Millennial voters may impact election (if they show up)
KELLY V. BORAWSKI
THE VOICE STAFF

The millennial generation is a hard- sought demographic to get involved in the political process.

Millennials, people ages 18-35 years old, are statistically less likely to vote. According to the Washington Post, only 41% of Americans under the age of 30 are “absolutely certain” they are voting in the upcoming Presidential election. The number includes those who are not registered.

A text-based voting registration system, in-person volunteers, and the Rock the Vote campaign are just a few of the ways organizations are trying to get this group to register to vote. They may use different tactics – for example, Rock the Vote uses celebrity appeals as well as providing a lot of information on their site to make registering easier. A variety of tactics work and many younger potential voters are registering.

Registering, however, is not necessarily a guarantee that millennials will show up at the polls.

Volunteers from the CCAC Honors Program recently held a week-long voter registration drive on campus. According to Natalie Hoover, North Campus’s Honors Scholar, the group was able to register 42 new voters. “The response to the voter registration was a complete success,” says Hoover.

Several of those 42 thanked the volunteers for organizing the event and said that having the right to vote is important.

A few people told the volunteers that they were “opting out” of the voting process.

A concern among experts is that even those millennials who register to vote may not actually cast a vote. According to David Cahm, co-author of When Millennials Rule: The Reshaping of America, told US News, says the potential role millennial voters could play is a substantial one. “I think the story of this election will be the story of voter turnout among millennials, I think if they turn out and vote for [Democratic nominee Hillary] Clinton, she wins. If they don’t they lose.”

But Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump can’t count on the millennials turning out for either one of them.

Although they are an important voting bloc, according to the Census Bureau, only 38% of those 18-24 years old and 49.5% of those ages 25-44 years old turned out to vote in the 2012 presidential race.

ITT Tech shuts down after unfair practices
CCAC reaches out to affected students

ROBERT POLAND
THE VOICE EDITOR

They promised him his dream job but failed to deliver. James Croft of Evansville, Indiana was enticed to enroll at ITT Tech with promises that his degree in game design would earn him a starting salary of $80,000.

Now, however, he is $70,000 in debt and working at FedEx.

His mother, Barb Kirkwood, told The Voice of her experience when she went with her son to an open house. She went with him to the school, listened to their promises of traveling anywhere in the country to work and a high starting salary, doubting what the recruiters were saying the whole time. “I sat there and listened and cringed. It was all too good to be true,” she said.

She and her husband wanted their son about the school, saying it was most likely a scam but the recruiters had done their job. James wanted to attend.

When asked to co-sign for the loan Barb refused but James was given a $35,000 loan anyway through private lender Sallie Mae (The rest was given by the Federal Government).

“I have been waiting for the day to see this school go down,” said Kirkwood. On September 6, 2016, she got her wish.

James’s experience is an all too common story when it comes to ITT Tech graduates. In 2014, TIME magazine ranked ITT Tech as number 2 in their article “The 5 Colleges That Leave the Most Students Crippled By Debt.” This is mostly due to the fact that 22% of ITT Tech graduates have defaulted on their student loans. While the actual number of students is less than fellow for-profit college, University of Phoenix, the percentage is actually the highest in the entire country.

The percentage of students who were able to pay a single dollar toward their debt within three years of graduating is a measly 39%, compared to the national average of 66%.

ITT, operating approximately 130 campuses across 38 states with around 35,000 students, closed up shop on September 6 after they were banned from enrolling students who received federal aid.

Because of the similarity in offered programs, many displaced ITT Tech students will likely enroll at West Hills campus. Two information sessions were held at West Hills in the past few weeks.

ITT Tech is one of several for-profit colleges facing intense scrutiny. Famously, Trump University is currently facing several lawsuits.

CCAC has been reaching out to former ITT Tech students. Mary Lou Kennedy, Dean of Student Development at North and West Hills campuses, said ITT Tech students could easily find a home at CCACs.

“CCAC is interested in providing assistance to individuals displaced by the recent ITT closure,” she said. “We are hosting information sessions to help students understand how their credits could be used toward a CCAC degree and allow students to finish what they started. Admissions, Financial Aid, and Advising and Registration staff are available during the information sessions in an effort to streamline the enrollment process for these students.”
UN urges fight against climate change, Pittsburgh could show us the way

IVAN WEIS-PALACIOS
THE VOICE STAFF

This year in the United Nations General Assembly debate, multiple small island nations urged the UN to concentrate efforts on fighting climate change. These island nations, including Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Kiribati and many others, are in fear that rising ocean level will destroy these islands’ way of life. Many villages have been relocated and crops are failing to grow because of the intruding sea levels.

“The futures of the most vulnerable, like my people and my country, are at stake,” President Taneti Marnau of Kiribati told the Assembly’s annual general debate. It may be pointless to fight climate change now that we have pasted the dreaded carbon tipping point. In our atmosphere there are four hundred parts of carbon dioxide to every million parts of air. According to Motherboard, scientists have said that amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere marks a point of no return for climate change. It seems like those island nations and the Earth in general are now on borrowed time. But it is not in human nature to give in. Around the world, nations are rallying to bring a stop to climate change.

But can we really expect a city like Beijing, where the smog limits visibility to a few feet, to be improved?

Yes, because Pittsburgh did it.

In the 1940s the smog in Pittsburgh was so bad it made contemporary Beijing look like a good place to catch some fresh air, according to a 2013 article by Michael Graham Richard.

In that decade, a grassroots clean air movement pushed the city government to enact clean air laws. Over the next decades Pittsburgh cleaned up its act, from getting rid of harmful coal power plants, to steam cleaning the soot off of buildings. Pittsburgh turned from being the devil’s cinder den to one of the most livable cities in the United States. Pittsburgh could serve as a poster city for the direct benefits of eliminating fossil fuel usage.

Samantha Mack, a resident of Allegheny County, said that Pittsburgh could serve as an inspiration for other cities. “I would be really proud of Pittsburgh if it was used as a model for the benefit of going green. I hope other cities can learn from our history and improve themselves for the better.”

At a time where it can seem like the four horsemen of the apocalypse are just beyond the horizon, we could all gain a lot for having a model for the benefit of improving ourselves.

Faculty at PA state colleges and universities prepare for strike

TYLER KOCIRKA
THE VOICE STAFF

The Association of Pennsylvania State College and University Faculties (APSCUF) has voted to go on strike effective October 19.

The strike will affect more than 100,000 students at 14 different state colleges and universities. The move is a retaliatory move for APSCUF members who have worked without a contract for two years with little hope of getting the situation resolved.

The union and the representatives of the commonwealth plan on meeting as frequently as they can to try and address the issue and hopefully come together on an agreement before the strike begins.

“We can’t afford to stop meeting,” said spokesman for the state system Kenn Marshall. “This is too important to our students. We need to continue talking.”

Slippery Rock University student Marisa Gerst said that she is unhappy about the timing. “I just want to be able to graduate at the end of this semester. It’s what I’ve been looking forward to all year,” she said.

Dustin Sleva, a junior at Shippensburg University, was similarly concerned. “I just want to get done on time,” he said.

The current contract, put in place beginning in the academic year 2011-2012, ended in 2014-2015. According to the agreement, faculty salaries were granted a 1% increase for the first two years and then a 2% increase the final year of the contract.

The state system has released a new proposal to the union, raising some faculty pay as much as 12 percent. If accepted, the APSCUF would raise their wages a combined $159 million over the course of the contract. Currently state faculty salaries range from $42,000 to $112,000 annually.
The Voice

student to transfer to any in state four-year college they transferred to. There are also continuing curriculum of their major CCAC.

that they will accepting credits from this case, Westminster is now guaranteeing any program of his or her choosing, and students to earn credits at one college in another college to the list of institutions articulation agreement in June, thus adding Dorman, finalized what is known as an articulation agreement.

of Allegheny County and Westminster President Quintin Bullock signed an agreement with Westminster President Richard H. Dorman this summer.

CCAC finalizes articulation agreement with Westminster

Blaise Fatter
The Voice STAFF

This summer, Community College of Allegheny County and Westminster College came together to finalize an articulation agreement.

The respective college presidents, Dr. Quintin Bullock and Dr. Richard H. Dorman, finalized what is known as an articulation agreement in June, thus adding another college to the list of institutions that CCAC students can transfer to when they complete a two-year program.

“Through our shared commitment to quality educational programming, we are helping to ensure that future graduates have the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in an increasingly competitive and changing world,” President Bullock states in a press release.

The articulation agreement will enable students to earn credits at one college in any program of his or her choosing, and guarantee transfer to another college. In this case, Westminster is now guaranteeing that they will accepting credits from CCAC.

Students, upon transfer will then continue the curriculum of their major and earn a bachelor’s degree from the college they transferred to. There are also other similar kinds of agreements, like a comprehensive articulation agreement, which is a state wide agreement that allows the credits earned by a community college student to transfer to any in state four-year school of their choosing.

The new articulation agreement, which will be in effect for graduates immediately, will facilitate a transfer of CCAC students into Westminster College who are majoring in Accounting, Business, Biology, Criminal Justice Studies, Psychology, Theater, and Early Childhood Special Education.

Westminster College was founded in 1852 and is a national leader in graduation rate performance according to U.S. News Best Colleges guide. The college has also earned a few other titles such as the number one school providing the “Best Value in Pennsylvania” by Smartasset, and was selected as one of the “Top 25 Best Private College Values in the Northeast.”

It has also been honored as one of “The Best 379 Colleges” by The Princeton Review, and it has been named to the President’s honor roll for excellence in student learning.

Westminster College has close to 1300 undergraduate and graduate students who study 41 different majors and have more than 100 organizations, which can all be found on the college’s campus in New Wilmington, PA.

With this new articulation agreement between CCAC and Westminster College, CCAC adds another college to its list of 500 colleges and universities that allow students to transfer their credits to. This articulation agreement opens another door for CCAC students looking for a four-year school to transfer to and earn a degree from.

In June 2016, the CCAC Board of Trustees approved a budget worth $113.2 million. “…that provides for enrollment and retention initiatives, IT upgrades, and deferred maintenance projects, funded through a modest tuition increase,” says Dr. Quintin Bullock, CCAC’s President.

He continues, “The 2016-2017 operating budget includes $108,347,437 for operating expenditures; $829,081 for strategic programmatic initiatives; $750,000 for facilities/deferred maintenance; $2,426,000 for ITS infrastructure; and $880,976 for transfer to Plant Fund Debt Services.”

The trustees approved an increase of $3 per credit in tuition. This increase brings the amount in-county residents pay, up to $107.75 per credit. “In addition, lab fees are being added to a select list of courses. These additional fees will more closely align with the cost of course-related supplies.”

He goes on to say, “The new tuition rate reflects a modest 2.85% increase. The additional tuition will accommodate the rate of inflation and will maintain the ongoing delivery of high-quality instruction and services, thus minimizing the need for large increases in tuition that could be burdensome to students.”

The financial aid students receive is to remain the same, determined by a student’s financial eligibility, based on federal and state guidelines.

Dr. Bullock adds, “Additional funds will support college-wide initiatives aimed at increasing student access and success.”

He concludes, “While we are asking students to make an additional investment in their education, CCAC continues to offer exceptional value for our students and the community. Of course, CCAC would not be able to deliver affordable, top-notch educational programming without all of you—thank you for your continued hard work and dedication.”

CCAC offers students a 5-installment payment plan. In the fall, CCAC will be introducing the Online Student Account Center. This will allow students to enroll online and manage their payment plan.

The rise seems beneficial for both students, and faculty alike. Most students receiving financial aid haven’t even seemed to notice the change.

3

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Compared to the previous year, turnout among voters ages 45 and 64 was 63.4% and almost 70% for those aged 65 and older.

The United States is not the only country in which the older generation chooses the outcome of important votes. In the United Kingdom a vote took place this summer which allowed the UK to leave the European Union. It has been dubbed “Brexit” by the media. In that historic vote, according to British pollster Yougov and reported by CNN Money, 64% of younger people between 25 and 29 wanted the UK to stay in the EU, while 61% of those aged between 30 and 34 wanted to stay. The reason for the loss, according to British pollsters, was a remarkably high turnout among white, working-class older people.

Conversely, experts anticipate that white, working-class, non-college educated, older people may be the decision makers in the UK’s upcoming presidential race. The simple reason that this voting bloc carries so much weight is that they get out and vote.
Student Ambassadors offer positive first experiences for new and prospective students

Kat Vouga joins Perkins staff as Student Support Specialist

Katrica “Kat” Vouga is a new Student Support Specialist in the Perkins Career and Technical Education office at CCAC North campus.

As a Student Support Specialist, Vouga is responsible for assisting students academically as well as personally.

“I felt like this was a really great position for me to exercise being able to support students and coach students and be able to offer them resources that can help them be as successful as possible in their college career,” she says.

She states that she is usually in contact with students for the majority of the time and describes all that the Perkins Office does for the students at North campus.

“Here in the Perkins office, we do everything from running educational workshops to meeting with students to doing one-on-one plans to go over study skills,” she explains.

“We also do a lot of time management work with students here on an individual basis, being able to help students manage working a job and going to school and all the other commitments that people often see.”

The Perkins Office also conducts events such as the Student Success Fest which took place last month at the Student Success Hub.

In the past, Vouga has worked in NCAA athletics for two years and also has experience with academic compliance and life skills with student athletes. She has also worked in residential life at the University of Pittsburgh and most recently in the student health clinic on the campus of Carnegie Mellon University before her position at CCAC North.

Vouga attained her bachelor’s degree in social work from the University of Pittsburgh and most recently in social work there as well. Before coming to CCAC North, Vouga was searching for a position that could help her develop some of her professional skills in higher education. She states that her education has played a role in helping her students be as successful as possible. “I really believe that the field of social work is really conducive to what I’m doing now because it’s all about helping people.”

She also emphasizes that college is a place to grow. “There are so many things that you learn in college that come in forms outside of the classroom,” she explains. Vouga addresses the fact that students have to balance multiple endeavors while in school such as taking orientations for incoming students. “The Students definitely make newcomers feel more welcome,” says Lyons.

The Ambassadors also serve on committees for CCAC administration, and have input on big changes that come to the college. “Committees help bring student perspectives into account. People don’t know how students think,” she says.

The Ambassadors are very positive, outgoing, and involved around campus, according to Velella. Many of the selected students are involved in multiple clubs and events.

Kat Vouga works with students in the personal responsibility for one’s personal life, health and wellness, family matters and other relationships, as well as finances.

“I think that college is a great place to not only receive education in the academic sense but also in the personal sense as well,” she says.

CCAC North appears to be a good fit for Vouga as she finds the students and staff to be very approachable. “I feel like everybody’s really friendly and wants to get to know you and wants to connect with you and build relationships in order to help our students be successful,” she says.

“I think our students are just phenomenal. I feel like they are just happy to be here and really looking to improve themselves personally and academically and that’s just a really refreshing thing to see people excited about having the opportunity to be here at CCAC,” says Vouga.
North student named to Board of Trustees

When it comes to making decisions for Andrew Cardone
THE VOICE EDITOR
how CCAC runs, the choices are made by the Board of Trustees, however the Board is made of mainly appointed people who do not always notice students’ concerns. Enter Gerard Greco, the new student representative on the Board of Trustees for all CCAC campuses.

Greco is a second year student majoring in Industrial Engineering at CCAC North.

“I wanted to take on the role and responsibility of this position because I deeply value the education I’m receiving for myself and for other fellow students at CCAC,” says Greco.

Being the sole student representative on the Board of Trustees means he represents the students’ interests at the Board and committee meetings.

He also seeks out opinions and feedback on topics relevant to students on behalf of the Board of Trustees during the monthly meetings.

However, Greco does not only relate the students’ opinions to the board, but he also works on the Student Success & Work Force subcommittee, according to Campus President Gretchen Mullin-Sawicki.

In this capacity, he studies data dealing with how students handle college, ranging from attendance rates to grade statistics, to see what is going right and what is going wrong.

“Besides representing the students as a whole,” says Greco, “I communicate with students from all campuses to receive opinions and feedback on certain topics involved with the Student Board of Trustees.”

Greco has also been an active member of the CCAC North golf team and the Student Ambassadors.

There has been only one student representative to the Board of Trustees prior to Greco. With only one year of student representation, the position is still somewhat uncharted water for the CCAC Board – and for Greco.

With such little precedent, Greco is mentored by various members of the Board on how this position would operate and how to go about his new position’s responsibilities.

Greco invites his fellow students to offer some suggestions to make this campus better.

Greco is a nonvoting member of the Board.

To become a student trustee, applicants must apply for the position through the Board of Trustees, and provide evidence of support from multiple faculty and staff members. To be considered, an interview is granted. Finally, a vote is put to all the campus presidents, as well as members of the CCAC Office of the President.

The rest is CCAC history, as flyers advertising the position noted.

Andrew Cardone / CCAC North Voice

North campus and West Hills will join the other CCAC campuses in going tobacco and smoke free, though the initiative has been delayed.

Consequences will become progressive. I want the students and faculty to know that this is happening.”

Merrill Sandburg, student at CCAC North Campus voices his opinion on the topic, “The date that the no smoking rule was supposed to start on, kept changing. Once they put up the signs that said ‘coming soon’, I figured that they had no idea when it was going to start.”

He adds, “I spend most of my time in the designated smoking areas provided on campus. I pay to go here and I spend most of my time here. Furthermore, it is my decision as an adult to smoke cigarettes. Or vape, for that matter.”

Mary Lou Kennedy says “There is no set date, but I do believe the group is aiming for February.”

Whether the students and faculty agree with the policy or not, its coming. The Smoke-Free Tobacco-Free Initiative will be taking effect on campus soon.

Andrew Cardone / CCAC North Voice

CARLIS M. SPIVEY
THE VOICE EDITOR
Earlier in 2015, CCAC was chosen to take place in the Truth Initiative. The Truth Initiative is a program that is aiming to create the first tobacco-free generation.

Students may be wondering when this initiative is going to kick off on campus. Signs put up during the 2016 fall semester originally pointed to the ban taking effect over the summer. The signs now read “coming soon.”

With no set date on the ban, Nancilee Burzachechi, the Executive Director of Governmental and External Affairs and the Project Director for the Truth Initiative Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Community College Grants Initiative for CCAC, says it wasn’t necessarily postponed.

“...we wanted to take additional time prior to presenting the initiative to ensure that guidelines were clear for enforcing infractions of the policy. An exact date will be determined once the CCAC Board of Trustees acts on the policy,” says Burzachechi.

She goes on to say “It is being presented for informational purposes to the Compliance, Legal Affairs, Policies, Human Resources and Inclusion Committee of the CCAC Board of Trustees at their meeting on September first. If the committee members are in agreement with the policy, they may then decide to put the policy before the full board and vote to adopt it during a future meeting of the Board this fall.”

Mary Lou Kennedy, Dean of Student Development at CCAC North Campus says “The policy will apply to both students and faculty. Consequences for acting against the policy will follow the CCAC Student Code of Conduct.”

She continues “At first, a written warning would be issued. If the user continues to break school policy, the right to smoke on Campus. So long as it's in the designated smoking area. I pay to go here and I spend most of my time here. Furthermore, it is my decision as an adult to smoke cigarettes. Or vape, for that matter.”

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Jennifer Groll / CCAC North Voice

CCAC prepares to go smoke-free

Andrew Cardone / CCAC North Voice
Marvel continues to wow on the big screen

CHARLES DeMORE II
THE VOICE STAFF

Marvel is looking forward to its domination of the box office.
The latest in the epic series of films, Captain America: Civil War made it to DVD and Blu-Ray last month. The movie stars one of the biggest casts in a movie. Many are wondering: What’s next? The answer is Doctor Strange starring Benedict Cumberbatch, set for a November 4, 2016, release. The early trailers have already teased viewers with magic that would blow the mind of Houdini himself.

And the amazement doesn’t stop there.
After Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 is released in 2017, the web-head himself returns with Spider-Man: Homecoming, also set to release in 2017. That year will also lead to Thor: Ragnarok, and finally Black Panther in 2018.

Fans will get another movie that has been in the works and hinted at since the very first Avengers movie, when we will see the one of the biggest superhero movies ever made when the first part of Avengers: Infinity War comes to the big screen in 2018.

For the few people that don’t know Marvel, it was comic company that started back in 1939. Ever since, the company has created hero after heroine. From the most famous, the web-slinging Spider-Man, to the less popular ones such as Sentry, the world of Marvel is an epic one.

In the last few years, Marvel Comics has made a huge impact on the next generation with its superhero movies.

The start of this movement was the 2008 movie Iron Man starring Robert Downey, Jr. playing the loveable billionaire Tony Stark. The movie was a giant hit, but what really made it amazing is the surprise left for the few people who stayed until after all the credits to see Iron Man visited by a man by the name of Nick Fury. Many fans were amazed and confused: What did it mean?

In fact, it was the beginning of an entire world of Marvel translated to the big screen.

After Iron Man, Marvel started putting out more and more movies — and fans soon discovered that Marvel was bringing many of their most iconic characters together for an ensemble film.

Fans dreams were realized when so many of the characters they all love where coming together in one giant world, interplaying just as the comics did. This was confirmed in the amazing blockbuster hit The Avengers.

It didn’t stop there, and Marvel has consistently made movie after movie connected in the same universe.

Now, as 2016 draws to its close, fans get to sit back and wait to have their socks blown off by the world of Marvel. Excelsior!

Doctor Strange, the next in Marvel’s cinematic universe, will be set for release in November.

Photo courtesy of Marvel Studios

The trailer for Rogue One: A Star Wars Story is a phenomenal taste of what’s to come for Star Wars fandom. Not only could this film possibly be the best of the eight films released thus far, but it is rumored to be the darkest Star Wars film to date.

It is also the second Star Wars film to be released after Disney acquired LucasFilm. After the premiere of Star Wars: The Force Awakens, Disney had set a high bar for the following films. Rogue One, however, is not technically part of the trilogies, but connects some of the previous lore.

Rogue One also has a different director, Gareth James Edwards, a British film director, has taken the task of directing this one-shot film. This fact brings up the possibility of the film having a different flow or tone than the other films.

The film will be filled with new faces but classic ones return as well. It includes a classical music score remastered for the new generation, plus a new color scheme we have yet to see LucasFilm play with.

The score in this film is the same as the old ones, but updated to have a more eerie tone to it. This gives the film an entirely new atmosphere. The music is not only gorgeous but chilling as well.

Along with the altered score, the color palette of the film has been updated to match the ominous feelings.

The colors are much more saturated than the previous films, making things much darker on screen.

Perhaps the biggest change in these new films from the original trilogy is in the developing of gender roles.

The growing popularity of female leads in films is becoming very prominent in today’s society. Rogue One is no exception to this.

The new hero of our story is Jyn Erso (played by Felicity Jones), a female loner who is recruited by the Rebellion to perform a high profile mission. Her goal is to retrieve the plans of the Death Star for the Rebellion—a scene that was hinted at in the original trilogy.

Jyn is part of a new trio of characters.

This trio technique has been constant through the other seven films—Obi-Wan Kenobi, Anakin Skywalker, and Padme Amidala in episodes I through III and Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia, and Han Solo.

The newest trilogy introduces audiences to Poe, Finn, and Rey, though, for the first time, the female character became the focus over the accompanying males.

This film is full iconic images along with new and old faces. Along with our new female lead we see iconic figures we have learned to love from the originals series. We see clips of battles involving AT-ATs and we are shown a glimpse of the villain we all love in the trailer: Darth Vader.

The only possible problem fans can expect from this film might be its difference from the others, due to its different director and darker tone. Nevertheless, fans will no doubt be excited thanks to the trailer.

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story will be released in December.

Photo courtesy of LucasFilm / Disney

The film, set for release in December, brings a new tone to the classic Star Wars formula.

Photo courtesy of LucasFilm / Disney

Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones) takes center stage in Rogue One: A Star Wars Story. The film is no exception to this.

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Star Wars goes rogue with new chapter

EMMALINE LATTNER-LANE
THE VOICE EDITOR

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Photo courtesy of LucasFilm / Disney

Jyn Erso (Felicity Jones) takes center stage in Rogue One: A Star Wars Story. The film, set for release in December, brings a new tone to the classic Star Wars formula.
The Voice

5 Halloween films for lovers of horror

JOSH JANSSEN
THE VOICE STAFF

For those of you who love a good scare or are just in the mood for some holiday cheer this coming October, here is a list of some viewer favorite horror films. Some of these films are classics, and some are more modern but all of them have been selected for this list for specific reasons. They are terrifying, and have left a strong memory of fear in many people’s minds. They are memorable for so many reasons, and hopefully you find something to watch this Halloween.

1. ALIEN

Alien is a sci-fi classic brought to us by Ridley Scott. This horror/thriller was a classic from the start. It follows a crew of space explorers who receive a distress signal from a nearby planet, on their return to earth things go a little wary. The movie is very well written and filmed beautifully. With the acting surprisingly good for its time and lack of special effects, this movie is truly a triumph. Scott truly captures what it’s like in space where no one can hear you scream.

2. THE CABIN IN THE WOODS

The Cabin in the Woods was rather dismissed when it came out as just another horror movie, though it still astounds me. Cabin in the Woods does something long forgotten in the horror industry. Since the late 90s and even before then, the ideas for horror movies ran dry. Did we really need 12 versions of Friday the Thirteenth or 5 of Nightmare on Elm Street? Cabin in the Woods starts cliché, but quickly gains traction. A group of teens, (a jock, a pretty blonde, a geeky girl, the jock’s buddy and a stoner) all go to an isolated cabin in the woods (go figure) and there’s a killer. Yawn, everyone knows how this goes. But rather than sticking on one path Cabin in the Woods jumps off track and does its own new thing which left me very satisfied.

3. THE NIGHTMARE

The Nightmare isn’t actually a fiction film but rather a documentary. It’s a documentary that should have a warning at the beginning. In the film 8 people are interviewed about their experiences with sleep paralysis. The reason it should have a warning is because learning about sleep paralysis can actually cause you to have sleep paralysis. The Nightmare tells eight truly horrific tales and what makes them terrifying is that they’re true, and each one is filmed excellently. This film comes highly recommended; but with caution; watch it with the lights on.

4. THE SHINING

This masterpiece of a film is written originally by Stephen King, though the film branches farther off than most film adaptations of movies. Honestly, The Shining is less of an adaptation but more of its own thing. Stanley Kubrick, who is an artist with the movies he creates, fills this film with continuation errors, but not by mistake. Kubrick, who was famous for being nearly impossible to work with, would film the simplest scene 40 times or more. There are so many things that are easy to miss in this film that watching it as many times is understandable. It’s about a man who takes a job as a caretaker to a hotel that gets snowed in each winter who suffers from the worst case of cabin fever imaginable.

5. THE THING

The Thing is favorite of many. The Thing follows a group of scientists who are isolated at the South Pole doing research when they’re visited by an alien presence that can shape shift at will and make an exact copy of anything. The amazing thing about this film is that it was made in 1982, before fancy special effects were around so everything is done with prosthetics, makeup and is hand made. There are so many scenes where you lean forward and look at the screen thinking “that’s not made by a computer?” This film pleasantly surprises viewers with how beautifully and artistically done this horror/thriller really is.

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World Cup of Hockey returns after 12 years

ALLISON ROUP
THE VOICE EDITOR

Two decades ago, the first World Cup of Hockey was held featuring the best players of USA, Canada, Russia, Czech Republic, Sweden, Finland, Germany, and Slovakia—formerly known as the Canadian Cup in 1976, the format was adjusted to the World Cup of Hockey; allowing National Hockey League players to represent their respective countries. Featuring such players from the NHL, Wayne Gretzky, Alexei Kovaliv, Brett Hull, Sergei Gonchar, and Dominik Kajar to name a few. With that year’s World Cup being remembered by Canadian fans as “the title that got away” with team USA lifting the World Cup trophy after defeating Team Canada. The World cup was not to be held again for eight years in 2004 than for another twelve years this year in 2016. The NHL with the National Hockey League Players’ Association and the International Ice Hockey Federation have come together to make sure these time gaps are kept to a minimum of four years between each tournament and be continually held. This decision being made as the NHL talk about not participating in the 2018 Olympics; that are to be held in South Korea. Using the World Cup Tournament as a possible replacement to keep the players competing at an international level.

This year’s World Cup of hockey held pre-tournament games around the world including two games at Consol Energy Center with Team North America vs. Team Czech Republic, and Team Canada vs. Team Russia. Holding these games to test the ability of the tournament to gain revenue and attention for the possibility to continue to hold the World Cup each four years. If this year is any indication for the leagues, the World Cup can only grow more with time as fans take to the tournament in a frenzy.

With Team Russia being taken out of the tournament by Team Canada in the semi-finals, and Team Europe creating an upset as they prevailed over Team Sweden, a World Cup favorite to face Team Canada in the finals. The finals being a best of three, Team Canada took an early lead taking the first game win on Sept. 27. The second game of three on Sept. 29 with Team Europe needing the win to force a game three tie breaker against Canada. Sidney Crosby and Team Canada took the win in Game two as they won the World Cup trophy, and Pittsburgh’s very own Sidney Crosby was named the Most Valuable Player.

Stanley Cup Champions Pittsburgh Penguins gear up for 50th season

BLAISE FATTER
THE VOICE STAFF

The Pittsburgh Penguins are going into their fiftieth season defending their title as Stanley Cup Champions.

They defeated the San Jose Sharks in a six game series to win their fourth Stanley Cup, something many fans would not have predicted because of an 18-15-4 record by the end of the third month of the season. The Penguins organization made a major change by relieving Mike Johnston of his coaching duties and hiring Mike Sullivan as the new head coach.

Along with a head coach swap the Penguins made the decision to fire Ray Shero as general manager and hire Jim Rutherford as general manager and hire Jim Rutherford as general manager. With these staffing changes, Pittsburgh went from being in 12th place in the Eastern Conference to Stanley Cup Champions the year before.

During the recent off-season, the Penguins added some new players to their roster during the draft, while losing a few players due to trading. The Penguins drafted defensemen Stuart Percy and David Warsofsky, while losing Ben Lovejoy, Beau Bennett, and Jeff Zatkoff.

There have also been some concerns raised for who will be the starting goaltender in the 2016-17 season. Marc-Andre Fleury is still only 31 years old, but he is likely to be playing less because of the new 22-year-old goaltender, Matt Murray.

Even though he is less experienced, Murray was an important player during Pittsburgh’s 2016 Stanley Cup victory last season. NHL.com reported on September 15, that Fleury “hasn’t been asked to be traded even though he was considering it early in the offseason.”

As of September 24th there is no question that Fleury will start as Matt Murray will be out three to six weeks with a broken hand. This nevertheless will give the promising young addition Tristan Jarry the opportunity to become backup goalie to Fleury as Murray recovers.

The pre-season began on September 27 with a loss to the Detroit Red Wings, followed by two wins against the Chicago Blackhawks, one on September 28th and the other on September 30th.

The regular season starts at Consol Energy Center on October 13th against the Washington Capitals. Pittsburgh has a history of defeating Washington in important games, especially in the post-season, but with some new roster changes during their offseason, the Capitals might have a better chance of advancing past the Penguins in this year’s Stanley Cup Playoffs.

Because the Penguins are the 2016 Stanley Cup Champions, other teams in the NHL will try to copy what made Pittsburgh such a successful team while also developing their own ways to stop the reigning Stanley Cup Champions.

This season marks the team’s fiftieth season, and anything can happen, just like how the Penguins went from 12th place in the Eastern Conference to Stanley Cup Champions.

Steelers gear up for rest of season

ALLISON ROUP
THE VOICE EDITOR

Pittsburgh Steelers are looking to be in mid-season form as the team’s offense struggles with injuries and suspensions while going up against opponents. The Steelers offense, true to form, are quick to strike down any doubts about that as Ben Roethlisberger, Antonio Brown, and Le’Veon Bell are a tri-powerhouse to instill fear into the hearts of the National Football League players.

The October 2 game resulted in a 43-14 Steelers win against the Kansas City Chiefs at Heinz Field is proof that the offense is in no way suffering but forging ahead at high speeds. With Bell’s impressive speed resulting in 178 total yards, Roethlisberger’s arm with his 47th 300-yard passing game against the Chiefs. Betting it all on offense is a risky move in the NFL but with the results this trio are producing, it’s more of a sure fire thing than a risk.

Steelers defense is a less likely thing as the defense struggles to perform to their usual prowess with a shocking low sacks stats. With just one bounce back performance the defense has time though not much to grow as tougher potential playoff opponents are to come forward.

As willing as the Steelers seem to count on their offense anything is possible as an offense is only as strong as their defense. If the Steelers are to keep what is left of their offense moving forward defense needs to prove themselves.

Progressing into the 2016-17 season besides offense and defense is there a need for players to be put on a tighter leash as suspensions prove detrimental to teams. Recently the return of Bell from his three game suspension after missing drug testing continually, and most notably for the Steelers Martavis Bryant’s season-long suspension without pay for violating the league’s substance-abuse policy. As bright as the Steelers season looks will the team manage to rise above and make example of mistakes in the past off season to advance far into the playoffs without incident.
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Victims of sexual violence deserve justice

Sexual violence has always been a very disturbing topic not only because of the severity of the crime but also how these crimes are addressed. The issue proposes a number of questions but most importantly: Why is our justice system so lenient on sex offenders? A highly publicized case involves young (former) Stanford student, Brock Turner whose swimming career was put to an abrupt end after he sexually assaulted an unconscious woman behind a dumpster. Brock Turner was sentenced to six months in jail but ended up serving less time than the duration of a college semester. Murderers, robbers and other types of criminals serve years behind bars so why are rapists the exception? Judge Persky who sentenced Brock claimed that jail would have a severe impact on him, completely disregarding how much the victim suffered and the severe impact the incident had on her.

However, Turner is not the only rapist who’s gotten a slap on the wrist for his crime. Even more recently, Colorado University student Austin Wilkerson was convicted of rape and received no jail time whatsoever but rather got off with 2 years on work release and 20 years on probation. According to prosecutors, Judge Butler could have sentenced Wilkerson to serve less time than the duration of a college semester.

Finding underlying causes: Trump’s infamous wall

CCAC excuses absences due to religious observances

The number one killer of black people is other black people. Black lives don’t matter to BLM unless a cop is involved in the killing of a black person. BLM was noticeably absent during the recent Louisiana floods, which affected 47,000 people—57% of which were African American. BLM remains silent whenever black-on-black crime ravages Chicago because it doesn’t fit the narrative. If black lives really mattered, they would focus on what is really the number one killer of black people.

Editor's Note: We welcome all responses. To clarify, however, the number one killer of black people is heart disease, same as for others.

Authors:

Zack Zurcher
CCAC West Hills/Allegheny Student

Zack Zurcher, a student at CCAC West Hills/Allegheny, penned this editorial, which was published in the September 8, 2016 edition of The Voice. The editorial was critical of the death penalty and the leniency of convicted rapists like Brock Turner and Austin Wilkerson. The author argued that the justice system is too lenient on sex offenders and that women are subject to victim blaming.

Summary:

Zack Zurcher, a student at CCAC West Hills/Allegheny, penned this editorial, which was published in the September 8, 2016 edition of The Voice. The editorial was critical of the death penalty and the leniency of convicted rapists like Brock Turner and Austin Wilkerson. The author argued that the justice system is too lenient on sex offenders and that women are subject to victim blaming.

Key Points:

- The justice system is too lenient on sex offenders.
- Women are subject to victim blaming.
- The death penalty is too lenient.
- Convicted rapists like Brock Turner and Austin Wilkerson should have received more severe sentences.

The editorial was written to raise awareness about the injustice in the criminal justice system, particularly in cases involving sexual violence.
Over the past school year, six Honors students from CCAC attended the Northeastern Regional Honor’s Council (NRHC) conference in Boston, Massachusetts: Tiffany Nguyen, Surbhi Sharma, Kanvi Sharma, Carina Crane, Allison Hoffman, and Natalie Hoover. Two Honors’ coordinators, Professor Scott Mayberry and Patsy Williamson, and the Honor’s Program Director Julia Fennell, also attended the conference. Five of the six student attendees were either past or current Leadership in Honors Scholars.

Allison Hoffman, Honors student from North Campus, presented her honors research from Professor Allison Barash’s Introduction to Psychology course. The conference was held from Thursday March 31, 2016 through Sunday April 3, 2016. We left the morning of March 31st from the Pittsburgh Airport. Once we boarded the plane, it was about a sixty to ninety minute flight, which is not too shabby for my first time on an airplane. When we landed in Boston’s airport we went to our hotel, The Hyatt, where the conference was being hosted. Once we had dropped off our bags, we went out to explore and visit the historical sites along Boston’s Freedom Trail. It was absolutely spectacular.

Our starting point was Boston Commons, which is a small park where you can see the top of the magnificently golden domed State House as it rises above the trees. We then followed the trail past Park Street Church, Granary Burying Ground—which holds the burial spot of Benjamin Franklin’s parents, King’s Chapel, Old Corner Bookstore—which is now a Chipotle location, the Old South Meeting House, the Old State House, the Boston Massacre Site, the Paul Revere House, and the Old North Church. After we walked several miles to view Boston and catching many prominent locations: Harvard, MIT, boathouses, etc., we had to take group pictures with every place or person on the list we were given and submit the pictures. On our first day in Boston, we walked a total of ten miles. On Friday, we went on our City of Text excursions into Boston and Cambridge. Tiffany, Allison, and I choose to see the Waterfront. I specifically chose to see the Waterfront because I had never seen the ocean before going on this trip. We took the subway, a public bus, and walked to the Waterfront. There were boat tours for whale watching and marine animal spotting and an enormous aquarium.

I do not have enough words to describe how magical and truly special it was to view the ocean. Honestly, it was one of the best experiences of my life. After spending most of the day near the ocean and walking around the Waterfronts of Boston, we went back to our hotel for dinner and the open mic night.

On Saturday, Allison presented her paper at a roundtable with other students from the NRHC, all focusing on immigration. Questions followed each presentation. Each of us attended student research presentations that were well researched and astounding to listen to. My favorite speakers of the day were four female students who spoke during the last session of the day on sexual assault. Erin Drouin from Eastern Connecticut State University did an analysis of traditional media coverage and social media of sexual assault on college campuses. She chose an unexpected area of the topic to discuss, and it was a fabulous presentation. Every presentation in this category caught and held the audience’s attention.

After the undergraduate research presentations, the professors attended a faculty meeting, and the students went to a “Dancing through the Decades” dance. It was so fun. Professor Williamson and Professor Fennell even joined us on the dance floor. It was an absolute blast.

On Sunday morning, we went to breakfast in the ballroom where we split our time between breakfast and viewing poster presentations. We had barely viewed the presentations when we were notified that one of the flights to Pittsburgh that was supposed to leave before us was actually cancelled because of the bad weather from the night before. We rushed to the airport to hold our spots. Our flight was delayed, but we did make it home Sunday afternoon.

Overall, the NRHC conference was such a thrill. We were extremely busy every day, but we also got to have some great experiences while making some new friends. Next year’s NRHC conference is in Pittsburgh, April 6-9, 2017, and CCAC Honors is hoping to sponsor several Honors students to attend.

If you are offered the opportunity to enrich your experience at CCAC by active participation in an organization like Honors, I would highly recommend that you do it. Who knows where the opportunity will take you: maybe your own list of “first” experiences!
THE LAST CAN by KAITLIN BIGLEY / CCAC Allegheny

BAD JOKES by CHARLES DEMORE III / CCAC North

ONE SHOTS by JARED SAWL / CCAC North

ODDS by KEELIN WALLACE / CCAC North

OOPS

Cow Traffic
"moove it! Just steer past me.

FREEDOM FIGHTER by MASON BLANCO and JARED SAWL / CCAC North

Pvt. Richard Alexander Daniel O’Conner A.K.A. ‘RAD’ O’Conner, downloaded information about ISIS having business with the organization known Prodigal. Before making the ultimate sacrifice, RAD, gave Jimmy the flash drive along with his dog tags and told him to give them to his mother, who told Jimmy to keep them. To honor his best friend and the rest of the Hounds who also gave their lives for their escape, Jimmy intends to find and put a stop to Prodigal by using new abilities and the data from the flash drive, as Freedom Fighter.

Restaurant Life by ANDREW DOYLE / CCAC Allegheny

"I’m going in."

"I trained myself in my new abilities for four months now, Henry. I know I’m ready."

"I have to be… for RAD."

"I hear you, Jess. What is it?"

"If I just wanted to tell you to be careful."

"You know I will, Jess, but thanks."

"TO BE CONTINUED..."