Walsh students preserve and promote local history

BY: CHLOE MILLER, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Several students on campus have dedicated their semester to the preservation of Canton's local history. As part of a service learning project, headed by Dr. Kelly Mezurek, the HIST 380 students presented on the preservation of local history and their own efforts to document the numerous graves in Canton's own Rowland Cemetery.

People are no longer buried in this historic cemetery today, and for the most part, its upkeep relies upon volunteer efforts. Unfortunately, many of the older graves are crumbling and have fallen into disrepair.

The local history presentation took place on Nov. 13 at Lighthouse Ministries, located in the city of Canton.

The event was facilitated by nine Walsh students of various majors. They began by highlighting the history of Canton as well as the historical significance of Rowland Cemetery. They also touched on the importance of local history in general.

“Local history helps to give us a sense of who we are and how we came to be as a community,” said Mezurek. “Even if we are not from a particular area, studying the local history can make us feel more connected to the people before us or can help us to develop empathy and understanding for others who have had different experiences than us.”

The students also described the tools and technology used to gather information about the graves, including the names and dates on the headstones and the location of the graves themselves. This information will be added to FindAGrave.com, a digital database of cemetery records that helps individuals to trace their ancestry.

The presentation was immediately followed by a student-led panel and a lively Q&A session.

“Doing all this research and creating the website gives us a better understanding of how important local history really is,” said David Gresham, a senior presenter. “These small cemeteries give you a good starting point to find out more about the area that you are from. They allow the legacies of people to live on, and they allow generations after them to learn about the history within this area, because otherwise it probably wouldn’t be talked about.”

Several members of the community attended the presentation, and many expressed gratitude for the students' contributions.

“If somebody doesn't map [the cemetery], when the tombstones disappear, then history disappears,” said a member of the audience. “That person disappears. What you all have done here is extremely valuable.”

Mazurek is extremely proud of her students and their efforts over the past few months.

“I thought the students did an incredible job with their presentation, professionally represented Walsh University, and clearly demonstrated the value of service learning,” said Mezurek.
Top 10 Walsh staff according to a graduating senior

BY: JOSEPH PAIVA, STAFF WRITER

Ric Ady
A campus police officer here at Walsh University. He is very kind and considerate to students. If there was a time I needed to be let in to a building in order to finish an assignment, Ady would come to the rescue. Being a campus police officer, he is also very professional and will do what it takes to protect and watch over campus on his night shifts.

Celiene McDougal
An employee of Sodexo. Celiene and I have known each other for the past four years. I first met her when she was working at the Cavalier Café in the David Campus Center and still see her when I need a venti white chocolate mocha at the new café in the Global Learning Center.

Patsy Tucker
An employee of Sodexo. I’ve known Patsy for a year and a half, and I’ve gotten used to seeing her at the Schervish Dining Center during lunch and dinner hours. She is sweet and kind and always makes an effort to talk to students.

Gina Brahler
An employee of Sodexo. I have only known Gina for about a year, but it is always a joy to see her when I go eat. She is very nice and funny, but she also makes sure students are following the dining center’s rules.

Diane Mingo
An employee of Sodexo. I have known Diane for the past two years after countless meetings during breakfast at the Scherv. She is very sweet and also a hard worker. Her rare smiles never fail to make you feel good.

Kathy Fasy
An employee of Sodexo. I have known Kathy for two years, as I always see her at the Grille during the dinner shift. She does a perfect job making the daily meal swipe, and she always asks me how my day is going.

Melissa Hessman
An employee of Sodexo. I have known Melissa for two years, and she does a splendid job at preparing the meals at the Grille. Her service is very fast, and the food is always delicious.

Rob Rothermil
An employee of Sodexo. I have known Rob for the three years and have been calling him “the man with the bandana,” because he always wears a bandana while he works at the Grille. Rob always does a superb job making the meals for students and looking after them.

Eileen Hoffman
A sustodian at Walsh University. I have not known Eileen for long, but we have built a nice friendship with each other. Being a graphic design minor, I am usually in the Toot Global Learning Center doing homework and other assignments. This is where I met Eileen, who cleans the building at night. She has a motherly vibe, warm and inviting, and anytime a student needs something, Eileen will try her best to help out.

John Buckner
A Custodian at Walsh University. Over the past four years, John has been a very close and personal friend of mine. We first met when I was working for Campus Ministry as a freshman. He is super funny and really connects with the students on campus. We have shared many personal stories together as well as countless lunches at the Schervish Dining Center.

Joseph Paiva, Walsh Senior, along with some of his favorite Sodexo staff.
Sophomores give us the dish on Black Friday

What is your best Black Friday shopping advice?
Do you avoid the chaos, or face the day with a strategy?
We got advice from the wisest of them all: sophomore girls.

-Maddy and Amelia

“Hit the stores you know are worth it, and take someone with you that can wait in line as soon as you get to the store. The Starbucks line is ALWAYS worth the wait.”

-Leah Elise

“Know what you want before you go, go early, get coffee and be aggressive.”

-Alyssa

“Catch me not shopping on the craziest day of the year.”

BY: HANNAH MCFEETERS, STAFF WRITER
4 Feature

Founders’ memory kept alive at Walsh

BY: JOSEPH PAIVA, STAFF WRITER

Each year, Walsh dedicates an entire week to honor the Brothers of Christian Instruction who founded the university: Jean Marie de la Mennais and Gabriel Deshayes. Campus Ministry kicked off Founder’s Week on Nov. 19 with Agape Latte: Founders’ Fest, hosted in the Olivieri Towers Connector.

With the ideal mix of narration and caffeine, Agape Latte and Campus Ministry brought the event to life by featuring Brother Chrysostom of the Brothers of Christian Instruction in Uganda.

The event began with a Thanksgiving trivia. The winner of each trivia question received small prizes, including drinks and food. Chrysostom was then welcomed by the attendees and began to tell his life story.

He started by describing the impact that his parents’ religion had on his childhood and home life.

“My family at home traditionally professes the Catholic Christian faith and it is this kind of spirituality that brings us together as one,” said Chrysostom.

Chrysostom then talked about his own education. He explained how conditions were very hard for him and that he failed in school, but by joining the congregation of the Brothers of Christian Instruction, he was able to teach in those top schools, really stressing the importance of education.

“I had never ever thought that in my life, I would ever cross the border, step into the plane, fly over 24 hours, cross different two oceans and land in this city, my dear country, and access education, and here I am,” said Chrysostom.

Chrysostom also talked fondly about the close-knit community and bonds shared by the Brothers of Christian Instruction.

“My favorite part about being a Brother is the relationships with my Brothers,” said Chrysostom. “When I go home to Uganda for one week, I feel helpless in my life. Being with the Brothers gives me joy. Seeing the Brothers happy gives me joy. Participating with the Brothers when they are feeling sad gives me also comfort.”

Many of the students in attendance were inspired by Chrysostom’s life story.

“It was a really great, enriching experience,” said Austin Coulter, a junior student.

“Brother Chrysostom shared why he became a Brother and all the experiences he had and it really shows the importance of the Brothers of Christian Instruction not only to Walsh but to the community as well.”

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Top 10 Things to Do Instead of Studying for Finals

1. Constantly question why you picked your major
2. Binge-watch every episode of “The Office” for the fifteenth time
3. Have a snowball fight at Hoover Park
4. Set off the fire alarm while baking holiday cookies
5. Ice skate (and slip) on the sidewalks outside of the GLC
6. Buy something with your last 30 cents in flex dollars
7. Call home and ask mom to send food ASAP
8. Take a three hour stress nap
9. Cry on the floor with your roommate
10. Catch up on every issue of the Spectator online

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Brother Chrysostom smiling for the camera during Founders Fest.
Shop Local: Places to shop right in our backyard

BY: ERIN KING, STAFF WRITER

With the holidays right around the corner, many people are beginning to check off their shopping lists. This is the perfect time to shop small in order to find unique holiday gifts for your friends and family. In 2010, American Express declared the Saturday after Thanksgiving as Small Business Saturday. The goal was to attract shoppers to community businesses to help rebuild the economy after the recession. In hopes of drawing in shoppers and encouraging local business support, many stores offer special deals on this day.

In a blog published by FiveStars entitled “6 Big Reasons Why You Should Shop Small Every Day,” author Collen Corkey outlines multiple reasons why shopping small benefits both shoppers and the local business owners. The reasons to shop small include giving back to your community, making an economic impact, better customer service, greater product diversity and a greater sense of community.

Luckily for Walsh students, there are many towns nearby that make for excellent small business shopping. Canton, North Canton, Hartville and many other nearby towns are home to small restaurants, coffee shops, clothing stores and gift shops for your holiday shopping.

The following is a list of small businesses close to campus. For full lists of stores and restaurants, many towns have Facebook pages and websites dedicated to small business shopping.

Right here in North Canton, shopping locations include:
- Main Street Boutique
- Shop The Chadwells
- The Pine Cone Gift Shoppe
- Oh Style Boutique

For more shopping locations, check out the business directory at www.northcantonohio.gov.

Down Route 43 into Hartville, you can find:
- Hartville Thrift Shop
- Best Bib and Tucker
- Twice is Nice Consignments
- Hartville Collectables
- Front Porch Store

For more information, visit www.discoverhartville.com.

Visitors to Canton can shop at:
- The Birch Tree Furniture & Boutique
- Laura of Pembroke
- Bare Naked Wools Boutique
- Arrowhead Vintage & Handmade Goods
- Avenue Arts Marketplace & Theatre

For more locations, visit www.visitchariton.com.
Wreck-It Ralph 2: A solid sequel

BY: JOSEPH PAIVA, STAFF WRITER

“Wreck-It Ralph 2: Ralph Breaks the Internet” is a film that brings us back to Ralph and Vanellope and their friendship, but instead of staying in the arcade world, it draws them out into the gigantic, colorful, Disney-filled realm of the internet.

Disney Animation generally falls short when making sequels for most of their films, but the second installment of “Wreck-It Ralph” was well done. In my opinion, I thought the film's transition from an arcade to the internet was a genius move on Disney’s part because society today essentially lives on the internet. The film also focuses on what the adventure does to test Ralph and Vanellope's friendship.

The first “Wreck-It Ralph” film had the underlying theme of breaking out of stereotypes and discovering and loving who you are as a person. “Wreck-It Ralph 2” does a great job by pushing the envelope with Ralph and Vanellope's friendship by jumping to the next step of development. Friendships are sometimes selfishly driven by a person's desire to repeat things, so I liked that Disney chose to be a bit darker in this film by exploring insecurities and the effect it has in relationships. The development of their friendship and where it lies at the end of the movie is truly amazing.

Starring in this film are several new voice actors, including Gal Gadot as Shank, a racer in Slaughter Race, and Taraji P. Henson as Yesss, an algorithm that determines the trending videos on BuzzTube, modeled after Cruella de Vil from “101 Dalmatians.” Sarah Silverman, who reprises her role as Vanellope, did an incredible job once again, and I believe her performance was better than it was in the original “Wreck-It Ralph.”

This film flowed very naturally and had a lot of magical elements like the first one did. I liked the slant they took with the sequel, making it more about Vanellope's character than Ralph’s, who ran the show in the first film.

Overall, I would give this film a score of 8.5 out of 10.
The Typist’s Tales: Paragon

BY: MORGAN AHART, STAFF WRITER

Hello again, dear readers! It is I, your storytelling friend, The Typist! Today I share a beauty of a tale with you, pulled from the newspaper records of another civilization, a series of articles about some mighty hero. The headlines depict the public’s shift of opinion on this hero as society’s morals update with the times and leave his behind. Is the hero right or wrong, or is society? Is this hero even real? Or a figment of fiction made to drive paper sales? I will leave that decision to you, my dear reader.

November 29, 1960: Mysterious Savior Appears!

Today in Fendal, our province capital, a train derailed. There were no casualties. As the train began to roll, a man came from the sky, planting his feet and stopping the train single-handedly. I know it probably seems as though this article is a joke, reader, but it’s the gospel truth. A man flew in from the sky and stopped the train from rolling. Not only did he somehow manage to stop the train; this great paragon lifted it off the ground and placed it back on its tracks so the train could finish its journey! We know very little about the mysterious, seemingly superhuman man, but for my money, I’d call him one heck of a hero!

December 10, 1960: The Paragon Quashes a Bank Robbery!

He’s done it again! That Paragon we’ve all grown to know and love as our protector saved the day once more, swooping in to round up the bank robbers and save the hostages without harm! Our hero has officially announced he has named today, electing to be known as Paragon, ans this reporter wonders if our hero happens to be a reader of this paper. It seems like there is no situation where this great hero can’t save us. The criminals are complaining about injuries they sustained from his heroism, but who cares about the complaints of criminals? As far as this reporter is concerned, when you commit a crime you deserve to handle some of the threats he handled, he had been our last line of defense in an era before our government had the capability to develop the technology and tactics that finally detained Paragon.

Paragon is set to face charges of destruction of property, wrongful, and grievous injury, and thousands of charges of vigilantism. Whether Paragon believes he was justified or acting in the right is irrelevant; he broke the law thousands of times and has been at large for nearly 20 years. It’s amazing he isn’t the nation’s most wanted!


Today on the 20 year anniversary of Paragon’s first appearance, I’m left to wonder. It’s clear he still thinks of himself as a hero but is he still OUR hero? He continues to carry out his vigilante justice in spite of decades of legislation outlawing his actions. The only reason he has yet to be arrested is that the police are physically unable to detain him. He rampantly destroys private and public property and injures his victims to life-altering degrees. There have been several attempts to sue Paragon in civil and criminal court, but because nobody knows who he really is, they have no proper target. So perhaps some citizens see Paragon as a hero, just as my predecessor did, but if he is a hero, he’s certainly not OUR hero.

November 29, 1990: Hero On Trial!

After menacing our nation and flouting its laws for the last 20 years, Paragon will finally stand trial for all the crimes he has committed, and all his victims will be able to give him a piece of their minds. The government put together an entire task force, that has worked for years to develop the technology and tactics that finally detained Paragon. Paragon will finally stand trial for all the crimes he has committed, and all his victims will be able to give him a piece of their minds. The government put together an entire task force, that has worked for years to develop the technology and tactics that finally detained Paragon.

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November 29, 1965: Police Say No To Paragon’s Actions!

Following mass police layoffs due to the constant interference of Paragon in city crime, the police union has put out a press release decrying the hero’s actions. They claim that due to Paragon’s activity, the city felt a constantly diminishing need for a standing police force, causing layoffs and walking papers to be handed out around the cities precincts liberally. The police union has called Paragon a vigilante and an enemy of justice! How absurd a claim! Furthermore, the police union is lobbying the government to take some sort of action against Paragon, stating that “whether the action is legislative or administrative something must be done” to halt him and any other would-be vigilantes. Could our hero be subjected to governmental interference in the near future? Will taking Paragon of the streets cause an uptick in crime? How would the government stop Paragon if he wasn’t willing to obey legislation or restrictions imposed on him? There are so many questions and so few answers, readers. Stay tuned for more information as it comes!

November 29, 1970: Anti-Vigilante Legislation Passes!

Today the national government passed a series of legislation “outlawing vigilante justice, especially from superhuman individuals.” This legislation clearly references the hero Paragon and has been passed 10 years to the day of his first appearance. Police unions nationwide have been lobbying for this legislation as the need for police in the eyes of cities has decreased exponentially since the appearance of Paragon. There have also been many complaints of destruction of property whenever Paragon has done battle with exceptionally dangerous threats. There have also been many complaints from the villains he has thwarted of major, life-altering injuries. Perhaps Paragon should be a bit more careful, but he’s still a pillar of good, our savior in the darkest times! Children look up to him, and many adults admire him also. At least this reporter still believes in Paragon and what he is trying to do.

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After what will surely go down as the trial of the century, Paragon was found guilty! However, the disgraced vigilante broke free of his bonds and fled the courthouse following the verdict. For this act, he has been declared by the government to be firmly in the number one slot of the most wanted list. This just confirms what we’ve always known: when it comes to obeying the laws and being accountable, Paragon just doesn’t care. We’ll be following the scene as it develops. Stay tuned, readers.

November 29, 2020: Whatever happened to Paragon?

Today, the 60th anniversary of Paragon’s first appearance, a day that is often celebrated and deplored in equal measure, I wonder whatever happened to him and why? He was celebrated as a hero for the first 10 years until lobbyists were successful in convincing the government that legislation was necessary to keep Paragon and other vigilantes in check. Even then his popularity persisted. It wasn’t until the 80s that public opinion began to sour on Paragon, reaching its fever pitch when he ran out on his jail sentence after being found guilty in the trial of the century. However, 19 years later there is some dispute on whether or not Paragon deserved the treatment he received. He’d had the best intentions in mind, and in an era before our government had the capability to handle some of the threats he handled, he had been our last line of defense several times. Following his escape, nobody has seen or heard from him every few years there’s the odd story of someone claiming to have been saved by him, but nobody ever seems able to verify these tales. It seems Paragon was always acting as best as he could in the interest of the people. Furthermore, upon review, most of the charges of injury laid against him fall apart under the scrutiny of modern science and court proceedings. Paragon never changed how he operated; we just changed how we felt about him and the idea of a hero.
Jim Acosta and maintaining a free press

BY: HANNAH MCFEETERS, STAFF WRITER

On November 7, Jim Acosta, CNN’s White House Correspondent, had his hard pass taken away. A hard pass grants fast access to the White House grounds for correspondents of legitimate news organizations.

The revoking of his hard pass came after a heated exchange between Acosta and the president at a press conference.

This is not the first time such an altercation has taken place between the press and the presidency. The press’s job is to ask questions that the president may not want to answer. Its duty to the American people is to ask the tough questions and search for the truth within our democracy.

However, this is the first time that such measures were taken against a White House correspondent who asked a question that the president did not like. Acosta’s hard pass was restored nearly two weeks later, but that’s not what this article is about.

Think back to your American government class. What are those freedoms protected by the First Amendment? In short, they are freedom of religion, speech, assembly and the press.

Sitting in my high school desk, it was easy to understand the importance of freedom of religion and freedom of speech. The right for peaceable assembly also made sense. But how did our Founding Fathers come up with the freedom of the press along with such fundamental rights as speech and religion?

It is because they knew that in order to attain a true democracy, the truth must always be sought. Truth is not achieved by suppressing those who ask the tough questions, but by answering the tough questions with strong responses. Truth is not achieved by revoking a hard pass, but by respecting the occupation of journalists who are fulfilling their duty to inform and maintain democracy.

For us college students, news is no longer available in newspapers or on television alone. It’s on our apps, our Twitter feeds and Instagram stories. It is absolutely vital that we are being told the truth about our government, so we can be an informed citizenry. We are a generation of do-ers, as seen by the record amount of people who voted in the latest midterm election. It is critical that we are basing our political actions off a free press.

So I encourage you to seek the whole truth, not just what pops up on your Twitter feed or a known biased news source. It is a privilege like no other to have the news at our fingertips.

When Acosta’s hard pass was taken away, some argued that the covering of the White House and presidency is a privilege. I argue, and I think our Founding Fathers would agree, that it is a constitutional right.

Why you should write for the Spectator

BY: JACOB LINKOUS, SPORTS EDITOR

My name is Jacob Linkous. I am a super senior here at Walsh University and I have a minor in English writing. In my free time, I write for two websites: CleSportTalk.com and FactoryOfSadness.com. I write mostly about sports, and that’s how I came to be the sports editor for this newspaper.

People always ask me how I fell in love with writing, and I tell them that it all stemmed from writing for the school newspaper. I have contributed to the Spectator for four plus semesters, and I’ve served as an editor for this past semester.

The Spectator provides an opportunity to improve your writing ability and have your voice be heard. The staff covers Walsh sporting events and other functions that take place on campus. Our writers also put a spin on current events going on around the world and within the community of North Canton.

The Spectator provides you with writing samples if you have a passion for writing and want to pursue it as a career. It improves your overall writing ability and can also help you with other classes. I majored in communication, which involves a lot of writing, and newspaper helped me immensely.

If your schedule is packed to the brim, you can always contribute in other ways as we organize the stories and writing samples on Google Drive. This gives students the opportunity to write for the paper if they are unable to make the weekly meetings.

Writing for the Spectator is easy! You can take the class for one to three credits, and the more hours you take, the bigger role you play for the newspaper. Another route is taking the class for no credits, just for fun or to buff up your resume.

Go to your advisor ASAP and add newspaper to your schedule for the spring semester.