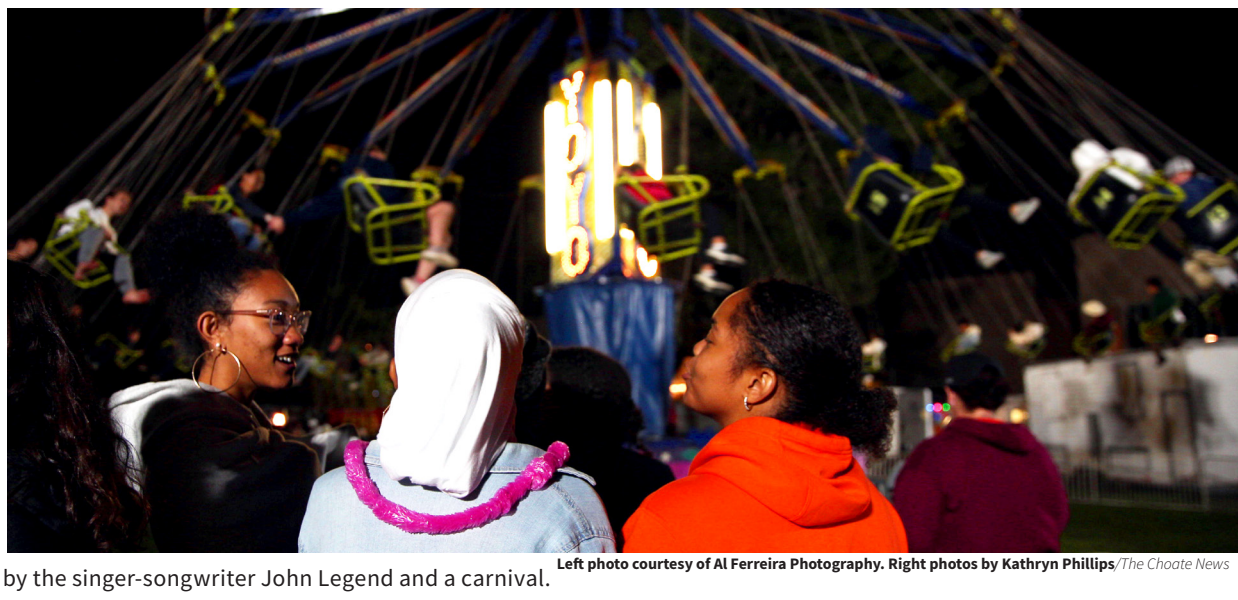
The Choate News

The official student newspaper of Choate Rosemary Hall since 1907

Choate Rosemary Hall
333 Christian Street
Wallingford, CT

Vol. CXIII · No. III | Friday, October 11, 2019 | thechoatenews.choate.edu



Over a weekend designed to celebrate community, Choate students were treated to a concert by the singer-songwriter John Legend and a carnival.

Left photo courtesy of Al Ferreira Photography. Right photos by Kathryn Phillips/*The Choate News*

At Concert to Open Colony Hall, John Legend Croons, Encourages Political Action

By **JeeHwan Kim '21**
Copy Editor

Ever since Head of School Dr. Alex Curtis announced that the opening of Ann and George Colony Hall would be celebrated with a private concert by John Legend, the Choate community looked eagerly forward to his arrival. Last Thursday, students and faculty gathered for the long-anticipated concert.

Dr. Curtis began by thanking Mr. George Colony '72 and Mrs. Ann Colony, who were present in the audience, for their contributions, that made building and concert possible. He then quickly turned over the show to the award-winning singer-songwriter. The packed auditorium exploded in an uproar as Mr. Legend stepped through the wooden doors and made his way toward the grand piano at the center of the stage.

He opened his show with a cover of The Beatles' "Here Comes the Sun" and filled the hour with a collection of his own songs as well as covers. He closed the show with his most popular hit, "All of Me," during which the audience stood to sing along.

Not only did Mr. Legend perform songs, but he also left students with an encouraging message about the impact that their votes can have on the future of the government and the nation. Mr. Legend reminded students of the roles they will play as agents of change in the future and to not underestimate their current influence by holding their government representatives accountable for their actions. Javier Castillo '20, a freshmen prefect, said, "That moment when he stopped and spoke to the crowd was really powerful, I think it encouraged discussion afterwards."

Students and faculty alike had positive reactions to the experience. Faris Alharthy '20 said, "The best thing about it was that we were, as a community, right there in the same place celebrating together, and it was just a really magical moment. My favorite part was when he played the piano, going on about how we can change the world. His motivational speech was really powerful."

Abdulqaadir Ahmed '22 said, "I didn't really know his music, so I wasn't so sure, but I really liked it. In ten years, when we look back at [Colony Hall], we will all remember this remarkable moment."

Dr. Curtis expressed his gratitude towards the committee of students and faculty who decided to bring Mr. Legend, whom he thought was an excellent choice of artist for the evening. "It was striking to me that [Mr. Legend] knew that he was there for a very important moment in the School's history, and the first thing he said to me was how honored he was to be a part of this moment," he said. Although Dr. Curtis could feel the students' excitement as they rushed into the auditorium as soon as the doors opened, he mentioned that their excitement as he introduced Mr. Legend onto the stage "took [his] breath away."

Director of the Arts Ms. Kalya Yannatos hopes that the performance inspired the student body and brought the Choate community closer together: "Even if it's not everybody's perfect vision of who they would most want, just to see someone of that caliber, who's that capable of capturing a thousand people's imaginations, is exciting. Anytime a community comes together and picks energy up in that way has a reverberation that's positive."

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Choate's Uber Policy Clarified

By **Claire Yuan '21**
Copy Editor

In recent years, a boom in the ridesharing industry has led to a corresponding rise in student use of companies such as Uber and Lyft on campus. Despite Uber's policy that riders must either be 18 years of age or older, or be accompanied by someone who is, many underage Choate students use these services as a convenient and cost-effective way to travel.

Currently, Choate neither formally bans nor endorses the use of ridesharing services. The Student Handbook states that "the School discourages the use of Uber and other ridesharing firms and advises families to check their terms of agreement before arranging rides or allowing their children to use such services." Although faculty of the Student Activities Center recommend using Choate-provided transportation, specifically on weekend events and vacation transportation, it leaves the regulation of Uber usage to students' parents.

Because Uber's terms of usage state that riders must be over the age of 18, parents typically need to be present when an account is created and linked to a credit card. "We know that most students are not of an age where they should be permitted to use these services, but we also recognize their utility. The School recognizes that this is a really cost-effective way to travel for many students and that for some families, this may present itself as the best option," said Mr. Will Morris, Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residential Life.

Addressing the school's specific position on the registration of Uber accounts, Mr. Morris stated, "The School isn't involved in registering students for Uber accounts, so the policy is one that puts us in that kind of middle ground of saying that this is a little more between the parents and the child and a little less between the child and the School."

Policy and regulations aside, Choate's foremost concern is always the safety and well-being of its students, so incidents in

See **Uber,** *Page 2*

COMMUNITY GATHERS FOR ON-CAMPUS CARNIVAL

By **Sean Kish '21**
Reporter

On Friday, October 4, the School held a community carnival on the Great Lawn following a private John Legend concert. The event was proposed by a committee led by Executive Director of Development and Alumni Relations Mr. Dan Courcey and English Department Head Ms. Ellen Devine that aimed to revamp community weekends.

The committee began meeting last spring in hopes of developing an idea that complemented the Colony Hall opening celebration concert. After looking into the possibility of hosting a carnival and reaching out to potential vendors, the committee began planning.

The carnival included rides such as Zero Gravity, YoYo, Cliffhanger, and a Ferris wheel. The food trucks present served sandwiches, Indian cuisine, french fries, ice cream, cannolis, pizza, and more. Entrance, rides, and food were free for all members of the Choate community.

Measures were also taken to support sustainability initiatives on campus. Ms. Katrina Linthorst Homan, Director of Sustainability, was able to contact Roaming Hunger, the company that oversaw the logistics of the food trucks used by Choate, to ensure the use of compostable plates and cutlery in order to limit the landfill waste created at the carnival.

Photo by Kathryn Phillips/*The Choate News*

Choate offered the carnival classics: cotton candy and fried dough.

In addition to maintaining sustainability, one of the many goals of the event was to bring the community together. "I'm hoping that [students] appreciate our campus, and appreciate all that we do for you guys to enjoy yourselves here," said Ms. Long. The main purpose of the event was to bring Choate community weekends back into existence, bringing the entire community together outside of school meeting, which has become a rare occurrence nowadays.

The carnival was a successful event, hosting large crowds of students and faculty late into the night. With a final food consumption average of five servings per person, the carnival was an unforgettable way to wrap up a festive end of the week. Kobe Robinson '20 stated, "Despite the cold weather, the turnout for the carnival showed the attraction that it brought to students from all forms."

Sean Kish *may be reached at skish21@choate.edu*

Mayoral Matchup
A former Choate admission officer is challenging the longtime incumbent.
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Seven Days Phone-less
One week.
No phone.
Hear my tale.
Opinions Campus • P4

Democracy vs. Delusion
Will the impeachment inquiry help or hurt Democrats' chances in 2020?
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Fringe Across the Pond
Last summer, the Edinburgh Fringe Festival staged Ms. Tracy Terry's original play.
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Read it, then recycle it.

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Student Council Recap

By **Chris Lin '21**
Columnist

On Tuesday October 1, Choate's Student Council voted on seven proposals that ranged from extending Wi-Fi hours to better handicap accessibility around campus.

Ula Lucas '21, a fifth-form representative, proposed to convert one of the sets of stairs between the faculty parking lot behind Hill House and the Health Center into a ramp. Lucas hopes to ensure that the Health Center is accessible to students with limited mobility and that all students have an easier time traveling there for treatment.

Lucas also requested the installation of water fountains in dorms that do not currently have them, in hopes that students will not purchase plastic bottles of water.

Zayd Gonzalez '22, lower-classman day student representative, aimed to digitize guest permissions through REACH Boarding. In an attempt to reform the currently compliclated process, Gonzalez intends to streamline guest permissions to make it easier for day students to spend weekend nights on campus.

Shane Baldwin '21, the fifth-form president, initiated a proposal calling for more outdoor seating across campus. Baldwin believes that by putting Adirondack chairs throughout the school, students will spend more time working or socializing outdoors. Baldwin is also working on a proposal to get compostable paper towels in all dorms to promote sustainability on campus.

Luke Barrett '21, the upper-classman day student representative, asked that day students be allowed to park behind St. John Hall. Barrett said that he has noticed that the parking lot is mostly empty on weekends and believes that if day students were permitted to park at the SAC, they would be more likely to attend campus events.

Abby Lu '22, a fourth-form representative, proposed adding reusable waffle cups to the dining hall. Waffles are a favorite breakfast item, but the procedure for making waffles includes the use of small, single-use plastic cups. Lu believes that the introduction of reusable cups will contribute to Choate's larger efforts at environmental sustainability.

Another proposal from Lu asked that Wi-Fi hours begin at 5:00 a.m. Choate has recently granted juniors unlimited Wi-Fi. While Choate's current Wi-Fi hours benefit those who work late into the night, Lu hopes for reforms benefiting early risers or people who are otherwise productive in the morning before classes begin.

The Student Council is following their original goal of dealing with one policy each week. The current proposals being discussed are intended to improve student life, while long-term initiatives include reforms to the School's visitation policy, mental health days policy, and the day student prefect program. The Student Council aims to increase transparency by posting more regularly to its Instagram account and by holding more form forums. Student Body President Vikram Sharma '20 said that the Council has resolved to focus, in part, on public relations so that "people know what we're doing and have open communication with us on what we can be doing better."

Chris Lin *may be reached at chlin21@choate.edu*

Student Committee Advocates Personal Divestment

By **Praj Chirathivat '22**
Staff Reporter

Graphic by Elaine Zhang/*The Choate News*

The Divestment committee spearheads an educational initiative about personal divestment.

Two weeks ago, during school meeting, Kate Spencer '20, Will Staniar '20, and Grace Stapelberg '20, members of the Choate Divestment committee, gave an update on their progress in their efforts to help the School divest from fossil fuels and encourage the Choate community to be more conscious of its personal investments.

This year, the committee is planning to transition from divestment on the grand scale to something different: a personal divestment campaign. Individual divestment is focused on how individual consumers invest their money by making informed decisions.

Working alongside the committee's two advisers, Ms. Ashley Bairos and Dr. Christopher Hogue, the Divestment committee works directly with the Board of Trustees. It was established in 2016 by Chris Moeckel '16, who realized that around 10% of Choate's endowment was invested in fossil fuels, the committee's primary goal has long been to get the Board to divest the School's endowment from fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy resources, a financial approach that the committee believes is more aligned with Choate's values: Choate's mission statement tells students to be global citizens and to push for change.

After numerous meetings with the Board of Trustees and various members of the Choate community, the Divestment committee put together a petition that was later approved by the Board in 2018. On the efforts of Choate Divestment, Jaime Gonzalez '21 said, "I really support what the Divestment team does. I think that, as governments all around the world are being pressured to embrace more sustainable changes, it is a good time to begin investing in renewable energies in our community."

The Divestment committee is planning to start the personal divestment campaign by focusing on food. Members began by gathering information from a survey they sent out two weeks ago, inquiring about student spending habits. The committee will soon draft a report on the ethical consequences of large communities like Choate eating at certain restaurants in Wallingford and will initiate an educational campaign in which committee members will talk about different restaurant policies."A purchase is like a vote, so you should know who you're voting for," said Stapelberg.

Spencer wants the Choate community to be conscious of what they are supporting with their money. "What we want is for the students and faculty of Choate Rosemary Hall to feel more comfortable in using their consumption habits to make a statement in society and to be more educated about what that means," she said.

> **A purchase is like a vote, so you should know who you're voting for.**
>
> *Grace Stapelberg '20*

With the increase in the amount of online platforms for food deliveries and the number of restaurant options people have, Stapelberg said, "Our biggest point that we want to drive home is that we are not going to tell you what to do, at all. We just want the Choate community to know what they're doing, and that means being the most informed consumers they can possibly be."

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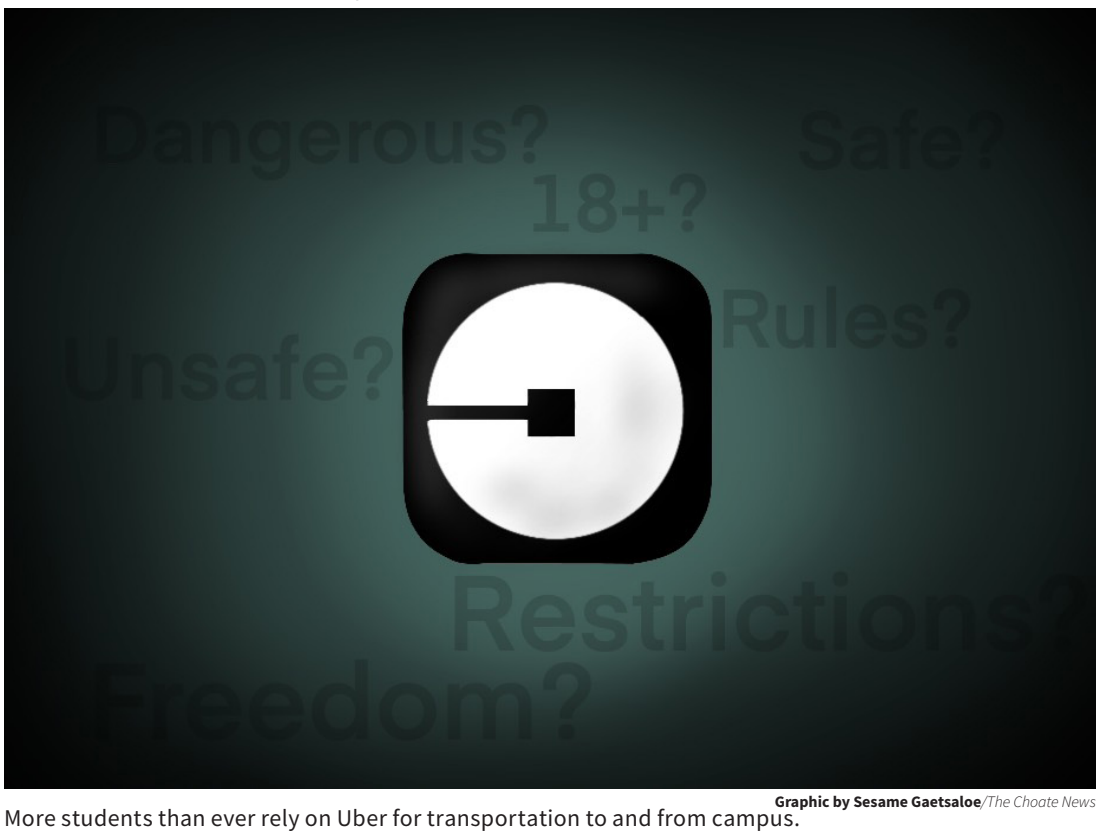
School Says Uber Use is a Question for Students and Parents



Graphic by Sesame Gaetsaloe/*The Choate News*

More students than ever rely on Uber for transportation to and from campus.

Continued from Page 1

the news about harassment and individuals posing as Uber drivers do raise worries among faculty. Dean of Students Mr. Mike Velez said, "The biggest concerns would be around student safety — so not being able to check who is driving. While those companies like Uber and taxis do background checks on drivers, we as a School haven't had a chance to see if there are any red flags."

Another safety concern is how well drivers follow Uber's regulations. With drivers able to use their own cars without being monitored by cameras and other security equipment, there seems to be a lack of clear safety checks. Mr. Morris said, "I think it should worry a student a little bit if a driver is supposed to be checking your ID and asking how old you are when you get in the car and doesn't do it. That sets up a situation where the driver has already demonstrated that they are willing to break one of the rules they are supposed to follow."

Though there are potential dangers to using Uber's services, students far more often than not find that convenience outweighs their concerns. Eliana Kim '20 said, "To me, Uber is a vital part of Choate life because I travel to New York every week and Ubers are cheaper than the drivers here as transportation." Of the School policy, she remarked, "I'm glad Choate lets us take Ubers and is more lenient about it."

Leave requests made to the Deans' Office underscore Uber's popularity. Last month, of the 309 student leave requests that indicated non-Choate transportation would be taken, more than half reported the use of Uber to leave campus.

For now, the School foresees no changes to its Uber policy, leaving the decision of allowing students to use ride-sharing services to parents. If the School should choose to ban Uber in the future, however, there would still remain alternative modes of transportation for students. Mr. Velez said, "Prior to the boom in Uber, students relied mostly on Metro Taxi, which is a local agency. I would assume that if we had a policy that banned ridesharing and also had a disciplinary response behind it for students who violated that rule, then we would probably see an uptick in the usage of those taxi services."

In general, the School advises students who do use Uber to stay cautious and alert. Mr. Velez said, "Make sure it is indeed the right car and driver. There should be some kind of credentials [like] a sign on the car. Confirming the driver's name and confirming the location where they are destined to go is also important."

Mr. Velez said that the School will continue to encourage students to use alternative modes of transportation whenever possible.

Claire Yuan *may be reached at cyuan21@choate.edu*

Sustainability-Themed Community Service Day an Overall Success

By **Derek Ng '20**
Managing Editor

Last Friday, Choate held its annual Community Service Day. Instead of attending classes, students participated in a wide variety of community service activities across New Haven County, from park cleanups to assistance at local food pantries.

The theme of this year's event was sustainability. "It's about finding practices that are long-lasting," said Director of Community Service Ms. Melissa Koomson, who spent many months organizing the event. "Some of it is looking at sustainability specifically to the earth, like invasive-species removal. But we also, for example, partnered with the Connecticut Food Bank because that's an organization that uses sustainable practices to provide for those living with food insecurity."

> **It's never going to be one hundred percent perfect, but it was pretty darn close.**
>
> *Ms. Melissa Koomson*
> *Director of Community Service*

Though many elements went into planning the day — finding viable organizations to partner with, securing transportation to and from the 31 off-campus sites, ensuring that all faculty and students had service assignments — only a few hiccups arose, such as a late-arriving bus and an off-campus site that, in spite of its communication with the School in recent weeks, was not prepared to put students to work that morning.

"It's never going to be one hundred percent perfect," said Ms. Koomson, "but it was pretty darn close."

Leo Zhu '21 was tasked with planting trees in Wallingford. Expecting the experience to be boring, he was, in fact, pleased with the work assigned to him. "I thought I wasn't going to learn anything and that it would just be physical labor," he said. "But, as it turns out, I learned a lot: what type of soil is best for the trees, how much water a tree needs, which worms are good and which are bad."

Students also enjoyed serving communities beyond Wallingford. Gavin Galiardo '20, whose group volunteered at the Connecticut Food Bank, appreciated employees' reactions to his group's work. "They told us that we had saved them several days of work," said Galiardo.

Not all students finished the day as satisfied. Aissatou Diallo '21 traveled to the Wallingford Land Trust, where she and some of her classmates were asked to lay mulch. "We were in a group of our friends, playing music," she said. "A lot of people were joking about it, not taking it seriously." Similarly, Dasha Asienga '20, who spent the day cleaning a park in New Haven, said, "There wasn't a lot of trash. It felt like we weren't doing much."

Still, according to an announcement delivered to the student body via BoarCast on Monday, "every site" that students visited, both on and off campus, was "raving about how wonderful [the students] all are." The message praised the "great work [students] did for neighboring communities."

Choate has now resumed its regular community-service programming, which includes activities hosted by service-oriented clubs and one-off service events that students can learn about through BoarCast or x2Vol, accessible on the student portal.

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Mayoral Candidates Outline Plans for Wallingford

Photos courtesy of *Record-Journal*

Democratic candidate Jared Liu (right) is once again challenging incumbent Republican William Dickinson in Wallingford's mayoral election, to be decided on November 5.

By **Linda Phan '22**
Reporter

On November 5, Wallingford voters will head to the polls to elect their next mayor. This year, Republican incumbent William Dickinson Jr. is running for his 19th term as mayor after 36 years in office. Challenging him is Democratic candidate Jared Liu, who lost against Mayor Dickinson in 2017.

The mayor of Wallingford plays a crucial role in Wallingford's government as the Chief Executive Officer of the town. Among the position's many responsibilities are the supervision of the town's offices, agencies, and departments, the enforcement of all laws passed by the Town Council, and the proposal of an annual budget to the Town Council. Each candidate hopes to bring his own philosophy to the Wallingford mayorship.

Mayor William Dickinson
Republican Incumbent

After earning a bachelor's degree in political science from Dickinson College and a J.D. from George Washington University, Mayor William Dickinson Jr. returned to Wallingford in 1984. Mayor Dickinson has served the town as mayor for nearly four decades.

Throughout his 18 terms in office, Mayor Dickinson's three major goals have been to protect, improve, and nurture the Wallingford community. According to Mayor Dickinson, accomplishing these goals is impossible without economic development and proper financial management of the government, which are the central components of his platform. "Without sound finances, you can't provide services," said Mayor Dickinson.

In the past, Mayor Dickinson has focused on lowering the costs of services while maintaining quality. He likes to remind voters that Wallingford's public utilities rate and tax mill rate are among the lowest in Connecticut.

Mayor Dickinson says that, despite these low rates, he has still been able to provide enough funding to improve Wallingford's services. Under his tenure, the town constructed a new fire station in 2016, purchased a n ew fire truck in 2018, and increased staffing in the police department through his 2018-2019 budget plan. The town also completed renovations for eleven of its twelve public schools in 2010 and has plans to renovate Wallingford's water and sewage plants.

Mayor Dickinson views the rise in opioid usage and nicotine products as a major issue in Wallingford. Wallingford, Mayor Dickinson says, should be more than a mere regulator of abused substances. He aims to take "that extra step to provide better opportunities." He says he plans to improve programs such as the Wallingford Employment Pipeline, an effort by the Wallingford Public Schools, the Wallingford Economic Development Commission, and several other local organizations to train residents for careers in manufacturing.

Jared Liu
Democratic Challenger

Mr. Liu grew up in Wallingford, attended Holy Trinity School, and, as a kid, worked as a paperboy for the *Record-Journal*. He went on to attend Bowdoin College. From 2011 to 2015, he worked at Choate Rosemary Hall as an admission officer and a coach to soccer and ultimate frisbee teams. Currently, Mr. Liu is a senior associate director of admissions at Yale University. He says that he is once again running for mayor to bring new ideas and opportunities to Wallingford, and that he is passionate about connecting with the town he loves.

Mr. Liu feels that Wallingford has missed many opportunities for improvement over the years. In particular, he believes that the town has "taken shortcuts to maintain the kind of services we care about." He compared the Wallingford government's method of solving issues to repairing the roof of a house with a tarp. "The leak is still there," Mr. Liu said. "The hole is still there."

Mr. Liu likes to describe a time when the Wallingford community bonded through communal locations and small businesses. Mr. Liu has devised an eight-year strategy that he calls "Plan 2027," which he says he created only after close study of how the town has changed. The central goal of his plan is to preserve the "small-town feel" of Wallingford by focusing on economic development.

Included in his plan is a proposal for the town to resume producing its own electricity. In 1899, Wallingford was powered by a local electrical plant. Today, Wallingford relies on Massachusetts-based power company Energy New England to provide electricity. Mr. Liu believes that the town could lower rates and cut expenses by generating its own electricity through renewable energy sources.

Mr. Liu's Plan 2027 also proposes providing greater assistance to small businesses. Mr. Liu plans to assemble a committee to work with the Economic Development Commission to help small businesses craft business plans, complete applications, and navigate regulatory hurdles. He also plans to introduce a job bank through which businesses can connect with local job seekers. According to Mr. Liu, a recent loss of small businesses has fragmented the Wallingford community and led to tax increases. He believes that by supporting local businesses the town can gain the financial resources to invest even further in economic development.

Linda Phan *may be reached at lphan22@choate.edu*

Community Calendar

OCT. 12, 9:00 a.m.

Guided Hike of the Tyler Mill Preserve
Learn about the history and natural features of Wallingford's 1,000-acre preserve on a trek through the wilderness.

Vietnam Veterans Memorial Park, Wallingford
Free; online registration required

OCT. 12, 10:00 a.m.

Madison Green Autumn Arts Festival
View works by award-winning local artists at Madison's annual arts festival.

Madison Town Green
Free admission; $35 car ride

OCT. 12, 10:30 a.m.

Saturday Sing-Along
Have fun with the whole family at the Wallingford Public Library in a program filled with songs, dances, and instruments.

Wallingford Public Library
Free; no registration required; for children eight and under

OCT. 12, 5:30 p.m.

Trail of Terror
Endure a night of fright on Wallingford's haunted path.

60 North Plains Hwy.
$15 admission; online registration recommended

OCT. 16, 6:30 p.m.

Poets on Poetry: Pablo Neruda
Join Colombian-born poet Luisa Caycedo-Kimura for a discussion of Neruda's work.

Wallingford Public Library
Free admission; no registration required

Beyond - the - tuck shop

By **Bella Capuano '21**
Columnist

Bubbling in a small aluminum pot are vegetables, raw squid, udon noodles, and cuttlefish balls. This is one of the many combinations you'd find at Hot Pot, the latest addition to Wallingford's food scene. With roots in traditional Chinese cuisine, Hot Pot allows customers to cook meats, vegetables, dumplings, noodles, and seafood in their own pot of steaming broth.

At the beginning of each meal, customers choose their broth. Hot Pot serves five types of broths, which vary in spice level: oxtail with wolfberry; Korean kimchi; tomato and pickled cabbage; Szechuan hot and spicy; and chicken with American ginseng.

Customers then order the items they want to add to their broths. Hot pots can contain anything from snow peas to oysters. Customers can add vegetables such as bok choy, corn, and broccoli, as well as meat and seafood dishes such as sliced chicken breast and jumbo shrimp. They can also add noodles, pork dumplings, tofu, and fish cakes. The portions are large, so it's often better to order small amounts of each dish to get a variety of flavors.

Photo by Bella Capuano/*The Choate News*

Hot Pot offers a variety of Chinese dishes to cook in steaming broth.

On tables are electric heaters that customers use to boil their selected broth. A thermometer helps customers ensure that their broth stays at the preferred temperature. Vegetables are typically added to the simmering pots of soup first because of their long cooking times. Meat, seafood, and other dishes are added later.

Hot Pot
970 North Colony Rd.

Open daily, 11:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.

To add extra flavor to the dishes, the restaurant also provides a sauce bar where customers can mix the likes of peanut oil, vinegar, and soy sauce to their liking. As for beverages, Hot Pot offers ten flavors of bubble tea, including favorites like mango and jasmine, and slush smoothies with add-on options like fruit jelly and white pop boba.

Hot Pot owner Eric Huang and his wife, Jian Li, are not newcomers to the restaurant industry. Locals of Watertown, the couple also own Hunan Wok Restaurant, a takeout restaurant in Naugatuck that serves American-influenced Chinese food. Mr. Huang was excited to open a traditional hot pot restaurant in Wallingford because of his love for authentic Chinese food. "Wallingford's large Asian population brought me here because my food is traditional Chinese, not American-Chinese," said Mr. Huang.

Bella Capuano *may be reached at bcapuano21@choate.edu*

TOWNS RESPOND TO EEE VIRUS

By **Nathan Lang '22**
Reporter

On September 19, 77-year-old Patricia Shaw of East Lyme passed away after contracting the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus, the first EEE death in Connecticut since 2013. In the weeks since, two more deaths have followed, with the EEE virus detected in more than 20 Connecticut towns. After a record-breaking year for both EEE cases and deaths, this issue has caused much concern in the local community. While some towns have taken actions to protect citizens from the virus, other towns have attempted to calm public anxiety, assuring citizens that the disease is rare and unlikely to be fatal.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, EEE is a rare virus that causes brain infections and neurological damage to vital areas of brain tissue. The virus's life cycle begins in freshwater swamps, where it infects birds. Mosquitoes that feed on these birds acquire the virus and then spread the disease to humans through mosquito bites. However, the most common mosquito species involved in this cycle, *Culiseta melanura*, seldom feeds on humans, making EEE a relatively rare disease in human populations.

Manchester, Enfield, Middletown, Wallingford, Meriden, and Eastern Highlands have decided not to take action to fight the disease, citing as justification the already dwindling mosquito population and the rarity of the disease. Many of these towns are facing criticism regarding their decision not to take action. In response, Middletown mayor Dan Drew wrote on Facebook, "There is a lot of unwarranted panic about this illness that is outsized to the actual threat posed to anyone. I urge everyone to be calm, and to remember that the odds of getting sick at all — let alone suffering serious consequences — are very slim ... This issue is far scarier in the media than in reality."

> **I urge everyone to be calm and to remember that the odds of getting sick at all — let alone suffering serious consequences — are very slim.**
>
> *Mr. Dan Drew*
> *Middletown Mayor*

The Wallingford Health Department echoed the views of Mayor Drew. Wallingford's Director of Health Stephen A. Civitelli assures the community that "in terms of risk right now to the community, it has been greatly reduced ... the mosquito traffic station in town just sent its report in terms of how many mosquitoes were caught, and right now they only caught four mosquitoes ... we feel pretty confident with just taking personal precautions."

Included in these personal precautions is the Wallingford Health Department's recommendation that all members of the community dress appropriately, to avoid coming into contact with potentially infected mosquitoes. Mr. Civitelli suggests "wearing long sleeve clothes, long sleeve pants, repellent products and avoiding any stagnant water around one's property."

Although there is no immediate health threat to Wallingford, Mr. Civiltelli stated that if a change in current circumstances arises, active methods to eradicate mosquitoes will be taken to ensure the safety of the Wallingford and Choate communities.

However, many towns have taken substantial action against the virus. Some towns have begun spraying pesticides over fields, forests, and areas near standing water in an effort to kill infected mosquitoes. According to the *Journal Inquirer*, a Manchester-based newspaper, Dr. Theodore Andreadis, director of a Connecticut program that traps and tests mosquitoes for viruses, said, "Localized spraying and curtailing activity are a good way to go."

South Windsor, which has declared the virus a public health emergency, has authorized emergency mosquito spraying and has closed parks in the town after 5:30 p.m. to combat the threat of EEE. East Hartford has allocated $45,000 for mosquito spraying near schools and populated areas. Suffield has also promised to spray all woodlines and beds around the town's public schools and major fields and parks.

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The Choate News

113th Masthead

VOL. CXIII
NO. III

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Uber is Convenient. But Is It Safe?

By **Paul Montrone '22** and **Kyle Chitty '23**
Opinions Writers

"Uber driver holds gay men to gunpoint in Atlanta." "Uber driver arrested for sexually assaulting a woman in Palo Alto." "Uber driver hits and kills a woman in North Philadelphia." In the past few years, numerous glaring headlines have highlighted Uber driver misconduct. In only eight months, Uber has been involved in 433 lawsuits because of an apparent inability to properly screen drivers. Despite the company's alleged shortcomings, many of these incidents may have been preventable through common sense.

Many Choate students deem these attacks irrelevant because they seem so remote, but we are subject to the same dangers. In Stamford, Conn. — not even an hour from Choate — a man pretending to be an Uber driver kidnapped and raped two intoxicated women. There is no guarantee, even with Uber's driver screening process and rider age restrictions (18 and above), that the driver will deliver the passengers safely to their destinations.

Uber's screening methodology includes checking an applicant's motor vehicle record and criminal history to disqualify any drivers with potential red flags. Clearly, this process isn't working.

Uber must strengthen its monitoring mechanism to quickly remove drivers who violate Uber's driver regulations. Currently, a driver may remain in Uber's system for a month to a year after an incident takes place, resulting in unsafe passenger conditions. This can be solved by cross-checking databases of illegitimate or suspended drivers with other transportation agencies in the industry.

Graphic by Lara Selcuker/*The Choate News*

Furthermore, Uber should improve its customer complaint system and find ways to confirm the validity of information provided by either the driver or the passenger. Recently, Uber added features to their app, giving passengers the abilities to call 911 and send reports during, rather than after, the ride. They also introduced an optional driver verification system. It is essential that Uber illuminates emergency safety options for passengers, whether it be an emergency button, the ability to send the status of one's ride with their friends, or information about the relationship between Uber and law enforcement agencies.

Nonetheless, many students disregard horrific past events as indicators of future occurrences. As the weekend approaches, students often make plans to leave campus. After choosing their destination, students — without considering walking or utilizing public transportation — very quickly decide to take an Uber.

Let's face it, the Wallingford public transportation system isn't all too convenient or practical. Most don't even know that Wallingford has a public transportation system. Choate also offers shuttles to bring students off-campus, but the options are limited. However, with Uber, students can more easily control their own schedule, getting to locations without the hassle of getting to and from a bus, train, or shuttle stop.

In light of recent events, Choate should advise parents to take more responsibility in managing the transportation needs of their children, especially in commuting to and from campus. To mitigate the risk of danger, the School should facilitate discussion with students over the use of Uber in advisory meetings, wellness classes, and online forums on Choate's student portal. This would help students better understand the importance of taking safety precautions before entering an Uber.

Choate trusts its students to make safe choices when they leave campus. This freedom teaches students about life outside of the School. However, having control over one's own life and actions requires the ability to make decisions weighing the value of one's safety in comparison to the risks associated with the decision. Ultimately, safety is in the hands of students and how they choose to act in a dangerous situation, and Choate should advise students to make the right decisions if such a situation does arise.

Paul Montrone *is a fourth-former from New York City.* **Kyle Chitty** *is a third-former from Woodbridge, Conn. They may be reached at pmontrone22@choate.edu and kchitty23@choate.edu.*

Want Environmental Change? Target Corporations.

By **Calvin Walker '21**
Opinions Staff Writer

The global climate strikes, which occurred between September 20 and 27, redirected much-needed attention on campus to climate change. In recent years, Choate has championed sustainable practices and educated its students on the destructive effects of climate change. To fulfill its mission for sustainability, the School has built several Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings, created the Environmental Immersion Program (EIP) for students specifically interested in the environment, and divested $38.5 million from fossil fuel companies. However, a lot of the initiatives that we have on campus — Veg-out Monday, the Hydro Cup Challenge, and the Divestment Team's "personal divestment" project — attempt to address climate change from the wrong angle. We as consumers have come to blame the problem on each other without recognizing who is truly responsible: international corporations.

A 2017 report from the Carbon Majors Database showed that since 1988, just 100 corporations have been responsible for 71% of global carbon emissions. Statistically, individual actions cannot compare with the detrimental effects caused by these international corporations. By blaming climate change on the individual, we are doing these corporations a favor. To deflect blame, corporations have pushed the narrative of individual contribution toward pollution and climate change.

Making informed and sustainable choices in consumption are undoubtedly steps in the right direction, but they are not sufficient in solving the problem of climate change. Sure, not serving meat in the dining hall for one day each week is great, and it lessens our impact on the environment. However, when you think about the fossil fuels that are burned to produce food, regardless of what it is, it is clear that our personal meat consumption is nowhere near the real problem. A recent report by the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) shows that in 2012, only 3.3% of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States came from livestock. Instead of feeling bad about the nearly imperceptible amount that you contribute to pollution by eating red meat, think of how the government might reduce subsidies for the beef industry.

Additionally, numerous Choate kids fly to and from campus multiple times a year, more than likely offsetting the impact of whatever environmental initiatives they pursue here. Taking a long distance plane trip produces more CO_2 per passenger than many developing countries do per capita over the course of an entire year. But are the international students at fault that their only viable method of transport back home is by plane? Absolutely not. Where is the federal regulation encouraging aviation companies to build greener planes?

To be sure, Choate's environmental initiatives and education programs accomplish a lot of good. But the hard truth is that most of them are only beneficial on a moral, feel-good level. We need to pressure the government into regulating those who are responsible for climate change. Here's where individual action is, in fact, effective: the systematic changes that will solve the climate crisis are predicated on each of us taking a stand.

Regulating and taking to task the governments and corporations actually responsible will be a lot easier than somehow convincing the public that the way they live is wrong. Instead of blaming the people living in a flawed system, blame the flawed system. Instead of making ourselves feel as though what we are doing is moral, fix the systemic issues that have allowed — and perpetuate — climate change.

Calvin Walker *is a fifth-former from Rhinebeck, New York. He may be reached at cwalker21@choate.edu*

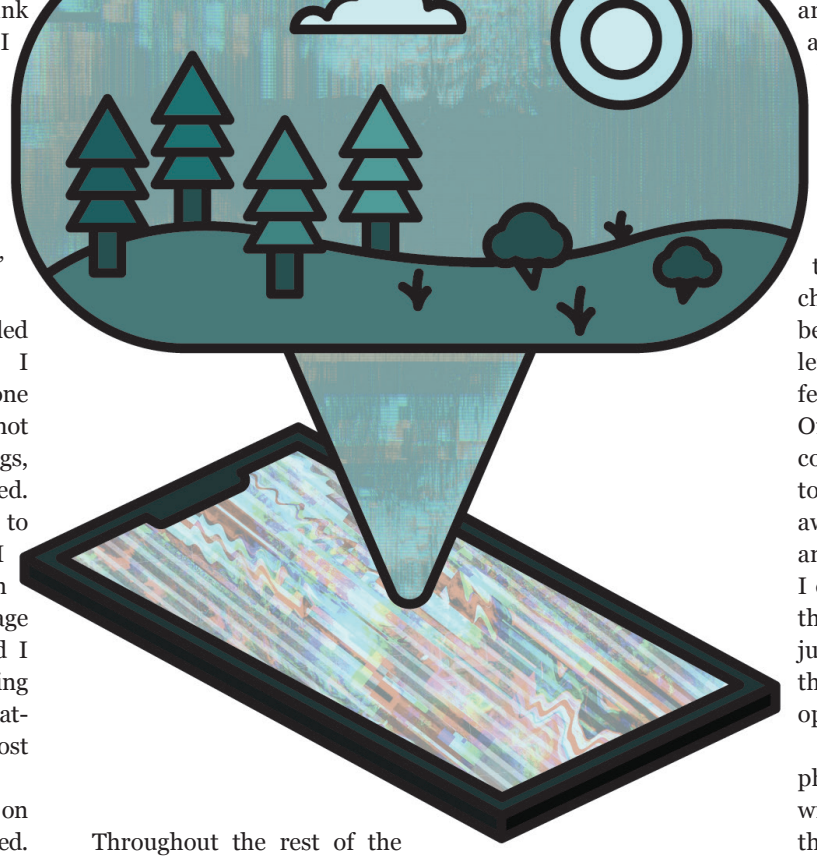
I Went Without My Phone For a Week. Here's What Happened.

By **Rachel Pittman '22**
Copy Editor

I challenged myself to survive one week without using my phone in order to test the notion that mobile phones have taken away our ability to connect with the world around us. On Sunday night, as I slipped my phone into my backpack (I'd decided to keep the device on me in case I happened to be abducted), I was apprehensive. I began to think of all the everyday things I use my phone for, things that you don't notice until they're gone — receiving my dad's texts when picks me up from Choate, looking up the definitions of random words I come across, like "brouhaha," or checking the time.

As Monday morning rolled around and I remembered I couldn't scroll through my phone before class, I felt bored — not connected to my surroundings, not mindfully aware, just bored. After years of using my phone to occupy every spare moment I had, I was now presented with the opportunity to fully engage with my surroundings — and I couldn't. I was so used to having ads, videos, and notifications satisfy my attention that I had lost the ability to entertain myself.

Before volleyball practice on Monday, my boredom shifted. Instead of waiting for external entertainment to come my way, I decided to take things into my own hands. I was reminded of the way I used to feel during the peak of summer break when I was younger and all sources of fun had been depleted. It was time to get creative. Inspired by my former love of homemade obstacle courses, I began to do parkour on the rolled up wrestling mats on the tartan court. As I jumped from mat to mat, I made dramatic sound effects. The self-consciousness I initially felt due to my confused onlookers was soon drowned out by the joy of the event. I lived in that moment, unconcerned with the test I had the next day or what would be for dinner. All that mattered was landing on the next wrestling mat.



Graphic by Chandler Littleford/*The Choate News*

Throughout the rest of the week, I became more aware of my surroundings. I noticed, without mental prodding, the colors of the trees and the sounds of insects as I walked on the path. I wondered what they were saying. I could entertain myself simply by looking at the world around me and staying grounded in my thoughts. I was even able to fight the urge to take photos at the John Legend concert, trusting that being present in the moment would leave a strong enough memory that would last without photos or videos.

This sense of engaging in the present moment was unexpectedly empowering. I didn't need my phone to be content; myself and the world around me were enough.

That being said, the bustling world around me refused to appreciate the moment along with me. I struggled to keep up with emails and important texts were left neglected. By the end of the day on Wednesday, this disconnection reached its peak and I became unhealthily anxious about leaving messages unopened. What if they were important? Would people be offended if I didn't respond to them? I compulsively refreshed my email ten, twenty times, paranoid that I had missed something.

By the end of the week, phonelessness started to feel a little normal. I began to accept the fact that I couldn't use my phone, and therefore, that it wasn't my fault that if I didn't answer texts or emails. I had an excuse for indulging in my bubble. For a week, I lived exclusively and truly with myself, free of the device that connects me to others.

Still, my sense of disconnection bled into my sense of the world outside of myself. I check the news only in passing, between classes or before athletics. Without my phone, and I felt my world closing in on me. Of course, I could have used my computer or talked to others to maintain a sense of global awareness and connection, but amidst my busy life at Choate, I didn't have the time to put in that effort. Instead, I slowly adjusted to my phoneless life and these passing moments became opportunities for productivity.

So, although I value my phone's ability to connect me with the world, I've learned through this experience that it sometimes shields me from myself. Although I don't think I will go phoneless again, I will certainly set aside more solitary time to pause and reflect.

Rachel Pittman *is a fourth-former from Cheshire, Conn. She may be reached at rpittman22@choate.edu*

The Choate News presents...

The Great Debate

Should Democrats Pursue an Impeachment Inquiry Against President Trump?

By **Kate Bailey '21**
Copy Editor

It's official: the House of Representatives will conduct a formal impeachment inquiry into President Donald J. Trump P '00 following a whistleblower report alleging that Trump unlawfully attempted to investigate 2020 Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden's son, Hunter Biden. This move could lead to the impeachment of the president sometime during the next several months. I'm not a Trump supporter — the opposite, actually — but now isn't the right time for an action against the president as drastic as impeachment. Rather than being a moral, patriotic check on the president's inside dealings, impeachment is a high-risk wild goose chase destined to hurt the Democrats in the long run.

The frenzy on Capitol Hill surrounding impeachment hearings is a waste of time; it's only deepening the party divide and distracting members from opportunities for bipartisanship. In 1997, when President Bill Clinton was undergoing impeachment procedures, it took four months and hours of debate for the House to make a decision on the matter. Considering the contention surrounding the allegations against Trump, the upcoming proceedings could take longer. Instead of focusing on bipartisan measures surrounding issues like gun control or healthcare that could have productive change for everyday citizens, Congress will spend hours in hearings on an issue that is almost completely divided by the party line in its very nature. In other words, though advocates for impeachment claim to defend our nation's overarching morals, they're really only bringing us further apart.

Though advocates for impeachment claim to defend our nation's overarching morals, they're really only bringing us further apart.

Also, whether or not you think Trump should be removed from office, it's essential to consider whether or not he can be removed from office. After "impeachment" in the House, the president in question must also be convicted by the Senate with a two-thirds majority. This appears unlikely, since the Senate is controlled by Republicans.

So, if Trump's not actually going to be removed from office, why bother? The answer for many, including Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, is symbolism: the image of Democrats rising above to defend the Constitution's moral values. But I fear that this symbolism, if Congress fails to convict Trump, will be twisted by the president and his cronies to galvanize support from their party. In addition to having a new way to ridicule the Democrats, Trump will be able to push his supporters even further to the right out of anger; this polarization will be devastating in the 2020 elections — one that, as ever, will be determined by swing voters.

To be clear, I'm not saying that Trump hasn't done anything wrong — interfering in a domestic election with the help of a foreign power is a textbook case of corruption. But what I know for sure is that impeachment proceedings will never achieve what Democrats want them to. To defend our Constitutional values, we must look below the unachievable ideal of impeachment and pay attention to the partisan, unforgiving reality of our political system. Yes, impeachment may be a fun, exciting buzzword to throw around, but in the world of Congress, these proceedings are destined to not only fail, but to come back to bite the Democratic cause.

Kate Bailey *is a fifth-former from Charlotte, NC. She may be reached at kbailey21@choate.edu*

By **Wesley Boatwright '22**
Opinions Writer

"I would like you to do us a favor," President Donald J. Trump P '00 said on July 25 while on the phone with Ukranian President Volodymyr Zelensky. The favor Trump was asking for was to dig up dirt on the son of former Vice President Joe Biden, a leading Democratic challenger in the 2020 election. Asking a foreign government to investigate a political rival is clearly an impeachable offense, and the conduct only gets worse.

Trump also heavily implied that United States' aid to Ukraine was dependent on this investigation. A week before this phone call with Zelensky, Trump personally withheld $400 million in military support from Ukraine. So, it makes sense that President Zelensky brought up American aid in their phone call. Trump replied with a request for "a favor." This kind of quid pro quo is clearly defined in the Constitution as presidential misconduct. Congress must declare that the president isn't above the law, and that the executive branch is beholden to the checks and balances outlined by the Founding Fathers. The only acceptable response? Impeachment.

The value of impeaching Trump is demonstrating that a sitting president can't abuse his presidential power to be reelected. Allowing such behavior sets a dangerous precedent and emboldens Trump to continue pressuring foreign governments into investigating his political enemies. This isn't a new tactic from Trump; during the 2016 election, Trump invited Russia to spy on his opponent, Hillary Clinton. "Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing. I think you will probably be rewarded mightily." As it turned out, that very day, Russia hacked into Clinton's campaign in search of the emails.

The value of impeaching Trump is demonstrating that a sitting president can't abuse his presidential power to be reelected.

No president should actively seek the help of a foreign country in our election process. Nothing short of the viability of our democracy hangs in the balance.

There will likely be consequences for impeaching Trump. It will surely energize his base — as Trump is an expert spin doctor, able to deftly misinform his supporters to maintain their trust. Already, the Twitter-in-Chief has proclaimed the impeachment inquiry a "witch hunt," and his call with Zelensky nothing short of "perfect." Fox and friends have snatched up the talking points.

But I encourage Democrats to think beyond politics. No president should be able to do as he or she pleases, federal laws, the integrity America's electoral process, and the health of our democracy be damned. It is incumbent upon the Democratic House leadership to ensure that the impeachment investigation is not a charade meant only to placate a base desperate for Trump to be removed from the Oval Office.

This process will not be pretty, and Republicans will do everything they can to change the narrative. The House of Representatives, under the leadership of Speaker Nancy Pelosi, must hold strong and see this through. They have a chance to do the country a great favor.

Wesley Boatwright *is a fourth-former from San Francisco. He may be reached at wboatwright22@choate.edu*

U.S. MUST COMPROMISE FOR NORTH KOREA DISARMAMENT TALKS TO SUCCEED

By **Harry Chen '22**
Opinions Staff Writer

After eight months of diplomatic standstill, the United States and North Korea will resume their disarmament negotiations for the first time since the Hanoi Summit last February, where the two countries clashed over concessions for the denuclearization of North Korea. Following the breakdown between the two nations in Hanoi, it became clear that if the United States wishes to denuclearize North Korea, it must stop with its current Libya-like, maximum-pressure strategy that pushes for unilateral denuclearization before any reciprocal concessions are given to North Korea. Only a step by step, "small-deal" approach that includes concessions of seemingly equal value will push these negotiations forward. Compromise, and compromise alone, is the United States' only chance to get North Korea to dispose of its nuclear arsenal.

During the United Nations General Assembly meeting in late September, North Korea said that it was more than willing to proceed with negotiations. Outside of diplomatic meetings, North Korea has also been taking apparent strides to make peace talks smoother. The country has paused all intercontinental missile tests and nuclear tests, and it has also shut off a nuclear-testing and satellite-launching site. Furthermore, North Korea has returned to the United States the remains of 55 American soldiers who were killed in the Korean War, as well as freed three American citizens who were arrested in the spring of 2017 in Pyongyang.

The United States, on the other hand, merely canceled a single war game in their joint exercises with South Korea.

This action (or, rather, inaction) is symbolic of Washington's attitude toward dealing with the disarmament situation as a whole: belligerent and uncompromising. The United States has long pushed for the immediate, unilateral nuclear disarmament of North Korea upfront, meaning that the talks around the reciprocation of concessions for North Korea will begin only after its total disarmament. In this way, the interests of the respective countries are almost fundamentally opposite. North Korea has insisted on receiving concessions before the disarmament, such as the lifting of economic sanctions. It has also refused to completely surrender its nuclear capabilities, because doing so would make it vulnerable. North Korea wants an official peace accord, a declaration that the Korean War ended, as well as an end to the U.S.-South Korea military exercises.

The United States needs to take a more relenting, compromising approach to this fresh round of talks. In recent history, Washington has focused so much on making sure that North Korea becomes and remains disarmed that it has forgotten that North Korea needs a guarantee that the U.S. will not invade it. In order to receive, one must give; in order to reach a deal, Trump needs to give concessions to North Korea. And, as the missile test in North Korea that happened just hours before the announcement of the revival of the disarmament talks shows, North Korea will continue to advance its nuclear programs unless appropriate concessions are given. Now is not the time for asserting dominance. Now is the time for a deal.

Harry Chen *is a fourth-former from Vancouver. He may be reached at hchen22@choate.edu*

Photo courtesy of *United Press International*
President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un have not met since their second summit in February.

Legalizing Drugs in the U.S. Would Benefit Citizens, the Economy

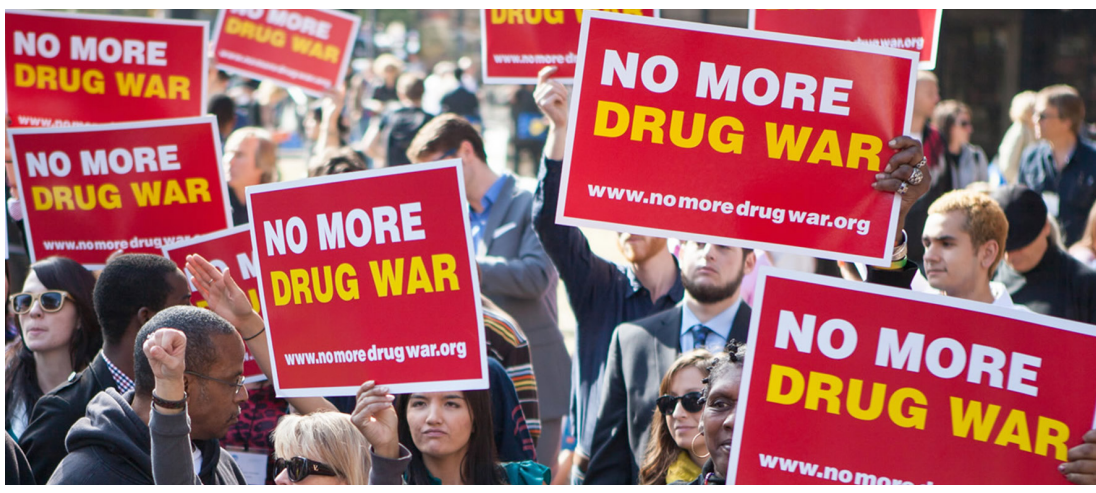


Photo courtesy of *Drug Policy Alliance*
The Drug Policy Alliance is one of many organizations that protests the government's legislation of drugs.

By **Alex Aronov '22**
Opinions Writer

After a long and treacherous fight, on August 28, New York officially decriminalized marijuana. Thousands of people who are currently incarcerated under nonviolent marijuana-related offenses will automatically have their charges expunged. With 11 states now allowing recreational marijuana use and many more state legislatures currently considering bills on the topic, it is possible that marijuna use will someday be completely legalized on a national scale.

But it's not enough. To fundamentally protect the values, citizens, and economy of our country, we must decriminalize and legalize the sale and use of all drugs.

Drug prohibition has created an environment in which violence, crime, and organized gangs thrive. Annually, the war on drugs costs the United States $40 billion. But that's just what we see on paper. The social cost is increased violence, potentially productive citizens thrown into prison, and perpetual poverty for addicts.

The harm is especially noticeable in developing countries. Because of the harsh crackdown on on drugs by authorities in the U.S, much of the production of these drugs is in poorer, less politically stable countries in Central and South America. Criminal organizations often all but replace the government, becoming a superpower in those countries both physically and financially. Estimates from *The Economist* say that organized crime costs El Salvador 16% of its GDP annually and has set back the country's development by 30 years.

The prohibition of drugs hurts the U.S. as well. When it's harder to bring drugs into a country, drugs become more compact so that more can be transported without detection. They become more refined, more pure, and, consequently, more dangerous. And when demand stays the same but supply goes down, price inevitably goes up. Addicted consumers will pay almost anything to buy the drugs they crave, and this financial burden adds to the destruction inflicted upon addicts. Stereotype aside, drug dealers earn less than minimum wage, in debt to their gangs and risking their lives every day. Only the top bosses swim in profit.

But is it even within the federal government's power under the Constitution to prohibit the sale and consumption of drugs? The war on drugs, spearheaded by President Richard Nixon, began in 1970 when the federal government passed the Controlled Substance Act, making the sale, transport, and use of many drugs illegal in the United States. When our country was established and the Constitution was written, the federal government was set up as a limited government, meaning it only had the powers enumerated to it under the Constitution. The federal government cannot just grant itself more power, but must justify where in the Constitution it gets its power from.

At least the alcohol prohibitionists of the 1920s respected the Constitution enough to go through the correct process. When they wanted to ban alcohol, they used a constitutional amendment to do it. But the federal government didn't do the same with drugs. Congress actually created a law that is unconstitutional, violating our rights as citizens to organize free trade with other law-abiding citizens. This was a clear overreach of power.

By legalizing use and then introducing drug sale to a free and competitive market, foreign drug bosses will have to retreat. Fresh competition will drive down drug sales, and people who are addicted will be more inclined, and potentially encouraged, to seek help once they no longer have to fear legal punishment for substance use.

Not only would the legalization of drugs lower organized crime, but it would also make drugs safer. Regulation would prevent drugs from being contaminated with dangerous chemicals and would protect people from ingesting lethal amounts of the substance. Hundreds of thousands of incarcerees would be released from prison for non-violent drug crimes.

As an added bonus, the government could put taxes on these transactions, with that money then going into programs to help those addicted. Cracking down on drugs was meant to help Americans, but it has hurt us as a country. To stop the dangerous business of drugs, we have to let the free market run its course.

Alex Aronov *is a fourth-former from Wilmette, Ill. He may be reached at aaronov22@choate.edu*

FEATURES

Quick Q&A with... Ms. Diana Beste

By **Brian Harder '23**
Reporter

Ms. Diana Beste, a member of the Language Department, has been teaching Latin and other classical offerings at Choate since 1983. She is originally from Brooklyn, N.Y., which she says was "less trendy back then." When she was in high school, she had an incredible Latin teacher who sparked her interest in the language; she hopes to be a similar inspiration for her students.

What is your favorite song?
It's hard to say, but currently it is "2 Kool 2 Be 4-gotten" by Lucinda Williams.

What is one of your favorite quotes?
"Errare humanum est," which is Latin for "to make a mistake is human." I want my students to understand that no one is perfect.

What is your favorite Choate memory?
Getting to introduce Robert Fagles when he came to Choate in 2004 to speak about *The Odyssey*.

If you could have one superpower, what would it be?
Being able to swim very efficiently so I could swim across oceans and canals instead of taking planes.

What would you buy if you won the lottery?
I would purchase two large houses that could fit my entire family; one on a mountain with a nice view, and a four-story townhouse in Brooklyn or Manhattan.

What is your favorite vacation spot and why?
Italy. I love the ancient Roman culture, relaxed people, and the cuisine with its olive oil and wine.

Did you have pets as a child?
I had a hamster whose name I cannot share because it is a security question to my bank account.

What is your least favorite chore?
Paying bills.

What is your favorite board game?
Checkers or Scrabble.

What was your college major?
I majored in Latin and Greek.

What is something you learned last week?
Porcus does not mean pig in Latin; it means piglet.

How did you find that out?
I was reading an online article by a friend in the Latin community who had done a lot of research on ancient authors that wrote about the natural world. It totally makes sense now and since, my students and I have explored the different Latin words for mature versus baby animals.

What is a skill you wish you had?
Being able to play the guitar well, because there are lots of songs that I wish I could perform myself.

What was your first job?
I don't remember which, but it was either a camp counselor or an employee at Burger King.

Did you have to wear the little hat and flip burgers?
I definitely wore that crazy orange and yellow hat (which we were told were colors that stimulated the appetite!). But I worked one of the six cash registers, and at lunchtime we would have contests to see who could ring up the most money in an hour. I averaged about $600 a lunch hour, which back then was a lot of Whoppers and fries!

What is your favorite food?
Cheese, especially Swiss cheeses like Gruyère.

What are a couple things you could not live without?
Cheese, my health, and my family.

Brian Harder *may be reached at bharder23@choate.edu*

Directed Studies: Going Beyond the Course Catalogue

By **Sophie Vulpe '22**
Reporter

Have you run out of math, politics, or programming classes to take? Don't worry, Directed Studies are here! A unique opportunity for skilled students to go beyond the normal offerings of the Course Catalogue, Directed Studies allow for students to create a term-long class out of nearly any topic that piques their interest. Students may apply to complete a Directed Study in any department, and if approved by the Directed Study Committee, they can create their own course with the assistance of a designated course adviser and can add the class to their schedule. Recently, we caught up with participants in three fall-term Directed Studies, examining the likes of Congress and computer science.

Photo by Ula Lucas/*The Choate News*

Sonali Singh '20 and Roshni Surpur '20 are studying the programming language Java in their Directed Study.

Programming in Java, Honors

Ryan Kim '20, Sonali Singh '20, and Roshni Surpur '20 are currently studying Java, a programming language based on objects instead of the more standard functions and procedures. Surpur, who hopes to pursue a career in computer science, wanted to study Java because of the versatility and potential of the language.

Java is used extensively in the technical world, and being able to program in Java is a useful skill. Surpur and her classmates also wanted to learn Java in preparation for the AP Computer Science exam, which they hope will give them college credit. Although Choate used to teach Java in its AP Computer Science course, the language has not been taught in a regular course since Choate removed AP-designated courses for the 2017-2018 school year. All three of the students in the Programming in Java Directed Study have taken Introduction to Programming; Computer Science, Honors; and App Development. Surpur, who also knows HTML, JavaScript, CSS, Python, and Arduino, has been learning how to program in different languages since her freshman year.

The trio meets twice a week to review concepts and problems that they have reviewed outside of class. They also bring any questions they might have for each other or their faculty adviser, Ms. Meghan Healey. "She's been incredibly helpful," Surpur noted. "She's given us AP practice books to use whenever we have a question, and she's also very knowledgeable about the language. She's a constant resource for us," she said. In only a few weeks this fall, the students managed to learn the basic syntax and methodology of Java. Their final project for the course will be to create a Java program that will benefit the Choate community.

Model Congress

This term, Lily Ball '20, Lambert Perkins '20, and Nate White '20 are running a Model Congress simulation for the three U.S. Government and Politics, Honors sections.

U.S. Government and Politics, Honors, which is taught by Mr. Ned Gallagher and Mr. Jonas Akins, focuses on the organization and interaction of the three branches of America's federal government. In the Model Congress simulation, which is a key component of the course, students act as members of Congress, drafting legislation and guiding it through committee and floor sessions, which are all governed by specific parliamentary procedure. As a part of their job, the trio of Model Congress Directed Study students are responsible for keeping things organized, ensuring that parliamentary procedure is followed, and assisting students in the bill-drafting process. As a final project, the students are required to write an open-ended paper on a political topic of their choosing.

Algorithms

Heidi Lei '20, Jerry Wang '20, and Ting Li '21 are studying fundamental algorithms and data structures in their Directed Study. Algorithms are an integral part of modern-day computer science. Since the Classical Age, algorithms have been used to sort data. Today, we credit algorithms with the retrieval of data from the internet in many ways.

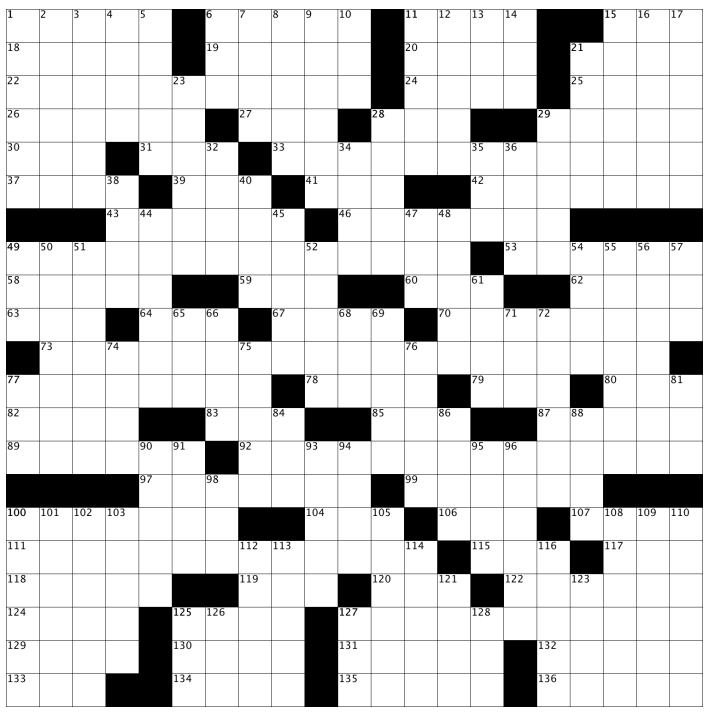
In their Directed Study, which is supervised by Mathematics and Computer Science Department Head Dr. Matthew Bardoe, the students learn to use complexity analysis to determine how much time and storage an algorithm will have, and learn about abstruse concepts such as heaps, trees, and hash tables. They are currently reading *Introduction to Algorithms* by Leiserson, Stein, Rivest, and Cormen. By the end of their course, the students hope to design an algorithm in Python that will use less space, or take less time to execute, than typical algorithms.

Much of the work the students have done thus far is in "pseudo-code," or notation that only represents a programming language. Lei stressed the use of mathematics in the work they're doing. "A lot of the tools we use can come from calculus or linear algebra, but you don't need to have a holistic understanding of those subjects," she said.

Sophie Vulpe *may be reached at svulpe22@choate.edu*

Give Yourself a Break!

By **Khal Bashawaty '21**



Check our Facebook page /choatenews and our Instagram account @choatenews for the answers to this week's crossword!

Across

1. Muslim head garment
6. Elon's car
11. Study last-minute
15. It's filled with 34-Down
18. Sheep-like
19. Relay race object
20. Zeus' wife
21. Word with tag or garage
22. *Go on a tirade
24. Goals
25. Reputation, slangily
26. PM Merkel
27. Try to deceive (to)
28. Work unit
29. Forgo
30. ____ Sanders (abbr.)
31. French pronoun
33. *2012 duo
37. At any time
39. Señor's wife, for short
41. In the past
42. Intent
43. Prefix with science
46. A grant from the government?
49. *1997 documentary featuring Tupac
53. Prepares for mailing
58. Plot point in Ocean's 11
59. Rep.'s counterpart
60. Apprehend, as a crook
62. Shakespeare nerd David
63. Raisin's partner in a cookie (abbr.)
64. Recipe amt.
67. _____ girl!
70. Cover again, as State Farm
73. *They can be found in a ref's book
77. Phrase type often ending, "...if you know what I mean."
78. Affirmative votes
79. Utilize
80. Foot component
82. Half the squares on roulette board
83. Trig function
85. ROTC school in Lexington, VA
87. Nickels, e.g.
89. X-rated
92. *"And do it again"
97. Child's favorite store, perhaps
99. Magic word, often
100. *The Choate News* component
104. Roman 601
106. Not stand by
107. Power _____
111. *Pres. Taylor's nickname, with "Old"
115. Ear-related prefix
117. Fri. follower
118. Macho
119. Medium-sized batteries
120. Tweeter's "If you ask me..."
122. With cunning
124. _____ Graham, All-Star Q.B.
125. Set aflame
127. *It ain't noise pollution
129. Change of address, to a realtor
130. Pulled a classic prank
131. Some end with @choate.edu
132. Supernatural
133. Compass dir.
134. USA's Cold War foe
135. Not a liability
136. Swamp plants

Down

1. "Ars Poetica" poet
2 Chekhov play
3. Commercial tune
4. Poker buy-in
5. End all's partner
6. At an uncertain time (abbr.)
7. Title of a sandwich?
8. One of 15 in front of Hill House
9. "Later, honey!"
10. Suffix with meth
11. He has the fastest slapshot
12. Term, as a king
13. Shoulder attachment
14. Live ____ (Taco Bell slogan)
15. Dolphins QB Dan
16. Alternatives to Advil
17. Flight landing at 3 a.m, say
21. Rascal
23. Queasiness
28. Some hydroxyl compounds
29. Opposite of best
32. Lady Antebellum's "__ to you"
34. Water, in Tijuana
35. Video game stat.
36. Regrets
38. Cyclist's stats.
40. Contributes
44. Sofa
45. Mountain nymph
47. Over there, once
48. Growl
49. ρ
50. One who desires
51. Press Command+Z, on a Mac
52. Page in a diary
54. Too
55. Northern cop
56. Public image
57. 168.75°
61. Boyfriend
65. Identity theft target, for short
66. Adds fluff to, as a resume
68. Golfer's aid
69. Its nectar is in tequila
71. Mr. Speyer's dept.
72. Nephews' opposites
74. Intense desire
75. Some 40's films
76. It contains Maine and Texas
77. Rage
81. Is (Fr.)
84. HHS branch
86. Where the Hollywood sign is
88. During business hours
90. "The _____ and Scratchy Show" ("Simpsons" goof)
91. Coca-_____
93. Connections
94. Pet rescue agcy.
95. Art _____
96. Wicker basket material
98. Japanese dough?
100. Garden structures
101. GPS suggestion
102. Shelled animal
103. Arctic abode
105. "Raining cats and dogs," and others
108. Onto the shore
109. Pale
110. Organizes, as hair
112. Double-dogs are gutsier
113. Me-time, or a hint to starred clues
114. Some Rec. centers
116. Use Grubhub
121. _____-dokie!
123. Plains Indian
125. A.C. unit
126. They deliver
127. Stephen of *V for Vendetta*
128. PC key

CHOATE BRINGS SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES TO CARNIVAL

By **Henrik Torres '22**
Staff Reporter

At the time, you may not have realized it, but each delicious yet incredibly unhealthy fried food you consumed at the community carnival last Friday was, in fact, served sustainably. In preparation for the carnival to celebrate the opening of Ann & George Colony Hall, a massive sustainability effort was conducted behind the scenes to ensure the School met part of its sustainability goals.

Choate prides itself on ensuring its students gain a deeper understanding of the world and their impact on it, especially in response to the current environmental crisis. Choate's goal for sustainability says, "At its core, being sustainable requires that, in meeting our needs, we do not decrease the potential of current and future generations to meet their needs."

Before the start of the carnival, Director of Sustainability Ms. Katrina Linthorst Homan and the Sustainability Committee worked to ensure that the community adhered to its pledge to sustainability. The food vendors were planning to use unsustainable petroleum-based products. In an effort to not generate so much landfill waste, the Sustainability Committee and Ms. Homan made arrangements for Choate to provide the vendors with compostable plates and cutlery.

Ms. Homan said, "We as a campus focus on being mindful of our footprint, so it was essential that we work with our vendors to be more environmentally friendly." She added, "It's great if on campus we are trying to have sustainable habits, but it's even better if we can spread that practice outside Choate."

As a C-Proctor, I got to see firsthand our impact on the vendors utilizing our sustainable practices. While helping distribute all of the compostable items that were to be used during the carnival, the vendors were understandable and supportive of the School's mission. All of the vendors gladly ditched their non-compostable plates in favor of our compostable ones. One vendor said, "I'll definitely use those for you. it's not a problem." (A handful of vendors were already planning to use compostable materials.)

Students also noticed the efforts of the School to ensure that the carnival was as sustainable as possible. One fourth-former, Erik Ely '22, stated, "I particularly enjoyed how I could compost almost everything instead of having to sort out my waste between recycling, trash, and compost."

Abby Lu '22, however, expressed concerns about the execution of efforts by stating, "They didn't have people telling people what got thrown out where, so a lot of people got confused and ended up putting everything in the compost or landfill. I don't think that food trucks were the most sustainable method of serving food, but I appreciated the effort."

In future events, a bit more publication of the efforts would boost the effectiveness of the School's goal of sustainability, but overall, the community was able to reduce the footprint of the event without sacrificing any of its fun. The sustainability efforts that went into the carnival planning were a success, and the event will undoubtedly be remembered by generations to come.

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Ms. Tracy Terry's "Forty Shades of Green" Premieres at Edinburgh Fringe Festival

By **Tony Lee '21**
Staff Reporter

If you have eaten a meal in the Dining Hall in the last few weeks, you might have seen small brochures advertising the upcoming 2020 Choate Fringe Festival, an annual event hosted by the School inspired by the history of such festivals in Scotland and Britain. This past summer, Choate's theater faculty member Ms. Tracy Terry, known around campus simply as TrayJay, wrote and produced a play that was showcased at the 2019 Edinburgh Fringe Festival, in Edinburgh, Scotland.

The Edinburgh Fringe Festival is the world's largest arts festival, with more than 300 venues and 55,000 performances of more than 3,500 shows. It runs throughout August each fall. Lastt year was the 50th anniversary of the Edinburgh Festival and, according to Ms. Terry, featured the largest festival yet.

Ms. Terry's play, *Forty Shades of Green Tour*, initially titled *The Drive*, is a comedic piece based on her trip to Ireland in 2009 with the Clan na Gael Players, the Gaelic-American Club (GAC) theater group.

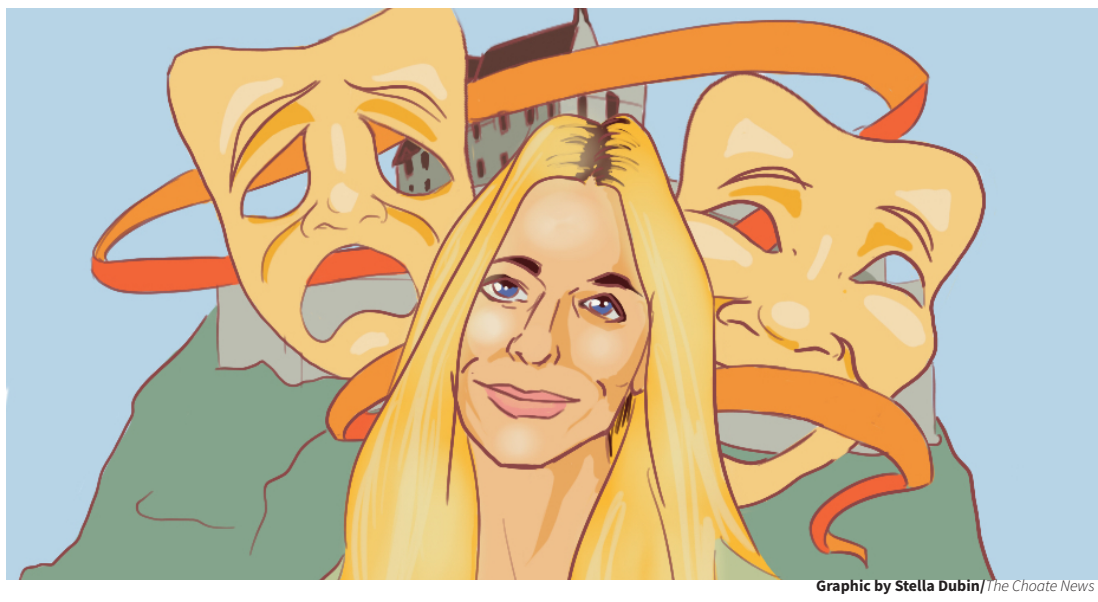
"In 2014, I finally was inspired to write it with the prompting of a dear friend, who happened to be teaching a creative writing class and graciously invited me to attend," Ms. Terry said. "I entered *The Drive* in the Clan na Gael playwriting contest and won."

Two years later in 2016, Ms. Terry renamed *The Drive* to *Forty Shades of Green Tour*. According to Ms. Terry, the play premiered in Ireland to outstanding reviews and also received accolades from the GAC. Then, in 2019, it was shown at the Hudson Guild Theater in Manhattan. It was directed by Emmy award-winning director Gene Cernilli and featured an entirely New York-based cast.

According to Ms. Terry, since *Forty Shades of Green Tour* had great reception both abroad in Ireland and domestically in Ridgefield, Conn., and Manhattan, her plans to enter it in a fringe festival were continually delayed. It wasn't until the summer of 2019 that Ms. Terry brought her play and a cast and crew of nine to Scotland for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. "Going to Scotland was one of the best things I've ever done. It taught me that if I put my mind to something I can do it," Ms. Terry said. "It was an incredible amount of work, but each step was rewarding and fulfilling.".

Ms. Terry's experience preparing for the Edinburgh Festival in Scotland included challenges. "I also had to learn the art of fundraising which was really daunting. I was never really good at asking for what I want, but I gave it a try and my first fundraiser yielded over 200 people raising over $5,000," she said.

"My favorite memory of the fringe was all of it!" she continued. "But I have to say being able to do your craft in one of the most beautiful cities in the world is awesome. Walking to the theater every day and performing and seeing the reaction of the audience was truly and deeply rewarding."



Graphic by Stella Dubin/*The Choate News*

Ms. Tracy Terry took her play and a cast of nine to Scotland last summer.

Every year, Choate hosts a student-written and produced Fringe Festival. For Ms. Terry, the Fringe Festival is a great event that allows students to experience creating and showcasing their own theatrical works. "Writing, creating, directing and performing an original piece of work is rewarding for all involved, and Choate allowing the students this experience is a gift," Ms. Terry said. "There are many schools that go there and perform and take original works, and I was able to see a few of those and they were outstanding."

With the experience of attending one Fringe Festival under her belt, Ms. Terry plans to attend the Edinburgh Fringe Festival again in the near future.

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Photos by Kathryn Philips and Renee Jiang/*The Choate News*

Arts Concentration Feature: Emily Goodwin '21

By **Bianca Rosen '21**
Columnist

Emily Goodwin '21 parents took her to see her first Broadway show, *The Little Mermaid*, when she was three years old. Goodwin was so inspired by it that she enrolled in a community theater program, signed up for voice lessons, and got herself into dance classes. She believes this was her parents' way of getting her out of the house in part because she was, and still is, incredibly energetic. Since then, her steadfast dedication has led to her many impressive feats as a vocalist, actress, and dancer; she has won numerous dance competitions with her dance studio, scored the lead in a variety of productions both at Choate and elsewhere, and she participates in both dance and theater Arts Concentration.

Goodwin was initially drawn to musical theater because it was a combination of disciplines: dance, voice, and acting. She has played a variety of characters: two-faced Eva in Choate's *Bring it On*, the notably outrageous Maureen in last year's *Rent*, and the Leading Player from *Pippin* at a theater program that she attended this past summer at UCLA. Goodwin loves being on stage. Naturally confident and charismatic, she immerses herself in the character she's playing and builds lasting connections with her audience.

An avid dancer on and off campus, she had the opportunity to choreograph her own piece in last year's dance show. She loved sitting in the audience while watching her dancers perform, seeing the vision for her piece unfold. Goodwin was excited by the energy in the room; everyone was having fun. "It put a smile on my face that would not go away the entire weekend," Goodwin said.

Photo courtesy of Emily Goodwin

Goodwin is part of both Dance and Theater Arts Concentration.

The act of creating something cultivates indescribable bonds among artists, something Goodwin appreciates. She describes the sense of community to be one of the most amazing aspects of the experience in any show or production. Goodwin cherishes the memories, both humorous and sentimental, that she's made within her artistic endeavors.

For example, when Goodwin was at a dance competition with her off-campus studio, she had to launch into a front somersault with the goal of landing her feet onto her partner's back. Her partner, now one of Goodwin's best friends — but a mere acquaintance at the time — waited for Goodwin to execute the move. Goodwin, not yet having mastered the graceful front walkover, bounced her legs onto her partner's back and fell. The two burst into fits of laughter in the middle of the stage, earning hard stares from their dance instructor, but beginning a close friendship.

At the moment, Goodwin is transforming her Arts Concentration audition choreography into a solo with the help of Ms. Kalya Yannatos, Director of the Arts. Goodwin will be competing with her own choreography at upcoming competitions alongside her dance studio. "I can combine both worlds into one, which I'm super excited about, and I think it's going to be a really unique experience," said Goodwin.

Goodwin values having a good work ethic; she is always aiming for improvement. She loves the way it feels to work hard on a piece and then experience the reward of performing it. "This is really weird, but do you know the feeling right before you're about to laugh?" she asked. "It's just joy coming out of your mouth and you don't really know what to do. Yeah. That's what it feels like."

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MR. MATT MCLEAN RESTRUCTURES MUSIC ARTS CONCENTRATION

By **Lara Selcuker '21**
Staff Reporter

Mr. Matt McLean, Director of the Jazz and Wind Ensembles, plans on making drastic changes to the Music Arts Concentration program this year. Now in its sixteenth year, the program has long focused on the individual improvement of student musicians. Mr. McLean plans to make Music Arts Concentration as collaborative as the Dance and Visual Arts Concentration Programs.

Unlike dancers who perform together and visual artists who work together in the PMAC studio, the Music Concentration students recite their pieces alone in small practice rooms until they have mastered them. Mr. McLean has noticed the lack of a sense of community within the Music Arts Concentration Program and hopes to exploit technology to help students grow together as musicians.

Last week, Mr. McLean introduced the Seesaw app to students. Seesaw allows students to create portfolios and, more important, to create weekly blog posts to share with all of the Music Arts Concentration community. Mr. McLean hopes that this will not only make the teacher-student relationship stronger and speed up the feedback process but also allow students to help each other. Students are encouraged to post videos in which they introduce what they are working on for that week, set a few goals, and describe the challenges they might be facing in accomplishing them. After this initial recording, other students can share their feedback and offer their advice. At the end of the week, another video will be uploaded with an improved version of the piece mentioned, making a teacher's job of tracking practice quality easier, as well.

Music Arts Con student Jay Zhou '21 appreciates the changes. He said, "I really like the idea of pulling everyone together, and now it actually feels like there is a musical community. You practice music by yourself almost all the time, so I like Seesaw as a platform where everyone comes together. As long as Arts Con doesn't implement specific times and a schedule to practice, I'm good with it."

Zhou likes that, unlike other forms of Arts Concentration, practice hours are generally flexible and not mandated by signup sheets. Students are required to practice two hours a day, but absent a strictly imposed schedule, students enjoy a sense of freedom and independence.

With teachers keeping a close eye on students' weekly improvements and tasks, students don't just have to practice for ensemble pieces but actually have to push their limits as individual musicians as well. Pathy also mentioned the possibility of a weekly meeting on Mondays and thought that this might also be beneficial for the musicians to keep track of each other and further strengthen the musical community at Choate.

As for the future, Mr. McLean has also discussed ways to unite all of the Arts Concentration disciplines. One possibility is the Dance Arts Con students choreographing to an original composition created by Music Arts Con students. Along with Ms. Kalya Yannatos, Director of the Arts Department, he is currently working to formulate future plans for collaborative projects.

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The Choate News

Vol. CXIII • No. III

SPORTS

Friday, October 11, 2019

FIELD REPORT

Choate Fall Record
42 - 47 - 8

Varsity Saturday Games

Boys' Cross Country (1-3)
falls to Andover, 15-50

Girls' Cross Country (1-2)
falls to Andover, 21-36

Field Hockey (0-6)
falls to Andover, 0-5

Football (3-1)
beats Brunswick, 20-7

Boys' Soccer (4-3-2)
falls to Andover, 2-3

Girls' Soccer (4-1-3)
ties Andover, 1-1

Girls' Volleyball (3-6)
falls to Andover, 0-3

Water Polo (3-5)
falls to Andover, 10-20

J.V. Saturday Games

Boys' Cross Country (1-1)
falls to Andover, 15-48

Boys' Water Polo (2-1)
beats Andover, 11-6

Girls' Volleyball *(5-1)*
beats Andover, 3-2

Varsity Wednesday Games

Field Hockey (0-7)
falls to Loomis, 5-3

Boys' Soccer (4-3-3)
ties Williston, 1-1

Girls' Soccer (5-1-3)
beats Pomfret, 3-1

JV Wednesday Games

Field Hockey (1-5)
falls to Loomis, 1-4

Girls' Soccer (4-2-1)
beats Pomfret, 7-0

OPENING THE BOAR PEN: MEET THIS YEAR'S SPIRIT SQUAD

By **Greer Goergen '21**
Staff Reporter

Boar Pen is a group of seniors, which this year is comprised of Beau Luther '20, Eloise Morgan '20, Sophie Ray '20, and Ahmed Wise '20, who act as a "hype group" for the student body. These four students are responsible for making sure Choate is full of school spirit and inspiring fans to come to every game, from Varsity Football to Thirds Soccer. Boar Pen communicates with the student body by making announcements at school meetings, posting on their popular Instagram page, or getting in contact with team captains.

Every year, each of the four outgoing seniors on Boar Pen pick a junior to replace them on the squad. Morgan said, "I am a loud person who loves to go to games or plays or support my friends' recitals. I think that by being present and cheering them on showed my spirit." She was picked by Laila Hawkins '19. "She and I were close, and I openly talked about the position and how I hoped she would consider me," Morgan said.

All four members must agree on the next four, considering how they will have to work as a team, and what they must bring to the athletic environment at Choate the following year.

Boar Pen seeks to energize and encourage fan support at athletic events.

Photo by Jessie Goodwin/*The Choate News*

"They each picked one of us that they wanted to 'tap' and then put us all in a group chat to tell us," said Ray. "All four of us are involved in athletics and are spirited and energetic people."

Boar Pen members emphasized that they want to make cheering for teams and building school spirit more natural, fun, and easy for everyone. "We want the community to come together and support each other on the field, on stage, in the classroom, or in the dorms," Morgan said.

According to members of Boar Pen, they are supposed to be the group on campus that encourages school spirit at games, which Choate's teams appreciate. However, Boar Pen is trying to do more than it has in past years. Boar Pen had never been a school-sponsored group until this year, as members have been working with Mr. Justin Whittaker, the Head Equipment Manager and WJAC Supervisor, to become more structured. Mr. Whittaker is the group's advisor and will help with organizing apperal for the group to wear at games.

"Our main goal for this year is to motivate people to be spirited. We have some ideas and we are looking forward to having the support we need from the School to make them possible," Ray said. In contrast to the previously entirely student-run group, this new school funding will hopefully make events more interactive and fun. "We are kind of rebranding Boar Pen," she said.

Unlike in years past, two of Boar Pen's members, Luther and Wise, play a varsity sport in the fall that can conflict with their Boar Pen responsibilities. However, they have made a priority of coming to home games on Wednesdays to cheer on Choate Athletics. "It's hard during the fall because it is also football season, and we can't make every game," Wise said. "But, we will be ready for the winter and spring [seasons] and make sure that we will be there."

Additionally, the group is working on establishing subcommittees for other Choate students to have a leadership role in Boar Pen and for the entire community to have an opportunity to be more involved in school spirit. Boar Pen has decided to incorporate two "spirit reps" per grade, who are evaluated by the current members on their enthusiasm and presence at athletic events, which they will mention more about at an upcoming school meeting. Through designing shirts, creating school cheers and teaching them at school meetings, having fundraisers, and holding competitions for the best cheer or new hype idea, Boar Pen plans to have more students and community members involved than ever before.

"Because of this rebranding, we have really had to work as a team in order to complete the goals and tasks that we want," Morgan said, adding, "I love my job — I love the other three members of the Boar Pen so much and will do my best to make sure that the School is inspired and energized."

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PLAYER PROFILE

On the Field with Erin Martin '20

Erin Martin '20, a forward, has committed to Georgetown University.

Photo courtesy of Ross Mortenson

By **Dylan Allen '22**
Reporter

Erin Martin '20 is not afraid of the spotlight; she has been playing for Girls' Varsity Soccer since she was a freshman and helped lead the team to the New England Playoffs each of the lst three seasons. The senior from Clinton, CT excels at setting her teammates up for success, evident in her leading the team in assists this year. Recently, reporter Dylan Allen '22 talked with Martin about how playing soccer never feels like a job to her.

Dylan Allen: How did you start playing soccer?

Erin Martin: The first time I ever started playing was when my mom signed me up in kindergarten. I ended up quitting after two practices because I was scared the coaches were going to steal my soccer ball. But I tried again in first grade and ever since then I've played every single year.

DA: How did you decide to come to Choate?

EM: Choate was a very last minute decision for me. It was mainly for soccer since the coach [Mr. Rick Koczak] recruited me during my seventh-grade year. I did the application on time but never really thought I would go. I planned originally to go to my public school.

DA: What is different about soccer at Choate compared to club soccer?

EM: On my club team I play center midfielder and at Choate I play forward. That's definitely a big difference because I'm scoring more goals at Choate. I think the biggest difference is the team dynamic because on my club team, everyone's my age. At Choate, there are kids on the team that are four years younger. It's different since you have to work harder to make the team bond at Choate.

DA: What's your favorite part of soccer, off and on the field?

EM: Off the field, it's that I've made some of my best friends ever playing soccer just because everyone so similar to me, and it's really natural and easy to be friends with them. On the field, it's something that I'm good at without having to think. It's also a good distraction, especially after school when I have a ton of work — I can always look forward to going to soccer. It's never a job for me, and it's something I really enjoy.

DA: What do you think the potential is for this year's team?

EM: I think we have a lot of potential just because we have a lot of new players. We have a huge team of 26 people on it, which is crazy because we went from having 15 people on it two years ago, and now we have almost double the size. It's good because we have a lot of depth and really good freshmen, too. So, I think having a lot of people on the team now will help Choate soccer in the next few years because a lot of us are going to be graduating.

DA: What are your plans after Choate?

EM: As of right now, I am committed to play soccer at Georgetown University. That was my dream school when I visited a bunch of them; I've always wanted to go to Georgetown. I committed January of my sophomore year, but I didn't announce it until July.

DA: Do you have any role models?

EM: Caitlin Farrell '15. She went to Choate, and then she graduated and played at Georgetown. Now she plays for the Orlando Pride with some of the best players in the world. I think it's crazy that I will be playing at Georgetown after her.

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Boars Edge Out Doors in Water Polo, 9-8

By **Sam Anastasio '23**
Reporter

On October 2, Boys' Varsity Water Polo rallied from a one-goal deficit in the fourth quarter to defeat Deerfield, 9-8. Heading into the game, Choate had won only two of its games and needed a win against Deerfield to remain competitive for a spot in the New England Playoffs. One of those wins came in an overtime match earlier in the season against Deerfield, who was looking to avenge its loss from the previous game. Choate held off the Doors to win the game in a similar nail-biter.

Both teams played aggressively to establish a competitive tone right off the bat. The referees made it clear that they would not tolerate aggressive play, by calling ejections in which the offense earns a twenty second extra player advantage over the defence. Choate benefitted from these opportunities by scoring two goals during ejections from Priam Alataris '22 and Jack Sun '21. Deerfield countered with two goals of their own to end the quarter with the game tied at two.

When the second quarter started, Choate was forced to control its composure, ignoring a Deerfield crowd that jeered at the team during the intermission between the first and second quarters. The high-scoring first quarter turned into a defensive second as both teams scored only one goal. Sun skipped a shot into the goal, but the Deerfield goalie scored a last-second heave to end the quarter.

Despite the quiet first half, the game broke open during the third quarter. Deerfield scored first in the quarter, but Choate responded to tie the game. This pattern continued until the game was tied 8-8, with Luke Barrett '21, Sun, and Alataris each scoring goals. Deerfield snuck one more past Choate goalie Justin Lin '21 to take the lead, 8-7.

With Choate trailing as the game moved to the fourth, head coach Ms. Victoria Pierotti decided to take Lin out of the goal in favor of Sun, who plays backup goalie for the team. The decision worked, as Sun blocked three crucial shots, preventing Deerfield from scoring for the rest of the game.

"I wasn't really prepared to go into the cage leading up to the fourth quarter as we were down by one goal," Sun said, "but I went into it giving it my all. Luckily, we were able to put up two goals and win the game."

Choate struggled offensively for the first part of the fourth quarter, but Kevin Chang '22 scored a backhand goal to tie the game at eight with two minutes remaining. The final two minutes of the game were hectic as both teams looked to score a final goal to win. The stalemate continued until the clock ran down to seven seconds, and one of the referees called an ejection on Deerfield, giving Choate a one-man advantage. Gavin Doak '22 quickly passed the ball to co-captain George McCabe '20, and McCabe shot the ball past the Deerfield goalie to win the game for Choate.

Although Choate won, the team could have played better by minimizing their inaccurate passes and shots toward the goalie. "Focus is a big thing," said co-captain Derek Son '20. "We've been pretty good with it the past few weeks, but [during the game against Deerfield], we kind of lacked focus, even though we won."

Fortunately, Choate has time to correct its issues with half of its season still to come. Looking ahead, the team is eyeing a return to the New England Playoffs for the first time since 2016 by defeating more NEPSAC opponents. "If the we can beat Williston and Suffield along with securing some of the easier wins, the team will have a shot at qualifying for New Englands," said co-captain Hilal Zoberi '20.

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