

# HONORS EXPRESS

Monthly updates of developments within the Honors community

## Notes from Our Director

### SPRING FEVER

In 1854, the handle of the Broad Street water pump in Soho, London, was removed at the request of Dr. John Snow. A medical doctor, Snow was investigating the source of a major cholera outbreak that had decimated the neighborhood. Contrary to the prevailing theory about how cholera spread, Snow suspected the primary mode of transmission was through contaminated drinking water. It would take several decades for the waterborne theory to be accepted by the medical establishment and public health authorities, but today his findings continue to provide the scientific framework for understanding cholera as a waterborne pathogen. And yet, this “knowledge of the way in which the disease is propagated” has not led to the disappearance of major cholera outbreaks, as Dr. Snow had predicted. Cholera continues to rear its curved, rod-shaped head in communities defined by sanitation instability – times when, to put it crudely, our individual capacity to produce waste outstrips our collective capacity to process and treat it effectively through whatever wastewater technologies we have at our disposal. The persistence of these deadly, but often preventable outbreaks is a reminder of why public health has always been as much about social justice as it has been about science.

I have been thinking a lot about this lately with all of the reports about the coronavirus. There are lessons to be learned from the story other pandemics, some of these lessons come from science, some from the social sciences, and some from the humanities. Cholera’s capacity to make neighbors of strangers is as much about ethical indicators as epidemiological index cases and contact tracing. Modern cholera outbreaks invite – often urgently – the question of how our shared vulnerabilities and shared responsibilities are mediated not only through basic physical infrastructure, but also through our basic moral infrastructure – or, how we attend to the question: who is my neighbor? We are already being confronted with this question as coronavirus colonizes not only bodies but also the imagination of those of us distant from the outbreak. How will you respond to this question?

-Matthew Bersagel Braley

Strength for Your Day

Who are we? 	Friends 
What do we want? 	To see each other 
When do we want it? 	Monday Tuesday Wednesday 
I have classes on Monday 	I can't on Tuesday, I work on Wednesday 

© BRIGHTSIDE

**Congratulations to Caitlin Locy, the 4-time reigning champion of the Chili Cook-off!** We raised \$199.75 in monetary donations. Caitlin chose to give all the proceeds to the Viterbo Food Pantry. Thank you to everyone who came to enjoy chili and/or volunteered!



# MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3 <i>Identities</i> <b>PROJECT</b>	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10	11 Spring Break	12	13 	14
15	16 	17 	18 	19 	20 	21 Service Saturday
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31 <i>Identities</i> <b>PROJECT</b>	1	2	3	4

## Events

-  March 1: **Twelfth Night** @ 2pm in Weber Center
-  March 3: **Identities Project**: SGA Documentary @ 7-8:30pm in NRC 196
-  March 7-15: **Spring Break**
-  March 8: **Daylight-Savings Time**
-  March 16: **Vote! Honors Glow-Up Contest** (watch for an email with survey link)
-  March 17: **St. Patrick's Day**
-  March 19: **First Day of Spring**
-  March 20: **Honors Spaghetti + Movie Night**: Eat @ 6pm, Movie @ 7pm
-  March 21: **President's Service Saturday**: Sign-up with Honors!
-  March 25: **Theology on Tap**: Faithful Citizenship @ 7-8:30pm
-  March 31: **Identities Project**: Presidential Candidates Stances @ 7-8:30pm in NRC 196



## Birthdays



- Mar. 13: Miranda Myszka
- Mar. 18: Connor Hagarty
- Mar. 20: Lauren Scheunemann
- Mar. 25: Callie Halverson

**Save the Date!**

**April 24:** Scholars' Day + Senior Poster Presentations  
**May 2:** Honors Cookout from 12-2pm

If you think you are **too small** to make a difference, try sleeping with a **mosquito**.

– Dalai Lama

