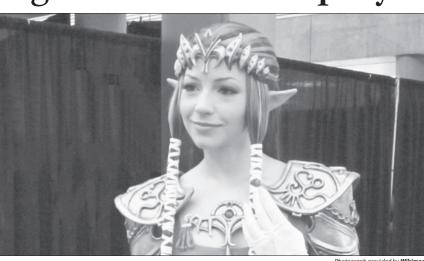
I've spent every day of my life dedicated to praying! I've pleaded to the spirits tied to the

ancient gods... And still the holy powers have prov-

en deaf to my devotion. Please just tell me . . . What is it ...?

What's wrong with me!?

And then the scene fades away as Zelda begins to sob. This scene hit me like a ton of bricks, because it was exactly how I felt at the time I played the game. Two years ago, my wife and I



Zelda searches for answers through prayer.

independently and clearly felt the call from God to adopt, and the call to begin that journey prompted immediate action; we were not to delay. We obeyed, putting our own family plan-

ning on hold. Two years later, we have had three failed adoption matches, and our nearly 4-year-old daughter continues to grow up without the best friend we wanted for her. Comparing yourself is often unwise, but we can't help it. We look at those who have had successful placements and wonder what they have that we don't. Pregnancy announcements from friends bring us sadness when they should bring us joy. What is it ...? What is wrong with us that makes us an undesirable family?

I continued to ponder this scene, and I began to think about my students here at Taylor University. How many times have I heard this same refrain?

My (parent) was a (teacher/engineer/doctor/etc.)....

So was my (grandparent)...

The skill will develop with in me... Or so I've been told all my life . . . And my (other parent) always says, quit playing at being a (career I actually want)...

Curse it all . . . I've spent every day of my life dedicated to this path!

I've pleaded with God to help me... And still He proves deaf to my devotion. Please just tell me . . .

What is it ...? What's wrong with me!?

Recently, I was reminded that Jesus rarely answers a yes/no question with a yes or no. Rather, he responds with a story. Why should we expect prayer to be any different? The answer to your prayer is rarely — if ever — a yes or no, but rather, the story God has laid out for you. When counseling these students in my office, I am trying to see past what happened in that last moment that led them to my office. I am trying to see the bigger story God is telling through them. That is almost

always where the answer lies. It is why the Bible is full of (true) stories. I used to misunderstand Corinthians 10:13 ("God will not give you more than can handle") and think it referred to what God asks of us, not temptation. Instead, God asks us much more than what we think we can handle. Abraham is asked to sacrifice his only son. Jesus asks his disciples to give up everything and follow Him. Even Jesus himself is given a cup that He asks to be taken

away. Obedience to God is sacrificial. Fortunately, we can take solace in Zelda's story. It is perhaps not when Zelda believes it was the right time, but in the gods' timing — in God's timing — when she too is past what she thinks she could handle, her power awakens. I recognize that "Breath of the Wild" is written by Japanese video game developers, not God, but the truth is on the hearts of all men (Romans 1:20). I am not surprised they know how the story goes. It's the same story I hear from nearly every chapel speaker. When the darkness could not seem to get any darker, God showers them with a radiance that they never could have imagined.

When you are in the darkest part of your own story, like I am, remember that this story is the answer to your prayers, and it's not over yet.

The Echo MONS

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"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

—The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution

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It's easy to talk about stewardship, but what does sustainability require of us?

Guest View

Christ-centered environmental action

celebrated on April 22



Philip Grabowski Faculty Contributor

As Earth Day approaches, three questions arise: What real impact do we really have on the environment? What responsibility do we have to change that? And, how should Christians address our stewardship responsibility?

Evangelicals have largely neglected the biblical call to be stewards of God's creation. This call originated with God giving Adam the responsibility of tending and caring for the Garden of Eden (Genesis 2:15) and was reiterated through the Law of Moses and the prophets. The death and resurrection of Christ not only reconciled our relationship with God but also provided the means for reconciled relationships with each other and for a reconciled relationship with the natural world (Colossians 1:20).

If you can read, you have more education than 1 billion people do. If you have ever attended college you are among the 35 percent most privileged in the world. "From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded" (Luke 12:48). One important way we have failed to live out our faith is through our thoughtless destruction of the environment.

The United States has just over four percent of the world's population but is responsible for about 30 percent of the world's carbon dioxide emissions. Climate change disproportionately harms the poor and is having a profound impact across the globe. Christians need to address this injustice.

Sustainability in the United States will require radical transformation towards a green economy. This includes transforming transportation systems, energy sources, waste management and food production.

But there is much we can do right now to be better stewards of the environment.

Earth Day is Local action has global implications. Simple actions by individuals can have a massive collective impact. Here are some key actions to consider:

> - Sort your waste carefully into recycling and non-recyclables.

> — Do not take more food than you

will eat at the dining commons. Turn off the water and lights

when you are not using them. — Drive less and walk more.

Think carefully about what you

buy and avoid replacing your devices and clothes.

These simple steps are only a small step. But they would help reduce pollution, lower costs, make us healthier, show love to our neighbors and let God's image shine more clearly through what He created. More than that, they can be acts of worship when done to honor the creator who blessed us with an intricate, awe-in-

spiring creation. Christ-centered environmental action is denying ourselves for the good of others; it is taking deliberate action that may be inconvenient to honor the one who gave everything for us. We need to challenge each other lovingly, rejecting the temptation to use legalism and guilt trips. We need to take action based on our own convictions. We should share honestly with each other about our convictions but avoid shaming others to do more than what comes from their heart's desire

to love God and love others. I do not live a sustainable life, though I try to take new steps in that direction regularly. I need help to do that better. The body of believers is where I look first for support in how to live out my Christian calling. Unfortunately, in the United States environmental action is often seen through a political lens. This understandably makes many uncomfortable to discuss it in church. But we need to talk about it if we are to help each other follow God's word.

Guest View columns are not necessarily representative of the views of Taylor University or THE ECHO Editorial Board.

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Rice Bell Tower burns out

The light no longer shines



Donna Downs Faculty Contributor

"Up beyond the village border, Pointing in the air, Stands her tower seen far distant When the day is fair." (Taylor School Song)

Perhaps the only phrase heard more at Taylor University than "intentional community" is "integration of faith and learning."

In the late '80s when I began my career at Taylor University, I researched symbols and artifacts that signified culture here. The one key artifact that illustrated this intersection of faith and learning was the twin spires of the Rice Bell Tower and its configuration of lights.

A single bright beam from each tower shone at an angle that forced the two together high in the sky, where they continued in solidarity as a radiant splendor that could be seen for miles.

This coming together connoted Taylor's sole purpose: assimilating faith and learning to "develop servant leaders marked with a passion to minister Christ's redemptive love and truth to a world in need."

"The Rice Bell Tower is located at the center of campus and is double or twin in structure," stated professor of history William Ringenberg in "Taylor University, The First 150 years." "Thus, its location and architectural pattern are meant to communicate to all who see its form by day and its light by night the central institutional conviction that the search for knowledge and truth in the universe is essentially



Rice Bell Tower is a beautiful symbol of Taylor's mission, although the "faith and learning" lights have gone out.

a search for God and is dual in nature." "The symbolism is really profound,"

Ringenberg said in a recent interview. "I would say that the towers are the single best source of visible, physical symbolism on campus. Nothing compares to it."

But the lights have long since

This leaves us to wonder why. One story is that to get the lights to shine so high, the original builders had to use ship bulbs, which got so hot that they often burned out and melted the plastic coverings. They were also expensive to replace.

Ron Sutherland, special assistant to the president, remembers being told the original lights were so bright that they caused issues with low flying aircraft.

Facility Services Director Greg Ely says the Bell Tower lights were replaced in 2007-8 because "the existing fixtures were past the end of their life

and grossly energy inefficient." He believes the current lights illuminate the tower more than the ones replaced.

They don't, however, emanate from

the spires as the original lights did and join together symbolically. "I love the symbolism that the Bell Tower provides," said Sutherland, "and

tuate that symbolism." He believes the challenge we face with any symbol is the cost to maintain it.

the fact that the lights used to accen-

"If we can find a cost-effective way to return the symbolic 'beam'... without bothering air traffic and if we can find a way to light the area well, and if this symbol is deemed to be worth the investment, I would support that," Sutherland said.

The artifact that so beautifully represented faith and learning coming together has long been subdued. A piece of culture has been extricated. Who among us will champion its return?

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Why I chose to delete social media

The downsides of online communication



Katherine Upton contributor

When I chose to delete my primary social media accounts a few months ago, I was surprised by the amount of people who criticized my decision to "unplug." Even more so, I was surprised at how many of those critics were individuals who were not in my inner circle of friends.

The typical critique went as follows:

"Why would you deprive us the opportunity to 'follow' your life?"

"Don't you want people to celebrate your life with you?"

"You'll miss out on the lives' of others if you delete (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)."

But these critiques only touch the surface of what I believe is an even greater issue amongst some social media users: the belief that a healthy way to intentionally engage in the lives of others is through so-

cial media. Hear me out, I think that some people engage with social media well. Several individuals that I "followed" on social media posed thoughtful questions and shared blogs or writings they had recently encountered with the hope of prompting thoughtful, civil dialogue. Those people do exist and are important to guide proper use of the social media world. Others use it primarily to keep in touch with friends and family far away. Some



Unplugging from social media may just help us engage better one-on-one.

use it to "check-in" and alert family that they are okay in a disaster. In these ways, social media can be used effectively.

Yet I know myself well enough to know that while I chose to use social media in some of those ways, I also chose to use social media in unhealthy ways — aimlessly scrolling through a feed out of avoidance of what was truly in front of me — opportunities for conversation, connection and community. This practice occurred enough that I felt the wisest decision was to delete it altogether.

After neglecting to monitor my social media for a few weeks, I began to realize that I had assumed relative closeness to many of my 1,000+ friends on Facebook and 700+ followers on Instagram most of whom I had not talked to

in years or had simply "friended" on the Taylor University Class of 2019 page and never met in person.

Unplugging forced me to consider who my close friends truly were. It also convicted me that while I assumed I was investing in my friends, what I actually was doing was learning about their lives almost solely from their posts.

Reflecting back on my time using social media, I realized how captivated I was by a "like" or a "follow" or creating an attractive Instagram account. Yet I struggled to know better who I was. Instead, I strove to seek personal recognition and affirmation.

Forbes released an article in 2017 which detailed six ways that social media affects mental health: it can be addictive, trigger sadness, promote comparison of self versus others, arouse jealousy, it feigns true social interaction and it is not truly a cure-all.

In these ways, social media fails to be a healthy use of one's time. In my experience, I've seen social media take away my time and energies from what I'm truly passionate about. I'm tempted to care more about a filter on a photo than the person sitting across from me in the Student Center.

When we choose to live in intentional community, we choose to act in such a way that reflects that decision. Would we have more intentional conversations if we chose to unplug from social media, if even for a week?

Giving up social media is not for everyone, but in my life it has opened up more time for cultivating the relationships most important to me.

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Anything you'd like to add?

Guest Columns 600 word limit 2 local, expert sources required **Letters to the Editor** 300 word limit No sources required Include your year

Please direct submissions to andrew_hoff@taylor.edu All submissions are due **Tuesday by 9 p.m.** THE ECHO only accepts submissions from current faculty, staff and students.

April 20, 2018

The eight-year Syrian conflict Letters to the editor

Why did the U.S. strike Syria?



Abigail Roberts contributor

On April 14, the U.S., U.K. and France carried out missile strikes on three sites associated with the Syrian regime's chemical weapons program. This move was in response to the recent chemical attack in Douma, Syria, a week earlier in which at least 70 were killed.

"This is about humanity, and it cannot be allowed to happen," President Donald Trump said to NPR in response to Assad's use of chemical weapons.

However, in the international strike, there were no Syrian military personnel casualties nor any serious damage to Syrian military infrastructure. And both Russia and the Assad regime continue to deny the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian civil war.

This international response proves now more than ever that behind every military attack there is a political motive.

The Guardian wrote, "The weekend's bombing was less a message than a gesture - and a gesture that fails in its effect sends the opposite message to that intended."

Since March 19, 2013, to the recent attack on April 7, 2018, the Assad regime has carried out dozens of chemical weapon attacks against Syrian rebel groups and civilians. Phosphorus bombs, chlorine gas bombs, mustard gas and sarin gas have killed hundreds and left thousands injured.

Last year, the U.S. bombed Syria in response to a chemical attack in Khan Sheikhun, Syria. Similar to the



The Assad regime has carried out dozens of chemical weapon attacks against Syrian rebel groups and civilians.

attack this last week, the U.S. government called it a statement against the Assad Regime's use of chemical weapons. As we can see, Assad was not deterred.

The U.S. attacks in Syria stand as political statements. Defense Secretary James Mattis has stated repeatedly that the U.S. will not engage in the civil war itself. The attacks are large enough to make the news and promote U.S. international relations, but not so large that they would provoke Russia, who continues to back the Syrian regime.

The international community must realize that the issue is not the use of chemical weapons. Out of the half million people killed in the Syrian conflict (United Nations Statistics) the percentage of those killed by

chemical weapons lies in the hundreds. The issue is that innocent civilians are being displaced and killed while the world stands by and watches. It does not differ whether they are being killed and displaced by phosphorus gas or barrel bombs.

"The international community must realize that the issue is not the use of chemical weapons."

So far this year, the U.S. has let in 11 Syrian refugees this year, compared to 15,479 in 2016 and 3,024 in 2017.

In light of the recent strike, I thank the Trump administration, the U.K. and France for doing something, but it is not enough.

echo@taylor.edu

Local ministry challenges a response

Dear Editor,

It was exciting to read the editorial in the April 6 Echo. Local ministry has been on our hearts all of our lives. It was refreshing to see someone suggest something we feel so strongly about.

I don't think it's an accident that God placed two of the best Christian colleges in the country within our county. There are thousands of students between Taylor University and Indiana Wesleyan and tens of thousands of local people who desperately need the Lord. They need someone to step into their lives and make a difference.

Statistically, Grant County is known for poverty, teenage pregnancy and teen suicide. There are numerous places within Grant County for you to further God's Kingdom. Local ministry may not seem appealing. But by volunteering with a local ministry, you could make a one, two, three or fouryear impact.

Jesus said in Matthew 9:37, "The

harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few." The harvest is ripe all over Grant County.

We need Christians to stand for Truth with a sense of urgency. Culture is steering our kids away from God. There is a lackadaisical attitude. The enemy is trying to devour, destroy, divide Grant County and the United States.

My wife and I believe this is a great place to do ministry. We've been at it for 35 years and see the need more now than ever. We serve at The Red Barn. It's close by. You could walk, skateboard, bike or drive.

We challenge you to help at The Red Barn, local churches, Real Life, Boys' and Girls' Club, or somewhere, but please invest in the community where God has placed you. The need is enormous. The rewards are eternal. You can make a difference.

Troy and Liz Shockey Upland, IN

A call-out letter to white women

Dear white women,

Like a lot of you, I come from an upper middle class white Christian family and, as a result, I used to think there was not a race issue in America. However, upon coming to college, I began doing extensive research on racial inequality. I initially tried to compare it to gender inequality, however, I realized that such a comparison falls short as it essentially erases the history of white women being complicit in our nation's dark racial past (slavery, Jim Crow laws and the "defense of white women's honor" via lynching see Emmett Till). While it may seem less evident today, this complicity is

We are societally privileged as white people - women or not. We are frequently given the benefit of the doubt in situations that people of color aren't. White women have always been depicted as the picture of purity, chastity and virtue. While we can be angry, resentful, blame the patriarchy or

even embrace this stereotype, it gives us social privilege nonetheless, and it is our God-given duty to be stewards of that privilege.

I do not have all the answers about what we must do to change this power imbalance. Nevertheless, I know we are players in the narrative of humanity's history. It is our job to leave this place better than we found it and to stand for truth, justice, love and equality. I do know it is our duty to make right the wrongs of our foremothers in every way that we can. Because a standard of complicity has already been set, we cannot sit passively, silent in our disagreement, because that silence will be interpreted as approval. Join me in actively showing your dissent. Call out your friends, family and strangers for their intentionally and unintentionally offensive words and behaviors. To do anything less is to remain complicit.

Rachel Campbell Senior

The pre-eminent social justice issue

Defending the unborn is our imperative



Drew Swing contributor

The currently prevailing conception of social justice is convoluted. It seems that what it means to be just conveniently lines up with current cultural leanings or one's political allegiances.

Our culture is intoxicated with a sense of moral superiority and the notion of one's opponents being "on the wrong side of history," and this reinforces ingrained political views in a way that can dangerously undermine biblical truth.

While there is much to be said about a Scriptural defense of justice and how that plays out in society, this article seeks not to redefine social justice but to show how even while using current culturally defined concepts of social justice, abortion (not race, gender, climate or the LGBTQ issue) is actually the preeminent social justice issue. And the moral standing of those advocating for it is critically undermined because of their support for (or ambivalence toward) an abominable widespread practice.

Any current definition of social justice carries with it some concept of equality. Whether the context is wealth, opportunities or privilege, social justice advocates argue that a lack of equality can have severe societal consequences. This definition is not in question here, but what is in question is the absurd suggestion that while social justice fights for the equality of all people, it denies the opportunity of life to those who are the most helpless and have no voice of their own. Even the bastion of social justice that is the United Nations contains no mention of "abortion" or "the unborn" on its list of Human Rights Issues.

This absurdity brings us to the fundamental difference between the



In an age of vague definitions of social justice, maybe we can refocus on another justice issue.

view of social justice advocates and the view that is supported by logic and the whole of biblical studies. That difference is in the answer to the question, "What is the unborn?" Our country has been corrupted and steeped in the wrong answer to this question. The government has been given the power to define what it is to be human. And in so doing, we have neglected the opinion of the creator of human life.

To define the unborn as anything other than a distinct human individual defies reason. Author Scott Klusendorf developed an acronym that succinctly refutes the faulty logic behind denying the human personhood of the unborn. The acronym is SLED, and it stands for size, level of development, environment and degree of dependency. These are the only qualities differentiating a fetus from an adult human, and none of them justify the ending of that life. Would we be okay with killing someone because their heart cannot beat without assistance, because they depend on someone else for sustenance, or because a disease prevents them from feeling pain? We should respond with an emphatic "no" and argue against those who justify killing an unborn child because, through no fault of its own, it is in the same situation as the adults described above.

For Christians, the defense of the unborn is more than just a logical imperative. The Gospels reveal our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as the joyous host of children and the fount of living water. Humans live with the "imago dei" and also to know and commune with our creator through the death

and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Abortion destroys the life of a human being imbued with the "imago dei" and deprives that life of the possibility of experiencing the incredible and mysterious unifying and sanctifying experiences of unimaginable eternal importance available to us in this world through Christ. Because the stakes are so high and the consequences so severe, the question of what is the unborn is one every Christian must be able to answer confidently and definitively.

Full story available at the-res-publica.org

This article was first published by Res Publica, "The Conservative Voice You Are Free to Ignore."

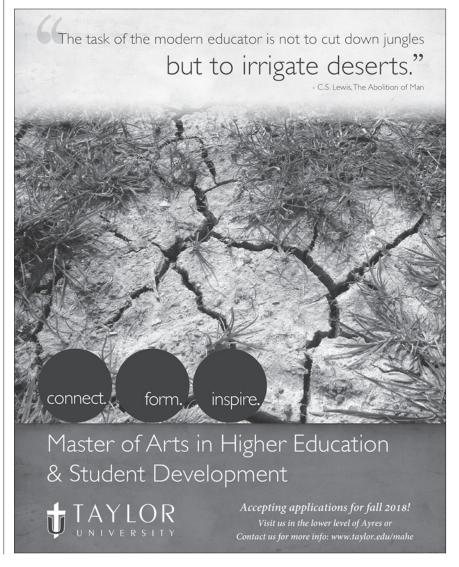
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ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Guest Columns 600 word limit 2 local, expert sources required

Letters to the Editor 300 word limit No sources required Include your year

Please direct submissions to andrew_hoff@taylor.edu All submissions are due Tuesday by 9 p.m. THE ECHO only accepts submissions from current faculty, staff and students.



Sporadic schedule severely affects softball

April 20, 2018 FRIDAY

Full-time coach, full-time dad

Head coach reflects on raising a family in Upland

> **Elyse Baron Copy Chief**

Community is something constantly talked about at Taylor, but for football head coach Ron Korfmacher it is more than just an idea — it is reality.

Having attended Taylor, along with his wife Julie, Korfmacher never expected to move back to Upland after graduation. Having married on Aug. 20, 1983, a year after his college graduation, Korfmacher was looking forward to pursuing a master's program in Colorado and working to become a football coach. Even when, a few years later, the couple moved back to Upland so Korfmacher could take a position as an assistant football coach, he still was hoping to pursue further education in Colorado.

"But as things unfolded, those doors didn't open wide open," Korfmacher said.

The doors that did open were at Taylor. Starting with the birth of their first child, Sara, in 1988, Korfmacher and his wife began putting down roots. The arrival of their other two children, Ben in 1990 and Rachel three years later, further cemented the fact that the family would be staying in Upland.

Until the early 2000s, Korfmacher and his family lived in a house in what is today the parking lot behind



While not born in Upland himself, football head coach Ron Korfmacher sees it as home.

the campus Post Office. The direct, physical connection to Taylor provided a safe place for Korfmacher's children to play, whether roller blading, biking or even sledding. Sara and Rachel would continually go through the backyard to use the campus as a safe place to play on their own. Ben, however, was unable to participate in the same manner.

Korfmacher discovered his son was autistic when Ben was young. Such an announcement caused changes in family life, but Korfmacher saw the chance to grow in faith and personal relationships.

"I think, when you have your first child, (the) second comes along and they're different," Korfmacher said. "By all means they are different....(But) you're eager to learn, listen, grow."

These differences meant that staying in the same neighborhood was a better choice due to Ben's needs. Korfmacher turned to the Taylor and Upland community. That step led to an understanding of what a privilege it was to be a father to three children, and, for the past ten years, head coach of the football team.

To Korfmacher, raising his children, each with different, unique talents, greatly impacted his coaching. The partnership of parenting his children carried over into the teamwork found between himself

and the other coaches, as well as the players on the football team.

What Korfmacher and the other coaches can teach the players about life, both on and off the field, is just as important as the friendships the players make during their four years at Taylor. Just as Korfmacher saw the Upland community come around his son and family, he can see the football players support each other on the field, in school and in faith.

"It's not just about these four years," Kofmacher said. "It's about the following. . . . It's a process, but that process can't be shortcut. That process can't be accelerated."

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BASEBALL

4/20 Goshen 6 p.m. 4/21 Goshen (DH) 2 p.m. 4/23 Huntington (A) (DH) 3 p.m. 4/24 Spring Arbor (A) 3 p.m.

Men's Golf

4/26 Saint Francis 6 p.m.

4/23 Crossroads League Championship (N) 9 a.m. 4/24 Crossroads League Championship (N) 9 a.m.

Men's Tennis

4/20 Grace (N) 4 p.m. 4/21 Huntington (N) 10 a.m. 4/21 Indiana Wesleyan (A) 3 p.m. 4/24 Trine 4 p.m.

Men's Track & Field

4/20 Indiana Little State Championships (N) 3 p.m. 4/21 Indiana Little State Championships (N) 9 a.m.

SOFTBALL

4/20 Goshen (A) (DH) 4 p.m. 4/21 Saint Francis (A) (DH) 1 p.m. 4/23 Grace (A) (DH) 3 p.m. 4/24 Bethel (DH) 3 p.m.

Women's Tennis

4/20 Grace (N) 4 p.m. 4/21 Aguinas (N) 10 a.m. 4/21 Indiana Wesleyan (A) 3 p.m.

Women's Track & Field

4/20 Indiana Little State Championships (N) 3 p.m. 4/21 Indiana Little State Championships (N) 9 a.m.

> **Weekly Preview Legend** (A) = Away (N) = Neutral site (DH) = Double header

Trojans headed to the postseason

Golf teams' next step: Crossroads Championship

> **Justin Chapman Sports Editor**

The men's and women's golf teams are finished with the regular season and now look to win the Crossroads League Championship.

The Ackerman-Allen Shootout was the last competition the Trojans com- they were not to complain and play this year and the success and fun peted in, although there was no team score. Last Friday and Saturday both teams competed in the Pilot Invitational, in which both ended up winning first place.

Sophomore Maddie Thomas and freshman Taylor French led the way on the women's side, each recording a score of 79 on Saturday. Thomas and French were the only two players to break 80, which is impressive, considering it was raining.

According to Thomas, even though the weather was a factor, the Trojans committed to not complain and keep their eyes set on the task at hand.

This trend started last year, when the Crossroads League Championship had rain as well, yet head coach Cam Andry told his players their hardest.

On the men's side, junior Alec Dutkowski added another victory to his collegiate career, totaling seven now. Both the men's and women's teams were at the same location for the Pilot Invitational, so the weather was the exact same for the men. Yet, they kept their heads high.

"It's really easy to get caught up in the weather and the things you can't control," said senior Nick Waskom.

However, the men's side is committed to holding a similar attitude to the women's team: control what can be controlled. Attitude and performance can be controlled, which is what the men want to stay focused on.

As the teams both head into the postseason soon, Andry reflects on times it's brought.

"We didn't even really know what (the women's team) had coming into the year," Andry said. The women's team is very young,

ers are freshmen and sophomores. The men's side is very different, as juniors and seniors lead the way. Andry

considering many of their top play-

Sophomore Maddie Thomas and senior Nick Waskom each contributed to their teams' Pilot Invitational victory.

said it's been fun to have jokes with the upperclassmen and reflect on memories made with them over the years.

Andry said he feels confident heading into the postseason and likes where both of his teams are.

The men's team starts the Crossroads League Championship Monday, while the women's team starts the Crossroads League Championship on April 30.

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Sophomore third baseman and outfielder Taylor Wilson holds a .324 batting average this season.

Sporadic schedule severely affects softball season

Weather keeps Trojans from finding rhythm

> **Matt Csakai Staff Writer**

The softball team's season could be described in one word: long. Early on, games kept getting pushed back, cancelled or rescheduled, and it has taken the team a while to get into a good rhythm.

"We finally got over the hump," said senior catcher Davis Carter. "We recently got over close one-run games, where we have been the ones coming out on top."

Carter, as well as head coach Brad Bowser, spoke to the resiliency that they have seen in this team.

"I have no doubt that if this team is down in the 7th, they can come back and win," Carter said.

In the last few days, games have been changed around so much that the team does not know if they are going to play or not until just hours before the game is supposed to start.

Just this week, the double-header they were supposed to play against Huntington was cancelled due to inclement weather. As of now, it has not been rescheduled. Their games on Tuesday against Grace got pushed

back to Thursday, also pushing their double-header against Goshen back to Friday.

Bowser said earlier on in the season that many double-headers could be built back into the schedule, with the team playing around three per week, with the possibility of one on Saturdays as well. So many different factors have

come together to create difficult playing conditions on the field, but off the field, this team is very relaxed.

"Most teams are super serious, but that's just not us," Carter said. "This team plays so much better when we're relaxed and having fun."

Through all of the difficult games and

Annie Stimmel

situations that this team has had to deal with this year, they enjoy each other's company and play well as a group.

The team suffered tough losses against No. 2 Marian, despite putting up more hits than Marian did. Bowser talked about this team being one of the teams to beat earlier on in the season.

"There are lots of good teams in this league — IWU and Marian being our top competition," Bowser said. "We have to get out there and fight everyday."

The Trojans will play a double-header on Friday at Goshen and then a double-header on Saturday at St. Francis.

SCOREBOARD BASEBALL 4/17 Mount Vernon Nazarene 4/17 Mount Vernon Nazarene 4/18 HUNTINGTON Men's Golf 4/13 PILOT INVITATIONAL 4/14 PILOT INVITATIONAL 1st Men's Tennis L 8-1 4/13 EARLHAM SOFTBALL 4/18 Marian L 9-3 4/18 Marian L 2-1 4/19 Grace W 5-0 L 9-3 L 2–1 W 5–0 Women's Golf 4/13 PILOT INVITATIONAL 2ND 2nd 4/14 PILOT INVITATIONAL 1ST

Christen Jacquottet Men's Tennis THE WEEK ATHLETES **Year** Freshman Freshman Saint Hymer, France Hometown O'FALLON, MISSOURI COMPUTER SCIENCE Major **Marketing** "Hall of Fame" - The Script "Donald Trump" — Mac Miller Pump up song If you could play another sport, what would it be? **Rugby or soccer** Soccer

VICTOR CHENG

Funniest teammate

