

# CHIEFTAIN.

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INDIAN HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S PROUDLY STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

## The Ghosts of Indian Hill

Chieftain Managing Staff

As students rush out of the halls of Indian Hill High School, a hush fills the once-bustling school. Everyone's favorite time of year has arrived: holiday break. While many students enjoy this time, what they may not know is what happens when they are gone. Specifically, many students are unaware that on every Christmas eve, Indian Hill High School is visited by three specters: the Ghosts of Indian Hill Past, Present, and Future! In this article, our investigative team is revealing secrets never revealed before. So sit back, grab some hot chocolate, and enjoy our exclusive interview with the Ghosts of Indian Hill! The first Ghost we spoke with was the Ghost of Indian Hill Past, responsible for remembering the history of those who came before us. The Ghost told us that he had been talking with a variety of Indian Hill alumni about what they are most looking forward to about the holiday season:

**Q:** Hello, how are you?

**A:** I'm doing pretty well... it's been a pretty busy year for ghosts - lots of business executives to haunt, but... yeah, it's been good.

**Q:** Now, how has COVID impacted the ghost community?

**A:** Well, ghosts are fortunately immune to COVID, so it hasn't hindered us as much. Of course, my favorite places to haunt are ones with large gatherings, so adjusting to the new normal has been a bit rough.

**Q:** I'm sorry to hear that. So, what have you been doing to pass the time?

**A:** Well, I actually went to speak with some of the past students of Indian Hill.

**Q:** Oh, great -- who'd you speak to?

**A:** Well, the first person I talked to was Rena Lenchitz, class of 2019.

**Q:** Oh, wow. She was actually the former Editor-in-Chief of this very newspaper. What is she doing this holiday season?

**A:** Well, she's looking forward to having time to perfect her craft of knitting and mixing sick beats on her amateur DJ controller. She's also looking forward to celebrating Hanukkah with her parents.

**Q:** Well, that's wonderful! Did you speak to any other former Chieftain members?

**A:** Yeah, I also spoke to one of Rena's co-EIC's, Lena Bruscato. She's looking forward to getting to slow down and enjoy time with her family!

**Q:** Aren't we all...

**A:** We certainly are. In fact, I also spoke with two alumni who are looking forward to relaxing and being with family.

**Q:** Oh, who?

**A:** Marjona Ashurova and Kathy Ning, both graduates from last year!

**Q:** Well, that's great. Thank you so much for speaking with us today!

After speaking with the Ghost of Indian Hill Past, we Zoomed with the Ghost of Christmas Present. While the ghost was obviously upset that students are no longer on campus, she told us that she had been checking in with various students about what they are looking forward to during the holiday season. Read on to

learn more:

**Q:** Obviously, students are no longer on campus. How do you feel this semester went?

**A:** You know, I think this year was a huge success. Everyone - from the administration to the teachers to the students - really contributed to make it a great year. I mean we won championships, had successful seasons, and were able to stay in school for quite a while.

**Q:** Now, you've been busy this past week?

**A:** Oh, of course! There's no time like the present.

**Q:** Nice one. Could you go ahead and tell us who you spoke to and what they had to say?

**A:** Sure. The first person I spoke with was a senior at Indian Hill, Vandita Rastogi. She is looking forward to being done with college applications and being able to enjoy the festivities with her family.

**Q:** That's really nice. Who else did you talk to?

**A:** We also talked to some other students who were passionate about spending time with their family.

**Q:** Oh, really. Who?

**A:** Sarika Singh, a sophomore. She is looking forward to spending time with her family, getting to sleep in every day, and having free time to do the things that she loves. I also talked to sophomore Elsa Zhou.

**Q:** What did she have to say?

**A:** She said that she is primarily looking forward to watching *Wonder Woman 1984*, but that he is also looking forward to spending time with family, decorating the tree, and giving her friends some prank gifts.

**Q:** That's great.

**A:** It really is. We also talked to one last student - Annie Joy, a junior at Indian Hill. She's looking forward to picking out a Christmas tree.

**Q:** Well, that's great. Thanks for talking with us!

Finally, we spoke with the Ghost of Indian Hill Future. They couldn't speak for long because they were working on ensuring the best second semester of the school year, but they left us with the following message: *As hard as this semester has been, we will always have our community to support us! Have a happy holiday season and get ready for a wonderful second semester!* ■

### Peep this Month in

#### Chieftain:

#### News

Updates on the vaccine on page 3 of this issue!

#### Editorials

Read about the "twindemic" on page 4!

#### Features

Get exclusive footage of Chieftain Chews on pg 6!

**Senior Spotlights**  
Celebrate our seniors on pages 9-11!

#### Crossword

on page 12!

## December *This & That*

Arjun Verma ;24

### CDC Guideline Updates

The Center of Disease Control has issued new guidelines for people who have come into contact, or have contracted COVID-19.. For those who came into close contact, within 6 feet for 15 minutes, the length of quarantine has now been reduced to 10 days without a test. The goal of this is to reduce the effects of quarantine on the economy. However, this can lead to some potential coronavirus cases being found after the 10 day quarantine. ■

### Amazon Alexa's Privacy Concerns

The popular electronic assistant, Alexa, has come over with another wave of privacy concerns. Recently, Amazon released a new feature called Sidewalk, which allows Alexa devices to connect to other nearby Alexa devices and create a shared network between them. Amazon believes this will allow devices to work better, however they have received severe backlash since this could potentially give user's data to other devices in the area. ■



### The Lost City of Pompeii

Right outside the city of Pompeii, archeologists have discovered two more people frozen in time. Archeologists believe one of the recovered is a wealthy landowner, and the other is a young slave. Along with the bodies, there were two horses found nearby, indicating that the victims were fleeing from Pompeii after the eruption of Mt Vesuvius. ■

### Light-Based Quantum Computer

On December 3rd, a Chinese based quantum computer achieved quantum supremacy. Unlike Google's quantum computer, which was made out of superconductors, this quantum computer uses a light based qubit system. To prove its quantum supremacy, this computer performs a calculation in 200 seconds, something that would have taken a classical computer half a billion years to complete. This project has given way to more research into photonic based quantum computing, and the development of programmable quantum computers. ■



### New Gaming Consoles

The release of the new gen consoles started off with a disappointing launch. The consoles introduced a new level of gaming with high performance and quality while maintaining low prices. However, many people could not get these new consoles due to scalpers.



Scalpers buy high demand items and resell them for extremely high prices. Scalpers obtain large amounts of these items by using bots. This system ruins everyone else's opportunity and spoils the gaming

### New Cabinet

After being announced as the official president elect, Biden has begun his search to fill in positions for his administration. President elect Joe Biden offered Dr. Anthony Fauci the position of Chief Medical Adviser and asked Fauci to continue his role as director of the National institute of health. Doctor Fauci's response was, "Absolutely, I said yes right on the spot." ■

### Airpods Max

Apple has debuted their new over-ear, noise cancelling headphones called the Airpods Max. They feature Apple's iconic sleek and minimalist design and all of their "revolutionary" features to improve the audio experience. However, all of this comes at a large price of \$549. ■



### 1st Dose of the COVID-19 Vaccine

The long-awaited Covid-19 vaccine has finally arrived, and the first doses are being used for the most at-risk patients. One of these patients was a 90-year-old grandmother from the U.K. After receiving the vaccine she said, "I felt so privileged to be the first person vaccinated against COVID-19. It's the best early birthday present I could wish for because it means I can finally look forward to spending time with my family and friends in the New Year after being on my own for most of the year." ■

## Modified Christmas Celebration

Sophie Sawyers '21

This year, many have had to adjust their holiday plans on account of the COVID-19 pandemic. Among these holiday plans is Queen Elizabeth II's annual walk to Sandringham House in Norfolk, England, which has been a part of the royal holiday festivities every year since 1988 (with the only exception being in 2016 when the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were suffering from extreme colds). Instead, "Having considered all the appropriate advice, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have decided that this year they will spend Christmas quietly in Windsor", as confirmed by a Buckingham Palace spokesperson. Seeing as the celebrations at Sandringham House are usually attended by many members of the Queen's extended family, it comes as no surprise that the monarch has decided to cancel the event for the royal family's safety.



While Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip have included the walk to Sandringham House in their holiday celebrations every year since 1988, there have been years before 1988 when the monarch decided to forgo this part of the tradition. In 1953, for instance, the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were occupied on a royal tour of New Zealand during the holidays, but the Queen still presented her Christmas speech. Additionally, for a few Christmases in the 1960's, the monarch and her husband remained in Windsor Castle for the holidays as their children were too young for the walk. Although the Queen may have cancelled the annual stroll over to Sandringham this year, there is still hope for her televised Christmas speech, which has also been a part of the holiday tradition since her Christmas message was first televised in 1957. And, before her speeches were televised, they were distributed over the radio. However the royal family chooses to celebrate the holiday season this year, we wish them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! ■

## COVID Vaccine: Next Steps

Pranav Rastogi '23

It's the holiday season and Pfizer, along with BioNTech, have given us another present — a potential vaccine to the vexatious coronavirus. Earlier this month, Pfizer and BioNTech, released a statement announcing a vaccine with 95% efficacy in clinical trials. In a desperate attempt to end this chaos, Britain and Canada quickly approved the vaccine and administered it to its first patients, including a 90-year old woman in Northern Ireland.

However, this new vaccine has caused much concern and increase in knowledge about this vaccine in the United States and abroad. For one, companies like Moderna had made this vaccine all the way back in January as a Chinese scientist, Yong-Zhen Zhang, had revealed its genetic sequence. This development came almost a week before the first case was confirmed in the United States and even before China had reported that it could be transmitted from human to human. So why couldn't we save the 250,000+ people who have fallen prey to this horrible disease? In short, the vaccine had to go through three phases including clinical trials to prove its effectiveness, and even with Operation Warp Speed, these phases took quite a while to carry out. Fortunately, we can now hope that in the future, government agencies will take less time to approve such vaccines.

Second, this vaccine isn't perfect. In fact, Operation Warp Speed meant running the clinical trials while simultaneously manufacturing the vaccine. Patients in Great Britain have seen the repercussions of this as this vaccine has triggered severe allergic reactions in several patients who are prone to such reactions.

Third, the vaccine's outreach in Britain has shown one salient discovery, that these vaccines are most effective when administered in two doses, the second one coming 21-28 days after the initial vaccination. Although this second dose isn't necessary, it will help everyone around the world especially when there is such a high risk of infection.

When we think about frontline workers, we often think about the doctors, first responders, and essential workers, but along with them, there were thousands upon thousands of scientists, bioengineers, biochemists, and immunologists who were tirelessly working to provide us with a safe and effective vaccine. ■

## A Jaded Education System

Ethan Marx '21

In March of 2019, an FBI investigation into a college admissions cabal called Operation Varsity Blues was made public. Among the various perpetrators were celebrities such as Felicity Huffman, Lori Loughlin, and Olivia Giannulli (better known by her YouTube profile name, "Olivia Jade"). The case was the largest of its nature to be prosecuted by the United States Justice Department and has been lauded as a step in the right direction for combating corruption in the college admissions process. While many students may view the squabbles between students over making it into elite institutions a bit Shakespearean at times, the process is truly important to ensure educational equity to all Americans. This investigation raised questions into the inherent fairness of the investigation. For many seniors at Indian Hill, this issue really hits at the zeitgeist as we embark on our college admissions journey.

After Jade's mother began her two-month prison sentence, Jade broke her year-long silence on Red Table Talk, a web television series hosted by Willow Smith, Jada Pinkett Smith, and Adrienne Banfield-Norris. Jade sought understanding and was generally apologetic, but was met with hostility from Banfield-Norris. In fact, one of the most interesting moments was the discussion between the show's hosts before Jade emerged, in her most tone-deaf moment of the interview, smirking and laughing about feeling "nervous." Banfield-Norris noted that she did not initially want Jade on the show, feeling that it was "ironic that she chose three black women to reach out to for her redemption story." She continues that "white women [are] coming to black women for support when we don't get the same from them... her being here is the epitome of white privilege to me." Throughout the interview, Banfield-Norris expressed that she thought Olivia Jade would be able to still succeed and that it was not their responsibility to forgive her.

Throughout the interview, Jade was apologetic and did not try to excuse her or her family's actions. However, what Jade seeks throughout the interview is a "second chance." She emphasizes her youth and that she simply did not know that this was wrong (a troubling proposition in its own right, implying that the

majority of her peers used similar means to gain access to top educational institutions). Yet, Jade clearly had a pattern of being flippant -- beginning with a YouTube video stating that she did not care about her school and that she sought to party in college, rather than learn. While Jade certainly should not be punished forever, what is troubling is potentially giving this uneducated, ignorant, oblivious girl a platform. Take for example, Entertainment Tonight's "Olivia Jade on Red Table Talk: 7 MUST-SEE Moments", focusing on clips on her parents and their rationale (e.g. clips on their parent's support, their parents arrest, her shame) rather than on the very important discussions on the societal implications of such a scandal.

Banfield-Norris expressed similar concerns to Jade, stating that "there's so much... inequality and inequity that when you come to The Table will something like this, it's like child, please." While Olivia certainly seems apologetic and states that she does not want "pity", the interview makes it clear that she certainly wants a platform. As a society, it's up to us to choose whether or not she deserves one. ■



## Health Matters: Twindemic

Amitesh Verma '21

With the influenza season underway, the public must carefully consider health precautions of the so-called “twindemic” — a combination of the current coronavirus pandemic and the seasonal flu endemic. What can the community expect when both COVID-19 and the flu intersect?

Perhaps what makes a “twindemic” dangerous is the difficulty in differentiating both respiratory diseases — fever, cough, shortness of breath, and a runny or stuffy nose are symptoms that exist in both, with a few notable exceptions, including the loss of smell and taste in and a larger symptomatic period of 14 days in COVID-19. As a result, there’s no definitive way to tell COVID-19 and the flu apart without a test.

Additionally, either virus has the potential to make one quite sick, possibly becoming fatal — the flu, last year alone, led to more than 35,000 deaths and the coronavirus has already claimed more than 280,000 lives in the United States. What would happen if you got both at the same time? Biologically, it’s possible, and getting them together could make one extremely sick.

Typically, to prevent the seasonal flu, a vaccine may be given that protects against the strains of the virus that’s most prevalent in a given year. Unfortunately, a flu vaccine will not provide specific protection against the coronavirus. However, it’s important for the public to receive this vaccine now more than ever, especially when the nation’s healthcare system is already overloaded by the pandemic. The flu, last year alone, led to nearly 500,000 hospitalizations. Hence, fewer people sick at the same time will inevitably benefit the community.

The good news is that the health measures we have been taking against the coronavirus will be effective against the flu. After all, the flu season in the southern hemisphere was milder this year because of these measures. So, wear masks, wash your hands, carry hand sanitizer, and social distance to stay safe during this “twindemic.” ■

## Happy New Year Braves!

Libby Hoicowitz '24

As 2020 comes to an abrupt and welcome end, 2021 is rapidly approaching. New Year’s Day celebrations will be occurring December 31st at midnight around the world. January 1st means one thing: time to make your resolution. Or, if you are really ambitious, *resolutions*. This year, due to COVID-19 it is even more important to have a New Year’s resolution. Coronavirus might have changed your resolution or forced you to look at the past year differently. It may even change future resolutions. A resolution requires us to look positively into the future. They are limitless and their time frame usually lasts until the following New Year. Most resolutions are goals, whether for a particular sport, something to better yourself or just a dream you want to achieve.

I polled a few Indian Hill High School Braves. I asked them what their New Year’s resolutions are for this upcoming year.

One high achieving freshman said she, “would like to keep getting closer to her goals and to keep working hard”.

Another active Brave, currently a junior, said she “would like to stay healthy and to have fun”.

In addition, a few Braves had no resolutions at all, which is perfectly fine. After all, many of us find resolution hard to keep throughout the year.

A Class of 2021 Brave said that he hasn’t thought of a resolution because he hasn’t thought that far in advance. This made me think. Resolutions can be easy or hard but they are extremely personal. Your 2021 resolutions are amazing Braves! May the upcoming year bring you contentment! We at Chieftain, hope they are achieved. ■

## Foraging

Memrie Harness '22

The column for this month is about a pretty uncommon topic. Staying environmentally conscious requires trying new things, so I urge you to keep an open mind when reading this article. It is commonly known that the food industry has a large effect on the carbon footprint and environment in general. There is also huge controversy on mass killing and consuming animals. Scavenging or incorporating a hunter-gatherer mindset has been a popular way of life for years. This lifestyle includes living off the land in every way possible: individually catching/finding food, acquiring necessary nutrients in nature... Foraging encourages less food waste, as you will only keep and eat the food that you find, instead of buying in bulk and throwing away quantities of perfectly fine leftovers. There are so many benefits to this lifestyle so before you become skeptical, here are a couple of reasons why foraging is a wonderful, sustainable option.

There are about 50,000 to 80,000 edible plant species in the world, but only 30 plants produce 95% of what humans eat. In fact, about half of our diet relies on four plant species: rice, maize, wheat, and potato. By foraging and collecting different edible plants, not only are you expanding your palate and feeding your body new nutrients, but you are also supporting biodiverse entities such as forests over toxic, large-scale, and out-of-balance entities like corn fields. Some may think that by collecting and consuming less common plants from the wild would decrease biodiversity and encourage extinction, but in moderation, foraging increases biodiversity and leads to more habitats for many species. Also, many invasive plant species which can be extremely harmful to other living organisms are actually great for you and super yummy. Some examples of these weeds include garlic mustard, autumn olive, wild parsnip, and kudzu. More invasive and delicious species would be dandelion, burdock, wild carrot, and lamb’s quarters. Consuming these plants and therefore lessening the amount present in the wild in turn increases biodiversity and leaves more surface area for native plants to grow and thrive.

To satisfy people’s agricultural needs, lots and lots of fields are needed to plant

and grow crops. This action takes up plenty of land that could have otherwise been habitats for wildlife and can really damage the soil. Since there is such a slow rate of topsoil renewal, “Each year, an estimated 24 billion tonnes of fertile soil are lost due to erosion. That’s 3.4 tonnes lost every year for every person on the planet...” Also, the Global Report states, “the Global Assessment of Human-induced Soil Degradation (GLASOD) showed that soil degradation in one form or another occurs in virtually all countries of the world. About 2,000 million hectares are affected by soil degradation. Water and wind erosion accounted for 84% of these damages, most of which were the result of inappropriate land management in various agricultural systems, both subsistence and mechanized”. Once soil is damaged, it takes a while to return to normal, so choosing to eat locally instead of buying from supermarkets is extremely helpful.

Healing the planet and becoming more sustainable requires systemic change, and sometimes the only way to do this is by trying new things that may be out of your comfort zone. Without being forceful, I think spreading awareness is the best way to show people how beneficial their actions are to the environment. Not only does foraging help the world, but it may bring you closer to nature. While finding things to eat, you can take a moment to appreciate Mother Earth and the beauty around you! Happy foraging! ■

## Biden's Cabinet Is The First Battleground For His Presidency

Anonymous

**It's the standard course for most aspiring and established career politicians:** run to the center of your party, and once you've won your nomination for a particular position, you play the role of the 'unifier'. Despite President Trump's absolute refusal to act as a unifying figure for the American people and a unifying Republican figure during the 2016 primary, President-Elect Joe Biden's third campaign for the presidency shows that the strategy is well and alive. His campaign centered around notions of uniting and healing America, one "who seeks not to divide but to unite". He seems keen to at least appear to follow through with his promise, establishing a policy commission with Sanders and considering Republicans for cabinet positions. At a first look, one would think we were on the right track.

Maybe in older times this would work. But the political landscape of 2020 isn't one which is too friendly to Biden's attempts to do so - and the first sign of trouble is in the cabinet. Progressive Democrats have assailed the president-elect for his decision to draft Alejandro Mayorkas to be the Secretary of Homeland Security, citing his role in the mass deportations of undocumented immigrants under the Obama Administration as disqualifying. They have also attacked Biden for his choice of Neera Tanden for the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, claiming that her appointment gave her vehement opposition to Social Security in 2010 and 2012 as a snub to their beliefs. The Republican Party is gearing up for their own fight against Biden's picks as well, with some Republican senators claiming that his nominees are 'too radical'.

If you thought that the chaos was finally over, just look at the cabinet. We're not on the road for unification - the fight is just beginning. ■



## In Remembrance of Diego Maradona

Eshaan Gandhi '24

On November 25th, 2020, the legendary soccer player from Argentina, who played on FC Barcelona, suffered a heart attack which killed him. This triggered mourning around the world, but nowhere was it felt more impactfully than in the country which saw him as a national hero. Some consider Maradona as the greatest soccer player of all time. Maradona's personality, performance, and success will always be remembered throughout the world forever. He truly is not only one of the greatest soccer players of all time, but one of the best entertainers of all time.

Diego Maradona's best moments...

1976 - At just 15 years old, Diego Maradona was already bound for success. He made his debut on the Under-20 Argentina national team. This is the start of this legendary player's career in entertainment and soccer. They say that the rest is history...

March 26, 1983 - It was truly spectacular when Diego Maradona — a player on FC Barcelona — would go on to receive a standing ovation from Real Madrid fans. The two teams have a very strong rivalry, but when Maradona scored an almost impossible goal, the Real Madrid fans had no choice. This rare occurrence would not happen for another 21 years.

1986 - Almost a decade after Diego Maradona turned pro, he had already won the World Cup. An unforgettable experience for Maradona proved the world that he was the best of the best with his 3-2 win against West Germany. He won the Golden Ball for being the best player in the tournament; no one had any complaints. He was now an undisputed legend.

"To see the ball, to run after it, makes me the happiest man in the world." Diego's skills, personality, and entertainment have proved to the world that he is the greatest. He will never be forgotten. ■

## Fashion in Politics: Insignificant or Noteworthy?

Tacey Hutten '22

Fashion is something so often deemed frivolous, unimportant, and shallow. Although it certainly takes a backseat to other means of expression and advocacy, fashion can be a subtle yet provocative tool in the political world. Throughout history, especially in recent decades, clothing has been used to honor and allude to events that have passed, comment on things happening in the present, and make a statement about what is to come.

Especially among female leaders, countless examples come to mind. Most recently, Vice President-elect Kamala Harris took the stage for her victory speech wearing a white suit, white blouse, and shoes to match. Throughout her speech, she reflected on the strength and vision of women who came before her and noted that she "stands on their shoulders." Her words weren't the only things that paid homage to her predecessors, however. The white suit carries with it generations worth of history. In the early twentieth century, the suffragettes adopted white as a symbol of women's rights. Shirley Chisholm, the first Black woman elected to Congress, wore all white when she was sworn in. Geraldine Ferraro, the first woman on a major party's ticket, wore all white when she accepted her role. And Hillary Clinton wore a white pantsuit to accept the Democratic presidential nomination in 2016. Harris's outfit was just a coincidence - it was a tribute to the women who paved the way for her and a promise that more women will follow.

Accessories and make-up can make a point too. Over the last few years, we've all noticed Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's iconic gold hoops and red lipstick. She first wore the bold accessories to be sworn in as the youngest woman ever elected to Congress and, after it earned much attention, Ocasio-Cortez explained that the look was inspired by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor. Not only has the pairing (and red lip especially) become a symbol of her boldness and ferocity in the political arena, it also serves as a means of representation. Ocasio-Cortez herself tweeted, "Next time someone tells Bronx girls to take off their hoops, they can just say they're dressing like a

Congresswoman." Considering that Rep. Ocasio-Cortez has made it her goal to uplift other women and make government feel more accessible to the 'non-elites', it's clear that the way she presents herself is chosen thoughtfully and with the intent to inspire.

Finally, even seemingly minor details can send a big message. During the Democratic primaries, Elizabeth Warren built a brand focusing on her working class background and eagerness to create "an America that works for everyone." Contributing to this image, Warren often wore her jacket sleeves rolled up, painting her as someone ready to jump into the ring. Looking back a little further, during her time as First Lady, Michelle Obama paid special attention to wear clothing from American brands and designers of color. Kamala Harris (among many others) has followed suit, featuring American designers and advancing Biden's "Build Back Better" campaign. Throughout the pandemic, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi has earned a reputation for wearing bold face masks that compliment her outfits perfectly. In doing so, she stands out against her colleagues and sends a clear message: *wear a damn mask. Additionally, many of the masks were made by small companies with a focus on giving back to their communities. Nuanced decisions like these show an intentionality with which many political leaders live their lives.*

Overall, fashion is an opportunity to make a statement without saying anything at all. Considering that it is something so often addressed by the press, on social media, gossip magazines, and even individuals directly, it's no surprise that female leaders have found ways to use it to their advantage. ■

## Chieftain Chews: Kung Fu Tea

Joseph Kayne, Min-Jae Kim, and Elsa Zhou '23

At 7:30 on a Friday, none of us expected to be so mentally and physically exhausted. But, \$100 worth of Kung Fu Tea can do that to you.

3 hours earlier, we drew odd stares from other mall-goers as Michelle rang up 20 drinks (since we'd chosen to spend an exorbitant amount of money on this Chieftain Chews segment, a decision none of us came to regret). We carried four bags of bubble tea to the car and giddily anticipated a test of our core values, which would surely come into question as we tried all of these drinks. Crazy and common combinations of tea, milk tea, slushies, and various toppings like boba, jelly, and even pudding jostled around in the car and we headed towards what was either going to be heaven or absolute doom.

The tasting process was interesting, to say the least. We split up each drink into 3 glasses, attempting somewhat to divvy up the topping as well as the drink itself equally. Michelle (our fabulous guest star!), who had accompanied us from Kung Fu Tea, sat in to remind us what each drink was and to offer her professional opinion on several drinks. Tasting them was much harder than any of us had guessed... not even half our drinks were downed when we all felt woozy and spent, but for you (our wonderful viewers), we trooped on.

At the end, we each chose our top and worst three drinks that we decided stood out from the rest. In general, we came to the conclusion that the slushies were the best choice at Kung Fu Tea. The top three drinks: Mango slush with mango popping bubbles, strawberry slush with nata jelly, and sunshine pineapple tea with mango jelly.

Also, if you were wondering you can watch our full review and entertaining journey exploring the drinks by scanning this QR code. ■



## Streaming Movies

Elsa Zhou '23

As the second wave of COVID-19 begins to rush the nation, one of the many industries struggling to adapt to the restrictions brought about by the virus is the movie theater business. Recent years have already seen a major uptick in streaming services such as Netflix, seen by 2011's roughly 21.5 million subscribers to around 73.1 million subscribers as of 2020 in the US alone. However, because of the confined and indoor nature of movie theaters (among a multitude of other risk factors), movie theater companies are barely scraping by. AMC, for example, has asked for 800 million dollars to stay alive. Studios such as Disney have attempted to reroute their movies to streaming services already, such as the release of the highly anticipated remake *Mulan on Disney+*. *Disney asked fans for a \$30 "Premier Access" fee to watch the movie in the traditional movie-theater window but lifted the price on Dec 4 for fans wishing to watch the remake after the initial few months.*

Warner Bros' momentous decision to release all of its 2021 blockbusters via the streaming service HBO Max could lead to great repercussions for movie theaters. Already, people have gravitated towards streaming movies on their phones, tablets, or computers simply because of the ease. A yearly subscription, no need to go out, and the wide array of choice tips the scales for many against the traditional moviegoing experience. Now, with COVID attached, going to movie theaters is not only a dangerous risk to take but something many are not inclined to do in the first place. By switching and relying on a streaming service for their movies, Warner Bros has drawn plenty of criticism from theater companies and top Hollywood executives because the move seems to roll over the close relationship between studios and producers. However, in the eyes of a consumer, Warner Bros has just brought major blockbusters like *Wonder Woman*, *Suicide Squad*, and *Dune closer to home than ever.* ■

## Renaissance Man and Woman of the Month

Vandita Rastogi and Ethan Marx '21

For the most astute European history scholars, you already know what a "renaissance man" is. A "renaissance man" is someone who is well-rounded in every element of life. While we frequently commend those with artistic, academic, or athletic success, this section has been revived to highlight well-rounded students at Indian Hill. This month we are happy to honor Sophie Sawyers and Luis Vega-Torres as the Renaissance Man and Woman of the Month.

You may know her as the President of various clubs at Indian Hill or the activist and campaigner outside school. Sophie has portrayed many qualities that make her well fit for this month's article.



While Sophie isn't just merely involved in extracurriculars, she happens to have reached great success in her activities. A well-known face at Indian Hill, she serves as class treasurer for student government, Vice President for DECA, chapter secretary for JSA, Layout Editor for Chieftain, President of PERIOD @ Indian Hill, and as a Board Member for IH Serves. She's also a TSL Officer, NHS Fundraising Co-Chair, and participates on the soccer and track teams. But that's not all. Outside of school, she is a voice in the JSA Racial Justice Task Force, an activism specialist for the Ohio River Valley JSA, a Youth Juror, an intern for the congressional campaign, and an employee at the Mariemont Theatre. Needless to say, Sophie is very well-rounded and certainly excels in every leadership role.

Beyond her participation in and outside of school, Sophie is committed to building a community at Indian Hill and de-stigmatizing topics such as period poverty. She says her most fulfilling experience has been "founding the PERIOD @ Indian Hill club" and organized a GoFundMe this past summer to donate over 250 packs of feminine hygiene products to local nonprofits. Together with her team, Sophie is, "excited to implement [events and fundraisers] this year to raise awareness around an important issue."

Sophie advises younger students to let go of "any reservations you have about putting yourself out there and just go for it". She never thought she'd participate in DECA, but after taking a marketing class her sophomore year, she made many memories through the competition and

even placed for Internationals in Florida!

Like any other senior, Sophie is busy with the college application process this year. She started researching potential schools her sophomore year and was lucky enough to attend some campus tours. She spends most of her weekends and study halls completing supplemental essays. While Sophie does exemplify academic excellence, what sets her apart from the crowd is her personality. Her compassion, altruism, and responsiveness towards her peers has made her a light in our IH community. Her commitment to community engagement and kindness will definitely leave a lasting legacy long after she leaves. I know that whichever college is lucky to have her next year will get a truly gifted, versatile, and empathetic individual with a passion for change.

Luis Vega-Torres is this month's Renaissance Man and the first underclassman selected for this title. There is no question why Luis was chosen by his peers for this honor. Luis is involved with many extracurriculars at Indian Hill, including Pow Wow, Drama Club, Honor Band, French Club, and baseball. His most fulfilling experience at Indian Hill was "participating in... *The Phantom of The Opera* as a member of the pit orchestra. It was an incredibly rewarding experience with a lot of awesome people," he states. When asked to give advice to other students about getting involved, Luis recommends reaching out to club members and officers. He notes that "the large majority of clubs are always looking for new members and new people to fill different important positions" and advises students to "just ask!"



In the upcoming year, Luis is looking forward to being able to play baseball. Last year, he did not think he was going to be able to play due to scheduling conflicts, but he was. But, due to COVID-19, the season was unfortunately cancelled. ■

## The Bachelorette

Mady Kahn '22

I think that I can confidently say that this has been one of the strongest seasons of The Bachelorette yet with two bachelorettes in one season and the entire show taking place in one resort (because they can't travel). But even with all the abnormalities of this season, it is still full of all the entertaining drama that we love! I'm going to share my opinions on Tayshia's past few episodes (up until week 9) and my predictions for the finale.

### Dates

This season has been one of the heaviest seasons that I have seen. So many of these contestants have opened up with deep and personal issues, from battling racism to overcoming addiction, to dealing with mental health issues. Both Zac and Ben had one-on-one dates where they talked about some very serious topics from their pasts. Additionally, even more, men opened up after the art class and lie detector group dates. Overall I think that Tayshia has a really great group of men who have dealt with some heavy pasts.

### Noah vs. Bennet

Before I even get started on the Noah vs. Bennett drama, let me warn you, I absolutely cannot stand Bennett. To begin, let's take a look back at the wrestling date (which was Tayshia's very first group date). After Ed forfeited his wrestling match, Chris Harrison asked the men, "Is there anybody here that wants to fight for Tayshia's heart?" Noah decided to take advantage of this opportunity and hopped the fence to take Ed's place - which considering that they are on the show for the sole purpose of "fighting for Tayshia's heart," I find very fair. Noah lost the match, but put up an extremely good fight. Before the men who were initially chosen to go on the group date left for the cocktail party, Tayshia said "honestly Noah, you jumped a fence for me and were willing to get in the ring and fight for me, I'd really like you there tonight if you'd like to join us." Obviously, Noah accepted this offer (personally I think he would be stupid not to - I mean he's there to get to know Tayshia so why would he turn down the offer to spend more time with her?), but of course, this made a lot of the other men mad, which really kicked off the drama surrounding Noah. Noah certainly isn't my favorite contestant, but I really don't think that he did anything wrong there; had any of the other contestants jumped the fence (which was fair since Chris prompted it), they would've done the same. Fast forward a few episodes and now almost all of the Noah drama is between him and Bennett. At the group date, Bennett made Noah move so that he could be next to Tayshia, and then the two went back and forth making rude remarks at each other. Eventually, Tayshia had enough of the drama and decided it was time to

settle it by giving one of them a rose (like a mini 2-on-1 date). Of course, Bennett showed up with a "present" for Noah, including a pair of mustache socks, a bandana, and a book about emotional intelligence. Real mature, Bennett. And of course, Bennett had to include the emotional intelligence book - it's all he ever talks about! We get it, you went to Harvard, now move on! I seriously cannot stand listening to Bennett talk - he is just so insanely arrogant it drives me crazy. Tayshia ended up sending Bennett home (woohoo!), but also did not give Noah the rose because she was still unsure as to how she felt. Even though I personally can't stand Bennett, I think that Tayshia was definitely more attracted to him but saw some red flags. Again, I'm not really a huge fan of Noah and in the end, I don't think they are going to end up together, but I definitely preferred him over Bennett and I think she might keep him around a little bit longer. Unfortunately, after the cocktail party, Tayshia was greeted with a surprise visit from the one and only Bennett. Obviously, I was not happy with this, but the episode ended with Tayshia saying she had to think about whether or not she would let him back on the show. As much as I hope she doesn't, I think that she still has feelings for him so I wouldn't be surprised if she lets him on for a little bit longer.

### Predictions

Honestly, I think that a lot of the men this season are great, but I'm not completely sure who I see Tayshia with. I feel like by this time in the season I would have one or two pretty confident guesses (or at least preferences) regarding who will end up together, but I really can't say that I do. I think that Zac and Ben are going to make it pretty far, and I also feel pretty confident about Riley. I feel like I still don't know a ton about Ivan, but I think that he seems like a good guy and I could see him making it pretty far. As much as I hope it doesn't happen, I could see Bennett coming back and moving on, but I really don't see her choosing him. As for who I think is going to "win," I'm not really sure. I think Tayshia has a lot of really strong connections, but I'm not quite sure who I really see her getting married to in the end. ■

## Athlete of the Month: Jenny Zhang

Elsa Zhou '23

Jenny Zhang. At first glance, those who know her in school may think of her impressive Mock Trial record, her involvement and awards in a multitude of Science Olympiad events, or her laudable contributions to Indian Hill's state-qualifying Robotics team, perhaps even her love for blobfish, overwhelming skill in Minecraft, or undoubted skill on the violin. However, today we at Chieftain highlight another aspect of her multitalented personage: her athleticism.

Jenny, who has played tennis for 6 years, has a number of accolades to her name: she has earned 4 varsity letters, doubles victories in Final four State team matches twice, doubles victories towards runner-up at State last year, and this season's OHSAA quarterfinals (individuals) with freshman Lexi Larsen, just to name a few. She noted that the 2020 season was "amazing" and she felt that the team was "especially close and that we made unforgettable experiences that I'll hold dear for the rest of my life." In an interview, Jenny gave special thanks to IH's new coach Wade for his "endless inspiration for us to be competitive and work hard" and the new AD Mr. Phelps's "encouragement and engagement with the team by going the extra mile and coming to so many of our matches." She also thanks her teachers for being lenient with deadlines and tests to accommodate a demanding state tennis schedule. However, Jenny's previous athletic undertakings also include volleyball, soccer, swimming, and track, but she continued onto tennis in high school, something both the tennis team and school are grateful for.

A true representative of Indian Hill's core values, Jenny Zhang continues to lead in academics, athletics, and more. She plans to play intramural tennis in college and is grateful for not only the physical rigor of tennis but how tennis allowed her to broaden her horizons and meet so many people of varying backgrounds. We here at Chieftain can't wait to follow her in her future endeavors! ■

## Teacher of the Month: Mr. Clark

Joseph Kayne '23

With COVID-19 picking up again as we move into 2021, teachers are continuing to adapt to the guidelines presented by the school. Recently, Indian Hill has gone all online, which further affects teachers. Here at Chieftain, we feel that one teacher, in particular, Jeff Clark, has adapted and overcome these challenges, despite having one of the hardest jobs to do so: teaching music.

### Why did you decide to become a music teacher?

I had a very influential high school teacher, Mr. Gradel (who was able to come to see the Phantom of the Opera last year!). I found myself ALWAYS thinking about music, especially organizing and creating innovative performances. Show Choir became a big part of my life as I loved how it merged choral singing and musical theatre, and that started with Mr. Gradel. My high school choir family became a huge social network for me, and I try to create that for my students.

### What is it that you enjoy most about teaching?

There's a certain glow, or "lightbulb" moment that occurs with students when they have the satisfaction of a job well done, or of a concept that suddenly clicks. It's that reward that comes from arduous effort that makes it all worthwhile.

### This past school year has been a challenging year for all teachers, especially music teachers. How has the pandemic affected you and how have you adapted?

To put it in perspective, it's been sort of like telling a math teacher they can only tell their students HOW to do the problem, but not allow the students to actually complete it! At IHHS, we thrive on innovation. Nowhere has that been more of a challenge than in music education. Small group activities, projects, and lots of student collaboration have been our focus for the time being. We are planting the seeds now for harvest later.

### You are definitely considered to be one of the better teachers when it comes to adapting to the corona guidelines even though singing is one of the hardest things to adapt. How do you get your ideas for lesson plans and special events during this pandemic?

Thank you so much! Honestly, it's like year one of teaching for so many of us. We are just trying to throw something out there and see what sticks. When creating content, I always go back to student choice and also ask myself 'what would I enjoy doing during this time?'. I also am the type of person to look 3 months down the road, so there's always a sense of what's next rather than being stuck in the now. I have several teacher colleagues that have helped with the brainstorming as well!

### Is there anything else you would like to add?

I couldn't imagine what it would be like as a high school student going through this. Education as a whole will be forever changed, and I am so proud of our students and their efforts to persevere. We have a ways to go, but I'm confident better times are ahead. To quote The Lion King musical, "I know that the night must end and that the sun will rise!" ■

## Spotify Wrapped

Annie Joy '22

Another year, another Spotify Wrapped. Even those without the streaming service are probably familiar with the concept from the annual bombarding of screenshots posted onto classmates' Instagram and Snapchat stories revealing their favorite artists, genres, and songs. But for those still confused as to exactly what Spotify Wrapped is, let me explain. As the year comes to an end, Spotify examines its listeners streaming frequency of podcasts and music for the past 12 months, then compiles this data into a quick, personal slide-show to display their top streamed content.

Global trends are also released, and 2020 had some interesting streaming habits according to Spotify's compilation of data in their "The Trends That Shaped Streaming In 2020" post. The most-streamed artist globally was Puerto Rican rapper, Bad Bunny, claiming the top spot with more than 8.3 billion streams just this year. He is followed by artists Drake, J Balvin, the late Juice WRLD, and The Weeknd. Billie Eilish holds her spot as the most-streamed female artist for both 2019 and 2020, and she is followed by Taylor Swift and Ariana Grande, who claim spots two and three. The top three songs were "Blinding Lights" by The Weeknd, "Dance Monkey" by Tones And I, and "The Box" by Roddy Rich, and podcasts were *The Joe Rogan Experience*, *TED Talks Daily*, and *The Daily*. Spotify also claimed there was a sharp increase in nostalgia-themed playlists, increasing 54% from April 1-7 (which continued to rise throughout the year), as well as a 1,400% increase in work-from-home themed playlists. 2020 amplified Black voices through songs and podcasts as the Black Lives Matter movement swept the country, with over 64 million streams of Spotify's Black Lives Matter playlist, and 65,000 playlists created titled "BLM" or "Black Lives Matter".

Despite 2020's unique challenges, streaming stayed a part of so many people's lives, helping them harness the comfort, creativity, and connection which comes from the most dynamic audio: music. ■

## Gift Guide

Charlotte McNair '21

There is no doubt that the holiday season is one of the most stressful times of the year and buying gifts for loved ones only adds to that stress. Never fear, I am here to give you the ultimate gift guide for almost every person in your life.

What your mom actually wants:

While coupons for back rubs and hugs were cute when you were five, we have aged out of it, and it's time to put in a little more effort. While she may say all she wants is a handmade gift, that's probably a lie because what she really wants is to be appreciated. The best gift to get your mom is a massage gift certificate or a gift card to some sort of spa treatment place or even a salon. Other ideas include a framed picture or anything from the brand lululemon.

For any guy in your life:

The guys in my life are always hard to shop for because they are constantly saying they don't need anything or something that I can't afford like a golf club. Some ideas include, a sports jersey, men's lululemon shorts or joggers, a sweatshirt or hat from any cool local shops and restaurants like Delmere and Hopkins or Fifty west Brewery.

For the person who has anything:

This person sucks to shop for because it feels like there is nothing they don't have and when that's the case I head to Etsy or Instagram shops for something unique or customizable.

The person that "doesn't like gifts":

I highly recommend making them a fun sentimental video or write them a letter. I also recommend getting a notebook and filling it with pictures and memories you guys share together and then leaving some pages blank so you can continue to fill it out. ■

## Hillbilly Elegy Film Review

Ethan Marx '21

With the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic came the fall of the movie theatre industry. With many movie theatres across the globe closed, the movie industry has been plummeting. Luckily for modern citizens, movies are more accessible than ever before. Through streaming services like Netflix, Hulu, HBO Max, and Disney+, cinephiles have access to content at the touch of a screen. Further, with streaming services announcing digital releases of their 2021 slates, many have speculated about a shift in the movie-going experience forever. While I hold out hope for the film industry, I am also excited about the new possibilities of virtual movie consumption. While Netflix is facing more competition than ever in the streaming industry, they seem to have little competition in the avenue of most interest to me: the Academy Awards. With new titles like *Mank*, *The Trial of The Chicago 7*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, and more, Netflix may snag its first coveted Best Picture award. However, one film that did not make the mark for Netflix was *Hillbilly Elegy*.

*Hillbilly Elegy* is a problematic film based on a controversial novel. Released in 2016, many affluent elites used *Hillbilly Elegy* as a way to comprehend the absurdity of a Trump victory. The novel follows the life of J.D. Vance, a Yale-educated attorney who grew up in central Ohio with his mother. His family suffers with poverty and drug addiction and J.D. struggles with his education. Through the aid of his grandmother (portrayed by Glenn Close), J.D. is able to overcome this cycle and achieve success. However, many have criticized the novel for its stance on poverty and, more accurately, the ability to escape poverty. Critics have also pointed out that Vance didn't grow up in Appalachia -- he grew up in Middletown, Ohio. Some argue that Vance's central claim -- that those who work hard can escape poverty -- is flawed. Aside from your thoughts on Vance's novel, there remain some problems with the film. First of all, everything that made the book a sensation -- the socio-political commentary -- is stripped from the film. Second, its depiction of Appalachian culture has been regarded as inaccurate. From the opening shots of the film, we see the director's perspective on Appalachia. The shots focus on the flora and fauna of the town, eerily reminiscent of a nature documentary. Then, after a few shots of rough-housing, we cut to an older Vance at a dinner with law partners at Yale. When

asked where he grew up, Vance replies with Kentucky and a hush falls over the table. While only a small portion of the film, this interaction is a perfect analogy of the film's perspective: Appalachia is an exotic place that consists of a single story. Another cringeworthy example comes towards the end of the film when Vance's girlfriend mocks him for the way he pronounces syrup (he says "sur-up" as opposed to "see-rup"). Finally, the film doesn't have much build. The story is just a repetition of fights between Vance, his mother, and his grandmother. Unlike the book, the result is told to us in the first ten minutes, leaving us with few questions. While there are many problems with the film, there are some benefits, mainly in the performances by Close and Adams. Yet even with these stellar actors, the performances feel flat or meaningless. The film shows constant fighting without giving the characters much room to build. Thus, even though the film had highly acclaimed directors, actors, writers, and source material, it still fell surprisingly short. ■





## Ben Starkey

John Kushman '21

Anytime you hear the name, Ben Starkey, it will never be with a bad connotation. I have known Ben for practically my whole life and am happy to say he is still the same as the kid I met when I was 5. Ben comes into any challenge he faces with a positive attitude, something that has captivated me and many others throughout the years. Ben, along with being a two sport varsity athlete, has always taken pride in creating high quality work, whether it be in school or other aspects of his life. His work ethic and attitude has set him up for a very successful and fulfilling life ahead of him. I am very thankful to have met Ben and can't wait to see what he accomplishes in the future. ■



## Connor Roehrig

Sophie Sawyers '21

Connor Roehrig and I have been friends since the fifth grade, possibly even before that when we played recreational soccer together. Over the years, I have learned that Connor is incredibly responsible, hard-working, smart, grounded, and optimistic. She has cheered me up after long days of school and has provided the encouragement that I needed as a teammate on the soccer and track teams. We have participated in Chieftain together since freshman year, and we have both served as TSL's during our junior and senior years. I am so glad that I have gotten to spend time with Connor through these extracurriculars, and I've enjoyed having classes like AP Lang with her as well. Connor and I also have frequent breakfasts with friends at Toast and Berry along with occasional dinners at Bones Burgers, always filled with laughs and smiles. It was after one of these dinners that Connor bravely volunteered to get a stink bug out of my car and used my UIDF ice cream cup to slowly scrape it off of my windshield (after I got so scared that I had to pull over). Connor has also been one of the few people to tolerate my need to listen to The Beatles in the car (for those wondering, her favorite song is "Twist and Shout") and I will truly miss seeing her everyday after we graduate. Without a doubt, Connor is one of my best friends and I am so excited to see the things she accomplishes in the future! ■



## Graham Pierce

David Kholodenko '21

I've known Graham for a long while now, and it goes without saying that he is a mad lad. He's quirky, funny, well-loved, and boasts a near-photographic memory, making him great at the many things he does. From leading the Trivia Team to memorizing practically all of history, he's certainly a knowledgeable person and very fun to debate. I can still remember the thousands of questions he asked in AP World while the rest of the class egged him on in an effort to derail the class. Graham Pierce is a most interesting fellow, and someone I am happy to call a friend. Thanks to him, classes are funnier, the Wikipedia page for Orangutans is more accurate, and the world is a brighter place. ■



## Grace Galloway

Sophie Sawyers '21

I have had the pleasure of knowing Grace Galloway since the fifth grade. While she may seem relatively shy and reserved to those who don't know her, her friends know that she is humorous, hard-working, smart, and dependable. Grace and I have participated in many extracurriculars together, including DECA and Latin Club. It would be hard to forget our experience in Troy, Alabama at National Latin Convention, when our dorm room flooded and we only ate Domino's Pizza for three days in a row. I will always remember our first DECA State competition as well, filled with Starbucks trips and stress about our role-play events. Our breakfasts at Toast and Berry have been filled with hilarious stories and delicious food, one of the things I will miss most after leaving high school. While our time at Indian Hill may be coming to a close, I am confident that Grace and I will remain friends for many years to come and I can't wait to see the amazing things that she will accomplish in the future! ■



## Max Yanes

Caleb Zender '21



Intelligent, humorous, and god-tier CoD player are just a few words you could use to describe Max Yanes-Diehl. Max brings with him a lighthearted personality wherever he goes, instantly lighting up each and every room he enters. He manages to bring a bit of his rather iconic humor into every conversation, bringing a smile to the face of anyone within earshot. Max excels academically and athletically, playing on both the soccer and basketball teams, and will undoubtedly attend a top-notch school for his college education. Over the past few years, I have enjoyed every last moment I have spent with Max. From forty-mile bike trips, to robotics, to movie nights, he is a pleasure to be around all the time. Max has inspired me to grow as a student, as a person, and as a friend and I know, without a doubt, that I am a better person for knowing him, and will cherish the memories we've shared for the rest of my life. TL;DR: if you ever get a chance to mingle with Max, take it. You most definitely won't regret it. ■

## Sarah Motawi

Ethan Marx '21

Sarah is one of the most dedicated and kindest people at Indian Hill. I have had the pleasure of working with her in both Mock Trial and Courageous Conversations over the past few years and can attest to her commitment to social justice and helping others. While Sarah is a fantastic student, she is also very funny. Between joking about terribly produced yet surprisingly entertaining Netflix shows, messing around at Mock Trial practice, or scouring 1920s Irish Census records, Sarah always brings energy, joy, and laughter to everything she does. I know that Sarah is going to go on to do wonderful things due to the kindness of her heart, the talent of her mind, and the energy she brings to everything she does! ■



## Katia Cristo

Sydney Poffenberger '21

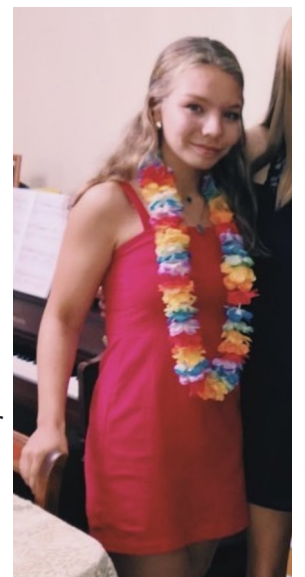
Where do I start? Katia Cristo is one of the most amazing people you will ever meet. She lights up every room she enters and can make anywhere she goes more fun. She never fails to make me laugh and can always have a great time, no matter where we are. She can also make a phenomenal quesadilla, which is just one of her many skills! She is so determined and passionate both in school and in her figure skating, which she is incredible at! She is truly one of the hardest workers I know, while still being such a humble and down to earth person, and I have no doubt that she will go on to do such amazing things after her time at Indian Hill. Knowing Katia throughout high school has been such an incredible blessing and I couldn't ask for a better life long friend. ■



## Jessie Cleverly

Reilly Grace '21

Ever since kindergarten, Jessie has always been an outgoing, caring, and awesome friend. Growing up, it was so nice knowing I had someone to depend on right down the street from me in Sturbridge. Some of my fondest memories of us are playing badminton on your front lawn, going for drives in your car, and so much more. I also tend to do most school projects with her, like the TMP for Capstone and the Brain Book for Psychology. She is such a great partner to work with, we never not have fun while doing a project! Jessie, thank you for being such a great friend, and I am so proud of everything you have accomplished! ■



## Zoe Hindman

Faye Hardek '21



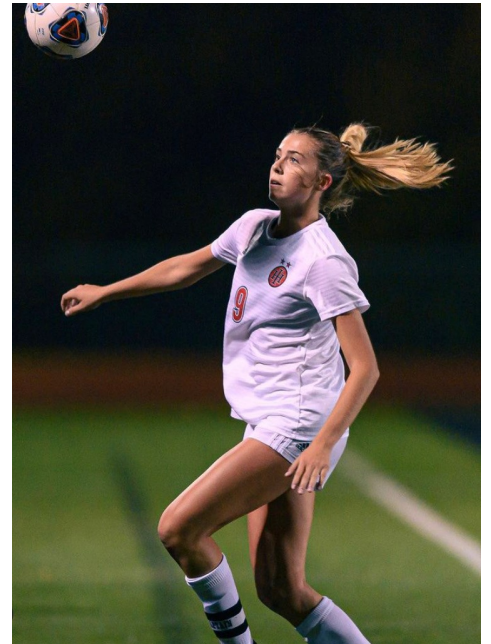
It's hard to believe that Zoe arrived at IH only four years ago; it feels like I've known her forever. I'll never forget the day I was introduced to the shy goalie fresh out of California. She seemed friendly right off the bat but little did I know we'd make unforgettable memories

together for the next four years. Seeing Zoe blossom into the confident and intelligent woman she is today has truly been a blessing. Whether it's on the soccer field or in the classroom, she puts her whole heart and soul into everything she does, and for that, she has earned the respect of many. Zoe has the best taste in rom-coms of anyone I know and can always be counted on to crack a joke to lighten the mood, but above all, she is a fierce friend. Thanks for sticking with me, and I can't wait to see what the future has in store for you Zo! ■

## Meghan O'Brien

Sydney Poffenberger '21

Even though I have only known Meghan for the short four years we've spent together in high school, I feel like I've known her for a lifetime. If it wasn't for a fateful placement in Mrs Coultas' 3th period Freshman English class, I probably wouldn't even be here writing this. But thankfully, I am, and couldn't be any happier to call Meghan one of my closest friends. Meghan has a personality and smile that instantly lights up a room the minute she walks in. Her grace and poise never cease to amaze me and her jokes never fail to make me laugh. Even though she is one of my best friends and we love hanging out with her, we know that come fall soccer season the chances of seeing Meghan out in public become slim. Meghan is an insanely talented soccer player and not a one time, but a TWO time state champ winner. So for those reasons we let her perfect her craft and are totally stoked for the many months after, where we can have more crazy nights together. In addition, Meghan is so very intelligent and I know any college will be absurdly lucky to have her. We all love you very much, Meghan, and can't wait to see the great things you will do in the future! ■



## Jenny Zhang

Vandita Rastogi '23

I met Jenny last year when we were seated together in AP Physics for the first quarter. I'm pretty sure we drove Mr. Debbink really crazy with our laughter over random things because we were never assigned the same table group again. In just one short year that was cut even shorter with the pandemic, I realized how much Jenny cares about the people around her. She lightens the atmosphere in every room she enters, and she's always the first to crack a joke. She's been there to help with acceleration graphs to everyday life problems. I don't think I'll ever forget what happened in our pre-calc class last year, but it only proved how much Jenny values the people around her. Besides being a lively individual, Jenny is very hard-working. She has 4 varsity tennis letters to her name, has doubles victories with her State team, and made it to the State quarterfinals this year with freshman Lexi Larsen. Not only that, she spends her time competing with the state-qualifying Science Olympiad and Robotics teams. Aside from her accolades, Jenny has proven to be a worthy friend, polished with humorous character and warmth. I know that wherever her future endeavors lead her, she will be extremely successful, and I can't wait to hear all the amazing things she does. Good luck, Jenny! ■



## Sarus Anand

Will Ford '21

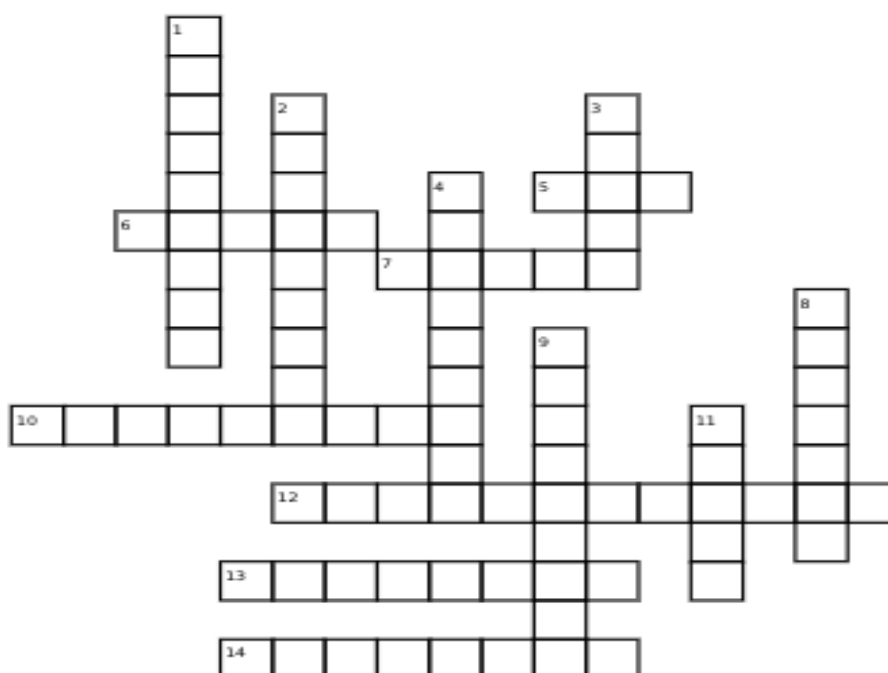
Sarus Anand. A puzzling fellow - his digital prowess and remarkable intelligence were certainly a bit daunting when we first crossed paths. After struggling (or drowning, which ever is preferable) during a 200 yard butterfly at Princeton High School and enduring the perils of Coach Benson Spurling, Sarus quickly became a close acquaintance. I began to witness his witty sarcasm and nerdy jokes, and we soon became partners-in-crime - warm-down buddies in the most congested warm-down lanes, self-proclaimed masters of making the 500 yard freestyle somewhat tolerable, and most notably, great friends! I have determined, however, after sitting in Oxford for hours (in the freezing cold) staring at my mom's burnt-out headlights (and proceeding to miss the pre-ACT the next morning...), Sarus epitomizes the virtue of empathy, lending a hand to me and those around him without hesitation. A unfaltering confidante. While we can all find him proudly gaming, using only the most cutting-edge technology, or trouncing his competitors in sprint freestyle events, I assure you that next year, he will be leaving his indelible mark on the world and changing the world for the better. You, my friend, have a bright future ahead of you. ■

*The Chieftain staff would like to thank our subscribers and the generous benefactors to our endeavors, who have been vital in funding and preserving the art of physical media.*



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# December Crossword



**Down:**

- 1. the ancient culture that initiated the tradition of evergreens
- 2. the second-highest-grossing Christmas film; Wait... is that Moira Rose?
- 3. the Dutch surname of the original Santa Claus
- 4. a Christmas tradition; a Barbra Streisand classic
- 8. their flag contains a red stripe and they are responsible for a striped Christmas delicacy
- 9. this American colony was the first group to create eggnog
- 11. the singer of "You're A Mean One, Mr. Grinch" was Thurl \_\_\_\_\_scroft; Nevermore

**Across:**

- 5. the most popular food at Christmas dinner
- 6. you know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer
- 7. silver; jingle
- 10. originally believed to be an aphrodisiac; now we just kiss under it
- 12. Jingle Bells originated as a song for this American holiday
- 13. the surname of the newest actor to take on the moniker of the Grinch
- 14. the only Christmas song to reach #1 on the Billboard Hot 100 is The \_\_\_\_\_ Song; Alvin!

Send a picture of your completed puzzle to @ihchieftain on Instagram or email ihchieftain@gmail.com and you will be entered to win a prize!



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