

# theherald

September 9, 2016

Volume 24, Issue No. 3



Honduran children



Courtesy: Abby Davis

Abby Davis and Daniel Osborne

## From Purcellville to Dongguan

by Beth Bergstrom

Mattresses lined the floor, the bare kitchen held a single refrigerator, and roaches roamed freely. Without even a coffee mug, Abby Davis had to learn how to survive on instant coffee. "It was like camping for five weeks," Davis said. "We knew to seal our food and keep a can of Raid handy."

The apartment for the men in the program included a stove and fewer roaches, but the apartment was still very bare.

Davis and Daniel Osborne spent five weeks two hours away from Hong Kong in Dongguan, China, teaching an English immersion class to high school students. The students were part of Youth

## PHC Offers New Mission Trips

*PHC Will Send Teams to Honduras and Greece over Spring Break*

by Evie Fordham

Senior Clayton Millhouse took a week out of his summer to pour cement, assist in a medical clinic, and spread the Gospel in Honduras four years ago. The exhausting seven days were some of the best of his life. He has returned to Honduras twice since and will lead a team of PHC students to its capital, Tegucigalpa, during spring break of 2017.

"On my first trip to Honduras, I experienced the love of God on a purer level than

I'd ever seen it," he said. "In places that lack material wealth, it makes spiritual wealth more apparent...it's been on my heart for a while to take PHC students to Honduras, but now I feel like God is calling me to take that and run with it."

PHC will send mission teams to Honduras and Greece during spring break of 2017. The Honduras team will aid the people of Tegucigalpa in partnership with World Gospel Outreach (WGO), an organization that has served poverty-stricken Hondurans since 1984. The Greece team will

work alongside local ministries to serve homeless refugees in Athens.

Millhouse spoke to six students at an informational meeting about the trip on Tuesday. The Honduras team will help provide dental and medical care to people in one of the poorest countries in Latin America. To receive care, patients at WGO's free clinics must speak to a team member about the gospel.

"Honduras has a Catholic background, meaning even the most nominal people under-

continued on page 3

continued on page 6

# theherald

volume 24, issue no. 3

## thestories

mental health series	page 3
coffe with a cop	page 5
profile: peter forbes	page 8
profile: keith zimmerman	page 9
litflix	page 9
profile: jake elmendorf	page 10
league of legends	page 10
new faculty	page 11
opinion: nathaniel mullins	page 11

## themasthead

editor	beth bergstrom
layout editor	evie fordham
copy editor	rebekah jorgensen
backpage editor	giovanna lastra
staff writers	harvest prude
	meg mcewen
	leah greenwood
	victoria cook
	bruce truax

## contribute

Notice an error?  
Interested in submitting an editorial?  
If so, contact Beth Bergstrom at:  
[ejbergstrom067@students.phc.edu](mailto:ejbergstrom067@students.phc.edu)

## socialmedia

For more, find us on social media.

Facebook: Herald Media

Instagram: @heraldmedia

Twitter: @heraldmedia

## studentgovernment

Last night, Student Senate met in a lame duck session to consider three main issues. First, we considered and approved the revised Fall 2016 Election Proposal. The proposal moved the Senate election forward to avoid a potential conflict with October Break. The filing period for Student Senate begins on **September 20th** at 8p.m. and ends on the **27th** at 8p.m. Voting will begin on **October 4th** at 1p.m., and end the next day at 1p.m.

The Senate also nominated Kenneth Kisby to fill a vacancy on the Election Commission and nominated Esther Katz to fill a vacancy on the Alcohol Policy Assessment Commission.

# Shining God's Light in Honduras and Greece

continued from cover

stand Christianity's basic concepts," Millhouse said. "That's what makes the evangelistic opportunity so ripe."

One of Millhouse's favorite memories from Honduras is interacting with the children at clinic sites. The team would wash all of the children's hair with lice removal shampoo, then detangle and braid the girls' locks and gel the boys' hair.

"It was beautiful because a lot of the children don't know the touch of an adult that's not abusive," Millhouse said. "The Honduran kids are wonderful. They're all smiles, and they just want hugs. You have to be careful, because they might not let go."

The trip will take place from March 4-11 of next year, and Millhouse estimated the cost per student as \$1,675 at the informational meeting.

He conjectured the meeting's attendance was low because it coincided with Spanish III class, and many who feel drawn to the Honduras trip because it offers a chance to practice speaking Spanish were in class. Interested students who missed the

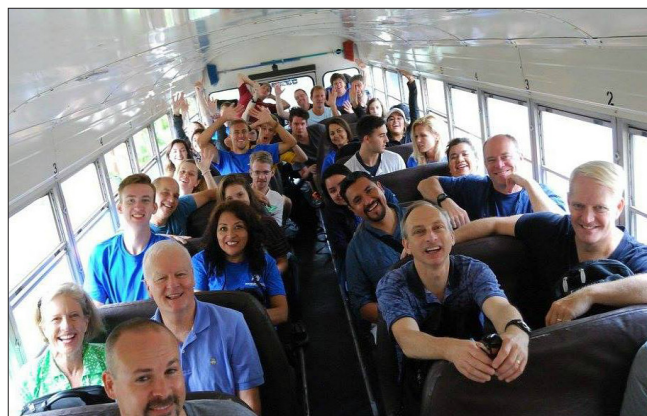
meeting can email Millhouse for information.

All students must apply by Oct. 4 and make a \$200 deposit. Applicants are not required to have any knowledge of Spanish. Millhouse is aiming for a team of 10 people, but if the team is smaller, the PHC students will merge with another WGO team. The team will stay at WGO's house on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa.

The Athens mission trip informational meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. in Red Hill 2.

"I'm currently working to finalize the scope of the the project and the estimated costs," President Jack Haye said. "My best guess is somewhere around \$2,500. The project will have two components: work in refugee camps outside the city and work with refugees that are living on the streets in central Athens."

Team members will share God's love



Courtesy: Clayton Millhouse

Millhouse and his teammates in Honduras

with refugees by distributing food and clothing and will engage with Athens' people through street ministry.

Whether they travel to Central America or Mediterranean Europe, many PHC students are guaranteed a memorable spring break.

"I don't want you to stay in the States if it's God's will for you to come to Honduras," Millhouse said. "Between this trip, the mission trip to Athens, and Dr. Favelo's trip to Greece, no one should go home for spring break." ♦

## Living With Mental Illness

by Giovanna Lastra

*Editor's Note: This is the first in the Herald's Mental Health series this semester. The story is intense; it's about a PHC student who suffers with depression, self-harm, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. Of course, students at most colleges struggle with mental illness. This series covers dark topics, but these issues are better discussed than ignored. Moreover, we trust the series will deal with these issues in a redemptive fashion, making clear our campus community's concern for hurting people, the College's efforts to help, and the hope we have in Christ.*

The time was 9:34 p.m. on a Thursday night. Jordan texted her best friend one last message and pulled up the note she

wrote to her family. She told her parents it was not their fault. She told her brother to live a good life, then she closed her phone so once it was opened the note would be the first thing to show. She sat on the cold bathroom floor with the razor in hand. She began to press the razor into her arm as hard as she could. The first cut was not deep enough. She continued to make more cuts, trying to go deeper into her arm each time.

"The world is a better place without me," she thought. "I cause frustration to people. I am a burden. This is the best thing for me to do."

After a while she could no longer move her arm, the pain was agonizing, and she had broken three razors in the process. Despite the pain, the cuts did not go deep enough for her to bleed out. "I began crying when I realized it was not working and

I did not know how I was going to clean everything up," said Jordan.

Every day PHC students go about their lives, wearing their best suits or dresses and stressing over the numerous assignments due, all the while ignorant to the grim realities of the students among them who are living with mental illness at PHC.

Jordan is a current student at school, and her name has been changed to protect her privacy. Jordan lives with severe depression and anxiety. She was diagnosed with the illness nearly seven months ago but has lived with it since she was sixteen. "I just remember that I was happy one day and then I wasn't," said Jordan.

She recalled feeling unhappy and undeserving of life. "All my thoughts centered around this thought that I did not

continued on page 4



# The Beginning of a New Journey

continued from page 3

deserve to live. I hated myself," she said. The thoughts were plaguing and as time continued, the thoughts and feelings of worthlessness became crippling.

As a symptom of her depression, Jordan began cutting herself. The overwhelming emotions of sadness and loneliness made her feel dead inside. "Cutting my arm was me forcing myself to feel something. It reminded me that I was still a living, breathing human," said Jordan.

The depression made Jordan feel hopeless and helpless. "I felt like no one understood me or knew what it was like to be me," she said. Throughout high school, Jordan's friends and family did not know about the overwhelming emotional pain she was going through.

Despite inner struggles, Jordan started PHC in a good place. "During my first semester, I did not cut at all and I did not have many bad days," she said.

But when the spring semester began, Jordan began struggling with her depression again. Her struggles were further triggered by posts on social media platforms. "They made me think everyone was watching. I felt judged and scrutinized," she said. While Jordan was already in a vulnerable state, the posts brought on more feelings of worthlessness and sadness.

As a way to distract herself from the pain, Jordan began drinking, smoking and making other questionable decisions. She also began cutting again and considered killing herself. "I thought about throwing myself in front of a car, one night," she said.

After getting in trouble for a few of these actions, Jordan could no longer use distractions to hide her depression and self-hatred. Her depression grew more severe and her thoughts intensified, eventually becoming unbearable. Jordan made plans to end her life.

She chose a day her RA was out of town and her roommate would be out of the room most of the night. "I thought about the plan daily before I attempted it," said Jordan. She locked herself in the bathroom and took out a razor.

When it did not work, she messaged one of her friends for help. "Are you mad at me?" Jordan asked as her friend walked in to find her in the bathroom. "I was so afraid she would be mad at me," said Jordan. But her friend was not mad. She picked her up, bandaged her arms, then gently tucked her into bed and laid beside her. "She was like an angel. You cannot experience deeper friendship with someone than when they are in that moment with you," said Jordan.

A few days later, Student Life took Jordan to see a counselor. After her session Jordan was committed to a mental hospital. Her time there was dark. Jordan felt a huge gap between herself and the rest of the people in the mental hospital. "It felt like doctors did not recognize me as a person. They were always suspicious about how I was acting because I had attempted to end my life," said Jordan.

At the hospital, nurses conducted invasive searches of Jordan, searching for drugs, and she was monitored at all times. The experience left Jordan feeling dehu-

manized and undignified. As she was in the hospital she planned an attempt to commit suicide again once she was released.

Jordan's first night in the hospital was difficult. She was tormented by the thoughts of self-hatred that rung in her head. She felt alone and secluded from the outside world. Finally, she curled up against the wall to feel held and cried herself to sleep.

In the morning, a group of NOVA Community College students came into the hospital for an educational experience in a psychiatric ward. After the hard night, Jordan just wanted to be left alone. But one of the students, an immigrant from Uganda, sat down right beside her. He looked at her and said, "I think God wants me to talk to you."

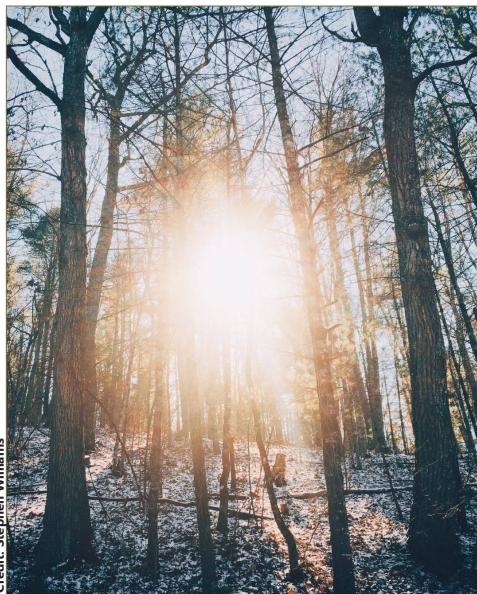
"He told me things about myself that no one would know about me or know to say to me," said Jordan. He told her to begin reading her Bible again and that God had a purpose for her. He told her that he believed she was going to be OK and that one day he would meet her again and see all God had done in her life. The moment he began speaking to her, sunlight pierced through the window and shined upon her. "I've always been reminded of God through the sun, and in that moment God showed me I was not forgotten," said Jordan.

Since her experience, Jordan has tremendously improved, but the struggle is ongoing. Jordan still battles thoughts of depression, self-hatred and feelings of anxiety, but has a tangible memory of God's presence in her life that gives her hope.

"I think that I would like people who are experiencing similar struggles to know that they are never forgotten," Jordan said. "That they are not ever an overlooked particle. That no matter how small you feel, God still sees them and no one is ever irredeemable." ♦

**"I would like people who are experiencing similar struggles to know that they are never forgotten."**

**Jordan**



# Purcellville Police Visit PHC

*PHC Hosts "Coffee with a Cop" and RA Training Introduces Crisis Prevention Measures*

by Meg McEwen

When a fourth of the Purcellville police force rolled into PHC on Tuesday morning, they didn't come to protect a political candidate or to make an arrest. Chief Paul Yancey, PHC's director of Public Safety and Events Services, arranged Coffee with a Cop, a casual meet-and-greet event held at the café for students, community members, and the Purcellville Police Department. This external community bridge followed internal community growth, as Yancey also added a Crisis Prevention Presentation to the Resident Assistant training this past August.

"The average person never has involvement with law enforcement unless they get pulled over for speeding or some traffic violation, or they're a victim of a crime. A lot of times people are afraid to come up to an officer because we're intimidating and we carry a firearm. So, by having Coffee with a Cop, it breaks down that barrier," Yancey said.

This was the fourth open community event planned by the Purcellville police department. About five students at a time rotated in and out of the café during the two-hour event. Two council members, including Kelli Grim, alumnus and assistant town manager, Danny Davis, and a few other community members, attended.

"We've always had great relationships with the students here at Patrick Henry. You guys aren't your traditional crazy college," said Lieutenant Schroeck. Students who seized the opportunity to attend Coffee with a Cop were likely to be met with a friendly handshake and a question or two from Schroeck. "I'm studying Strategic Intelligence," freshman Jae Jared replied.

"Does that mean that you're going to work for an agency with three letters, possibly?" asked Schroeck with a chuckle. Students and cops casually chatted about

classes, rallies, hometowns, the tragedy of McDonalds closing, and license plate requirements.

"The police are the public and the public are the police," Schroeck said, quoting Sir Robert Peel, the Father of Police. "That was said over 200 years ago, and it's still relevant today. It can't be us against them; if it's us against them, nothing can get done. You have to have the support of the community."

Inside the bounds of Purcellville the police force is busy, but the town is relatively peaceful. Outside, it is a changing time for the cops in America as the catching term "police violence" consistently grabs headlines. Even sleepy Purcellville feels the effects. Schroeck witnessed this shift during his 33 years as a cop, and he's convinced that the pendulum swing may be permanent. He recently asked a group of middle school kids, "Who wants to be a cop?" during a standard police presentation. Usually at least a few raise their hands. This time, silence filled the room and hands stayed in laps.

The Purcellville Police Department (PPD) is working to convey a different message. "I want you to know us because my hope would be that if you had some engagement with an officer that you felt was not right, you would be comfortable enough to contact us. I welcome complaints because it allows me to explain and to know," said Chief McAlister.

McAlister has big plans for the town, ones that hopefully include PHC students. Under her guidance the police department reaches out to the community through events like Coffee with a Cop and Books and Badges, a startup program during which officers read to kids.

"A lot of times students come to me and ask me what they should do after they graduate as far as getting into the FBI, etc. My suggestion is go to work at a police agency first," Yancey said. "I could al-



**Students with police at Coffee with a Cop.**

ways tell the difference between an agent that had prior experience working street level compared to an agent that came right out of college and went into government service."

As the PPD continues to find new ways to invest in their community, PHC's RA team follows suit. Cindy Yancey, a registered nurse and Chief Yancey's wife, gave a Crisis Intervention presentation to the 2016 RA team. "PHC students, like any other college students, deal with many stressors that could lead to a mental health crisis, especially freshmen coming into a new environment," Chief Yancey said. The PowerPoint covered stresses that college students incur at an intensive academic environment. Mrs. Yancey covered suicide statistics and mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety, and addiction. She emphasized, "Knowledge is power!" and provided common physical and behavioral signs that accompany these struggles. "Don't be afraid to speak up, ask, seek help, make referrals, and be a friend," she said. Mrs. Yancey also laid out viable counseling options for the RAs. ♦





## Planting Seeds of Faith in Dongguan

continued from cover

for Understanding (YFU), and were preparing to come to the United States for a year.

The pair left Los Angeles on June 30 and, after crossing the international date-line, landed in China on July 2. "Missing, July 1. If found, please return to Abby Davis and Daniel Osborne," Davis joked.

This was the second year that Davis had taken the trip. The organizers of the trip, the Kweder family, were talking to Davis about coming back for a second year. Davis mentioned that because she was dating Osborne, she did not believe she could come back. She even went so far to say that she could potentially see herself moving to China after graduation if she was not in a serious relationship. The Kweder's then offered a spot to both Davis and Osborne. By Christmas last year, the trip had become official.

For the first week, Davis took Osborne to relive all of her previous experiences.

"Finally, I decided I had to stop living in the past and start experiencing what was happening now," Davis said.

"Your entire role is planting or watering seeds; it isn't collecting the harvest," Osborne said.

Upon requests from students, Osborne led a literature class where they discussed *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* and the Christian images within the text.

The students were upset as they finished the chapter with Aslan dying, and Osborne encouraged them to keep reading. When the students realized that Aslan came back to life, one asked to whom the author was referring. "The room was silent," Osborne said, "and then you heard a student say 'Jesus?'" It was one of his favorite moments.

Davis and Osborne taught seven, 45-minute sessions and were essentially working from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. They would then spend their nights planning for the next day. "Once we had the rhythm down we could really connect

with the students both in the classroom and individually," Osborne said.

On her first trip, Davis attempted to bring one young girl to Christ, but because of an unscheduled mandatory meeting she was unable to. In hindsight Davis realized the girl was not ready for religion. "Being a friend and being able to show her love was enough for now," Davis said.

On her second trip, Davis connected with a young boy who she thought she was meant to bring to Christ. The boy had been engaged in theological discussions, had gone to church with Davis and Osborne, and had asked for a Bible. "I thought I was meant to leave the trip with him as a brother in Christ," Davis said. On the last day Davis was ready to talk to him about bringing him to Christ. As she started to speak, Davis choked on her lunch, and recognized that maybe it was not time.

"I had to realize my job here for the time being is done, and I have to be at peace with that," Davis said.





While the trip brought Davis and Osborne closer together, it also put additional strain on their relationship.

"If there is any problem in your life, whether it is mental, emotional or physical, it will get brought out," Davis said.

"It [the program] will bring out your struggles for you to deal with," Osborne added.

Davis and Osborne were teaching partners, meaning they virtually worked around the clock with each other.

Osborne explained that in a relationship you already have various moving parts to juggle, and when you add in working together, problems can evolve.

"It grew both of us by making us either discuss our problems or give and bend a

little bit," Osborne said.

Out of the seven co-ed teaching partners, five were couples. After discussion, Davis and Osborne realized they were not alone in their struggles. "It was hard," Osborne said, "but in the end it deepened a lot of relationships."

Men and women were not allowed in the opposite gender's living space. "We had to have all of our conversations outside on a bench in like 100 degree weather," Davis said.

The pair read a psalm and prayed together every night, and Osborne believed it really helped and strengthened their relationship.

Davis came back from her first trip to China feeling almost isolated because no

one truly understood what she had gone through. "I felt like I lived a separate life in China last year," Davis said. "I've never gone with someone I can intimately share the experience with afterwards."

"It was so good. I was able to see a place and a group of people that she really loved," Osborne said.

Davis and Osborne are not closed off to the thought of eventually moving to China. "It's on the table," Osborne said.

Davis and Osborne encourage anyone potentially interested in becoming part of the program to talk with them. Expenses are largely covered, with the participants only needing to pay to get to Los Angeles, for the visa, and for food in China. ♦



# Literature Alumnus Attends Columbia University

by Harvest Prude

Peter Forbes is the first PHC alumnus to gain admission into a major film graduate school. He was recently accepted into a Master of Fine Arts graduate program of Columbia University School of the Arts in New York City. Classes started this week, and he is studying film with a screenwriting/directing concentration.

Peter Forbes went into film because he is passionate about stories. He is attending Columbia to become a better storyteller. "The [goal of the] program...is to make the student capable of being the best he or she could be in telling the stories he or she wants to tell," Forbes said.

Forbes will take two years of full-time classes at Columbia, and then spend between one to three years working on his thesis project, which will be writing two screenplays and working on a short film. Forbes hopes to finish in three years.

Even before graduating from PHC with a Literature degree in '09, Forbes was involved in the filmmaking world. He worked with Advent Film Group and producer George Escobar on *Come What May*. After graduation, he continued to work with Advent and directed the film *The Screenwriters*. Its official release will be in December. He has also recently finished a novel that he hopes to submit to publishers by February of next year.



Courtesy: Peter Forbes

Peter Forbes directs *The Screenwriters*

Grad school was not on Forbes' radar when he graduated from PHC. He went into film production and gained valuable experience working with Advent.

But he decided to go back to school improve his writing and directing skills. "I think I realized that in the world I was in—where I was—I was hitting a ceiling in terms of how good I was as a writer and film maker," Forbes said. "I also realized the kinds of stories I wanted to tell weren't really in faith-based films."

Forbes hopes to tell stories that deal with elements of drama, religion, strong characters, fantasy, and family. "I was very up-front about my faith in my personal statement and interview process," Forbes said.

Despite initial concerns that PHC's accreditation might be an issue, Forbes was accepted into four out of the five graduate schools to which he applied.

"Everybody talks about story, but people know Columbia for the stories that they bring. I wanted a holistic approach to screenwriting and directing that I [know] I'll be able to have at Columbia in a way that I would not have at any other school," Forbes said.

Hollywood Reporter puts Columbia among the top five film schools. "For me it's number one because of the emphasis on story," Forbes said. "They're not as fo-

cused on the technical...Maybe I've just been affected by PHC's classical liberal arts idea of taking the core—but when I found that's how they approached it as an integrated whole—[I thought] this is definitely what would make sense to me, what I wanted to do."

Columbia boasts an impressive track record of graduates working in both Hollywood and the independent film world. Graduates co-wrote *Wreck-It-Ralph*, *Frozen*, and *Zootopia*. Graduates created *Making a Murderer* and sold it to Netflix. Another grad, Simon Kinberg, wrote *Mr. and Mrs. Smith* and was a producer on *The Martian*.

"[I realized] everything that I wanted to tell—what made my stories unique and made them exciting for me to tell, were already a part of me," Forbes said. "I didn't have to go find that somewhere else...But these are these stories inside of me and they are going to be the best stories I can tell, and I am the best one who can tell them...Suddenly the stress is off. You can rest in being who God created you to be, instead of being frustrated that you weren't this other thing."

Forbes is willing to share advice on the application process for graduate schools for students who are interested in pursuing film. ♦



Courtesy: Peter Forbes



# Complaints and Cubicles:

*Keith Zimmerman's Summer Internship at the FCC*

by Rebekah Jorgensen

The man on the phone refused to take no for an answer. He had finally figured it out: the police used invisible drones to torture him. Of course, the man could only see them at night, using a mirror to reflect moonlight onto the drones. But he was completely serious. The reason his health continued deteriorating was because of the radioactive waves being pushed into him by the invisible drones.

This customer was only one of the thousands of complaints PHC junior Keith Zimmerman handled during his summer internship at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

"I guess that most of what I worked on seems pretty boring, but being there and being able to work with people in a government agency was really cool," Zimmerman said.

Zimmerman first connected with the FCC through Simeon Tomaszewski, a PHC alumnus who attends church with Michael Karowitz. When Karowitz, the FCC's Deputy Bureau Chief of Consumer Affairs, mentioned that he was in need of interns, Tomaszewski suggested that he reach out to PHC. "[Karowitz] came by and spoke, and I helped plan an event

on campus," said Zimmerman. "The first time I met him was showing him around PHC, and then a few weeks later he decided to have people send in resumes. I was one of the ones he interviewed!"

While at the FCC, Zimmerman worked in the bureau that dealt with complaints about companies, like Verizon or Frontier. Once Zimmerman learned his way around the computer system, he spent most of his time dealing with these complaints, either by routing them to the correct people, or by organizing thousands of backlogged complaints into an Excel spreadsheet to track data.

"These complaints made me kind of lose faith in humanity in both sides," said Zimmerman. "On one hand, how could people be so obnoxious, but then how could the company have done such terrible things to people?"

Yet Zimmerman's summer was not entirely comprised of complaining customers. He filled his spare time with big projects, like creating tutorial videos, teaching people how to properly use the complaints system. Zimmerman also went around and interviewed several divisions within the FCC, figured out what everyone did, and compiled a brochure on standard operating procedures.

Zimmerman's biggest challenge was the excruciating DC commute. "I definitely wouldn't do it again," Zimmerman said, "but it was worth it because it was my first summer by myself. I was commuting from Purcellville to DC every day, and on good days it took almost two hours one way. I saw other PHC students on the metro and we all went through same struggles."

On the bright side, since the FCC has gotten smaller but remained in the same building, Zimmerman got to spread out for the whole summer. "I got a huge cubicle – it was almost as big as my room!" said Zimmerman. "It was nice to come into work and stretch out a little."

Ultimately, while one of the few undergraduate students in an office filled with law students, Zimmerman got to prove that he is a man of integrity with good work habits, and still maintains relationships with several of his coworkers.

"When it comes to actually being in the workplace, it's less about how intelligent you are and more about being a hard worker," said Zimmerman.

"That way it doesn't matter if the other person has a doctorate," he added. "If they're unable to finish the project and you're able to finish it instead, then you're more valuable to the company." ♦

## PHC's First Litflix a Success

by Harvest Prude

The swell of choir music filled the conference room as around 30 students sat with eyes closed to listen to *O Nata Lux* by Morten Lauridsen. Andrew Lonon prefaced by explaining why the song is meaningful to him. This was only one presentation at the first Litflix event. Topics ranged from *Sleeping at Last*, *Hamilton*, *Macklemore*, or *Twenty-One Pilots*, as students gathered on September 8 to share how certain pieces of culture had impacted them.

The following pieces were presented:

Becca Samelson: *Hamilton* (Broadway Musical)

Kent Hoskiko: *Car Radio* by Twenty-One Pilots (a song)

Andrew Lonon: *O Nata Lux* by Morten Lauridsen (a song)

Blaire Bayliss: *Rick and Morty* (television show)

Spencer Kolssak: *Saturn* by Sleeping at Last (a song)

Hannah Cudal: *A Canticle for Leibowitz* (a book)

Jared Midwood: *Dover Beach* by Matthew Arnold (a poem)

Shane Roberts: *Fake Empire* by Macklemore (a music video)

The event was the brainchild of Andrew Kelly, JR Leslie, and Josh Webb.

"The real reason we're doing this is that stories do things that nothing else can...stories are the only thing that allow us to see lives through the eyes of another," said Leslie.

Students can present a book, a television show, a video game, a movie, a poem, a song, or anything else. Submissions are pre-screened for thoughtful content.

Announcements for the next Litflix event will be via Facebook, chapel, and email. ♦

# “Jack of All Trades; Master of None”

by Victoria Cook

Stand up on stage, walk dead center, angle your body a little bit, and stand in your model stance. Start with you left foot, turn around and stay in the middle of the runway, and put your model face on. By the time he was 16, freshman Jake Elmendorf knew how to nail the routine. Besides being a PHC student, he is an actor, model, singer, and songwriter.

Elmendorf first started acting when his mother told him to put his energy into something outside the house. When he was in third grade, Elmendorf was picked to play St. Patrick for his first gig. From there, Elmendorf continued acting, performing in plays such as *High School Musical 3*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*.

Through high school, Elmendorf took acting classes, improving his skills in an accepting environment. With a desire to pursue acting and a nudge from his model and actress aunt, Elmendorf signed on with One Star Talent, where he checked off modeling and acting as his main interests.

Elmendorf's first job was modeling for DC Fashion Week. His mom drove him to fittings, where he went through alterations, run-throughs, and basic training.

At another runway show, Elmendorf broke his model face when he saw his mother in the crowd. “I turned the corner, and I just started chuckling. I couldn’t hold it back. It made me happy knowing that my mom supported what I was doing,” Elmendorf said.

Elmendorf is used to responses ranging from ridicule to admiration when people find out he is a model and actor. Being a male model comes with the stereotypes of being vain and gay, which can be true for some, but not for all. Elmendorf’s purpose for modeling is to represent Christ well and to help designers sell their brands. “Modeling’s made me confident; God has kept me humble,” Elmendorf said.

Deep discussions with his pastor and father have led Elmendorf to build relationships with fellow models and actors, with the hope of ministering to them one day. Elmendorf has talked with others about the Lord and feels closer to helping others accept God’s love as their own. “What you perceive about someone doesn’t mean that’s who they actually are; I feel like you need to get to know someone first before you slap a label on them,” Elmendorf said.

While the journey ahead is not clear, Elmendorf is trusting God for the next



Jake Elmendorf

steps in life as he pursues an SI major at PHC. Growing up, Elmendorf dabbled in many different skills, including playing the guitar and piano, lifeguarding, fire-fighting, and solving a Rubik’s Cube in 21 seconds.

“I used to say I was the Jack of all Trades and the Master of None,” Elmendorf said. “I don’t know if that’s really a compliment, but I enjoy being able to do a little bit of everything. God is going to use the gifts He’s given me to glorify him. I just don’t know how.” ♦

## Students Attend League of Legends Tournament

by Bruce Truax

20,000 fans packed the Air Canada Center in Toronto, their thunderous applause and cheers shaking the stadium. They weren’t there to see the Raptors or the Penguins, though. Instead, the draw was the North American Finals of the League of Legends.

League of Legends is the most popular video game in the world, with millions of players online every month. Players control “champions” and amass a range of powers as they battle in an online arena.

Tournaments featuring the top players sell out arenas all over the globe. PHC students J.R. Leslie, Josh Webb, and Lanson Hoopai drove eight hours to Canada last weekend to see the pros compete live.

While Leslie is ranked in the top five percent of players in the world, Hoopai and Webb are more casual players. They enjoy the game more for its experience and other benefits than the competitive nature.

“For me it’s not so much the game [which is] kind of nerdy and doesn’t actually matter at the end of the day,” Webb said. “It’s something that brings people

together and creates friendships where friendships wouldn’t have existed.”

“I don’t think the game has any worth, per se,” Hoopai added. “It’s a really well made game, but if my friends someday stopped playing, I’m out.”

To Leslie, the appeal is the convenience of the game. “You can play it from anywhere at anytime,” he said. He is also confident in the game’s worldwide success. “I think that soon e-sports of all types will probably eclipse traditional sports,” Leslie said.

“It really rewards teamwork and communication,” Webb said. ♦



## New Professors Karen Wagner and Sherry Doyle

by Leah Greenwood

On her first day of classes, Kelly Wagner, PHC's new adjunct Spanish professor, gave students a chance to ask her anything they wanted. The students' queries ranged anywhere from "What's your favorite Starbucks drink?" (a cr me br l e latte) to "What's your biggest regret in life?" (not pursuing medical school).

"I think that when you're honest with people, when you let them see who you are, it makes you more approachable, which then leads to a good working relationship," Wagner said later.

Before coming to PHC, Wagner worked for 10 years on Capitol Hill for a Hispanic nonprofit group, researching issues that impacted Hispanics in the United States, such as voting issues, citizenship, and minority business initiatives. For a time, she worked on a hotline where people would call in and ask – in Spanish – about the requirements to become a US citizen.

Now, besides teaching Spanish I and III at PHC, Wagner teaches high school Spanish for the Loudon County public schools. Throughout her time as a teach-

er, she has found a wide range of interest levels, and has observed how much a student's interest affects how engaged that student is in class. At PHC, Wagner has found her students to be "extremely motivated, very hard working, and sincere... they want to succeed and do well."

Wagner loves to laugh with her students; she endeavors to make learning as fun and personal as possible.

"Learning from Professor Wagner is an uplifting experience; she really simplifies difficult concepts well and is good at explaining things in more than one way," said Spanish III student Rachel Hebert.

Another new face on campus this semester is Sherry Doyle, the voice professor. Doyle, however, is not altogether unfamiliar with PHC; she taught here six years ago, but left when she felt God telling her it was time to go.

While she was gone, Doyle worked on her doctorate and spent time growing her family. She ended up having another child of her own and adopted two kids, one of whom needed open-heart surgery. With the healthcare provided at her new job, the surgery was completely covered. Only then did Doyle realize why God had

brought her away from PHC, but she still held the college close to her heart.

"It's amazing how, when you trust [God] even when it doesn't look great and it's not your ideal, He is still faithful and knows the desires of our hearts. God put PHC in my heart, and I couldn't get rid of it, so I knew that He would bring it back," Doyle said.

Doyle was shy as a kid, but she liked to sing. Her mother saw her talent and pushed her, refusing to let Doyle give up. It paid off. In her career, Doyle has directed high school chorale, taught voice lessons from her private studio, and sang professionally in D.C.

"Music builds confidence," Doyle said. "When you sing, you're very vulnerable, so it pushes you past your insecurities."

She strives to make personal connections with her students to provide a secure place for them to learn both the technicalities and the artistry of voice.

"I'm here to stay as long as they'll keep me. I really am committed to the school and to the student body. As long as the Lord has me here, I'll be here," Doyle said. ♦

## Opinion: Conservative, But Not Republican

by Nathaniel Mullins

Two weeks ago, Mike Pence came to Patrick Henry College. The choice of location seemed logical, given PHC's Republican leanings. Nationwide, most Republicans who opposed Donald Trump's campaign during the primary have given in and decided to vote for the GOP nominee. On September 1, Rasmussen Reports indicated that 71% of Republicans back Trump. Why should PHC be any different? Is PHC a perfect mirror of the GOP? Will the student body fall in line to vote for Trump? With 125 votes (around 43% of the student body) in a straw poll conducted from August 27-September 1, PHC answered with a resounding no: the college may be conservative, but it is not necessarily Republican.

The precise question asked was, "If the presidential election were held today, whom would you vote for?" Only 41% of campus backed Trump, 30% less than the GOP. This does not mean, however, that students have fled to the Democrat nominee. Hillary Clinton only received 4% of ballots cast.

There were substantial differences in how each class voted. While the percentage of people who cast write-in/third party ballots remained stable across the classes, the percent that voted for Trump changed significantly with each year of school.

Freshmen were most likely to vote for Trump, with 55% casting their ballots for the GOP nominee. Sophomores were not far behind them at 53%. Only 32% of juniors supported Trump, and a dismal 19% of seniors planned to vote Republi-

can for the presidency.

The freshmen proved to be most confident in their views—only 6% showed any uncertainty by abstaining or remaining undecided (insert mandatory jab at the arguing tables of freshmen). Each year of school significantly reduced students' confidence in their vote. Seniors were the least confident of the classes—more of them were undecided or abstaining (41%) rather than voting for Trump.

Not only is Patrick Henry College not a simple mirror of the GOP, but it also seems to discourage dogmatic confidence in the Republican party. PHC may be undeniably conservative, but it is not undeniably Republican.

To see poll data, email ndmullins965@students.phc.edu. ♦