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Senior Awards Night

by Francesca Mascola



Alexandra Baptie and Tessa Raffone display their awards. **Staff Photo**

On Thursday evening, May 25th, North Haven High School held the Awards Night and Senior Reception for the Class of 2017. A number of soon-to-be graduates were recognized for their accomplishments in the classroom. Valedictorian Julia Opramalla, Salutatorian Olivia Irons along with the rest of the top 10 students of the 2017 Class in alphabetical order: Emily Camera, Olivia Hoyt, Aliza Knight, Hope Marino, Jessica McInnis, MariaGrazia Scarano, Emily Shea and Maily Tran were recognized for their outstanding academic achievements.

In addition, each Department selected one student to receive its prestigious Department Plaque. The recipient of each Department Plaque is listed: Art recognizes Francesca Mascola, Business Education recognizes Jessica Marinuzzi, Technology Education recognizes Bowen Brennan, English recognizes Lindsay Knight, Future Problem Solvers recognizes Emily Camera, Library/Media/Film/Drama recognizes Omar Gebril, Math awards Aliza Knight, Music awards Nigel Regan, Physical Education recognizes Maria-Grazia Scarano, Science awards Olivia Irons, Social Studies awards Lindsay Knight, and World Language awards Daniel Halloran.

Finally, congratulations to Evan Solderholm, a member of the Social Studies Department at North Haven High School, on being the Class of 2017's choice for Teacher of the Year. Kudos to Solderholm and all of the Senior Award recipients!

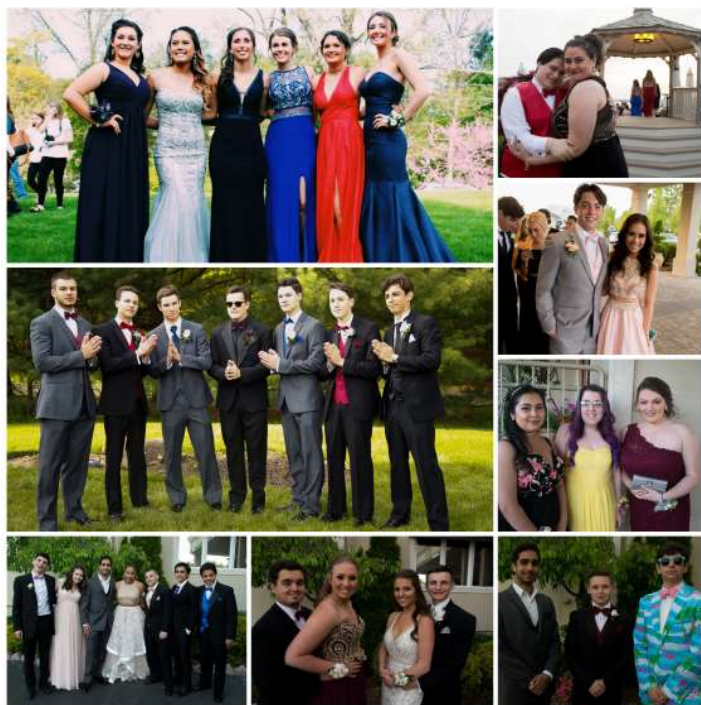
Coffee drinkers may enjoy their cup of java and longevity as well

by Julia Loda

Coffee lovers around the world choose and drink their favorites on a daily basis-Americanos, Cappuccino, Latte, Espresso, and Mocha- you name it! For those of us who love our cup of java there is some really good news brewing among researchers that is well worth celebrating. Recent studies show coffee consumption may be linked to longevity! Folks who do not drink coffee may want to give it a taste on their way to school or work since it may just change your life in the long run. There has been a controversial idea floating around for years, based on the debate about whether coffee is really good for our health or not. "The results have been mixed" says Neal Freedman of the National Cancer Institute, who recently

COFFEE>>PAGE 3

Prom 2017



Collage by Francesca Mascola

Seniors had a ball at this year's Prom Friday, May 12. Everyone looked their best as they danced the night away at Anthony's Oceanview. Thank you to all the class officers, advisors, and administrators who made this year's Prom such a special night!

Next few weeks are “danger days” for teens

by Courtney Babbidge

Of all the alcohol-related fatalities involving teens each year, about one third of them take place during the months of April, May, and June— prom and graduation season. This time is proven to be the most dangerous time for teens, and quite possibly the reason why Alcohol Awareness Month is held in April.

Statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) show that approximately 1,000 children under the age of 21 die each year in preventable tragedies while celebrating their high school festivities. Prom, graduation, and summer-time celebrations can turn into dangerous underage drinking frenzies.

Unfortunately, around this time of the year, we hear on the news a variety of stories of high school students who have been fatally injured or even killed in alcohol involved situations throughout the nation. According to statistics from the NHTSA and reports from the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, “Alcohol is the number one drug of choice for America’s youth, and is more likely to kill young people than all illegal drugs combined.” Alcohol use by teens is entirely preventable and is often the cause of a number of different problems such as car crashes, crime, teenage pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and drowning.

Prom and graduation season are a time for celebration, but do not need to involve underage drinking. It is imperative that parents keep the lines of communication open when it comes to talking to their kids about the dangers of underage drinking to ensure a safe and happy summer. One mistake could lead to irreparable damage or even become a fatal tragedy.

Could Kim Jung-un cause a nuclear catastrophe?

North Korea performs threatening drills
by Niti Bidja

Rising Tensions between North Korea and the U.S. seem to be growing daily. Over the past few months, it seems more and more likely that President Trump will face his first national crisis, but not with the Russians, or Chinese, but rather a much more nuclear-capable country - North Korea.

These past few months, the North Koreans

Coffee

FROM PAGE 1

led a study published in The New England Journal of Medicine. Although there is the side note that coffee could be a contributor to some diseases, it has also been proven to protect against many others as well.

Research gathered by the NIH-AARP Diet and Health study, found that coffee drinkers had a modestly lower risk of death than non-drinkers. The study focused on 400,000 Americans between the ages of 50-71 years. The term “modestly” was used to describe those who drank at least 2-3 cups a day who were shown to be roughly 10% less likely to die for any reason during the 13 year study.

Upon analyzing specific causes of death, researchers found that coffee consumption lowered the risk of dying from heart disease, lung disease, strokes, injuries, accidents, and diabetes. In coffee there could be several compounds that also affect the body. There are at least 1,000 different compounds in coffee including antioxidants.

The most commonly known antioxidants are vitamins and minerals, but there are other types of antioxidants available only in some foods and drinks-including Chlorogenic acid, which is highly abundant in coffee. Another well-known and popular antioxidant in coffee is caffeine. When hot water is filtered through the coffee grounds, the water absorbs these beneficial substances and they become part of the drink.

Many of the antioxidants found in coffee help protect our bodies from oxidation. Believe it or not coffee is one of the greatest sources of antioxidants in the western diet, outranking both fruit and vegetables combined. So, the next time you are treating yourself to a nice hot cup of joe or a flavorful iced latte, you might find comfort in knowing that jolt of caffeine may not only serve as a bit of an early morning pick-me-up, but also as an improvement to your health. The greatest benefits appear to be caused by antioxidants other than caffeine however, because both decaf and regular coffee had the same effect.

Of course, since these are results from an observational study, there is no definite evidence that proves that coffee caused the reduction in risk. It does, however, provide some degree of reassurance that coffee may not be the villain it is sometimes portrayed to be. There may be yet another reason to ask your boss for another coffee break!

Caterpillars provide potential environmental benefits

By Grace Gillooly

Biologists may have uncovered the environmental solution that our plastic-reliant economies have been awaiting: wax worms. These critters can break down polyethylene into ethylene glycol by chewing or releasing larvae around the particular material. The caterpillars' ability to biodegrade what otherwise would decompose in hundreds of years could revolutionize the plastic industry as we know it.

Beekeeper, Federica Bertocchini, noticed holes in the plastic bag in which she had stored wax worms for forty minutes. Seeking answers, Bertocchini left the worms for twelve hours in the bag and realized that ninety-two milligrams of the plastic mass of the bag had disappeared. As word of this phenomenon spread, scientists began to study the molecular changes that took place within the plastic and discovered that the polyethylene polymer chains were severed by the worms' enzyme-like qualities and facilitated the production of a usable material.

Since the caterpillars were found to completely digest the polyethylene, Bertocchini suggested identifying the chemical that allows the caterpillars to consume so much plastic rather than breeding massive amounts of moth caterpillars or wax worms.

The potential to reduce pollution with the wax worms' chemical compound has excited environmentalists throughout the world.

In an age of mass disposal and overuse, wax worms could buy us more time to repair or slow some of the environmental damage mankind has created through plastic pollution. Nonetheless, we must remember that the wax worms alone cannot forgive our environmental misdeeds. Though they show great potential, the discovery of wax worms' plastic-reducing capabilities is merely one very small piece in the complex puzzle of preserving and protecting our planet. We must also learn to eliminate and modify our current practices that contribute to the destruction of the natural world.

We must also change our cavalier attitudes about the everyday neglect and carelessness toward our environment and instead, be mindful of Earth's precious resources. If you think there is another clean safe Earth waiting in the wings somewhere to save the day, think again.

"Dragonfly" proposal seeks out a place in space called Titan

by Pamela Nguyen

It is a part of human nature to question things and be curious. Space travel allows us the opportunity to indulge this intrinsic curiosity by exploring parts of the universe that awe and mystify us. One of the fundamental mysteries of the universe is whether life exists outside of earth, and researchers have proposed that Saturn's moon, Titan, may provide insight to this curiosity. Recently, scientists proposed that NASA send a drone to Titan to determine if it is capable of supporting life.

Saturn has fifty-three moons, which is more than any other planet. Titan is Saturn's largest moon, and is unique because it possesses its own atmosphere—composed mainly of nitrogen and methane. It is also rich with ethane and has many lakes and seas, making it the only other planet in the solar system to have stable liquids on its surface. Titan also has methane rain, created from the cloud formations of evaporated liquid methane. The conditions on Titan are similar to that of Earth's early years, leading scientists to believe it may eventually sustain life.

DRAGONFLY>>PAGE 10

Football captain passes the torch

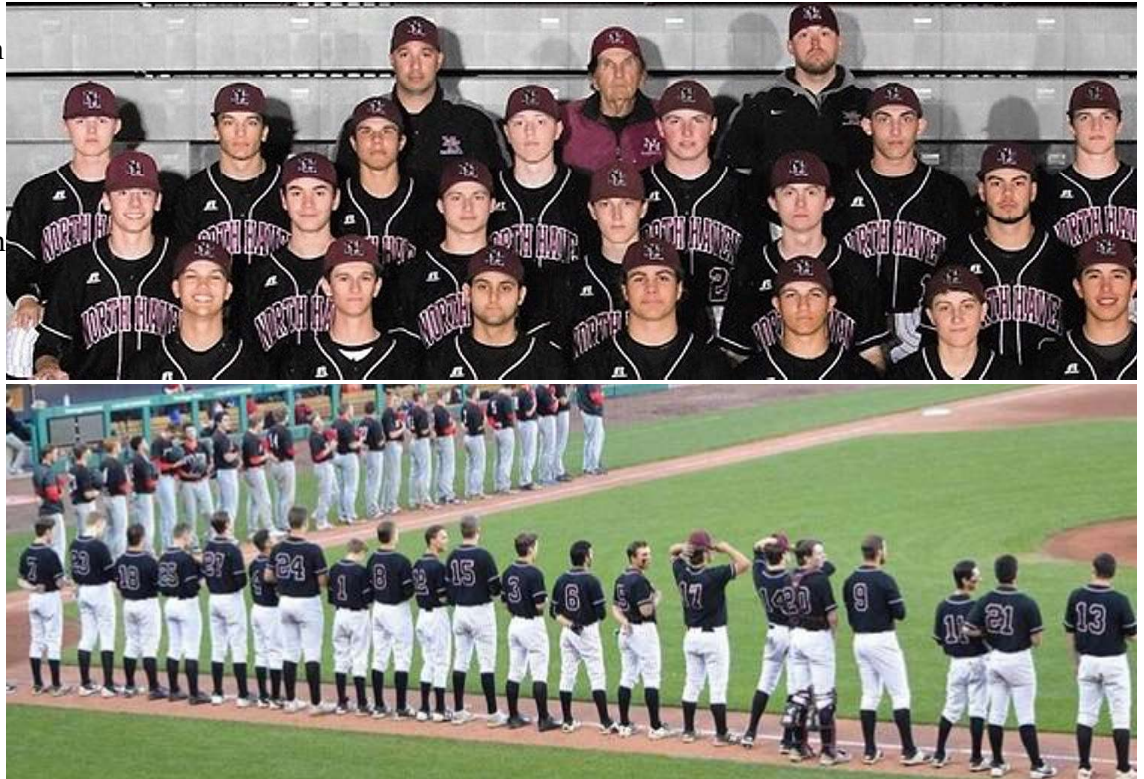


Staff Photo

Former football captain Max Sullivan is passing on the baton to next year's captain, Mark Montano, who will lead alongside co-captain Korbin Pecora. Aside from their team friendship, both combine their efforts to glaze a recent ceramic project.

North Haven Baseball's Amazing Season

The North Haven varsity baseball team completed their season at Palmer Field on June 10th in Middletown in the Class L finals in runner up to Foran High School. They finished with an overall record of 18-8. At Palmer, junior Steve Erbe hit a triple to start a two run rally by the Indians. It was another great season lead by legendary coach Robert DeMayo. Following their season, future captian Kevin Lucey says, "Coach DeMayo always gets us far, even as an underdog. That is why I am



Submitted Photos

optimistic for next year and this final game will only make us work harder in the off season." Lucey will co-captain next year's team with Peyton Farina. The two will lead their team including five returning seniors Andrew Laudano, Steve Erbe, Luca Lawrence, Mike Salzano, and Nick Perillie.

Doctors warn of cosmetic surgery dangers

By Yasmine Dehghani

The cosmetic surgery industry is growing as more and more people go under the knife to retain the appearance of youth. Patients undergo surgery to hide even the tiniest perceived flaws. According to the article "Americans are spending more than ever on plastic surgery" on usatoday.com, "an American Society of Plastic Surgeons report found Americans spent more than \$16 billion on cosmetic plastic surgeries... in 2016."

Though cosmetic surgery can seem worthwhile for a short term quick fix, it can also lead to various complications that might make some think twice about going under the knife.

The most obvious complications are medical such as a hematoma, which is a clump of blood that looks like a bruise. The article "The 10 Most Common Plastic Surgery Complications" on healthline.com brings up the fact that "it occurs in 1-6 percent

of breast augmentation procedures and is the most common complication after a facelift." If hematomas occur, additional operations must be carried out to remove them. Nerve damage is also another danger of cosmetic surgery.

If patients feel a numbness or a tingling sensation after a procedure, they most likely suffered from some sort of nerve damage. About 15% of people who undergo breast augmentation procedures, for example, lose sensation in their nipples entirely.

Though patients are often given instructions to reduce chance of infection afterwards, it is still a common complication of cosmetic surgery. Cellulitis, a skin infection, has been found to occur in 2-4% of people. Scarring is also sometimes inevitable. Since those who undergo cosmetic surgery seek to improve their appearance, it can be disconcerting when scars form.

An example of scarring is hypertrophic, which is when a red, thick, and raised scar occurs on the patient. Perforations and punctures caused by surgical

COSMETIC>>PAGE 8

Pope Francis Delivers Surprise TED Talk on the Importance of “You” and the Future

by Jenna Goldschmidt

In April of this year, His Holiness Pope Francis, the Bishop of Rome and head of the Roman Catholic Church, delivered a pre-recorded talk at the TED2017 “The Future You” themed conference. TED talks, or Technology, Entertainment, and Design talks, are short speeches delivered by revered individuals about “ideas worth spreading” according to the organization’s slogan. The Pope, having been persuaded by one of TED’s international correspondents, gave a powerful speech on the importance of the individual in collaboration with others in affecting the future of society.

With TED talks centered on the speaker’s three key messages, the Pope first discussed the importance of remembering that no man is an island. The Pope called everyone to action saying, “none of us is an island, an autonomous and independent ‘I’ separated from the other, and we can only build the future by standing together...” Only in standing together as a society, can we hope to create a better future.

The Pope’s second message centered on solidarity within the sciences, arts, political and economic arenas, and other areas of society. Pope Francis stated that “solidarity is a term that many wish to erase from the dictionary,” and stressed its importance as a natural urge to help others. He went on to share the parable of the Good Samaritan and how it tells “the story of today’s humanity,” as people who consider themselves respectable so often ignore those in need. Considering everyone a “bright candle” in the darkness of society, the Pope concluded his second message with the statement, “A single individual is enough for hope to exist, and that individual can be you.”

As a final message, the Pope called for a “revolution of tenderness.” Pope Francis called tenderness the “path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women” and did not consider being tender a weakness. Asking his listeners to be humble and kind, he reminded them that the future is in everyone’s hands and implored them to take action for the greater good.

Pope Francis received a standing ovation and hopefully his message will inspire people to work together in creating a brighter and better future for all.

Drugged driving poses increasing danger to public safety

By Maia Annunziato

Many people know that driving under the influence of alcohol is deadly, but fewer people may be aware that the number of deaths from “drugged driving” now surpasses those from drunk driving. Driving while impaired from drugs or alcohol is illegal everywhere in the United States, but in the past few decades, campaigns against impaired driving have only targeted drunk driving. The U.S. Department of Transportation’s campaign slogan “Friends don’t let friends drive drunk” and nonprofits like Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) have undoubtedly increased awareness about the dangers of driving drunk, but fail to address the growing trend of driving drugged.

Though driving under the influence of alcohol is still a major concern in this country, the dangers of driving while influenced by drugs also needs to be brought into the spotlight. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, more than 4,000 people were killed in 2010 from drug-related crashes, not including those who weren’t tested for drug use or those who were killed by drivers with drugs in their system.

It is difficult to accurately measure the actual number of deaths caused drugged driving for multiple reasons. One report from the Governors Highway Safety Association and the Foundation for Advancing Alcohol Responsibility admitted that “many officers are not trained to identify the signs and symptoms of drivers impaired by drugs other than alcohol.”

In 2015, only 57% of drivers killed in car crashes were tested for drugs. Therefore, more widespread testing and data are needed to reach accurate conclusions about the number of deaths. Secondly, many people combine drugs (particularly marijuana) with alcohol, compounding the negative effects and making it difficult to determine which substance has had a greater influence.

In order to prevent drugged driving, people need to be more aware of the dangers. A Liberty Mutual poll found that more than a third of teenagers mistakenly believe they drive better under the influence of marijuana. Research has shown that the opposite is true for marijuana and other types of drugs: “marijuana can slow reaction time, impair judgment of time and distance, and decrease coordination. Drivers who have used cocaine or methamphetamine can be

aggressive and reckless when driving. Certain kinds of sedatives, called benzodiazepines, can cause dizziness and drowsiness. All of these impairments can lead to vehicle crashes” (National Institute on Drug Abuse).

As a general rule, any alcohol or drug can negatively affect a person’s ability to drive. The only way to be completely safe is to wait until the substance(s) are out of the body’s system or have a non-impaired driver drive instead. Public health experts urge people who use drugs or alcohol to develop social strategies to prevent them from getting behind the wheel of a car while impaired. Steps people can take include: offering to be a designated driver, appointing a designated driver to take all car keys, getting a ride to and from parties where there are drugs and alcohol, and discussing the risks of drugged driving with friends in advance.

It is important that people realize that both driving drunk or drugged are extremely deadly. Without disregarding the work that has been done to deter drunk driving, we need to expand our awareness to include drugged driving in order to prevent many more unnecessary deaths in the future.

Girl’s Track



Staff Photo

The girl’s outdoor track and field team poses for “Neon Day” in order to show their team spirit. The team had a great season, winning their division and setting multiple school records. Erica Marriot broke the record three records, including in the 100m, 200m, and long jump. Erica Marriot and Sarah Vanacore both placed in State Opens and qualified for regionals

Brutal murder by “Facebook Killer” stuns Americans

by Sarina Sandwell

On Easter Sunday 2017, in Cleveland, Ohio, a man named Steve Stephens shot and killed 74-year-old Robert Godwin, and filmed and uploaded his actions onto Facebook. Steve Stephens posted three videos

that day. The first one was a rant, threatening to kill people at random but the second one depicted the actual act, this one being much more violent. The second video shows Stephens pulling over his car to the side of the road. He says, “I found somebody I’m about to kill. I’m going to kill this guy right here. He’s an old dude too.”

He then gets out of his car and walks over to Godwin, who was innocently walking down the street, telling him to say a woman’s name which is later revealed to be his ex-girlfriend. Godwin complies but Stephens then explains that the woman is the reason he is going to shoot him. Godwin pleads for him to stop but Stephens pulls out a gun and fires at him, killing him.

In the third video, Stephens explains his motive, placing the blame on his ex-girlfriend. He also claims to have murdered twelve additional people but the police believe Godwin was his only victim. The videos were posted onto Facebook, but were not taken down until another three hours after the act.

The question is, “Have people using social media gone too far? Would he have done it if he was not able to post it to the world?” The first question seems like a resounding yes, but the second cannot be answered for sure. Many people use social media to portray dangerous, risky, or violent acts, in hopes of gaining popularity and/or seeing the public’s reaction. People like this let the need for attention dictate their actions, which can result in serious consequences. Stephens might have known that his post could have been taken down eventually but he also knew many would see it beforehand. The thing is, Facebook and almost all other social media platforms, have no way of approving an entry before it is posted. They can take it down after it is posted but for that to happen they must be notified of it which takes some time, leaving graphic and violent posts to be seen for hours.

Many believe Stephens would not have done it without an audience, claiming he was motivated by attention, public reactions, or revenge against his girlfriend. Others feel he would have killed someone either way. Overall, this tragedy has brought out genuine concerns about just how invasive and destructive social media can be in the hands of those who seek to publicize ruthless acts of violence and death. In the future, we can only hope that a screening process is put in place to prevent people from posting acts of brutality, and perhaps it will even discourage them from violence in the first place.

Cosmetic

FROM PAGE 4

tools during surgeries such as liposuctions can also cause organ damage, which has the potential to be fatal. Once organs begin shutting down, amputation is often the only way to prevent the spreading. If that fails to control organ shutdown, the patient will likely succumb.

Anesthesia is typically seen as beneficial, and when carried out correctly, most definitely is. However, just like any other part of a surgery, anesthesia can lead to complications as well including lung infections, strokes, and heart attacks. Furthermore, there is always a risk that the anesthesia will not work correctly and the patient will end up waking up in the middle of a procedure.

Blood loss is also not uncommon. While this may seem obvious, rapid and excessive blood loss can lead to a drop in blood pressure and even death. Internal bleeding can also occur after surgery.

One popular example of cosmetic surgery is Botox, where a derivative of the botulism toxin is used to paralyze face muscles and thus give an anti-aging look. Though side effects are rare, there is still a risk. According to the article "Botox could be a long-term health risk" on dailymail.co.uk, "animal experiments have shown that botulinum toxin can affect the way nerves behave and may inhibit the release of vital brain chemicals."

Unbeknownst to most, there are also non-medical risks associated with cosmetic surgery. One of these is the risk that your procedure might not go how you wanted it to, which could lead to disfigurement or disappointment. The financial strain that cosmetic surgeries can cause might also lead to feuds among loved ones.

Since cosmetic surgery dangers come in many forms, it is important to carefully consider if going under the knife is a choice worth making.

Nuclear

FROM PAGE 3

have taken actions that have sparked anxiety and speculation among the American people. Under the leadership of 33 year old Kim Jong-un, the supreme leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) and Chairman of the Worker's Party of Korea, the country seems to be antagonizing America at every

turn.

The first of many tense situations occurred when the North Korean's recently launched four missiles slightly off the coast of Japan, claiming these missiles were merely drills for striking American bases in Japan. Understandably, Americans view the action as a threat. Most Americans believe the ultimate goal is a strike on the U.S. itself – an act of war which the North Koreans may be capable of within the next four years.

According to New York Times, North Korea may possess 21 nuclear weapons and is improving their ability to detonate them as each day passes. The North Koreans also have chemical weapons that pose an even greater threat to the U.S. national safety. Jung-un is rumored to have used chemical weapons on his people to kill those he viewed as challenges to his power- including his half-brother whose sudden death is very suspicious. It is also believed Jung-un was responsible for the death of his uncle.

Adding to the tensions between the two nations was America's decision to install an American-made anti-missile system in South Korea. The move- though subtle- angered the North Koreans and their food supplier, China, both of whom threatened to break all relations with South Korea. However, the U.S. decision itself was not as alarming to the Chinese, who had been warned multiple times by America that if they did not pressure North Korea to end its nuclear program, the anti-missile system would be implemented.

The Trump administration must decide how to respond in order to protect the nation from potential conflict and danger at the hands of what most of the world views as a reckless murdering power monger.

In the past, the Obama and Bush administrations have isolated North Korea and therefore never truly improved US-North Korean relations. With diplomatic relations between the two countries simmering, the potential problems and urgency of the situation are now at the forefront for President Trump. Many feel the number one goal should be to get North Korea to freeze its nuclear and missile programs and only then can there be any kind of reasonable promise of better US-North Korean relations. Most Americans believe a standoff between Trump and Jung-un has the potential to be ugly and even deadly and should be avoided if possible.

Unified Sports at North Haven High!

by Laura Borrelli

The North Haven Unified Sports Team hosted their first home meet in a quite a few years on April 25, 2017. The team brings together students with intellectual disabilities (athletes) and those without intellectual disabilities (partners) in a sports setting. The unified coach, Leslie Fazzuoli is a special education teacher at North Haven Middle School. She has worked hard all season to promote a positive climate for the athletes and peers and was instrumental in running a home meet at NHHS.

Fazzuoli worked with Brianna Kleckner, who is a student counselor at North Haven Middle School and the High School's volleyball coach. The event was a volleyball tournament that included over eight schools coming together including: Amity, Cheshire, Simsbury and Jonathan Law.

The North Haven Unified Sports Teams participate in soccer in the fall, basketball in the winter, and volleyball in the spring. North Haven High School Special education teacher, Karen Stevens, attended the tournament to support the athletes and peers. Stevens said, "Unified Sports offers an arena for kids with disabilities to be a part of a team." Being in a classroom with the students all day, she loves seeing "them up and moving." She says, "I would love to see it grow and expand with more students in the school." She enjoys watching the athletes and seeing the progress they have made throughout the year.

For example, Junior Elizabeth Stetson, has made a substantial amount of improvement. She tries really hard to always be ready, whether it is a soccer pass, or keeping up in the basketball court, or even keeping the ball from touching the ground. Stevens says, "They don't need confidence in sports, but it is rewarding to see their improvement....the athletes are very involved in the team, but the peers have to be just as committed, and willing to be positive and give their best each and every time....It is a very fulfilling experience to be there and help the buddies." Unified Sports have grown significantly these past few years and both Fazzuoli and Stevens hope to see it grow even more in the upcoming years.

Volleyball Tournament



Collage by Francesca Mascola

NHHS Unified Sports holds a volleyball tournament where they invited and competed against ten other teams from surrounding schools. Unified sports is an inclusive sports program that unites Special Olympic athletes (individuals with intellectual disabilities) and partners as teammates for training in competition. The students from North Haven had a blast at one of their last tournaments and are pictured here enjoying the event.

Best Buddies Prom



Collage by Francesca Mascola

This year's Best Buddies Prom took place on May 5th at North Branford High school. The theme was Charlie and the Chocolate factory, and the students enjoyed a fun-filled night of food, raffles, and prizes. The members of Best Buddies had a great night, sharing laughs and making unforgettable memories with their peers.

Malaria vaccine could save thousands in 2018

by Mark Montano

Based on recent data, Malaria kills close to 500,000 people a year worldwide, most of them children under the age of five in sub-Saharan Africa. A vaccination has been developed and has been specifically designed to combat malaria infection in children in Africa. The malaria parasite, *Plasmodium falciparum*, is carried by the female anopheles mosquito.

In April 2017, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that it has the go-ahead to try the first malaria vaccine in the field in real-world settings in 2018. Recently, great strides have been made in combating this deadly disease. A recent study by the WHO shows that from 2000 to 2015, there was a 62% reduction in malaria deaths, and a 41% reduction in the number of cases. This decrease in numbers is the direct result of better mosquito control and disease awareness. Additionally, there have been great efforts by the medical world to get the right medicine to the populations most impacted.

However, there are great lapses in prevention coverage, particularly in regions most affected by Malaria, the sub-Saharan Africa, where almost 43% of people at risk for the disease do not readily have access to mosquito protection like bed nets or bug spray, according to the WHO. Africa as a continent sees the highest number of malaria cases in the world and the new vaccine will be tested exclusively in Kenya, Ghana, and Malawi starting in 2018. The medical community is hopeful that it will cut down on the thousands of needless deaths of innocent children.

According to Dr. Photini Sinnis, a deputy director at the Johns Hopkins Malaria Research Institute and professor at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, "This is great news, actually." Dr. Sinnis, was the GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) scientist who did much of the original research to develop the vaccine in its early days. Sinnis added, "this is a vaccine that has the capability to make a real difference." In phase 3 of the trial, the vaccination was tried in 11,000 children in sub-Saharan Africa, and it decreased mortality by almost 50%. That's thousands of lives saved. Sinnis concluded that, "you can't argue with that success."

According to an April 2017 CNN article, "The vaccine, RTS,S, also known as Mosquirix, was creat-

MALARIA>>PAGE 14

The meeting of the editorial minds



Staff Photo

Francesca Mascola and Maia Annunziato teach peers and future editors Laura Borrelli, Grace Gillooly, and Pamela Nguyen how to use the Adobe program to put the school newspaper together. The future editors plan to use their technology and editing skills, to create successful papers for the NHHS Community next year.

Dragonfly

FROM PAGE 4

Elizabeth Turtle is a planetary scientist at the Johns Hopkins Applied Research Laboratory in Maryland and head of the team leading the in-depth exploration of Titan. She proposes that the eight-bladed "dragonfly" drone would be able to take advantage of Titan's low gravity and thick atmosphere to investigate possible habitable sites, traveling from one site to the next.

Dragonfly would run on nuclear energy, re-charging when it lands in between sites and converting heat from decaying plutonium-238 into electricity. Ideally, if it were successful, it would be able to fly around Titan for years. Dragonfly would not only be able to view and take note of places where life can foster, but it can also drill and take samples to examine Titan's surface. Through meteorology and remote sensing, it could also detect and track the satellite's weather and atmosphere.

Further exploration of Titan could mean finding a new place that supports life. Any new discoveries made while investigating will only serve to expand human knowledge about the universe. The Dragonfly proposal is only one of many space exploration opportunities, and in July 2019, NASA will make their final decision as to which will be pursued. Until then, earthlings are left to stare up at the many wonders hidden in the sky above and imagine what new discoveries lie ahead.

Art Beat 2017



Collage by Francesca Mascola

Art beat is North Haven's annual art show that takes place in early May and showcases artwork from students in grades K-12. It was a wonderful evening that brought together community members with a shared appreciation for art. Art Beat displays many different media like drawing, painting, ceramics, photography, animation, and other mixed media. Superintendent Dr. Robert Cronin complimented the event after viewing the displays. "If you've never had the chance to attend an "Art Beat" I'd highly recommend it," said Cronin, "Beginning in kindergarten, what our art teachers are able to accomplish with students is nothing short of remarkable. By the end of high school, some students are producing art that's of professional quality. The other benefit of this event, is that especially at the elementary level, every student, or almost every student, has at least one piece of work displayed." Congrats young North Haven artists!

Social Media Ban causes unrest in Kashmir

by Mehak Sharma

Recently, authorities in Indian-controlled Kashmir banned 22 social media sites after some videos of Kashmiri alleging abuse by Indian forces went viral and caused protests. However, the local telecom company, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd., is struggling to block Facebook and Twitter without freezing the internet of the Himalayan region.

According to the government, the one-month ban was vital to ensure public safety since social me-

dia was being "misused by anti-national and antisocial elements." Whereas others like Pranesh Prakash, policy director for the Indian advocacy group, the Center for Internet and Society, believed the new ban to be a "blow to freedom of speech" and "legally unprecedented in India."

There is nothing new about the government stopping internet service in Kashmir in response to anti-India protests. However, this recent ban is unusual since it marks the first time they have done so in response to the circulation of media that displays Indian military abuse. This recent media nonetheless has proven to be more powerful than ever before and has intensified anti-India protests.

Footage of one video includes a teenage boy throwing stones being shot dead by a soldier. Other

KASHMIR>>PAGE 13

Delicacies created as part of Culinary and Baking finals



Submitted Photos

(bottom left) Culinary arts student Karissa Hernandez made a double lemon tart with sour cream sorbet with a torched top as her final. Hernandez is looking forward to continuing her talents at the Johnson and Wales institution. Congrats Karissa!

(bottom right) Student Vincent DiTulio from the Baking Class prepared a wedding cake as his final project. The delicious cake was enjoyed by many students and faculty here at the high school. Well done Vin!

(top) Students create a Pac Man cake for gameing club to enjoy.

Veteran “Eyewitnesses” to History share memories with students

by Kiley DeGrand

The wonderful tradition of Eyewitness to History continued at NHHS on May 5, 2017 when ten guest speakers shared different



Submitted Photo

accounts of significant historical events. With Juniors in the classes of Mr. Federico Fiondella. This annual event attracts more than just the junior class, as students from various grades along with teachers find their way to the auditorium to listen to the fascinating legacies of veterans who served and sacrificed for our country.

Fiondella states, “About ten years ago I designed a school event entitled ‘Eyewitness to History’...hoping that by listening to fascinating eyewitness accounts of history.... students could gain a better understanding of important events.” He had first-hand experience with this growing up in his own house, “I remember at a very early age that my family would sit down together for dinner...with my grandparents and we would share stories and talk about one another’s lives. I recall learning so much from those stories, especially when my grandparents discussed accounts of the Great Depression and World War II” The consensus among NHHS students is that we are very fortunate to have these guests share their experiences with our community because someday we will not be able to learn about these events orally from those who have actually lived through these adventures. They feel personal accounts make history memorable.

Fiondella understands this, “Today we live in such a fast-paced world that we tend to forget how important it is to sit back and ‘listen’ to one another. These stories, also known as ‘oral histories’ are more important than ever. I try to incorporate this into my history classes whenever possible.” Speakers representing multiple events/time periods were present including the US Coast Guard Rescue of The Pendleton and Fort Mercer, The Civil Rights Movement and Student Protest, The Vietnam War, The Woodstock Music and Art Fair/Festival, President

Ronald Reagan’s Administration & National Security Council, the Bosnian Wars, the Tragic Events of September 11th, and the Operation Iraqi Freedom. Junior Morgan Sullivan says, “It was a real eye opener to see a survivor’s perspective from one of the events. We all read and hear about it, and think we understand, but we don’t really know what truly happens until you hear it from a new perspective.”

Students are very grateful to Fiondella for founding this event and working together with history teacher, Anthony Giordano, to bring this special day to NHHS each year. This event is one of many reasons Fiondella was recently selected to receive a special Social Studies Award from Representatives of the Connecticut Department of Education and honored at a teacher’s luncheon on June 14th. Congratulations on your well-deserved recognition Mr. F and keep up the great work!

Did Earth’s early life forms originate on Mars?

by Alex Baptie

Scientists performing a study on March 2, 2017 discovered proof that there is an organism living on earth that dates back 4.2 billion years ago. The earth is approximately 4.5 billion years old, so this living organism has been around for quite a long time and has scientists pondering about its survival over those many years.

They believe that these organisms could have evolved from the planet Mars and somehow existed there as well as on earth. The organisms came to planet earth through comets and meteorites which were the building blocks to planet earth.

The discovery has been labeled a microfossil which is a fossil or a fragment of a fossil that can only be seen through a microscope. Before this discovery, scientists believed the first form of life on earth originated 3.7 billion years ago and that there was a huge gap of time when no life existed on earth. The new discovery made at the University College London could explain that gap.

“Early Mars and early Earth are very similar places, so we may expect to find life on both planets at this time,” said doctoral student Matthew Dodd. This shows that since Mars had organism like earth back then, it may very well have organisms that mimic other Earthly lifeforms as well.

Move over man on the moon, make way for Mars Man...or Woman!

Annual Town Wide Spelling Bee



Staff Photo

The North Haven Education Foundation (NHEF) Third Annual Spelling Bee was a huge success. Thirty-six teams competed this year for the coveted prize of being the town's top spellers. Some of our very own teachers are the new champions have out-spelled last year's winner, the team from the North Haven Fire Department. Congratulations to Larry DiBernardo, an English teacher at North Haven High School, Julie Buonasora, a Latin teacher, and Pat Bingham, a retired North Haven Latin teacher. Many thanks to everyone who either participated or came out to support both the spellers and the cause. The NHEF grants support to special projects in NH schools.

Kashmir

FROM PAGE 11

footage displays soldiers making a group of young men forcibly shout profanities against Pakistan while they kick and slap them. Another clip shows a teenage boy held down by soldier's boots as they beat him on the back.

However, the most viral and sensational video was that of shawl weaver, Farooq Ahmed Dar, who was tied to the hood of an army jeep while it patrolled villages on voting day. In Hindi, a soldier exclaims in the background, "Stone throwers will meet a similar fate."

Steven Butler, Asia Program coordinator at the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, believes that "Such broad censorship clearly violates the democratic ideals and human rights India purports to

uphold." In fact, the statement was from a 2016 report from the U.S. think tank, the Brookings Institution, which states that India blocked access to internet in various sites to prevent protests 22 times in the course of one year which is much more than Syria, Pakistan, and Turkey combined.

However, according to Pavan Duggal, an Indian lawyer and expert in cyberlaw, "Blocking websites is like trying to fix a leaking roof with a Band-Aid." No matter the efforts of the telecom company, numerous of technologically literate and advanced individuals are able to utilize proxy servers and access the blocked websites.

This conflict in Kashmir has been raging on since 1947 as neighboring countries, India and Pakistan, have claimed the region. The social media ban has simply added more fuel to the fire and increased ill feelings, unrest, and discontent in the region.

Senior Picnic



Collage by Francesca Mascola

(top) Senior advisor Christian Johnson stops to take a photo with seniors gathered at Holiday Hill in Cheshire, Connecticut.

(bottom left) Senior friends gather in the pavillion, preparing to eat the buffet lunch. After which they participated in a variety of activities including kayaking, mini-golf, volleyball, and baseball. Depicted (from left to right) are Mark Tantorski, Bryan Searles, Kiley DeGrand, Kaylie Sahirul, Sam Langner, and Jill Elliot.

(bottom right) Biology teacher Dr. Lisa Ball-Goodrich, who chaperoned the event, enjoys a cotton candy treat with science teacher and senior advisor Mrs. Candice Funsch at Senior picnic at Holiday Hill. A great time was had by all!

Sunless Tanners compared to UV Rays: Which is better?

by Tessa Raffone

With summer around the corner, many are pondering best and safest ways to get that sun-kissed glow that tends to be flattering on nearly everyone. Some people like to keep up with their tans and keep their “natural” color by using alternatives to exposure to UV rays. There are different ways of doing so including use of tanning beds as well as self-tanning with sprays and lotions.

Tanning beds use synthetic UV rays to produce the same skin pigmentations as sunbathing. Sessions can range from as low as \$20 per session, to as high as \$50. Keeping close track of time is crucial as studies have shown that the UV rays in tanning beds are not much different from natural sunlight as far as potential skin damage is concerned. Tanning beds also contribute to an increased risk in melanoma and UV tanning lasts up to 10 days so maintenance visits are generally necessary, meaning more exposure to the cancer causing rays. If one chooses to keep up with tanning sessions, the color can last much longer.

Spray tan sessions are another option that cost between \$25 and \$50 per session. On average, airbrush tanning usually starting at \$50 per session. Self-tanning products such as lotion can cost between \$5 and \$10. Spray tans solutions have been approved for external application however, they have not been approved safe to ingest. You can keep yourself safe by making sure your eyes, nose, and mouth are protected while being spray tanned or airbrushed. Spray tans last about a week and then begin to fade.

Overall, it is shown that spray tanning may not be the most efficient way to get a tan but it is the safest as long as it is not ingested. If going through UV tanning sessions, make sure you are doing it correctly and not staying in a bed too long, which could harm not only your skin but your eyes. Although being tan may be a preference to some, be safe as it is not worth possible skin diseases.

Most importantly, keep your sunny disposition and enjoy a safe and wonderful summer!

Malaria

FROM PAGE 10

ed by scientists at GSK in 1987. It was developed in a public-private partnership with the PATH Malaria Vaccine Initiative and with support from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation along with local health organizations from seven African countries. Among the potential malaria vaccines, it is the furthest along.” The pilot project will test whether the vaccine can work under real-world circumstances. According to the scientists, the vaccine must be administered in four doses and given through an intramuscular injection.

“The prospect of a malaria vaccine is great news. Information gathered in the pilot program will help us make decisions on the wider use of this vaccine,” said Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, WHO’s regional director for Africa, in a statement. “Combined with existing malaria interventions, such a vaccine would have the potential to save tens of thousands of lives in Africa.”

Congrats Preschool Graduates!



Collage by Kaylie Sahirul

The NHHS Child Development Preschoolers ended the year with a Disney-themed graduation to celebrate with their teachers and families. The ceremony took place in the auditorium and included live performances from the high schoolers in the music department. The children said they are excited to begin the next school year as kindergarteners.

Girl's Rugby Team

by Laura Borrelli

For two years, North Haven High School has offered Girls Rugby as a club sport and this year, the team ended the season with a some top notch playing.

Rugby is somewhat similar to football, but the girls must pass the ball backwards. There are two 40-minute periods, and a 20-minute break in between. Last year the team consisted of 15 girls, which is the maximum number allowed on the field. This year, the team consists of 23 girls that collaborate and work together as a team.

Although the girls were fourth in the state out of four teams, their success is not measured exclusively by their victories. Junior Sachi Patel has played on the team for two years and explains, "We played our first game of the season, and exactly like our last game in the previous year....it meant a lot because it took a lot of time/practice to train back to where we were. I was really proud of my girls, we all worked together."

Another junior, Mehak Sharma, has been involved for two years as well and states, "I love that it's a woman empowering sport. I believe it is a wonderful opportunity for girls at this age to find themselves in situations they could have never imagined." Rugby involves a lot of tackling but only from the waist down. Mehak comments "I love that I can get down and dirty in the sport. A lot of people ask me, "You tackle?" you bet I tackle!"

Both Mehak and Sachi are impressed with and proud of the way their team members played this season. They also recommend joining Rugby, "There is a position for everyone and it is a learning experience across the state." Sharma says. Patel adds that many girls may fear playing because of the dangers, but none of the girls were seriously injured. Sharma says, "It's not all about getting hurt, we learn how to safely tackle." The North Haven Girls Rugby Team has a lot to be proud of as they wrap up their second season, and a lot to look forward to!



Submitted Photo

Red Cross Blood Drive



Collage by Kaylie Sahirul

Student and community members congregated on May 19th in the gymnasium at NHHS to donate blood to those in need. The Red Cross organized the event and student volunteers helped run it, and 40 pints were collected.

Teacher of the Year



Staff Photo

Psychology teacher, Mr. Evan Soderholm, was recently selected by popular vote as the winner of teacher of the year. He is pictured here, signing the yearbook of his student, Clara Pak, who is wearing a Drexel t-shirt where she will be attending school next year. Congrats to Mr. Soderholm and good luck to Clara!

President Trump challenges existence of global warming

U.S. pulls from Paris Climate Agreement to the dismay of many who warn of impact

By Jackson Frank

While countries with cities completely engulfed in smog, like China and India, have recently been taking aggressive action to curb dangerous climate changing emissions, the United States is taking a very different approach. Donald Trump made his views on climate change clear from the start of his campaign. He tweeted on November 6, 2012 that “the concept of Climate Change was created by and for the Chinese government in order to make U.S manufacturing non-competitive.”

Since his first days in office, Trump has held true to this doubtful view on climate change. The Trump Administration maintains the position that the many environmental policies implemented by the Obama Administration must be cut back in order to allow for economic growth in American fossil fuel industries. Following this position, Trump and his newly confirmed EPA Administrator, Scott Pruitt, have proposed a number of EPA centered executive orders as well as potential EPA budget cuts.

While Trump has a long way to go in dismantling strict environmental protections, his administration has already started by using the Congressional Review Act to nullify policies like the EPA’s Stream Protection Rule which in part restricted coal companies from dumping into streams. Upon entering office, Trump also proposed a number of executive orders surrounding environmental regulation. In February, Trump released an executive order asking the EPA to repeal and replace The Clean Water Rule. In March, Trump proposed a sweeping executive order which sought to pull back many environmental policies enacted by Obama like emissions rules for power plants, a moratorium on federal coal leasing, and the use of the social cost of carbon to guide government actions.

The president has also left many positions such as scientists and engineers in the EPA unfilled. Though Trump has moved quickly to lay out his plans, he will likely face many roadblocks as he begins to pull apart the many protective layers of current environmental policies.

Most recently, President Trump made the decision to leave the Paris Climate Agreement which

was established in 2015. At that point, virtually every country in the world – big and small, rich and poor – came together in an unprecedented show of global unity and made a deal that allowed each country to make its own plan, but also held them accountable for reducing pollution. It was seen by the worldwide scientific community as a historic breakthrough that brought tremendous international credit to the U.S. as the country that led the charge and helped pull the world together.

Many Americans feel it is a monumental mistake that will live in infamy. They view it as a retreat from America’s role as world leader – one that ignores overwhelming scientific evidence and the advice of more than 1,000 business leaders who urged him to stand up for our clean energy economy. They fear that if Trump now turns his back on the global effort to help the environment, his decision to shirk U.S. leadership responsibilities will hover over diplomatic discussions, trade negotiations and major business deals. It will also isolate us as the only major nation dodging our duties, something other countries may not forget.

These Americans also feel it will hurt the United States far more than the rest of the world and that the global damage will be considerable. Most environmentalists agree that the most obvious consequence, for people everywhere, will be a slowdown in the fight to reduce the pollution that causes climate change – at the very moment we need to step up with that given issues with extreme weather (heat waves, flooding, massive storms, and other natural disasters) and the agricultural and disease impact. Another concern is that by pulling out of the deal, we are isolating ourselves diplomatically and economically while siding with the only two outlier nations – Syria and Nicaragua – who refused to sign the original climate pact.

There are other Americans who agree with the president that his decision will ultimately boost the U.S. economy and that as a nation we currently take on more of the burden and expense than other nations. Other world leaders have made it clear they will move ahead on their Paris commitments with or without the U.S. so consequences of this decision are uncertain.

In addition to already being restricted by law in his full abilities as president, many organizations like the National Resource Defense Council plan to fight Trump’s agenda with legal measures and public opposition. With a long and difficult journey ahead, President Trump and his administration will undoubtedly

try to leave their mark and shape the future of energy in America and as well as our nation's approach to climate change.

Anatomy 101

Juniors Korbin Pecora and Mark Montano dissect their fetal pig in Mr. David Jacob's Anatomy class. Are their future doctors among us?



Does early exposure to technology harm young children?

Recall the “power” of play without plugs
by Lorenzo Rappa

Now more than ever, children are born into a “digital world”. It is not unusual to see a young child, even as early as age one, with some type of device in hand, whether it be an iPad or TV remote. Many advertisers know that toys have been replaced by technology gadgets for this new generation and companies are utilizing this to their advantage.

By creating toys that also include technological components, we are breeding tiny technology users and jeopardizing the wonderful skill development and socialization involved in day to day normal playtime. However, some ask if it is ethically acceptable to take advantage of the new millennials constant interaction with the media and how this constant exposure is affecting the way our children grow up and learn.

In 2004, the Bureau of Economics staff at the Federal Trade Commission compiled evidence and released a report based on data measuring the amount/impact of exposure to technology, specifically ads, had on various age groups. The study discovered that 52,469 ads were watched by the age group categorized as “adults”. However, what is very scary is that children were exposed to almost half that amount in only a short number of years, meaning theoretically our children are being exposed to a higher frequency of advertisements than most adults. One might ask, what is wrong with that?

The problem is that our children do not have the authority or even the ability to make their own decisions; technology is doing it for them. It has even

been confirmed by several studies that the human brain does not completely develop until age 21 so for most of their adolescent lives, adults are entrusting children to use technology indiscriminately even though they may not have the full capacity to do so responsibly and safely.

Many experts confirm the idea that children do not yet have the ability to use sensible judgement in making choices. For example, Australian professor, Richard Mizerski, builds upon the idea that the human brain of youngsters has not yet fully developed. He explains, “Their cognitive structures have only begun to take the correct form....technology easily manipulates the minds of young children because they, in particular, have difficulty distinguishing between advertising and reality....and therefore technology can distort their view of the world.”

One study performed by Roy Fox, Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-Columbia, confirmed the inability of children to distinguish the twisted reality presented before them: “We found that children... believed children in advertisements were real rather than paid actors and they often confused advertisements with news items. Generally they did not understand the commercial intent and manipulation behind much that is presented online.”

So what does all of this mean? Studies show that children do not understand persuasive intent until they are eight or nine years old. Children also naturally desire to find and relate to character, and then conform to a norm behavior and so technology is giving us a society of followers that are conditioned to copy rather than create, since childhood.

Thinking encompasses so many aspects of who our children are and what they do, from observing, learning, remembering, questioning, and judging to innovating, arguing, deciding, and acting. But now with so many children owning tablets and smartphones starting at a young age, we are allowing our offspring to think a specific way—mostly passively.

Many children now rely on technology for the majority of their play, which greatly limits the stimulation and challenges they should be experiencing as part of their education, creative, imaginative development, and overall growth into adulthood.

Perhaps new parents should think twice before exposing their young children to the world of technology and instead introduce them to outdoor play, building blocks, puzzles, toy musical instruments, chubby colorful crayons, and even a stuffed animal or

two— things that inspire active thinking and interaction with other children and environments.

These stimulate creative ways to approach and solve problems through hands-on activity, providing visual stimulation in ways such as drawing the surrounding world and assembling multiple pieces to make a whole. Maybe even kindness can develop through the hugging of a favorite stuffed toy or sharing with others. Now there are some novel ideas....or start with a baby book, and work up to a novel!

Thousands gather in People's Climate Movement to send strong message

by Jasmine Nguy

The People's Climate Movement startup began during 2014 but there are some who believe that it is now needed again in 2017. Also known as the People's Climate March, the event was a protest which happened in Washington, D.C.'s National Mall and at many other locations including California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, and even areas outside of the United States.

All of these huge international movements were planned back in January 2017 and occurred on April 29th, 2017 to protest against President Donald Trump and his administration's environmental policies. The date in April was selected because it was the mark of Trump's first 100 days as president and protesters sought to make a strong statement on that particular day.

Even though it was very rainy, gloomy, and stormy day, protesters continued on as planned, committed to the cause. An estimated 200,000 participants lead by over 50 partners who helped and supported them, coordinated and collaborated to pull off this monumental movement, known also as The Climate Reality Project.

According to Jamie Henn, a key planner of the movement, the main reason for the demonstration was the need to challenge Trump's agenda and voice serious and desperate concerns about the future of America and beyond. This movement had a huge impact on the world, notifying people young and old alike of what many believed to be questionable policies of the new administration.

The movement sent a strong message, but the long-term impact it will have on how our new president and his administration make their decisions, remains to be seen. At the very least, the march united

voices heard around the world!

Congratulations to the class of 2017 Seniors from The Phoenix staff. We wish you the best of luck as you pursue succesful futures!

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Students Jill Rowland (left) and Yasmin Mohamed (right) take their B1 final exams.

Good luck to all students and have a great summer!