

Headlight



Written by the students of Marblehead High School for our school and community

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2016: The Invisible Candidates

Amber Born, Junior
Reporter

Do you have any idea how many people are running for president right now? The Democratic Presidential Debate happened last week. Everybody knows Clinton and Sanders by now, but there were also three other candidates at that debate: Lincoln Chafee, Martin O'Malley, and Jim Webb, as well as the podium that CNN provided in case Joe Biden decided to join the race at the last minute. I found a website called Politics1 which lists 109 other Democratic candidates who have declared they're running. On the Republican side, there are so many candidates that the GOP debates so far have been split into two sections, one for the top ten (or eleven) and one for those who aren't polling much above 5% but still have slightly more support than say, Scott Olewine of Puerto Rico or Princess Oawlawolwool of California (I'm not kidding, but the Princess might be). During a recent episode of "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert," Colbert promised an audience member a hundred dollars if she could name a presidential candidate from his picture. She could not. It was Jim Gilmore. But he probably didn't mind, because now everyone who watches The Late Show has heard of him. And most discussions of how many people are running for president don't even take into account candidates from other parties. But shouldn't we know these people? One of them might be the leader of the free world (probably not Jim Gilmore, but still...). If you know who they are now, you can say later that you had heard of the President before it was cool. So here are four presidential candidates who are polling so low that they aren't even included in polls at all. Maybe if you like some of them, you can support them and double their respective fanbases. All quotes come from the candidates' websites; I didn't make any of this up.

1. Who: Raymond Miller, a Republican from Idaho
Pros: He is "not a political cronie like all the rest." He wants to bring all of the United States' troops home alive and well.
Cons: His entire website was written with caps lock on. He wants to "return our military to maximun standing." I don't know what "maximun" is, but it seems like a bad thing.

2. Who: Edie Bukewihge, a Democrat from Nevada
Pros: She uses smiling emoticons on her website. If you invite her to an event and get over seventy-five people to show up, she will bring cake, coffee, and lemonade.
Cons: She says she flirts with danger because we live in a dangerous world, which seems like a potentially problematic approach to... everything. When she was running for governor of California, she wrote on her Facebook page that she wants, "the Chinese Wall on our borders, one that has a transition center for those who want to come in legally," which I can only assume means she wanted to protect her state from the influx of illegal immigrants from Oregon.

3. Silvia Stagg, a Republican/Independent from New York
Pros: She's running as a write-in candidate for "president-vice president," so she probably has cloning technology. Vote for her because if you don't, "Republicans & Democrats will Forever Give You Death and Taxes!" Stagg says she has Elizabeth Warren's support to be president-vice president, so she seems to be reaching across the aisle.
Cons: She says that Marco Rubio, Rand Paul, Paul Ryan, and John Boehner were altered by Obama and the Pentagon's "Microwave Brainwave Alteration Device," because they're trying to torture "Especially The White Christian European Descent Race," which doesn't explain what they were doing with Rubio and his Cuban Descent Race.

4. Don Hackett, Jr., a Democrat from Florida
Pros: His website has been viewed 2,254 times. He advertises his candidacy online, on shirts, and on signs on his van. He is trying to end the rating of American citizens as subhuman (which I didn't know we were doing, but good for him for trying to stop it). He's selling his motorcycle for campaign money.
Cons: He spelled his own last name wrong on his website. He thinks that the Democratic Party's current objective is to elect the first female president and this is "pre-determined Sexual Discrimination." He thinks that America is now the Fourth Reich because of the Republican Revolution (which I suppose would explain why we've had a Democratic president for the past eight years).

Trump doesn't look so bad, now.

Walking With a Cause

Alicia Katz, Junior
Reporter

The air is colder, lips are chapping, and snow is beginning to fall. It is that time of year again, the time of year when we bust out our coats and huddle close with our families. But this year, let's go even bigger: Let's stretch that hug to our fellow neighbor. There is no better way to do that than participating in a walk for a great cause.

This year, on October 24, at the Boston Common-Parkman Bandstand, the Lupus Foundation of America will be hosting its 2015 *Walk to End Lupus Now*. This annual walk is held in 60 cities across the country in order to spread awareness and raise money for a cure to the disease. Lupus is in desperate need of attention; the average American will more than likely fail to name a symptom of the disease, which is devastating, considering that 1.5 million Americans currently suffer from Lupus according to the Lupus Foundation of America.

Lupus is an autoimmune disease that has the potential to afflict every part of the body. The disease is chronic, meaning that symptoms can last years. Someone who has Lupus produces antibodies to fight off an illness, like most of us do, but these antibodies cannot differentiate between the foreign bodies and the body's own healthy tissue, so the body ends up attacking itself. This can cause inflammation and incredible pain anywhere in the body. Symptoms can range from headaches to anemia, photosensitivity, and even hair loss among numerous others. Lupus can affect anyone, but it is most common in women and people of African American, Asian and Native American descent. It usually develops in people aged 15 to 45.

Most recently in the news, Selena Gomez has come forth with the information that she has Lupus, which has often interfered with her ability to go on tour. She is one of many across the country who continue to struggle daily. Simple actions, like getting out of bed in the morning, can become nearly impossible due to the symptoms.

Currently, the *Walk to End Lupus Now* has raised almost \$85,000, but the foundation remains far from its goal. If you find yourself with nothing to do on Saturday, why not help a good cause? As of now the weather is predicted to be partially sunny and perfect walking weather. More information about the walk can be found at <http://lupus.donorpages.com/BostonWalk2015/>. Whatever you choose to do this weekend, I suggest you grab that coat.

Marblehead Pizza Restaurant Review

Emma Szalewicz, Sophomore
Reporter

As major pizza fans, my brother and I decided to review five of the most well known pizza places in Marblehead. They included Tony's Pizza, Café Vesuvius, Marblehead House of Pizza, Comella's and Romano's Pizzeria. At each restaurant, we ordered one slice of cheese pizza.

First, we went to Café Vesuvius, located at 18 Bessom Street, across from the start of the Rail Trail. Café Vesuvius had great pizza for a great price. The slice that we got was huge: almost a quarter of a pizza! What made it even better was how inexpensive it was: only \$2.00. At 4 o'clock on a Friday evening, it was packed with people.

Second, we set off for Tony's Pizza at 1 School Street in Marblehead, right near Marblehead Little Theatre. Tony's Pizza was absolutely delicious. They had several really friendly employees as well. The pizza crust was thin and crispy and tasted wood-fired. The only downside to Tony's was the small slice size. However, it was only \$2.00.

Third, my brother and I went to Comella's, located at 50 Atlantic Avenue, across from CVS. We ordered a slice of their Sicilian Cheese Pizza. Comella's crust was tasty. What was even better about Comella's was the real silverware and plates they used. It made the dining experience ever better. Comella's pizza was more expensive at \$3.00 a slice, although as most Marblehead-ers know, Comella's has a \$5.99 cheese pizza that is the go-to inexpensive meal for a group.

Next, we tried Marblehead House of Pizza, located at 7 Atlantic Avenue. Marblehead House of Pizza was the cheapest place you could get a slice of pizza, only \$1.90. The only downside to Marblehead House of Pizza's slice of pizza was that the sauce was a little sweet. However, the crust was very good.

Finally, we visited Romano's Pizzeria at 8 Bessom Street in Village Plaza. The inside of Romano's was cutely decorated with pumpkins and fall decorations. The pizza was on the more expensive side at \$2.94, but overall it was pretty good.

In conclusion, Marblehead has some great pizza places. Try Café Vesuvius if you're looking for great value. If you're looking for an overall amazing pizza, go to Tony's. If you're looking for a nice dining environment, Comella's and Romano's Pizzeria are the places to go.

Foreign Exchange Students Interview

Kathleen Alexandrou, Sophomore
Reporter

Some people have travelled all over the world by age ten. Some people don't get on a plane until they're in their mid-30s. Some people take annual road trips around the country. And some people spend many months in a foreign country, surrounded by strangers, just taking it all in and learning. These incredibly brave, open-minded, amazing people who leave their friends and families all in the name of education are foreign exchange students. I interviewed three of Marblehead High School's eighteen foreign exchange students - Camilla, Marco, and Bruna; from Milan (Italy), Monza (also Italy), and Sao Paulo (Brazil), respectively. All of them had some idea about American culture, whether from prior trips to the country, or American friends, or things they saw on TV coming into this experience.

No matter how much you learn about someone else's culture, however, you can't fully grasp everything until you've lived in it. There are little things that we Americans have always done, things that to others are just weird. Camilla said, "People put ice in my beverage - like in Coke. No. Here in America you use a lot of ice. It makes it watery and I don't like that. Too much ice in everything." Marco agreed with Camilla, adding, "Yes, more that you like everything cold. Even air conditioning, we don't have it at all. I mean yeah, we turn it on when it gets really hot in the summer, but here I noticed that even two weeks ago it was freezing in here. The AC, and ice and like everything. Even the milk! In Italy there's no cold milk. You buy cold milk obviously, but then you heat it up. You drink hot milk, like cereals it goes with hot milk, and for breakfast it's hot milk with breakfast. So I got used to drinking cold milk pretty fast, but it's weird because for you it's like the opposite. Even cappuccinos, we have extremely cold coffee with hot milk. I'm doing the opposite here, with cold milk and hot coffee."

Another surprisingly big difference between America and the rest of the world (by which I mean Italy and Brazil) is friendships. In both countries, making friends, sitting with friends - all of it is very different. Bruna commented that, "It's different in Brazil with cafeteria tables. Everyone sits together with all grades and yeah. And also I'd rather have male friends than female friends because it's 90% less drama, and I don't know, I don't see many girls sitting with boys here. I see tables of girls and tables of boys." Camilla noted that it isn't just friends who are different, the way people act in general is different in America. "[I love] the people. They are kind and they help. Friendly. They help me a lot. I've noticed that when you meet someone everyone says, 'Hi! How are you?' In Italy, it's not like that. There are also kind and friendly people in Italy of course, but yeah, I've noticed this thing in American people, I like it." Marco agreed with Camilla about the politeness of Americans (which stereotypically, we aren't known for, so this bodes well for our global reputation). "Here people are much more polite than in Italy but it's much more difficult to make friends. We're stuck with one class for five years; that's why we know twenty people very well and no one else. I asked my host brother, let's take the train and go to Boston and hang out with people and he was like, 'yeah we don't usually do that, we usually go to a friend's maybe.' Yeah it's different. I hang out with more than ten people every day. [In Italy] I take the subway to Milan and just hang out. It's just, friendships work in a different way. You really become close friends with people [in Italy]. I don't know if it's not working here because I'm an international student, but it's different that way."

Bruna brought up another point I hadn't considered. "One thing I noticed today actually, people tend to not like their government at all. Which is weird, because they have no idea what it's like to have a terrible government. Because we do have that in Brazil. They only see the bad points of it. [In Brazil] we pay taxes, our healthcare is not the best, like at all. Our public schools... only people who have no chance at all getting into private schools go to public schools; they're really, really terrible. Marblehead High School would be the perfect example of a top, top, top high education private school in Brazil because the public schools are just all downhill from there. And we're completely broke; the country is completely broke, and the economy is the worst. One dollar is worth four Brazilian reais (R\$), and that's a lot. It's not annoying [that people complain about the government], it just stands out to me because it could be worse. And since I can compare these two governments, it's just an eye opener."

Contrasting this rather somber perspective, Camilla put exactly what I personally have always loved about America into words. "I think the size of the country [surprised me], because America - oh my god, it's so huge. And Italy is smaller. I went to the Grand Canyon, I think it's a beautiful place. I like how there are beautiful places like the Grand Canyon and there are plenty of metropolitan cities, like New York or Las Vegas. But I like those things, how you can both enjoy yourself and relax in places like Grand Canyon and Lake Powell. I'm really happy to be here. Being an exchange student is probably one of the most beautiful things that can happen to you because you can see how people from all over the world live, and it's an opportunity that not everyone can have. It depends on your way of seeing things though, because if you're not interested in learning new things then... It's interesting. It's really beautiful. It happens once in your lifetime, and you can experience how students from other parts of the world live, and what they usually do and how they study."

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