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HerChoice or No Choice?

Protesters question motives of local pregnancy center with religious ties. | PAGE 2

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Does HerChoice really offer a choice?

By Meredith Siegel
Reporter

The HerChoice pregnancy center in Bowling Green sparked controversy over whether it provides unbiased care to the people who utilize its services. Its annual “Life Changes Everything Walk” was met with a counter-protest put on by the Feminist Organization Raising Consciousness and Empowerment.

FORCE believes that HerChoice, despite the name, does not provide women with a choice. Specifically, the choice to have an abortion. HerChoice’s website states that it is a faith-based organization, and it does not provide abortions or refer clients to organizations that do provide abortions.

However, HerChoice executive director Shelly Burkhart does believe HerChoice provides clients with a choice. She said staff provides factual information on abortions and other options available to people with an unwanted or unexpected pregnancy. She said she wants everyone to know all of their options, including carrying the pregnancy to term and adoption.

When asked if the name “HerChoice” may give the wrong impression about what services they provide, Burkhart replied, “I certainly hope not. It clearly states on our entrance form and website that we don’t provide abortion.”

Public relations chair for FORCE, Morgan Gale, said HerChoice has two websites and they give slightly different information, that their donor page much more clearly states they are anti-abortion.

Gale referenced screenshots of bgpc-friends.org where the organization said they wanted to “end abortion” and “take a stand against abortion.” Their website now says “providing hope” in the place of ending abortion. They also say they are “looking for women considering abortion before they make the decision to end their pregnancies.”

Bob Koenigbauer, HerChoice board president, said, “for organizations, it’s pretty normal to have two websites. You have a website for who you are trying to reach and a website for volunteers or donors.”

FORCE and the protesters do not believe HerChoice is giving women a choice, but that they push their religious agenda on their clients. They cite the center’s website for proof, as it states abortion is “a tragedy and heartbreaking to God.”

Gale said HerChoice uses other misleading and loaded language, such as a line in a pamphlet that states when women choose abortion, their pregnancy “ends with death.”

Taylor Harrison, Ohio state organizer for Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity, does not believe an organization that is anti-abortion can provide unbiased care.

“Health care should be personalized and not backed by an agenda.”

— Taylor Harrison —
Ohio State Organizer
Unite for Reproductive and Gender Equity

. . . They have an ulterior motive of ending abortion. They (HerChoice clients) are not being offered all options,” Harrison said.

HerChoice board member Shelli Sellick said, “HerChoice offers a safe place for people to come and get hope. We do not share our own opinion of what we would do.”

Hannah Wadsworth, a HerChoice volunteer, believes that people are not told about the possible repercussions of abortion. She said, “There are misunderstandings about abortion and how it affects people. People believe they can go on the rest of their life without thinking about it, but that’s not always the case.”

Shelly Burkhart, executive director of HerChoice, shared she underwent an abortion procedure herself after she survived an assault, and she felt she was not given a choice on what to do about her pregnancy. She said she was affected very badly by her decision, and she said she wanted to provide her clients with more of a choice than what she was given.

HerChoice provides “post-abortion healing classes” for people who come in after having an abortion and regret it.

Kylee Gregg, Planned Parenthood educator and protestor, said, “It’s your own choice, not your religion’s. Women are more than their wombs. Abortion is actually safer in the first trimester than childbirth.”

This is corroborated by a study reported on by Reuters. It was found that women are about 14 times more likely to die from childbirth than problems from abortion procedures.

Other services HerChoice provides include free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds. It also offers free supplies like diapers, formula, strollers, clothes and parenting classes. It does not receive any government funding, and it raises funds through donations.

But the protesters believe they are misleading women. They provided a pamphlet from the HerChoice Campus Fest table on condoms. The pamphlet pushes for abstinence and says that condoms “reduce” the risk of pregnancy and STDs. While condoms can never be considered 100 percent effective, Harrison believes that this language is meant to steer college students away from condoms, and that it will not help solve unwanted pregnancy problems. She said abstinence-only education is not effective, and condoms are always safer than unprotected sex.

Koenigbauer said HerChoice does not take a stance on contraceptives and they have no mission to get involved. They do not provide condoms.

The protesters believe that HerChoice is misinforming its clients about abortion because HerChoice believes abortion is morally wrong. HerChoice employees said they can step outside of their own beliefs and provide unbiased care to women, though they do provide religious council and do not provide abortions.
The past week, I’ve made it my personal mission to be “interested” in any Irma-related Facebook event. But I’ve gotten some mixed reactions about said events.

While some people quickly see that these Facebook events are jokes, others are quick to become keyboard warriors and harp on the dangers of the event.

Some of my favorite events were titled “Summoning Heroes/Hurricane Irma” and “Getting Raptured by Hurricane Irma.” The latter is self-explanatory, but summoning heroes during the hurricane was my top pick.

According to the Facebook event’s creator, a hurricane with such strong winds, like Irma, has the perfect conditions to break through to the afterlife. After some classic rituals, attendees would be able to bring back some of this generation’s icons, like Harambe, Steve Irwin, Tupac, Prince and Michael Jackson.

It’s obviously satire, but there were a lot of people concerned about millennials performing satanic rituals on a beach during hurricane force winds. Even though it clearly says the event is satire in its description, people were still hounding the event page about how “irresponsible” it was. Although, the event creator may be at fault for putting it in the “Christian country music” category.

Events like this attract a few types of people. There are those, like me, who say they are interested in the event to get a reaction from their friends. Then, there are those who want to go through with the event. Lastly, we have the keyboard warriors.

One event, entitled “Spinning your arms really fast to push Hurricane Irma away,” really had people in Sarasota, Florida spinning their arms on the beach last Saturday. Sarasota is located on the western coast of the panhandle, but on Saturday the storm hadn’t reached the city. Sadly, their arm spinning did little to keep the storm at bay.

I haven’t come across anyone who genuinely put their life in danger because of these Facebook events. However, I understand the concern. There could easily be someone stupid enough to “Naruto run through hurricanes.” The aforementioned charity focuses on medical aid for the victims of hurricanes and other natural disasters, including the recent earthquake and tsunami in Mexico. Direct Relief is now on their 60 shipment of boots-on-the-ground efforts, but there are charities that do so, one example being Direct Relief. Those who donate to Direct Relief can check where donations go, and the feature is updated daily.

The aforementioned charity focuses on medical aid for the victims of hurricanes and other natural disasters, including the recent earthquake and tsunami in Mexico. Direct Relief is now on their 60 shipment of relief supplies to Hurricane Harvey victims in Houston.

People looking to donate to hurricane relief funds can use the website Charity Navigator to find a charity that’s right for them. Rather than letting users donate to a random charity, the website makes it easy to find charities offering specific relief efforts, or find out how much money actually goes towards relief.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4
Celebrate happy milestones despite tragedy, destruction

Imagine seeing your name plastered across the news for causing mass destruction. Harvey and Irma Schluter, a couple married for 75 years, have been experiencing just this as they watch hurricanes bearing their names tormenting Florida, Texas and other parts of the world.

While this situation is pretty rare, a more common and unfortunate scenario unfolds when birthdays, anniversaries and other celebratory milestones fall on the same date as tragic events and disasters.

Some people feel passionately that celebrating these happy events is entirely inappropriate when the rest of a nation observes a somber day. Sept. 11 is one of the hardest days for people who lost loved ones in the terrorist attacks that changed American discourse. But those who lost their lives to the destruction that unfolded that day wouldn’t want their legacy to involve hindering the celebrations that every human deserves.

While going out to a bar for a birthday or having a nice dinner for an anniversary on days marking tragedy seems taboo, life is meant to be celebrated.

Life begins to lose meaning when we don’t celebrate our happiness, accomplishments and memories. The best way to live in constant unhappiness is to let life skate by without stepping back to appreciate the small things. Anniversaries and birthdays are no small events, and if we celebrate the small things, you best believe we should be celebrating the bigger events even in the face of sadness.

If someone wants to spend their birthdays out with friends just like anyone born on Sept. 12 or 13 would, they should, but there are also many other ways to celebrate. As we get older, birthdays can involve service, a day off to relax and so much more, especially if it really makes an individual uncomfortable.

The good news for those with celebrations on tragic dates is that it won’t last forever. Similar to people born or married on Dec. 7 (Pearl Harbor), the events on 9/11 will never be forgotten, but time will heal wounds. Eventually, they will have a more normal birthday or anniversary.

There’s a time and place for people to mourn and people to celebrate. The unfortunate truth is sometimes the time element is exactly the same for both. There’s no reason, however, that people can’t both observe a historical tragedy in the right place and observe the celebrations they deserve just like everyone else.

“Those who take offense when people donate to hurricane disaster relief should research how much it does for victims.”

By Holly Shively
Student Director

Most people don’t donate to charity regularly, but when such large natural disasters occur, they rally people together to provide support. Even donating one dollar makes a difference. Charity live streams on streaming services like YouTube and Twitch make $1 donations add up quickly.

One such live stream was the 113H3 podcast with Justin Roiland (creator of “Rick and Morty”) and Alex Hirsch (creator of “Gravity Falls”). They managed to surpass their goal by nearly twice the original amount of $100,000. By auctioning voicemail messages and limited edition merchandise from the respective shows, thousands of $1 raffle ticket purchases turned into a multi-thousand donation for Direct Relief.

While there will always be people in need of charity, it is impossible for the average person to make donations all the time. Donations may be tax deductible, but filing a $1 donation in a tax return isn’t worth the time to some people.

I believe people should relish in the times people can band together to support something rather than knocking people down. When we’re being brigaded with news stories about a lack of unity, situations of disaster like this show just how much can be achieved when people work together. In the future, maybe we can all rally together without life-threatening events taking place.
“It” thrills and horrifies audience

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

The new “It” movie, based on the famous Stephen King novel, is horrifying, hilarious and everything I was hoping it would be and so much more. The movie nails all the aspects of a horror movie, but that is not all “It” offers.

“It” is also a coming-of-age story for the Loser’s Club, the group of children protagonists. These characters are all interesting, varied and fun to watch. The standouts of the group are Finn Wolfhard as Richie Tozier and Jaeden Lieberher as Bill Skarsgård. Most of the time, I feel children are not portrayed well in movies. However, “It” captures their characters very well. I felt they had impressive character development and could exist in real life. The banter and behavior of the group was entertaining and realistic.

The main antagonist of the film, Pennywise the Dancing Clown, is played by Bill Skarsgård. His performance as Pennywise is spectacular. Every time he is on screen, he is terrifying, otherworldly and completely unique for a clown character.

“It” crosses some of the lines that other movies, or media, in general, don’t usually cross, like hurting children. “It” doesn’t just cross the line, it hurdles five feet over it. Having read some of the book the movie is based on, I wasn’t sure the screenplay writers would include some of the more brutal scenes. However, maybe to ease some of those fears for viewers, the first scene is one of the goriest shots in the film. This sets up the rest of the movie perfectly, giving the viewers a reason to be afraid.

The music is another incredible part of the movie. The score was composed by Benjamin Wallfisch, who also produced the music for “Hidden Figures” and “Lights Out.” Each piece of music set up the scene with precision and purpose. “It” has some light-hearted music that make sense in places, but the music accompanying the horror scenes specifically are beautiful, if you could call music for a horror movie beautiful.

The pace of the film is another massive strength. The buildup starts with the beginning scene and keeps going throughout the rest of the film. Each scene has purpose and is important for character development or to terrify the viewer. The movie isn’t short, but it also doesn’t feel long either. The pace of the movie makes “It” feel shorter than it really is.

“It” is a horror movie, and people that don’t enjoy being spooked won’t like “It” either. But for those horror movies connoisseurs, this is a pinnacle for the genre. “It” has every piece that a horror movie should, but all its aspects come together to create a movie that is one part horror and one part coming-of-age story. The horror in the movie terrifies, and the character moments of the Loser’s Club make it not just one the best movies of the year, but one of the best in the horror genre.

2017 to end well for video games

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

2017 has been a year where both surprise hits and instant classics have succeeded. The amount of great games in 2017 felt like an anomaly, but the year isn’t over yet. There are still four months left before 2018, and some great games are sure to release in the coming months.

Releasing Sept. 29 for Xbox One and PC, “Cuphead” is a game that looks to take players back in time through the way the game plays and how it looks. Cuphead is a side-scrolling platformer where you shoot enemies, similar to the Mega Man franchise. Also similar to the Mega Man franchise is the difficulty.

“Cuphead” has already been touted for its extreme difficulty by journalists and fans alike. Its graphical style is also retro, modeled after cartoons from the 1930s and ‘40s.

“Middle-Earth: Shadow of War,” the sequel to “Middle-Earth: Shadow of Mordor,” is coming to stores Oct. 10 for Xbox One, PlayStation 4 and PC. The new game continues Talion and Celebrimbor’s storyline as they forge a new Ring of Power to try to stop Sauron. “Middle-Earth: Shadow of War” has multiple different areas from the Lord of the Rings universe, whereas the first game only had two. The sequel also has a mechanic where the player can gather an army and attack an enemy fortress with that army. The game looks to give a lot of depth to this mechanic; for instance, if the player doesn’t gather enough troops, they will lose.

The newest addition to the Assassin’s Creed franchise, “Assassin’s Creed Origins,” releases on Oct. 27 on Xbox One, PlayStation 4 and PC. After taking a year off, this new game in the franchise places the main character, Bayek, in Ancient Egypt during the Ptolemaic Period. One change to the gameplay style is the introduction of an inventory system, letting players choose the weapons they want to use. The combat has changed also, changing to a “hit-box” system that gives the player greater control. The new entry hopes to breathe new life into a series that has gone a bit dry.

Mario returns to three dimensions in “Super Mario Odyssey,” releasing on Oct. 27 exclusively for Nintendo Switch. The series will be returning to an open world formula similar to “Super Mario 64” and “Super Mario Sunshine.” There will be many worlds for the player to explore and many collectables to find in each of those areas. In the game, the player will utilize the ability of Cappy, Mario’s hat, to take control of enemies or other characters in the environment.

On Nov. 3, the newest game in the Call of Duty franchise, “Call of Duty: WWII,” releases on Xbox One, PlayStation 4 and PC. The new entry takes the series back to World War II for the first time since “Call of Duty: World at War.” The game’s story focuses on a squadron in the 1st Infantry Division, while the multiplayer shows areas not seen in the campaign. The popular Zombies mode also returns.

There may only be four months left in the year, but there are still plenty of great games left to be released. “Super Mario Odyssey” and “Cuphead” are unique takes on familiar genres, while “Assassin’s Creed Origins” and “Call of Duty: WWII” look to bring fans back to franchises that have gone a bit stale.
Editor’s Picks:

Tunes for the week

By Jacob Clary
Pulse Editor

Hannah Finnerty
Big Whiskey and the GrooGrux King
Dave Matthews Band
“I’m going to see him at Farm-Aid.”

Adam Gretsinger
Pretty Fly (for a White Guy)
The Offspring
“It’s a very high energy song.”

Kevin Mensah
Walk on Water
Thirty Seconds to Mars
“Because I love the band.”

Stepha Poulin
Meme Machine
Filthy Frank
“It’s the anthem of our generation.”

Holly Shively
Praying
Kesha
“It’s different from what she usually does.”

Zane Miller
Uprising
Muse
“It has an empowering theme.”

Jacob Clary
Thunder
Imagine Dragons
“I just like the sound of it.”

Keefe Watson
Anything Billy Joel
Billy Joel
“Every single song is a saga.”

Courtney Brown
God, Your Mama and Me
Florida Georgia Line ft. Backstreet Boys
“I like how it’s about love.”

Kaitlyn Fillhart
Women
Harry Styles
“It gets me pumped up for the week ahead.”
Falcons continue undefeated season

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcons soccer team continued their winning and shutout streak with a 2-0 victory over the Western Illinois Leathernecks.

Bowling Green now sits at 5-0 and still has yet to give up a goal this year.

Sophomore goalkeeper Anthony Mwembia continued his dominant play in the early portion of the year, with five clean sheets to his credit over five games.

The Falcons outshot Western Illinois 15 to eight, with the Falcons having nine on net shots compared to Western Illinois’ four.

The team got their first opportunity of the game at the 6 minute mark as junior forward Tate Robertson had a free kick, which got deflected to sophomore forward Robert Miller III in the box and was only stopped by the leg of the Western Illinois goalie.

The first point of the night came at the 15 minute mark as Tate Robertson took a bad clearing attempt from the Western Illinois goalie and pocketed it into the left side of the net.

The team did not want to let up on the offense, however.

“We tried to play the game like it was zero to zero,” Falcons head coach Eric Nichols said. “Last year at their place, we went up first and we lost.”

The last notable moment of the first half was at the 34 minute mark, when Robertson sent a free kick into a crossing senior defenseman captain Alexis Souahy, who headed the ball on net before the Western Illinois goalie made a play to hit the ball out.

At the 54 minute mark, junior midfielder Peter Pugliese crossed a ball into the box for freshman midfielder Chris Sullivan to make a play, but the Western Illinois goalie got the ball before another play on the ball could be made.

“I am glad we were able to step forward and work on our relationships with our teammates,” Nichols said. “We have a lot of good soccer players.”

The best scoring chance for Western Illinois came at the 77 minute mark as a Western Illinois player took a quick turn-around shot, but Mwembia was ready to block it.

“We tried to play the game like it was zero to zero.”

- Eric Nichols -
Falcons Head Coach

The final point came at the 84 minute mark as Robertson got the ball to sophomore forward Chris Brennan, who split the defense and put the ball in the net to give the Falcons the 2-0 score that would stick.

With this game, Bowling Green tied the school record for shutouts in a row, at five.

The team’s next game will be in East Lansing on Wednesday against the Michigan State Spartans.

Upcoming Games

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 | 7:00 PM
Vs. Michigan State

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 | 7:00 PM
Vs. Cincinnati

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 | 7:00 PM
Vs. Notre Dame

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 | 7:00 PM
Vs. Ohio State
Falcon football falls to South Dakota

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcons football team fell in their home opener against the South Dakota Coyotes 35-27 on Saturday night, the team's first loss against a Football Championship Subdivision team since Sept. 12, 1987, against the Youngstown State Penguins.

"These are games you're supposed to win," Falcons head coach Mike Jinks said. "These are games we expect to win, and really, they got after our tail at home. That doesn't sit well and it shouldn't sit well."

The game began with South Dakota getting a touchdown rush on their first drive of the game, along with an extra point to take a 7-0 lead early. Later in the first quarter, junior kicker Jake Suder put the Falcons on the board with a field goal, cutting the South Dakota lead to 7-3. However, that momentum was quickly squashed when South Dakota converted a 72-yard touchdown pass to go up 14-3. South Dakota then finished off the first quarter scoring another running touchdown, ending the quarter up 21-3.

The Falcons began to battle back with two Suder field goals in the second quarter, but in the third, South Dakota scored another touchdown run. However, the Falcons were able to counter the score before the end of the quarter as sophomore quarterback James Morgan passed to senior wide receiver Teo Redding for a touchdown, making the score 28-16.

Suder kicked another field goal to start the fourth, but South Dakota extended their lead halfway through the quarter to make it 35-19. The Falcons were able to give themselves a chance with a late touchdown pass from Morgan to junior wide receiver Scott Miller, along with a two point conversion pass from Morgan to Redding, but the ensuing onside kick attempt was recovered by South Dakota, who held on to win 35-27.

"We've got to put guys out there that are going to make plays," Jinks said. "You can't make those kinds of mistakes; those are the things that get you beat. We had three touchdowns called back, it's tough to win a ball game like that."

The team also struggled with penalties throughout the game, with 14 penalties for 155 yards.

"We talked about being physical, tough and disciplined, and that's not disciplined," Jinks said. "There were a lot of calls that could have gone either way throughout the game. If you're doing things the right way and using the proper technique, you'll get those calls."

The team will next play Saturday night on the road against the Northwestern Wildcats.

Volleyball takes one of three matches

By Zane Miller
Sports Editor

The Falcons volleyball team played three straight matches of five-set volleyball at the Northern Kentucky University Invitational in Highland Heights, Kentucky. They first played on Friday in a loss to the Sacramento State Hornets 3-2, then lost to the Seattle Redhawks 3-2 in the first match of a Saturday doubleheader and lastly defeated the Northern Kentucky Norse 3-2 in the second game Saturday.

The Falcons started out strong on Friday, winning the first set against Sacramento State 27-25. However, Sacramento State rebounded to win the second set 25-21. The back and forth match continued as the Falcons took the next set 25-21, but a 26-24 victory by Sacramento State in the fourth set up a fifth set.

Despite the teams being close at the beginning of the set, Sacramento State was able to pull away, claiming the match with a 15-8 victory.

"We had a 23-19 in the fourth set and couldn't finish the set," Falcons head coach Danijela Tomic said. "Our service team broke down, we made some unforced errors. We couldn't find a way to score, we allowed them to get back in it and we lost that set ... that's the one that hurts the most because we had our chances to get those two points."

Despite the loss, freshman outside hitter Jacqueline Askin set a team season high with 18 kills in the match, and several of the newer players stepped up.

"This is the first match we've had five players with double digit kills," Tomic said. "Jacqueline (Askin) had a double-double in digs and kills and an outstanding hitting percentage. Katie Kidwell, our other freshman, had ten kills. Celena (Kanagin), our sophomore, had an outstanding match, too, so there were a lot of positives."

On Saturday, the Falcons again had a promising start, winning the first two sets 28-26 and 25-12, respectively. Seattle made a charge in the third and fourth, though, winning both sets 25-18 to stay in the match and force another fifth set. Seattle completed the comeback with a 15-10 victory to win the match.

"Seattle started playing better, and we didn't adjust," Tomic said. "They took us out of system and we didn't execute our game plan. We didn't stop their outside hitter, we got tentative, and that's the name of the story."

In the second match of Saturday's doubleheader against the tournament host, Northern Kentucky, the team started out by winning their fourth straight opening set 25-22, then took the second set 25-23. However, like the previous match, Northern Kentucky scored two set wins of their own, 25-16 and 25-21. The Falcons were able to stop the comeback attempt in the fifth set with a 15-8 victory.

The team will next play in the Virginia Commonwealth University Invitational in Richmond, Virginia, on Friday against the Virginia Commonwealth Rams, then on Saturday in a doubleheader against the Northwestern Wildcats and Seton Hall Pirates.
Styles from the Vintage Market’s Boho Bliss

By Brionna Scebbi
Reporter

Boho Bliss, a flea market presented by the Vintage Market LLC, saw 85 vendors at the Wood County Fairgrounds on Saturday and Sunday.

The outdoor fair was filled with booths for food, lotions and soaps, home décor, clothing and jewelry, floral bouquets and more. Food trucks and live music by Barelyon, a Detroit-based duo, rounded out the event.

Unsalted Boutique is an online shop based in Sandusky, Ohio, for anything from baby items to house decorations. The boutique was founded three years ago by two stay-at-home moms, Dawn Opfer and Kelsey Racette. Among the items they brought with them to Boho Bliss were a few T-shirt styles that Racette, a University alumna, designed to celebrate her alma mater.

“Lydia’s has been part of the Vintage Market’s events for 4 years and will be at their fall event, Hocus Pocus, next month.”

Lydia’s Vintage is located in Flint, Michigan, and has been selling jewelry since 2010. Lydia has been part of the Vintage Market’s events for 4 years and will be at their fall event, “Hocus Pocus,” next month.

Crystalline Dream, located near the Vintage Market in Michigan, was founded 2 years ago by sisters Cindy and Candice Karakas after a trip to a crystal cave. Their love for crystals and the properties associated with them turned into a business, which they often promote at the Vintage Market’s events.

CoCo Grand, based in Michigan, began in 2014 when founder Collette Grandison started to sell her handmade jewelry on Etsy. Through networking at events, including those put together by the Vintage Market, Grandison was able to grow her business to include clothing as well.

Continued on page 11
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D. Kimono from Coco Grand, $31.50

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Small votes, big impact on Nexus

Casting a vote in the November election could mean big things for the proposed Nexus pipeline

By Abby Shifley
Reporter

At the end of July, the BG Climate Protectors committee turned in over 1,230 signatures to approve their proposed charter amendment that sought to restrict the installation of fossil fuel infrastructure in Bowling Green city limits, including the Nexus pipeline. Now, citizens of Bowling Green will be able to vote on the charter amendment on the November ballot.

“All this really comes down to now is a regular voting issue. It’s going to be a yes or no-type thing,” Brad Holmes said, president of the BGSU Environmental Action Group and an active member of the Bowling Green Climate Protectors.

Holmes and Lisa Kochheiser, an organizer for the Ohio Community Rights Network and University alumni, explained a number of red flags the charter amendment confronts. Holmes said the proposed route of the Nexus pipeline will cross under the Maumee River — where the Bowling Green water treatment plant is located — as well as over the Bowling Green fault line.

“Apparently the fault line hasn’t been active for a long time, but we’re not too confident in the fact that will stay the same,” Holmes said.

The pipeline is planned to be just south of the Waterville limestone quarry, where a number of explosive demolition processes occur on a weekly basis.

The pipeline’s close proximity to a number of questionably unstable areas has an impact on Bowling Green.

“16 total communities get their drinking water from Bowling Green,” Kochheiser said, “including the Bowling Green State University campus.”

Because this pipeline affects University students, the BG Climate Protectors are sending a call-to-action to students.

“We are urging the importance of everyone going out to vote for (the charter amendment),” he said. “Oct. 10 is the last day you can get registered to vote and cast your opinion towards this important issue.”

Holmes also said getting students at the University to be involved in the politics of Bowling Green would allow other projects and initiatives to have more support. University students make up a significant portion of the Bowling Green population.

“Voting only for the president isn’t always the most important thing. Your vote, statistically speaking, matters more in local elections,” Holmes said.

Kochheiser said now, more than ever, people need to understand how change can be made, especially on a local level.

Holmes said the Board of Elections will have the legislation up on its website in the next week, and people can find more information on the charter amendment on the BG Charter Amendment Facebook page.