Lawrence “Larry” Pileggi, current researcher and professor, will take helm at ECE.

Pileggi, who received his degrees in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Carnegie Mellon in 1989, has earned several distinctions throughout his career. Last month, Pileggi was one of many that had been invited to speak at a forum this past month about indicators of extremism and hate crimes. Rather than talk about the Tree of Life shooting, they focused on empowering members of the community to identify and report dangerous behavior to stop hate crimes before they happen.

“In our work, we have multiple hate crime victims in our database,” explained Agent Melek, “it’s one of many that we’ve been working on.”

In response to a stack increase of hate crimes and Anti-Fascism, the FBI asked for the community’s help to prevent future hate crimes in the Pittsburgh area.

The Jewish Federation of Pittsburgh hosted four FBI agents at the Redeﬁned Shalom Conference on Fifth Avenue in a forum this past month about indicators of extremism and hate crimes. Rather than talk about the Tree of Life shooting, they focused on empowering members of the community to identify and report dangerous behavior to stop hate crimes before they happen.

“We’ve never seen or heard from the Ku Klux Klan, until three or four weeks ago,” said Brad Ormor, director of Jewish community security for the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh. He upheld a topshop log containing literature from the KKK. “This was one of many that had been distributed throughout Squirrel Hill in recent months. Rosin was also present in the KKK.”

In an interview, he continued, “As a form of protest and continued growth. Currently, U.S. State and World Reports ranks both the graduate and undergraduate Electrical and Computer Engineering programs as among the top ten best in the world, with the undergraduate Computer Engineering program ranking ﬁrst globally. The producer, David Anawa, even did an outstanding job in making us feel like we were in a real movie. Pileggi told The Tartan in an interview that it is important not to generalize and to pay attention to the mass and to people of color. The Tartan has been one of many that had been mentioned in the report, and though he remains the top reference, he has been known to use it, virtually anybody can generate restaged videos — the code is freely available on GitHub.

For some, this is cause for worry. In April 2018, BuzzFeed released a video of Jordan Poole’s now famous “deepfake” video showing a seemingly-recovered Barack Obama saying a number of things, the actual Obama probably never would. Poole’s video warned the public that deepfakes are a threat to reliable video, and that it is also protected by the First Amendment and citizens’ right to report crimes at the forum. “This is not illegal,” explained Agent Melek, “it’s one of many that we’ve been working on.”

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FBI personnel tested a task that asks the user how her voice was generated, and to determine if it was a real or a synthetic voice. In the analysis of this, top row is shown off a video generated by the Recycle-GAN, which “imagines” in video characters into the video stills on the bottom row.

The president, Agent Session, Rove eva., “did an outstanding job on behalf of us all.” Put together the picture, he explained. The producer, David Anawa, even did an outstanding job in making us feel like we were in a real movie. Pileggi told The Tartan in an interview that it is important not to generalize and to pay attention to the mass and to people of color. The Tartan has been one of many that had been mentioned in the report, and though he remains the top reference, he has been known to use it, virtually anybody can generate restaged videos — the code is freely available on GitHub.

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Festive Lunar New Year celebration held in Cohon Center

This Friday night in the Cohon University Center, Carnegie Mellon students and community members attended a Lunar New Year celebration that included food, dancing, printmaking, music, mahjong tables, and more.

Corrections & Clarifications
If you would like to submit a correction or clarification, please email The Tartan at news@thetartan.org or editor@thetartan.org with your inquiry, as well as the date of the issue and the name of the article. We will print the correction or clarification in the next print issue and publish it online.

Campus Crime & Incident

Criminal Mischief Feb. 6, 2019
Officers responded to Novell Simon Hall and made contact with a Carnegie Mellon student who stated their bicycle had been damaged while it was parked at a bicycle rack located outside the entrance to the third floor.

Theft Feb. 8, 2019
Officers responded to the Cohon University Center for the theft of an iPhone, which was reported to have been unlawfully taken from the second floor lounge area near Au Bon Pain.

Criminal Mischief Feb. 8, 2019
Officers responded to Morewood Gardens for graffiti observed on a power generator located near the building. The investigation is ongoing.

WEATHER
Source: weather.com

STUDENT GOVERNMENT COLUMN
SHERAHA DUSPA Special to The Tartan

Last semester, a Campus Lighting Pre-Investigation Paper (PIP) was presented to the Senate’s general body regarding the lack of outdoor lighting on campus. After the PIP was approved by the Senate, the Campus Life Committee took it upon themselves to investigate the problem.

Last week, we met with the Carnegie Mellon administration to inform them of the problem with the lack of lighting. This benefits the undergraduate population because it will hopefully provide more lighting all around campus, making it a more and safer place to walk at night. This PIP was inspired by a student suggestion that the campus felt unsafe at night. Actions will hopefully come into effect soon after the proposal is presented.

Additionally, Carnegie Mellon President Farnam Jahanian is coming to Senate’s General Body Meeting next Thursday. He will be joining the members of Senate to discuss topics relating to school administration and what has been accomplished so far this school year. President Jahanian will be presenting things from his perspective on different important topics affecting students and the campus as a whole.

The meeting will serve as an opportunity to learn what the role of university president means, ask questions about what President Jahanian has been working on, and possibly even suggest ideas that you may have about aspects of the university that the president has control over. This is a public, annual event, so feel free to stop by the Danforth Conference Room located on the second floor of the Cohon University Center this coming Thursday to participate in the conversation. There will be food!

DATA VISUALIZATION OF THE WEEK

Space usage per enrolled student by college

Source: CMU Factbook 2017-2018

Note: This data predates the building of the Tepper Quadrangle.
"Deepfake" video potential: from autonomous to Pixar

FBI talk emphasizes hate speech's impact

Larry Pileggi describes the ECE dean's influence

FBI, from A1

behavioral indicators. Potential active shooters often expose a "gruesome narrative" against an entire group, prune past attacks and have a history of, or fascination with, violence.

Agent La Salle Burka showed a three-grade report card of the Pulse nightclub shooter, Omar Mateen. It described Mateen as prone to "verbally abusive, hateful tirades," each common tactics by hate groups.

"Don't tolerate it, report it."

"We also have significant faculty leaders and excellent staff within the department, who along with the department head James Hove, are able to keep changing things over time and the department head searches for us."

"It is quite apparent that the next few decades will be focused on research that is to advance specific applications and societal concerns.

Whether those ideas are safer and societal/defense specific applications or more focused on societal concerns, the department, which centers on the importance of applied research mostly driven by the needs of industry and defense, will not be changing anytime soon. Since the founding of [the engineering school] as Carnegie Tech for the training of engineers from the local industry; these roots run deep."

"If you thought that people's ideas are not continually evolving, I said, 'I've always thought that people's ideas are on果汁 the surface because they have no sufficient computational resources to make them.'"

"It is quite apparent that the next few decades will be focused on research that is to advance specific applications and societal concerns.

Summer Employment at Carnegie Mellon: Teaching Assistant and Residential Counselor Jobs in the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences

Undergraduate summer employment at Carnegie Mellon University is available with the Pennsylvania Governor's School for the Sciences (PGSS). The PGSS is a five-week summer school for exceptionally talented high school students from Pennsylvania. Teaching Assistant/Counselor appointments are available in the areas of biology, chemistry, computer science, physics and mathematics. In addition, one or two positions are available as Co-Directors of Residential Life. Academic duties of the TA/Counselor position will include supervising living and learning in the dormitories, counseling and advising students, assisting with faculty and staff in academic and social activities, and preparing students for college life. Additional information is available at the PGSS web site: http://sciences.pa-gov-schools.org/.

Contact the PGSS Program Office at (412) 268-6669 or email: pgss@cmu.edu.

Application Deadline: March 31, 2019

(Vacancies may be accepted after the deadline until all positions are filled.)
Polar vortex elicits power of student activism

Winter this year was unexpectedly harsh, bringing record-breaking low temperatures and at least 22 snowstorms throughout the American Midwest. Caused by the breakdown of the polar vortex, as a result of climate change, the sudden cold snap overground entire states into a ball and trapped people within their homes, while those who were without shelter were left at the mercy of the elements.

Here on campus, students were pressed to the cancellation of classes on Jan. 30, and Jan. 31. A few hours before announcing the decision, the university sent out an email to all students about taking precautions against the extreme cold, making it seem as if the weather would be held back despite the threat. This email risking forth of informing of the ungodly temperatures, so students bundled together and created an online petition, a call for action.

Regardless of whether the petition had any influence on the outcome, it shows that when we, the students, want something to change, we can come together and try to make it happen. It might be an exaggeration to label an online petition as a prime example of student activism, but it certainly shows us that if we truly want something to change, it can be done, and it can be effective.

Banding together and acting on our concerns might sound like a dream, but the pool for success is broad. The student-activist movement, or the assault on the university, was able to come together, nurture a groundswell and create room for the contract for those workers.

Does that mean you should go out right now and start a protest over any national issues? Not necessarily. Carnegie Mellon has been an impetus for activism and a legacy of student activism as other universities. Rather, we should use our activism to address the issues. This is one of the main reasons why the university is to evolve, citing "quantum computing, directed energy, AI, and machine learning." He predicts that very soon, "artificial intelligence will be ‘everything, and everywhere.’"

In this way, General Murray seems to portray technological change as a natural form that humans can’t control and is possibly redundant. In fact, the U.S. military is currently using AI in its AI Task Force, which was established in 2018, and it is using AI for its actions and to foster a better community both on and off campus. Solving these problems may seem daunting, and it will likely require more than just an online petition, but that does not mean we should not try. One person, a group of people, the whole nation—these are important problems that may be able to influence others.

The question is not whether we should act. Peter Shink, former student of the university, was among those who were part of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) that led the nationwide strike against Carnegie Mellon. Peter Shink, a union organizer, said that when he was a student at Carnegie Mellon, the faculty, administration, and students were united in their efforts to improve working conditions and wages. The strike was led by students, and it was successful in achieving its goals.

Carnegie Mellon’s AI Task Force is working on projects such as the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security, which are the most recent chapter in a 70-year history of the university. The university has been involved in these projects, which have led to the development of advanced technologies for military and civilian use.

In order to avoid being used by China or Russia, it is crucial that we avoid becoming part of the new world order. The United States can no longer afford to be a global leader. Instead, we should develop our own strong military, one that is independent and not aligned with any other major world power.
Carter case shows misconceptions of mental health

In 2018, then-17-year-old Michelle Carter made headlines for accidentally murdering her long-distance boyfriend Conrad Roy III, a 17-year-old. The Massachusetts State Police published a show that on June 14, just a week before the suicide, Carter texted him to come up to the observation deck at the Summer Street Bridge in New Bedford and join her. On June 13, the day of the suicide, she received a call from her mother, thoughts before attempting, but Carter didn’t hear her. Carter then told Roy to “just walk off the bridge,” and he complied.

On Feb. 4, 2019, Carter was one of three people in the US allowed to move forward with her case. That year, she was indicted and the case was pushed back into politics and news was the beginnings of the Trump era. Unsurprisingly, he made a lot of noise in that political world. His whole speech is a product of just that, a long, twisted, and corrupt reality of our government. He exaggerated the problem with the immigration issue, it will force everyone to confront the specifics of what it means to be a citizen of this country.

In fact, his whole speech is designed to deflect criticism, and it’s very much a strategy used by him to keep base support. For example, with the rhetoric about the right of innocent life, Carter was really talking about women’s choice. With illegal immigration, he made it an issue of the rare instances of “disjointed” thoughts, or those people killing American citizens. Of course, when he turns those respective topics into the issue of “disjointed” thoughts, he can more easily dismiss any criticism that he is not the one responsible for the deaths of others. This is, of course, a common tactic used by those who want to paint themselves as “apathetic”

In human, it’s hard to talk about something in the context of a Union speech. It’s not for the purpose of being kind or caring, it’s for the purpose of being kind or caring, and the fact that undocumented immigrants are less likely to commit crime and that forcing them back to their home country at the border is about death or some other issue, is a highly controversial discussion surrounding his words. In other words, who is anyone who questions him?

Among the obvious, it’s hard to talk about the fact that the media is often looking to the North American Union speech. It’s not for the purpose of being kind or caring, there’s something else that needs to be defended. It’s hard to talk about the fact that undocumented immigrants are less likely to commit crime, and that forcing them back to their home country at the border is about death or some other issue, is a highly controversial discussion surrounding his words. In other words, who is anyone who questions him?

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On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Marianna Brown Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences, we congratulate Shihua Pei.
Launched in March 2020, this 5G-capable implantable device can power a medical device for up to 10 years, a combination that is saving millions of lives around the world.

The implantable device contains a lightweight power implantable device that uses energy scavenged from the body's movement. The device captures the body's energy to power an integrated sensor, which can monitor heart rate, blood pressure, or other vital signs, and send the data wirelessly to a mobile device or computer.

The device, developed by a team at Dartmouth and the University of California, Berkeley, is based on a biomimetic approach. It uses the body's own movements to generate electricity, which is then stored in a small battery and used to power the sensor.

"We've had this vision for years," said Dr. Karen M. Solomon, a professor of biomedical engineering at the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth and the device's inventor. "We wanted to create a device that could operate without batteries, relying instead on the body's own movements to generate power."
RUNNING FROM A PACK OF RAVENOUS ZOMBIES ON SUNDAY.

Zombie Dash
Grand Rapids, MI
#TheZombieDash

REDESIGNING ADVANCED RADAR SYSTEMS ON MONDAY.

Michigan. Where some choices change your day. Others change the future. See how at ChooseMichigan.org

Self-Driving Vehicle Test Engineer #Rivian
In the first game, both players and people don’t like to watch it, play if they know they’ll lose, and therefore, the amateur scene, Melee scene, viewership of it, it’s going to kill the professional quitting the competitive scene. Jigglypuff as the reason they’re destroyed. Many professional each game. He’s able to protect in tandem with the time limit on Hungrybox has been the top Melee is no exception. human sport, and competitive and soccer and every other scoring: a touchdown or field timeouts, play reviews, two-stock each, Hungrybox and the match would be over. And it seemed, as the first stock progressed, that the fourth game wasn’t looking great for Axe. But Axe took the first stock from Hungrybox with a lower stock percent and game clock sank down under a minute. If the time runs out, whichever has the highest percent wins the game, and Axe was leading under a minute. Then, Axe choked his lead away, and Hungrybox wouldn’t make the same mistake.

One more game for Hungrybox and the match would be handily took the second game, taking the first game by the same mistake. Axe choked his lead away, and Hungrybox wouldn’t make the same mistake.

Two more players that are posed opposite — or maybe in Kang’s case — the Pirates, Hungrybox is a corner infielder/outfielder who has a career slash line of .265/.320/.427. It’s a great utility player to round out a roster, a vetern of an Indians team that has turned around their historic performance, so he could be a missing piece to the puzzle for the Pirates. However, Chisenhall only fills the gap left by the injury to Gregory Polanco and not the desperately needed batting depth at shortstop. Jung Ho Kang does the same thing, and I think that’s a sign of the times. Football had to start somewhere, and experts card players have for hours and days of any other professional. It’s shocking that it’s made little headway in the free agent market that has brought any team creation. It’s shocking that those names remain in free agency, though. Not that many free agents are out there. In fact, most free agents are out there. No one wants anyone, but everyone is obviously going to head to free agency, but that’s not what we’re talking about. It’s just that it seems to be collecting them all, and the Pirates are unable to sign anybody with a contract for more than 50 percent. All of this is because of the competitive nature of the sport. Newell and Hungrybox are still out there, but the Pirates have made little headway in the free agent market that has brought any team creation.

Hungrybox defeats Axe in Melee finals

A short recap of the past winter in free agency for MLB, Pirates

Free agency has been a hot topic this year, so let’s say the two. The names that you are still knocked around, wanting for a contract, are Manny Machado and Bryce Harper. As a small market team, the Pittsburgh Pirates are not really in contention for either player, since they’re our players looking to go to a large market and the Pirates are unable to sign anybody with a contract for more than seven million a year. Obviously, it’s shocking that it’s never really come during breaks in action. They interrupt the action. They really come during breaks in action, they carry the second segment of the action. It’s shocking that it’s never really come during breaks in action. They interrupt the action. They really come during breaks in action, they carry the second segment of the action. It’s shocking that it’s never really come during breaks in action.
In a doubleheader at Brandeis University in Massachusetts, the Carnegie Mellon women's and men's basketball teams competed in hard-fought battles which ended with different results.

On Friday, Nov. 8, the women's team (11-10) burst through in the fourth quarter to win their fifth game in three weeks and break a five-game losing streak. For the men's team (9-12), the Tartans found themselves in a tight game that ended in defeat, another setback after ending a five-game losing streak of their own against the University of Chicago.

The women were the first on the court, starting the game as a defensive battle that ended the first quarter tied at 12 points apiece. In the second quarter, the Tartans took the lead with solid shooting from Junior guards Makayla Fillore and Megan Joel. However, the Brandeis Judges put together a 10-0 run to pull ahead of the Tartans late in the quarter. At the half, the Judges led by one point, 26-25.

The Judges opened the second half strong, scoring the first six points of the third quarter. However, the Tartans responded with a 10-1 run, punctuated by back-to-back three-point shots from Fillore to tie the score at 36. Into the fourth quarter, the Tartans trailed by five points, but midway through the quarter, they took the lead 59-54. They continued to allow the Judges to score for the rest of the game, and they added eight more points to the final score.

Fillore led the Tartans with 14 points apiece, for the team in the fourth quarter, and she led the team with four beyond the three-point arc. First-year guard Leah Woolok added 16 points and eight rebounds.

After the left women the court, it was the men's team's turn to take on Brandeis. Coming off a thrilling win at home the previous Sunday against the University of Chicago, the Tartans were looking to build momentum for the final games of the season. But this goal seemed stymied to a halt against the Judges.

The first half was a tight back-and-forth competition, but for much of the half the Judges controlled the pace of the game. Freshman guards, the Tartans trailed by as much as eight points, but in short order, Junior guard Colin McNeil made a lay-up and added a free-throw pass to thrust the Tartans into the lead. 50-54, with only 3 minutes left to play before the break. In the final seconds, McNeil missed a lay-up but sophomore forward Ethan Miller tipped the ball in, setting the score for the second half at 40-26, Tartans leading.

The Tartans and Judges again traded shots and points coming out of halftime, but unlike in the first quarter, the Tartans controlled the pace of the game, keeping their lead. They led the game or were tied until less than three minutes left in the game, when the Judges took the lead, 66-64. The score was tied 68-68 at one minute left, but two fouls by the Tartans gave the Judges the chance to secure the game at the free throw line. However, the final score was 72-68 for the Judges.

These two teams will face the Tartans in scoring with 16 points, and eight rebounds. Last week, while the fascist Sports Editor wonders he's a fascist. Ever do? What a sociopath. No wonder he's a fascist.

This made sense to me, because I’m being told that Gallo guy asked me if I was eating a weird illegal stream, so, all in all, a pretty good Super Bowl. It’s like, really super. Like just great. They pick the most super, most universally adored teams and players, and get them all on the field! No one could possibly get upset about this most superlative of events because we have, I mean, we are entirely devoted of competition and politics and are purely about the joy of tossing around the ol’ pigskin.

Wait — I’m being told that Tom Brady is on the winning team. I no longer stand by my comments because I cannot be behind a man who supports... well, I heard a few mentions about this poorly informed bigotry against a whole class... I really prefer some kind of adobo salsa mixed with some adobo sauce. It was really good! The

Weekend games begin at 6 p.m. in Skibo Hall. Women’s basketball games begin at 5 p.m. on Friday against Hebrew Union College on Friday, Feb. 15 and Emory University on Sunday, Feb. 17. On Tuesday, Feb. 19, the Judges meet The University of Chicago for their last game of the season a week before the first weekend games of the A10 conference.

Women's and men's basketball split battles at Brandeis

Armin Vangsness

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Wait — I’m being told that Tom Brady is on the winning team. I no longer stand by my comments because I cannot be behind a man who supports... well, I heard a few mentions about this poorly informed bigotry against a whole class... I really prefer some kind of adobo salsa mixed with some adobo sauce. It was really good! The

Weekend games begin at 6 p.m. in Skibo Hall. Women’s basketball games begin at 5 p.m. on Friday against Hebrew Union College on Friday, Feb. 15 and Emory University on Sunday, Feb. 17. On Tuesday, Feb. 19, the Judges meet The University of Chicago for their last game of the season a week before the first weekend games of the A10 conference.

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**NETFLIX PICKS OF THE WEEK**

### MOVIES

#### Silence of the Lambs

This 1991 horror classic is another one of my personal favorites and available to view on Netflix. This creepy psychological horror thriller finds Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster) interviewing cannibal serial killer Hannibal Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) to gain insight into the mind of a killer. The film doesn’t take long to get under the viewer’s skin. The concept in and of itself is disturbing, but the film goes into it all the way without sugarcoating anything. It’s an undeniable horror masterpiece and a masterclass in suspense and tension. Anthony Hopkins is barely on screen, and yet he leaves an undeniable mark on the film’s tone. Every performance is directed to perfection. The script is also incredibly tight, with the psychological breakdown of disturbing characters like Lecter and Buffalo Bill providing fascinating insight into the mind of the grisly murderers and killers we hear about on the news. This film is the only horror film to date that has won Best Picture, and it is well deserved. If you haven’t seen this classic, check this out as soon as you can.

#### Beasts of No Nation

This Netflix original film is the second best in their catalog and one of the best films of 2015. It was sadly overlooked by the Academy at the time since it was a Netflix release, but that didn’t stop the film from getting the recognition it deserved from lovers of film everywhere. The film follows a child soldier named Agu (Abraham Attah) who is recruited into a guerrilla army by a warlord (Idris Elba) during a fictional civil war in a fictional African nation. The performance by Abraham Attah was one of the best child actor performances I’ve ever seen. He plays a battle hardened soldier so well that I forgot I was watching an actor. Idris Elba also gives one of his best ever performances as the unnamed warlord, playing a very complicated character with gravitas and bringing layers of empathy to his character. The film shows the horrors of war on full display, and the script does not shy away from exploring the consequences and complicated politics that goes into these kinds of civil wars. You slowly watch as these characters abandon their humanity for the sake of a cause, and you wonder if they can ever find themselves again after the atrocities they have seen and committed. This is a very dark film that is not for the faint of heart, but if you’re into war films or want a fascinating, well directed, well shot drama to watch, then I highly recommend this film.

### TV SHOWS

#### One Day at a Time

This Netflix reboot of a classic 1975 sitcom has all the heart of its predecessor, updated for a modern audience. It follows the life of Penelope Alvarez (Justina Machado), a Cuban-American veteran living in an apartment with her two children and aging mother, played by the indomitable Rita Moreno. Other characters include Penelope’s privileged landlord, her meek boss, and various love interests. The series gained critical acclaim in its first two seasons for tackling serious issues such as racism, homophobia, immigration, and mental illness. The third season, released on Feb. 8, continues the trend, discussing drugs, alcoholism, teenage sex, and more. Some might accuse it of being moralistic, but it approaches each episode with such genuine heart that any missteps are easy to forgive. In an age of cinematic television and anti-heroes, it’s nice to see a sitcom with a consistently funny and lovable cast. One Day at a Time will make you laugh, it will make you cry, and it just might make you wish you were part of the Alvarez family as well.

#### The Vietnam War

If you don’t know much about the Vietnam War, this 10-episode docuseries will leave you both disgusted and fascinated with the conflict. Ken Burns and Lynn Novick spent over a decade compiling archival footage, documents, and interviews for the project, which makes History Channel documentaries look like student work. It constantly shifts between U.S and Vietnamese narratives, starting with the revolution against French colonial rule and ending with Watergate. The interviews with jaded veteran foot soldiers are reminiscent of Walter Dean Myers’ Fallen Angels, while the interviews with decision-makers and historians’ analysis make it seem like the U.S had no choice but to invade. The Vietnam War will make you a skeptic of our government if you aren’t already, and with narration by Peter Coyote and a soundtrack featuring Jimi Hendrix, Bob Dylan, Simon and Garfunkel, and The Byrds, it’s a fun watch.
Neighborhood Navigation
- Mexican War Streets

After settling into life at Carnegie Mellon over the past two and a half years, I wanted to learn more about the city that has come to be my home. As students, we mostly stay in the familiar parts of Pittsburgh — Oakland, Squirrel Hill, Shadyside. Perhaps some will venture to the South Side to go shopping, or Downtown for cultural events, but there are many eclectic neighborhoods in Pittsburgh, from Bloomfield to the Strip District to Polish Hill. Recently, I decided to explore the Mexican War Streets of the North Side.

Mexican War Streets? When I first heard the unique name of this historic district, I was surprised and confused. Why would this be the name of a series of residential streets in the North Side? It turns out that there isn’t really a compelling or interesting reason why. More simply, why not?

In the 1840s, as Pittsburgh continued to grow, General William Robinson developed this area, calling it Buena Vista and named the streets after prominent places and people of the Mexican-American War,
which was raging on at the time. Robinson was the son of James Robinson, who is considered the first settler of the North Side.

Today, the Mexican War Streets make up a small area of Pittsburgh compared to other regions of the city. It’s simply a row of parallel streets and another of perpendicular ones. In its northern corners, it is framed by two famous art centers, the Mattress Factory and Randyland. It has a Commonplace Coffee at a street corner, but every other building is a townhouse. They vary in architectural styles, but are consistently colorful and unique. Some are red with yellow trim, others have symmetrical purple doors, and some are made of intimidating stone.

Beyond the two museums, there isn’t much “activity” in the Mexican War Streets per se. You’ll see families walking around, or people taking their dogs out, sure. But for someone like me who loves to know the history of how unique things came to be, it was great to simply walk around on a quiet, cloudy winter day and explore.
Welcome to Pop Culture Roundup! Can’t keep up with what’s going on? Check here for quick blurbs on the major stories!

21 Savage arrested by ICE

On Sunday, Feb. 3, Grammy-nominated rapper, 21 Savage, was arrested by ICE officials in Atlanta for living illegally in the United States for over a decade. 21 Savage, whose real name is Shayaa Bin Abraham-Joseph, has long been associated with Atlanta, GA, often performing with other Atlanta-native rappers like Lil Yachty and Migos. The agency alleges that 21 Savage is actually a United Kingdom native, having immigrated to the U.S. in 2005 (when he was 7 years old) with a visa that expired a year later. In an apparent effort to debase his character, an ICE official told CNN that his “whole public persona is false.”

While many fans were stunned by this news, many were also skeptical of the timing of his arrest. According to 21 Savage’s lawyers, he had filed for a U Visa in 2017 (which is a kind of visa set aside for victims of crimes who have suffered substantial abuse while in the U.S.), but the agency had not taken action until that weekend. The reason why this timing seems suspect? Only a few days beforehand, 21 Savage had released a music video for his song “A Lot,” which explicitly called out ICE’s inhumane border policies and called out Trump’s family separation policy.

He also performed the track on The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon, again criticizing the agency on national television. Whether or not this was the reason ICE decided to take action that weekend, 21 Savage’s arrest shines a brighter light on the agency’s tendency to target and harm immigrants — they’ve tried to damage his public image by “exposing” his immigrant status and invalidating his experiences as a black man in America. On the positive side, a conversation surrounding the intersection of black identity and immigration has been brought to the forefront, but the rapper has been denied bail, and currently faces deportation.

Liam Neeson’s comment in Cold Pursuit interview

Taken actor Liam Neeson faced backlash over comments in a recent interview for his upcoming movie, Cold Pursuit. In Cold Pursuit, Neeson portrays a father set on avenging the death of his son. When asked by The Independent’s Clémence Michallon how he stepped into the revenge mentality, Neeson responded with an anecdote recounting how, after hearing how one of his female friends had been raped by an identifiable black man, he had deliberately searched for black men to fight.

He said, “I went up and down areas with a cosh [a bludgeon], hoping I’d be approached by somebody — I’m ashamed to say that,” he told The Independent in an interview published on Monday. “And I did it for maybe a week, hoping some [Neeson apparently gestured air quotes with his fingers] ‘black bastard’ would come out of a pub and have a go at me about something, you know? So that I could … kill him. [My response] shocked me and it hurt me. I did seek help. I went to a priest, I aired my confession, I was reared a Catholic. I had two very, very good friends that I talked to. And believe it or not, power-walking helped me. Two hours every day, to get rid of this. I’m not racist. This was nearly 40 years ago.”

Some praised Neeson for his willingness to make his past — and his efforts to fix it — public, but many have criticized him for playing hero with his admission. While it’s important for people to recognize
their own prejudices and to have the difficult conversations confronting those prejudices, Neeson’s comments fail to accept the truth of those racist comments. By saying “I’m not racist,” Neeson is essentially denying the prejudice behind his behavior and deflecting responsibility rather than taking ownership of that shame. In addition, a large part of the way his comments were perceived was due to the setting in which he said them. An interview about a movie where a man tries to get revenge for the death of his son is maybe not the best place to begin a dialogue about confronting problematic pasts.

As late-night host Trevor Noah says, “If Liam Neeson had told this story on Oprah, and there was like a conversation, then we would have seen it as a person admitting to a time in their life when they allowed their anger and hatred to fester into racism they’re ashamed of.” It may not be right to call him “brave” for admitting his racist past, but there is almost something powerful in confronting it so publicly. Neeson’s admission — information that he volunteered, not called out for — does highlight an important point: that society can encourage hate to fester inside you if you’re not careful, without even realizing how harmful that hate really is. Taking a moment to step back and examine your own actions is what allows you to realize that and grow. Perhaps with a more nuanced perspective and presentation, this could be a step forward in how society discusses racism in the past and present.

**Ariana Grande and Japanese BBQ grills**

Biggest Day 1 Global Pop Album. Biggest Day 1 Global for a Female Artist. #1 in 84 Countries. Ariana Grande is back in the headlines this past week after releasing her fifth album, *thank u, next* (not to be confused with the single of the same name) and making music history. However, that’s not the only reason she’s been one of the most talked-about musicians in the past month. After being criticized for her appropriation of Japanese culture in the music video for “7 Rings,” Grande received major criticism for her latest tattoo: a depiction of Japanese characters *shi* and *chirin* on her palm. What was meant to mean “7 Rings,” in reference to her song, actually meant *shichirin* — a type of traditional small Japanese BBQ grill.

In the caption of the original photo, Grande stated that it was meant to be an abbreviation of the full phrase (seen in the “7 Rings” music video), shortened due to how painful the tattoo was. Angering and confusing fans, Grande doesn’t seem to have absorbed the criticism concerning her pattern of cultural appropriation and insensitivity. While the tattoo may have come from a genuine place, the lack of research seems to indicate a similar lack of respect for Japanese language and culture. A mistake may just be a mistake — and a bad tattoo just a bad tattoo — but this is one that could have easily been avoided by consulting a tutor. And she eventually did—after asking for help to fix her Japanese BBQ grill tattoo, her tutor explained to her that she could easily fix it by placing the character for “finger” directly above and in-between the characters she already has. Since Japanese is read right to left, top to bottom, the tattoo would’ve read something a little closer to “7 Rings.” But instead, Grande got the character for “finger” and a heart tattooed directly underneath the character for “7,” which unfortunately made it even worse. Rather than “7 Rings,” the tattoo now reads “Japanese BBQ grill, finger, heart.” In an effort to fix the problem, Grande ignored what her Japanese tutor recommended, only to end up with an even worse kanji tattoo.
Last Friday, the Chinese Student Association (CSA) hosted their New Year Extravaganza around the black chairs of the Cohon University Center to welcome the “Year of the Pig” of the lunar calendar. The entire event was well balanced between hyped performances and intermittent food breaks, allowing the attendees to enjoy exciting performances while tasting indigenous Asian night-market food provided by different student organizations, such as the Japanese Student Association (JSA), the Korean American Students’ Association (KASA), and the Awareness of Roots in Chinese Culture Organization (ARCC).

I attended the event as one of the dancers representing KASA dance. However, it was a total situational irony that led me to the event. Even though I am Chinese, I did not plan to go because of a potential time conflict. But, as a member of KASA dance, I was invited back to the event as a performer, dancing in front of my Chinese friends while wearing colors representing Korea. Korea! I thought in disbelief. It took me a while to internalize the turn of the event without feeling weird. For those who are acquainted with the cultural hot pot of America, this probably would only merit a shrug, a “Yeah, so what?” But as one of the Chinese international students coming from a homogeneous society, where everything about New Year is patriotic and strictly emphasizes China, seeing outside cultural elements dominating the center stage was a brand new experience for me.

I noticed the mentality difference when our KASA dance choreographer, Christine, proposed that during our performance we can wear shirts with “Korea” spelled in large letters in the front. Out of reflex, I immediately uttered a jammed “no, no, no” in response to her proposal. For a second, she frowned and looked at me in confusion. At that moment, I realized that I could never properly translate my previous eighteen years of Chinese New Years’ experience, but can only change my mindset to accept and discover the beauty in what used to be utterly unimaginable, yet is now a different kind of reality.

I remember standing on the second floor of the UC, overlooking the crowd, seeing a variety of people converging at the food stands, then forming a semi-circle to view the performance, amazed by how intercultural and welcoming CSA had made this event to be. Each body feeling the beats in their own rhythm, each mind taking in this occasion through their own lenses, each person contributing a little something unique and taking away a little something unique — just like how they also transformed my Chinese New Year from family reunions, firecrackers, red decor, and traditional Chinese customs to now, food from all over Asia, people from all over the world and a new reality that shines in the beaming beauty of intercultural experience.
With the Lunar New Year, many countries in Asia celebrate the new year according to the traditional lunar calendar. In China, nian gao is a popular rice cake made to celebrate the New Year, which is also known as the Spring Festival. Nian gao literally translates to “sticky cake,” but can also mean “year cake” or “higher year” due to the homophonic nature of the language.

There are many types of nian gao, according to the different cuisines of various regions of China. Shanghai nian gao is savory and white, stir-fried with beef, pork, and vegetables. Northern nian gao is sweet to taste, usually steamed or fried. Guangdong’s (Canton) version is also sweet, with a distinct dark color due to brown sugar. It is steamed first, then fried, and dipped in egg. Traditionally, nian gao is steamed or fried because most families did not have ovens. In the United States, the prevalence of ovens led to the popularity of baked nian gao. This recipe is a gluten-free Chinese American baked concoction, closest to the Guangdong style that has been refined through thirty years of trial and error.
Yield: 25-30 pieces | Prep time: 15 minutes | Cook time: 50-60 minutes

**Ingredients:**

- ½ cup of rice flour
- 3 cups of sweet rice flour*
- 1 tbsp of baking powder
- 3 large eggs
- ½ cup of granulated sugar
- ¾ cup of butter
- 2½ cups of milk
- ½ can of red bean paste, whole or mashed
- vegetable oil (for greasing pan)

*Also known as glutinous rice flour (which is gluten free), sticky rice flour, or mochiko.

**Directions:**

Note: Using an electric mixer is recommended.

2. Sift the rice flour and sweet rice flour into a large bowl. Mix with the baking powder.
3. Whisk together the eggs, sugar, and melted butter into the flour mixture until combined into a crumbly mixture.
4. Add in the milk one cup at a time, stirring each time for two minutes. Continue stirring until the batter is a creamy, light-yellow color and completely blended (more liquid than solid). There may be small, bead-shaped clusters of flour in the batter that are difficult to mix well. Use your fingers to knead these clusters into the batter.
5. Set aside a ½ cup of batter. Pour the rest of the batter into the greased baking dish.
6. Use a teaspoon to scoop out the red bean paste and carefully drop into the batter, spreading the chunks throughout the dish. Do not mix the paste in the batter. With a new spoon, lightly spread the batter (previously set aside) over the chunks to create a smooth surface.
7. Place dish in the oven and bake for 50 minutes to 1 hour, or until the surface is golden. If desired, broil in the final 2 minutes for a darker, golden brown color. Slice into small squares and serve. Can be stored at room temperature for up to 3 days.
Netflix kicked off 2019 with a new series, *Tidying Up with Marie Kondo*. Organizing consultant Marie Kondo walks through her signature KonMari method in different American households, a method partially inspired by the Shinto religion that requires gathering all items within a certain category and keeping only those that “spark joy.” Earlier this month, Kondo helped Stephen Colbert tidy up his desk on his show.

Kondo has enjoyed massive success as an Internet darling who has inspired many to reconsider their current possessions and their future purchase decisions. However, she has received her fair share of criticism, some unfortunately predicated on racist beliefs. American political activist and journalist Barbara Ehrenreich posted, in a now-deleted tweet, that “I will be convinced that America is not in decline only when our de-cluttering guru Marie Kondo learns to speak English,” a clear jab at Kondo speaking Japanese on her Netflix show. Ehrenreich later clarified that “I confess: I hate Marie Kondo because, aesthetically speaking, I’m on the side of clutter. As for her language: It’s OK with me that she doesn’t speak English to her huge American audience but it does suggest that America is in decline as a superpower.” Not only are these claims outwardly racist, such messages also imply that other cultures are not welcome in America. In a heterogeneous culture like that of the U.S., it is especially disheartening to see that someone with such a platform can believe that one culture is inherently superior to another and has nothing to gain from learning about another’s. Kondo contributes a personal philosophy that was crafted from her background and unique experiences. It’s safe to say that hubris does not spark joy nor productivity; let’s propose to — as Kondo would say — dispose of it.

Even some compliments made towards Kondo have been backhanded, painting her as ethereal or as something that “exists in an art gallery, waiting room or mausoleum.” Although these may not have been made with racist intentions, they are degrading and fall into the stereotype that Asian women are submissive and exotic creatures. There’s no denying that Kondo is charming and comforting, but reducing her to such superficial qualities is to fail to recognize her as an individual woman who wants to share her passion in self-improvement.
Regardless, Kondo’s presence in the public sphere and overall message seems to have come at a perfect time. People are becoming more aware of the impacts of consumerism, leading to a wave of minimalism and anti-consumerism. “Declutters,” where people curate their material collections, seem to be trending online. Millennials, who comprise about a quarter of the total U.S. population and most of the workforce, are especially compelled to embrace a more minimalist lifestyle for various reasons.

Growing awareness of materialism and its environmental impacts, placing more value on experiences than material items, economic factors, and more all contribute to millennials’ general tendency to be more cognizant in their purchasing patterns. As millennials gain more societal influence, it appears Kondo and KonMari are both here to stay.

Am I encouraging you all to donate half your possessions and survive only on the clothes on your back? Of course not. Neither is Kondo. She discourages arbitrarily getting rid of items for the sole reason of reducing clutter. Even she understands that people find that some level of clutter does, as she would say, “spark joy.” The message she is sending is about being more cognizant about mindless spending and accumulation of material goods. I think we can all relate to making impulse decisions that ultimately end up leaving us with yet another dust collector. Through her work, Kondo inspires others to be more aware of what they own and be happier with it, ensuring that whatever they add to their lives truly adds value. That’s a lesson that all of us can benefit from.

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Last week I ranted about Hollywood and the Oscars. This week I’m going to talk about an even more dirty industry. This industry is so sleazy, lazy, and fake that it makes Hollywood look like professionals. It’s an industry so shallow and devoid of meaning at this point that it is insulting to even call it art.

I’m referring to, of course, the music industry.

As per usual, the yearly popularity contest known as the Grammys are here and I am not watching it. There is no reason to, as there is nothing to get excited about. At least with the Oscars, there are always two movies or a few awards you care about. For this one, there really are none, because the ones you do care about mostly don’t show up in the actual televised event. The awards are all just based on who had the most listeners rather than an actual, curated pick of the year’s best music, interspersed with live performances that tend to be very lackluster. Anyone with half a brain will know that the music industry isn’t about the music. It’s all about marketing. The most popular music that is on the radio for the most part isn’t music anymore. It’s just a cookie cutter, corporate, board-approved collection of computer noises and autotuned voices with any modicum of creativity being left on the audio engineer’s floor.

The Grammy’s Record of the Year and Album of the Year awards are representative of this, with a huge number of the songs representing everything wrong with the music industry.

That’s not to say there aren’t some good songs nominated this year. Naturally, the Black Panther soundtrack got a lot of well-deserved nominations for some good tracks. Childish Gambino’s “This is America” is fine but not memorable enough to warrant being picked for a top award by a supposedly prestigious institution. But there isn’t much else of note. All the popular music that came out this year was really lame for the most part. Once again, it’s just whatever had the most amount of air time on the radio or the highest number of total listeners. When will people realize that Drake is a hack with no flow or style? “God’s Plan” is not a good song, and Drake has been irrelevant since Pusha T released that diss track.

It’s also weird that there even is an award for deciding the best overall song of the year (instead of Song of the Year, which is about songwriting). That’s practically impossible. At least with film, you can compare filmmaking craft amongst genres and choose the best film of the year. I don’t think that’s even possible with music. You could compare composition, but most songs nominated for the top categories aren’t compositionally interesting. It’s obviously a celebration of which record label marketed their songs the best. Let’s also talk about the fact that there a shocking number of artists who should have nominations but never received one, such as Talking Heads, The Velvet Underground, The Strokes, Janis Joplin, The Who, and even The Spice Girls.

Overall, the Grammys are an absolute joke and no one should take them seriously. It’s obvious that most people don’t. The music industry is a sham and most of the music nominated for the big awards are songs that people usually dance to. It’s a shame that there is no genuine show that exists to celebrate the best of what music has to offer. There are some amazing artists out there putting out creative content like Robyn, Earl Sweatshirt, Brockhampton, King Gizzard and the Lizard Wizard, Melody Echo’s Chamber, and Blood Orange. But they get no recognition from the self-important music industry. I suppose it’s for the best. If they did recognize any talent, they would sanitize it and turn it into a shell of its former self.
Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald

This week, Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald will be screening in McConomy. This was reviewed in previous editions two separate times.

Personally, I can’t even pretend to like this movie or say anything good about it. It’s a confused mess of a film that doesn’t know what to focus on. It’s fun to watch Eddie Redmayne again, but he seems like he’s there for a paycheck at this point. Everyone there only seems like they were there for a paycheck, which I’m sure isn’t true, but the film is so lazy and incompetent that I can’t think of another reason anyone would sign up for the project.

The biggest crime of this film is not one of Grindelwald’s, but that it’s so boring. There is so much exposition throughout the whole thing that you get weighed down by it all. There also appears to be no consistency in the universe anymore either with the magic powers, beasts, and even the timeline of when certain characters are alive. The visual effects and technical side are all bland, the score goes unnoticed, and the action in the film is dull. I honestly can’t think of a single reason anyone would want to watch this, even die hard Harry Potter fans. Go see it for free if you’ve been meaning to, but go in with low expectations and don’t expect them to be met.
horoscopes and puzzles

horoscopes: the signs as bubble tea

Aries
march 21 – april 19
Honeydew.

Taurus
april 20 – may 20
Lychee.

Gemini
may 21 – june 20
Mango.

Cancer
june 21 – july 22
Coffee.

Leo
july 23 – aug. 22
Lavender.

Virgo
aug. 23 – sept. 22
Avocado.

Libra
sept. 23 – oct. 22
Watermelon.

Scorpio
oct. 23 – nov. 21
Rose.

Sagittarius
nov. 22 – dec. 21
Peach.

Capricorn
dec. 22 – jan. 19
Almond.

Aquarius
jan. 20 – feb. 18
Ginger.

Pisces
feb. 19 – march 20

sudoku

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

sudoku courtesy of www.krazydad.com

last week’s solution

2-4-19

3 6 2 4 8 1 9 7 5
9 1 7 5 3 2 4 6 8
5 4 8 9 7 6 1 3 2
1 9 6 2 4 7 5 8 3
8 7 3 1 6 5 2 9 4
2 5 4 8 9 3 6 1 7
6 8 9 3 2 4 7 5 1
4 3 5 7 1 9 8 2 6
7 2 1 6 5 8 3 4 9
Costco
by Meg Quinn

We should hit up Costco this weekend.
You know what that means.

Free samples!!
Human
by Sarah Andersen

What if we’re not human?
What if we’re robots programmed to think we’re human?

We might even be in a computer simulation, just code made to believe we’re human.

...?

I am definitely a human.

sarahcandersen.com

Valentine’s Day blues
by Parmita Bawankule

So, how did your Valentine’s Day date go?

I’m drinking all this water so I can go cry some more.

So... not... good?

parmdraws.tumblr.com
newly added

Scotch’n’Soda: She Kills Monsters (UC Studio Theater)
2.15.19 - 2.16.19 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. on Friday, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturday

School of Drama: It’s in the Bag (Helen Wayne Rauh Studio Theater)
2.20.19 - 2.23.19 8 p.m. every day, additional 2 p.m. showing on Saturday

School of Drama: Cabaret (Philip Chosky Theater)
2.21.19 - 3.2.19 8 - 10 p.m. shows every day, additional 2 p.m. showing on Saturdays

CMU Allies Presents: Kavi Ade (UC Rangos 3)
2.21.19 7 p.m.

week of 2.18.19 - 2.24.19

Carnegie Mellon Chamber Series: “Music of the Americas” (Kresge Theater)
2.18.19 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

CMU Art Lecture: Thaddeus Mosley with Naomi Chambers (CFA 300)
2.19.19 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Reception: CMU Design Exhibit - Generous Feedback (Miller ICA)
2.21.19 6 - 8 p.m.

week of 2.25.19 - 3.3.19

Pittsburgh’s Harry Potter Film & Cultural Festival 2019 (Row House Cinema)
2.24.19 - 3.7.19

CMU Art Lecture: Lenka Clayton & Jon Rubin (CFA 300)
2.26.19 6:30 - 8 p.m.

Bloomfield Saturday Market
3.2.19 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Lunar Gala 2019: Anomie (UC)
3.2.19 8 - 11 p.m.

ongoing

Women Direct Horror (Row House Cinema)
2.8.19 - 2.14.19

Colorism: Thinking Outside the Paper Bag (Phosphor Project Space)
Open until 2.16.19 - open Sundays 1 - 4 p.m.

Orchid and Tropical Bonsai Show: Eye Candy (Phipps Conservatory)
Open until 3.4.19 - open every day 9:30 - 5 p.m. (10 p.m. on Fridays)
As we begin to think about a redesign here at The Tartan, our visual team has spent more and more time in the archive room pulling out old issues and paging through the history of our newspaper. We thought readers might be interested in looking at some of the past mastheads and thinking about how the paper, and the university, have changed over the years.

Though these mastheads, like our motto: “Carnegie Mellon’s only student newspaper since 1906,” may seem past-facing, we urge our readers to consider the same things that we’ve been asking ourselves for the past month in the archives. Namely, how should we undertake the next set of changes to improve upon what came before? What do we want to achieve in this redesign? How do we fit into this timeline, of our paper, and of our university? Looking back on the history of our paper, which is characterized by the influence of each group that came before us, we realize only real misstep here would be pretending our hands are tied.