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NHS inducts many juniors and seniors



PHOTO BY KIRA CUNNINGHAM

Juniors Ella Spadafora (left), Katie Conrad, and Kaitlyn Stossel (right) proudly hold up their NHS induction certificates.

By ADRIANA GUTH-BOROWSKI

On Thursday, May 3, forty-two dedicated students were inducted into the IHS chapter of the National Honor Society. These students were composed of four seniors and thirty-eight Juniors.

Students accepted into NHS were treated to an induction ceremony, which began with a speech by Principal Mr. McElheny. After being congratulated, the new NHS members received a certificate of their achievement.

Junior Ella Spadafora, who was recently inducted, stated, "It's an honor that I get to be such a prestigious group of individuals, and I'm super excited for all the doors the program will open for me."

The guidelines for admission include following the NHS standards of scholarship: leadership, service, character, and having a cumulative GPA of 3.8.

These standards require students to participate in school or community service, exemplify

leadership by making a positive difference in the community, and demonstrate integrity through their interactions with teacher and peers.

Junior NHS member Tian Schiera said, "It's a good academic motivation because it's a tangible reward for the hard work lots of colleges value. It also encourages you to get more involved in your school community."

The National Honor Society provides the students the ability to be surrounded by high achieving peers. Junior Katie Conrad expressed, "It makes me more comfortable applying for colleges because I know that they like seeing that I was apart of NHS. It was a lot of work, but I am really glad I was able to become a member."

Eligible students had to be reviewed by the NHS faculty staff which included Ms. Edmonds, Mr. Henninger, Ms. Miller, Ms. Sexton, and Dr. Wilhelmy. ¶

IHS group wins gold medal in National History Day event

By JUSTIN REESE

On April 6, five students from IHS participated in the National History Day regional competition at IUP, winning a gold medal and moving onto the state-wide competition held in Carlisle, PA on May 11. The students stayed overnight to compete against students from all across the state. After putting a great deal of effort into their presentation, they unfortunately did not make it to finals.

Sophomores Drew Rado, Jason Kavalchick, Nathan Myers, and Sara Rahkonen submitted a documentary during the National History Day regional competition titled "Railways and Steel: The Conflict of Pittsburgh labor Unions and Their Search for Compromise". The documen-

tary, which won a gold medal, outlined the conflicts of labor that happened in Pittsburgh during the late 1800's.

Sophomore Jason Kovalchick, who organized the visuals used in the documentary, stated that "it was a good experience and we learned a lot about Pittsburgh heritage in labor rights. I would recommend it to anyone who is even remotely interested in history."

Sophomore Drew Rado, the voice of the documentary, expressed "I'm confident in our film and our ability to make it past states. Overall, it has been an amazing experience and a lot of fun."

The state competition, held in Carlisle High School featured



PHOTO BY JASON KOVALCHICK

(From left to right) Mr. Mossgrove, Nathan Myers, Drew Rado, Sara Rahkonen, and Jason Kovalchick after their state competition in Carlisle, PA.

documentaries from across Pennsylvania. The students stayed overnight in a hotel, ate dinner at a sponsored pizza party, and competed against students from across the state.

The students who unfortu-

nately did not proceed to finals still had a great experience and learned a great deal about history. Participating students encourage more IHS students to participate and showcase their skills and history knowledge. ¶

FBLA shines at State Conference



PHOTO BY ERIC BROCIOSUS

Brandon Boyer, Chase Cunningham, and Eddy Williams stand on stage waiting to receive their awards.

By ASHLEE GRAHAM

Every year, IHS FBLA takes a group of young and aspiring business students to the FBLA State Level Conference to perform in a competition related to a specific area of the business field.

This year, Indiana took 38

students to the SLC in Hershey, Pennsylvania. In that time, students and advisers got to partake in a great number of workshops and enriching activities designed to build their business skills.

Senior Shreya Bharadwaj,

who competed in the topic of Future Business Leader commented, “I enjoy going to states each year because I get to go to interesting workshops and meet new people with similar interests. It was also very exciting to see so many people from Indiana make it on stage for placing in their events.”

This year, the theme was Elevate Your Future for the 67th annual state leadership conference. The focus was to take business skills to the next level and to get a better view of where competitors potential future in business could be headed.

Junior Chase Cunningham, who competed in the topic of Hospitality Management says, “The 2018 FBLA State Level Conference was a great time. It was very exciting being able to represent Indiana on stage with my group, achieving 6th place in the entire state of Pennsylvania.”

Every year, there is the voting for the new round of executives

for the next year. Those that were running for a 2019 executive position were able to win over the voting delegates with campaign materials that they made to campaign for themselves. Indiana’s voting delegates for this year were Shreya Bharadwaj and Rebecca Shellenbarger.

Sophomore Cecilia Sherwood competed in the topic of public design and remarked, “The best part of the trip was presenting and getting a taste of the business life on the road by being allowed to choose where we ate and what we did.”

Those who made it on stage were seniors Bharadwaj and Sandra Shanshala in the category of Future Business Leader. Bharadwaj received 6th place, while Shanshala received 7th place. Juniors Chase Cunningham, Brandon Boyer, and Eddy Williams received 6th place in the category of Hospitality Management, and senior Leo Lezzer made it on stage to receive 7th place. ¶

IHS competes in the Physics Olympics

By JULIAN YERGER

On March 23, 2018, 120 students from 11 regional high schools competed in the Physics Olympics, an annual math and science competition hosted by IUP undergraduates. A four-person team from Indiana won the spaghetti and tape tower building competition, but other schools won the jeopardy game, aptitude test, physics puzzles, and cumulative score competition.

IHS Senior Vince Birch was a member of one of the winning physics teams, and he attributed their success to earlier classroom instruction. “We just incorporated ideas that we had been learning all year... This allowed the teams to be relatively successful.”

Nine IHS students organized into two teams and traveled to IUP, accompanied by Mr. Leh-

an.

For the main competition, each group was given 20 uncooked spaghetti noodles and one meter of tape to build a tower supporting the weight of one marshmallow.

Typical tower building competitions focus on tower height, but this one emphasized stiffness instead, measured in percent slump. While most groups focussed on building a conventional tower design, the team of IHS Junior Josh Mbogo decided to build something stouter. “The tower was shaped like a tetrahedral because that shape doesn’t bend at all.”

IHS Senior Edward Chandler was the first to realize that this competition had an unusual rule-book. “When I read the rules, I saw that neither the height nor weight mattered for the engi-

neering challenge. Knowing that, I thought of the most stable structure I know of, which is a tetrahedron.”

Their structure was so rigid that it had no measurable slump, so the group aced the rubric. However, another group built

a slightly taller tower with no measurable slump, so they were awarded the first place award and the IHS team took second.

The Physics Olympics will be held again next year when future teams from IHS can hope to defend their victories. ¶



PHOTO BY JULIAN YERGER

Seniors Vince Birch and Eddie Chandler, and juniors Andre Wassem and Josh Mbogo were enthusiastic participants in the Physics Olympics.

Students gather in remembrance of shooting victims



PHOTO BY ERIK PUSKAR

The student organizers come together in unity for the Parkland shooting victims.

By ADRIANA GUTH-BOROWSKI

On February 14, 2018, a mass shooting occurred at Parkland High School in Florida in which 17 people were killed. The students of IHS joined together in remembrance of the people who lost their lives.

With over 100 people in attendance, students gathered on the Andrew Kuzneski field. Students stood together for six minutes and twenty seconds of silence, which is the time it took for the shooting to occur.

As the clock ticked down, the names of the victims were read. Junior Muhsin Wahi-Anwar said, "It was sad, and it made me think about the friends and family of the victims. Also, it was sad that some people die for no reason. That is just a tragedy."

The assembly was organized by students Tian Schiera, Hannah Ushock, Connor McQuaide, Madeline Redhead-Kristen, Grace Woolslayer, Abby Walker, and Talia Mastalski.

Junior Schiera stated, "Our motivation for organizing the assembly was rooted in our de-

sire for change. The first step to any type of change in this kind of situation starts with bipartisan unity, and by organizing this assembly we hoped to exemplify that to all who attended."

Even though the date of the assembly may seem random, it was actually very well thought out. The student organizers wanted the memorial to be for the 17 victims, so they chose 4/17 as the date for the event.

The turnout was over the expected amount, especially with the inclement weather. Sophomore Grace Woolslayer stated, "I felt very grateful and glad so many people came out despite the weather. I felt that the people who stood out in the cold, crappy weather actually cared and realized there needed to be a change."

Junior Ella Spadafora said, "The assembly did a great job of pulling people together. There were a lot of different political views, but it was nice to see that people are able to unify." ¶

IHS sophomores to spend some time abroad

By EMMA NORMAN

Studying abroad is an opportunity that very few students have the ability to do. Here at IHS, two students will be spending time abroad. Maggie Conjelko and Tyler Pruitt, sophomores at IHS, will be spending several months overseas.

Conjelko was eager to share about her trip to Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Conjelko stated, "I decided to go to Dushanbe Tajikistan because I saw it as a great opportunity for me. Being in high school, I don't know exactly what I want to do yet so it's a time where I am trying things out."

She was offered a scholarship through a program called NSLI-Y (National Security Language Initiative for Youth). This program offers students scholarships to learn multiple unknown languages. Conjelko's main focus of study will be learning the language of Persian, or specifically the Tajiki dialect.

Conjelko also stated, "I am really interested in language learning and linguistics, so I thought that this would be a great way to explore that area while I am still young and in high school. I decided to learn Persian because it stood out to me- I don't even think that I had heard about Tajikistan before looking into this scholarship. A lot of the other languages that they offer aren't commonly taught in schools, but there are a lot more resources there. I am already learning Spanish which is very widely spoken, so I was eager to learn something new."

Conjelko will leave for Tajikistan in late June and will return in early August.

Tyler Pruitt, who is also a sophomore at IHS, will be spending an entire year in Germany. Pruitt stated, "I wanted to go to Germany because I've spoken German for a very long time; it seems as a nice way for me to be able to exercise my abilities to the max as well as form new, meaningful relationships with people in another country. Speaking two languages and being able to understand an increased amount of people is something incomparable to experience."

Pruitt applied to a program known as CBYX Scholarship Program (Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange). His specific scholarship only applies to Germany.

Pruitt's main focus throughout the year will be to study the culture itself. He stated, "My main focus next year isn't to study at all; rather, it's to ingratiate myself into the German culture and experience what it's like to be a German citizen."

Pruitt leaves for Germany in August of 2018 and will return in June of 2019.

Programs such as these are hard to get into, which makes these opportunities an incredible achievement for both students ¶

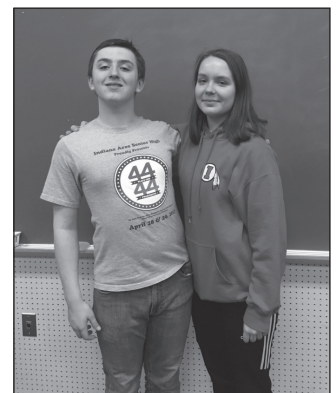


PHOTO BY EMMA NORMAN

Sophomores Maggie Conjelko and Tyler Pruitt will be studying abroad this year.

French and Art students explore artworks



PHOTO BY JIM DYKUN

IHS French and Art students explore art museums in D.C.

By JORIE MEIL

IHS students took a field trip to Washington D.C on April sixth. Students from the French III classes and seniors who are involved in the art department visited art museums and galleries in the Nation's capital.

Forty students travelled along with French teacher Mr. Dykun

and art teachers Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Miller. French III students went on the field trip following the completion of a unit on art, specifically French. The 16 French students were joined by 24 art students.

On the field trip, all of the students visited the National Gal-

lery of Art. At this museum, the students viewed many famous and exciting pieces of art. French III students spent much of their time at the National Gallery of Art exploring many of the works that they had learned about in class. Sophomore French student Alyssa McLaine remarked, "My favorite part of the trip to Washington D.C was being able to see some of the artwork we just learned about in French class."

The students also visited the Smithsonian National portrait gallery. The National portrait gallery is the home of portraits of many famous Americans including all of the presidential portraits. The first stop for many students was the newest addition to the American President exhibit. The Barack and Michelle Obama portraits were a favorite among students.

In addition to the previously mentioned two museums, the art

students visited the Freer Sackler Gallery of Art while the French students took some extra time at the National Gallery viewing French art. "The best part was seeing world art up close and in person," expressed senior art student Lauren Boda-Sutton.

The French III students, as well as a few of the Art students, took a break from the art of go to an authentic French cafe for lunch. The students got an opportunity to try real French food while having fun with their friends at Paul bakery.

This trip provided an amazing opportunity for students to experience art first hand. "I like seeing the evolution of art and how it has progressed and changed throughout the centuries," said sophomore French student Danny Lee. All of the participating students got something out of this trip and had a whole lot of fun. ¶

Artist in Residency program educates and electrifies

By INDIA KRUG

For students in the band department, many acclaimed jazz musicians are contained within sheet music— mere names connected to the songs they wrote or performed. The Artist in Residence program provides something more tangible: bringing the musicians straight to Indiana, PA.

It is a massive undertaking—the music wing becomes a hub-bub of excitement as the date draws nearer. Hotels are booked, ensembles are constructed, caterers are called, and students are told to practice their music.

2018's Artist in Residence proved to be another successful installment of the annual program. Thursday morning saw the arrival of Canadian-born singer, trumpeter, and student workshop enthusiast Bria Skonberg to IHS. She spent a day rehearsing and chatting with members of the jazz bands, wrapping

up with a question-and-answer seminar before a concert during tenth period.

Junior Conner Montgomery said, "It was a great learning opportunity- Bria was able to share her knowledge of improvisation and performance techniques with all of us."

While the Artist in Residence program is a good academic experience, it also provides inspiration and guidance for students looking to make music a profession.

Skonberg shared her trek through the jazz industry— from playing trumpet in seventh grade to moving to New York City.

Sophomore Lily Boulard stated, "Working with a successful artist is such an inspiring experience. It really made me rediscover my love for music and why I want to do this with my life."

Various groups shared the stage at that night's concert, the

youngest entertainers hailing from the Horace Mann Elementary Jazz Band. Ensembles from the Junior High and High School showcased an array of tunes: from funk to New Orleans swing to jazz standards. Vocalists exhibited their talents in jazz combos as well as big bands.

Junior Anthony Bevevino commented, "Bria was truly an

inspiration. Not only as a musician, but as a human being. She was extremely courteous and she took time out of her day to talk and spend time with us and to connect with us in many different ways."

As previous IHS Band Director, Mr. Nevin Saylor, always says, "Jazz is alive and well in Indiana, PA." ¶



PHOTO BY ERIK PUSKAR

Senior Clara Sherwood performs with Bria Skonberg, 2018's Jazz Artist in Residence.

IHS says farewell to two familiar faces

By HANNAH STEELE

Students graduate and move on from IHS every year, but teachers stay and make it possible for these students to succeed in life. Now, it's time for the roles to be reversed and for the students to say goodbye to the teachers.

As the school year winds down to an end, so does Mr. Newquist and Mrs. Versace's time as teachers. With the news of their retirement, the students and staff of IHS are saddened but excited for what the future holds for them.

"The first day I walked into Mrs. Versace's classroom, she gave off good vibes," expressed freshman Roderick Jones, a French I student. "Mrs. Versace is awesome, funny, and entertaining, and she believes in all of her students. I was hoping for her to be my French teacher for next year, but it was great knowing her this year."

Sophomore Nick Shaffer stated, "I really enjoyed having



PHOTOS BY HANNAH STEELE

Mr. Newquist and Mrs. Versace spend their last days as teachers continuing to electrify the classroom.

Mr. Newquist as my gym teacher freshman year. I hope that he enjoys his retirement, and I wish him the best of luck."

Thirteen out of twenty-two years of her teaching was spent at IHS. As a teacher, Mrs. Versace instructs French I and advocates for the ESL students. As Mrs. Versace puts it, "I love the people here. I think that we have a very professional atmosphere, yet we are very relaxed and welcoming at the same time.

"I'm going to miss the people that I love to see every day, both my colleagues and the students," voiced Versace.

During her retirement, Mrs. Versace plans to spend time with her grandkids, teach piano lessons, visit her son in Arizona, and work in the kitchen at Levy Brewing Company, a local craft distillery.

Mr. Newquist grew up in Indiana and went to high school at

IHS. Preceding graduation, he attended Shippensburg University for library sciences.

At age 29, Newquist went back to school at IUP to study physical education. Spending 22 years full-time and seven years subbing, Newquist has worked in every school building in Indiana as a gym teacher.

"I think that the energy of the school is my favorite thing about IHS," stated Newquist. "The kids and the faculty both have a lot of energy, and it's easy to jump on board with it."

"I'm going to miss the kids, I know a lot of people say that. The kids keep me young, and I'm going to miss guiding them through the challenges they are going through, I like dealing with that," expressed Newquist.

Once he is retired, Mr. Newquist intends on visiting his hunting camp, traveling to Canada to go fishing, playing golf, hanging out with his grandkids, and spending as much time outdoors as possible. ¶

Drama Club dancers make an appearance at IUP

By MIA LENZI

Drama Club students were invited to participate in an IUP Dance performance. They performed their homemade dance on April 6, 7, and 8. Directed by Holly Boda-Sutton, the show consisted of two acts starting out with Kintercircus and ending with Princess and the Pea... Brained.

IHS dancers could be spotted during the first act show, Kintercircus. They were dressed as clowns to match the circus setting and performed a rhythmic and comedic dance. Six students were invited by Boda-Sutton herself to perform in the dance.

The students were given the task of coming up with dance moves to tell a story. With rehearsals starting early in the new

year, the students worked hard and were able to perform their own dance moves on stage. Senior performer Maeve Morris says, "Getting the opportunity to work with IUP students and see their production process was incredible.

Everyone involved was extremely talented and helpful. I enjoyed getting a glimpse into college life and how impactful theatre could be."

Members of the IUP dance show would also volunteer their time and attend IHS to help guide the performers in the right direction.

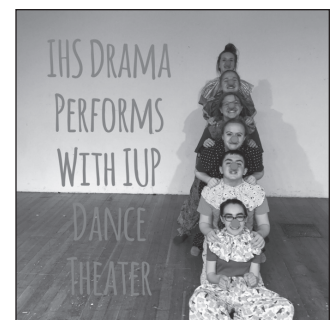
Sophomore dancer Lily Boulard comments, "We learned a lot about movement and how to make an audience understand what you're trying to por-

tray..." Show day approached, and each and every performer, along with Mrs. Leah Lyons, co-choreographer, were ready to put their work on the stage.

The performers were invited to a college level tech rehearsal week as well! Taking place at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania, IHS performers were able to experience real college tech rehearsals!

Junior performer Meagan Hatfield includes, "The rehearsal period was an especially great look at the inner workings of a college level organization."

Overall the show was a success and gave the drama club participants a view of the college rehearsal process. Each and every dancer volunteered



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DRAMA CLUB

Six IHS clowns prepare to perform their dance on an IUP stage.

time and worked hard to create a masterpiece. Their portion of the show ended up featuring dances depicting a food fight, sledding, and even a football game!

Put those to silly music and there's a show! ¶

IHS trusts the process of NextGen Clothing



PHOTO BY DONOVAN ROBINSON

Junior students Mikhail Bajwa, Owen Dougherty, and Donovan Robinson show off NextGen Clothing's first slogan, "Trust the Process."

By JOE LUETKEHANS

A powerful entrepreneurial spirit has struck IHS with the introduction of NextGen Clothing Co, a start-up streetwear brand from the minds of junior students Owen Dougherty and Donovan Robinson.

In early March, NextGen began selling their screen printed designs in school to close friends before marketing themselves school-wide.

Credit for the brand's success is partially due to the simple, yet professional looking logo, the words "NextGen" surrounded by wings.

The original inspiration for the name came on a whim during an evening drive, according to Dougherty. "I was going through notes on Donovan's phone and I saw NextGen, and I knew 'this is it!'".

In the wake of this newfound success, the young proprietors have begun to share their inspirations and hope that others with a similar mindset will be able to find an outlet for their business-minded creativity.

"We see a lot of young people that are starting to do this kind of thing, and we feel that entrepreneurship is kind of the cool thing to do now... We see this kind of thing on Instagram, young people making brands or selling things and making a lot of mon-

ey, and it's a motivation for us," stated Dougherty, who credits his interest in sneakers, clothing, and their respective resale markets with inspiring him to chase creative and lucrative opportunities.

According to Robinson, the inspiration for the brand's design and business strategy is partly due to the efforts of students at Kiski Prep, who made a clothing brand and have found similar success among their peers. "The closest thing [to an inspiration] for me was that I know this kid who goes to Kiski who also made a clothing brand, and he was making a good amount of money from it, so I thought we should try it out."

Junior Bre Smathers, a supporter of NextGen since the brand's beginnings, says that the passion and drive of the young entrepreneurs is what makes their brand so likable.

"I really like that they came up with the design on their own. It's really great to see them being creative and doing something they are passionate about. I hope they continue to create new designs and products," stated Smathers.

The Brand's original slogan "Trust The Process" was plastered along the backside of the first run of shirts, although the Dougherty and Robinson faced a roadblock in the form of a copyright claim.

"Trust The Process", the longtime slogan and mantra of former Philadelphia 76ers Manager and President Sam Hinkie, was protected by law, forcing the boys to find new inspiration and direction.

The brand has since moved forward in terms of the design and style, with the new slogan "We Are The Future" being found on the next generation of NextGen products. Dougherty and Robinson have since attempted to expand the scope of their project, stating that a website and new products are soon to come. ¶

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Pre-Prom and Spirit Day activities

Pre-Prom

By KIMBERLY SAMUEL

On April 27, the IHS hosted the 23rd annual Pre-Prom where students from all over the area are given the opportunity to participate in a magical night for students in the Life Skills Program.

Pre-Prom started as a single school event, but soon prospered into a much larger event with several other schools participating.

Other schools attending included Apollo Ridge, Blairsville, Freeport, Homer Center, Armstor, Marion Center, Northern Cambria, Penns Manor and New Story.

The theme for this year's event was a circus, and students in the Drama Department dressed up as clowns while red noses were passed around to go with the beautiful decorations; complete with a popcorn bar and many various fun activities.

The day before, students from both Key Club and Leadership volunteered to help prepare, and many of them served as prom dates for students that didn't choose their own.

Key Club member and junior Aaron Burkhart expressed, "I'm

excited for all the kids, it's one of the biggest events through the year and they all have such a great time."

From decorating the local Country Club to organizing the event itself, everyone involved felt like they were part of something special.

Senior Jennifer Brice, a member of Leadership and President of Key Club commented, "The students in Key Club all participate throughout the day and each year is just so much fun. My favorite part is when you get to see everybody all dressed up."

The local business community also pitched in to help make the evening a success as various local businesses donated dresses and hair styling appointments. Also, the 700 Shop on Philadelphia Street provided suits for many of the boys.

Senior Chloe Mitchell, a part of the Life Skills program stated, "My favorite part was dancing with my friends."

Thanks to the efforts of all involved, and especially Life Skills teacher Mrs. Lori Dadson, Pre-Prom was once again a great success. ✨



Spirit Day give students a chance to shine

Spirit Day

By EMMA NORMAN

Schools from all over the area gathered at Indiana Area High School on Friday, May 4 to participate in Spirit Day.

Spirit Day is an event that IHS puts together every year for life skills students in schools both near and far.

The event, held on the Indiana High athletic fields, allows students to participate in fun activities that bring people together and create lasting friendships.

IHS Key Club hosted the event and worked hard to make sure it was a success. Students in the club were given the opportunity to help out with the event.

Key Club members who participated in the event only had positive things to say about the outcome.

Junior Chase Cunningham stated, "It was a great experience, as it is every year, and it was awesome to see the kids interact with the Disney characters and the IUP football players that joined us at the event. Getting to see them run around and have fun with one another was heartwarming."

Sophomore Alexis Bonatch stated, "I thought it was such a

good experience and the connection I made with the kids was life changing. They brightened my day, and I know I brightened theirs too."

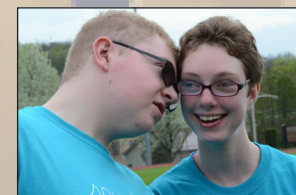
Students from the IHS Drama Department also participated in Spirit Day.

Their contribution to the event was dressing up as Disney characters. Being able to get a picture taken with a Disney princess and many other characters, put smiles on a lot of faces.

Junior Emma Zuzek, who dressed up as Wendy from *Peter Pan* stated, "Spirit Day is an amazing way to bring the county together. It is such a great idea, and it was so much fun to be a part of it. I had a wonderful day spending time with all the kids!"

Sophomore Reese McFarlane attended Spirit Day to take pictures of everyone participating. McFarlane stated, "It was such an amazing experience to be able to watch all of the kids from different schools come together and have a fun day."

Overall IHS is proud to say that the 2018 Spirit Day event was once again an overwhelming success. 17



PHOTOS BY HANNAH VERALDI, JOE KUKULA, AND LORI DADSON

Gun violence in schools remains a focus issue

By PARKER KOONS

Guns are a very heated topic recently, with many organizations pushing to have more restrictions and/or bans on the manufacture and sale of such.

The recent events that happened at the Florida high school have cast a negative light on guns, especially AR-15 style rifles.

There is a large push for more gun control, and even in some cases for the banning of AR-15 rifles altogether by many anti-gun political parties.

“I feel that the banning of military style rifles is an ill-informed and ineffective way to stop the situation.

The 1994 assault weapons ban used cosmetic items and differences in weapons to define them as assault weapons, despite the fact that things like adjustable stocks don’t change the mechanics of a gun.

Banning assault style weapons will just lead to an increase in the sales of other types of weapons,” comments junior John Harper.

The problem with banning AR-15 rifles is very simple; only the responsible and law abiding citizens will actually turn over their guns, not the criminals or people who commit said atrocities.

Guns find their way into criminals hands either way. A very popular fact currently says that England has not had a mass shooting since they enacted harsh civilian gun laws in 1996, following a mass shooting in both Australia and in the UK.

Anti-gun political parties have pushed that these countries have not had a mass shooting since this. The truth, however, is that both Australia and the UK have had either a mass shooting or major gun-related crime since

their restrictions. England had the Cumbria shooting in which 12 people died.

Another common fact being tossed around is the 18 school shootings this year, which includes accidental firearm discharge by a security guard and also people driving into the school parking lot and committing suicide.

This figure comes from a site called “Everytown for Gun Safety,” which is a non-profit that aims to stop gun violence.

The organization has come under fire after a closer look at their research shows that many of the supposed school shootings didn’t involve any bodily harm and most did not take place during school hours.

“I think both sides, right and left, are pushing for something they cannot achieve,” Junior An-

drew Kimmel says.

“Severe regulations would lead to paranoia and distrust of the government. If the government won’t allow the right to own guns, what else would they not allow?” commented senior Lillian Boone.

Gun control is important, but in the right amounts. Guns can be an important way of life for some people; some people rely on them for food, and some provide home defense, and many people have been saved simply by the act of pumping a shotgun.

Military style rifles make little sense in civilian hands however due to having no need for them or any common reason.

In the long run, the gun control debate is far from over but there is hope for more common sense on both sides of the spectrum. ¶

Arrow Up

Warmer weather-

Finally! I am absolutely thrilled that I finally get to run around with the entirety of my arms exposed. All I need now is some iced tea and Redbone by Childish Gambino and my summer is practically complete.

Eating fruit-

With the warm weather now I can finally gorge myself on absurd amounts of pineapples without people thinking I’m some kind of monster. I intend to take full advantage of the juicy goodness.

The weird cat in my neighborhood-

The most affectionate cat I have ever seen. She puts my actual cat to shame, because my cat is a condescending piece of garbage.

My Allergies-

I hate them. Listen, I can’t enjoy a single thing I love without the allergy gods ascending from the heavens and piercing my nose with a pollen tipped spear.

Hot food-

Hot food at this point in the year is CANCELLED, no thanks. I’m not going to burn my mouth on Ribeye Ted’s Rootin-Tootin Finger Licking Spicy Chili, just because ya’ll are sadists.

Birds-

Now that birds are back I feel it is appropriate to say that I’m deathly afraid of them. And the ones around here aren’t that afraid of people. Creeping up on you eating your McDonald’s fries. Gross.

Arrow Down

By KALYN MENIFEE

The High Arrow

Volume 85, No. 3

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Letters must be signed.

Staff and advisor reserve the right to screen and edit letters.

Opinion columns represent the views of the individual writer.

Guns in schools

By JULIAN YERGER

Earlier this year at the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, a mentally ill former student entered the building and used his assault rifle to kill seventeen people and seriously wound another fourteen. This is certainly not the first school shooting or even the deadliest. Over a dozen have occurred since the beginning of 2018, about 290 since 2013.

This new disaster has energized the gun control debate and brought up a popular solution to the issue: Armed teachers. This idea has been championed by many gun control opponents, but most teachers are far from enthusiastic about carrying a gun in the classroom.

Freshman Maddux Fisanich also thought training would be important. "Armed teachers would make me feel safer, but only if they had the proper training and permits."

On March 13, California teacher Dennis Alexander accidentally discharged his pistol into the ceiling of his classroom.

Alexander had his last gun safety training class less than a year ago and worked as a reserve police officer on weekends, so he had received at least as much training as any armed teacher could be expected to have. He had not been cleared to have his weapon at school, yet he decided to draw his weapon and demonstrate to the class how to disarm an assailant.

After the weapon discharged, fragments of the bullet and ceiling lodged in one student's neck. Alexander did not stop class or inform the school nurse.

This accident occurred while the teacher had full control of his weapon, but fighting with a student or active shooter would make the situation much worse.

Sophomore Grace Woolslayer said, "I don't think giving guns to teachers would increase security because even if the teachers were trained, something could

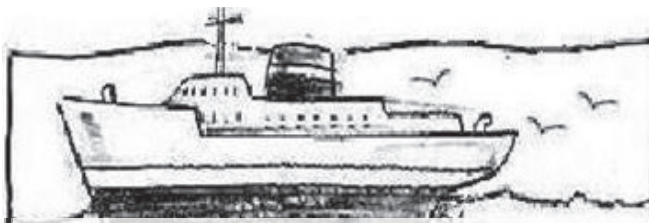
go wrong and a student could get the gun." Sophomore Cormac Pagnucci comments, "Armed security guards are a good idea, but I'm not sure about teachers. If a kid overtook a teacher they may find the gun and use it, which would not be good."

The key issue is whether schools should have guns permanently in the building. In 2012, just after the Sandy Hook shooting, NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre said, "The only way to stop a bad guy with a gun is with a good guy with a gun." He doubled down on this rhetoric after Parkland, saying "We must immediately harden our schools." This common viewpoint thinks that gun-free zones are natural targets and will inevitably be attacked, but there are many examples that counter that view.

Compared to other countries, the US has about 10 times as many guns and homicides per capita. States with the highest levels of gun ownership have 60 percent higher homicide rates and 7 times higher gun death rates than states with the lowest gun ownership. Homes with firearms have a higher risk of homicide than homes without them.

One common myth is that criminals will possess a gun regardless of that area's laws, but, Japan has almost completely banned guns from within its borders, including severe restrictions on police usage, and gun deaths have fallen to almost zero. There are harsh prison sentences for the possession of guns, and ammunition, and the firing of a gun.

Even if arming teachers and school personnel would reduce school shootings, the overwhelming majority of gun deaths occur in other ways. In 2017, school shootings killed 43 and wounded 82, while in the same year, there were 15,593 total deaths from gun violence and 31,185 total injuries. †



What floats my boat...

By JENNIFER BRICE

Senior class trip -- The senior class gets to enjoy a day at Hershey Park, while the underclassmen get to enjoy a day without seniors clogging up the hallways of IHS. Certainly the cure to senioritis lies somewhere within a park full of roller-coasters and five-pound chocolate bars.

Prom -- Prom brings out the best in everyone, as seemingly dim-witted boys come up with clever proposals, and girls trade their leggings with Birkenstock sandals style for a dress and fancy heels. This year's prom will be extra special, since the Gateway Clipper setting should make for prime Instagram content.

Graduation -- Four years of stress and sleep deprivation will all be over on May 25. No matter their GPA or assumed level of popularity, every senior will walk across the same stage, receive the same diploma, and feel the same sense of relief and fulfillment.

...What sinks my ship

By DYLAN LATORE

Senior class trip - Seniors all over are getting pumped up to sit on a bus for three hours, wait in two hour lines, and have enough time to ride maybe three rides if they hurry. The hefty senior trip price will be worth it only if the provided buffet 'lunch' is as far away from Chartwells food as humanly possible.

Prom - When you have to sell a kidney to buy a Prom ticket, it begs the question of whether prom is worth it. While it kind of is a 'big deal' to go to prom, and is an experience everyone should go through, it's really underwhelming when it comes down to it. I say if you have the money to freely spend, then go for it. But if it's a financial stretch there are many other things you could fill your night with; unchaperoned as well.

Graduation - Not a whole lot of negative things can be said about graduating. Maybe if you love waking up at 6am and shuffling through a monotonous arrangement of classrooms, maybe graduating would certainly sink your ship. But I've personally never met anyone like that. Summer responsibilities are a negative, sure, but I'd take mowing the lawn over going to high school any day.



A fond farewell to High Arrow seniors

Mia Lenzi - Editor



PHOTO BY EMMA NORMAN

Four year journalism class veteran and co-editor Mia Lenzi works on layouts for the senior issue of the High Arrow.

By INDIA KRUG

You see a mane of chestnut curls bouncing down the hallway, accompanied by Sydney Shearer and Maeve Morris--most likely, that is Mia Lenzi.

The twelfth grader has been on the High Arrow for four years and was made co-editor of the 2017-2018 staff. A participant of multiple arts departments, Mia has left an imprint on her community through drama productions, dance recitals, newspaper articles, and more.

"The drama department gave me a home in high school. I made so many friendships through the department. I also had the opportunities to do what I love and share my passion for dance and acting with others on stage."

She was most recently seen in Indiana Senior High School's production of *The Addams Family*, tangoing onstage with sophomore Nathan Birch.

One of three dance captains, she co-choreographed "The Moon and Me" and helped students in the ensemble during daily rehearsals.

Mia is also a prominent member of Sue Hewitt's Dance Studio, performing annually at the charity event known as "Dancers

With Heart and Sole." Joined by Morris and Shearer, she presents ornate and impressive tap routines. "Dancing at Sue's has also helped me to create amazing relationships. It has also taught me how to work together to create wonderful dances. I now have so many sisters through dance!"

While reflecting on her time spent at IHS, Mia decided her favorite class was psychology. "The teacher, Mr. Doody, is hilarious, and the class itself was super interesting."

Along with her high school classes, she is dual-enrolled at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, Mia will be attending IUP to major in pre-physical therapy.

She also plans to be a part of the ROTC program. "Within the next five years I want to be succeeding in college and starting my career in the military."

When asked to give advice to underclassmen, Mia responded: "I would tell everyone to be themselves. Find your niche, but don't be afraid to explore! Be true to yourself!" ✎

Joe Luetkehans - Editor

By JORIE MEIL

With graduation fast approaching, IHS once again prepares for the loss of this year's senior class. With this comes the departure of senior Joe Luetkehans a staple on the High Arrow staff and in the halls of IHS. IHS will miss his iconic fashion sense and his A&E album reviews that he has been known for in his four year high school career.

Joe has been on the High Arrow staff for all four years of his high school career. This year he was made co-editor. Joe lead the staff through a great year of journalism.

"Of course, the best memories were made loitering in Mr. Nath's ever-changing room and hanging out in journalism. Whether it was going to get quotes, finding stories in the halls, or building friendships with the other members of the high arrow staff," states Luetkehans about his time in journalism.

At IHS, Joe has been part of many activities and organizations. One of the notable things that he has accomplished at IHS is being a part of the school's swimming and diving team.

Joe is also a member of NHS and SGA.

The loss of Joe for IHS is the gain for Carnegie Mellon University. After graduation Joe plans to attend CMU and study psychology. Joe also plans to continue on the path of journalism by joining the CMU newspaper staff.

Joe has made many memories both in and out of the classroom that will last him a lifetime. "I will miss my friends and teachers, who have taught me so much about learning and growing up. I will miss journalism with Mr. Nath, French with Mr. Dykun, and making Mr. Doody break character in class," expresses Luetkehans.

All in all, IHS will miss Joe Luetkehans. "I'm not proud of GPA or SAT score or any of that garbage. What I'm most proud of is the connections and memories that I made during high school. I hope that I'll have made an impression on my teachers and peers, and that the name Joseph Luetkehans will live on forever in Mr. Nath's room. I have created my legacy," remarks Luetkehans.

The legacy that Joe Luetkehans has left will be remembered for years to come. ✎

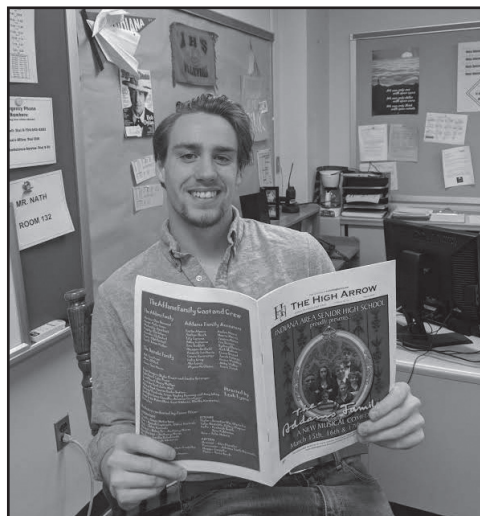


PHOTO BY JENNIFER BRICE

Co-editor Joe Luetkehans, a four year veteran of the High Arrow, enjoys a perusal through the latest issue.

Kalyn Meniffee



By JORIE MEIL

Known for her hard hitting opinion articles and hilarious stand up routines, IHS prepares for the graduation of senior Kalyn Meniffee. When this year's grads move the tassel on their graduation caps to signify the end of their high school careers, Kalyn will be among the most missed by the school, especially the High Arrow staff.

Kalyn is a four year member of the High Arrow staff, and an associate editor. Within the newspaper, Kalyn is known for her opinion articles on current events and controversial topics, as well as her informative news articles. Kalyn brightened up the class with her hilarious stories, jokes, and articles. "I will miss hanging out with the journalism crew, it is the only class I have had consistently for four years," expresses Meniffee.

An event that will forever live on is when Kalyn swooped in at this year's annual variety show as a host, with her stand up comedy skills.

Kalyn has been part of many organizations and clubs such as Love is Love, FBLA, Portfolio Club, and Book Club, of which she was the president. She also played basketball and has worked on two plays as a part of the stage crew. Outside of IHS, Kalyn has been a part of two art shows as well as working and campaigning for the democratic party.

Next year, Kalyn is staying close to home. She will be attending IUP for her undergrad. She is going in with an undeclared major but plans to switch to English Education later on.

When summing up her four years at IHS Kalyn simply and eloquently remarked, "I have been here for a very long time. I'll tell you what, I'm tired."

Good luck in the future Kalyn, we will miss you. ✎

Dylan Latore

By JOE LUETKEHANS

Honor, kindness, humor, coolness; this amalgamation of traits rarely manifests in a High Arrow staff member, creating a once-in-a-millennium reporter. For the past three years, Dylan Latore has proven to be that reporter. Most of the time.

As a three-year member of the High Arrow staff, Dylan has charmed us all with his wit and laid-back attitude, which is known to put junior staff members at ease in the face of scrutiny and shame from the High Arrow advisor, Mr. Nath. Latore has shown to be a master of entertainment writing, covering everything from local concerts to album reviews.

After graduation, Latore plans to study Communications and Media at the IUP Cook Honors College, where he will join other elite students in a specialized honors curriculum. It is unknown whether or not he will attempt to continue his journalism career at the collegiate level.

As is the case with every departing senior, Dylan holds several IHS memories dear to his heart. "[My favorite memories were] the senior boys falling through the roof, designing the High Arrow merch, and soon I'll be able to add leaving this building for the last time." Latore has run track for IHS every year of his High School career, and has stated that he will miss his time with the track team the most.

The High Arrow Staff will miss Dylan Latore for all that he has brought us, and wishes him good luck in his future at IUP and beyond. Dylan will be most missed for his charming writing, his numerous attempts to hijack Joe's fashion sense, and his borderline-psychotic infatuation with Chance the Rapper. He has left a legacy that will be remembered by the High Arrow staff for generations to come. ✎



Jennifer Brice



By MIA LENZI

It's that time of year again where the High Arrow recognizes it's wonderful group of seniors.

Specifically, the High Arrow will be sending off one of their new staff members, senior Jennifer Brice. Brice has been on the newspaper staff for one year.

Brice has contributed numerous articles, and she has helped the High Arrow to have connections with other school organizations.

Brice comments, "Journalism has introduced me to a great group of people and has been a class where I get to do something that I genuinely enjoy and take interest in." Brice has not only showed her leadership skills through her participation in journalism, but in many other school activities as well.

Brice has been a member of Key Club all four years of high school. This year she is serving as the Key Club president.

Jen also joined Leadership Seminar for her senior year, has been a valued member of the dance team for four years, and has also made her way up to be in the top ten for the senior class.

After graduating, Jen plans to attend the University of Virginia to study cognitive psychology and bioethics. "In five years I will probably be doing graduate work, hopefully working toward a doctoral degree to become a neuropsychologist," stated Brice.

As a little piece of advice to underclassmen Brice adds, "I encourage underclassmen to always speak up for what they believe, but to also keep an open mind and be a good listener (in journalism class, and as a general rule)."

Good luck in your journey after high school, and all of the High Arrow and IHS wishes you a bright future! ✎

The IHS Class of 2018

Adamson, Jeremy - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Affan, Nabeeha - University of Pittsburgh
 Alawwad, Shatha - IUP Cook Honors College
 Altman, Kaitlynn - Employment
 Angelo, Halle - University of Pittsburgh
 Arbuckle, Thomas - University of Pittsburgh - Greensburg
 Arotin, Blaine - Employment
 Barker, Tyler - Gannon University
 Beatty, Ann - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Beere, Kevin - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Bernard, Morgan - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Bertig, Lauren - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Bharadwaj, Shreya - University of California, Los Angeles
 Bianco, Benjamin - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Birch, Vincent - Penn State University
 Black, Jillian - IUP Cook Honors College
 Boda-Sutton, Lauren - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Boone, Lillian - Robert Morris University
 Bosley, Branden - University of Pittsburgh - Johnstown
 Brice, Jennifer - University of Virginia
 Britsky, Will - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Brocious, Allison - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Brocious, Brandon - University of Colorado Boulder
 Bush, Tanner - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Byrne, Gabriella - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Carnahan, Colin - Unknown
 Carter, Carlos - Wheeling Jesuit University
 Cash, Jessica - Penn State or Pitt
 Celedonio, Trisha - Westmoreland Community College
 Cessna, Hunter - Unknown
 Cessna, Lucas - US Army
 Chandler, Edward - Washington University in St. Louis
 Ciocca, Dominic - Penn State University
 Clawson, Nicole - Empire Beauty School
 Colonna, Abigail - Messiah College
 Conjelko, Matthew - IUP Cook Honors College
 Cramer, Dodge - Employment
 Crawford, Corbin - Army National Guard
 Dawson, Michael - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Decker, Isaac - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 DeFoor, Jarrett - Employment
 Denver, Elizabeth - Carlow University
 Detwiler, Alexander - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Dickert, Kyle - United States Army
 Dills, Bailey - Lebanon Valley College
 Donahue, Alex - George Mason University
 Donofrio, McKayla - Slippery Rock University
 Dulion, Preston - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Elias, Amanda - Central Ohio Technical College
 English, Faith - Westmoreland Community College
 Erdely, Hannah - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Evans, Isaac - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Fanella, Richard - Susquehanna University
 Ferguson, Ella - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Finegan, Noah - Slippery Rock University
 Fondren, Hannah - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Forrester, Kristen - Slippery Rock University
 Foust, Michael - Westmoreland Community College
 Froggatt, Kevin - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Fulton-Schuller, Keegan - IUP Cook Honors College
 Galeno, Maria - Pittsburgh Technical College
 Gaston, Kilee - Citizen's School of Nursing
 Gentile, Giaco - University of Pittsburgh
 Gibbon, Kara - Penn State University
 Gibson, Noah - Pittsburgh Technical College
 Glavach, Carlie - Thiel College
 Glinsky, Magdalen - Altoona Beauty School
 Green, Zachariah - Employment
 Griffith, Eric Edward - Employment/WCCC or BC3
 Gunter, Sarah - Westmoreland Community College
 Guth-Borowski, Alexander - IUP
 Haddad, Stephanie - Employment
 Harley, Lea - Employment
 Harris, Emily - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Hartnett, Lauren - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Heckert, Kelsey - Millersville University
 Hilliard, Nathan - The Kiski School
 Hinton, Reba - Employment
 Hinton, Ryan - Employment
 Hite, Hunter - Employment
 Hozak, Dakota - Westmoreland Community College
 Isidor, Maria - Employment
 Johnson, Brent - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Johnston, Ian - Employment
 Jones, Trajan - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Josephson, David - Saint Vincent College
 Kane, Katherine Pace University - NYC Pforzheimer
 Honors College
 Kenley, Emma - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Kessler, Makenzie - IUP Cooks Honor College
 Kightlinger, Leia - Employment
 Kim, Joshua - Penn State University
 Koran, Joshua - Unknown
 Kuzneski, Cassandra - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Latore, Dylan - IUP Cook Honors College
 Lenzi, Mia - Indiana University of Pennsylvania

is really going places!

Lewis, Shelby - Employment
 Lezzer, Leo - Penn State University
 Lo, Gloria - Penn State University
 Long, Alex - Job Core in Pittsburgh
 Long, Jason - Unknown
 Lowery, Shelby - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Lubold, Anthony - Penn State University
 Luetkehans, Joseph - Carnegie Mellon University
 Luetkehans, William - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Lybarger, Logan - Employment
 Maschak, Mason - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 McCurdy, Brianna - Indiana County Technical School
 McKendrick, Destiny - Westmoreland Community College
 McMillen, Christopher - Crossroads Bible Institute
 Medvedev, Timofey - University of Washington
 Menifee, Kalyn - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Millen, Daniel - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Millen, Garrett - University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
 Miller, Dakota - Employment
 Miller, Devin - Employment
 Miltz, Logan - Unknown
 Montgomery, William - Bradford School
 Moore, Robert - University of Pittsburgh
 Moran, Shane - Saint Vincent College
 Morris, Maeve - West Virginia University
 Morse, Anthony - Employment
 Murphy, Fiona - Temple University Honors
 Newman, Brant - Macalester College
 Ooten, Saturnynia - College of Officer Training
 Oskey, Samuel - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Palmer, Samantha - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Peles, Kathleen - Florida Gulf Coast University
 Phillips, Macey - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Pierce, Alyssa - Unknown
 Pittman, Jason - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Pokol, Drake - Hiram G. Andrews
 Pruett, Skylar - Employment
 Pruitt, Landon - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Quarles, Aidan - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Raible, Jordan - Slippery Rock University
 Ramoser, Julia - Exchange student
 Ray, Alexander - Penn State Behrend
 Raymond, Michelle - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Ream, Allison - Robert Morris University
 Rearick, Joseph - Employment
 Reese, Jewel - Employment
 Rhoades, Dalton - Employment
 Roadarmel, Robert - Penn State University

Romanie, Katlyn - Employment
 Ryan, Keegan - West Point
 Satchell, Elijah - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Saunders, Qi'ree - Employment
 Schrecengost, Braden - Employment
 Sebring, Taylor - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Sepecan, Maja - Foreign exchange student
 Sergeant, Luke - Employment
 Sexton, Timothy - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Shanshala, Sandra - IUP Eberly
 Shaw, John - Employment
 Shearer, Sydney - Juniata College
 Sheesley, Braedon - Pennsylvania College of Technology
 Shellenbarger, Rebecca - IUP Cook Honors College
 Shenkle, Olivia - Stetson University
 Sherwood, Clara - Washington & Jefferson College
 Sissoko, Mohamed - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Smith, Hannah - East Tennessee State University
 Smith, Jordan - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Smith, Rachele - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Sneddon, Samantha - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Southard, Kai - IUP Cook Honors College
 Spadafora, Mia-Ann - High Point University
 Sprenger, Jacqueline - Clarion University
 Stossel, Emma - Seton Hill University
 Strittmatter, Ian - Pennsylvania College of Technology
 Taylor, Matthew - Employment
 Uschock, Hannah - Thiel College
 Varholick, Madison - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Veraldi, Hannah - Mount Aloysius College
 Villemain, Seth - IUP Cook Honors College
 Wadding, Ezra - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Wagner, Kelsey - Edinboro University
 Wagner, Mark - Pennsylvania College of Technology
 Weaver, Evan - Unknown
 Wheatcroft, Allison - Douglas Education Center
 White, Shakayla - North Hampton Community College
 Wilkinson, Jessica - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Williams, Jared - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Wilson, Joseph - Indiana University of Pennsylvania
 Woan, Franco - Penn State University
 Wolfgang, Wyatt - Employment
 Wu, Brandon - University of Colorado - Boulder
 Wu, Ting-Yue Tony - Unknown
 Wunz, Kyle - Employment
 Xu, XinYi - Stony Brook University
 Yankuskie, Joseph - Employment
 Zheng, Jennifer - University of Pittsburgh

Congratulations

Class of 2018!

PHOTO BY SPELLMAN STUDIO

