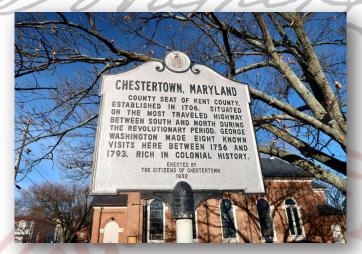
Global Voices

VOLUME VI, ISSUE III

FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020

Chestertown: A Historic and Renowned Town

Chestertown, Maryland, is the county seat of Kent County. Chestertown boasts a profound history and thought-provoking culture, which welcomes people from all around the world to savor the life in Chestertown. With diverse festivals and events to reenact history, people will be fully informed of the history of Chestertown. In addition, home to Washington college, Chestertown also cultivates talents and elites for society. Both the humanistic atmosphere and the



beautiful scenery will sure leave a deep impression.

Historic Dates **About Chestertown**

Chestertown was established in 1706 when Maryland was still an English colo-

ny. The town was one of the "Royal Ports of Entry." Renowned as the second most important port in Maryland after Annapolis, such a beautiful port was an important lo-

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Chestertown: A Historic and Renowned
Town
High School Memo-
ries

Koby Bonta Comic Strip: How to Write a Research

Student Interview:

paper

High School Memories

[Assistant Editor] Now in their second semester at Washington College, Brandon Ma and Ketong Huang describe their experiences before arriving at Washington College.

My name is Brandon Ma. To many people, transformations from high school to college is a time of growth from teenagers to young adults. Some may think it does not mean much

to them. For me, it was one of the most significant phenomena in my academic journey.

Georgetown Preparatory School is a Jesuit school. I went to this school as a Freshman and spent four years enriching my academic journey. Since my high school was a Jes-



uit Catholic school, it mandatory to was

(Continued on page 2)

by Ketong Huang & Brandon Ma

PAGE 2 VOLUME VI, ISSUE III

High School Memories (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

attend mass every Sunday.

In senior year, I discovered my favorite subject, Advanced Placement (AP) Economics, at this school. However, my experience in AP Economics did not start well. At the beginning, I had an arduous time understanding and catching up on the materials. Nights and nights, I spent on AP Economics yet my grades were not improving. At the end of the first quarter, my grade was a D. Combining stresses from college applications, I was at the verge of breaking down. As second quarter began, I started to use other methods to study Economics. I tried to study materials with my classmate, Steve Wu, then the miracle began. My grades started to improve and I not only started to understand the ma-

terials but also hooked my curiosity in this particular field.

Yet there is a subject that not only felt tedious to me but also difficult. Due to the Jesuit tradition, Religion was a required course that challenged many students who were not born in United States. Because of the language and cultural barriers, reading the Old Testament

(Continued on page 4)

A Historic Town (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

cation of shipping and trade, providing an essential financial boost for local. Chestertown was formally incorporated as a town in 1805.

Tea Party Festival

Taking place during the last weekend of May, residents celebrate the holiday of Memorial Day with a long parade from High Street to the Chester River accompanied by music, dance, crafts, even puppet shows related to the colonial history. The historical scene of throwing tea into the Chester River is reenacted every year. This festival is in memory of the days in May of 1774 when locals in Chestertown protested against the exploitation from British Parliament by boycotting sales



A Cannon in Historic Downtown Chestertown

and drinking of tea (Chestertown Tea Party Festival, 2018). The parade along the historic district

is marching with professional docents and it is wonderful time to understand the colonial history and even purchase crafts with colonial theme and characteristics during the festival (Chestertown Tea Party Festival, 2018).

Downrigging Weekend

The festival Downrigging Weekend is held regularly the last weekend in October in Chestertown's beautiful waterfront. The origin of the festival lies in John Swain and the Royal Navy schooner HMS Sultana who were aimed at the production of yacht made by the United States (Sultana Downrigging, 2018). As a result, Chestertown became home to participants who are interested in

(Continued on page 4)

Student Interview: Koby Bonta



© 2017 Tamzin B. Smith

Q: Can you introduce your name? What is your major and academic standing?

A: Hello, I'm Koby Bonta. I'm studying computer science and I'm a Junior.

Q: What are your interests?

A: I have a lot of interests. I'm definitely interested in computer science. I like algorithms—figuring out solving problems. Stuff like that is really fun for me.

I also really enjoy learning Chinese. That's a huge interest of mine. One more interest is tennis; I'm on the tennis team. So it's fun stuff.

Q: How do you define computer science in your own words?

A: I think of computer science as taking in everyone's words they speak to com-

municate daily. And computer science for me is taking those words and putting them in a form that computers can understand. Then you can make computers and technology do what you want them to do.

Um, it's also a lot of problemsolving for me. I like that.

Q: When did you become interested in this discipline?

A: I took my first computer science class in my second semester in college. I was originally thinking about becoming an international studies major. Then I took computer science and realized I was good at it, and I liked it. So, I decided to study that.

Q: What field is most related to your study?

A: I think I would say software engineering, that field is very related to what I'm doing right now. Because in class, they're not teaching us just to be able to code. They're teaching us to be able to design different algorithms, different methods of coding things that are more efficient. I think that's going to be my specific field in computer science.

Q: What do you want to work on in the future in computer science?

A: I haven't really thought this out yet. I definitely wanna do software engineering. I don't know what sort of comby Bin Nguyen & Gengchen Wang

pany I want to work for. One thing I was thinking about is because we don't have too great of an algorithm for translation right now, I think. It could be interesting to help code computers to translate languages more efficiently. I think that would be something that I would want to do.

Q: How has knowledge of computer science been useful in your personal life?

A: I've always been good at math. When I was growing up, I used to enjoy math and solving problems. That knowledge helped me decide that I wanted to learn more about computer science.

Q: Is there potential for computer science to be harmful in other spaces?

A: Actually, yes, I would say. So, there are some things we've learned a little bit in class about, like how to hack—stuff like that. I definitely won't be a hacker. I consider hacking to be detrimental to others.

Also, if you code something wrong, it can cause glitches in the program that could cause the company's software to not work which would cause a lot of problems. So, you have to be really careful when you're coding.

Q: In your opinion, what is the best thing about computer science?

(Continued on page 8)

PAGE 4 VOLUME VI, ISSUE III

High School Memories (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

was similar to decrypting a Morse code. Though I sought help from teachers and tutors, my grades still did not give a good representation to me.

Along with my academic journey, there was one particular person that helped me throughout the four years of high school, Ms. Rosita Whitman. She was the director of the international department



and she provided a lot of help that I could not fathom. Although she was stubborn, whenever I needed help, she would always be there—even after I finished high school.

Even though there are many activities that were memorable to me, there is a unique event that only Jesuit schools have, it is called *Kairos*. Kairos means the moment or the time of God, and this event would only happen once per student during their

(Continued on page 10)

A Historic Town (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 2)

the display of different types of ships. During the festival, one can not only have a visual feast on schooners, ships and boats of delicate designs but also venture out on the water via sails. Wonderful foods, melodious music, and local spirits will fill the trip with great delight.

Washington College

Washington College's foundation, as the name suggests, is related to George Washington who was so generous that he provided both financial support and service. As the 10th oldest college in the U.S., Washington college is a liberal arts college whose atmosphere is the combination of traditional education and modern education. The tradi-

tions include George Washington Birthday Ball where the faculties and students celebrate George Washington's birthday with a dance. More modern activities include lacrosse, sailing, field hockey, and so on. Walking on campus at Washington College, one can easily feel the academic atmosphere.

Washington College Academics

The number of students in Washington College is ten times the number of faculties. With the intention of elite education and personalized education, about 80% of the classes limit the number of the students within 20 (Washington College Academics, 2018). The most well-known and popular majors are Social Science, Psycholo-

gy, Business, Marketing and so on. The college has satisfactory education with its freshman retention rate reaching 85% ("Washington College Academics", n.d.). Being able to study here is the dream for many high school graduates.

Notable People from Washington College

Washington College is also a cradle for many notable and influential people in the world. Linda Hamilton, the actress who played the role of Sarah Connor in the popular movie series *The Terminator*, graduated here. Her other roles respectively in the thriller film *Dante's Peak* and *King Kong Lives* and so on all leave a deep impression on

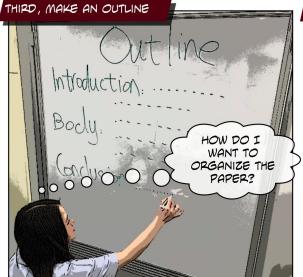
(Continued on page 10)

IN TO WATER ILATORY PAPER











PAGE 6 VOLUME VI, ISSUE III







Global Voices, the newsletter for international students at Washington College, is published two times each semester by the students in ELL 102 English for Academic Purposes II.

Editor

John C. Hepler, Ph.D.

Assistant Editor/Designer
Henry Yuan

Comic Strip / Graphics

Megumi Shimada

Qi "Benjamin" Wang

<u>Interviewers</u>

Van T. "Bin" Nguyen Gengchen "Kevin" Wang

<u>Reporters</u>

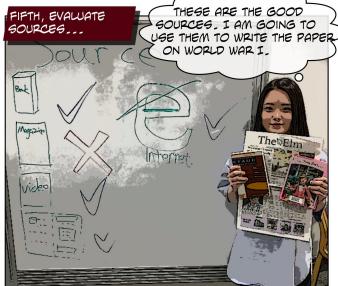
Ketong Huang

Dian Liu

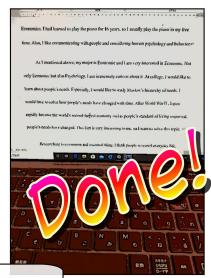
Brandon Ma

Yuqi Zheng

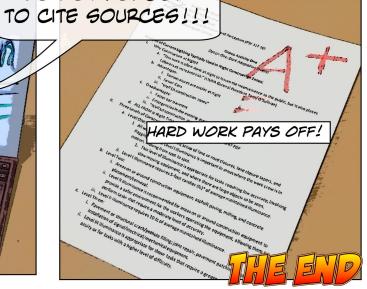












PAGE 8 VOLUME VI, ISSUE III

Bonta (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 3)

A: The best thing about computer science is that feeling after you have a really tough homework and code something—like, make an algorithm for something—and you struggle. And it doesn't work for, like, 11 hours. That feeling when it finally

works at the end, and you're done. That's the greatest feeling!

Q: What are the advantages of computer science for you as an individual, and for society as whole?

So for me, as an individual, I would say computer science is really advantageous because it's a hot position to be in. You don't need to go to grad school to do computer science, and you can make a ton of money in computer science.

Both of those aspects are important and there's also a pretty big demand for computer scientists, which means I feel pretty good about my future compared to other majors. For instance, if I was majoring in art or something like that, it would be tougher.

It's very in demand. In society right now, everything is getting computerized. Everything is going onto the Internet. Every aspect of our lives nowadays is related to the In-



ternet in some way—even the weather. You check the weather on your phone. You can check scores online, you don't have to go through. And all of your information comes

from the Internet. It's just a super helpful tool.

Everything that's on the Internet has to be coded up at some point. So, I like. feel we're almost creators the of society nowadays, because we

make what everyone uses. And it's super necessary to society.

Q: Do you think there are also disadvantages for you as an individual, and for society as a whole?

A: Yes, I do. For me, as an

individual, I'd say the biggest disadvantage for me and computer science is like how it's talking about how they were like, say, for instance, I'm working a problem for 11 hours, and I feel really good at the end. That frustration when you're working on it—that freaking sucks. Like, it's not very fun.

And also it's a "sit down" job. You're not gonna be up and moving too much, which I don't really like as a sports player. I like to be able to get a lot of movement be healthy. I don't want to be sitting at a computer that long.

Hopefully, when I do get a job, I can play some tennis on the side

But the other thing is computer science is very busy, too. You get called in at pretty much any time they need you. You are on-call; you must be ready almost at any point. And this is a disadvantage to society.

vantage to society.

I think there are a lot of problems coming from the sudden expansion of everything to the Internet. A lot of people are having health problems for being on the Internet too much—not going outside.



Bonta (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 8)

People get addicted to video games and stuff like that really easily. And then they don't really have well-balanced lives.

Some people get really sad because they don't have much human interaction. I think

having less human interaction, like less face-to-face interaction, is not the best thing for society. This can definitely contribute to it a little bit.

But at the same time, I think it's cool that you can talk to someone who's really far away, but over text. But I think

our attention spans are also decreasing a lot, which is bad.

Q: What is your parents' opinion about you studying computer science?

A: They think it's a smart choice. My dad, he works on databases, which is like a part of computer science, like, the back end, where all the data is stored and stuff like that. He fixes a lot of databases, stuff like that. So my dad's very involved in the computer science field, I would say. I don't know. I think he sort of can understand where I'm coming from. My mom just likes computers.

Q: Are you studying computer science for your future financial stability, or just because you're interested in it?

A: I think it's more for future financial stability. I am definitely interested in computer science. I think it's something that is fun for me. But I enjoy tennis more than computer



science; I enjoy learning Chinese more than computer science. But, I still really enjoy

computer science.

I just wish I could get something more financially stable in the tennis area or in the language area. If I could find a really stable job there, I would be happier, but I don't know

Q: Based on the development of computer science, what kind of new job opportunities do you think will appear in the future?

A: That's an interesting ques-

tion. I feel like there's a lot of stuff. It's expanding right now, like using data. I feel like what's going to happen in the future is there's gonna be less and less rights for people over data.

Big companies are gonna get a ton of data, and there's gonna be more and more ways to

> use that data for marketing other things. I think there's gonna be a ton of jobs and using this data in a sort of way to manipulate it, I guess I could see that.

> Q: If you had the option to choose another major with a higher income, would you? Or would you stick with computer science?

A: I feel like I would stick with computer science because the wages that I can make are enough. You know what I mean? I'm going to have enough money to live how I want if I get a job in computer science. And if I didn't like it at all, that would not be fun.

Q: Would you work for a high tech company such as Google or Apple?

A: I'm not entirely sure; I think it depends on the company. I don't think I would work for Apple or for Google.

(Continued on page 12)

PAGE 10 VOLUME VI, ISSUE III

Memories (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

junior year. Groups of students would spent four days off campus with activities involved. During Kairos, it allowed my emotions and stresses to precipitate and it strengthen the bond between my classmates.

And last but not least, the graduation. During the graduation, all graduates would wear a white tuxedo and re-



Brandon Ma & His Family at His Graduation

ceive high school diploma on stage from the principle. In that day, my family came to see me and witness the turning point of my life.

My memories of high school not only taught me knowledge but also cultivated my character. During this journey I met my best friend and mentor that helped me overcome challenges. These experiences have guided me to be a better person and defined who I am right now.

(Continued on page 11)

A Historic Town (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 4)

audiences (Famous Washington College Alumni, 2018). Another excellent alumnus is James Mallahan Cain, a crime novel writer and journalist. Once having worked for *New York World, Baltimore American* and *Baltimore Sun*, he was able to create wonderful novels (Famous Washington College Alumni, 2018), including *Serenade*, *Mildred Pierce*, *the Moth* and so on, many of which were adapted for successful films.

A famous game designer, Raph Koster, was also cultivated here. With his ideas in the book *A Theory of Fun For Game Design*, he inspires the creation of game designs and enlightens the birth of the Facebook game platform (Famous Washington College Alumni, 2018). Wandering on the roads of Washington College, one is able to sense the feelings of those great minds and may be inspired spiritually.

Historic Architecture: The White Swan Tavern

This building has witnessed the change in Chestertown. With the efforts of archeologists, before 1773 this area may be used to be a shoemaker's tannery, which was later bought by a somebody as his house (The White Swan Tavern, 2018). In 1793, John Bordley purchased the prop-



Bakery and Stores on High Street

erty and transformed the house into a tavern. After years of wearing down and restoration, The White Swan Tavern is an inn now where visitors can appreciate the culture of Chestertown while resting. Afternoon tea is served every day and is appreciated in town. Some an-

(Continued on page 11)

Memories (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 10)

My name is Ketong Huang. FuTian Experimental school is a private high school. I started this school as a freshman. I spend three years at this school. I discovered I like reading at this school. If I had any questions, my professor helped me to find answer, he helped me to learn to read and speak English well, too.

I like reading after class. History is my favorite, but because my hobbies was so different than my classmates, I only had one friend from another history class. Because I was always addicted in history book and not in community with my classmates, I was leaving their group long way. It made me always be alone, I did not make more friends on the school. This is my regret about high school.

My high school class were very hard. Every day I saw other classmates do their studies day and night. First year, I had bad grades for the tests. Every night, I watched the third year students who ended semester early than me study in their classroom until deep and dark when they leave.

My first year were two funny semesters even I still try to improve grades. I had a kind professor to teach me English, my English was my most week one. A most interesting activity is between classes. Students were running to the school store to buy some snacks and drinks. When next class began, students always late on class because they stayed on school store too much time!

Of course, it made some teachers and professors un-

happy, but my professor did not care. "When every teacher and professor was younger, they did same thing!" my professor said.

On my second year, I got worse grades than first year because I had negative learning. My grades were lower than other time because I disliked everything, even my favorite book. Even school sports competition didn't made me happy. At the home watching athletes is one thing, but in the summer under the sun to watch them is other thing. But even under the sun, I still felt cold because my grades were too low.

Every night when I watched the third year students in classroom, I forgot when I was a freshman.

I believe there was a new start

(Continued on page 12)

A Historic Town (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 10)

tique styles of architecture can be clearly felt.

Convenient for Learning History

Considering the history of Chestertown, there is no doubt that history museums are available for visitors. For instance, Town of Chester Museum exhibits photographs and artifacts related to life in

Chestertown in the 19th to the 20th century when great changes took place in terms of immigration, technological innovation and commercial boom. Visiting this museum provides a visual explanation for the history in Chestertown.

In addition, many non-profit organizations support the protection of Chestertown and hold activities regularly. The Historical Society is a wellorganized non-profit with its focus on the protection of artifacts, primary documents and evidence to interpret and present the history of not only Chestertown but also Kent country (The Historical Society Kent Country, 2020). There are different programs and events, such as Walking Tours in which people are led

(Continued on page 12)

Washington College

Office of English Language Learning 300 Washington Ave. Chestertown, MD 21620 http://www.washcoll.edu/offices/English-Language-Learning

> Phone: 410.810.7100 Fax: 410.810.7451 Email: oell@washcoll.edu

A Historic Town (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 11)

through historical sites in Chestertown with a well-trained guide. If visitors are eager to learn more about Chestertown history or even Kent County, they can search for official websites and identify time and places for events. Experiencing history in Chestertown is never a hard thing.

Conclusion

If people want to learn about colonial history of Kent County, Chestertown is undoubtedly a wonderful place to do it, with both visual clues from buildings like museums and a physical sense from participating in different festivals and events. If people only want to relax and enter the ancient world of the United States, Chestertown is also a top choice.

References

- Chestertown Tea Party Festival. (2018). Retrieved from https://www.kentcounty.com/events/annual/24-chestertown-tea-party
- Famous Washington College Alumni. (2018). Retrieved from https://www.ranker.com/list/famous-washington-college-alumni-and-students/reference
- Sultana Downrigging. (2018). Retrieved from https://www.kentcounty.com/events/annual/35-sultana-downrigging
- The Historical Society Kent Country. (2020). Retrieved from https://kentcountyhistory.org/
- The White Swan Tavern. (2018). Retrieved from https://www.kentcounty.com/lodging/the-whiteswan-tavern
- Washington College Academics. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges/ washington-college-maryland-2108/academics

Bonta (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

I disagree with a lot of the things that both Apple and Google do. I think Google does a lot of manipulating of everyone in the U.S. because they own YouTube. They control what we get from the media and influence our opinions. I feel like they're sort of politically motivated in a sense. I wish Google would stay away from that whole area and be a little bit more giving.

I've never been a fan of Apple. I feel like they do a really good job at creating something that's not amazing. Then they overcharge for it and use their brand to sell it. There were wireless earbuds before Air pods ever came out. But it was just because they were Apple that they managed to sell them. They don't even sound good. I feel like they're scamming people.

Q: What's your opinion about the 996 work schedule in China—you start work at 9:00 a.m. and finish at 9:00 p.m., working six days a week and getting no extra pay?

A: I think it's too much. I think in China they have a huge problem

Memories (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 11)

for the future in my last year of high school. My professor helped me get rid of the past; I got back my power. Every weekend, I went to library alone. Even if I did not have a friend, I believed if someone liked history, we would be friends. with overworking their people. I think they're really smart, but there's a certain point where you shouldn't be compromising the health of your citizens. It's always more effective if they can get enough sleep.

I understand that the country is really trying to ramp up so they can compete internationally. They're doing a really good job with that, too, because China is an economic superpower now. But I think it would be good if people didn't have to work that long every day. At the same time, I think there would be a lot of people who would work longer anyway; it wouldn't matter to them. It's not something that can easily be changed.

Q: Last question: what is your dream job?

A: I have several—one would be coaching. I mean, I would be a professional tennis player. That's never gonna happen, so that's why it's a dream job.

I'd also like to do something with Chinese, where I can talk to people a lot, but I don't think I'd earn much doing that. But if there was one with a big salary, that would be my dream job. Yeah, I think that would be really cool for me.

I remember my professor told me at graduation to not stop studying. My high school was like a transition; I tried to improve myself good and learn experiences from my study life. Now, I am just happy to have these memories.