

# Mount Mercy Times

A student publication serving Mount Mercy University

Issue 5, Thursday, Nov. 16, 2017

## Inside the Times:



### Final event in Fall Faculty Series

Dr. Amer presents the final event in this year's Fall Faculty Series: Divided We Fall.

See page 2



### A look into the life of Matthew Weihe

MMU junior says involvement with event services and improv club turned his academic career around.

See page 6

### Students give input on tunnel artwork

Statue of Liberty and crucifix among students favorite tunnel artwork.

See page 3

### Learn about travel abroad opportunities

The director of international student recruitment and integration busts the myth regarding the expenses when studying abroad.

See page 6

### English prof talks about climate

Dr. Joy Ochs, professor of English, spoke about the realities of climate change, using ideas from the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth."

See page 4

## Heads up:

### Law and Politics Club, Gaming Club to host game night

Join these two clubs as they host Game Night on Friday, November 17 starting at 8 p.m. in the University Center. The Gaming Club will have their usual games, as well as new games picked out by the Law and Politics club.

### Dance Marathon sign up

Another chance to sign up for Mount Mercy's own dance marathon in April will be on Thursday, November 30 at 11 a.m. in the University Center. The dance marathon committee invites MMU students, faculty, and staff members to sign up for the event and ask questions.

### Learn your relationship IQ

Counseling services will be holding an interactive, informative program about relationships on Saturday, November 18 at 2 p.m. in the University Center. Some topics covered during this program include conflict management, boundary setting, and different communication styles.

## Click it:

### Scholarship Day gallery

Check out the Mount Mercy Times Facebook page to see a full gallery of photos taken on Scholarship Day on Saturday, November 11.



Savannah Oler/Times

Danny Mishek speaks to a crowd of more than 100 about his two ecofriendly product lines.

## Going Green

### MMU alum presents his company's new environmentally friendly product line

By: Savannah Oler  
Staff Writer

Our country is full of garbage; literally. Landfills are becoming more and more prevalent.

Students, faculty, and community members who were in the University Center learned this from Danny Mishek's presentation.

Mishek is an alum that graduated from Mount Mercy in 1997. At his presentation on Wednesday November 8, he introduced the two product lines he created: his catering and gardening lines. For his catering line, he talked about how his products are fun, earth-friendly products. Mishek's products, are used from corn, only using 1 percent of the kernel.

"98 percent of plastic you use is made from petroleum oil," said Mishek.

He showed the pots that his company created, which were made from plant-based plastic. Compounds of plant food that are in the walls of the pot so that when the pot breaks down, the plants

absorb the nutrients.

Not only is this product good for the environment, it is also more efficient by providing nutrients in the pot that help the plants in them grow larger and healthier.

"4.2 billion pots are sold with petroleum in them and only 2 percent get recycled," Mishek said. "Every item in a landfill is a missed opportunity."

We are adding garbage to our landfills and this is a problem. It shouldn't be political, it is not caused by mother nature, we can and need to change it. That is just what his natural-based products are doing.

He continued with how other countries are a lot more energy efficient than America. Americans could be more efficient with our energy sources, but Mishek talked about how people tend to not like the look of things that are not part of the landscape.

"I don't want that landscape, it's air

**"Every item in a landfill is a missed opportunity."**

Danny Mishek, president/founder of SelfEco

◆ See Don't follow dreams page 4

## Klein travels to Africa to adopt daughter

### With new child, Kleins become family of four

By Mahder Serekberhan  
Opinion Editor

Dr. Nate Klein recently came back from Africa not only with new cultural experiences, but also with a new addition to his family.

"I love traveling, I love cultural experiences" said Klein, Mount Mercy University assistant professor of business and interim dean of students.

Klein recently got back from his visit to Ethiopia, an East African nation with over 80 different ethnicities and languages.

"It was nice to see how different cultures make it work" said Klein.

During his week stay in Ethiopia's capital, Addis Ababa, Klein got to try ethnic

food, hike up Mount Entoto, stroll around the city and meet non-profit business owners.

"The dancing and music was powerful" said Klein, when describing his visit to a cultural

restaurant.

The herds of sheep in the roads and the growth of infrastructure was amongst the things that caught him off guard. Klein also describes the fact that honking could be a means of greeting a fellow driver as a pleasant surprise.

However, Klein's recent visit to Ethiopia was more than a fun adventure.



Nate Klein/contributed image

Nate and Jenny Klein play with their recently adopted daughter, Ellary, in Ethiopia.

Klein and his wife, Jenny Klein, went to Ethiopia to officially adopt their second daughter, Ellary Tigist Klein.

It has been three years since they started the process of adoption. In November of last year, they had already "matched" with their daughter, but the process was "lengthy and rigorous."

The adoption process included multiple interviews, paperwork, fingerprint-

## Board OKs 4 percent tuition hike

### New technology fee to be introduced in 2018-2019

By Madelyn Orton  
Managing Editor

Mount Mercy University's Board of Trustees has announced a 4 percent increase in the tuition and room and board rates for the 2018-2019 school year. In addition, a new technology fee will also be implemented starting next fall.

"To make sure that we can continue the quality of instruction that we've had, it was important to continue, unfortunately, raising the tuition rates", said Doug Brock, vice president for finance.

Last year, tuition and room and board rates were raised by 3 percent. The new technology fee is \$100 per semester for a traditional student, \$80 per semester for a part-time student, and \$30 per semester for adult Advance students. For a traditional full-time student, the total of tuition, fees and room and board next year will be \$41,532.

Brock noted that Mount Mercy looks at the tuition rates, room and board rates, and other fees of co-competitor institutions such as Kirkwood, University of Dubuque and Saint Ambrose.

"We want to make sure the institution remains healthy and moving forward," said Brock.

Although raising tuition/room and board rates is not a new concept at Mount Mercy, the technology fee that will be introduced next year is new.

"When students visit before they come to Mount Mercy, we want to have a good technology environment for them and it's extremely expensive," said Brock. "There's a lot of infrastructure needs from a technology standpoint."

According to Brock, all the dollars will be put directly back into Mount Mercy, which can be the silver lining in a situation such as growing costs for students.

"Nobody is ever excited about fees, and that's why our administration recognizes there has to be real, tangible benefits of that fee," said Brock.

For further questions or concerns, Brock suggested reaching out to Student Financial Services.

"We recognize there are a lot of pressures and stress when tuition rates go up and scholarships stay the same," said Brock. "We want to make sure students know we are here to help."

◆ See Orphanage in Ethiopia page 4



# Day 4 scholarships

Madelyn Orton/Times

Bill Krebs describes menu for lunch (right). Two incoming freshman listen to guest speaker (MMU alum) Jenny Valliere (far right).



## Economics—not what it once was 100-200 years ago.



Ayman Amar gives a presentation on economics in Betty Cherry Hall (above).

Today, we’re an informed democracy and are aware of social & economic imbalance that happens in society

By Connor Mahan  
Editor-in-Chief

The moral origins and understandings of economics has changed throughout the years; however, economics is still a foundation that impacts society today. Economics impacts wealth, labor, poverty, the environment that we live in, and how people finance in life. Students, faculty and community members met in Betty Cherry hall Nov. 2 at 7 p.m. as Ayman Amer, Assistant Professor of economics presented “Economics Rationality or Compassion.” This was the final event that was part of the 2017 Fall Faculty Series—Divided we Fall: Finding Common Ground in a Fractured Age. “Socially-conscious

economics is a little hard to describe partly because it has changed over the years,” said Amer. “I think the mixture of logic, moral philosophy, econometrics and data will deliver much better outcomes than the economics we see today.” A lot of economists still say that economics is about who gets what. Suppose we have growth in the economy. The market determines who gets what. People generally believe this system should be fair. “Fair in an economic sense means everyone would get the price, good, or service they’re getting,” said Amer. “Recently, the government has become a big player in the market system which wasn’t the case one hundred to two hundred years ago.”

Amer pointed out that before there were laws and government, there were no real lines drawn to show wealth, poverty, or injustice. Today because of laws, government, and markets, economics has experienced social and economic imbalance. Today, we are an informed democracy through socialization and therefore are more aware of the social and economic imbalance that occurs in society. “On the bright side, nobody can hide anything from us,” said Amer. “We have Google and we have Facebook and we have WikiLeaks—that’s the bright side—and we have Equifax.” Essentially, when something is revealed, we know about it socio-economically or otherwise.

## Ideas from MMU community are sought for faculty series

There’s no denying we live in a world consumed by social media. And while many can argue the benefits of social media, there’s also the bad and ugly.

As this year’s Fall Faculty Series comes to an end, ideas from students and faculty will soon be welcomed on what next year’s topic should be. Joy Ochs, professor of English and this year’s coordinator, stated that students can email her with suggestions. “We will officially begin asking for suggestions during spring semester, but they are welcome to contact me now,” Ochs stated. With the world we live in being consumed by social media, I believe it should be on the good, the bad and the ugly of social media. There are so many different areas you can cover when it comes to social media, the most obvious being communication. You can look at it from an economical, marketing, psychological and philosophical way, as well as

### Opinion



Brooke Woolley  
Staff Writer

many more areas. You can also look at social media from a political perspective, which I think played a tremendous roll in last year’s election. I saw numerous articles that were false on Facebook, as well as other platforms that had zero credibility. And those who don’t know how to fact check or know what sources are reliable, tend to get sucked into these falsified stories leading them to think negatively about a certain candidate. Our own president abuses his social media power to reach his audience on Twitter, which sometimes leads people away from real problems in our country or around the world. Terrorist and hate groups use different social media platforms to persuade individuals and get their message out to a wider audience. It’s also a central tool for those groups to spread hateful messages. Social media has also been a platform for violence and bullying. Every now and then

I will see horrific videos of people fighting or saying horrible things to one another. I also hear stories about individuals hiding behind their keyboards and belittling someone and saying extremely harmful things. Cyber bullying puts individuals at a higher risk of psychological damage and/or suicidal thoughts and attempts. But not all social media is bad—take my mother for example. She has found so many friends she knew growing up and has been able to connect with so many others that she lost touch with. I get to stay connected to friends and family that live in different states and keep them updated on what’s going on in my life. Social media also allows businesses and consumers to connect with one another, taking marketing to another level and revolutionizing a way to reach customers. As if marketing didn’t consume us before, it’s now available to many individuals in the palm of his or her hands. I will Google something in my Google app, and

then go into my Facebook or Instagram, and see the product for what I Googled on my newsfeed. It’s a brilliant, and at times, a frustrating, way to reach consumers. It would also be interesting to see a psychological and philosophical approach to social media. I would be curious to see the psychology behind social media because I think it’s something that is so complex and something that a lot of us don’t think about. Why do people hide behind a keyboard and promote hate or racism? How does social media effect someone’s personality? Can people have an addiction to social media? If the series covered social media, it would be interesting to see how social media effects the way we look at reality. We could dive deep into the philosophical world and look at the way we exist and how we reason in a social media consumed world. All these subjects aren’t the only ones we could consider when it comes to social media, and we could certainly dive deeper into the ones I have discussed. I believe talking about the good, bad and ugly of social media, would be a great topic that many students would

be interested in and could learn from. With the good, bad and ugly of social media, you could also touch on the Critical Concerns the Sisters of Mercy advocate

for, some even mentioned in this article. If you have a suggestion for the series, contact Ochs at jochs@mtmercy.edu.

“With the world we live in being consumed by social media, I believe it should be on the good, the bad and the ugly of social media.”

Intermediate Ivy by Savannah Oler



Get ready for  
**Saint Nick!**  
Store sale: Tuesday, December 5

CAMPUS STORE

Happy Thanksgiving

Enjoy  
Thanksgiving Break!  
Mass will resume on  
Sunday, November 26  
at 8:30 p.m.



# Heard on the Hill

By Doriann Whitlock

“What is a piece of tunnel artwork that always sticks out to you and why?”

**Tyus Thompson,**  
senior, English major,  
creative writing minor:

“I like the Statue of Liberty painting in the tunnels because it is not from Iowa or from California but an overall representation of our nation.”



**Jessica Purget,**  
sophomore, marketing  
and English major:

“When you walk into the tunnel by Basile there is a face on the wall that reflects the face on the floor. I think it is interesting and a different expression is on both the floor and wall.”



**Chuck Uthe,** junior,  
English major:

“I have always liked Kayla’s style of art; they are a mix of cartoons and darkness. The ideas that she is trying to convey such as the unknown draws me in.”



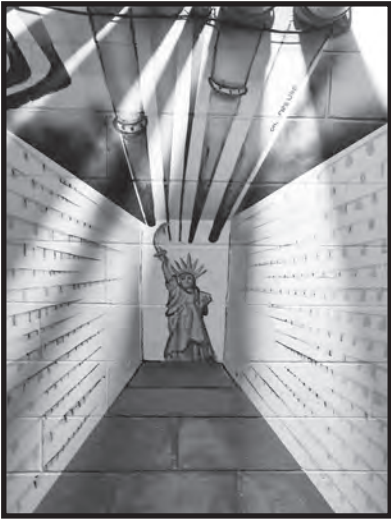
**Sam Schuerer,**  
sophomore, biology  
and math major:

“There are pictures of the Gable Inn Bar that look really cool and junky that fit into a collage. It is an awesome form of graphic art.”



**Megan Johnson,**  
junior, nursing major:

“Just before you entire Warde Hall there is a drawing of the crucifix with a signature at the bottom. It is a reminder of where I go to school and of my faith.”



Dori Whitlock/Times

Tunnel artwork of the Statue of Liberty is seen (on far left). Tunnel artwork displaying a face is displayed on the tunnel wall and floor (left).

# Tunnel SZN

The underground is a component of what makes MMU, MMU.

With the temperatures dropping and the cold white stuff inevitably on the way, Mount Mercy’s tunnels will be seeing an increase in traffic. We think the tunnels are messy, unkempt, claustrophobic, scary, and dangerous. However, we think the tunnels are simply awesome.

Many schools and universities have steam tunnels on their campuses to help distribute heat to various buildings. Steam tunnels are a little dingy, dirty, and a little dangerous, which is why many schools don’t open these tunnels to the public. Yet, Mount Mercy opens up the tunnels for students, faculty, and staff to make their way from building to building. Mount Mercy isn’t hiding one of the not-so-beautiful aspects of MMU, but instead embracing it. We appreciate Mount Mercy’s transparency by not hiding the tunnels from us, and allowing us to use them!

## Staff Editorial

The opinion of Times editors

As far as the dangers of the tunnels, remember to walk with caution when the floors are wet (those floors can be slick!) and walk around corners carefully so you avoid awkwardly bumping into someone. Oh, and the green door by Warde Hall that reads “DANGER, 10,000 VOLTS,” isn’t something to be afraid of, just a friendly, crystal clear reminder that you could possibly be electrocuted if you open that door.

In addition, the tunnel artwork that adorns the walls are rich with Mount Mercy culture. In recent years, freshman classes at Mount Mercy (even when

**Steam tunnels are a little dingy, dirty, and a little dangerous, which is why many schools don’t open these tunnels to the public. Yet, Mount Mercy opens up the tunnels for students, faculty, and staff to make their way from building to building.”**

Mount Mercy University was Mount Mercy College), have signed the tunnel wall.

There is also the large hissing snake on the corner where the color has started to fade, signifying the depth and history of the tunnels and Mount Mercy’s roots. One thing we like about the tunnels is how they embody an unpolished and chaotic manner – something that should be present on a university campus.

We had various opinions on the tunnel, but we all agreed that the tunnels are really a component of what makes Mount Mercy, Mount Mercy. We are appreciative of them not only during the cold months but for how they encompass a real and genuine university.

# Prez worried about future of club

As the president of the criminal justice club, I have seen first-hand that some clubs on campus are struggling to stay afloat. One of the requirements for clubs funded by the Student Government Association is to maintain a membership roster of at least five people. For the last four years that I’ve been a part of the club, we have been barely meeting that requirement. This year is no exception. I worry about the future of the criminal justice club and other clubs whose membership is made up mostly by seniors.

I’m happy to say the criminal justice club currently has seven active members because that’s more than it’s had in the past. But I’m sad to say that six of those seven members, including myself, are seniors. The club will go dormant next year if we are unable to recruit new members by May. It would be sad to see our hard work and momentum as a club come to a halt.

There are some important skills to be gained as being a club member. It wasn’t until I held

## Opinion



Bailey Rickels  
Staff Writer

my first executive position as a sophomore that I understood the value of what I was gaining. The two most important skills I learned from holding an executive position, especially the role of president, are leadership and networking.

One of the specific leadership skills that I gained is the ability to develop and organize events. The criminal justice club just held their annual murder mystery dinner which is something that I helped organize three years ago. It also recently held another fundraiser in addition to their annual one, which I helped develop from the ground up. Some other leadership skills I have learned are effective communication, task delegating, and the ability to network.

Networking is important because the statement “it’s about who you know” can be very true. You never know where an unexpected open door might take you. Since being a member

of the club I’ve really been able to connect with professionals at the St. Luke’s Child Protection Center (CPC). My connections at CPC have opened doors for more volunteer opportunities, an internship, and membership to a professional organization. I have also been able to make connections at Horizon’s and the Cedar Rapids Civil Service Commission.

**“I have seen first hand that some clubs on campus are struggling to stay afloat. One of the requirements for clubs funded by the Student Government Association is to maintain a membership roster of at least five people.”**

I strongly suggest that Mount Mercy students find a club to be active in. Clubs thrive off of new membership and there are many things to be gained by being a part of a club. It’s especially

important for freshman to join clubs so they can help move them forward for years to come. While I am worried about the future of clubs if new members do not join, I’m hopeful that as second semester approaches, students will feel ready and want to get involved.



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The Mount Mercy Times is a biweekly student publication serving MMU students, faculty, and staff and those close to the Mount Mercy University community. The Times is published on alternate Thursdays during the school year (each issue has a Thursday date, but the paper is usually distributed Wednesday).

In addition, the Times maintains a student-run website for the dissemination of additional news in various forms, including Times TV video stories.

Membership on the staff of the Times is open to any MMU student, full- or part-time, undergraduate or graduate.

Please attend one of our staff meetings, which are all open to the public, or contact an editor or our advisor for more information. Meetings will be announced in the paper, via social media and with on-campus posters

Staff Writers are listed by name on

the stories they write, photographers are credited on photos.

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Letters to the editor are encouraged. Letters should be concise, 300 words or less, and preferably emailed. The author’s name, phone and address must be included. The name is published with the letter. Longer commentary, in the form of guest columns, is also encouraged. Besides the name, a photograph of the author is published with guest columns.

The Times reserves the right to edit or omit submissions. Letters and other submissions may be sent to the Times via email, campus mail or brought to

the Times office in the lower level of the Busse Library.

The Times sells advertising space. Advertisers are responsible for their own content, but the Times reserves the right to refuse an ad at it’s sole discretion.

The Mount Mercy Times will not print material found to be in poor taste or that it deems detrimental to a person’s personal character. However, provocative comments on matters of public interest are encouraged.

Letters are due Friday at noon for consideration of publication the following Thursday.

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# Ochs says we have what we need to solve climate issues

**JBy Mahder Serekberhan**  
Opinion Editor

Climate change regarding the planet we live on and the impact of humans in the environment is a controversial topic. Dr. Joy Ochs, professor of English was trained to give two different presentations about climate change: The Climate Reality Project and the Awakening

the Dreamer Program. Last Thursday, she presented the Climate Reality Project. “Our atmosphere is fragile,” said Ochs. “The most vulnerable people (and areas) are affected by global warming.” Ochs explained the greenhouse effect and how the planet absorbs heat, she used the simple example of a car parked in the

hot summer sun. Ochs also tackled three questions associated to global warming: Must we change? Can we change?, and will we change? “We have everything we need to solve this.” Ochs said. “At the rate the climate is changing and impacting our planet, we have to make changes.” Ochs supported her claims

by statistics and data from trusted sources, such as the U.S. Department of Energy. Ochs talked about green energy, solar energy, L.E.D lights and electric vehicles and how the solution is right there and how we just have to harvest it. However, Ochs urged the audience, whom she referred to as “influencers,” to write to con-

gressmen and to make conscious decisions in our individual lives. The event was organized by the Social Justice Club. Club members have been actively addressing issues that fall under the Sisters of Mercy’s “critical concerns”: earth, immigration, non-violence, racism, and women.

# God of Humor?

Marvel Studio susessfully brings back Thor on the big screen

The God of Thunder makes a triumphant return to the silver screen in the third entry of the Thor standalone film series. After nearly ten years of introducing audiences to famous Marvel superheroes and giving fans seventeen action packed entries from the Marvel Cinematic Universe, it is safe to say that Marvel Studios has established itself as a highly successful franchise that shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon in the near future.

Taking place four years after the events of *Thor: The Dark World* and following the events of *Avengers: Age of Ultron*, Thor is imprisoned on the other side of the universe without his mighty hammer and finds himself in a race against time to get back to the realm of Asgard to prevent Ragnarok, (the prophesied destruction of his homeworld and the end of Asgardian civilization) from taking place while dealing with the all-powerful villain Hela, the goddess of death. In order to stop her, Thor puts together a team in the form of new heroes and familiar faces while taking part in a deadly gladiatorial contest against his old friend and fellow Avenger, The Incredible Hulk.

Marvel Studios has been making bold choices by entrusting their characters and source material to high profile directors and this strategy has brought forth blockbuster hits like *The Avengers*, *Captain America: The Winter Soldier*, *Guardians of the Galaxy*, *Ant Man*, and *Doctor Strange* that are not only grounded in reality, but are also creatively diverse. Hiring an independent New Zealand filmmaker like Taika Waititi to direct *Thor: Ragnarok* might have been seen by many as a massive gamble at the time, but this gamble paid off in spades as *Thor: Ragnarok* delivers a combination of both action and humor.

Fun is one word that I'd use to best describe the experience of seeing *Thor: Ragnarok* on the big screen because unlike the previous two installments of the Thor franchise that had a bleak and serious tone, director Taika Waititi takes cues from past Marvel films like *Spider-Man: Homecoming* and *Ant Man*, to give his film a more light-hearted tone while also including references to the wider Marvel Cinematic Universe to excite fans and audiences. What makes *Thor:*

## Review



**Cameron Junge**  
Movie Reviewer

*Ragnarok* different from the previous two installments is that it's not overstuffed with action, drama, and occasional humor. Rather, it relied more on the comedic elements from the first two *Guardians of the Galaxy* films to make *Thor: Ragnarok* feel different while not straying too far away from the action. While there are a lot of genuinely funny jokes and gags throughout the course of the film, one issue that I had with *Thor: Ragnarok* was that the humor may have overshadowed a couple of pivotal moments towards the climax of the film. However, the humor never felt out of place and the comedy was able to blend in seamlessly.

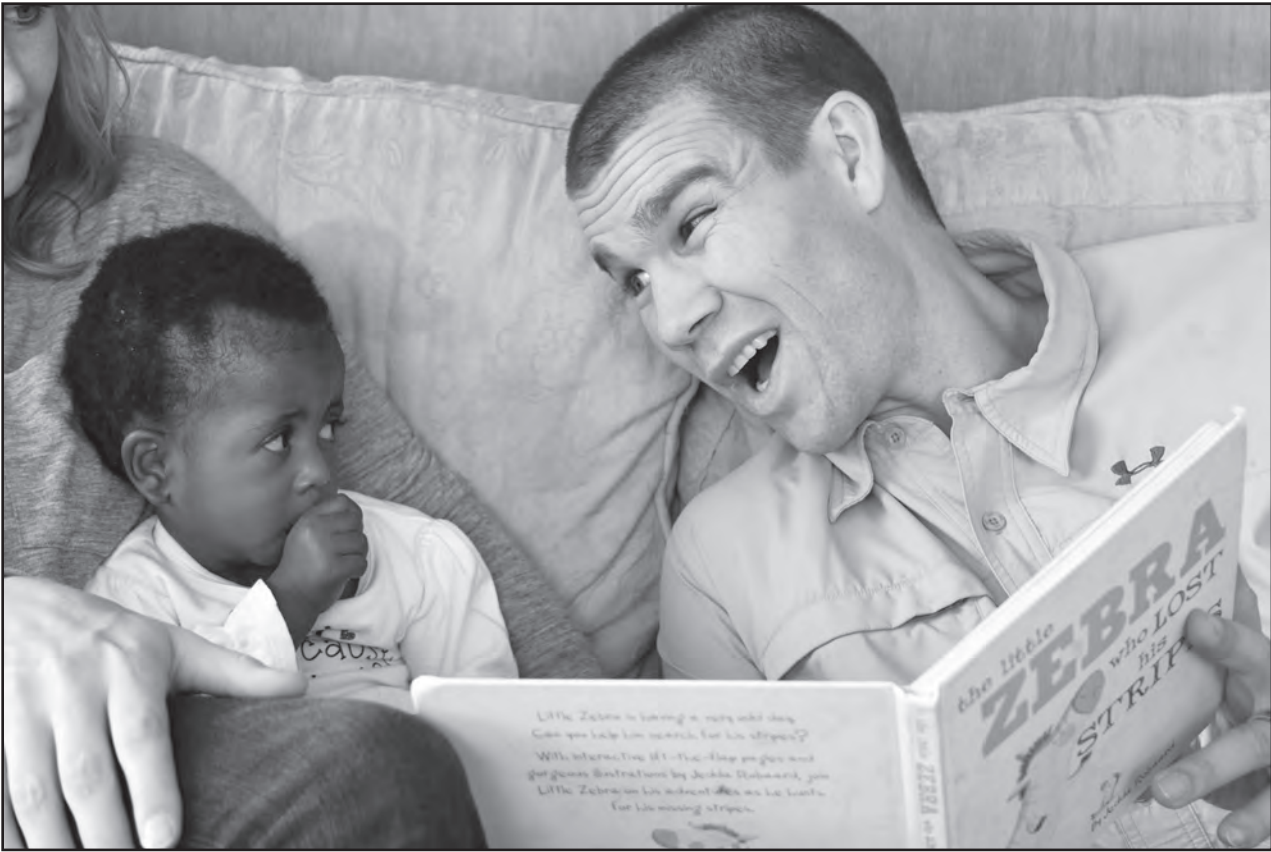
The action sequences, cinematography, and visual effects never cease to entertain and even though the battles are kind of over the top, they are perhaps the best choreographed fight sequences that Marvel has to offer in recent years. However, the real strength of the film comes from the stellar acting performances of its ensemble cast, with stand-out performances including Chris Hemsworth as Thor, Tessa Thompson as Valkyrie, Cate Blanchett as Hela, Jeff Goldblum as The Grandmaster, and Mark Ruffalo as Dr. Bruce Banner/The Incredible Hulk.

While they all delivered exhilarating performances in their respective roles, It was Mark Ruffalo and Tessa Thompson's performances as both Dr. Bruce Banner/The Incredible Hulk and Valkyrie that stole the show. Tessa Thompson interpretation of Valkyrie is excellent and it will be interesting to see what Marvel Studios has in store for her character in the near future. In regards to Mark Ruffalo's performance, we are finally given a chance to get to know the Hulk even better as

opposed to just Dr. Bruce Banner because they are two distinct characters within each other and have a lot to offer audiences

in terms of character development.

Overall, *Thor: Ragnarok* is a worthy addition to the Marvel Cinematic Universe that perfectly blends action and comedy together and will leave you wanting more by the time the credits roll. I give *Thor: Ragnarok* 4 ½ mustangs out of 5 because while the comedic elements may have overshadowed the film's pacing a couple times, it still manages to be a wildly entertaining superhero film that's sure to thrill fans of the Marvel Cinematic Universe.



Nate Klein/contributed image

Nate Klein reads a children's book to his newly adopted daughter, Ellary.

## Orphanage in Ethiopia helps Klein family complete adoption process

◆ **Klein travels to Africa**  
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Nate Klein and Jenny Klein spent their honeymoon in Africa and fell in love with the people and the vari-

ous cultures there, so it had a special place in their hearts. Ethiopia is also one of the only countries in Africa that allows the adoption of children under the age of 2. So, with that in mind, they were able to contact and initiate the

adoption process with the Children's House International, an orphanage which Klein describes as being full of caring and helpful people. Klein said his daughter has adjusted smoothly to her new home and gets along great with her sister.

# Beat fall blues by attacking Nazis

I received the previous generation Call of Duty game, Infinite Warfare, for Christmas last year. I still haven't beaten it. I just haven't really played it. I have been playing Call of Duty since the original one came out in 2003. In which, the first several games were set in World War 2—a time period many video games have touched upon, and I had just gotten tired of the same formula.

Could a return to the series roots give it some fresh life? Thankfully, yes. Seeing a more historical depiction of WWII on my new 4k system looks amazing. The storytelling does its best to throw you in the trenches with characters you've just met, and whose names you're still fuzzy on. As these characters become war fatigued, their interactions become more interesting. The opening leaves a sinking feeling in your gut. What an insane plan it was to retake Europe! As the story goes on, you realize just how close this war really was to being lost. Scenes of abandoned concentration camps remind you how important it is that it wasn't lost. The gameplay freshens up the series by introducing a

## Review



**Derek Hamilton**  
Staff Writer

health meter. Whereas before in the series, you had regenerating health, and when the health of your character got low, you could just take cover for a few seconds, then be back in the action. Now you must carefully manage health packs. Health packs can only be earned from one squad mate, so keep him close. My tendency in any game where I must manage resources is to conserve, but I quickly found in Call of Duty that whenever your health gets below halfway, it is a good idea to use a health pack. Keeping kill streaks alive will mean an endless supply from your teammate, and the same goes for ammo. This makes for a much more difficult experience overall. I beat the single-player in about six hours, but playing on a harder difficulty could mean a longer battle. Six hours may seem short, though who really buys Call of Duty for the campaign, anyway? While I miss having a jetpack and dodge ability in multiplayer, they do make certain historical concessions regarding technology to make the game more interesting. Such as laser optics. All in all, this series is a must play for any Call of Duty player, or even if you just like a competent shooter. Nothing better than fighting Nazis to take your mind off of November deadlines.



Savannah Oler/Times

Danny Mishek holds up one of his company's flower pots (left). Danny Mishek and Barbara Knapp, member of the Board of Trustees, who endowed the Knapp Lecture Series (below).

## Don't follow dreams, chase them speaker urges MMU audience

◆ **Going Green**  
from page 1

pollution for my eyes, we're so accustomed to what we see, we think it's part of the landscape," Mishek said. He ended his talk with some wisdom for the current students in the audience. The world is changing so fast, 65 percent of pre-school kids' jobs do not exist yet. "There are more people outside the circle than inside the circle," Mishek said. "You need to stand out on your job resume."

Mishek did this was by having his two favorite quotes on his resume. The day you are born is the day you get your finger prints, your personal brand. You are being judged, but how do people judge you? Are you kind? Why not be judged for being awesome because people are going to judge you either way. Mishek concluded with, "Don't follow your dreams, I want you to chase them... We're not here for a long time, go chase your dreams and make a difference."





# Headed to nationals



The men’s cross country team are headed to the NAIA national meet, following a runner-up finish in the Heart of America cross country championship in Baldwin City, Kansas, Nov. 4. For the women, Alexa Zamora and Molly Pruett were national qualifiers.

## Sports shorts

### Men’s Basketball snaps three-game skid

Over the weekend of November 10, the Mount Mercy men’s basketball team traveled to Saint Xavier University for a two-game series against 12th-ranked Robert Morris and Saint Xavier.

The Mustangs all around played very well, having five players scoring in the double digits and went on to win 94-77. Mike Evans (Jr.) posted a double-double with 16 points and 15 rebounds. Mount Mercy dominated in the paint defensively, outrebounding Robert Morris (48-29.) The bench scored 51 points for the Mustangs on Saturday and was led by Marquice Jones (Sr.) scoring 18 points all while shooting (5-7) from the field along with two 3-pointers.

Mount Mercy gets their first “win streak” of the year as the Mustangs just edged out Saint Xavier 85-84 in a thriller on November 11. A total of 25 points were scored in the last minute and a half of Saturday’s game. Saint Xavier had the lead 80-73 with 48 seconds left on the clock and just when it looked like there was no hope for MMU, Antwain Strong (Jr.) put the team on his back, scoring seven points in the last minute of the game including the go-ahead layup with four seconds left in the game to prevail MMU over Saint Xavier.

Mount Mercy is back home after a five game road series when they are set to take on Faith Baptist Bible College on November 20 at 7 p.m. in the Hennessey Rec. Center.

### Rough start for women’s basketball

The Mount Mercy women’s basketball team had a difficult two-game stretch over the weekend, taking on 16th-ranked Columbia (Mo.), 59-89, on Friday, then lost to William Woods (Mo.), 69-85, on Saturday at the Cougars vs. Cancer Classic at Southwell Complex in Columbia, Missouri.

MMU was outscored in every quarter of the game against Columbia in a 59-89 loss. The Cougars shot better than 40 percent from the field and 3-point range while the Mustangs shot a little under 36 percent overall and just under 24 percent beyond the three-point line. Nyawal Dak (So.) made the all-tournament team after double-digit scoring outputs in both games. She had 10 points against Columbia and a team-high 23 points ver-

sus William Woods. Sharice Kawakami (Jr.) added 16 points on Saturday.

The Mustangs have a two-week break before traveling to Canton, Mo., for the Microtel Inn and Suites Classic on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17-18.

### Men’s soccer season ends in a shootout

The Mustangs traveled to Marshall, Missouri to take on Missouri-Valley in the Heart of America quarterfinals on Friday, November 3. Missouri Valley out-shot Mount Mercy in the opening half, 11-2, but couldn’t get one in the back of the net. After 45 scoreless minutes, the Vikings found the back of the net early in the second half putting Missouri Valley up 1-0. A goal by Rohan Lindsay (Jr.) with 12 seconds left in regulation sent Mount Mercy’s Heart of America Athletic Conference men’s quarterfinal against Missouri Valley to overtime.

MMU only forced one shot on goal in the overtime period while Missouri-Valley forced five, but neither force a goal sending the game into a shootout.

Missouri Valley hit their first two kicks while the Mustangs missed both of theirs. The Vikings converted two more and Mount Mercy could finish only one to lose the shootout, 4-1.

The Mustangs ended the regular season (7-10) (4-8 in the Heart).

### Crusaders end MMU women’s volleyball season

The seventh-seeded Mount Mercy women’s volleyball team played host to 10th-seeded Evangel (Mo.) on Thursday night at the Hennessey Recreation Center in the first round of the Heart of America Athletic Conference Women’s Volleyball Tournament. The Crusaders moved on to the quarterfinals with a 3-1 victory (25-14, 25-20, 26-28, 26-24) over the 7th seeded Mustangs.

For the second straight match, Maddie Bell (Fr.) led Mount Mercy with 11 kills which is her 14th double-digit match of the season. Five other Mustangs had six or more kills, including Alyssa Weldon (So.) with eight. Kayla Daggett (Fr.) had a career-high seven kills, as well as Vik Meade (Jr.). Mary Goergen (Sr.) and Olivia Coe (Jr.) added six kills as well. Lauren Stopko (Jr.) paced all players with 22 digs. Weldon and Becca Thomson (Jr.) both tallied 19 and 11 digs.

Mount Mercy ended their season (13-16) (8-11 in the Heart).

# A series for the ages

## Houston’s team gives city needed post-storm boost

The Astros, whose first season was in 1962, are the 2017 World Series champions for the first time in franchise history, defeating the Dodgers 5-1 in Game 7 at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, California.

In a season that started off with a four-game series with the Seattle Mariners, winning that series 3-1 and posting 16 wins through the first month of baseball, to posting 60 wins up to the All-Star break, then ending with a season record of 101-61 and capturing the AL West pennant, the 2017 season is a story to remember in the city of Houston. With a city that needed some comfort due to Hurricane Harvey in the month of August, the Houston Astros helped deliver a memorable season.

As of Aug. 29, 14 fatalities have been confirmed from flooding in the Houston area, including six from the same family who died when their van was swept off a flooded bridge. A police officer drowned while trying to escape rising waters. Those are just some of the tragic fatalities in the city of Houston that were caused by the hurricane.

Hurricane Harvey in August 2017 was the costliest tropical cyclone on record, inflicting nearly \$200 billion in damages, primarily from widespread flooding in the Houston metropolitan area. It was the first major hurricane to make landfall in the United States since Wilma in 2005, ending a record 12-year span in which no hurricanes made landfall at such an intensity in the country. In a four-day period, many areas received more than 40 inches of rain as the system slowly meandered over eastern Texas and adjacent waters, causing cata-

strophic flooding. The Astros first game back home after the floods caused by Harvey was on Saturday, Sept. 2 against the New York Mets, and that day also began the era of “Houston Strong.”

“We’re doing this for the city,” short-stop Carlos Correa said to USA Today. “We want to bring a lot of joy and happiness to the fans out here in Houston, especially after everything they’ve been through this year. It’s been a tough year for the city. So, if we can bring something through baseball, we’re going to do it.”

From the return to the Astrodome, to the last pitch pitched in the regular season, the Houston Astros went on a 21-8 game run to finish their remarkable year of baseball. Houston finished the season with four players batting over .300, along with four players who hit more than 20

### Opinion



Collin Wiley  
Sports Editor

homeruns in the season.

The postseason began on Oct. 5, against the Boston Red Sox. The Astros scored 24 total runs in the four games series to move on to the American League Championship series against the powerful New York Yankees. The Astros started the series out great, taking a 2-1 series lead and looked to sweep the Yankees, but the Yankees found some strength in their lineup to win three straight games and take a 3-2 series lead against the hopeful Astros.

In a winner-take-all game six, the Astros prevailed behind the arm of veteran Justin Verlander and the bats of Jose Altuve and Alex Bregman. Verlander pitched seven innings, striking out eight batters and walking one in a 7-1 game six win forcing a winner takes all game seven. Game seven went the Astros way as they forced a three-hit shutout winning 4-0 and advancing to their first World Series since 2005 when they were a part of the National League.

Marked down as one of the most exciting World Series in the history of baseball, the Houston Astros looked to get their first franchise title against the Los Angeles Dodgers, who were also looking to win their first title since 1988.

These seven games were full of power. Houston and Los Angeles set the record for most home runs in a single World Series—and dramatic comebacks. Game 5 was the craziest of all, ending with a 13-12 Astros walk-off win in the 10th inning. This arguably has been one of the most entertaining World Series. It was the first Fall Classic since 1970 between two different teams with at least 100 wins during the regular season, as Los Angeles won 104 games and Houston won 101.

The pivotal game seven started out as if the Astros were competing against a little league team. A two-run home run by outfielder George Springer made it 5-0

**These seven games were full of power. Houston and Los Angeles set the record for most home runs in a single World Series—and dramatic comebacks.**

in the top of the second inning and the celebrations already started to begin in the city of Houston.

Whether you believe in the Sports Illustrated cover “curse” or not, the Astros just proved that being on the

cover page is no longer a curse. In 2014, Sports Illustrated released a story with Springer on the cover of the magazine, predicting the Astros would be 2017 World Series champs. Three years later, The Houston Astro’s dreams came true, and George Springer is unanimously named the World Series MVP.

In a state that is known for football traditions, baseball has finally made its presence known on the night of Nov. 2, 2017 in the great state of Texas. One of the most iconic championship trophies in the history of sports is finally going home to a city that is truly “Houston Strong.”



Mariah Robinson/Times

On Oct. 31, MMU played host to various creatures, spooks and characters for Halloween on the Hill. Visiting children enjoyed games in the U Center, as well as a costume parade at half-time of the women’s basketball game that night.



# Halloween on the hill







Connor Mahan/Times

Junior Matthew Weihe rehearses with the MMU Improv group and a community Improv group on Nov. 12 in the McAuley Theater. Weihe says his involvement with Improv, Event Services, Gaming Club and the MMU newspaper have helped him find a path to academic success.

# Finding his way

Improv involvement helps junior bounce back from rough start

By Connor Mahan  
Editor-in-Chief

When students start university, sometimes they can take on a lot and struggle with balancing out their work load with academics. Matthew Weihe, a junior majoring in verbal communication, said he felt too much pressure when he was a freshman, but he is now academically successful. “When I was a freshman, I was taking on leadership roles that other people weren’t,” said Weihe. “One of the best things about Mount Mercy is that the campus has a lot of opportunities—many people don’t seek out these opportunities and because of that, they’re left open, but if you really have an interest in a club and continue following it, then eventually you

“When you invest in something, it can invest back to you.”

Matthew Weihe, junior, verbal communication

will have the opportunity to have a little more responsibility.” Weihe is the president of Improv Club, the event planner for Gaming Club and has written several articles for the Mount Mercy Times. At the same time, he is working in dining and participating in leadership roles. “I eventually switched over to event services, and



for some reason working in events just clicked for me,” said Weihe. “When you invest in something, it can invest back to you.”

Weihe was able to connect with more faculty and students through event services and Improv Club. He says this had a positive impact. “At the time, I ended up becoming friends with a lot of seniors in Improv Club, and that gave me a bit of guidance as well,” said Weihe. Weihe has been involved in Improv for seven years. He believes that he wasn’t great to start out with, but says he has greatly improved from experience. So, in a way, his Improv experience mirrors his academic experience—a struggle at the start can be overcome.

## SNAPSHOT

Meet the people  
on the hill  
Matthew  
Weihe



Connor Mahan/Times

Sophomore Lauren Tandy, business major, writes a quote that promotes hospitality rather than hate.

# Hospitality > Hate

MMU event reaffirms values

By Connor Mahan  
Editor-in-Chief

Hate is nothing new, and at Mount Mercy University, a series of events occurred on campus that prompted Mount Mercy to hold a student-driven event to bring awareness on the fact that hate does not belong on the Hill. Rather, hospitality is here to stay. Students, faculty, and community members gathered in the University Center around noon Nov. 2 and participated in activities including writing quotes opposing hate, writing one thing people like about themselves, watching a “Hospitality > Hate” video, and participating in a group activity where the goal was to exchange

bands with other people while getting to know them a little better. “For this event, we wanted students to give their opinion and let them frame what the event would be,” said Tiffany Leschke, the director of student engagement. The majority of the people who participated in the event exchanged similar colored bands for different colored bands. The goal was to take bands of one color and trade them so you had different colors. In this process, you had to introduce yourself to people you didn’t know with different bands. This helped promote diversity in the community and to spread hospitality, not hate.



Connor Mahan/Times

Dr. Eden Wales Freeman (above) and Dr. Taylor Houston (left) speak with students at the Nov. 2 anti-hate event.

# Study abroad promoted as doable option

By Peter Brooks  
Staff Writer

This week is “International Education Week,” with events that began Monday. From 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. today, Thursday, the week concludes with a “create a travel vision board” study break. So many college students dream about studying abroad, but choose not to because of possible roadblocks. Some think it is too expensive, or they are freighted by the language barrier. However, studying abroad can be relatively easy. “The cost is not as high as you think,” said Catharine Cashner, director of international student recruitment and integration. “If they have the flexibility to do a longer program, often when we do the budgets with financial aid a semester abroad is comparable to a semester on campus.”

Students have multiple options to choose from when selecting where to study abroad. Students can choose to go with a faculty led group or select an individual program. “About half are tied in with a major,” Cashner said. “Nursing does a healthcare program in England as do education and social work. Some of the faculty-led programs are more for meeting your core requirements. Almost all the programs are taught in English.” Cashner explained that students who study abroad are driven by curiosity, or just have a personal dream. “People see it as something that could give you good professional experience,” Cashner said. “I think a lot of what I hear is it is something I have always wanted to do. A lot of students go to Spanish speaking countries to learn to improve their Spanish.” The general reaction to studying abroad is a positive one. Students always express how much they have learned and draw from their experiences. “They are really enthusiastic about the experience,” Cashner said. “There is always a little bit of reverse culture shock when they get back—I still have alumni that post on our face book page encouraging others to do it. I do see students return with a little more confidence and a little bit more independent.”