

THE

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Cut Back on Café 780 Hours Leads to Petition

Schools Divided Creates a State United

Alfred E. Cecchetti: Remembering a Community Leader

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CAMPUS LIFE

Cut Back on Café 780 Hours Leads to Petition

*By: Aleigha DiDonato
Staff Writer & Reporter*

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa. -- A major change in the hours of Café 780 at Penn State New Kensington (PSNK) brings rise to a petition from students.

It comes with no surprise that food is on the top of every college student's list of priorities as classes began at PSNK. So you can imagine the concern when students found out the main Café 780 would be closing at 2PM Monday through Friday. Compared to previous semesters, this is a 5-hour cut back from the 7PM closing time students were used to.

Although the main café will be closed at 2PM, PSNK still offers limited food options for students on campus at the junction. The junction stays open until 6PM Monday through Friday, still leaving students with evening classed out of options for food on campus. In attempts to capture the voice of the PSNK community, one student decided to create a petition to extend the café hours.

Junior Communications and Journalism major, Brandon Burchette states, "The idea to create a petition came from Lauren Blum and SGA member Shannon Josefoski. After having a conversation with Lauren about it, she proposed that I start a petition seeing how I was upset about the change in hours."

Roughly 150 students and faculty signed the petition to extend the hours at the café. This created enough buzz on campus that a meeting was held in attempts to come up with a solution to rectify the situation. Chancellor Kevin Snider and Jacob Bush were among some of the people involved in tackling the issues around the café hours.

"According to Jacob Bush and Dr. Snider, the cafeteria will be open until 5PM for at least a month. This was decided upon to see whether or not they would be able to reach the financial requirements that they need in order to sustain those hours. In a sense this is an adequate solution because it will give the student body the chance to show whether or not they truly do need extended café hours or not," says Burchette.

Junior SGA President, Shannon Josefoski states "I feel that the temporary hours we have come up with will benefit both the campus and the student body, and that is the goal of the SGA." In regards to the current hours, Josefoski feels they are not beneficial for the majority of the student body.

For many students, including Bruchette, PSNK serves as a commuter campus. While eating off campus still remains an option, the café made eating more convenient for students in between classes. However, there still remains a decent portion of the student body that lives in the apartments next to the PSNK campus. For students living in the apartments, the café serves as one of their main sources of food considering they don't have transportation off campus.

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Junior Corporate Communications major Christopher Lucidi states “Although I do not live in the apartments, I can only imagine the frustration some students might face. This semester I have large breaks in my schedule, so I spend most of my time here on campus. I have ran into the issue a few times where I wanted to grab a salad at the café and it was already closed for the day.”

As far as when the implementations for extending the hours will take place, there still seemed to be no clear answer behind this question. Suggestions to hang posters around the Junction and main entrance to alert students when the change will take place were among some of Bruchettes suggestions.

“It would be great if they sent out an email to students allowing them to be sufficiently notified of when these changes will take place.” says Lucidi. While these are just a few of the recommendations made by students, no action has been made to notify students of any changes as of Monday September 19, 2016.

For now, students will be utilizing the food choices the Junction has to offer if they wish to eat on campus after 2PM. While some students feel this is a very limited option, it remains the only one they will have until further notice on the extended hours will take place.

****Editor’s Note: As of September 26, 2016, the Café hours have been re-extended to 5:30 P.M.***



Student Branna Wyant walking into Café 780. Photo courtesy of Aleigha DiDonato

CAMPUS LIFE

Penn State New Kensington Welcomes Class of 2020!

By Jay Wu

Staff Writer and Reporter

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa. - On August 25, Penn State New Kensington provided a warm welcome to the new freshman students making the transition from their high school environments to the college environment that PSNK offers them.

Unfamiliar with the campus in comparison to the upperclassmen who have occupied it for a while, the new freshman class may have their own contemplations about the setup of PSNK.

Moriah Kromer, a freshman Business major, stated that her campus experience has been very serene.

"It seems to be very relaxed, especially, compared to certain schools that I've heard," she explained.

Rohan Kamat, an undeclared freshman with interests in Engineering Mechanical Electrical Technology (EMET), pointed out the campus's similarities to a high school environment. One similarity he specifically liked is the campus's small size, which Kamat stated allows for "a lot of attention from teachers."

The size of the campus has also benefitted Information Science and Technology (IST) Major, Alex Hoener. According to Hoener, the campus is a good size for freshman, and has made the adjustment easier for him.

"It's an easy transition between high school and college," said Hoener.

Marshall Utiss, a freshman, majoring in Computer Science, stated that by only being at Penn State New Kensington for a month, he has grown to like the environment.

"The campus is pretty small, easy to navigate, the classes aren't too bad, and I like the schedule that I have," said Utiss.

With their schedules in consideration, the freshman continue to move forward with their classes and the students can become mentally engaged with their professor's intentions of student involvement.

The professors are very relaxed and very organized when it comes to starting class, according to Kromer.

"They are very kind and courteous," Kromer said.

Kamat, Hoener, and Utiss all stated that the professors were very helpful to them.

"I've enjoyed getting to know all of them so far, and they have helped me out if I have any questions," Hoener said. According to Hoener, there weren't any conflicts with the professors.

CAMPUS LIFE

With the transition from their high school environment, it might become intimidating for the freshman class to familiarize themselves with the college environment.

The classrooms are about the same size as a high school and the teachers are more involved when it comes to helping students, according to Kromer.

Hoener stated that the difference between high school and college is the timing between classes.

"It's easier to get stuff done when I have a two and a half hour period between classes and it motivates me to stay focused on classes instead of jumping from class to class," Hoener explained.

Utiss stated that the scheduling between classes is a difference for him.

"High school classes are all back to back throughout the entire day," said Utiss. He also added, "It's pretty similar especially being such a small campus, you get to see the same faces everyday. Also, you can meet with teachers individually."

With the new course management website, CANVAS and new scheduling management website, LI-ONpath, freshman can become familiar with how professors grade their assignments and what time that their classes start. Additionally, they can turn in their assignments online.

The Freshman still try to learn the setup along with everyone else, according to Kromer.

Kamat, Hoener, and Utiss both stated that they are both easy to use.

"Obviously, CANVAS had a few problems earlier, but I think everything has worked itself out and having all of the homework online makes it easier to do it on your time," Hoener explained.

"All of the assignments are posted, you know when assignments are due and you can always get access to the syllabus," said Utiss.

Penn State New Kensington has been known to have a variety of degree options, clubs, and sport organizations that students can become involved in.

"It gives you a great opportunity to learn what your major is, gives you the tools that you need to succeed and graduate on time," says Hoener.

Lastly, according to Utiss, the campus has a lot to offer and always has something ensuing.

With the middle of the term and finals vastly approaching, success is the main goal for students on campus, especially freshman.

SPORTS

Schools Divided Creates a State United

By Nico Regoli
Editor-in-Chief

PITTSBURGH, Pa. – On September 10, 2016, Heinz Field hosted the first football game between Penn State University and the University of Pittsburgh in almost exactly 16 years, reigniting one of the greatest rivalries in college sports history.

The gridiron grudge between the Nittany Lions and Pitt Panthers dates all the way back to November 6, 1893, in which Penn State won a 32-0 shutout on home soil in the first meeting between the two universities. The dueling schools would battle 95 more times over the next 107 years, with Pitt winning Game 96 via a home turf shutout (12-0) of their own on September 16, 2000.

Unfortunately, after Game 96, Penn State and Pitt were placed in different divisions. This prevented them from playing one another again, poetically halting their rivalry the same way it began: with a shutout victory by the home team.

Thankfully, every drought eventually ends in rain, and after a 16 years, destiny put Penn State and Pitt back on the same field for what was a truly special day.

Multigenerational tailgaters, both with and without tickets, from various colleges in the state flooded the streets of downtown Pittsburgh, partying the morning away in the lead up to kickoff. Among the tailgaters without tickets were 2016 Main Campus graduate and Lower Burrell native, Sam Barrett, and Digital Media Editor of Penn State Main's newspaper, Gabby Santoliquito.

Barrett, who has ties to both schools and their residing areas, felt an internal conflict leading into the game.

"I'm from Pittsburgh, so I'm like kind of torn on it," Barrett explained. "I'm a Pitt basketball fan, but I went to Penn State. So, I'm a Penn State football fan."



Penn State New Kensington graduate, Andrew Lee, tailgating in downtown Pittsburgh before the big game.

(Photo taken by Nico Regoli.)

SPORTS

Barrett also stated that he liked how even the split was between attending Pitt and Penn State fans, and believes that the two schools should play each other, “every year, forever.”

Santoliquito on the other hand, while having had Penn State season tickets for three years straight, was a bit green in her knowledge of the competitive history between the two universities.

“I didn’t know that it was a huge rivalry until five years ago,” stated Santoliquito. “I just wanted to see what the environment would be like.”

Also roaming the tailgates was 2014 Penn State New Kensington graduate, Andrew Lee. Lee originally had a ticket to the game, but sold it, feeling that Heinz Field was just “too hot.” He came to experience the fun that comes with the spirit of competition.

“It (the rivalry) is not a big deal to me,” Lee stated. “I like to come out because there’s a crap ton of Penn State students here, and a lot of Pitt students. So you might as well have fun while you’re out here.”

While Barrett, Santoliquito, and Lee likely headed to a bar to watch the game, just as other tailgaters had presumably done, Heinz Field was filled to the brim with passionate football fans, spouting off a ravenous thirst for competition of incomparable levels.

Among those fans were community college graduate and Pitt supporter, Liz Newill, and Clarion graduate supporting Penn State, Charlie Chericho.

For Newill, this was only the second college football game that she had ever attended. Before the game, she mentioned that she didn’t really care much about the rivalry, and described the event as “just a fun football game to come to.”

Chericho on the other hand has had the honor of witnessing firsthand one of the Nittany Lions finest moments.

“The last Penn State game I went to was the ’86 Fiesta Bowl, where Penn State beat Miami for the National Championship,” said Chericho.

Chericho saw the importance of the rivalry, stating its return “brings back bragging rights to the state.” He was right, because the attending crowd of 69,983 broke the record for the largest attended Pittsburgh sporting event in history. However, not only did the game bring bragging rights back to the state, but it also brought the state’s people together, including families.



Field credentials of Heinz Field boom mic operator, John Regoli.

(Photo taken by Nico Regoli.)

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Sister-in-laws, Carol Abel and Joan Westphal, and their daughters, Caitlin Abel and Natalie Westphal stood at opposite sides of the college battlefield that day. The Westphals represented Penn State and the Abels represented Pitt. However, their alma mater pride united them for a game of Giant Jenga at a tailgate party next to the Three Rivers Casino.

“The backyard brawl should not be WVU and Pitt, the backyard brawl should be Pitt and Penn State,” exclaimed Natalie.

The events of the game validate Natalie Westphal’s proclamation. After a dominating first half by Pitt, Penn State greatly narrowed the gap in the second half. The final score came down to a failed, almost literally last minute touchdown pass by Penn State, which Pitt intercepted, closing out the game 42-39 in Pitt’s favor.

If the remaining three games scheduled are anything like September 10, 2016, then Pennsylvania football fans are in for a great next three years.

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SPORTS

PSNK is On Par with New Disc Golf Course

*By Kierstin Flickinger
Staff Writer and Reporter*

For over four years, Lauren Blum, the Assistant Director for Student Affairs, had been trying to get a disc golf course on the Penn State New Kensington campus. She began to take student leaders to a summer camp where they learned to play the fun and innovative game. “Our orientation leaders started asking me every year [to put in a disc golf course],” she said.

On Friday September 2nd, this ambition finally became a reality. As the New Kensington campus debuted the nine-hole disc golf course with a tournament. “Finally I was able to pull through funding and get approval from Jason [Bush] and Dr. Snider.”

Blum stated that prior to the tournament, roughly ten students would play disc golf nearly every day. Chad Navarro, a senior on campus, is one of these students. “I’ve put a lot of time into practicing for this. But I teamed up with friends who haven’t really played.”

In addition to students playing, community members have also been showing interest in the course as well. Dr. Snider, Chancellor of Penn State New Kensington, says that he hopes more interest will be shown, so that the campus can try to open up a full 18-hole course for students and community members alike to enjoy.

“It’s important to get out and support things that the students want. If this really takes off we want to consider creating the full course,” the Chancellor said.

Designing the course seemed to be one of the most difficult tasks, especially in reference to making sure that the students remained safe while playing with regards to traffic. However, the course was completed in time for the tournament, and the students and faculty showed up in support. Blum said that there were seven pre-registered teams and they anticipated 20 people to show up for the opening tournament.

Jason Bush, who works in the administration office as the Director of Business and Finance and Budget and Finance, was in charge of the other difficult task in opening the course, which was obtaining the funding to start it all. “Lauren [Blum] had come up with the idea a few years ago, and I thought that it would be a good use of our money.”

The tournament had two categories in which players could win: individual score and team score. The winner of the individual award was Nick Sabolovic (12). Sabolovic was also on the team that won, with fellow members Ben Lasko (12) and Vincent Xaio (12). Sabolovic had a score of 26, whereas the team had an overall score of 29. Despite many concerns about the windy weather on September 2nd, this clearly did not hinder those students who played regularly.

The disc golf course is able to be played during Athletic Center hours. Students can check out bags containing frisbees in the Athletic Center.

COMMUNITY

Remembering September 11, 2001

*By Monica Fiore
Staff Writer and Reporter*

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa.- Some people cannot remember, while others would prefer not to. Most people watched the horror of September 11, 2001 on their televisions, in New York City, and will never be able to forget that fateful day.

According to an article on Lohud.com, “September 11 started out as a normal, sunny, crisp, autumn-in-New York kind of morning.” However, by the end of the day, it would be remembered as one of the most tragic, depressing days in the history of the United States.

On the morning of September 11, 2001, four planes—American Airlines Flights 11 and 77 and United Airlines Flights 93 and 175—took flight for their scheduled destinations. They never made it.

Tragedy struck when each plane was hijacked by terrorists from the Islamic group, Al-Qaeda. At 8:46 a.m., Flight 11 hit the North Tower of the World Trade Center in Manhattan. Seven minutes later, the South Tower was hit by Flight 175. It was clear that the nation was under attack.

While Manhattan was in an uproar, the country was in chaos elsewhere. At 9:37 a.m., Flight 77 hit the Pentagon in Arlington County, Virginia. At 10:03 a.m., Flight 93, which was believed to be headed for the White House, landed in a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. Four brave men aboard Flight 93, Todd Beamer, Mark Bingham, Tom Burnett, and Jeremy Glick, attempted to defeat the terrorists hijacking the plane, but were unsuccessful. All passengers aboard were killed.

As the Pentagon was in flames and Flight 93 was being hijacked, Manhattan was in still in shock of what was happening to New York. At 9:59 a.m., the South Tower of the World Trade Center collapsed. Nearly half an hour later, The North Tower collapsed at 10:28 a.m.

Nearly 3,000 people died that day. Family members and friends posted flyers of their missing loved ones on telephone poles, in mailboxes, and all over New York in hopes that they would be found and reunited.

Months after the Twin Towers collapsed, beams were set up at the sight of where they previously



The One World Trade Center skyscraper
(Courtesy of Google Images).

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stood, standing straight up as the Towers would have. They lit up the sky, and showed that America was standing strong through this tragedy.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks, a memorial museum has been set up underground where the Towers once stood, as well as a memorial for Flight 93.

In April 2016, a group of Penn State New Kensington students had the privilege of not only visiting New York City, but also visiting the 9/11 memorial. Penn State New Kensington's Student Life Coordinator, Lauren Blum recalled what it was like for students and herself to visit the museum.

"I think going there touched a lot of heart strings," Blum stated. "For me, personally, I remember when it all happened. It was all kind of heart wrenching to see everything that was there and hear the personal stories. I think for the students, it was good to put it all into perspective. I really hope that the students had an experience that they won't forget."

Penn State New Kensington currently has a 9/11 display in its library. There is also a book about Flight 93 for the First Year Summer Reading program, a reading program for incoming freshmen.

Jennifer Gilley, Penn State New Kensington's head librarian and member of the First Year Summer Reading Program Committee, revealed why *Flight 93: The Story, the Aftermath, and the Legacy of American Courage on 9/11* by Tom McMillan was chosen as the program's book for this past summer.

"We ended up choosing that book because it's the 15th anniversary and we realized that the incoming first year students would have been alive on 9/11, but not the age where they would have any memory yet," said Gilley. "They probably don't remember where they were, so we thought it might be useful for them to learn more about that event. We also chose it because of the local connection with the crash nearby."

It has been 15 years since that horrific day. The Twin Towers may no longer exist, but where they once stood has been renamed Ground Zero and a skyscraper named One World Trade Center has been built in its place. America honors those who gave their lives to save others and some may even say this was a wake-up call to value life.

"Appreciate every day and what you have," said Blum. Although the terrorists attempted to corrupt the nation, America refused to surrender and instead became united and displayed their strength against the terrorist attacks that took place on September 11, 2001.

COMMUNITY

Alfred E. Cecchetti: Remembering a Community Leader

By *Nathan Traini*

Staff Writer and Reporter

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa. - Alfred E. Cecchetti passed away at Sunnyview Nursing Home in Butler on Saturday, September 3, 2016, at 90 years old. To reach the age of 90 is an achievement many of us will never know. Alfred E. Cecchetti saw himself reach that age, but his age was far from his greatest accomplishments.

A man can only do things for a long time if he has passion for them and if those things fulfill him; from a young age providing for his family was and continued to be the fulfilling factor that drove Alfred to learn and do things that others might find too hard. A kid growing up in Arnold with a time when in that .8 square mile city held 10,575 inhabitants, Mr. Cecchetti sold fruits and vegetables he and his family grew to help support his seven siblings.

Growing up and in school he found he was left handed. Due to the religious climate he grew up with nuns, they would hit any kid that was using their left hand, thinking left handedness was the work of the devil. This resulted in Mr. Cecchetti becoming ambidextrous, which would help him develop his artistic skill later in life.

This all according to Mr. Cecchetti's granddaughter and art student Korina Cecchetti whom I met with in donut connection to discuss her grandfather's legacy.

When World War II came to a head Alfred was in the midst of finishing high school. He left, to fight in the army for the souls lost in Pearl Harbor, the freedom of his country, and the world. He was placed in the "39th Infantry Division as the 1st Scout" says Korina. This meant that he would see first hand the leading edge of the allied march toward Berlin.

The scout title let Mr. Cecchetti also be one of the first people to see the inside of "Hitler's house" recounts Korina. The embodiment of cruelty and evil, Hitler, had a high-end home that would seem ordinary by anyone's standards. Mr. Cecchetti was smack in the middle of one of the most important events in human history. A time where over half the world came together to fight tyranny and trade it for freedom.

While serving, Alfred was "injured by grenade shrapnel in his lower back," says Korina, earning him a purple heart and the red star. The purple heart honor came later in his life due to a mix up in



WWII veteran, Alfred E. Cecchetti, who passed away on September 3, 2016, at the age of 90.

(Photo courtesy of the Cecchetti family.)

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paperwork, but he was recognized nonetheless.

Once he returned from the war he was “arranged to marry his wife of 68 years Eda Cecchetti,” Korina expressed. They sold produce and other various things until Mr. Cecchetti began to learn the art of rod-iron welding. He worked for GE then worked for an elder iron welder. Alfred went to what used to be the old vocational technical school across from Valley High School for rod-iron welding. He developed his own style and made his own welding business, Cecchetti Fabrication. “Before going into business for himself he worked on the Turnpike,” says Korina.

All while he was working his family grew to a whopping five sons. Mr. Cecchetti continued to work diligently for his family, until he was 84 years old. In that span of years his sons grew up, and himself and two of his sons made the first joint mechanical shop and rod iron art business. Not to mention “a massive family of 14 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren,” Korina continues. as One of those sons was Korina’s father Daniel Cecchetti.

Alfred’s work/art can be seen all over Pittsburgh and New Kensington. He was commissioned to make a “sign for Roosevelt Park” on Drey St. which is still visible today Korina added.

An interaction between Alfred and a local legion speaks volumes as to what kind of man Mr. Cecchetti offered Daniel Cecchetti whom I spoke with over the phone. Alfred sat down to meet with members of the legion to begin to lend his skills to the community and asked when they would start helping the community. The members essentially said they just sit around and talk about what might be nice for the community, but that was not what Mr. Cecchetti had in mind. He thought they would physically help the community, instead the Legion was a place of drinking and idle discussion. Mr. Cecchetti was a man of action and this organization didn't fit him.

Alfred Eugene Cecchetti could not stay idle, that just wasn't one of his gears. He trained and became a paramedic locally. Instead of doing small things for the community, his whole life was a love letter to his family and the general public. By starting his own business and caring actively for the sick and injured he was the glue that held his family and community together. He had an incredible sense of duty to use the gifts he had to their highest capability not only for himself but for everyone. To merely survive is alright, but to thrive and help your city be all it can be is something that has been lost or miscommunicated by many of us. We all could learn a lesson from the late Mr. Cecchetti. That lesson, continue to press on to better yourself for the sake of those around you.

COMMUNITY

Local Church Celebrates 40th Anniversary

by *Monica Fiore*

Staff Writer and Reporter

What started out as a home Bible study of about six people in Lee and Linda Kricher's home in 1976 overtime led to more than fifty people and the sense that it was more than just a Bible study; it was a church.

The legacy for Amplify Church all started with two college students, Lee and Linda Kricher. "When my wife and I committed our lives to Christ as college students at IUP, something inside of us said, 'Our lives have been so positively changed as a result. We'd loved to be a part of that story for other people,'" said Senior Associate and Lead Pastor of the Amplify Church Pittsburgh East campus, Lee Kricher. "We were invited to start this home Bible study. We would start by singing some worship songs with one guitar and then do a Bible study and that was it. We didn't expect it to become more than a Bible study."

When the realization was made that they were essentially a church, they started to meet at Plum Creek Hall in the early 1980s, growing to about 300 people. The hall is located across the street from the church's Pittsburgh East campus in Plum Borough.

Nearly ten years after, the land now known as "Amplify Church Pittsburgh East" was bought and a church was formed. Kricher made the decision to leave the church and go into Human Resources at Dei in Pittsburgh, stating that "there were subsequent pastors and there continued to be an emphasis of lives being changed by Christ."

However, nearly a decade and a half later, the church attendance started to go into decline. With an average attendee age of 50 years old and the average community age being 35 years old, the church knew they were in need of some changes. So that's what they did: made some changes.

Kricher made his return to the church, known as Pittsburgh East Community Church at the time, in 2003 and the church was able to grow and reach people of all generations. "We kept getting questions and even visits from other pastors and other church members who were saying, 'Our church is facing some similar issues. How did you turn things around?'" With all the visits and questions Kricher received, he made the decision to write the 2016 book titled, "For a New Generation", on how the church was able to make a comeback. "It's to tell the story of what we did and how the church



Amplify Church Pastor Lee Kricher and his wife, Linda.

(Photo courtesy of Monica Fiore.)

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turned around from being a declining, aging church to a healthy, multigenerational church. We've since added two other campuses that meet on the weekends.

One is on Smallman Street in the Strip District and one is in Indiana, Pa. Our attendance between all three is somewhere in the vicinity of 1600-1800 people. It's not the biggest church in the city, but we're healthy again and that's a really good thing," said Kricher. He added that the church's children and youth ministry is one of their greatest strengths. He also added that when they expanded their ministries and created two other campuses, they made the decision to change the church's name from Pittsburgh East Community Church to Amplify Church.

September 11, 2016 brought celebration and fun to Amplify Church, where the mission is "to lead as many people as possible into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ," as that was the day they decided to celebrate the church's 40th anniversary. A special church service was provided about the history of how the church started, followed by a party in the parking lot. The party consisted of fun carnival games, such as spin art and ring toss, and inflatable moon bounces and an inflatable skee-ball machine. Hamburgers and hotdogs were provided, as well as popcorn and snow cones.

One of the popular activities enjoyed by children was the balloon artists. "The event was a huge success," said the volunteer coordinator of the Pittsburgh East campus, Terry Bachner. "There were between 800-900 people who attended. Everything ran smoothly and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. This celebration needed to occur to remind us of how the faithfulness of two people have changed and impacted many lives and to remind all of us that God will work through all of us as we trust in Him."

And so Lee and Linda Kricher's legacy for Amplify Church will live on. "I think that we're in the middle of a miracle," said Senior Associate Pastor of the Pittsburgh East Campus and Lead Pastor of the City Campus, Jason Howard, in a video to promote the church's 40th anniversary. "God is looking for a group of people who will change the world. God is not looking for a group of people who are the most qualified or able. He is not looking for the people who are the prettiest or the most talented. He is not looking for the people who have their act together the most and He is not looking for the people who have the most resource. God is about to break open the dam and He's going to do something phenomenal in this city."

ENTERTAINMENT

Star Trek: The 50th Anniversary

By Isabella Bordonaro

Managing and Online Editor

NEW KENSINGTON, Pa,- In 1966, Science Fiction was an up and coming phenomenon in the television series world. Not many shows attempted it, since technology was not yet advanced, and humans had not even stepped foot on the moon.

One show, though, boldly went where no show had gone before. Not only did they create an innovative Sci-Fi TV show, they taught viewers that space could be reached, and humanity could all coexist peacefully together.

Star Trek first aired on NBC, from 1966 to 1969, according to Dwayne Day, author of the article Star Trek as a Cultural Phenomenon. It was a story about a ship called the U.S.S. Enterprise and its crew, traveling space on a peaceful mission to explore the universe. The main crew consisted of Captain James Kirk, Science Officer Mr. Spock and Doctor Leonard McCoy. Their ship would travel around the galaxy, and gain knowledge about it for the world.

Star Trek was created by Gene Roddenberry, who wanted to make a show that would teach kindness to its viewers, and show that all races could coexist and work together. The show was meant to combat social issues, and teach viewers how humanity could thrive in the future.

The series was canceled after its third season because of low ratings, but it did not die. It thrived more than ever.

Thousands of fans, self-titled as “Trekkies” took the show they loved, and created a massive fandom. They had conventions, wrote new stories and even created new self-made movies branching off of the original stories.

The fan base was so large, that Roddenberry decided to create a movie, titled Star Trek: The Motion Picture. This spawned into a multimillion dollar franchise of seven TV series, and 13 feature films. To this day, the Star Trek fandom continues to be one of the biggest and most passionate. Even with the highly successful relaunch of the new films, there are still conventions and celebrations to bring together both young and older generations of “Trekkies.”

Star Trek depicted a multiracial crew, including a black woman, an Asian, and even an alien. The show continued to break racial barriers, by having the first multi-racial kiss, between Captain Kirk and his crewmate, Lieutenant Uhura. Having this mix of people working peacefully showed that all humans (and aliens) could coexist together if we were kind, and open hearted.

One of the shows most lasting effects though, is the impact it has had on science. Many of the technologies in the show of course did not exist in 1966, like cell phones, computers and space shuttles.

ENTERTAINMENT

These space-age technologies sparked the imagination of the viewers, and allowed them to see what could be potentially possible in the future.

It also inspired many to become interested in science, like Penn State New Kensington student, Nathan Traini. Traini is a self proclaimed “Trekkie” and has loved the series since the first modern feature film in 2009. He believes all should learn from the lessons the series taught.

“Star Trek inspires me to hope for a peaceful humanity, that educational and scientific research is in the interest of all of humans, and instead of funding war and conflict amongst ourselves, we should transfer that energy to making life easier for those in need.”

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of this beloved franchise, fans everywhere have been getting together. For example, places in Pittsburgh like the Row House Cinema on Butler Street put on a week long celebration of the series, showing four of the films.

Throughout the rest of US, fans were attending the 50th Anniversary Convention in Las Vegas in August, or getting together in New York for Mission New York, which was a celebration that brought in celebrity guests and exhibits during Labor Day weekend. There was even a new Star Trek movie that came out in July, Star Trek: Beyond, which made \$60 million in its opening weekend.

Star Trek has given lovers of the show the ability to connect and interact with each other, and has kept the themes of the show living long and prospering for 50 years, with no signs of dwindling.



The original *Star Trek* cast.

(Creative commons licensed image via Google.)

Super Easy Pumpkin Pie Dip

By: Isabella Bordonaro

With Fall in full swing, and hopefully some fall weather coming this way, here is a super delicious pumpkin pie dip recipe for you fall bakers out there! Enjoy it with a graham cracker, a gingersnap, or just dive in with a spoon (yes, it's that good).

(recipe via Taste of Home, Laurie LaClair)

Ingredients:

- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 2 cups confectioners sugar
- 1 cup canned pumpkin
- 1/2 cup sour cream
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice
- Gingersnap cookies (or cookie of your choice)



Pumpkin Pie Dip (image via Taste of Home)

Directions:

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and confectioners sugar until smooth. Beat in the pumpkin, sour cream, cinnamon, pumpkin pie spice and ginger until blended. Serve with the gingersnaps, or cookie of your choice. Refrigerate leftovers. Yields: 4 cups

MEET THE STAFF



Photo courtesy of John McCabe

The Nittany Pride staff would like to dedicate this issue to Sarah Steighner, Paige Owens, and Darren Myers, graduates of the PSNK Class of 2016 and former editors and officers of The Nittany Pride. A ship is nothing without its crew, and they were the captains that kept The Nittany Pride afloat, and on-course. Now under new management, we of the new guard thank them for everything they did on behalf of The Nittany Pride. We hope life after college is treating them well, and we hope to live up to the standards of quality that they set for the newspaper and for themselves.

We would also like to thank our faculty advisor, Instructor Abhinav Aima, for helping us adjust into our new roles.

The Nittany Pride is a Student Newspaper of the Penn State New Kensington Campus

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