

The war in Syria shows no signs of ending soon, especially with many major world powers further escalating the war. Trump's removal of troops suggests that each country involved in the war has to choose its actions carefully, as any actions could alter the fate of Syria and relations with other nations. One of the most influential world powers pulling troops out of Syria may change the balance of power between the conflicts and break the stalemate—for good or bad—that has existed for many years.



“To spend valuable time with my family and to get adjusted to life with a newborn.”
—Dr. Chase, Counseling Dept.

“To walk my dog more than once a day and to read more.”
—Ms. Beneville, Art Dept.

“In 2020, I hope to study more for school and to be a better, kinder person.”
—Melina Ross, 10th

“In this upcoming year and new decade, I plan on changing a few things. Over the past few months, I have realized that I have been entrenched in my views and actions. With 2020 up and coming, I want to change that. I plan on being more open to trying new sports and more open minded to new ideas.”
—Joseph Kenavan, 7th

“To keep going strong with yoga.”
—Ms. Brancaccio, All Depts.

“To take better care of my nutritional needs.”
—Mr. Homer, Health Dept.

“I want to be able to commit to a college for baseball, but I want to go to a college with challenging academics.”
—Michael Masciello, 11th

“In the new year, I want to be a better student. I want to utilize my time better and stop procrastinating.”
—Annalia Alcamo, 11th

Happy New Year! *With this decade coming to a close, a new one is fast approaching: 2020! This is the perfect time to carry out all the promises you make to yourself and be the greatest possible version of you. Let’s make this new year full of life-long memories and achieving great things—one of the best decades yet!*

By Sophia Ketterer

CSH Community Members Share Their Resolutions

“My resolutions include exploring more and procrastinating less. I’ll post the rest tomorrow, or maybe the day after.”
—Mrs. Benvenuti, Special Ed. Dept./Testing Room

“My resolution is to help around the house more. My mom is always working so hard to keep it clean and organized. Starting in 2020, I will work hard to do the same.”
—Megan Jasinski, 7th

“To spend more quality time with friends and family.”
—Ms. Uhl-Smith, Physical Education Dept.

“My resolution is to know I’m fully prepared for every test I take.”
—Beau Hodgson, 10th

“To grow out my beard; to be kind to and more tolerant of those less fortunate than I—especially Mr. Phelan; and to change the world by working on my own self-realization.” —Mr. Borland, English Dept.

“My resolution is to heal the world one hug at a time. I also vow to spread glitter and love to all who need it the most. We must be more cognizant of those around us and be more compassionate. I would love for there to be more holidays —hence, more crescendos and outfits. We need to create eco-friendly glitter! Happiest of New Years...until next year.”
—Sra. Fristensky, LOTE Dept.

“My resolution is to stop procrastinating. By stopping procrastinating, I can get things done more efficiently.”
—Kaitlyn Jasinski, 9th

“My resolution for the New Year and New Decade is to prioritize the practice of focusing on the intention of my responses—especially during challenging conversations.”
—Mrs. Pickering, Counseling Center

“To be a good father.”
—Mr. Chiarello, Music Dept.

“I would like to spend more time with family and friends this year. Since college is in my near future, I must cherish every gathering my family has.”
—Taylor Nicolosi, 12th

“Focus more on the positive rather than the negative!”
—Mrs. McCloskey, Main Office

“My resolution for 2020 is to become a more effective communicator.”
—Mrs. Scudieri, Special Education Dept.

“In the beginning days of the new year, people often make New Year’s resolutions. People make challenges for themselves that duiring the next year will change their lives for the better. This year, my goal is to eat and make dinner at least three times a week and have a nice family dinner.”
—Ryan Koenigsberger, 8th

“Eat a balanced diet! You can’t have your pudding if you don’t eat your meat!”
—David Zimmon, 12th

“My new decade resolutions include revitalizing an interest that got lost over the years (volunteering as an EMT), learning a totally new skill (how to cook), and going on an awesome family adventure (Bolivian Salt Mines, here we come!).”
—Ms. Waters, Building Administration

CSH Reaches Out to the Community This Holiday Season

By Sophia Ketterer

It’s that time of year again: the time to give, be thankful, and help others. So, if you’re wondering how you can give back this holiday season, our school has a lot of ways for you to do so. If you have ever seen the big boxes at the front entrance of the school and wondered what they are, here’s your answer: they are different opportunities and causes for you to donate to.

First, we have an annual Thanksgiving food drive for non-perishable items such as canned sweet potatoes, canned cranberry sauce, boxes of stuffing, and cans of corn. Although this drive is over, look out for it next year so you can help provide families with a meal to have on their Thanksgiving tables.

This year we also have the Mercy First drive which asks students to donate a variety of items from toys to clothes to art supplies such as coloring books.



We also have a winter clothing drive for the Homeless Veterans in Northport. These men and women once fought bravely for our country, but now they are unable to support themselves and have nowhere to live. Whether they are on the streets or in a shelter, they need items such as hats, gloves, scarves, and jackets to stay warm during the cold winter months.

With all of these opportunities to give back to people who are less fortunate, why not join in? It is also important to remember to continue giving throughout the year, not just during the holidays. People are in need of help all year round and need even more when the holidays are over because there tend to be fewer donations when people aren’t in the holiday spirit and encouraged to give back.

No act of kindness is too small, and every act makes an impact on someone’s life for the better. What better gift can you receive than the knowledge that you made someone smile and made a difference for someone, whether it was a warm jacket to wear in the snow or a warm meal to have for dinner?

CSH Fall Sports Success

By Riley Haskell

★ *Talk to Jada/Sami/Skyler about field hockey.*

★ *Talk to Mackenzie about volleyball.*

★ *Talk to Cam/Meghan/Veronica about tennis.*

The Cold Spring Harbor school year started off with a fulfilling fall sports season with nearly every sport sending a team or several members to counties and even states.

The cheer team this year did something very special: they invited young children, ranging from 4-10, to join them on the field for the Homecoming game. They performed a practiced routine that the coaches and cheerleaders worked hard to finish in time. One varsity cheerleader, Sofia Smith, explained the importance of the event, saying how it helped “kids get exposed to cheerleading” before entering junior high or high school. The team found it very pleasing seeing “a bunch of smiles” from the little kids displaying their pure joy because they were part of something bigger, a new tradition they don’t completely understand yet but will hopefully continue once they come of age.

The boys’ varsity soccer team had a very exciting season. They made it all the way to the Nassau County Finals where they played their hearts out. Andrew Brancato, a sophomore on the team, explained, “The team had a rough start to the season, but picked it up by the end.” Andrew has very high hopes for the team in the upcoming years, saying how “as long as we keep working next season, we will only be better.” Andrew is the legacy for the upcoming years, and we hope the team continues their winning tradition!

Varsity football was coming off the all-time high of winning the Long Island Championship last year but unfortunately lost in the Nassau County Championship this season. Still, the team had an amazing season once again, and we will miss all of our seniors next year! JV football player, CJ Reilly, had only positive sentiments to share about the season: “Football is a great sport. It teaches you many things: character, sportsmanship, and integrity. Everyone comes together, and the coaches are always pushing you to do your best.” Fantastic job, Seahawks!

Our cross country team was especially successful this year. Fiona Haegland has always been an exceptionally successful runner for the Seahawks, but for her senior year, she really went after it and was named the Nassau County Champion. Fiona has consistently finished within the top 3 in the county meet but wanted to end her season with a win, and she no doubt worked hard to earn it. Coach Wilkens had only positive things to say about Fiona’s win at the meet: “It was well deserved and a true reflection of her dedication.”

The girls’ varsity soccer team also had a very successful season. They made it all the way to counties where they played a fantastic game against Carle Place. The score was 0-0 until Carle Place scored with only nine minutes left in the game. Katelyn Cohen, a first-year varsity player, said, “We’ll get them next year!” The Seahawk tradition of victory is going to be continued by rising stars like Sophie Labuda and Katie Posillico.

The crew team had a fruitful season as well, but they had a few more challenges along the way. They started in early August, preparing for the season, just like always. They had lost 5 seniors and 4 starters, but they still did great. A bunch of rowers had to move up a level of difficulty, which in the end made the team work even harder. Ulltimately, they achieved success.

Girls’ varsity swimming performed wonderfully this fall season, too. The team went 3-4 in their meets and had two qualifications for All-Conference, Paige Mueller and Gabrielle Garra. Many team members also set personal records. Swim star Gabrielle Garra explained, “The team was indeed successful, and outside the pool, our friendships grew, and the team became more unified.” The team had many pasta parties which helped teamwork and the unity of the team.

Stay tuned for more sports updates in future issues.



Chrissy Forgione Speaks of Peace Corps Experience

By Julia Stingi

On Thursday October 17th, the Amnesty International Club had the honor of being visited by guest speaker Chrissy Forgione. Ms. Forgione came to tell students about her life for the last 27 months, working with the people of Eswatini (formerly Swaziland) as a member of the Peace Corps.

After studying in social work at Fordham University and Hunter College for undergraduate and graduate school respectively, Ms. Forgione moved to Alaska where she worked for 4 years in the mental health field.

During her time in Eswatini, Ms. Forgione lived with a host family, learned the language of Swati, became immersed in Eswatini's culture, and worked with members of the community on various projects to improve their living situations.

The Peace Corps focuses on Eswatini for various reasons, one being the HIV epidemic. With a population of 1 million people, 1 in 3 are HIV positive. The life expectancy of adults in the country is only 57.75 years old, compared to the American life expectancy of 78.69. Ms. Forgione told students about the challenges Eswatinti faces like poverty, few employment opportunities, and gender-based violence. Many practice polygamy in Eswatini, but only men can have multiple partners. This is one factor that contributes to the spread of HIV. Ms. Forgione shared, "The Peace Corps does not attempt to change the culture of a country to prevent disease but aims to increase awareness and education about risk."

She spent a lot of her time just getting to know the community in which she lived. Together with the native people, she built preschools and soccer fields, ran camps for boys that taught the boys about gender roles and respecting women, and even started a business.

Together with 26 women and 4 men, Ms. Forgione helped the group manage money and apply for funds that allowed them to buy chickens and sell them for income. Ms. Forgione also helped the employees establish a committee and a worker's constitution.

Ms. Forgione's visit to CSH allowed students to learn about the culture of Eswatini and the lives of its people. She allowed students to ask questions about her experience with the Peace Corps and brought souvenirs representative of Eswatini's culture.

Photo Credit: Julia Stingi

Photo Credit: Chrissy Forgione

In Honor of the Veterans

By Anna Hammel



On November 8th, three veterans—Robert “Bob” Blake, Bruce Brenner, and Terrence Price—gave a Veterans Day seminar. The seminar was held in the CSH PAC, and the veterans spoke of their lives while they were in service.

Robert “Bob” Blake was in the U. S. Army for 6 years. While in the Army, he was stationed in the Dominican Republic for seven months and then in Vietnam for six years where he worked as a mechanic. Mr. Blake greatly enjoyed being in the military as it allowed him to travel and meet new people. Also, he liked the R and R treatment the military gave, soldiers could meet up with their spouses for a week-long vacation. He mentioned that during his R and R time, he explored Thailand.

Bruce Brenner is a member of the American Legion and other organizations involving the military. He was stationed for a time in Vietnam and then was sent to Germany. He first got involved when he was drafted to go to war. He then took a civil service act and transitioned into the police force.

Terence “Terry” Price followed in the footsteps of his family and switched his major to join the U.S. Army to fight in Vietnam. He trained to be an officer and was also trained in Jungle School, infantry, and Jump School. Specifically, when Price went to Jungle School, he trained in Panama to prepare for the harsh jungles of Vietnam. After his training Mr. Price went to Vietnam on a troopship with two-hundred and fifty-eight other U. S. Army members when he was pulled from the infantry for his duty assignment. He was also stationed in both Hong Kong and North Carolina where he met people from all different backgrounds. He noted that in the military, you have to work with all types of individuals because you never know when any one person might save your life.

At the end of sharing their personal stories, the veterans allowed the students were allowed to ask questions. When asked about their favorite movie depicting the Vietnam war, and the veterans responded with *Deer Hunter* and *Platoon*. They enjoyed these films because of the realistic portrayal and attention to details about life in Vietnam.

When discussing details of their bootcamp experiences, they said, “Bootcamp was very tough and people physically pushed you around.” In bootcamp they ran everywhere, which was a challenge for them.

The veterans also took time to explain the difference between Memorial Day and Veterans Day. Memorial Day is a solemn day to remember soldiers who have passed away, while Veterans Day is meant to celebrate the people who have served our country. While many Americans believe that the military only consists of combat soldiers, the reality is that under 10% of those in the military are involved in combat. Some other interesting facts shared were that 7 million veterans served during the Vietnam War, and 2.2 million were drafted. While Blake, Brenner, and Price were serving, only men could serve. Now people of all genders can join the military and fight for our country.

In the United States, Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11 every year, which is the same day that World War I formally ended. Originally, the holiday was called Armistice Day, but President Eisenhower officially renamed it Veterans Day in 1954 to celebrate all the veterans who have served in our nation.

Never Forget the Holocaust: 10th-Grade Excursion to NYC

By: Sarah Bolton and Mary Nemazi

On November 8th, 2019, Ms. Beach's and Mr. Towers' Global 10 classes, partook in a field trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York City. To start off the trip, the students took a train to Penn Station and then proceeded to catch the E-train, which took them to the World Trade Center subway station.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage commemorates the events that took place during the Holocaust from 1940 to 1945 when millions of innocent human beings were murdered.

According to the museum, “Of the 1.3 million people deported from European nations to Auschwitz, barely 400,000 were actually registered and imprisoned in the compound. The vast majority—approximately 900,000 people—were gassed and cremated within hours of arrival.”

At the time of the visit, the museum was displaying a limited-time exhibit containing items from the Holocaust that were lent to them by Auschwitz Jewish Center located in Poland and 19 other museums and institutions. The museum constantly changes its exhibit to focus on different aspects of this tragic moment in history. Objects like books, shoes, and uniforms, and photographs—in total over 1100 objects and photos—are displayed throughout.

Upon arrival, students were led to a classroom where half of the group started their tour and the other half ate lunch. The groups were given a receiver and a headset that allowed the tour guide to speak into a microphone, so every student could hear what they were saying.

Students were led through the exhibit in groups of approximately 6 to 8 students, taught by one of many well-educated tour guides. According to Mr. Towers, “going around in small groups, with a personal tour guide is the best way to maximize your time and to get the most out of an experience like that.”

At the end of the tour, students were asked what they learned from the experience. A tenth-grade student in Mr. Towers’ 9th-period class, Lauren Kania, responded by mentioning that she “learned . . . that [the officers] had a big pot that they put all of their leftovers in and that is what they gave the prisoners to eat.”

After returning to the classroom, the students and faculty began their journey home to Cold Spring Harbor. Before entering the subway station, the students were allowed to visit and observe the 9-11 memorial. The fountains mark the exact location of the Twin Towers before the attacks that changed the lives of many people all over the world.

Overall, the students learned a lot from this impactful trip to the Museum of Jewish Heritage where they visited a once-in-a-lifetime exhibit about the Holocaust that was put together by 20 different institutions and museums.



Photo Credits: Sarah Bolton and Mary Nemazi



POET'S
Corner &
Grok



Winter's
Conversation

By Julianne Massa

I sat by the bay window
And gazed at the falling snow.
He walked over
And handed me a warm mug,
Then bent down
To put on my bunny slippers.
The steam rose up to his face
Forming a kind of angelic ring
Around his features.

Beautiful, he said.
No, I said. It's not.
How do you figure that?
I can't go outside, I'm trapped.
What do you mean?

The wind will nip at my nose
And the flakes will get tangled
In my hair,
The snow will engulf my shoes
And I will get stuck.

But, he said,
The wind is only nipping at your nose
Because it's saying hello,
The flakes are only tangling your hair
Because they want a soft place to land,
The snow is engulfing your shoes
To give them a hug.

Art and Language

By Anna Tesoriero

November was an important month for the World Languages and Visual Arts Departments at Cold Spring Harbor; The National French Honor Society, National Spanish Honor Society, and National Art Honor Society all formally inducted a new class of dedicated students into their ranks.

The National French Honor Society and the National Spanish Honor Society were created to acknowledge exceptional dedication displayed by students in their foreign language studies. Hopeful inductees must receive grades of A-or above in their high school French or Spanish classes, continue foreign language studies for the entirety of senior year, and submit a 150 word essay written in their language of study about their experiences with foreign language and how it has impacted them. Along with academics, applicants are evaluated for their character and their love of language. This year saw a total of 80 qualified students attend the joint World Languages Honor Society acceptance ceremony.

The National Art Honor Society acknowledges the accomplishments and hard work of students in the visual arts. To qualify for induction, students must be acknowledged by their teachers for their hard work and dedication in at least two years of their high school art classes and have received a final grade of an A both years. To retain membership status, inducted members must take visual arts courses for the rest of high school while maintaining an average of at least a B+, attend at least 65% of NAHS meetings, earn 10 hours of community service in the visual arts, and actively participate in the annual “Inspired” Arts Auction project collaboration with the Heckscher Art Museum. The NAHS is a recent addition to Cold Spring Harbor; this year's 17 new inductees are only the second group to join the school's chapter.

Congratulations to the National
Art Honor Society Inductees:

Roman Taglieri, Sophia Ketterer, Christina Alyskewycz,
Duncan Lonoff, Anna Spehr, Julia Sobel, Emma Solis,
Hannah Gumersell, Isabelle DeSimone, Annabel Beder, Isabella
Vallone, Maggie Bugos, Adelaide Phillips, Jack Warren, Bree
Rose, Paige Cornetta, and Caitlin McCoy

Honor Societies

Induction into an honor society
is a great accomplishment.

Congratulations to the
2019-2020 inductees.

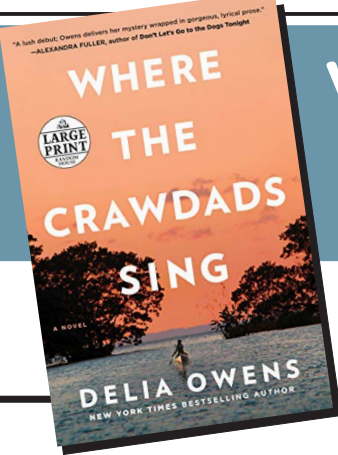
*.Felicidades to the National
Spanish Honor Society Inductees:*

Nicholas Aronow, Colin Bacchi, Dylan Baltrus, Julia Bavaro,
Samantha Bennardo, Zachary Bennardo, Richard Berlinghof,
Wylie Brimeyer, Jacob Bruno, Ethan Burdo, Richard Casaccio,
Victoria Caselnova, Jessica Chernoff, Christopher DiScala,
Taylor Donaldson, Alexandra Emanuel, Dayna Emanuel,
Lianne Emanuel, Ava Farkash, Connor Flynn,
Vincent Gandolfo, William Giarraputo, Georgia Gleusner, Ross
Greenberg, Fiona Haegeland, Maria Hudson,
Isabella Iglesias, Emilie Jimbo, Lucia Kasper,
Matthew Maggiore, Caitlin McCoy, Alyssa Moran,
Jolie Nemshin, Emma Polo, Makayla Read, Brianna Rose,
Zachary Ross, Juliet Quaglia, Melissa Schaffer,
Ariel Schulsinger, Robert Schupler, Robert Shammah,
Landen Silbowitz, Trevor Stimpfl, Lara Strunk,
Sophia Tersigni, Theodore Theodoris, Lucas Tsotsos,
Philip Vattes, Julia Wallace, Matthew Weaver, and Sabrina Wu

*Félicitations to the National
French Honor Society Inductees:*

Isabel Adelhart, Alexander Brancato, Katherine Brennan,
Erin Costa, Lindsay DeRosa, Liam Dillon, Paris Dussol,
Elizabeth Erichsen, Christopher Geraci, Sabrina Haas,
Abigail Johnson, Michael Kania, Julia Kopp, Serena Li,
Alexandra Lynch, Matthew Mannino, Shane Mitchell,
Taylor Nicolosi, Kelly O'Rourke, Adelaide Phillips,
Alexa Plancher, Grace Posillico, Nicholas Robins,
Elyse Schetty, Sophia Stearn, Julia Stingi,
Kathrine Tuohy, and Max Wang





Where the Crawdads Sing

BOOK
REVIEW

By Kiara Freidberg and Gillian Will

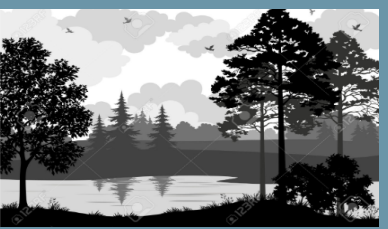
Delia Owens, author of *Where the Crawdad Sings*, throws the reader into the marshes of North Carolina from the early 1950s to the late 1960s.


Mya, the main character, lives a lifestyle foreign to us. She lives by herself with a lack of human connection or any sort of technology. Known as “Marsh Girl,” Mya is perceived as an outsider throughout the whole town.

The narration of the novel switches perspectives through time to follow the story of the killing of Chase Andrews, a young male who was beloved by the town. The story follows the late 1960s regarding the investigation of the murder case but also flashes back to Mya’s childhood, which gives the reader a view of who she truly is.

Mya comes from a tough childhood and lived in solitude for almost her whole life. This ultimately sparks her interest in nature and the great outdoors, recurrent symbols. The story is influenced by friendships and love interests for Mya, making *Where the Crawdad Sings* not only a murder mystery, but also a coming of age story and a story of a girl who discovers the true impact of human relationships. The audience can't help but sympathize with the girl who has had an abject childhood and independently maneuvers the obstacles of life.

As the murder investigation progresses, Mya faces many accusations regarding the murder which occurred near the swamp. As the twists and turns of *Where the Crawdad Sings* progress, the reader truly sees the impact of trauma and love relationships, and how one can rise from suffering and realize the natural beauty this world has to offer.





December 2019
Volume 57, Number 2
Cold Spring Harbor Jr./Sr. High School
82 Turkey Lane
Cold Spring Harbor, N 11724

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF
Julia Kopp and Amal Siddiqui

FACULTY ADVISORS
Ms. Laura Cirino &
Ms. April Henry

PRINCIPAL
Dr. Jim Bolen

CONTRIBUTORS

Sarah Bolton
Kiara Freidberg
Anna Hammell
Riley Haskell
Sophia Ketterer
Timothy Louie

Julianne Massa
Mary Nemazi
Julia Stingi
Anna Tesoriero
Gillian Will