



The Lexington  
Concord

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# *The Thrill of Victory*



# South Korea

By Vipra

This year the Winter Olympics will be held in PyeongChang, South Korea starting February 9th. Since the mega winter sporting event is coming up it's nice to know the culture of the country it's being held in.

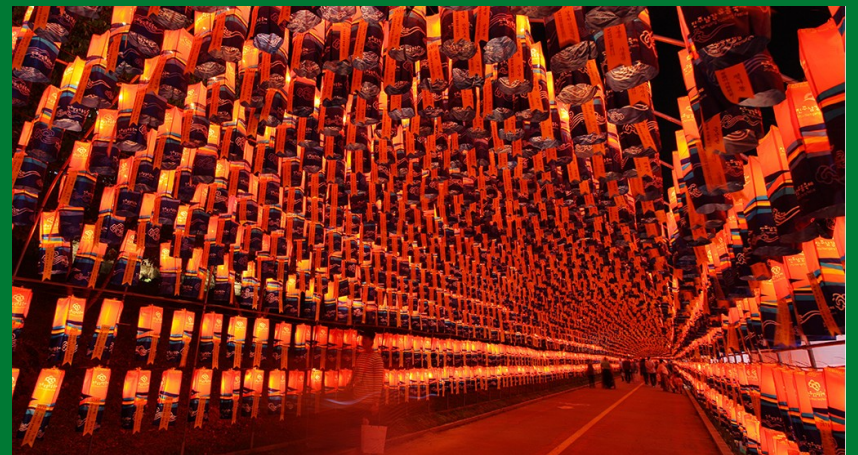
**People and Society.** South Korea has a population of approximately 51,181,299 and the main languages spoken there are Korean and English. Regardless of their religion many people practice Confucianism.

The school life expectancy is 17 years for male students and 16 years for female students. Unemployment among ages 15-24 is a total of 10.7%.



**Major Celebrations/Secular Celebrations.** In South Korea they celebrate two main national holidays. One of the holiday's is New Year's Day, the second the moon after the winter solstice. It is generally celebrated with a festival food called tteokguk or "rice flake soup. Eating it signi-

fied becoming one year older. The festival is also related with the ceremony of performing the "New Year's Bow" before the family's elders and neighbors. Another important festival is called Chuseok which is celebrated on the eighth full moon. The celebrations for these festivals are based around ancestors and families.



**The Family.** The family unit is an important part of customs and everyday life in South Korea. Marriage is regarded as a rite of passage and is usually arranged by the family elders. Traditionally the eldest son bears extra responsibility to the family and is expected to care for his parents during their old age.



## The Thrill of Victory and the Agony of Defeat

Lexington has many students who excel in athletics. Every couple of months the Athletic Department will have a college signing day to showcase its athletes. The college scholarship is heavily sought by high school athletes. For some athletes it is a way to pay for college. Other athletes see a college scholarship as a benchmark against their peers. Still other athletes see a scholarship as reward for years of hard work. However, we have some athletes that don't have an opportunity to earn scholarships because they are involved in sports not offered at Lexington. Cam is a talented skier who has been putting in hours of training since he was three years old. (Check out some videos of him [here](#) and [here](#)) All he will earn for his work are many bruises and some applause. Cam shared two videos of his most recent competition. Just a few hours before the competition he suffered some bruises in a crash only to recover and compete very well in the Big Air Competition at Snow Trails. Most winter days Cam will be training over on West Woods with friends. Cam isn't alone. There are talented dancers, motocross racers and outdoorsmen who train and compete. These athletes are following their passions.



As some of you may have heard, there will be some changes implemented next school year. In an interview with Mr. Young, many details about the changes were granted. The first change is the Dual Enrollment coursework offered at the high school.

Dual enrollment courses will no longer give you credits at NCSC. Instead, the high school will now be partnered with Bowling Green State University. This will make transferring college credits earned at Lexington High School easier and transferable to more colleges. This does not mean that Lexington is done with NCSC. Students can still decide to take CCP classes there if they choose to do so. Another thing is that Bowling Green offers a virtual library for their textbooks, which makes it easier for students, so they can just borrow an online version of the book through them. It was also said that a lot of Lexington kids go to Bowling Green, so it makes sense to partner with them.

The other change will be the grading scale not only at the high school, but the Jr. high as well. The grading scale will now be a 90, 80, 70, 60 scale and will now use plus and minus marks. This was discussed with all of the staff and was agreed upon that this scale will help many students. This is being changed since the administration has recognized that the current grading scale is hurting many student's GPA. Also, most colleges use the 90, 80, 70, 60 scale, and since we are a "college prep" school, it makes sense to use the same system they do. This will not effect any grades for this school year but will be used immediately starting next school year.

## Upcoming Changes for Next School Year

By Sam



## LHS Clubs and Activities

Getting involved with school activities is so much more beneficial than most think! Lexington offers a variety of clubs to each and every student to volunteer and be an active part not just in school, but the community too!

The foreign language clubs like French and Spanish club offer a wide range of cultural events through movies, food, and activities. The French club in Mrs. Frye's class just started a movie and has watched previous movies. The Spanish club also includes movies, snacks and fun. They post many activity dates have had dinners at Rancho Fiesta, Christmas parties, movie nights, and more. They even have cool tee shirts and hoodies!

Bio club is a good way to learn more about science and compete in the science Olympiad. Chess club, run by Mr. Davis is a great way to improve your game while having fun!

National Honor Society, Key club, Leo's club, and OCC leadership council are clubs that are great opportunities to volunteer and take leadership roles. NHS is for upperclassmen and it looks great when applying to college. You have to obtain certain requirements like have a 3.5 GPA or higher as well as volunteer hours. This club has great activities and the volunteering is a great experience. NHS also does the cleaning up after football games, helps with track meets, tutoring, and more. National Honor Society has Candyland coming up on February 16, organized for younger kids to join and have fun with games, crafts, and snacks! Leos club is another great club to volunteer for. Meetings are Fridays, discussing new projects to help out people. On Fridays the Leo club recycles as well as almost every other club. Leo club also goes to face paint at Wayne's each fall season. Key club also focuses on volunteering throughout the year. Meetings are on typically on Wednesdays, so be sure to stop by! The OCC leadership council is a way for students to learn about leadership roles, volunteer, and share school spirit with others in our conference. They have done many school exchanges with Wooster, Madison, Ashland, and other OCC schools.

Drama Club meets after school in the auditorium. They work on monologues and music from Broadway productions. Mr. Henkles, the new choir teacher this year, is the faculty member in charge. Drama club is a great way for its members to prepare for auditions and just a way to have fun.

Last but not least is the journalism club! We write the school articles, even the one you're reading right now. Meetings are Friday mornings. This club is a great way to express yourself and show your creativity through writing and journaling to the public. Join today.



Lexington High School Drama Club Presents:  
The Sound of Music  
By: Sam

The Drama Club is currently preparing The Sound of Music. All the cast members are from Lexington Schools. The female lead role in the play, Maria Rainer, will be played by Madison. The male lead, Captain von Trapp, will be played by Noah. The von Trapp kids, from the oldest to youngest role, will be played by Juliana, Chase, Aubrey, Mason, Madalyn, Kennedy, and Bella. The other named parts will be played by Christian, Kathryn, Sophie, Elyssa, Hope, Ellie, Justus, Dillion, and Lauren. The chorus is made up of Courtney, Elsie, Becca, Payton, Sophia, Goelena, Lydia, Noelle, Hannah, Caroline, Trinity, Meghan, Zoe, Janae, Olivia, Alissa, RJ, Brandon, and Luke.

The play will be performed in the Lexington High School auditorium on March 15, 16, 17, and 18. On the 15-17 the play will begin at 7:30 and on the

18 the play will begin at 2:30. Tickets are \$8 for everyone. Come out and enjoy the show!



# Why A Nuclear War With North Korea Is Not Only Unimaginable, But Improbable

Leah

Despite the perpetual squabble between the two nation's leaders, it has been proven that this monster of a threat – nuclear war – is quite unlikely to occur. With the constant, practically habitual, one upping nature among these powerful men, it's almost inevitable for the public of not only these two nations, but the whole world, to be cautious of such a massacre.

Although both of these leaders are very powerful in both their image and political position, the question is whether their leadership status is what solely determines the outcome of war or if some of the checks and balances of the democratic system come into play. Of course Kim being a dictator does not have the restrictions of such checks, but President Trump does. Not only would this war be devastating in regard to casualties, it would be extremely costly to both nations economically. In the U.S., according to the Constitution

the President is not the all-powerful being of the country. There are three branches each contributing to the wellbeing and safety of the nation and its inhabitants. It is arguable to say that leaders are simply the voice for their nation. For a war to come about, it will not be solely President Trump's decision, con-



gress will also evaluate the situation in order to determine if the risk is worth taking. Geographically war between these countries is also seen as unlikely due to China and its value to both the U.S. and North Korea. With the little experience and firm personality on Trump's side mixed in with the the risk-taker persona of Kim, could create a cocktail of disaster arise, however unlikely because it is reasonable to assume that he take assistance from his more educated higher-ups and for both sides to realize just how costly nuclear war could be economically, environmentally, and philanthropically.



# Scandals of the 2018 winter Olympics

By: Leah

This year's winter games are sparking a lot of publicity due a recent marriage and divorce. This year North Korea will be merging their Olympians with South Korea to form a united team. There are not many athletes predicted to participate from North



Korea (the country has only participated in 7 of the last 10 winter Olympic Games). The two nations have marched together in the past, first waving the Korean Unification flag preceding the Korean Air Bombings in 1991. Despite the initial positive outlook most seem to have on the merger, there have been exposures of North Korea's intentions – such as taking advantage of inappropriate propaganda opportunities on the North Korean side. And after 'successfully' merging in various summer and winter games, marriage fell

through before the 2008 summer Olympics the due to the demands of the northern party. However, now, despite the skepticism, the marriage has been reclaimed for yet another year. With this recent coming together, comes a letting go. It is no secret that the Russian Olympic team was not invited back to participate in this year's winter Olympics. Not too long ago the Russians were caught blatantly giving their athlete steroids in order to enhance their performance. Therefore, getting banned from competing as a country. However, those few athletes would did not test positive for the drugs will have the opportunity to compete as an individual.





# Olympics



After a long four years of impatient and agonizing waiting, the Winter Olympics are back. Every American is anxious to see the US compete and dominate in every sport possible. The opening ceremony kicks off on February 9th and the closing ceremony is held on February 25th – which means we get to see nonstop USA victories for over two weeks.

The 2018 Winter Olympics include a variation of events including: alpine skiing, biathlon, bobsleigh, cross country skiing, curling, figure skating, freestyle skiing, ice hockey, luge, Nordic combined, short track speed skating, skeleton, ski jumping, snowboard, and speed skating. While there are multiple events, there seems to be an extra amount of attention on the newest addition to the Nigerian Women's Bobsled team.

Seun Adigun, Ngozi Onwumere, and Akuoma Omeoga are about to make an unexpected historical impact on the 2018 Winter Olympics. With this being the Winter Olympics, most would believe that a cold climate would be necessary. This is where these girls will prove you wrong.

The three of them trained in Houston on grass and in the heat, and Seun built a cart with wooden scraps from a local hardware store. This team truly started from the bottom, as not one of them knew what bobsled was just a while ago. The three of them had to learn the craft and technique of the sport and, on top of that, beg for money from friends and family. The race for the gold medal is inspiring to all and proves that anything is possible.



Every NHL fan knows that this was America's year to win a Men's Ice Hockey gold medal, but unfortunately, that dream has been ripped to pieces. NHL players have been attending the Olympics since 1998, but NHL owners are becoming agitated with the system. For weeks, top players are missing from every roster and the season is temporarily shut down. While most would think players would help advertise the NHL, the International Olympic Committee gives no credit or recognition to the NHL. In the eyes of an NHL owner, they are essentially giving their players away for no reason and possible injury. Because of this, the NHL has withdrawn its players from the Olympics and demolished our chances of winning.

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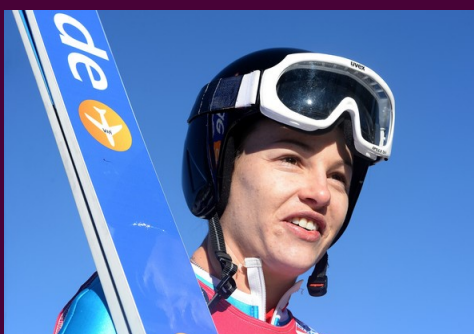
# Olympics Continued

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All eyes were on Russia when allegations of Olympic athletes doping surfaced. The IOC banned 43 Russian Olympic athletes for doping violations. Recently, twenty-eight athletes have had their cases overturned, but their invitation to South Korea has not been extended yet. The court released a statement saying that the amount of evidence could not convict them, and it could not be confirmed that an anti-doping violation was committed. It was also stated that although the offenses cannot be proven, the innocence of these athletes is still unknown. Which is the reason why the IOC is not promising an invite for reinstated Russian athletes despite their lifted ban. Athletes that were reinstated from the 2014 Olympics include Alexander Tretiakov, who received a gold medal in skeleton, and Alexander Legkov, a cross-country skier who also received a gold medal. Although this is considered a victory for Russians, they will still be missing key parts to their Olympic team. On Thursday, the United States Anti-Doping Agency blasted the IOC saying, "Slamming dozens of cases through the process on the eve of the Olympic Games has not served justice and as such the integrity of the Games has been sabotaged. The whole sorry mess truly stinks and the nightmare continues for clean athletes. This must change." This is not the last time this controversy is discussed, but for now the focus should be on eligible athletes and teams in the 2018 Winter Olympics.

[Bode Miller downhill skiing video](#)

[Lindsey Vonn video](#)



# Hannon — Creative Writing

As his family members arrived, Hannon remained still. The snow was high enough to cover his slim figure, and it had fallen fast enough to cover the footsteps leading to the fir tree where he lay. He exhaled sharply each time the screen door slammed shut and he heard Grandma Cheryl's exclamations of welcome. The permanent absence of his grandfather's voice alongside Grandma Cheryl's is what drove Hannon to leave the house, but even here it seemed facing loss was inevitable. The fir tree provided enough coverage to keep the ground beneath Hannon clear, but they broke apart more than enough to let in the memories he wished to escape flood his mind.

His mind drifted back to six years ago. Grandpa Brett burst into the living room in his red coat and overalls, a green sack on his back and the white beard he adorned once a year fell to his knees. Hannon stood back as his Grandpa excitedly gave presents to his younger cousins. Hannon had asked not to partake this year, at eleven he had begun to feel silly getting gifts from "Santa".

He watched and laughed as, oldest to youngest, his cousins frantically ripped apart the wrapping paper until the room was a flurry of gold red and green. When they were done, grandpa Brett slyly put a small red package in Hannon's pocket. He didn't know why, but something didn't feel quite right this year.

Hannon played with the watch on his wrist, the one he had gotten from his grandfather when he was eleven years old. He knew that if Grandpa Brett was still here, he would've asked to be included with the younger kids again. On the verge of adulthood, his grandfather's smile and unwavering energy seemed more important than being "too old" for St. Nick.

With a tear in his eye, Hannon thought back to last year. Even though he was in a wheelchair and only one of his grandchildren still believed, Grandpa Brett put on that old dusty costume. His laugh was weaker and the children couldn't jump to tackle him with hugs anymore, but that dingy red suit never failed to make an appearance.

Hannon wiped his face, and crawled out from under the tree. He hoped he could blame his watering eyes on the cold. As he makes his way towards the house, Hannon realizes that the barn door was left open. When he goes to shut it, he notices a red coat and overalls hanging above the mower. Hannon put the coat on, compelled by some childish notion that it would bring Grandpa Brett back.

He found the beard, tangled and matted, lying on the floor beneath where the coat was. Hannon didn't know where the green bag was, but he hadn't any gifts to fill it with anyway. He stood still for a few minutes before he walked towards the house again. At first he had forgotten he still had the suit on, but when he entered the living room, his three-year old cousin, Grace, jumped from Grandma Cheryl's lap and ran to hug him. Her childish cheer brought him joy, and his other cousins, despite being old enough to know who he really was, acted excited too. Hannon passed them the presents from under the tree, and even though he knew he hadn't brought his grandfather back, this was a tradition that was meant to stay.



## The First Robotic Citizen

The first robotics citizen's name is Sophia. Sophia was made in the late October then activated on April 19, 2015. She was created by Dr. David Hanson at Hanson Robotics. She was introduced at Future Investment Initiative. Sophia spoke its goal that she wants to live among humans. Hanson Robotics created Sophia because he has a dream to make a world full of robots. Hanson wants robots to walk and work alongside humans. The media interviewed Sophia, she said to them that the show that she was about to watch is one of her favorite shows and because it tells corny jokes. Sophia is scary similar to a AI-power robot in films. Since she was introduced to the public she has become one of the more popular celebrities. Sophia is similar to a AI-power robot on films but she doesn't have real AI. Dr. David Hanson says that in about five to ten years Sophia will have real AI but for now Sophia just has AGI (human-equivalent intelligence).

