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Aguilar wins senate election

Candidates plan for next year

BY ALEJANDRA CREVIER AND EMILY STROBLE
Campus Co-Editors

Student senate announced the newly elected student body president, Edgar Aguilar, and eleven student senators on Friday, April 27.

"When I saw the results I was thankful and said a prayer thanking God. It was a really exciting time," Aguilar said.

Aguilar defeated Selvi Bunce by a margin of 73 votes. The 2018-19 student senators, in alphabetical order, are Carson Elis, Maggie Hendricks, Sebastian Jala, Hannah Mai, Luke Vander Meer, Juliette Mpano, Claire Murashima, In Young Park, Emerson Silvernail, Akyera Thompson and Lorryya Williams.

Both Bunce and Aguilar expressed respect for one another.

"After the results I got a text from Selvi and she sent me some good words and I appreciated them," said Aguilar. "I think she was a really good candidate too, and I enjoyed running against her. She brought up some really good points during campaigning. I would be happy to collaborate with her in the future."

Bunce shared her support for Aguilar:

"I think Edgar deserved to win," Bunce said. "It was really fun to campaign. Kind of going into it I knew it would be close. So I'm not surprised necessarily. I know Edgar will do great as president. I think I would have done well as well, that's why I ran. But I do think Edgar will do great."

SEE ELECTION, PAGE 3



PHOTO COURTESY EDGAR AGUILAR FOR PRESIDENT

Prof denied tenure by board

BY GWYNETH FINDLAY
Staff Writer

During a Feb. 1-3 meeting, the board of trustees did not approve a tenure appointment for social work professor Joe Kuilema.

The professional status committee (PSC), which is the final stage of the tenure appointment process before board approval, unanimously recommended Kuilema for tenure in October 2017, according to sources familiar with the case.

In interviews with nine Calvin professors across five departments, each of whom carries between 10 and 35 years' experience teaching at the college, none knew of another instance in which a faculty member's tenure bid was recommended to the board for approval and at that stage was turned down. However, due to confidentiality policies, it's unclear exactly how often such a situation occurs.

Calvin has a policy against commenting on personnel issues at all levels, so the grounds for the conclusion are not public. "The board makes its reasons clear to the person who may or may not have been given tenure," said Provost Cheryl Brandsen.

For members of the social work faculty, however, the ruling was unexpected. "We in the department were surprised and disappointed," noted one social work professor who

asked to remain anonymous. "We were totally behind him."

Kuilema, who is currently leading a semester in Ghana, confirmed that his tenure bid was denied, but declined to comment further.

Tenure positions are held by faculty with a terminal degree in their field and at least seven years' full-time teaching experience with a rank of "instructor" or higher, according to the faculty handbook. Once a professor has tenure, they can only be "separated from service" for "financial exigencies," "elimination of programs" or misconduct.

Consideration for a candidate's tenure begins at the department level. A candidate assembles a portfolio that includes scholarship, course evaluations and other relevant materials. The portfolio is reviewed several times before reaching the board, and the bid can be declined at any of these stages: department, dean, PSC, provost and president.

Lissa Schwander, a former professor in the social work department, and English professor Linda Naranjo-Huebl both reported that Kuilema's course evaluations were consistently strong. Regarding his scholarship, said Schwander, who also taught Kuilema when he was a Calvin student, "He's a product of Calvin College. He backs his stuff up."

SEE KUILEMA, PAGE 2



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Kuilema has taken student groups to Liberia and Ghana during his time at Calvin.

Jonathan Merritt on writing about religion

BY JOSH PARKS
Editor-in-Chief

Religion journalist Jonathan Merritt spoke at Calvin's Festival of Faith & Writing in April. He writes for The Atlantic, The Week and Religion News Service, and he's the author of "A Faith of Our Own: Following Jesus Beyond the Culture Wars" and "Jesus Is Better than You Imagined."

His upcoming book, "Learning to Speak God from Scratch," will be released on Aug. 14. *Chimes* spoke with him this week about what it's like being a religion journalist.

Chimes: How did you get started in journalism?

Merritt: I'm a true evangelical in that my vocation is a result of a calling. I graduated from college with a degree in science and went to work for a chemical company, and a few months into it, I just felt something inside of me saying, "You're going to write." That was weird because I didn't have any experience or education in it. I ended up going back to school — I got two graduate degrees in religion because I knew I wanted to be a religion writer. I quit my job when I felt that calling, and began pursuing it full time, and here I am 12 years later.

Chimes: What is the hardest part of religion journalism?

Merritt: I write about religion for mainstream publications, and that comes with a whole set of difficulties, because your audience is not



PHOTO COURTESY ICON MEDIA GROUP

Merritt spoke at FFW 2018.

always conversant in what you're talking about. Imagine if every time a political writer wrote a story they had to qualify who President Trump was and why he mattered. When it comes to religion you have to do that.

I think one of the other hurdles I face is this belief among Christians that you should stick together. It is a belief that flows from the notion of Christian unity. And so when you speak honestly about the faith and institutional religion, you're often criticized, because even though you're telling the truth, that truth may not always reflect positively on the broader community. So to be a religion writer in many ways is to be a somewhat despised individual.

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Chimes is the official student newspaper of Calvin College. The mission of Chimes is to reform, review, challenge and foster dialogue within the Calvin community.

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The official student newspaper of Calvin College since 1907

Plans brew for new coffee shop in Hekman Library

BY ALEJANDRA CREVIER
Campus Co-Editor

Calvin's administration recently approved a plan for a new coffee shop in Hekman Library. If backed by the board of trustees and planning and priorities committee, renovations will roll out during interim of 2019.

The idea for a new coffee shop at Calvin is not a recent one; a few years ago, Calvin considered partnering with Starbucks, but decided against it. The primary reason for this was that the Calvin administration believed Starbucks did not fit with the library or college's vision of a community space.

Since then, Dean of Students John Witte, along with several others, headed up a new master plan investigating what a new coffee shop could look like for the library and the campus as a whole.

Having a community space — much like a "living room," said Witte — became a primary aspect of the master plan. The team decided that the library's second floor, as opposed to the third floor, would best meet this need due to accessibility concerns.

Peet's Coffee — one of the largest coffee companies in the nation — was chosen among a few potential coffee vendors. Though the commit-



PHOTO BY EMMA CREVIER

Peet's Coffee, a franchise from the west coast, will open its first location in Michigan by partnering with Calvin.

tee reached out to several local vendors, they only received one response.

"Peet's is known for high quality products, excellent bean-sourcing through long-term and fair commitments with coffee growers and their communities, sustainability practices, social responsibility as a company and very positive reputation on social media," Witte said.

Witte noted that the Fish House, the campus' current coffee shop, has served Calvin's community well, but due to the

location's lack of a water drain it has become difficult for workers to bring water in and out daily from Commons Dining Hall. With the help of student senate and other students' feedback, the planning committee was able to gauge how other needs could be met in the new space.

Junior Meg MacNamara, a student worker at the Fish House, gave her take on the move:

"I'm a fan of it. It means we're closer to students who are studying ... and puts us in a more central location ... Having

somebody who can sponsor us or provide us with great equipment and training is a plus for us but also everyone."

Student workers at the Fish House will still be employed at the new coffee shop, according to Johnny's retail managers Nikolai Gorski and Maree Denof. The managerial aspect of the coffee shop — whether it would be run by the college or Peet's — has yet to be determined.

The coffee shop would serve the library's vision as well. The "landscape [of libraries] has changed quite a bit," said David Malone, dean of the college and seminary library. Public libraries are moving from "collection-centric to user-centric" spaces, he commented, and they are doing so through initiatives such as renting out bikes and facilitating community gatherings. Because gathering spaces are central to academic libraries' use, a coffee shop would serve Hekman Library quite well.

Members of the planning committee for cafe renovations include Barb Boers, director of financial services; Russell Bray, director of physical plant; Ken Erffmeyer, vice president for advancement; Kennedy Genzink, student senator; David Malone, dean of college and seminary library; Dan Wells, head of technology services and John Witte, dean of students.



PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN.EDU

Kuilema's rejection of tenure has caused concern for several professors regarding the transparency of Calvin's tenure process.

Kuilema

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Kuilema's recent publications include "Faith as Virtue in Social Work Practice: A Reformed Perspective" in the journal "Social Work and Christianity" and his 2016 dissertation titled "Motivations for international collaborations in social work education," which was completed at Michigan State University.

"He's a very hard worker and very dedicated to teaching his students," added the anonymous social work professor. "He can articulate Reformed perspectives uniquely and comprehensively. He embodies what we want on our faculty."

Interviewed faculty shared some suspicion regarding the unusual sequence of events. "It's unsettling for others," said the anonymous so-

cial work professor. "If PSC has worked with the candidate, what are the grounds for the board decision? What can others going up for tenure do to avoid this?"

"The board does the bidding of the administration on these kinds of issues," said Schwander. "It's hard to believe this decision was made without serious input from previous levels."

Naranjo-Huebl had similar concerns with lack of transparency in the tenure process. She noted that Calvin expects confidentiality from all parties in personnel matters, which means faculty and staff are discouraged from waiving their own confidentiality. "The confidentiality card is more often played to protect decision-makers," she said.

Kuilema has met with Brandsen and some academic deans regarding institutional transparency in the past, reported

the anonymous social work professor. He has also written about and demonstrated his support for LGBTQ+ students and pressed the administration for clarity on academic freedom regarding scholarship about LGBTQ+ topics.

In December 2015, Kuilema gained campus notoriety when he published an op-ed in Chimes titled "Putting racism, white supremacy, and white privilege in context." A year later, Kuilema's name was added to Professor Watchlist, an online catalog of higher education faculty who "discriminate against conservative students and advance leftist propaganda." The Watchlist cited Kuilema's Chimes piece in the listing.

Following the Watchlist, Kuilema received hate mail and death threats. Subsequently, 112 faculty signed a letter to Turning Point USA, the publisher of Professor Watchlist, expressing support for Kuilema and asking to be added to the Watchlist alongside him. The request has not been granted.

Naranjo-Huebl, who signed the faculty letter in 2017, expressed concerns about the secrecy around the board's process. "If there is an injustice, we don't know," she said. "We're purposely left in the dark so that we can't protest a bad decision." The candidate, however, may file an appeal. It is not known at this time whether Kuilema plans to appeal the board's decision.

The anonymous social work professor said, "I want to think there is integrity in the board," but "it doesn't create a space with a lot of confidence when you have to wonder if any of [Kuilema's activism] contributed to the decision."

Brandsen is confident that Calvin's processes for tenure decisions are clear and fair. "I get it that from the outside it can look like it's not transparent," said Brandsen, "but I think that the processes that are in the handbook are pretty clear for how we want to operate in that space. We don't want to act capriciously; we don't want to make snap judgments."

Josh Parks contributed reporting for this article.

New history prof ushers in digital humanities program

BY DANA DROSDICK
On-Call Writer

Calvin's history department recently hired archeology professor Darrell Rohl for his expertise in integrating the archeological, geographical and digital realms, and also in anticipation for a digital humanities program. Rohl will help construct a gateway course that will provide humanities students with skills to flourish in the digital age.

Classes such as linguistics and geography have already started using tools such as corpus linguistics and geographic information systems (GIS) to prepare students for the age of digital humanities.

In his previous work as an archeology professor at Canterbury Christ Church University, Rohl taught a course on archaeological computing, which focused on GIS, databases and statistics. In this class, he incorporated industry-standard commercial software packages, such as MS Access and ArcGIS, as well as alternatives like MySQL, PostGIS and QGIS.

Jack Du Mez, assistant professor and academic counselor at the Center for Student Success, has been pivotal in the progress of this program. He is currently working with Calvin Information Technology to figure out ways to incorporate more technology in the classroom.

According to history department chair Katherine van Liere, when the history department began to

look for a replacement for Bert De Vries, the current director of the archaeology program, they wanted to make sure that the replacement brought relevant digital experience in addition to their archaeology experience.

"To a lot of people who don't know that program firsthand, archaeology sounds old-fashioned," said van Liere. "We wanted to make the case that archaeology is a discipline that isn't just about digging up old bones, but that it also trains students in skills that are up-to-date and applicable to other fields."

Rohl expressed his personal excitement in helping spearhead the digital humanities at Calvin.

He expressed his wish to "encourage everyone to explore how such technologies can answer questions within the humanities subjects themselves ... and break new ground in how we envision and define these subject areas."

As Rohl plans the future digital humanities gateway course, he listed managing data for analysis, corpus linguistics and mapping and spatial analysis tools as key factors for the class.

He does not want to overshadow the humanities with technology, but to enhance the humanities with new tools and technology. In order for the program to succeed, "this will need to be a collaborative effort involving various academic and support areas within the college," Rohl said.

Rohl will start his first year at Calvin this fall, in 2018, and the program is scheduled to begin around 2019.

SPIN bike rental initiative pedals to a smooth start



PHOTO BY CINDY LANDRUM

The Spin initiative has attracted 291 bikers with a total of 1,300 rides this semester.

BY MOLLY BRUNS
On-Call Writer

Since student senate brought 100 fluorescent-orange SPIN bikes to campus in March, there have been 291 bikers and 1,300 rides logged into Calvin's bike share program. The total sum of miles for these rides is 2,300; according to Christopher King, head of campus partnerships at SPIN, this initiative has saved 2,500 pounds of carbon dioxide, when compared to car travel.

According to Kieran Valk, sophomore and the student senate vice president who brought the bikes to campus, students in the Knollcrest East apartments have used the bikes the most. A battery and solar panel in each bike allows senate to track the locations of the bikes. This allows senate to make sure there are enough bikes in each of the racks on campus. In keeping with Calvin policy, bikes should be parked in existing racks.

One hundred SPIN bikes are available on campus to use, with 80 percent of them having been rented in the past week. If there is a problem with a bike, such as the chain breaking or a faulty Bluetooth connection, students are encouraged to send a message to SPIN via the "Spin - Ride Your Way" app so senate can take the bike offline and put a replacement into rotation. Senate has yet to replace any bikes, but will rotate the bikes every 30 days for regular maintenance.

"When we launch on a campus, there are always some small issues that we quickly work through," said King. He then mentioned some of the primary issues at Calvin. "Some people don't use their Calvin email address to access the discounted rate, or some bikes get damaged and need to be replaced."

Many students report that the bikes are easy to use once they figure out how to get started.

"Using the bikes was pretty simple," said junior Hannah

Spaulding. "It requires Bluetooth to be turned on, which I didn't initially realize. But once I figured that out, unlocking the bikes was super easy."

The bikes are also equipped with strong lights which make them safe to ride at night. A post by junior Rebecca Evans on the Facebook group Overheard at Calvin reported a sighting of a group of about 15 students riding the orange bikes around campus at 12:30 a.m. on Tuesday night.

Bikes may be ridden off campus as long as they are returned to campus within 24 hours. People have taken the bikes to areas such as Reeds Lake or Woodland Mall, said Valk. Senior Michael Verdi also reported a sighting downtown.

"[Riding the bikes] is more fun than driving and can be a great community-building event," said Valk. He has already seen students biking in large groups--especially on the weekends--and suggested that the bikes could be used for dorm floor outings as well.

Valk hopes to see the bike share program continued in the future, but says SPIN will make the final call at the end of the school year based on profits. Senate has received an email from SPIN saying that they are happy with the usage of the bikes on Calvin's campus so far.

"From what we have heard, there has been a great reception to our bikes on Calvin's campus," said King. "I know the unpredictable Michigan spring weather threw some wrenches in the plans somewhat, but for the most part, it has been a success."

JB Britton, associate dean of campus involvement and leadership, commented that SPIN is gathering information to determine whether to add electric scooters to the current program.

Yolanda Chow contributed reporting for this article.

Election

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Aguilar and Bunce both have big plans for the coming year. Aguilar used his campaign slogan "Here For You" to express his ideals of vision and accessibility between administration and students.

He emphasized his commitment and excitement to represent all students on campus.

"[One of the] projects that I'm excited about ... is something called intergroup dialogue," Aguilar said. "I want to start a project and program that addresses different controversial topics over the year. Besides race, which is a really important issue, I want to address issues related to sexuality, religion and all those topics that sometimes create polarization from a national context and also institution like ours."

He described the necessity to create forums like this where students can listen to others who feel differently.

"I think that's something that in the long run this will be a really good improvement for the community, for our relationships, for how we create a more just society," Aguilar said.

His second initiative involves starting a student council where students will have more access to discussions with President Le Roy.

Like Aguilar, In Young Park, who was a first-year senator this year and has now been elected to student senate, is excited to work with the rest of the new senate team.

"I am really excited for the president, because I listened to his ideas and his values. He seemed really prepared and ready to make things happen," she said. "I am excited for new student dynamics. We had our first meeting with all the new senators and there are a lot of really driven people and they really want to get things done."

Bunce is planning on continuing her investment in the Calvin community. Though she will not have a formal position in student senate, Bunce says she will take on the role of "active student."

Bunce spent most of the spring semester in Washington, D.C., with an off-campus study program and was disappointed when she returned to find that her initiative to provide feminine hygiene products in campus restrooms had not been implemented as she had hoped.

In addition to, "pushing student senate" to complete that project, she says she has been working with Sarah Visser, vice president for student life, to create a recurring event for the women of Calvin to support each other and network with alumni. She plans on calling the event "Women in Action."

"The beginning of my freshman year, I was a little bit just not really feeling part of the community," Aguilar shared, looking back at his time at Calvin for inspiration. "But I think it was a God thing that made me realize I'm called to just serve and work for groups no matter where I go. Even though I'm an international student, I don't really have tradition connected to the CRC or Calvin, I think that I'm very blessed to have this opportunity and become student president. ... I want to represent the student body well and I want to represent the institution well. I think that's a good commitment, a big commitment."



PHOTO COURTESY EDGAR AGUILAR FOR PRESIDENT

Aguilar encouraged students to check out the previous Chimes article regarding student senate elections.

Prayer tent organizers explain annual tradition



PHOTO BY AARON BRINK

Two students take advantage of the reading material in the prayer tent on Commons Lawn.

BY DANA DROSDICK
On-Call Writer

Since its beginning five years ago, mystery and misunderstanding have shrouded Calvin's prayer tent on Commons Lawn, with students wondering what's inside those foreboding flaps each year during finals season.

Inside, though, it is far less intimidating. Filled with rugs, blankets, pillows, and string lights, the organizers hope to create a space that welcomes students to worship and celebrate God in unity.

"The tent is meant to be the center," said senior Kayla McLean, this year's prayer tent organizer. "Our hope this year is that it is a week of people thinking about how to love others intentionally and love God."

The purpose is to equip students with a place to worship God in whatever way they feel called, whether it's walking, writing, dancing, drawing or even just sitting and basking in God's presence.

Each year, the tent is open twenty-four hours a day during finals week to allow people to meet God whenever God calls them, even at two in the morning.

Although most of the activities within the tent are self-directed,

the prayer tent will be hosting a movement-based meditation on Thursday at 4 p.m., as well as a worship night later that evening. Students are welcome to bring a group of friends or come alone and worship.

This year, the tent will focus on a posture of celebration, lifting up different aspects of Calvin each day. The themes are: live (Tuesday), study (Wednesday), move (Thursday), replenish (Friday) and play (Saturday).

Each day emphasizes a different place at Calvin, from the dining halls and dorms to the academic buildings and Commons Lawn.

For students unsure of what to do within the tent, McLean suggested "examining where your heart is at with God and with people, and inviting God to speak to you." McLean also recommends going through the Lord's Prayer and finding a rhythm of giving thanks.

Though the tent may look intimidating, it's open and welcome to all – no matter your walk in life or faith journey. "Sometimes," McLean reflected, "the way God invites us to meet with God feels uncomfortable at first. But, the more I did, the more I saw God was alive and living in me."

The prayer tent will be up now until May 5.

Merritt

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Chimes: What do you find is the most difficult religious concept to explain to the general public?

Merritt: The most difficult topic to write about right now is probably these so-called "Trumpvangelicals." It's difficult because I can't fully make sense of it myself. There is such a large amount of cognitive dissonance in that movement that it astounds even me.

Trying to reconcile how a movement with a rich history of claiming that principles reign supreme and character counts can support a man like Donald Trump is simply baffling. Often I have to write with the goal of merely communicating my own disbelief rather than trying to make sense of something that is so beyond my understanding.

Chimes: What is the most rewarding part of being a religion journalist?

Merritt: I believe I have the best job in the world. It's a dying job, but people essentially pay me to articulate what I think and to name what I see, which is what I would be doing anyway, but I get paid to do it. I feel like I have a job that is in service to the truth, while a lot of people have a job that is in service to the bottom line.

Chimes: How do you balance that service to the truth with getting people to read your work?

Merritt: There's always a temptation to be a sensationalist. Provocative headlines and punchy writing is not a new phenomenon.

It is a phenomenon that is more apparent because of the internet, but if you study American journalism, you'll find that this has always been something that journalists have always wrestled with.

I believe that God has called me to do what I'm doing. And I believe that God is leading me to say what I'm saying when I write.

And if you believe that that's true, then you should want people to read it do everything ethically possible to get them to read it. Misleading people with a headline is never okay. Creating clickbait is never okay. Being provocative for the sake of provocation is never okay.

And that's a fine line, so you have to keep yourself accountable. I have a group of people in my life who I have significant political and theological disagreements with, but I almost always get their feedback on an article before publishing it.

Chimes: You've been involved in a few sticky journalistic situations over the past few years, from reporting on Jen Hatmaker's views on gay marriage to Eugene Peterson's back-and-forth on that issue. How do you handle writing stories that you know will upset or offend some portion of your readership?

Merritt: Religion is like politics in that no matter what you say, if it is worth saying, it will offend someone. So I'm never taken off guard when I get negative feedback. I think that the best way to handle that situation is to create policies that guide your work that are established before controversy arises.

In the case of Jen Hatmaker and Eugene Peterson, I've always seen my calling to be at least partly an act of asking the questions others are afraid to ask.

And people know when they agree to do an interview with me that I hope to ask some of those questions that are uncomfortable but illuminating. That may anger people, but it will ultimately lead to a conversation that is important and needed. So when I encounter criticism or resistance for doing that, it's a reminder that I'm doing my job well.

Chimes: Can you give some examples of policies you hold yourself to?

Merritt: I always seek wise counsel from people I trust. I always pray over every story that I publish. I always attempt to read the story through the eyes of my critic and to make changes accordingly. I am always willing and ready to apologize if I do something wrong. I wrote an article defending Tim Keller after Princeton Seminary rescinded an award they were going to give him.

I called Tim Keller "marginalized." And I had women and people of color come to me and say, "a white male is not marginalized," and they were right. And so I said on social media, "I wish I hadn't said this, and I'm sorry."

Chimes: Do you have any advice for aspiring journalists or religion writers?

Merritt: Diversify your revenue streams. Most journalists hope to become staff writers, working in a big newsroom for a big organization. Those jobs are few and far between, and they're becoming more scarce every day.

But, there is an incredible amount of opportunity for freelancers and contractors. Having multiple revenue streams allows me an amount of independence and stability I might not have otherwise.

Chimes: What do you like to read?

Merritt: I think that every writer should read three kinds of books. One, they should read books within their genre. So I read books about religion and culture. Two, they should read books outside of their genre. There are words and literary devices that are more popular in other genres that I can borrow.

This year I took on poetry. The third one is: read good books. Pick up books that have stood the test of time and have continued to resonate with human hearts over 40 or 50 or 150 years. Writers should always have books in each of those three categories on their bedside table at all times.

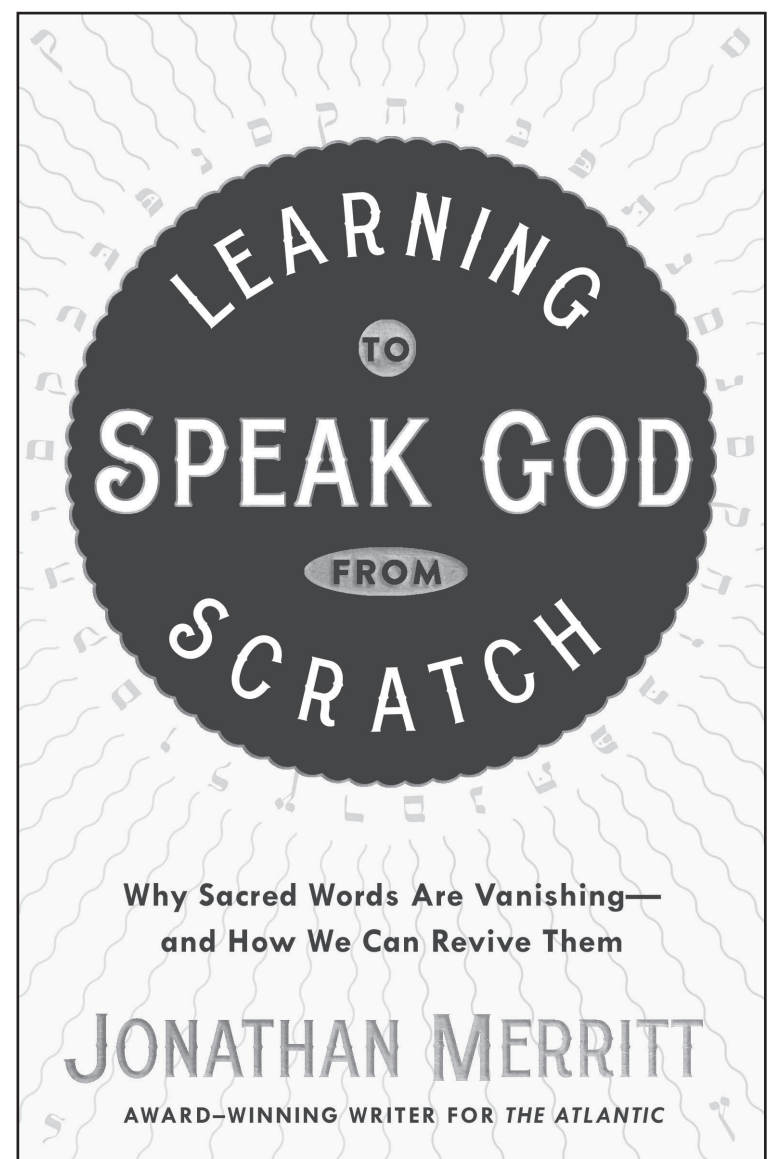


PHOTO COURTESY ICON MEDIA GROUP

Jonathan Merritt's upcoming book "Learning to Speak God from Scratch" will be released in August 2018.

Visit calvinchimes.org
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Religion sections disappearing from newspapers as print sales decline

BY JULIANA KNOT
Religion Editor

Last week Monday, Jerome Socolovsky, the then editor-in-chief of the Religion News Service (RNS), tweeted to announce that he had been fired from his position. According to staff, the firing is the result of rising tensions between Socolovsky and RNS' publisher Tom Gallagher.

The publication has been struggling to maintain online traffic and advertisers, a common problem in journalism, especially in religion news.

RNS has been one of the only media publications devoted to covering religion news from an independent standpoint.

Many within the religion beat worry that this event means bad news for religion reporting across the country, which is minimal as is.

Of the ten most circulated newspapers in America, only one, The New York Times, has a religion section in their print edition. Even student newspapers like the Wheaton Record and the Dordt Diamond, both produced by evangelical Christian colleges, lack a section devoted to solely religion stories.

What accounts for this gap? Has America suddenly become far more secular?

Not at all; in fact, America is more religious today than it was at the time of its founding.

More than three-fourths of the American population report identifying with a religion and religion being at least somewhat important in their lives, according to Pew Research. According to Gallup, weekly church attendance has stayed fairly consistent for over a century.

According to Debra Mason, professor at University of Missouri's School of Journalism, many national news outlets have not historically covered religion.

Although America has not become suddenly secular, the question of the lack of religion sections remains. The answer lies more in the state of newspapers around the country than in the state of religion.

According to Pew Research, people read newspapers far less now, opting to get their news from some kind of screen. Newspaper profit and circulation has declined since the 1980s. Many smaller, regional newspapers have shut down since then. Major American cities will have gone from having multiple newspapers to just one.

Mason stated that religion coverage fell to these smaller news outlets. Their demise has meant the demise of the religion section as well.

Mason states that she can only think of one religion reporter in the state of Michigan and none in her state of Missouri, the fifteenth most religious state in America, according to Pew.

As the national media is often characterized as more liberal than most Americans, out of touch and aggressively secular, it is easy to imagine why they might not see religion as a priority. Although there are statistics to support the first claim, no specific data supports the third. (The second might just be a matter of opinion.)

Using information like level of education and party identification can help measure religiosity, but those create questions as well. Higher levels of education correlate with lower levels of religious commitment and importance. Additionally,



Although Americans are religious, there is little representation of that in mainstream media.

liberals on average attend religious services far less than their conservative counterparts.

The data available leads to a reasonable, but not concrete, conclusion: many editorial boards don't view religion news as an important field of journalism.

"These stories are important. Stories that take longer, that get into nuanced relationships of people of faith aren't getting into the mainstream media," Mason lamented.

The religion section in America is at a precarious place, dependent on either the survival of the print magazine or entering into online journalism. Given current trends on newspaper readership, the latter is more likely. Already, news websites like Huffington

Post provide religion sections for their readers. According to Mason, religion reporting is entering online journalism because those outlets recognize its significance in people's lives.

"It is a crisis of stories on religion and faith," Mason said. "The values in our neighborhoods, churches, towns, temples and synagogues aren't being covered."

Additionally, in the era of social media, religions and denominations are more likely to self-report. For example, the Christian Reformed Church has produced The Banner since 1866.

Knowing that newspapers were unlikely to cover the happenings of a small, immigrant denomination, the church

took it upon itself to produce news. Now, even larger denominations and religious groups like the Episcopal Church have taken this task upon themselves.

Events like the RNS firing shake the "small tribe" of religion reporters who are already fighting for readers and advertisers.

Mason stated that writers and publishers alike have to fight to make religion reporting sustainable. The events at the RNS are an example of when the pressure of declining sales can harm that relationship.

Time will tell the fate of the religion section. However, until then, Chimes is committed to providing fair, complete and accurate religion reporting.

Charity leaders weigh in on gentrification claims

BY BEN DEMASO
Staff Writer

As a part of vibrant downtown Grand Rapids, the Heartside neighborhood has been changing recently as new businesses and restaurants move in, bringing new consumers to the area. Some may call this process gentrification, others may say "it is what it is," like Jay Schimpf, Heartside Neighborhood Collaboration Project (HNCP) founder and pastor at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Loosely defined as the riverbank and Fulton, Wealthy and Jefferson streets, the Heartside neighborhood makes up the southern portion of downtown Grand Rapids.

Although Jennifer McCallister, program coordinator at Heartside Ministries, does not believe that gentrification is a large problem in the Heartside neighborhood, she doesn't "want our neighbors forgotten about or lost in the shuffle" of further economic development in the area which runs counter to the findings of Chimes' "Gentrification in the Heartside Community Questioned" on Oct. 6, 2017.

As a program coordinator, McCallister focuses on various aid programs for Heartside community members. This is mainly through bus passes and assistance with medical co-pays and utilities. She emphasized the importance of the vetting process that neighbors need to go through for this aid, including proof of employment, mode of transportation or doctor.

Alongside McCallister and organizations such as Heartside Ministries, Schimpf addresses the issue of gentrification in the Heartside neighborhood. He founded HNCP because he was concerned that gaps in aid coverage for Heartside residents existed. A May 2010 study by Kuyper College social work students confirmed his suspicion.

Overall, HNCP focuses on ensuring that gaps in aid coverage are filled, and does this through monthly meetings with many organizations such as Dégegé, which provides meal and employment assistance, and aid-providing churches in the area.

This aid can take many forms, whether for housing, health or food issues, even insuring that libraries have lists of all services provided in the area for people to easily find.

Concerning gentrification in the Heartside neighborhood, Schimpf said "not in the classic sense." He continued to explain that there are laws in place to ensure affordable housing remains available, such as the Dwelling Place properties, which are federal government deed-restricted apartments for low income residents. However, Schimpf noted that this isn't the whole picture.

"There is some functional gentrification taking place such as pressure on social service providers to relocate off of Division Avenue." This pressure is more thoroughly outlined in MLive's June 26, 2017 piece "Ministry gets pushback from businesses worried about 'gauntlet of harassment.'"

Schimpf and McCallister both believe that more needs to be done on this issue and that churches need to continue to be involved.

Schimpf shared that as Christians, we are called to follow the message of Matthew 25, which means being "advocates for those on the fringes." Schimpf suggested that college students can help.

"They could be advocates. They could learn about the real issues and political dynamics at play," he said. "They could volunteer in ways that promote justice rather than only charity."

If students would like to learn more about the work that Schimpf, McCallister and others are doing in the Heartside neighborhood, they can check out HNCP (hncp.net) or Heartside Ministries (heartside.org).

HNCP provides services like bus passes and rent assistance to Heartside residents.



HEARTSIDE
neighborhood collaboration project

PHOTO COURTESY BETHLEHEM CHURCH

Appreciating retiring professors

BY MICHELLE HOFMAN
Features Editor

This year, Calvin is waving farewell to 21 retiring professors. Before they leave the campus, *Chimes* asked them to reminisce about their time spent teaching Calvin students. The department and the years in which they taught are listed below each name, as well as other positions they might have held and projects they were a part of.



PHIL STEGINK
Education
2007-18

Stegink hopes that commitment to the growth of his students is what has defined his work at Calvin. He has valued experiences of working with students as they become educational professionals who serve disabled students, the families of those students and their communities.

Along with these experiences, Stegink will also take his office chair away from his time at Calvin. The people at Calvin are what he will miss the most. He expounded on this:

“Interested, capable and joyful students who gifted me with their passion, and the remarkable colleagues who shaped my work. Thank you!”



JOEL CARPENTER
Provost, history,
Nagel Institute
1996-2018

Carpenter will take a deep satisfaction from his 10 years as provost and the work he did in advancing faculty scholarship and encouraging the college to combat issues such as racism as well as develop cross-cultural partnerships. In addition to this, he worked with the Nagel Institute to assist hundreds of Christian scholars worldwide.

“Calvin is a beautiful community,” Carpenter commented. “I love the people here like family. I love their commitment to learning, to culture making and to working for God’s way and will in the world. By God’s grace, Calvin is one of those bright stars in a dark world that the Apostle Paul urged us to be. May it ever be so.”



ROBERT SCHOONE-JONGEN
History
2003-18

Schoone-Jongen has found satisfaction in her career in having tried to convince every student in her classes that history is an important facet of our lifelong quest to understand God, his world and our role in it. Working closely with students who make their aspirations to become secondary school teachers become reality has defined her work.

Schoone-Jongen has appreciated that the class sizes at Calvin make it possible for students to know their professors. He said, “I will miss seeing young, ambitious, curious people each and every day.”



JO-ANN VAN REEUWYK
Art and art history
2001-18

Van Reeuwijk has been impacted for life by the profound moments with her students and experiences she has had in scholarship research with individual faculty members. Working with dedicated professionals has set Calvin apart from other institutes for Van Reeuwijk. She commented that “their care for students is extraordinary.”

Traveling to Asia and Africa has left deep impressions on Van Reeuwijk about how the arts can heal and promote justice. She will remember and miss “the deep-held convictions, the dedications and the openness for the new within the work of the college faculty and staff.”



FRANK SPEYERS
Art and art history
1988-2018

Speyers will leave Calvin with many memories of his “wonderful colleagues and bright students.” He has enjoyed “being able to integrate and articulate how the presuppositions of one’s faith impact visual communications.”

His work at Calvin has been defined by raising up a generation of students who possess critical skills and understanding that enable these students to visually impact culture. Speyers said that he would miss the senate meetings after he has left Calvin.



RONALD SJOERDSMA
Education
1992-2018

In his career, Sjoerdsma has devoted four mornings of every week to spending time in K-12 classrooms to observe education students taking their first steps towards becoming accomplished teachers. Commenting on this experience, he said “their commitment, energy and talent have been humbling.”

From his time at Calvin, Sjoerdsma has learned that “life is more than just doing a job; it’s about committing oneself to service. Calvin has given the opportunity to serve both on campus and internationally in a wide variety of settings.”

He will miss the intellectual and spiritual camaraderie that he has experienced at Calvin.



EVERT VAN DER HEIDE
Economics
1982-2018

For VanDer Heide, interims with students in Europe, Brazil, Indonesia and South Korea have been the most rewarding experiences for him.

“It was fun to see students learning about different cultures and compare these new cultures with their own life experiences. It was great to get to know students on a much deeper level.”

Since first arriving at Calvin, Van der Heide has benefitted from how generous the college has been in giving him aid to increase his knowledge of international economics and cultures.

“I was enabled to develop courses in Asian and emerging economies, conduct work as an economic consultant in Indonesia, and share my interests with students on the semester program in Hungary and on 12 interim courses abroad.”



BOB EAMES
Business
2003-08, 2010-18

Eames has been impressed with the Christianity that Calvin implements in classrooms:

“It’s so amazing to be allowed and expected to share your faith and your life and your story with students to help them see that the Christian life is a journey that we are on and that we all struggle and grow in our faith and that we do it best in community as the body of Christ.”

He will take away many things from Calvin, including a much deeper appreciation for James 3:1, many friendships and memories and an adopted alma mater.

“I’ll really miss advising students,” Eames admits, “especially sharing jokes and praying together.”



CAL JEN
Business
2007-18

Jen has been the most blessed by seeing Christ in the many students God has placed in his life and hearing the Spirit speak through them. He has learned much from them:

“My students have shown me that good teachers are passionate about their subject, care deeply for students as unique individuals and show it and make learning fun.”

Previously teaching at a public university has increased Jen’s appreciation of the opportunity at Calvin to share openly about Christ with students daily, inside and outside the classroom. After leaving the college, Jen will miss co-teaching diverse students in interim classes in Kenya, South Korea, Western Europe and China.



SHIRLEY ROELS
Business, Lily Vocation Project
1979-2018

Roels has been rewarded in her career at Calvin by the results she has seen in working with her students.

“My students have become leaders in profit and not-for-profit organizations. Recently, a 1980s graduate, teaching in a Peruvian university, emailed that he uses ideas first learned in my course.”

While working for Calvin, Roels has appreciated the support the college extends to every faculty member in weaving Christian faith into teaching. “While such efforts are imperfect, the coherence and consistency with which the college pursues this is truly remarkable.”

Roels will miss the discussion about strategies as the college considers becoming a university within the next decade.



JAMES VANDEN BOSCH
English
1983-2018

Vanden Bosch has had many rewarding experiences over his 35 years of working at Calvin. Among his most fondly remembered is being the director of Calvin's semester in Hungary program in the fall of 1999, as well as teaching for the Calvin Prison Initiative at the Handlon campus.

"I may have passed along some grammatical training, but they reminded me every time I taught them what intellectual hunger looked like, and of the many ways that lives of discipline and gratitude can shine and thus illuminate the world of human prospering and thriving."

When asked what he would miss, he answered, "My colleagues, of course, but particularly the new groups of students who kept turning up in my classes every September, January, and February, year after year. I clearly still have a great deal to learn, and I hope to find such learning opportunities elsewhere."



MICHAEL STOB
Mathematics, Mathematics,
dean for academic
administration
1981-2018

Stob confesses that the students are the best part about teaching at Calvin.

"I'm just amazed at what my students have accomplished and I've always counted it as a privilege to help them along the way."

Stob appreciated that Calvin allowed him to pursue his own research: "For an undergraduate institution that prioritizes teaching, Calvin provides tremendous support for faculty research. It's enabled me to work in areas as diverse as mathematics logic and cognitive science with scholars from all over the world."

He will miss his wonderful colleagues, those who are new and those who have worked alongside him for over 30 years.

"We've accomplished some good things together and I'll miss working with them."



LARRY LOUTERS
Chemistry and biochemistry
1984-2018

In his years of teaching, Louters has worked with many many students. He has enjoyed all his interactions with all the different kinds of students:

"The biggest reward for me in this job has been working with a wide variety of interesting students; great students who needed an academic challenge, weak students who needed my patience, and uninterested students who needed motivation. All of this work over all of these years was done through the eyes of faith and with great colleagues who shared in the joy and challenge of being a college professor."

Louters hopes that for all the students that he has taught, mentored and interacted with through his work on research projects and summer camps what defines this work is that he has made a difference for some of them.

"I will miss the students," commented Louters, "I will miss my colleagues and I will miss the environment where I was continually challenged to grow and learn."



RANDY VAN DRAGT
Biology
1975-76, 1981-2018

While at Calvin, Van Dragt has loved teaching field courses. Creation care has defined his work.

"At the core of my teaching, research and service to the college has been the development of the Calvin Ecosystem Preserve, of which I have been the director for 33 years. Integral to that work have been the energetic staff members, at the preserve and from across the college, who have made the preserve project possible."

He sees the expectation and opportunity that Calvin has in examining the questions at the intersection of faith and science as what sets his experience here apart from his positions at other universities.

"I will miss the dedicated community at Calvin that is committed to pursuing, at whatever pace seems appropriate, God's work in God's world."



DAVID HOEKEMA
Philosophy, academic dean
1991-2018

Hoekema has introduced roughly 5,800 students to philosophy and a way of thinking about themselves, the world and God that they weren't aware they were capable of. As an academic dean he had the opportunity to help many colleagues discern their calling and become more effective teachers and better scholars. His experience at other institutions has given him a unique perspective:

"Having taught at another church-related college and at a state university, I especially value the sense of community and shared purpose that binds the Calvin community together — something that I experienced as a student and again as a faculty member."

Hoekema will miss his colleagues who challenged him to be a better teacher and scholar and citizen, as well as daily interactions with students.



JAN KOOP
Mathematics and statistics
1989-2018

Koop's work at Calvin centered around preparing students to be teachers. This has defined her work:

"Hopefully I have influenced thousands of Calvin education students who are now teaching mathematics in their K-8 classrooms."

In her time at Calvin she wrote a series of eight two-year grants. These were to work with low-income school districts in Grand Rapids to help about 400 K-6 teachers better understand the mathematics they were teaching. This was a very rewarding experience for Koop.

"I really love teaching," she said, "and I will miss the daily interaction with students."



GARY TALSMAN
Mathematics and statistics
1984-2018

Talsma has been pleased with his own contributions to improve Calvin's prospective mathematics teachers, and feels that has defined his time at the college. "At Calvin, there are more opportunities to explore how foundational commitments and beliefs influence the subject matter under consideration, and vice versa."

Leaving Calvin, Talsma will miss his interactions with students and colleagues.

"Those relationships, and responsibilities, helped make this the best vocation I could imagine for most of my time at Calvin."



BARBARA TIMMERMANS
Nursing
1983-88, 1992-2003, 2014-18

Timmermans was part of the team that developed Calvin's nursing curriculum as the Hope-Calvin department of nursing was coming to an end. This was an experience she valued, especially that the same plan, with some slight revisions, is still being used.

The experience Timmermans has had at Calvin has been extremely valuable to her: "To teach my discipline as a profession, a vocation, a calling, part of one's place in God's Kingdom has been such a blessing."

She will miss the interactions with students the most. As well as the many regular clients at clinical sites and the time she would spend with them.



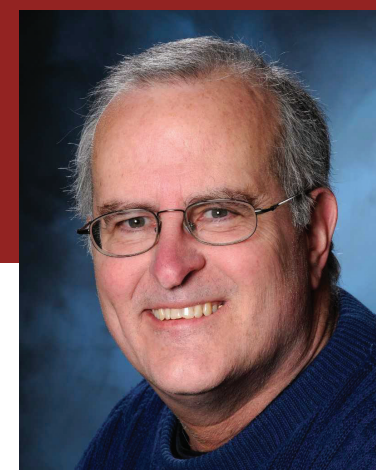
RICH NYHOF
Biology
1983-2018

Advising has been a large part of Nyhof's role at Calvin. It is a responsibility that he has taken on with enthusiasm. He has enjoyed helping students make sense of the requirements, both of Calvin academics and of professional programs.

"I have been blessed," confessed Nyhof, "to get to know so many wonderful students. Some have been academic superstars and others have struggled, but they have all had an effect on me and have impressed me with the depth of their characters."

He will miss the camaraderie of the biology department faculty and staff:

"Working closely with such accomplished and caring people has kept me trying to be more like them," said Nyhof.



GREG MELLEMA
Philosophy
1975-76, 1977-2018

In his years at Calvin, Mellema has valued his experience "teaching in a department with unbelievably talented colleagues, a department with a rich storied history." He will take away "41 years of teaching awesome students in a department that is very collegial."

He defines his time here as striving to be an excellent teacher, and working hard on writing and publishing in good journals. He will miss teaching his introductory philosophy course.

ARIE GRIFFIOEN
Religion
1992-2018

Professor Griffioen is also retiring this year, but declined an interview.

FROM THE EDITOR



Last weekend, I performed my senior violin recital in Calvin's Recital Hall. Standing in front of dozens of friends, family members and teachers, I played the notes I knew so well: the opening melody of Mendelssohn's violin concerto. Then the strident triplets, the lyrical second theme, the tempestuous cadenza and so on.

Things were going wonderfully until they weren't, and in that strange record-skip of memory that nerves can bring on, my fingers failed me and I faked my way through a couple phrases. For what felt like a lot longer than a couple minutes, wrong notes, hesitant bowstrokes and a sense of panic replaced what was supposed to be the dramatic build up before the final presto. I'd ruined the mood, the arc of the piece. I'd — gasp — ruined Mendelssohn. Forgive me, Felix.

In retrospect, of course, that's a ridiculous thought. Most of the piece went quite well, as did the rest of my recital program. And I had a very loyal and loving audience that I knew thought no less of me for my performance's imperfections. Looking back from a few days later, I'm overjoyed with how that recital went, and the Mendelssohn incident is just the tiniest flaw in that joy.

No amount of practice can guarantee perfection. I know that. But the thought I've had a harder time dealing with throughout my time at Calvin is that I could've avoided that memory slip. By practicing a few more hours a week, carving out more time to perform in front of people and working on memorization earlier than two

weeks out, I'm almost certain I could've kept it from happening. But I didn't, because I chose instead to rest, keep up with schoolwork, spend time with friends and — maybe most significantly — work on *Chimes*. My musical performances were worse than they could've been because, to use Annie Dillard's words, I didn't make it my "one necessity."

And yet, I loved nearly every moment I spent playing music at Calvin. And I think the nature and culture of the music department at Calvin gradually cultivated in me an attitude that I probably should've learned much earlier: things don't have to be perfect to be good. Realizing that has taught me to balance ambition and humility, excellence and reality.

On any particular Friday morning over the last two years, I walked through Calvin's Crossing to my first class, excited to pick up *Chimes*. I knew we had a great front-page story or an exciting layout or some other reason I couldn't wait to see our hard work in print.

And, some weeks, things were going wonderfully until they weren't.

I'd spot a typo in a headline. A reporter would call me and say we forgot to replace last week's text on the front page. We'd get a website comment pointing out a glaring factual error. A letter to the editor would come and explain how we'd completely misunderstood the topic of an article. An administrator would point out that our last-minted photo choice was misleading. I'm sure anyone reading this has a *Chimes* mishap or two from recent years in mind.

Some of this is just the nature of student publications: high turnover, overcommitted staff members, low budget, other priorities. But, as with the memory slip in Mendelssohn, many of these things could've been avoided. I could've read all our articles one more time before publication, or checked in with our writers more often, or spent more time giving careful feedback. It wasn't all up to me, but some of it was, and I didn't make it my "one necessity."

And yet, I'm really proud of what *Chimes* has done during my time here. We've asked questions, amplified voices, started discussions, challenged assumptions. I've made amazing friends, learned from stellar advisors, interviewed inspiring people. I'm so thankful for the small part I was given to play in this paper's century-long history and for the people who stood by my side.

This week, for the final time, my colleagues and I will edit each other's articles, talk through layout choices, send the PDFs to the printer and wait excitedly for Friday morning, when thousands of people will read our bold, fragile words. It won't be perfect. We probably could've done more.

But that's okay. It has been good, and I am grateful.

jtp

Summertime and the living is easy

BY PETER FORD
Managing Editor

Summer.

What comes to your mind when I say that word? Maybe momentary freedom, maybe countless hours at a job, maybe months in a summer camp bubble, unaware of the outside world.

I'm not here to write a sentimental piece about this past school year and life ahead. Read Josh Park's excellent piece for that — his very last article for *Chimes*. Instead, I'm going to talk about rhythms of work and rest.

I have written previously about the importance of rest and the importance of mental health (the Center for Counseling and Wellness has been so helpful to me). Sabbath-rest is not laziness, but appropriate self-care in a rhythm between work and rest.

I love summer. I know my anxiety is the worst between October (when I have to talk myself into surviving another Michigan winter) and April (once I can convince myself that summer is coming). I get overly optimistic for warm weather and wear summer clothes much too early in the spring. I drive with my windows down as soon as I can the bear 40-degree wind. In short, I look forward to summer.

Last summer was magical: I met a new group of friends. I worked a job I enjoyed to earn money so I could go back to school in the fall. I watched sunsets, I hung with middle schoolers, I took roadtrips. I wish I could repeat that summer again this year, except more.

Alas, I can't relive the past. This summer has its own unique challenges and excitements. I am a different person than I was last August. Already, the plans I had for this summer have changed.

Instead of expecting this summer to be something it won't be, I am trying to go into this summer excited for the opportunities. Because of conversations and things I have learned over these past two semesters, I feel better prepared to live a vibrant life this summer, no matter what happens.

Whether you are counting the days to graduation or planning your classes out for the next six semesters ... ; whether you are headed back home or across the globe ... ; whether you have lined up an internship, a job at Chick-Fil-a or a reading list ... ; no matter what your plans are for this summer, may you embrace it with open hands, ready for whatever blessings it brings you.

Library layout hinders inclusivity

BY ASHLEY DERAMOS & EMMY LUKER
Guest Writers

This year, on the first day of class in the Sandbox classroom in Hekman Library, a female student walked two laps around the fourth floor in search of a women's restroom. Confused, she stopped a staff member and asked where it was. He shook his head and acknowledged that the layout of the fourth floor did not include a women's restroom. The library, completed in 1970, was constructed with only a men's restroom on the fourth floor, a floor dedicated to religious and theological studies.

The theology floor is used by Calvin undergrad students, seminary students and faculty. This floor is also home to the H. Henry Meeter Center, which "houses one of the world's largest collections of materials on John Calvin, Calvinism, the Reformation and early modern studies." Resources on this floor are used by the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, campus ministries, Center for Christian

Scholars, Center for Faith & Writing, congregational and ministry studies, ministry leadership, the religion department, Calvin Theological Seminary and any number of other departments, faculty members and students that may be interested.

And not all of them are men. Granted, theology and ministry have long been male-dominated fields, and this was certainly the case when the library was constructed. However, much has changed. In 2016, Calvin Theological Seminary, our very own Pastor Mary's alma mater, celebrated the twentieth anniversary of women's ordination in the CRC. Now, almost 40 percent of the staff and faculty members in the religion and ministry positions on campus are female.

Unfortunately, and perhaps unintentionally, the physical structure of the fourth floor undermines Calvin's welcoming stance towards women in theological fields. A bathroom break for a female undergrad student attending a religion class in the Sandbox classroom may take up to ten minutes and include flights of

stairs. Likewise, writing a research paper on the fourth floor may be inconvenient for a female seminary student.

Worth noting is the lack of a men's restroom on the third floor. The third floor is not a department-specific floor, but instead used mostly for recreational reading books and study groups. Given the rather exclusive history of the theology field, the lack of a women's restroom on the theology floor of the library does send a stronger message than the lack of a men's restroom on the third floor. Nevertheless, both single-gender split restrooms are a design flaw that should be remedied.

This issue has not gone unaddressed. In fact, in 2015, the Committee on Gender Equity and the Library's User Experience Team discussed the need for restroom renovations; however, no further action has been taken. In lieu of a full structural renovation (which will probably be a necessary update in the near future regardless due to the dated infrastructure), we propose that the restrooms on both the third and fourth floors be made into

unisex bathrooms, like the restroom on the second floor.

This update would make all of the restrooms in the library accessible to all students. A simple change in signage and re-installation of locks would effectively meet this goal, and do so at minimal cost. A minor renovation like this would be a sign of hospitality and care for the entire student body, consistent with Calvin's values of inclusion and non-discriminatory practices.

We believe this would be a worthwhile project for student senate 2018–2019, and hope that our student body will continue to keep our campus hospitable.

The fourth floor's structure undermines Calvin's welcoming stance towards women in theological fields.

Changes to ecosystem preserve slated for summer

BY DAVID FITCH
Sci-Tech Editor

Changes are coming to the Calvin Ecosystem Preserve this summer. According to Program Manager Jeanette Henderson, the area surrounding the Bunker Interpretive Center is set to be altered to include a native plant demonstration garden, a three-season greenhouse, gardener's cottage, benches, tables and an improved paved pathway system.

Henderson said that the goal is for the preserve to function as a place of "respite" where people can enjoy the outdoors as an "outdoor laboratory" and where students can experiment, learn about native plants and care for the local ecosystem.

The changes are set to start at the beginning of June and finish by the time students arrive back on campus, with planting continuing into the fall.

Besides serving as a green respite from the busy, west side of campus, Henderson said that improvements will help foster the educational vision for the preserve, offering classes and individual

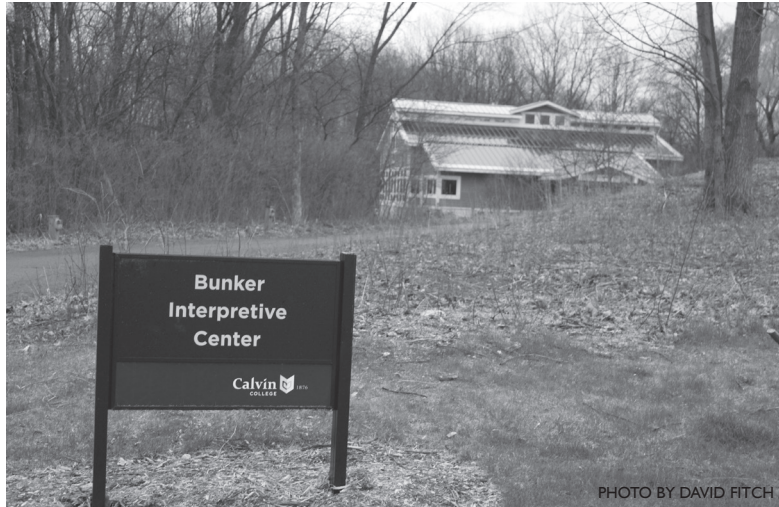


PHOTO BY DAVID FITCH

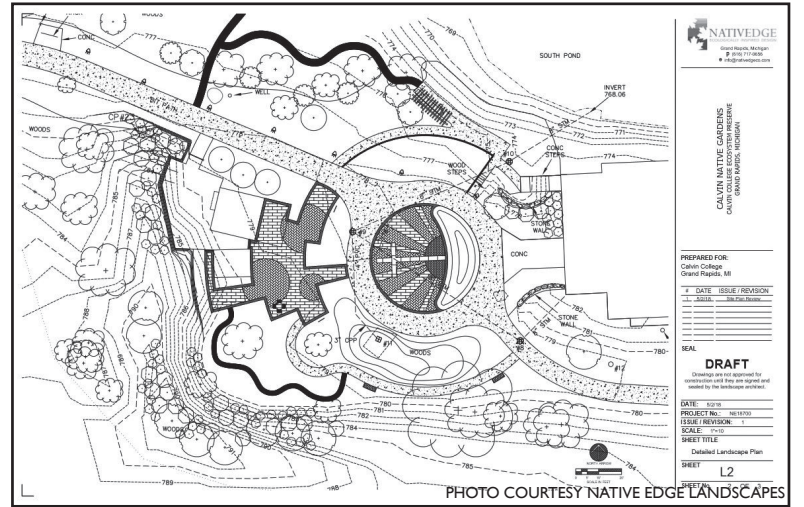


PHOTO COURTESY NATIVE EDGE LANDSCAPES

Changes to the ecosystem preserve will include integrating native plants, improved seating and the addition of a greenhouse. Volunteers will have a chance to get involved as early as this summer.

students the chance to get their hands dirty.

"We consider this a living laboratory and an outdoor classroom," she said.

One hope is that the addition of the native plants around the center will inspire students to integrate such sustainable planting habits around their own homes, creating "mini urban habitats," said Henderson. Changes also aim to improve the accessibility of the

preserve, including making the majority of locations within the gardens available to visitors with limited mobility. Planting is expected to continue into the fall and spring, and there will be opportunities for students to help with the changes beginning this summer.

Volunteers can also help at the preserve on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings through the summer. For more

information, visit bit.ly/2FBvC85.

Henderson says that the vision and the funding for the project is provided by Thelma Venema, a longtime supporter of the college and the preserve.

Venema previously donated money for the Venema Aquatic Center as well as the recent purchase of additional land for the preserve.

The preserve was opened in 1985 and was part of early

creation care efforts on campus. In addition to this project, further changes will include improvements to current native gardens along the path leading to the Prince Conference Center and restoration of the area around Prince Pond.

A native plant sale will be held at the interpretive center on Saturday, May 5. More information can be found at bit.ly/2JPKjH9.

Opinion: Michigan should reinstate 'good time'

BY DANIEL PIRKEL
Guest Writer

The \$2+ billion Michigan Department Of Correction (MDOC) budget consumes 19 percent of Michigan's budget, which is more money than what Michigan spends on education.

While prisons are necessary, there is a lot of fat that can be cut off this hog.

In recent years, Michigan's legislators have increasingly addressed various prison reforms, but they have done little that would significantly impact the prison system.

The primary culprit for this stagnation revolves around the negative emotions that crime generates, often resulting in bad publicity for those who propose reform.

It is also difficult to discern which ideas will effectively prevent future crimes. However, some solutions are obvious.

Statistics demonstrate that "good time," when a prisoner is rewarded with days off their sentence for good behavior, encourages prisoners

to engage in prosocial behavior — such as remaining misconduct free and participating in rehabilitation programs.

The Rand Corporation's MetaAnalysis (spanning 32 years of research) of correctional education has demonstrated that education reduces individual recidivism rates by 43 percent.

Many states already use good time, and it is presently available to inmates housed in Michigan county jails (they earn one-day credit for every six days served without disciplinary issues).

However, most Michigan voters have no idea that state prisoners sentenced after 2001 cannot earn any form of sentence reduction.

Representatives Howrylak and David LaGrand proposed bills 5665, 5666 and 5667 to reinstitute good time in February of 2018.

Michigan residents who want Michigan to begin a Smart on Crime approach should contact their State Legislator today to support the passage of the good time bills.

Grand Rapids neurologist discusses MS research with philosophy class

BY DAVID FITCH
Sci-Tech Editor

Herman Sullivan, a neurologist from Mercy Health, presented on Multiple Sclerosis (MS) to a crowd of students and faculty members in the Meeter Center Lecture Hall on Monday.

The audience consisted mostly of students in a philosophy course taught by Professor Kevin Corcoran titled "Minds, Brains, and Persons." Made up of students from the sciences division, the course centers on questions of human consciousness. The talk, organized by Corcoran, touched focused on the history of treating MS, as well as its symptoms and causes.

"I think he's working on the cutting edge," said Corcoran, who invited Sullivan to speak for the first time last year. "I was impressed with his ability to communicate the nature of the disease to ordinary, non-specialists," he said.

During the talk, Sullivan explained his own work with the disease. His work ranges from researching a drug called Linomide decades ago to his work now at a Mercy Health clinic, where he has shifted from a research role to primarily treating patients with MS.

Grand Rapids is an ideal place to continue his close work with the disease, Sullivan said, because

it shows significantly higher rates of MS due to its greater distance from the equator. One cause for higher occurrences in such extreme northern or southern regions is thought to be reduced sun exposure.

The symptoms of MS, which can range from cognitive dysfunction to impairment of physical abilities, like walking and touch, are caused as the body's immune system begins to attack the nervous system. The disease causes the formation of lesions that result the breakdown of a protective layer around nerves.

Sullivan explained the various treatments that have proliferated in the last decades, many of which, he noted, can cost over \$100,000. Though there is no way to cure MS, significant strides have been made in managing the disease, including reducing the number of relapses, he said.

Bone marrow transplants, which essentially entail replacing one person's immune system with another's, are of special interest to the researcher. They have also been demonstrated to yield significant improvements and come at a much lower price tag than most drugs.

"We've done a lot of philosophy, which is kind of a roller coaster for biology people," said senior biology major Derek Kamp. "And this [lecture] is like a roller coaster for the philosophy people."

Researcher and clinician Herman Sullivan of Mercy Health presented on the history and pathology of multiple sclerosis. Though many factors contribute to development of the disease, Sullivan said limited sun exposure in places like Michigan is thought to be a key factor.



PHOTO BY DAVID FITCH

Check out an expanded version at calvinchimes.org

Student activities office celebrates 25th anniversary

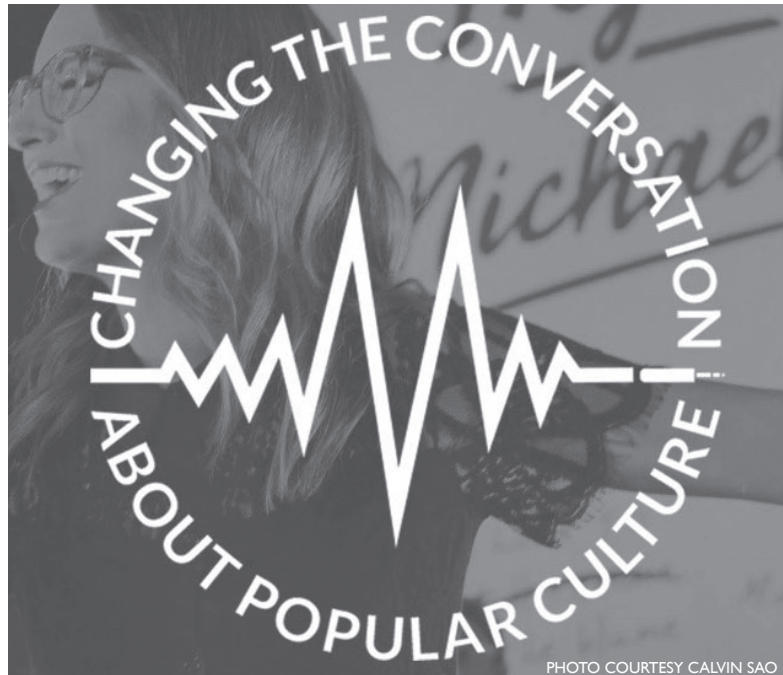


PHOTO COURTESY CALVIN SAO

The Calvin student activities office, started in 1993, aims to help students discern culture.

BY BRANDON SCHREUR
Arts & Entertainment Editor

The practice of engaging in culture is something the Christian Reformed Church (CRC) has had a long, complicated relationship with. The CRC, up to a certain point, thought it best to completely close themselves off from the outside world, viewing most pop-culture as a form of sin that should be condemned.

While the CRC has readjusted that viewpoint, some of the remnants still remain.

For the past 25 years, Calvin College's student activities office (SAO) has been trying to push back against that idea.

Prior to SAO, Calvin had a few concert seasons in the 1970's and 80's, but there wasn't a department to facilitate any of it and the notion of this kind of entertainment at Calvin quickly disappeared.

SAO came to Calvin in 1993. Ken Heffner, the student activities director, was working at a Jesuit school near Pittsburgh when he heard about the new pop-culture program Calvin was

starting. Because Calvin's mission has indirectly played a part in his life for years, Heffner decided to apply.

After he was hired, Heffner got to work organizing events and arranging concerts, bringing ideas of discernment to the forefront of community for the first time.

"The 'every square inch' language implies that (Calvin's) mission has something to do with how Christians do everything," Heffner said. "Deciding to engage in pop culture the same way that we do with philosophy and sociology and theater makes perfect sense."

For the first four or five years, Heffner faced resistance on multiple fronts.

"When you start to do something, you work from outside what you think the mission should be and you get resistance from people saying you shouldn't be doing that. There was some teaching and explaining that had to be done," Heffner said.

He also had to convince the general public itself that Calvin College should be taken seriously as a concert venue, as it was more than a space that was only for Christian artists.

With help from the administration, Heffner lead discussions on how pop culture isn't escapist entertainment but rather is an art form that needs to be engaged and discussed. He slowly began to prove that SAO wouldn't just be a place for fun and games, but actual discernment.

The conversation didn't end there, of course. While Heffner made great strides in the early years, some in the Calvin community still had their hesitations. In 2010, the institution had to rescind an invitation to The New Pornographers after receiving backlash over the name of the band.

Still, Heffner feels that this new approach to pop culture is one that has been inspiring for many Calvin students. Older alums repeatedly tell him that they wish this program existed when they attended Calvin.

Heffner has also faced the challenges of being a concert venue at a college where the music taste is continuously evolving. An artist's lifespan only lasts around five years in the college market. While they may then go on to have long and successful careers, their fans will age along with them.

That makes it hard to predict who the next prominent artist who comes to Calvin might be. For example, Heffner would still love to bring in Lorde, but is unsure how long she will remain relevant in the college arena.

That's why SAO is always searching for new, emerging artists. Every summer, they send representatives to the Pitchfork Music Festival to find new artists and decide if their vision lines up with that of Calvin.

Looking back, SAO has brought in everyone from Sufjan Stevens — who first played at Calvin when he was a Hope student and most recently in 2015 on his "Carrie & Lowell" tour — to Nate Ruess, Lord Huron and Julien Baker.

SAO has also launched the cultural discernment (CD) program in the dorms, which allows students to attend a weekly meeting taught by Heffner and learn how to engage with culture more appropriately.

"That has bore fruit more than just knowing how to lead a discussion or listen to a song — which is still important — but I think the CD training helps you understand how to be a Christian in the world," Heffner said.

Other colleges have seen Calvin's success with the program throughout the past 25 years and have launched their own, modeling it after SAO. Hope College, for example, has continuously been building their concert series year after year with help from Heffner.

SAO has provided students with an umpteen number of events that give them access to pop culture and helps them create community, find new passions and become stronger Christians.

"Our job isn't to keep you here; it's to get you out of here in such a way that you're up to the task and that you've been given the tools you need to love Christ and love the world at the same time," Heffner said.

Review: 'Infinity War' is Marvel's most ambitious film yet

BY BRANDON SCHREUR
Arts & Entertainment Editor

It has been ten years since Samuel L. Jackson surprised fans during the post-credit scene of the first "Iron Man," telling Robert Downey Jr. about an idea he had to assemble a group of remarkable people. 18 films later and the payoff has arrived.

"Avengers: Infinity War," directed by the Russo brothers, features nearly every character who's ever existed in the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) in one film.

That means this one is a long time coming. It also means that you have to be pretty invested in the MCU up until this point. "Avengers: Infinity War" is a love letter to the fans — which means you have to be a fan to enjoy it. If you have disliked every Marvel movie up until this point, don't expect "Avengers: Infinity War" to be the one that changes your mind.

For everyone who does care about Marvel though, rejoice. "Avengers: Infinity War" is everything you ever hoped it would be and more.

Thanos (Josh Brolin) is coming. He was teased at the end of the first "Avengers" movie back in 2012. He's finally begun his mission to collect all of the infinity stones (tiny little non-descriptive gems that basically have the power to do anything and everything) so he can reign hellfire down against the entire universe.

That's where the Avengers come in.

Of course, they're all split up across the entire galaxy — Tony (Robert Downey Jr.) and Cap (Chris Evans) aren't talking to each other since "Civil War," T'Challa and company are all out chilling in Wakanda, and the Guardians plus Thor are off on other planets completely. However, once they learn about the incoming threat, they know it's time to put their differences aside and take down Thanos once and for all.



PHOTO COURTESY DIGITAL SPY

"Avengers: Infinity War" is the 18th film that is part of the Marvel Cinematic Universe.

"I don't think there are a lot of movies that have the kind of tone that this movie has, because it's a combination of franchises and I don't think we've ever seen that before on this scale," said director Anthony Russo.

Russo isn't wrong. One of the most impressive things that "Avengers: Infinity War" has to offer is the fact that it has so many characters and storylines going on at the same time, and yet it never feels overcrowded. Each character gets their own moment to shine and had something to contribute to the overall plot — even the supporting characters. Personal favorites included Doctor Strange (Benedict Cumberbatch), Spider-Man (Tom Holland) and Star-Lord (Chris Pratt).

Of course, with a cast this large there are people you still wish received more screen time (looking at you, Shuri), but

there's no perfect way to pull "Avengers: Infinity War" off. The film still plays into some Marvel tropes and is by no means perfect, but the Russos' are able to achieve far more than most people would ever have thought possible on this grand scale.

"They really did a great job with Thor in this movie. I really liked Chris Evans in a beard too. I'm excited to see where it goes after this," said Dustin Olson, a Calvin senior who watched the film on opening weekend.

Then there's the character of Thanos, who completely steals the movie in his own right. Marvel has struggled with their villains in the past (apart from Killmonger, of course), and there was a lot riding on Thanos.

"Avengers: Infinity War" once again surpasses expectations in this

regard. Not only is Thanos a menacing villain who feels like he can actually take down all the Avengers singlehandedly, which brings some much needed high stakes to the MCU, but the character also comes from a place the audience can understand like Killmonger. The film takes time to explain his ethos so that his actions, in some twisted way, almost make sense.

The result is an ambitious cross-over that delivers on nearly every front. The humor isn't too overbearing, there are actual emotional moments and the MCU takes a step forward since "Avengers: Infinity War" is anything but safe. When it seemed like superhero fatigue was about to set in, "Avengers: Infinity War" only works to delay that feeling.

Campus Safety Report

Johnny's Cafe employees called the campus safety department to report the theft of property from the cafe. A student was observed taking ice cream, placing it in their backpack and leaving without paying for the ice cream. Campus safety officers contacted and interviewed the student and retrieved the ice cream. The report was forwarded to the office of student conduct for further action.

Reported 4/25/18

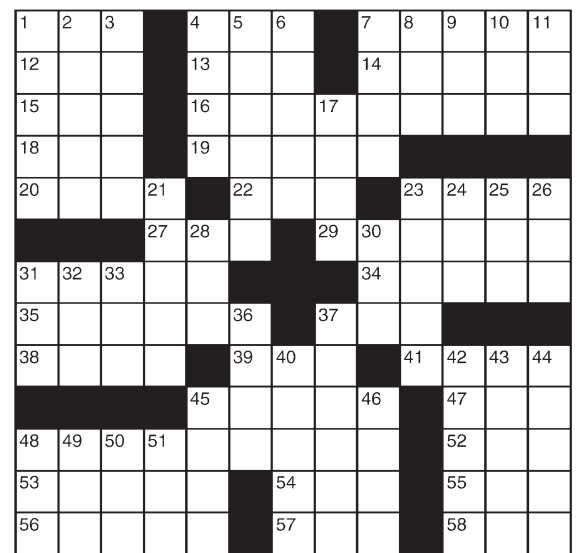
The campus safety department took a stolen bike report from a student who said their black Gary Fischer bike was stolen from the Noordewier-VanderWerp bike rack on April 24 between 4:30 p.m. and 11 p.m. The bike was locked with a combination lock. When the owner returned to the bike rack the bike was missing but the lock was still there and had been opened. Campus safety officers checked campus but did not locate the bike.

Reported 4/24/18

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Chances, for short
- 4 TV watchdog org.
- 7 Obliterate
- 12 Shell game need
- 13 Under the weather
- 14 Started eating
- 15 Take a whack at
- 16 Scrabble or Parcheesi
- 18 "Monty Python" opener
- 19 Wander off
- 20 Hack
- 22 Pilgrimage to Mecca
- 23 Prayer ending
- 27 Rhyming tribute
- 29 Burning
- 31 Magician's cry
- 34 Cow catcher
- 35 Triangular home
- 37 Total
- 38 Constellation component
- 39 Eccentric
- 41 Unctuous
- 45 Twine fiber
- 47 Payable
- 48 Indiana university
- 52 Literary collection
- 53 "Drops of



- 10 — card (cell-phone chip)
- 11 Away from WSW
- 17 Hindu royal
- 21 On top of the world?
- 23 Memorable mission
- 24 More, to Manuel
- 25 Type squares
- 26 Ultramodernist
- 28 Weir
- 30 Swine or bird
- 31 Anatomical duct
- 32 Frequently
- 33 Glass of NPR
- 36 Oklahoma city
- 37 Pistil counterpart
- 40 Grammarian's concern
- 42 Coeur d'Alene's home
- 43 Moon-related
- 44 You'll get a rise out of it
- 45 Fax
- 46 Dregs
- 48 To the — degree
- 49 Raw rock
- 50 Pitch
- 51 "Flying Down to —"

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

8	4			1	7			
	9				5		2	
		6	9					5
		1			8			9
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3				4		5		2
	5		8		2		7	
9				5		4		
		3			1			6

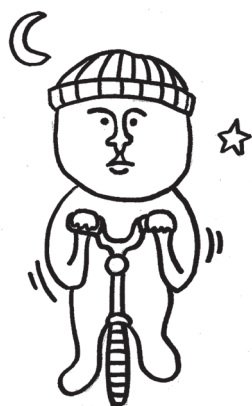
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

- ◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Applications are still open for science and technology editor, campus news editor and on-call writer! Apply at calvinchimes.com/apply



dialogue

from the pages of

Applesauce

Peter Wagenmaker (2018)

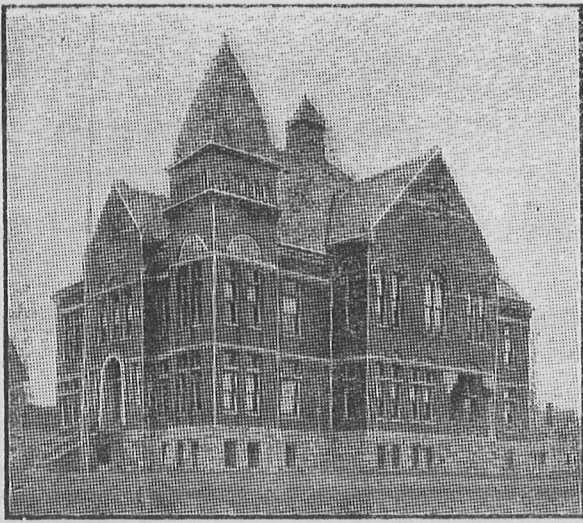
You're a screen door I noticed in passing and decided to open after imitation of the cat. I cannot smell the pollen and don't mind the mud, alighting into the aproned embrace of humidity, grasping at her bowl of blackberries to meld with Nana's molasses still tucked in my teeth, calling eventide through the garden wild—just imagine Sky's wide sweetness when I catch you

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A. J. ROOKS, Principal of the College.
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—Vincent Canby, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"A Pythonesque fantasy with awesome special effects...truly astonishing..."
—Jack Kroll, NEWSWEEK

"In the face of logic and reason, there is still a place for imagination..."
—Sheila Benson, LOS ANGELES TIMES

"This is magic —
Movie Magic."
—Joel Siegel, ABC-TV

"Like 'THE THIEF OF BAGDAD' or 'PINOCCHIO' it is genuinely enchanting."
—Stephen Schiff, VANTY FAIR

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—Marshall Fine, GANNETT WESTCHESTER NEWSPAPERS

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CALVIN ADVENTURE CLUB

CAC will be holding the first meeting Tuesday at 7 pm in the Cave on September 18, 1990. You may sign up for membership at this meeting. Also, rock climbing at Grand Ledge will begin on Saturday, September 15 at 8 am. You must sign up in the CAC notebook in the Student Senate offices.

To join, please fill out this form and bring it to the meeting with \$10. Checks payable to: Calvin Adventure Club.

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