

CHIEFTAIN.

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INDIAN HILL HIGH SCHOOL'S PROUDLY STUDENT-RUN NEWSPAPER

2020 Wrapped

Vandita Rastogi '21 and Faye Hardek '21

Difficult in many ways, 2020 has also been a time for growth, new precedents and a newfound appreciation for community. We spent months in isolation to help frontline workers and celebrated victories over Zoom. Here's what happened in 2020, told as they are:

Carrying over from 2019, the Australian wildfires devastated the country's savannas, providing a bit of foreshadowing for what the year was to bring. However, as world leaders came together to provide support, not all hope in humanity was yet lost. Less than two weeks later, although less of a surprise, Meghan and Harry took leave from the Royal Family, moving to Canada to begin building their separate family. After January's one-two punch, the general news died down a bit, giving people the chance to take a breath. With the knowledge that the first of two Friday the 13ths was approaching in March, both the superstitious and the skeptics braced themselves for a tragic news story, maybe a haunting of some sort, but none were ready for what really came. Declared a pandemic that month by the World Health Organization, COVID-19 took out schools, businesses, and people one-by-one, resulting in an unforgettable national lockdown. As the world raced for a vaccine, many teens found ways to connect with TikTok, using the platform to make their mark on society, buying out tickets and creating a near-empty stadium at Trump's Tulsa rally and much more. Not long after, as if the world hadn't gone through enough already, ammonium nitrate combusted and devastated the port city of Beirut, injuring many and putting a damper on their recovery from an economic crisis. Despite all that occurred, everyone received a flicker of hope as Pfizer, Moderna, and other companies began working on the COVID vaccine that has begun circulating in the new year.

While there were general ups and downs throughout this year, there were many tragic deaths that made 2020 a time like no other. On January 26, a helicopter crashed down in Casablanca, California. Basketball star Kobe Bryant and daughter Gigi Bryant died from the crash, along with John Altobelli and his wife Keri and daughter Alyssa, Christina Mauser, Sarah Chester and daughter Payton. The world held a vigil for their loss, lighting up buildings with yellow and purple. Then, in the midst of BLM protests and the COVID-19 pandemic, another death of a cherished actor followed. On August 28, it was reported that the 'Black Panther' movie star Chadwick Boseman died of colon cancer. As if the year couldn't get worse, during election season, an icon of human rights, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg passed away. Her legacy lies in her advocacy and leading voice for gender equality, women's interest, and civil rights/liberties. Finally, as the year came to a close and things were finally looking up, we lost yet another national treasure. Fighting cancer for many years, we lost the host of the beloved *Jeopardy!*, Alex Trebek, on November 8th.

It may not have been a perfect year but there was a

beacon of hope in the entertainment industry. At the beginning of the U.S. lockdown, actor Tom Hanks got COVID, but was able to recover quickly. The music industry skyrocketed as many artists released albums to lighten the atmosphere. Louis Tomlinson released his debut solo album, *Walls*, on January 31, and Niall Horan released *Heartbreak Weather* on March 13. Most notably, Taylor Swift released two indie/alternative albums, *folklore* in July and *evermore* in December, as well as a movie on Disney+ to explain and sing all the tracks from *folklore*. Miley Cyrus released a rock album titled *Plastic Hearts*, Ariana Grande released *Positions*, and Childish Gambino released *3.15.20*. Megan Thee Stallion and Doja Cat also rose to fame with TikTok famous songs. In the TV industry, *Schitt's Creek* made history at the Emmys. Created by Canadian actors Dan Levy and Eugene Levy, the show proved to be "simply the best" by sweeping up all awards in the 7 major comedy categories.

When it comes to politics, the United States got more than their fair share of drama. The bitterness surrounding Trump's 2019 impeachment trial did not go away with the start of 2020, and from there, the news would only become more eventful. With the murder of George Floyd, the Black Lives Matter movement gathered speed, as organized, peaceful protests spread the country. With local media and celebrity support, the movement became highly publicized and successful in multiple areas. The LGBTQ+ community received a major victory as the Supreme Court granted protection from discrimination based on sex, putting an end to people being fired due to their sexuality. As election season picked up, the first presidential debates became a televised embarrassment, with Trump and Biden dodging questions, interrupting, and disrespecting time allotted to speak. When it came time to cast votes, the decision was made to keep the votes open as well as allowing for mail-in ballots, once again sparking controversy as Trump pleaded to close the ballots early and falsely claimed voter fraud. However, through the political storm shone a ray of light as Kamala Harris became the first woman, and first woman of color, Vice President.

The world experienced euphoric highs and crushing lows, facing challenges and triumphs with each passing day. Although this past year did not go as planned nearly at all, we must take away both the good and bad times as learning experiences in hopes of making 2021 a prosperous year. ■



Peep this Month in

Chieftain:

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Features

Wonder Woman 84 review on page 7!

Senior Spotlights

Celebrate our seniors on pages 9-11!

COMIC

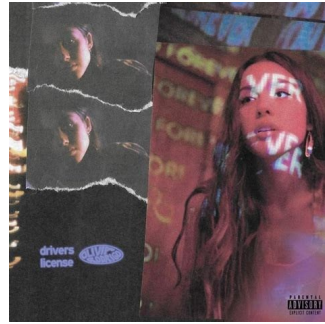
on page 12!

January This & That

Tacey Hutten '22

Drivers License

We've all heard it, most of us know all of the words... some of us have even cried to it- Olivia Rodrigo's new song, "Drivers License," was released on January 8th. On the 11th, it set Spotify's record for the non-holiday song with the most streams in a day, reaching 15.17 million streams globally. Then on the 12th, it broke its own record with over 17.01 million streams. ■



NRA Files for Bankruptcy

The National Rifle Association (NRA), one of the most prominent lobbies in the country and a relentless advocate for gun rights, has filed for bankruptcy. The announcement followed years of financial mismanagement and resulting interactions with the New York Attorney General. The organization explained that it plans to reincorporate as a Texas non profit in a transition it is calling "Project Freedom." ■

Alzheimer's Drug Trial Sees Positive Results

COVID-19 vaccine trials aren't the only medical experiments making progress this year. Drug maker, Eli Lilly, just announced positive results in their two year clinical trial for an Alzheimer's drug, which is meant to slow the "decline" of Alzheimer's patients. While not yet widely published or reviewed, if accurate, this will be the first time a positive result has been found in a so-called Phase 2 study for an Alzheimer's treatment. ■

Joanne Rogers

Joanne Rogers, "Mister Rogers's" wife, passed away at age 92 due to heart failure. She was an accomplished pianist and long-time chair of the board of Fred Rogers Productions. She spent the last years of her life advocating for her husband's legacy and the message they shared through the children's show,



"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." She is survived by her two sons, three

Earthquake in Indonesia

A 6.2 magnitude earthquake struck Indonesia's Sulawesi Island on January 15th, killing about 42 people and injuring hundreds more. Rescue teams spent days fighting a lack of resources in order to locate and save trapped survivors. The region straddles what is known as the Pacific "Ring of Fire," and thus is prone to powerful earthquakes. This time, officials were quickly able to rule out the possibility of a tsunami, though nearby areas experienced landslides as a result of the quake. ■

The New Face of Louis Vuitton

Louis Vuitton announced Naomi Osaka as their newest brand ambassador. Osaka, a three-time Grand Slam champion and currently ranked third in the world by the Women's Tennis Association, will be the face of the brand's Spring-Summer 2021 campaign. In addition to her competitive success, Osaka has earned attention for her fashion choices, which she has used to bring awareness to her Japanese heritage and, more recently, the Black Lives Matter movement. ■



Lin-Manuel Miranda Signs On To "Encanto"

Disney's 60th animated film, "Encanto," will be released in theatres in November of this year. The musical takes place in Colombia, and focuses on the story of a young girl whose family possesses special powers while she does not. It will feature music in both English and Spanish, some of which will be written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, who has just recently signed onto the project. Miranda has worked with Disney on multiple prior occasions, including productions of "Mary Poppins Returns" and "Moana." ■



Alex Padilla to Fill Kamala Harris' Seat

As she and Joe Biden prepare to take office, Kamala Harris officially resigned from the Senate after serving California for the past four years. This does not mean an end to her involvement with the chamber, however. As Vice President, she'll return to the floor in order to preside over the Senate and become the tie-breaking vote where necessary. California Governor Gavin Newsom has named Alex Padilla, California's Secretary of State, to fill Harris's position. ■

Cabinet Members Resignation

Tacey Hutten '22

Already, 2021 has seen a number of firsts. The first time the Capitol has been stormed by American citizens. The first time a U.S. president has been impeached twice. And the first time numerous high-ranking officials in the President's administration have resigned as a result of the first two events.

After the siege of the Capitol, many of Trump's long-time supporters condemned the violence and ongoing claims of a fraudulent election. Some, however, went a step further to distance themselves from Trump's administration by resigning from their positions. So far, sixteen resignations have been made public, including those of two Cabinet members.

Elaine Chao, (now former) Transportation Secretary and wife to Senator Mitch McConnell, was the first Cabinet member to resign. Besty DeVos, Secretary of Education, followed suit, citing President Trump's role in causing the violence as the cause. In her letter of resignation, DeVos noted to Trump, "There is no mistaking the impact your rhetoric had on the situation, and it is the inflection point for me".

In addition to the aforementioned members of his cabinet, President Trump lost over a dozen others from his administration. Mick Mulvaney, special envoy to Northern Ireland, resigned and said in an interview that Trump "should expect many more to do the same". He also stated that "Those who choose to stay, and I have talked with some of them, are choosing to stay because they're worried the president might put someone worse in."

Stephanie Grisham, the First Lady's Chief Of Staff and one of the administration's longest-serving aides, also resigned from her role because of Trump's incitement of the violence. She was joined by Mathew Pottinger, Deputy National Security Adviser; John Costello, Deputy Assistant Secretary at the Commerce Department; Tyler Goodspeed, acting Chairman of the White House Council of Economic Advisers; Rickie Niceta, social secretary to the First Lady; Sarah Mathews deputy White House Press Secretary; Elinore McCance-Katz, Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Abuse; Eric Dreiband, the Assistant Attorney General; and five members of the National Security Council. ■

Biden Inauguration

Anonymous

On January 20th, 2021, after mass violence on the sixth and a massive overhaul of Washington D.C.'s security in the twelve days that followed, the inauguration of President Joe Biden went surprisingly well. Despite concerns of violence, the President had an inauguration that was as close to normal as possible - factoring in COVID-19, of course. Now, after only a day in office, his administration and government look to their next steps.



In the White House, Biden signed seventeen executive orders focusing on immigration, COVID-19, the environment, and more, and he is slated to sign ten additional executive orders focusing on the COVID-19 pandemic today. In addition to these executive orders, the president has also sent Congress legislation that, if passed, will put millions of undocumented immigrants on the pathway to citizenship and will introduce a slate of new reforms to the American immigration system. According to the administration, the next few weeks will see additional executive orders on immigration, economic relief, and so on.

In Congress, Democrats are working to quickly confirm Biden's cabinet picks, with all of them likely to be agreed upon. House Democrats are also expected to continue the impeachment process by delivering their articles of impeachment to the Senate on the 23rd, and while Senate Democrats are all in agreement about convicting former President Trump, there remains a need to pull over Republican senators. On legislation, if the Democrats are able to maintain all their representatives in coming votes, it is possible that a public healthcare option is made available to Americans, and it is highly likely that the minimum wage will be increased to fifteen dollars an hour. In addition, here is a strong chance that Democrats introduce extensive climate change legislation, and there is a near-guaranteed chance that a massive economic stimulus package will be passed to help cope with the damage from the COVID-19 pandemic. ■

Health Matters: Vaccine Roll-Out

Amitesh Verma '21

The nation has come far in its battle against the Goliath that is Coronavirus. In the past few weeks, the United States has initiated the largest vaccination campaign in history, with almost a million doses of either the Pfizer/BioNTech or Moderna's vaccine given to citizens across the country each day. However, how does the government decide who receives this 95% effective immunization against the deadly COVID-19 disease? Top "disease detectives" from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have forged an elaborate phase system to determine which populations are given priority in receiving the vaccine.

Phase 1 (December 2020 to February 2021): The CDC has labeled this phase the "Jumpstart Phase" which, in order of priority, includes healthcare workers participating in direct COVID-19 care, individuals living in long-term care facilities, first responders, congregate care centers, home-based healthcare workers, and healthcare workers participating in non-COVID-19 care.

Phase 2 (February 2021 to March 2021): This phase includes individuals with high-risk comorbidities, teachers, grocery store workers, meat-packers, public health workers, water utility staff, ride-share workers, court-system workers, and food pantry staff, adults age 65+, and prison inmates.

Phase 3 (April 2021 and beyond): This phase is when the rest of the public will obtain access to the vaccine, including young adults, children, and other workers not included in phases 1 and 2.

Both Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna's vaccines must be given in two doses, spread four weeks apart to maximize the effectiveness and safety of the process.

As doses are administered, the scientific community has continued to instill confidence in the vaccine's efficacy and safety, especially in certain groups such as pregnant women and individuals with severe allergies. Currently, Pfizer/BioNTech has stated that it will continue to conduct both animal and human trials to determine safety for these groups; the CDC does indicate that they may receive the vaccine if they choose, as no adverse side effects have been encountered. In fact, during Pfizer/BioNTech's clinical trials, 23 people became pregnant after receiving the vaccine.

My father, a front-line healthcare worker who received his 1st dosage of the Moderna vaccine in late December recounts his experience. "Getting the vaccine was a historical moment as we have been waiting for a magic bullet to conquer this virus for so long." Dr. Verma said. "The vaccine shot was no more than a simple pin prick, just like getting a routine flu vaccine. I only felt arm soreness and fatigue for a day without any serious side-effects."

When asked what he would tell people who do not have confidence in the vaccine, Dr. Verma answered, "This vaccine was a home-run with an extremely high efficacy in preventing a COVID-19 infection. To people who still doubt it, I will say that this vaccine is the only way to defeat the pandemic and get back to our normal lives."

As trust builds, the vaccination process is especially crucial for school communities like Indian Hill; teachers will be given their first doses starting February 1st. In Ohio, more than 700 providers have been authorized to distribute the vaccine, including medical centers and retail drug stores such as Kroger, Walgreens, and CVS Pharmacy. For further information, visit vaccine.coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Wondering when you will get your vaccine? Use the QR code below to access The New York Times' COVID-19 Vaccine Timeline Calculator to obtain a rough estimate of your position in the line for the vaccine. ■



HBO Max

Ethan Marx '21

Five years ago, the options for streaming services were limited. Most people used *Netflix* and perhaps *Hulu* if they really wanted to have access to lots of content. Today, many people still assert that *Netflix* is the best service out there, but the golden age of *Netflix* has passed. While they still create fabulous original content, they lack many of the old standards like

Friends, *The Office*, and *Parks and Recreation*. Nowadays, it seems like every media company has a streaming service: between *HBOMax*, *Peacock*, *Amazon Prime Video*, and *Disney+*, it can be hard to keep up with. When all of these new streaming services were announced a few years ago, I scoffed and thought they could never top *Netflix*. After joining *HBOMax*, however, my opinion has changed entirely. In the following argument, I will lay out the case for *HBOMax*'s superiority.

First of all, *HBOMax* has critically-acclaimed television options including *The Big Bang Theory*, *Veep*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, and *Game of Thrones*. Beyond the more sophisticated programming, they also possess cult-classic titles like *Euphoria*, *Friends*, and *Gossip Girl*. Where the true strength of *HBOMax* lies, however, is in their films. *HBOMax* has classic films like *Jaws*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Citizen Kane*, and *Pulp Fiction*. Recently, *HBOMax* announced that *Warner Brothers* would be releasing all of their 2021 films on the streaming service for no additional fee! This includes films like *Dune*, *In the Heights*, *Space Jam: A New Legacy*, and *The Matrix 4*. Further, *HBOMax*'s film offerings would certainly be rated as "great" by Indian Hill standards -- *HBOMax* offers four of the twenty-two titles shown in the course "Great Films" including *2001: A Space Odyssey*. For any "Great Films" scholars, you certainly know that this is considered the "greatest film of all time" by Indian Hill's in-house film expert, Dr. Watson.

Whether you want to watch an old favorite TV show, a newly released film, or even tighten up on your knowledge of cinematography with the likes of *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *HBOMax* has something for you! ■



Ode to College Applications

Vandita Rastogi '21 and Will Ford '21

O' College Applications,

With the torture you rain down upon high-strung students
Who mercilessly scrutinize over your great magnitude
We cry over 100 characters or 500 words
Because all we really want is no essay at all
And not to pay \$2000 for rejection

You love to turn students against each other
When they bicker over acceptances
Or who applied to the superior college
Cut-throat rivalries plague the school hallways

They say when the ball drops you're free at last ...
Still, I find myself ensnared by your all-consuming grasp
Inundated with mid-year report requests
And last minute test score send-ins

Thursdays spent researching lab proposals, with an
AP Chem lab notebook due tomorrow?
I must accept defeat.

And just when I turn in my last application
You bombard me with "affectionate" reminders:
Scholarships? Financial aid? March decision letters?
A friendly email becomes an irksome nuisance.

Our onerous work, our tireless efforts
Gilded by the simple phrase -
"Congratulations!" ■

Democracy

Ethan Marx '21

"We love you. You're very special." Those were the words used by Donald J. Trump in his final address to the violent insurrectionists that had invaded our nation's capital on January 6th, 2021. But don't be mistaken, that was not his *first* address to this group. Hours prior to the storming of the capital, these same individuals met at the Trump-sponsored "Save America" rally where Trump and his legal team continued to espouse baseless claims of election fraud - allegations that were disputed by Trump's own Attorney General, William Barr. After congregating at the Ellipse to hear Trump and many of his allies (including Rudy Giuliani and Donald Trump Jr.) speak, mobs of Trump supporters marched down to the U.S. Capitol. This occurred after Trump said: "we're going to walk down to the Capitol." These same mobs then fought against Capital police. This occurred *after* Trump made statements such as "fight like hell" and "you have to show strength." Donald Trump instigated, initiated, and incited the violence at the Capital.

Some of Trump's supporters have argued that his speech was hyperbolic and was not inciting this violence. In fact, during the impeachment debate, one congressman argued that no member of the riots has attributed their actions to the statements by Trump. Unfortunately for the twice-impeached president's supporters, this is far from the truth. The attorney representing Jacob Chansley, one of the more publicized insurrectionists who was seen wearing a horned fur hood, said that Chansley "felt like he was answering the call of our president." He continued on by stating that "what ended up happening, over the course of the lead-up to the election, over the course of the period from the election to Jan. 6 - it was a driving force by... [the president] he hung his hat on, hitched his wagon to. He loved Trump. Every word, he listens to him." Don't be mistaken, the storming of the Capital was not instigated on one day; it was the result of a pattern of lies spread by Trump and his administration to discredit anyone who challenged his rule. The one thing they couldn't stop? The will of the people. Despite baseless claims of voter fraud, Democrats now maintain control of the House, Senate, and Presidency.

Trump's inciting of violence on the 6th is only one piece in a series of violence-inducing statements made by Trump. At Trump rallies leading up to his election in 2016, he made indecent statements such as: "Knock the crap out of them, would you? Seriously" and "In the good old days, this doesn't happen because they used to treat them very, very rough" as individuals were forcefully removed from his rallies. While Republicans have argued that they are against violence, the figurehead that they have propped up for the past 4 years has been a staunch supporter of it. Instead, some Republicans have argued that Antifa was the cause of these rallies. This, however, is unproven and illogical. It's illogical because it makes several implications that Republicans certainly wouldn't support. First, that Donald Trump "loves" Antifa and finds them "very special." And second, that the people that were killed following the dicta of the President that they have glorified on social media are 'radical leftists.'

Unless truth and decency return to our politics, our democracy will remain unstable. I'll close this article with words other than mine own for you to consider:

"We've condemned all the violence, all the time... We condemned it last week." - Rep. Jim Jordan at the second impeachment debate.

"We love you. You're very special." - Donald J. Trump. ■

Chieftain Chews

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

Breath visible in the cold January morning, we set off to different locations to get our burgers, braving the world of fast food burgers for your sake, dear readers.

That's right... It's Chieftain Chews episode 2: The Burger Bonanza! We went to 5 burger places: McDonald's, Wendy's, Rally's, Freddie's, and 50West's Burger Bar, getting a quarter pounder from McDonald's, a regular burger from Wendy's, a double from Rally's, a classic steakburger from Freddie's, and both a plain and a Nevada-style burger from 50West. An interesting lineup at the very least, a promising roster of mouthwatering culinary concoctions at best.

We reconvened at Joseph's house for a tasting festival, returning to the now-famous locale of our original Chieftain Chews episode (watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NGf3cW3sZqc>). Learning from our mistakes last time, we did not order 20 milk teas and attempt to down them all (which, yes, was certainly a questionable premise in the first place), and we prepared for the cold by bringing in both a heater and a trusty keyboard (the keyboard was for pizzazz, which warms the soul of course). The special guests joining us this episode were Luis and Lily, with Min Jae joining us overseas in Korea with some McDonald's!

We ended up having different ratings across the board (or paper plate in this case) but general burgers that took first were 50West's and Rally's, with Wendy's and McDonald's consistently rated the lowest two. The whole experience was a lot of fun, especially for a Friday, and all of us definitely tried something new that we had never eaten before. Plus, it was much less emotionally and physically draining than slurping down ice cold bubble tea as your fingers freeze over along with your insides... (again, please watch the first episode of Chieftain Chews!)

We hope you'll watch the entire second episode of the Chieftain Chews segment below by following the QR code (simply scan): ■



Ode to The Office

Sophie Sawyers '21

While many were excited to leave 2020 behind, fans of *The Office*, the hit comedy television series airing from 2004-2013, were sad to see the show leave its *Netflix* streaming platform on January 1st, 2021. As a fan of the series myself, I couldn't help but wish for one more day of 2020, just to laugh at another one of Jim Halpert's pranks or Michael Scott's attempts to inject humor into the workspace.



Looking back, *The Office* has been a constant source of much-needed comedy during my time in high school, even before I was a freshman. During COVID-19, when students sometimes find themselves sitting alone at lunch as they social distance from their peers, I was able to enjoy my sandwich a bit more knowing that Dwight Schrute was a few clicks away.

The first episode of the series that I ever watched was season 4, episode 1, which described the 5K fun run that Michael threw to advocate for rabies. After running over a "rabies-afflicted" coworker with his car, Michael was determined to raise awareness for a disease that has already been cured. Thus, "Michael Scott's Dunder Mifflin Scranton Meredith Palmer Memorial Celebrity Rabies Awareness Pro-Am Fun Run Race for the Cure" was born.

Needless to say, I will miss *The Office* dearly. While the show is now offered on *Peacock TV*, only the first two seasons are offered for free while a subscription is required for seasons three through nine (which, in my opinion, contain the best episodes). I now find a gaping hole in my streaming life, unsure of what to watch for a quick laugh. True, there are many other comedy specials featured on *Netflix*, but I think many will agree that *The Office* was among the best. Now, as the new year begins, I say goodbye to my favorite TV show and look forward to the day I can stream *The Office* once again. ■

The Off-The-Grid Lifestyle

Memrie Harness '22

If you are a consistent reader of my column, you know I talked about the tiny house trend in a previous week, but I thought it was very important to delve deeper into the idea of van living. This way of life has become increasingly more popular in recent years, because people not only want to get away from society, but also find it really fun to revamp an old car into something new and spectacular. Starting in the 1960s and early 1970s, people adopted this way of living and drove around in extravagant homes, with the ability of going and residing almost anywhere. A lot of people have taken this as their inspiration, wanting to be free and apart from the rest of the home dwellers in society. Not only is this a fun idea, but it greatly helps to positively impact the environment and it also takes up less space for housing, so less land has to be cleared. Vans are normally 3% as big as the average home, which is incredible. Imagine if a large chunk of the population switched to this way of living! There would be so much more room for ecosystems to grow and biodiversity to return.

Even though the vehicle will produce some emissions into the atmosphere, the benefits greatly outweigh the costs. For example, you become a more conscious consumer by making this one life decision. Van life teaches a non-materialistic lifestyle, since you can only really keep what you need in a small space, with no room for hoarding goods. Also, you will become very aware of how much trash or waste is produced just in everyday living. The idea of less space would become very prevalent in your life, since, if you are out in the wilderness, there wouldn't be a place to deposit trash of any kind. This encourages people to buy in bulk, which saves the environment from a lot of plastic containers and, in turn, emphasizes the use of glassware. Additionally, without the direct source of water, people become more conscious of how they use it. People on the road will have a limited amount of water for an extended period of

time, so they have to be careful with the amount that they use for different tasks. This will save gallons and gallons of water over time, which is amazing for the environment and the limited supply of water.

People experiencing the van life practice a sort of "golden rule," which is to leave no trace (or as little as possible). Once you are drawn into nature, you won't want to pollute it since its beauty is so inspiring! Because of this, people develop a deep love for the world and will often try to be the most sustainable that they can be. This honor code applies to camp sites as well as the land in general (since campsites are shared spaces).

This way of life is out of many people's comfort zones, but it is extremely beneficial to the environment and to yourself in so many ways. Not only do you get a constant outdoor excursion, but you also get to give back to the world. Before investing in a van or RV, I suggest you try camping a few times just to see if you really are passionate about living off the grid. It is such a wonderful experience and Earth will thank you! Trust me! ■

Richest Man

Elsa Zhou '23 and Ashwini Krishnan '23

According to estimates made by Bloomberg, the status of richest person in the world now belongs to Elon Musk, who has accumulated a net worth over \$185 billion, and has gained a shocking \$148 billion in this year alone (his net worth in 2020 was estimated to be around \$37 million).

Even in Musk's youth, he was creating. By the age of 12, the South African had created his own game, called Blaster, which he sold for \$500. Then, Musk studied physics at UPenn, earning a degree in economics and a bachelor's in physics. Afterwards, Musk headed to Stanford, but left the famous California campus after just two days in order to join the internet boom. From there, he created his first company: Zip2 Corporation. It was soon followed by PayPal, SpaceX, and what Musk is arguably most famous for, Tesla Motors.

PayPal first catapulted Musk into significant riches, earning him \$165 million from eBay's acquisition of the paying service. Musk then poured \$100 million of his money into founding SpaceX in 2002, a company dedicated to affordable rockets. SpaceX recently sent two NASA astronauts to the ISS using a reusable rocket, potentially marking the start of a new era in space travel. Musk also wants to launch a mission to Mars in less than four years and send 1 million people there by 2050. As for Tesla, he first invested in the company back in 2004, becoming chairman and eventually CEO. Tesla has produced several successful electric cars, its Model 3 becoming the world's bestselling electric car. Tesla's stock vaulted Musk into first place over Bezos, and has risen at such explosive rates this year that it is no real surprise Musk now holds this title. Many look forward to what Musk will accomplish in the future. ■

Fou Ts'ong

Elsa Zhou '23

On December 28, 2020, the world lost Fou Ts'ong to the deadly virus COVID-19. He was 86 and is survived by his wife, Patsy Toh, their child, Zamira Menuhin (daughter of violinist Yehudi Menuhin), and their child (from a previous marriage).

Fou Ts'ong was a Chinese pianist, born in March 1934. Taking classical piano seriously by the age of 17, Ts'ong studied under an Italian pianist living in China, Mario Paci. He was so passionate about the instrument that his father found that the easiest punishment for misbehaving was to just lock the piano. Ts'ong debuted in Shanghai in 1951, and soon went on to enter the Chopin Competition in Warsaw. However, during his stay in Europe, Ts'ong decided to escape to London instead of returning to China, where Mao's Anti-Rightist Movement had targeted Ts'ong's father. Tragically, his parents eventually hung themselves as Red Guards stormed their residence.

Ts'ong was known for his extraordinary interpretations of Chopin, Schubert, and Mozart, earning him the reputation of being the "poet of the piano." His sensitive performances and recordings touched the hearts of many, including the famous pianist Lang Lang, who cites Ts'ong's unique and touching performances as one of his influences. Ts'ong is also known for a series of intimate letters with his father while the former was in Europe. A collection of these letters was compiled in "Fu Lei's Family Letters," and became widely popular in China upon its publication, as the raw emotions and intellect of the two men revealed much of their relationship and politics of the time. After 1979, Ts'ong returned several times to play piano in China, and last performed in a public recital in his hometown, Shanghai, at the age of 80 in 2014. He will be remembered as one of the most brilliant musicians and pianists of his time. ■

Renaissance Man and Woman of the Month

Will Ford '21, Arman Mehzad '21, Ethan Marx '21

The most astute European history scholars can immediately recognize (and hopefully define) the term "Renaissance man" - an individual who integrates their disparate passions, someone who is well-rounded in practically every element of life. While we frequently commend those with artistic, academic, or athletic success, this section has been revitalized to highlight such well-rounded students at Indian Hill. This month we are happy to honor Joseph Kayne and Tacey Hutten as the respective Renaissance Man and Woman of the Month.



Involved in the realms of theatre and vocal music, Joseph Kayne is the epitome of a versatile student, cultivating his interests both on the stage and off with his avid participation in both Mock Trial and student government. Referring to his theatrical abilities, to borrow from Joseph himself, there's something truly "fulfilling about completing a show that's been worked on for months," an impetus for his wholly conscientious and unreservedly determined attitude. "His well-spoken nature," notes his sophomore friend and partner-in-crime, Mitch Ford, "and methodical, planned-out approach to performing is unmatched." Despite Joseph's infectious joie de vivre and his unrestrained resolution, he finds joy in his involvement with IH's own Premiers, which he describes as a relaxing class where he can cultivate his pastime into his true passion. Apart from his bewildering talent in performance, Mock Trial has become an

intrinsic part of his high school extracurricular participation; initially "unsure about Mock Trial because [he] had never really done any law-related activities before," he "went for it" and decided to join. "I ended up really enjoying it," Joseph remarks, highlighting his multi-talented character.

Looking forward, Joseph is most excited to perform in the school production *Hello, Dolly!* - he reports that he has "been having a blast participating in so far." If open to the public, he energetically encourages all people to come watch for an entertaining and fun experience! When inquired about what advice he would impart to underclassmen regarding becoming involved with the culture of Indian Hill, he aptly, and maturely, states that "your talent is needed and wanted," urging students to discover a passion and pursue it wholeheartedly and zealously (whether it be a club, sport, or music!). Though balancing his extracurricular endeavors and academic pursuits can be quite the challenge, having an objective or "priority" set for each week or month will make the most uncharted territories feel navigable.

We thank Joseph for his thoughtful responses and candor - now, onto our Renaissance Woman of the Month! During her time in high school, this month's Renaissance Woman, Tacey Hutten, has truly taken advantage of all of the amazing opportunities at Indian Hill. Currently, she is involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. Tacey is part of Courageous Conversations, a group at Indian Hill that discusses issues of race, identity, and diversity. Additionally, Courageous Conversations is part of organizing Be Brave Day. Further, Tacey is the Subscriptions and Development Editor of Chieftain. As Subscriptions and Development Editor, Tacey is responsible for managing the finances and marketing of the newspaper. Her largest commitment at Indian Hill is mock trial.

Ethan Marx remarks:

For the past two years I have had the privilege of serving alongside Tacey Hutten in mock trial. Tacey is a fierce competitor who balances a devastating preciseness with an innate, unteachable likeability. Tacey has been the youngest member of Indian Hill's top team for the past two years. As a sophomore, Tacey was able to qualify for State, a feat not often accomplished. Further, Tacey has received Outstanding Attorney Awards at the Miami University Mockhawk Invitational, District Competition, and Regional Competition. As a captain of the varsity team, Tacey led the team to an undefeated victory at the Yale University Bulldog Invitational. This year, Tacey continues in her role as captain and is currently preparing for Regionals after a 2-0 finish at Districts, where Indian Hill beat the Cowboys.

While Tacey is incredibly impressive as student, writer, and (fake) attorney, where she shines the most is as a peer. Tacey is incredibly compassionate and easy to talk to. She brings a collaborative energy to everything she does and is phenomenal leader. It is one thing to lead your peers, but to lead upperclassmen as a younger student takes incredible skill. Tacey has that skill. She truly embodies what it means to be a Brave. ■



Wonder Woman 84: A Somewhat Good Sequel

Elsa Zhou '23

Wonder Woman 84 (2020) starts up with a Themysciran flashback to Diana's childhood, then jumps right into a colorful 1984. A familiar warrior clad in red, gold, and blue thwarts an armed robbery in a bright 80's mall, whipping a lasso around and delivering the criminals to the police, introducing us to a Diana Prince sixty-six years older than we last saw her, yet just as radiant. We follow her to her apartment, where artifacts of her three-day fling with Steve Trevor and co. adorn her bookshelves (enter Connie Nielsen feeling slighted).

Later, a moping Diana (the struggles of being a gorgeous superhero... you know how it is) runs into Barbara Minerva, a bumbling newcomer who similarly works at the Smithsonian. Barbara's main two qualities seem to be her inability to command any attention (yes, museum archaeologists are *quite* the snooty bunch) and, oddly enough, lack of skill in walking in stilettos. Diana befriends the adorably awkward Barbara, who begins looking through antiques from the previous day's foiled robbery, finding a stone which she brushes off as a cheap citrine knockoff. However, the stone, dubbed the Dreamstone, has the power to grant one wish to anyone who holds it. Barbara wishes to be like Diana (let's be real here, we all would have wished that), and Diana wishes to have her one and only Steve Trevor back. Then, a prospective oil businessman by the name of Maxwell Lord (could we shout 'villain' from the rooftops any louder with this name?) steals the stone from now-hot-and-interesting Barbara (who can, of course, also properly walk in high heels) to make his wish: that he wants to be the Dreamstone.

The catch with the Dreamstone is that every wish has a price. Steve Trevor (who oddly, shows up not as himself, but in the body of another man, which is... confusing) causes Diana's powers to crumble away, and Barbara starts to lose her humanity. The movie then takes a turn as Maxwell Lord

somehow manages to broadcast his voice to everyone in the world, urging them to make a wish (yes! The whole world understands English, in case you had a question about that), which plunges the world into a chaotic mess with plenty of nukes to go around. After Steve Trevor is tearfully let go (the pain in this scene crushes my soul) and a cheetah-fied Kristen Wiig is electrocuted (have we not learned yet from *Cats* that poorly done feline CGI is simply *not* a good idea?), Diana arrives on the scene, lassoing Lord and convincing the world to renounce their selfish wishes (because absolutely not one out of 7.7 billion people chose world peace...we all chose to be famous or have someone vexing literally drop dead). Lord's Traumatic Backstory™ is unlocked and he realizes he must care about his son, Alastair. The world's renounced wishes halt the apocalyptic scene unfolding and the movie wraps with a Hallmark-esque Christmas scene five months later.



Bitingly sarcastic commentary and extremely truncated summary aside, WW84 is a good movie. It's no great movie like its predecessor, *Wonder Woman* (2017), but this sequel was faced with extraordinarily high expectations. Although it didn't fully deliver, the movie's cast, who all sell their roles, present a tale of loss and love, fantasies and reality. While it becomes easy to point out the mistakes in this film (and laugh on end at that CGI cat face -- DC, please never do this again), this movie was never going to be perfect. Instead, WW84 is, put simply, just a good movie. ■

Caillou

Sarika Singh '23

Many of us have grown up watching PBS's fun and loveable toddler, Caillou. The educational program is Canadian-based, and shows Caillou's adventures with his family and friends. Caillou uses his imagination to take him on amazing adventures: from rocket ships to submarines, Caillou has, quite honestly, done it all. From the outside, it may seem like the perfect show for a child growing up, but if you dive a little deeper, you will see the true face of Caillou.

Parents have pushed so hard against Caillou that PBS canceled the show, which has been running for 20 years. Parents have complained that Caillou was "too whiny" or that "his voice was just so annoying", believing that his complaining personality was rubbing off on their children, as they noticed them reflecting similar behaviors. Some parents went as far as saying that Caillou was "brainwashing their child". One of Caillou's most common characteristics were his infamous temper tantrums. When kids are young, they are often influenced by everything that is around them, whether that is parents, siblings, or even strangers. They will model their behavior after others because they don't know any better. TV shows have a similar on children. When a favorable character is exhibiting bad behavior on a TV screen, the child will most likely mimic them. That is why shows and movies have maturity ratings (G, PG, etc.), as they are not recommended for kids below that age-group so as to prevent young children modeling irresponsible behavior.

Many are surprised at this abrupt cancellation of the "lovable" and popular show, but those in favor of the cancellation *Caillou* say that "2021 is off to a good start."



Teacher of the Month: Mr. Broxterman

Mady Kahn '22 and Annie Joy '22

This month's teacher feature goes to Mr. Broxterman, a beloved Indian Hill science teacher! Here's what he had to say about his teaching experience:

Q: Do you have a favorite class to teach?

A: First, thank you for having me featured in the Chieftain, I enjoy reading it each month and always become enlightened with a student's perspective. This is such a loaded question by the way. My 4th bell, your bell, is definitely a handful. I need a spy on the inside... Actually, every class has a different personality and I love the variety it brings. I refuse to pick one.

Q: What is your favorite part about teaching at Indian Hill?

A: The people here at IH. Yes, I have to deal with the Mr. Atwoods of the world, but the students, community, and staff are phenomenal. Words cannot describe how gratifying it is to be a part of someone's progression and success. I'm very grateful to be a part of our student's intensity and commitment to improve academically and ethically.

Q: What has been the biggest adjustment for you this year?

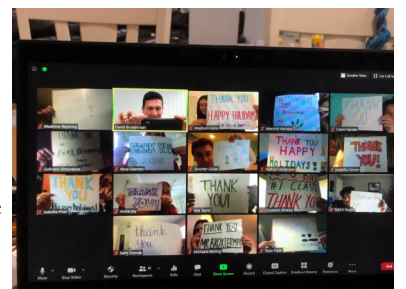
A: I try and roll with the changes and make the best of the situation. There isn't one item that sticks out.

Q: What is it that you enjoy most about teaching?

A: The level of engagement, respect, and overall attitudes of our students make this career so enjoyable. As far as content, there are so many real life examples, whether it is teaching the immune system during this pandemic or discussing ways that individuals can improve the biodiversity of our planet, it is fun to apply to current events.

Q: How many pounds of kale, on average, do you consume a week?

A: Hmm... I don't know how many pounds, but typically eat 2-3 bunches of a combination of green (curly) kale and Lacinato kale. Prepared correctly, you can't go wrong with kale. The same can be said for coffee. ■



Jeopardy!

Will Ford '21

A time-honored game show – airing every weekday at precisely 7:30 PM – has come to an unprecedented, saddening phase - a new chapter, so to speak. Just earlier this month, following the tragic passing of beloved host Alex Trebek, *Jeopardy!* released its final taped episode with Alex Trebek (filmed in mid-October), bringing in 14 million viewers, the most for any episode since June 2019. Though the syndicated game show's solemn memorial to Trebek was indeed a sentimental, tear-jerker, *Jeopardy!* now finds itself in uncharted waters – in need of a permanent host. Following in the footsteps of Trebek is no simple task, however – his zeal for *Jeopardy!* and overarching geniality is simply unmatched. Host of the esteemed game show for nearly 37 years, many of the greats – most prominently, Ken Jennings, the highest-earning American game show contestant of all time – have unreservedly declined to consider such a position. In the interim, a series of guest hosts will fill Trebek's shoes, including Jennings, famed newscaster Katie Couric, Green Bay Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers, *60 Minutes* correspondent Bill Whittaker, and more.

That being said, trivia aficionados have much to look forward to with the premier of a new season of *The Chase*, headed by the greatest-ever *Jeopardy!* wizzes – Jennings (as aforementioned), James Holzhauer, and Brad Rutter. Traditionally featuring three contenders that “pit their wits” and challenge a “Chaser,” these quiz show champions will be pursuing the contestants themselves in a ruthless, nerve-racking quiz show format. Will these seemingly omniscient, unconquerable victors be subdued by ordinary trivia enthusiasts? Tune into ABC to find out!

Simply put, *Jeopardy!* is a hallmark of the idealized “game show” – for many, hearing Trebek's composed, affable character became a routine pastime. Though no longer with us at the dawn of 2021, Alex Trebek's legacy is far-reaching and will undoubtedly continue. ■

Oatly and the Plant-Based Revolution

Annie Joy '22

Swedish oat milk company Oatly announces plans to IPO in 2021, a step fueled by Gen-Z's rapid transition into plant-based alternatives. The company has just recently spoken to advisors about a U.S. listing in the first half of 2021. No plans are set in stone, however, and investors speculate that a downward swing in the stock market within the next year or so, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, could lead the brand to accept an acquisition offer instead, likely by dairy providers such as Nestle or Danone (Forbes). Despite their uncertainty, the announcement has caused quite a stir. Many compare Oatly to the plant-based meats company Beyond Meat, which went public in May 2019, and went on to become the best-performing IPO of 2019, well above other tech-enabled companies such as Spotify, Netflix, and Uber (Dealreporter). Both Beyond Meat and Oatly pride themselves on their use of technology to create sustainable, traditionally animal-based, food products. These similarities encouraged “a 200 million investment from a group of investors last July at a valuation of \$2 billion, led by Blackstone, Oprah, Natalie Portman, and former Starbucks CEO Howard Schultz,” according to a report from Mergermarket. The growing popularity of both companies is largely due to Gen Z's overwhelming passion for the sustainability of plant-based diets, which use substantially fewer resources and are less taxing on the environment than animal-based diets, with more than 60% of Gen Z claiming they would like to eat more plant-based foods, according to the Plant Based Foods Association. Between Burger King's plant-based Impossible Burger, Ben and Jerry's almond milk ice creams, and the variety of milks (almond, oat, pea, cashew, hazelnut, and a handful of others which you probably didn't know milk could be made from) available at coffee shops across the country, brands are coming together in support of this sustainable revolution. ■

The Bachelor Recap

Mady Kahn '22

On January 4, the 25th season of *The Bachelor* aired, featuring Matt James as this year's Bachelor. Matt was never a part of the franchise prior to being the Bachelor; however, Matt was known all throughout Bachelor Nation for being best friends with the beloved Tyler Cameron (runner up on Hannah Brown's season). He gained a lot of popularity at the beginning of quarantine since he was part of the “Quarantine Crew” (which included both Tyler and Hannah). Originally, Matt was going to be one of the contestants on Clare/ Tayshia's season, but he was then offered his own season as the first black Bachelor in the franchise's history.

Since night one, this season has been off to a very interesting start. Right off the bat, there were some very risqué limo entrances, and of course, lots of drama. We were introduced to Victoria, aka, “the Queen.” Victoria most certainly does not hold back and loves to say whatever is on her mind. I know that some people find her funny, but I honestly think she's so annoying that it's past the point where it's amusing. Victoria has no filter and takes things way too far. Also, I most definitely believe that the only reason she is still on the show is because the producers want to keep her around for drama. We all know that reality TV isn't actually reality and a lot goes on behind the scenes, but normally they at least try to make it seem like the Bachelor likes all of the contestants who he gives roses to. In this case, however, it is extremely obvious that Matt does not actually like Victoria and is only keeping her because he has to. From their painful encounter on the first group date where she practically forced herself onto him in front of everyone, to Matt asking to walk Victoria back to the group during the cocktail party and solely responding “sure” when she asked him for a kiss, I think it is very clear that Matt does not actually have feelings for her. Victoria already got Marylynn kicked off the show and I'm looking forward to when she gets eliminated, herself.

Now onto Sarah, who caused quite a controversy among the contestants. Sarah was given the second one-on-one date, where she created a very strong bond with Matt and shared some personal information. During the rose ceremony, she nearly fainted, which already started to frustrate some of the other con-

testants since they felt she was taking away Matt's attention when she already had a rose. Then, Sarah interrupted the group date, which basically caused the entire house to turn against her. Interrupting a group date always causes a lot of drama and paints a target on your back, but the girls in the house were absolutely brutal when it came to Sarah. The girls (largely led by Katie who was the one specifically interrupted and, of course, Victoria) completely attacked Sarah. I understand their frustration, especially since Sarah already had a one-on-one date, but they took it *way* too far. First of all, they didn't know Sarah's story or what she was dealing with, and considering the severity of her situation with her father (who has ALS), I understand why she wanted that extra reassurance from Matt to make sure that her staying was worth her losing time with her ill father. Eventually, Sarah decided to go home, but she had a deep conversation with Katie prior to leaving who was very supportive of her after learning her story.

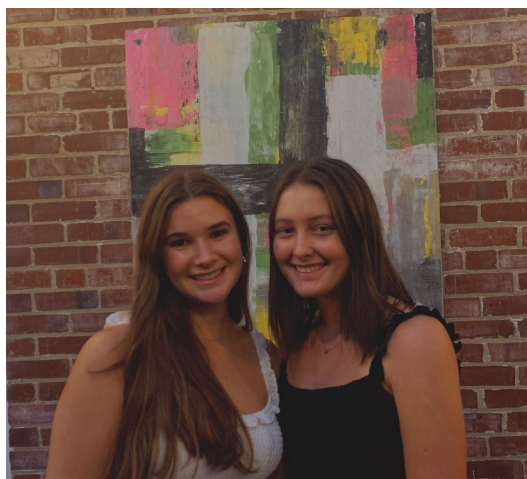
So far, I definitely think that Abigail and Bri will make it very far, but I've honestly been so caught up in the Victoria/ Sarah drama that I haven't formed strong opinions on the rest. In next month's edition, I'll talk about what changes in Matt's journey to find love, so stay tuned! ■



Kate Taylor

Elise Hobson '21

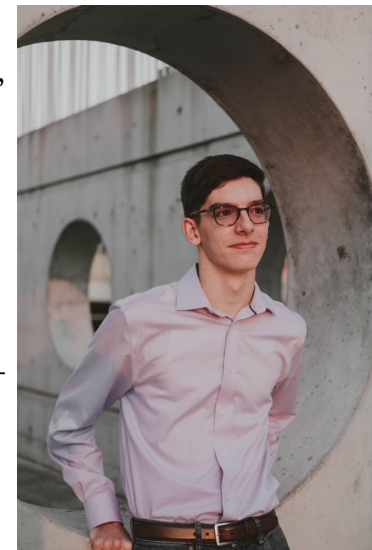
Kate Taylor is a once in a lifetime person. She is the most caring and kind person that you can meet. Kate would do anything for anyone, which is one of her best characteristics. Kate strives to be her best every day, and she never fails to make me smile or anyone else around her laugh. Kate and I have been friends for several years, and there hasn't been one day that she hasn't been there for me when I have needed her most. She is extremely hard working, accomplishing whatever she puts her mind to and doing it well. Friends, family, and teachers would agree that Kate always charges through whatever bad obstacles may challenge her path to success, and she fights to keep pushing forward. Kate will achieve great things in her lifetime, and I cannot wait to see what her future brings. Everyone needs a Kate Taylor in their life. ■



Nick Cech

Warren Zahn '21

Nick Cech, through all of middle and high school has been an amazing student, athlete, performer and friend. In all of his classes Nick is always on top of his work and dedicates a lot of his time to studying for his rigorous tests and classes. Along with his studies Nick spends many hours a week perfecting his skills in the pool swimming laps and demolishing the competition. He likes to complain about his rigorous training regime but it is clear that all of his hard work is paying off. As a member of the Indian Hill Premieres Chorus Nick Cech is clearly a talented singer and dancer being elected Dance Captain for his outstanding performance skills. Speaking of performances during his sophomore year Nick went on stage and played the significant role of rich man #2 in Indian Hills production of Mamma Mia. Even though he has many accomplishments, anyone who interacts with Nick will be sure to remember the legendary, hilarious, random, and amazing person he is. He is a joy to know and wherever he goes next in life he will surely succeed. ■



Fahim Hossain

Ben Starkey '21

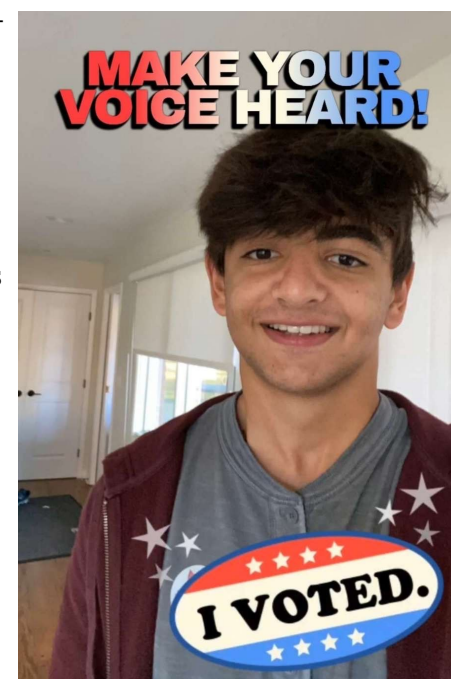
Fahim Hossain is really smart, but he doesn't just get by on that. He strikes the perfect balance between knowing how to work hard but also when to have fun. When I first met Fahim in 8th grade English class, I thought he was too serious to laugh, but once he started, he didn't stop. Even though he is busy with swimming, cross country, robotics, FixNGive, and his schedule full of APs, Fahim will stop what he is doing to help me whenever I ask. That's what makes him a great friend. Some of my favorite memories with Fahim are spending way too much time on stats homework, hanging out at swim practice, "teaching him" how to be better at breadboarding, and his dad offering us Oreo ice cream cake at his house. I can't wait to see what Fahim's future holds and I am grateful to call him a friend. ■



Nar Roy

Jai Masturzo '21

I have had the pleasure of getting to know Nar since he arrived at Indian Hill freshman year. I can fondly recall the moment when he introduced himself and the time I have spent with him since. As a friend, he has proven over the years to be personable, fun, and genuinely good at heart. He always makes an effort to create a comfortable environment for those around him, and his relaxed attitude makes it easy to spend time with him. Beyond being a devoted friend, Nar is a hard-working student who can also boast playing multiple sports throughout his time in high school. I know I am not alone when it comes to what I value in a friend: enthusiasm and drive to forward oneself and those around them. Nar meets these descriptors easily, and is even a bright presence for those who don't know him so well. I am thankful for the opportunity to get to know Nar, and I believe I can speak for many others who feel the same. ■



Danny Forte

Bowie Irvine '21

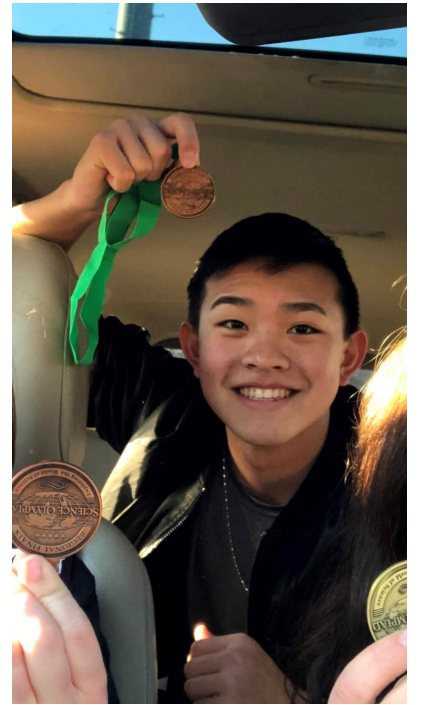
I met Danny Forte in 6th-grade Spanish class. In all the years that I have been friends with him, I have come to know one thing. He's a cool dude. In all those years we have done some pretty stupid stuff but no matter what we stuck together because that's the kind of guy that Danny is. The kind of guy who changes your life for the better. One particular example of this was our freshman year of high school. After many of my friends transferred out of the school district I was left lacking both friends and the self-confidence needed to make new ones. Luckily Danny was there with his contagious enthusiasm and outgoing personality to give me the push that I needed to branch out. I never would have been able to build the friendships that I have made without his help. Next year we will part ways but I am at ease knowing that there are people out there just like me whose lives will change for the better once befriending Danny Forte. ■



Peter Zhang

Faye Hardek '21

I'll never forget back in 8th grade when I heard the news that another new kid was moving from New Jersey to Indian Hill. I was excited to meet them, but little did I know that boy from Princeton would grow to become such a close friend. Whether it be through theater, Science Olympiad, or Jesus Choir, I can always count on Peter to bring a cool but fun energy to anything he does. More than that, he is a fierce friend, and truly cares for those around him more than he does for himself. Although he's back in New Jersey right now, it's a gift to be so close to him, and I can't wait to see him again. There's no doubt that he will go on to do amazing things in college and beyond. ■



Matthew Veith

Max Yanes-Diehl '21

Matthew Veith has been making me laugh since the first day he started at Indian Hill in 7th grade. Since then, I don't think he's failed to brighten each and every one of my days. Matthew's been supportive of so many people since he arrived at our school, and I think he deserves more recognition for this. He helps people understand concepts at school, gives people the opportunity to speak freely, and doesn't judge people based on their opinions. He's also an amazing teammate and athlete. Tree backs up all of his teammates and will protect them like they are family. He's just the kind of person anyone would want on their team. During our journey through school, there wouldn't be anybody else I'd want to experience it with. Indian Hill has been lucky to have such an incredible student, and I expect him to do many great things after high school. ■



Elise Hobson

Kate Taylor '21

Elise Hobson has been one of my best friends for many years. Throughout Elise's high school career, she has accomplished a lot. I have never seen someone work as hard as her. During the school week she is always on her A game. She sometimes re-writes her notes because she didn't like the way her other notes looked. Everyday, not only does she put so much effort into her schoolwork, she puts 110% into her job. Elise started this new job over the summer and in two weeks she worked 92 hours. Yes 92. She works so hard every single day and makes people smile at the same time. Teachers, friends, co-workers and her parents. She has been known not only to be a hard worker but also a great person, and a great friend. Her humor and smile are contagious to everyone. Elise just brightens up the hallways every single day and I know every teacher and student can say that. I know that throughout college, throughout life after college, she will continue to be that hard worker every single day no matter what comes her way. I'm so lucky to call Elise my best friend. ■



Bowie Irvine

Danny Forte '21

I first met Bowie in our sixth grade Spanish class. I was new to school and knew only a few people. I think at the first meeting I knew he was gonna be my friend. We just laughed at the same things and soon became best friends.

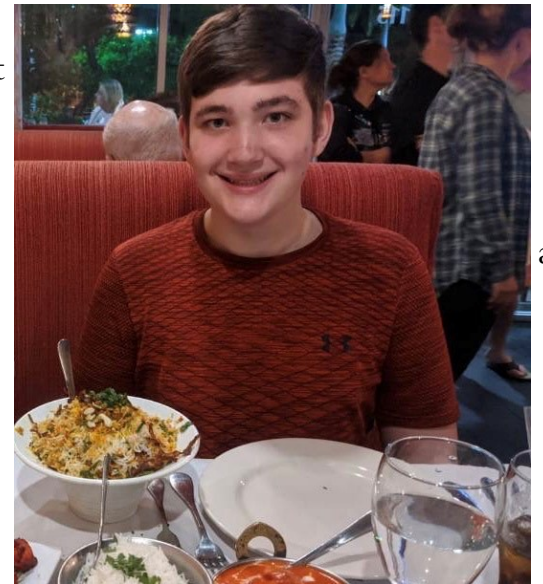
Bowie is a really good person. He cares about others and is a super goofy character. Cross country was when we got to know each other even more. Throughout middle and high school we ran cross country. What's great about having a team sport like cross country is that you get to know people so well. Bowie was the only one that I knew on the first day of practice. Having good friends like Bowie shapes who you and that person are and become. And I think that I am a way better person having met Bowie. ■



Luke Castellini

Nate Strauss '21

Luke and I became friends in early 6th grade when we went to a Bengals game. Since I've got to know him I've always had a positive presence around me, and a friend that I can count on. Luke's positive mindset has had positive impact on me, and I know it's a trait that others admire as well. Luke has worked hard over the last 4 years through adversity, and his work ethic is nothing but admirable. Luke has been accepted into Wharton Business School at Penn University, where I'm sure he's set himself up for success. ■



Lauren Yamaguchi

Corinne O'Dell '21

I am lucky enough to have been friends with Lauren since kindergarten. She is one of the best friends that a girl could ever ask for. Lauren is the sweetest human and is the definition of a loyal and true friend. Lauren has stuck by my side for as long as I can remember. Without her I know my life would be completely different. She is funny, compassionate, and genuine. Lauren is also one of the hardest workers I have ever met. Whether it is in school or cheer, Lauren is always giving her 100% effort. I'm not sure what I will do without Lauren next year, but I know that the college that she chooses to go to will be so lucky to have her! ■



Conor Gallagher

David Kholodenko '21

Ah yes, Conor Gallagher - Band Kid, God of Twitch streams and Osu! extraordinaire. When he isn't busy being utterly hilarious or dominating people in League of Legends, he works on his percussion skills. He's currently applying for various musical programs and with any luck (MonkaW) I'm sure he will succeed. Conor's ability to come up with humorous twists in any situation has garnered a fair share of laughs over the years, and I'm happy to call him a great friend. At the end of the day, Conor is quintessentially a chill dude - if you just wanna chill or rant about something, he's always there to listen and rant with you. He is the embodiment of internet and meme culture - he has evolved from his puny Normie status into a Chad of Indian Hill. ■

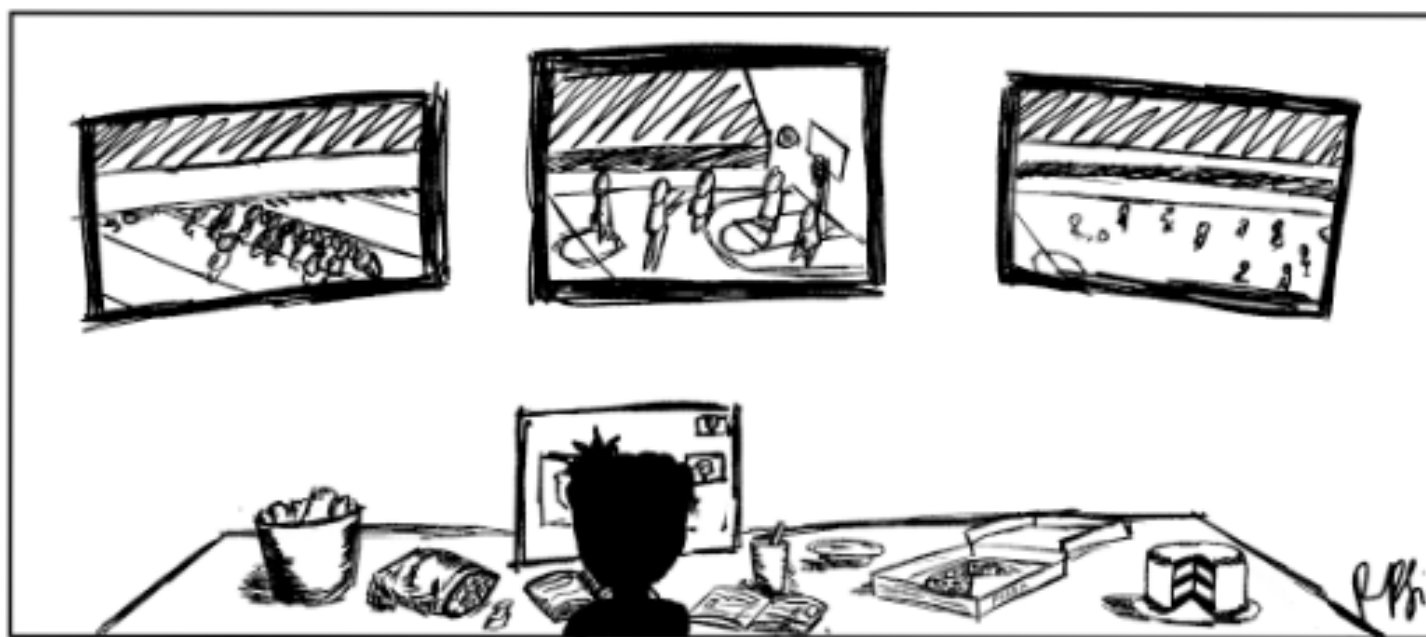


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January Comic



"Virtue-l(ess) Learning" by Pranav Rastogi '23

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