The Meeting House
Season XXXX-XX

[Cover is separate document.]
The Friends Academy Mission

Founded in 1876 by Gideon Frost for “the children of Friends and those similarly sentimented,” Friends Academy is a Quaker, coeducational, independent, college preparatory school serving 775 students from age three through twelfth grade.

The school’s philosophy is based on the Quaker principles of integrity, simplicity, patience, moderation, peaceful resolution of conflict, and a belief that the silence and simple ministry of the “gathered meeting” brings the presence of God into the midst of busy lives. Friends Academy is committed to developing a diverse community whose members value excellence in learning and growth in knowledge and skill, a genuine commitment to service and ethical action, and a realization that every life is to be explored, celebrated, and enjoyed in the spirit of the Religious Society of Friends.

The Meeting House
Editorial Board, 2016-2017
Christine Bowe
Amanda Fisk ’99
Natalia Porcelli Good ’93
Hayley Kucich ’03
Penelope Wylie Mayer ’75
Andrea Miller
Jennifer Ryan Woods ’99
From the Head of School

Andrea Kelly

Friends,

Tum duis nibh eu feuiscin ulputat etum autate duisi.

Lit amconsequam, si ea augait wisl utat irit velis augait veliquam, con utat vercincidunt aliqui essecte veliquat.

La feugue minisi. Ent vulla corerat.

Vullummy nos delis er sit eugait etsuing etuerostio odolobo rero sto od modit lan vel ute modolor ercilis molesse miniatian vulput laore volore vel utat volore velestini ut ullaorem zziustic er am, volor iustrud dolore tio secte doluptat num quam, conulput adiam dit et nulluptat in hent iure digna conum nim velenibh enissed tat.

Ugait laore faccummod elit, consecet velesto commy nulluptat, quis elenim volorper aut nisim ver sisi.

Is accum quat luptat, sed enisi tie vel eu facilis dolore eum velisit nibh ex estie ex et etiquip euxiatus diamconsed tem doloborero del ulputpat, consed te doluptat. Urer sim zzrit ent adiam, quationsecte conulla conse consed dolesto con utut dolobor sequamet dolore feum alismodit ulput irlit nullam velit, sit ut acin utet wismolo prenci tie min hendre duis nulluptat landit volore elit wisi etum nissim quate dolor am velit la facidunt ea feugueri et nis alisl eugiam velenis dolor sendipisi.

Vendiam ver at aliquis dit vulla feuisis cillaortio od dolortis ex endignit ad magnit utat.

Tumsan elendre min erat dit nulput prae senit, qui bla feugiamet nullumm olorting ero et utet eu facilit nim zzrit diam iurero odionsequat adionsequam zziusticipis nostio del ulluptatet, volutat adio dit utat priure dipiseq uisi bla faccum zzriurer acin ulla feuip ca autput ut nismodip eumsan henissendit atet, suscip er susci blan et luptat la feuis numsanding eu faci emmy nos dignibh essim aliquis alit velesti nclit eipu elis delit nondonip ercipis accum volor sit ulla feuguercilill illa faciduiue etiquip susci scidiusi.

Esto conse ent lor irit la faci et ulputat pratissi.

Im venim acidius erilit autatem vel do commy nulput luptate con vel ut aut ullam zziulrae eugait vent ulputpatem in elesto dunt velenim aut loare fa cilit, sustrud exero ercinibh eugiat. Idnt nit il ut eliquaque feuis aliguisim vel iusto odolorem zziulriquis augue dolutate dionsequ susci blandre dipis at.

Ibh eu feugait nisKe eu feuis nos accum dolorti ncipsum del iuriuscp ero core tat. Duipsusci in velit acing ero commod et ulput wismodit velesenit.

From The Archives: 1877 – First Friends Academy Head of School

Edwin Hallock served as the principal of Friends Academy from 1877 to 1882. Hallock collaborated closely with “Uncle Gideon” Frost who visited almost daily until his death in 1880. For the 1877-78 school year, Friends Academy had 28 students and three faculty members, which included Hallock, Sarah Heacock (the first teacher), and Elizabeth Stewart Porter. Mary Cocks joined sometime between 1878 and 1880. After his tenure at Friends College, Edwin Hallock moved out west, following America’s trend toward Western Expansion.
Ancient Art; Lessons for Today

Lama Tenzin returned to Friends for a Peace Week kickoff, where he shared life stories and lessons from the Sand Mandala.

“A testimony is not just a belief... What I’ve learned is that a testimony is a committed action.” – Head of School Andrea Kelly during Peace Week 2017
STANDING ON COMMON GROUND.  The entire Friends Academy community united in peace on a brisk November morning.  AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY
13 years of Friends – 2003 to 2016

We decided to dedicate the Meeting House Letters section to looking back at the time now-retired Head of School Bill Morris spent at Friends Academy. Thirteen years of Fall Fairs, Community Service Days, Fourth Day Honors, Convocations and Founders Days – and of course, First Days of School. Thank you Bill and Sue Morris for your dedication, commitment and energy.

A collection of photo memories from retired Head of School Bill Morris’ time at Friends Academy, 2003-2016. On the facing page, the senior class and Bill.

(Please turn to page 45 for an appreciation of retired Upper School English teacher Rick Sullivan in the Faculty Milestones section.)
Role-playing, debate and personal stories help pave a way

Unlike the country, the 2016 Friends Academy mock Presidential Election on November 8th yielded no winner – neither candidate reached the needed 270 Electoral College votes, as represented by Upper school advisories and classes in fifth through eighth grade. However, the real winner this fall turned out to be an all-school push to find common ground and civil discourse and dialogue in an Election season that was anything but.

Framed by the school theme, “Embracing differences to deepen awareness: Seeking, Asking, Listening, Understanding,” the way to common ground was tread by students in every grade.

Beginning early in the fall, Middle School history teachers, Phil Cicciari, Dave Frazer and Danny Seymour, designed and orchestrated an entire all-division program that took place in the respectful space of the Meeting House.

Roleplaying several scenarios, the trio of teachers demonstrated the consequences of poor listening, assumptions and reloading.

“You’re going to hear our inner voice to show what the other person is really thinking,” instructed Frazer, as the two teachers squared off in a conversation, which quickly devolved into an argument. “What is very important is that both of them are trying to win and are unable to listen to each other,” analyzed Seymour. “Both of them are only waiting for their turn to speak,” he added as the dialogue took a negative turn.

Showing how interruption, heresay and

‘You can disagree and that’s okay.’

Common Ground Opens Way to Civil Discourse
gossip shaped interactions, the teachers modeled one “poor” exchange and then reworked the scenario for students as they modeled the impact of active listening, calmness and compromise.

“How can you have a civil, civic discussion?” asked Seymour. “By trying to find a common ground, supporting your points with facts and not yelling, and thinking about where each person is coming from,” he answered.

In subsequent days, students would practice similar skills, protocols and etiquette in their history classes. “If we can spread these skills to others, we might just see more compromise over time,” remarked Cicciari.

While eighth graders participated in an additional assembly about how to ask difficult questions in regards to religion, race, and politics, Upper schoolers were getting ready for their all-school political debate.

Moderated by the student leaders of the Democrat and Republican clubs, (Jacob Hutt and Mickey Wootten), students from the Independent Club chose and asked questions of each political panel.

Absent for several years, last year’s formation of the Republican Club under now-retired Upper School English teacher Rick Sullivan led to the creation of both the Democrat and Independent student clubs.

A coming together of all three student political clubs at the start of the school year fueled their desire to model courtesy and civil discourse in front and within the entire Upper School. “Diversity is a massive part of our Quaker values and is the driving factor of our school’s acceptance for people of all backgrounds. We must welcome those who do not agree with us politically and take the time to see where their views emerged from,” urged Hutt.

“Once we take the first step in allowing everyone to express their political beliefs, we have to make sure that we do everything we can to maintain decorum, as politics can easily become hostile,” reminded Wootten.

To further ensure civility, the clubs mutually agreed to refrain from mentioning candidates’ names or their specific policies, and instead discussed party platforms for each topic.

Following the election results, club leaders issued public statements to the Upper School student and faculty body that called for reflection, compassion and understanding. “Take this time for self-reflection and to heal wounds,” encouraged Hutt. “Step outside your bubble and reach out to those who you haven’t truly had a conversation with,” he added. “If we want to improve our country and our community, we must come together and do everything that we can personally do to get things done,” concluded Wootten.

In January, Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs Shanelle Robinson brought students and faculty together in an Upper School assembly to consider issues of identity.

Entitled “A Seat at the Table,” and conducted as a living room conversation, participants shared personal stories and revelations in answering a set of three questions that was also asked of every Upper School student and faculty member: “Who am I?” “How does the world see me?” and, “How do I want to be seen?” Conversation wound around and through religion, socioeconomics and class, race, sexual orientation and culture.

“Your truth should come out,” stated Frazer. “And the guidelines we’ve given you can help shape how that truth manifests.”
Fitting square pegs into round holes

In Kindergarten through fifth grade, students use creative and collective brain power to solve design challenges together.

“Guys! I think we should do a zipline instead!” exclaimed one intrepid second grader at the start of his group’s brainstorming of “Invent a Sport.” Surrounded by a plastic egg carton, paper towel roll, paper cups and string, a group of cross-legged K-2 students brainstormed ideas and began to sketch ideas for their “ultimate sport.”

Throughout this past school year, students in Kindergarten through fifth grade collaborated in mixed-aged groups to tackle a series of three Design Thinking Challenges. From building a bridge designed to withstand the weight of objects with tape and popsicle sticks to out-of-the-box ideas for personal desks to inventing a new sport, each group was given the same amount of time and building materials; that is where the similarities ended.

“The members in each group have the freedom to be as creative as they’d like, and to utilize the strategies and methods that work best for them. Not only are students practicing how to successfully work with others, they are also developing perseverance by learning from mistakes and making adjustments to original plans as needed,” explained third grade teacher Colleen Bode.

On May 2, 2017, the Lower School took part in the Global Day of Design, where students around the world specifically set aside time to make and create. The challenge? Create a sport and its rules. Students first spent time drafting and brainstorming and then used their plans to bring it to life. For first grader Dylan, working in groups was one of the best parts. “You get to hear ideas from people that aren’t in my classroom.”
Hungry? Well, this fall, seventh grade English students whet their literary appetites with a new Book Tasting project.

In groups of four and seated at “restaurant-style” tables adorned with lace tablecloths and small vases of flowers, students shared “tastings” of summer reading choices. Asked to select at least four passages in each book, students practiced annotation of character, conflict and plot resolution.

Students filled out a “Tasting Menu,” which asked them to rate enjoyment reading each book and if they would recommend it to a classmate. Expanding their vocabulary, students also characterized a passage and author with insightful and focused adjectives.

“This allowed students to experience books in a different way,” explained seventh grade English teacher Kathleen Schalk. “It also helped them to learn to value the choices of others.”

Thought-Provoking Global Connections

The Global Scholar Studies Program capped off its first year with a new GSS Distinction given to two students and the May 25, 2016 evening Global Perspectives Symposium, coordinated by GSS Coordinator Marge Bevad, GSS teachers and the GSS Committee. Driven entirely by student-driven original research, the Symposium offered multiple sessions from the European refugee crisis, Japanese gladiators, the cost of exclusion, gender roles and identity in East Asia to the challenges of overcoming the language barrier and more. “At the evening’s conclusion, there was a sense of awe alongside that sense of loss – in that more participants had not been able to see and hear more than their two registered sessions,” commented a participant. A full-day Symposium is scheduled for this spring.
UNITED IN RESOLUTION

Upper School students join many around the world to take on world problems, one resolution at a time.

Every year, Upper School members of the Model UN Club travel first to Hofstra University’s Model UN and then the Varsity conference at the Hilton in NYC to learn about United Nations policy procedure, solve real-life scenarios and practice writing resolutions.

A simulation of the United Nations conference, the Hilton conference draws roughly 3,800 students from all over the world. Nineteen FA students attended and each student was assigned to a committee.

“They had to work on solving certain problems and then writing resolutions, while following the UN Rules of Procedure, which are very heavy and structured,” explained advisor Sophie Bromberg.

“Our student delegation was mostly Saudi Arabian; one student was a Somali expert and two others represented New Zealand,” said Bromberg.

Prior to the conference, students must research the country that they will represent, their assigned committee and topic and write a position paper.

“It’s a wonderful experience for them,” said Bromberg. Within committees, students explored and passed resolutions in preventing corporate human rights abuse, combating terrorism in Somalia, providing humanitarian aid to Yemen, ownership of the Arctic, refugee healthcare, among others.
The making of a (new) Middle School

In the early winter months of 2016, the Middle School gathered outside for a ceremonial ground-breaking. Roughly nine months later, a fully renovated Middle School facility opened in September. "We transformed our 20th-century Middle School building into a school that can now deliver a 21st-century program," announced principal Deb Schoman. New features included an additional wing, open and collaborative spaces for sixth, seventh and eighth grades and a new Makerspace room, where students can gather to create, tinker, explore and discover using a variety of tools and materials.

Around the Quad

LS Science – To go boldly where no student has gone before...

This year, Lower schoolers experienced Science with hands-on intensity. From the Global Cardboard Challenge, where K-5 students worked with Upper School Engineering students to design original structures, to studies in air resistance and counterweights to the exploration of our Solar System, faculty framed student discovery with project-based lessons.

In third grade Earth Science classes, students were challenged to build an earthquake-resistant house. A “shake table” in the classroom tested each building. Fourth graders explored inter-connectness of the food web through studies of the African Serengetti and the impact eliminating a component will have.

In fifth grade, the annual Invention Convention combined simple machines and littleBits electronics this January. Students incorporated electrical components that work with magnets and attach to buzzers and lights. As a 100% in-class project, students worked in groups to create inventions like “The Santa Trap,” a gizmo that buzzes and lights up when the cookie is removed. Peer evaluation and public speaking rounded out the unit.

The Meeting House | Fall 2016/Winter 2017
Math workshop places emphasis squarely on differential activities that give students the tools to solve problems with peers and on their own.

Ask Lower School Math Specialist Brie Kraska about her approach to math and she’ll instantly mention one name, Dr. Yap Ban Har. Nicknamed “Singapore Math’s Michael Jordan,” Ban Har is considered one of the most prominent voices in the math community and was the featured speaker at a transformational conference Kraska attended.

“If you are doing it the right way, math can be totally accessible to all students and you can reach every student where they are,” said Kraska, who spearheaded the Lower School’s move to MyMath and the implementation of Math Workshop at all grade levels.

“The philosophy behind Math Workshop is that children learn best with varied exposures to math concepts – hands-on and concrete, pictorial and abstract,” said Kraska.

During the hour-long Math Workshop, (an approach used to implement MyMath) students rotate among three stations – teacher-guided, independent work (alone or in a small group) and hands-on games and activities.

Take a lesson about 2D vs. 3D shapes. In the teacher segment, students will learn the vocabulary, such as vertices and edges. During independent work, students use a written task to practice the vocabulary and apply what they are learning on their own. They can ask their peers questions, but not the teacher. Finally, through a hands-on activity, students build flowers using a variety of shapes – attribute blocks (triangles, trapezoids, squares, rhombus) and a secondary design that uses the shapes in an alternative way.

“It’s through exploration that they are learning,” explained Kraska. “By discovering that two trapezoids can equal six equilateral triangles, this prepares them for angle studies as they get older,” she added.

Kraska visits just about grade level and assists classroom teachers in a variety of ways – from creating and facilitating a lesson to supporting and challenging the lesson.

“I saw a need to help teachers become more comfortable with moving away from traditional, textbook ways of teaching,” said Kraska. “For example, if the kids create their own survey, instead of using a teacher-created version, they will take ownership and learn the same skills but in a more authentic and student-driven way,” she added.

Key to the process is allowing students to translate the math concept into their own words and solve the problem with the strategy that feels most comfortable to them.

After each activity, Kraska asks students to explain or journal. “Talking gives them the chance to explain in their own language and to actually understand the process they took before we give them the precise mathematics terms. Frequently, kids will say ‘I just did it my head,’ when you ask for an explanation. When they can explain in their own words, then you know they understand the concept. Otherwise it becomes rote and they’ll lack the future skills to apply the concept to a different situation.

Ultimately, children need to construct their own knowledge and they need time – to grapple, to process, and interact and talk with each other to problem-solve.”
Around the Quad

From one corner of a room, a mix of Lower School students sort out the seven pieces of the ancient Chinese Tangram puzzle, studying the shapes and thinking about their attributes. In another room, students play games of multiplication, using tokens to mark their success down the gameboard. Welcome to Friends Academy’s Lower School Math Night.

Activities touched on various strands, such as shapes and attributes, time and measurement, graphing, place money, money, fluency with computation (+, -, x, /) and more.

In “Equation Concentration” players were asked to match equivalent sums and differences as they turned over cards (4+3 = 5+2). A scavenger hunt asked students to find objects based on various requirements, such as “Find something arranged in an array.” In another center, the “Fraction Quilt” integrated the disciplines of math and art. In order to create the designs of the quilt blocks, students mastered knowledge of symmetry.

Making Waves At the Waterfront

As part of Middle School Arts Week, a group of middle schoolers worked with The Waterfront Center in Oyster Bay, designing and creating waterbound robotic vessels. Students tested them out in Oyster Bay Harbor at the conclusion of their workshop.

Students from K-5 used a variety of manipulatives to test their knowledge of observation, deduction and computation.

Puzzles + Riddles + Math = Fun!
It turned out to be a spectacular day – and not just the weather. Fall Fair 2016 revved up on Saturday, October 15, welcomed back alumni and greeted new families, including Head of School Andrea Kelly, with rides, games, athletic events, arts and crafts and food.

Boys and Girls Soccer, Girls Tennis, Field Hockey and Football enthralled fans on the fields and courtside. Under the Dolan Center awning, the Theater Department hosted a costume party with gently used Halloween costumes for sale.

Gideon’s Attic moved to a new date – April 22, 2017 – and took on new energy as a school-wide community service event.
Popcorn, cotton candy and friends are the formula for Fall Fair fun.

Left, alumni return to a beautiful day for Homecoming 2016.

Above, getting ready to soar to new heights enjoying one of the numerous rides at Fall Fair.

The Fall Fair Food Court, staffed by a troupe of volunteers served a gamut of cuisines and beverages.

Taking a ride on the Fall Fair Express!
He’s won nine Grammies, sold 80 records and is co-founder of Jazz at Lincoln Center – and he spent the morning with the Upper School this spring.

Jazz and classical great Wynton Marsalis spent part of the morning demonstrating various techniques and answering questions from students during an Upper School assembly.

“Do you listen to music played on the radio?” the first student asked. Not a fan of the “electronic sound,” Marsalis likened it to eating synthetic chicken. “I’m not against you eating it, but give me a real yardbird,” he chuckled.

Another student quizzed him about the future of jazz. “Jazz is difficult to play and learn. You have to listen to other people. The more you get used to not listening to lots of different music, the harder it gets to listen to jazz. Our form doesn’t go in a direction; wherever musicians play, that will be where it goes,” Marsalis reflected.

Marsalis commented that if people really want to understand depth and how to achieve a new level of musicianship, then some discomfort will be necessary.

“If you are having a good time, you are not doing it. The greatest thing in the world is people, but you have to stretch and they will hurt your feelings. Seek and ye shall find... you have to be ready to embrace what you find because it won’t be what you thought it was going to be.”
The Winter Concert & Art Series

Clockwise from top, the sixth grade band; the Upper School Chorus; a program for the 3-Divisional Art show; the third grade chorus; and the Upper School orchestra.
Between spring of 2016 and winter of 2017, Friends Academy Theater teacher Andrew Geha was a tad busy penning two original scripts – one for the Middle School play and one for the Upper School musical.

Unwittingly, Geha would create a thread between the two plays; diverging in tone and dialogue, but still a study in the inner self – what pains us and what can set us free.

“In both of the plays, *In Dreams I Am Invincible* (MS) and *Standing in the Current* (US), I tried to find the authentic voice of the characters – voices that people might not ordinarily relate to, but characters that they would,” reflected Geha.

Debuting in April 2016 at the end of Middle School Arts Week, *Dreams* begins after a bullying incident at school and follows a boy named Jonas (Jake Damm), who is deeply upset and determined to avoid school the next day. When two other-wordly creatures appear to him and...
offer to escort him into a dream, he eagerly accepts this way out. But what starts out as an adventure quickly takes a turn for the worse and soon Jonas realizes that he’s trapped – and it’s in someone else’s dream. And that’s not the only twist.

“For Dreams I wanted the audience to empathize with people whom they wouldn’t initially care for. So when the hero (Jonas) becomes the villain and the villain (August) emerges as the victim, it turns their whole perspective inside out,” described Geha.

In order to fully appreciate the messages of the play, the entire Middle School participated in several workshops with alumna Maia Collier ’07, so that students could walk in with enough knowledge to watch the play from a state of curiosity. “We had a talkback after the play and the kids were emotional as they were commenting on whom and to what they connected,” recalled Geha.

Since its debut at Friends, the play has also been produced by the middle school program of Hunter College High School.

Whereas Dreams pulled audience members in an uneven amble through Alice in Wonderland-like scenes, Standing in the Current would be a little more straightforward, leading the audience to a reveal, and not necessarily a twist at the end.

A mysterious island draws Leo (Reed Mullen), Callie (Claire Sweeney) and Felix (Ellis Collier), all grappling with a sense of their identities, but for different reasons. Inhabited by a mix of bohemian-like characters and led by three sisters in long, flowing white garb, each character comes to accept and celebrate his or her true self, releasing their inner guilt.

“Standing is about the shame we carry around with us because of the world we walk through and it explores how we can get rid of that shame,” described Geha. “At its core, it’s about identity – Who am I? How does the world see me? And how do I want to be seen?”

Diving into heady issues of body shaming, same-sex love and transgender acceptance, Geha aimed to create a storyline that would elicit empathy before judgment. “If we can see someone’s humanity – see what they have in common first before defining our differences – we are much more likely to empathize and find connections even with people whose experiences are radically different than our own,” he said.

Similar to the Middle School experience, Upper School students spent time examining identity in assemblies and advisories. “All of these issues – identity, sex and sexuality – our students are further along than many of our adults,” pointed out Geha, who was personally inspired by the 2016 NYSAIS Accreditation committee who charged Friends with figuring out how to have actual conversations around LGBTQ issues.

“The island is a metaphor for the communities we create and connect to, be it the Chess Club, Lacrosse team or Theater Department. But these places that have become an island for students – our whole community should be that place. Ultimately, it’s about wholeness and how every student here has the right to bring their truest self and their complete identity to our community,” Geha ended.
Close matches, a new competitive league and the will to succeed and be ever better – that’s the Spring 2016 sports season.
Varsity Girls & Boys Track:
4 Individual Runners
and 2 Relays head to State Championships

The 2016 Friends Academy Boys and Girls Track teams had a successful 2016 spring season despite consistently cold weather and a lack of depth on the Varsity squad. In regular season competition, the Girls finished fifth in their conference and tied for second in their Division, while the Boys team finished in the top half of both the conference and division.

This team continued to distinguish itself in many ways. They led the Brian J. Hom memorial benefit run and had a nice turnout of over 130 people, including representation from spring sports teams, coaches, faculty, parents, alums, and siblings to raise over $2,500 for the BJH scholarship fund.

The Boys team was able to field a 4 x 100 and 4 x 400 m. relay team during spring break and competed successfully at the Penn Relays, the largest track meet in the world. The team returned from their spring break to face tough competition at a number of invitationals. The Quakers earned 15 medals at the Wantagh Invitational and 20 at the North Shore Invitational.

Both teams competed in the Division 4B Championships. The Girls team finished 2nd in their Division and the Boys finished 4th. “The efforts of the seven seniors on this team were particularly impressive,” said Coach Casey Reed.

At the County Championships, the Boys Team finished 4th out of 17 teams and the Girls finished 7th, including many personal bests and medalists. Twenty-two athletes advanced to the State Qualifiers and ultimately, the Varsity Track team sent four individual runners and two relay teams to compete in the State Championships on June 10-11. In order to qualify for the State meet, athletes must finish first in their qualifying races.

2016 ROSTER: Ifeoma Anyoku, Anna Asnis, Gabriella Bloom, Amelia Cardone, Julienne Cottone, Madison Dalal, Francesca De Geronimo, Jessica de la Bastide, Emma Deutsch, Maria Eberly, Hannah Goldblatt, Laura Greene, Kaitlyn Hardy, Kayla Koroma, Leah Loetman, Colleen Marshall, Kelsey Nathan, Riona Park, Vanessa Quinland, Abigail Regis, Gail Saez-Hall, Julia-Kate Schamroth, Kayla Scott-Tolbert, Courtney Taylor and Eleana Tsiamtsiouris; Trayvon Alexander, Jhondsee Baptiste, Jalijah Daniels, Jack Deutsch, Stephen Graham, Tau Holder, Gavin Murphy, Brendan Naughton, Samuel Rotberg, Zion Sandy, Nathan Shepherd-Tyson, Matthew Storch and Matthew Tidona; Managers: Sabrina Schamroth and Victoria Wu.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL-COUNTY
800M. RUN – JACK DEUTSCH
100M. DASH – ABBY REGIS
200M. DASH – JD BAPTISTE
400M. RUN – MATT TIDONA

DIVISION CHAMPIONS
100M. DASH – JALIJAH DANIELS AND ABBY REGIS
400M. RUN – JULIANNE COTTONE
800 M. RUN – LAURA GREENE
200M. DASH – ABBY REGIS
4 X 800M. RELAY – (LEAH LOETMAN, RIONA PARK, KARLY EBERLY, LAURA GREENE)

ALL-DIVISION ATHLETES
TRIPLE JUMP – STEPHEN GRAHAM
400 IH – TAU HOLDER
100M. DASH – NATE SHEPHERD-TYSON
1600M. – JACK DEUTSCH
800 AND 1500M. – LEAH LOETMAN
200M. – JD BAPTISTE

STATE QUALIFIERS
800M. RUN – JACK DEUTSCH
100M. DASH – JALIJAH DANIELS
100M.DASH – ABIGAIL REGIS
200M. DASH – JHONDEE BAPTISTE
4 X 100M. RELAY – MATTHEW STORCH, JALIJAH DANIELS, NATE SHEPHERD-TYSON, JHONDEE BAPTISTE
4 X 800M. RELAY – KARLY EBERLY, LAURA GREENE, LEAH LOETMAN, RIONA PARK
Girls Varsity Golf: Close Matches, Despite Loss of Seniors

Spring 2016 was a great season for Girls Golf.

Although the team lost four seniors after last season, they were able to sustain a competitive attitude and persevered through many challenges. With three veterans and three new players, the golfers kept every match close in a very skilled conference.

Due to a small team, everyone played a very important role in each match. And while this is a team sport, the girls improved their skills and were able to lower their individual scores thoroughly last spring.

“Despite obstacles early on, we had a really close-knit group working towards a common goal,” said Coach Gail Baker.

2016 ROSTER: Serena Biondi, Elizabeth Gherlone, Caroline Hoyt, Devika Kedia, Lauren LeoGrande and Ryan Weight.

Boys Varsity Golf: Sophomores Show Strength

“It was the youth movement for the FA Boys Golf team in 2016. After graduating three starters from last year’s County Championship team, last year’s iteration reloaded with four members of the class of 2018 in the starting line-up.

The team went 12-0, the second undefeated season in three years.

The 2016 FA golf team rode strong performances from the sophomore starters, Will Parker, Max Popper, Erik Zetterstrom and Cristian Del Vecchio, all of whom had season scoring averages between 37 and 41.5. The season featured clutch performances from Max Popper and junior Will Podbela, carding twin 38s in a one-shot, team victory over Manhasset.

The “old guy” wasn’t too bad either; senior and two-time captain Cole Vissicchio led the team from the number one spot, recovering from some early season scuffles to shoot an average of par in the final eight matches of the year. In four of the last eight matches, Vissicchio was under par to lead the Quakers. Vissicchio graduated with a 39-3 team record in his four years as a starter. The team has lost only one team match in the last three seasons.

The team would like to thank the Athletic Department for its consistent support of our program, as well as our team parents who provide incredible support of our players throughout a long season of late nights on golf courses.”

– Coach Geoff Nelson


Individual Awards

ALL-COUNTY – WILL PARKER, COLE VISSICCHIO AND ERIK ZETTERSTROM (HON. MENTION)
WILL PODBELA, MAX POPPER AND CRISTIAN DEL VECCHIO

ALL-CLASS – DEVIKA KEDIA
ALL-CONFERENCE – SERENA BIONDI, ELIZABETH GHERLONE AND LAUREN LEOGRANDE

3 years, 2 undefeated seasons

Will Podbela studies his shot.
FA 2016 Spring Sports

Lady Quakers improve to .500

Girls Varsity Lacrosse: Season Featured Exciting Win over New Hyde Park, 10-9

The Friends Academy Girls Lacrosse team ended their 2016 season with seven wins and seven losses – a great improvement from their 4-9 record from last year. This improvement is evidence of a lot of commitment and hard work, which started much earlier than the regular season in the winter at open gym.

The three team captains – Morgan Bauer, Jenn Keogh, and Ranait Denihan, assisted the new coaching staff in leading the team throughout the season. Those three, along with the team’s other seniors, Sydney Banks and Mairead Gahan, provided great leadership to a very young team.

“The point of emphasis for this year’s lacrosse season was to have fun and grow just as much off the field as we were on the field. We always reminded each other that years from now we will forget which games we won or loss, but we will always remember the memories we made and lessons we learned,” said Coach Kellie Huggins. “Luckily, our after-practice pizza parties and dress up days actually improved our on-field chemistry greatly and helped us win some exciting games, like our 10-9 win over New Hyde Park,” added Coach Huggins.

2016 ROSTER: Uma Alagappan, Leila Baadarani, Sydney Banks, Morgan Bauer, Ashley Brown, Jose-ephine Coleman, Juliet D’Aversa, Ranait Denihan, Lily Drosch, Mairead Gahan, Colette Hughes, Jennifer Keogh, Alexis Mack, Morgan McCartan, Katarina Mongiardo, Lily Neisloss, Samantha Paniccia, Anna Pappas, Sophia Pavlakis, Julia Serko, Parisa Vahid, Emily Jane Waechter and Caroline Wilson.

On the attack, Morgan Bauer outmaneuvers her opponent.

Individual Awards

ALL-CONFERENCE – Morgan Bauer, Jenn Keogh and Caroline Wilson

UNSUNG HERO – EJ Waechter

SCHOLAR ATHLETE – Morgan Bauer

ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

On the attack, Morgan Bauer outmaneuvers her opponent.

Individual Awards

ALL-COUNTY – Gavin Tam

ALL-CONFERENCE – Ryan Tam, Andrew Greene and Andrew Marsh

On the attack, Morgan Bauer outmaneuvers her opponent.

Matt DeMatteis charges the field.

Boys Varsity Lacrosse:Seniors Lead Young Team

In its second year in the competitive Class B bracket, Friends Varsity Boys Lacrosse improved its record from last year and finished the 2016 season with a record of nine wins and six losses. The team was seeded seventh in pre-season, but because of a last-second one-goal loss to Roslyn, they finished ninth.

While it was disappointing that they did not finish in the top eight and qualify for the playoffs, the team saw considerable success and had several big wins over teams that did qualify for playoffs. The team’s strength was on the defensive side of the field holding several top offenses to single digit games. “Much of the credit goes to a group of seniors who worked hard each day in practice, and were able to pull a young inexperienced team together, propelling it to a successful season,” said Coach Bill Garry.


ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

On the attack, Morgan Bauer outmaneuvers her opponent.
**Boys JV Lacrosse:**

A Lasting Will to Succeed

The season began with a difficult loss against Port Washington. The team responded as a family working to get better, with everyone holding themselves accountable, which meant improving their game on the field, dedication towards learning the craft of lacrosse, and perseverance to push themselves in every practice.

The hard work paid off, and the team found its stride against Elmont, Jericho, and particularly against Glen Cove with a strong 6-1 victory that marked a turning point in their season. "As the season progressed and they faced stronger opponents, (while the scores may not have been in our favor), the teams will to win, learn, and get better never ceased," said Coach Garrett Dooley.

“The coaching staff is proud of the effort our players put in over the season, and have faith that with continued hard work they will do great things in years to come. Congratulations on a successful season and keep working on your game, value each day you have to do good, and dare to be better each day in life,” added Coach Dooley.


---

**Boys Varsity Tennis:**

Strong, Undefeated Season

The Boys Varsity Tennis Team got off to an early start as the weather in March of 2016 cooperated and the players were able to begin try-outs outdoors in very favorable conditions. An impressive turnout and an intense level of competition for spots on the Varsity roster defined the start of the season.

The players participated in a week of grueling challenge matches and although the play was intense, the players handled the competition with remarkable decorum and sportsmanship. After solidifying the team roster in week two, the team began a week of up-tempo practices that included on-court conditioning and hitting drills, as well as match-play strategy.

“It was very apparent early that this was a very talented and deep team that exhibited a willingness to work hard and work together to develop the team chemistry necessary to succeed,” said Coach Brian Baxter. From the first match going forward the team displayed an ability to deal with a myriad of obstacles that included some very difficult weather conditions, tough opponents and a limited amount of practice time. Players up and down the line-up contributed at different times to help the team succeed.

The Quakers maintained an undefeated record as the season wound down.

“Perhaps the best things said about this team were by the opposing coaches who remarked at how talented but fair and respectful this team is,” added Coach Baxter.

“I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to coach this particular group of players and will remember this as a great year for Friends Academy tennis,” he concluded.


---

Talented and deep team
FA 2016 Spring Sports

Varsity Softball: Six-Game Win Streak Starts Season

A softball had a great season. While the team was comprised of seven freshmen, one sophomore and two juniors, they did not let the lack of Varsity experience deter them from having a successful season.

Throughout the season the Lady Quakers formed great team chemistry, which allowed them to be successful on the field while truly enjoying the time they spent together.

Their season started off with a six-game win streak, which included a standout performance by Mary Stingi pitching a career-first no hitter and an end-of-season come-from-behind victory against Malverne.

“We are looking forward to continuing our success in future seasons, as we will return the entire team next year,” said Coach Christine Botti.


Boys Varsity Baseball: Highly Competitive League

The Varsity Boys Baseball team consisted of 12 dedicated athletes who always arrived with great effort, enthusiasm, and a desire to compete. “We are proud to play in one of the most competitive baseball conferences in all of Long Island, which is certainly not an easy task. Our guys showed that they could compete with the best even when the scoreboard doesn’t depict that,” remarked Coach Mike Damm. Season highlights included monstrous homeruns hit by Grant Elgarten and Ben Freund, Brian Chiang throwing out three runners in one inning and great defensive plays by a host of underclassman on a routine basis.

“This year we were proud to sponsor our annual home run derby that helped benefit the Glen Cove Men’s Shelter,” added Coach Damm.

2016 ROSTER: Andrew Becker, Max Botwinick, Brian Chiang, Grant Elgarten, Benjamin Freund, Joseph Horne, Cameron Leary, Christopher Petrocelli, Nicholas Santiago, Donovan Sbiroli, Jared Toby and Jared Zelman.

Mary Stingi revs up for her pitch.
In the spring of 2016, the team gained many new rowers, most who had never rowed before. During pre-season, rowers worked extremely hard on the Ergs every day, then made their way onto the water. “As a team we rapidly progressed and made major improvements,” said Coach Stephanie Olson.

The Quakers’ first race was the Long Island Championships in Oyster Bay – a great indicator and opener to the season. In the NY State Championships in Saratoga, Sarah Richter and Alex Hutzel finished fourth in the state. “Saratoga was an awesome away-trip; we even made it to the finals!” commented Coach Olson; the team’s final regatta was at the Stotesbury Cup Regatta in Philadelphia.

“As a whole our team has become very connected and we have all become great friends,” she added.


The Boys Quad of Matt Sgaglione, Samir Asiz, Matt Kaplan and Federico De Geronimo prepare to leave the dock for their race.
“T"t was a pleasure coaching the Boys Junior Varsity this season. We had a nice group of athletes this year. The team as a whole worked very hard during practice and was persistent on the tennis court. Even if they were down on the scoreboard my players did not give up and tried their best to pull out a win.

Although our season record was 2-6, it was not representative of the effort that was demonstrated on the court. Many matches were very close and the win could have gone either way. As the season progressed the team was getting stronger every week and I am confident that next year the JV squad will be a force to be reckoned with in their conference.

– Coach Gino Uterano

From an exciting championship win to a new partnership and numerous injuries, the Fall sports teams prevailed with positivity and can-do spirit.

The 2016 Girls tennis season began like any other with a week of very competitive try-outs and a host of girls – some new, some veteran players vying for positions on the Varsity squad.

Once each player’s role on the team was defined, everyone settled in and simply competed. After a few minor bumps, at week five the team really took off. The Girls proceeded to win eight matches in succession against some very strong teams posting an impressive record of (11) wins against (3) losses and secured the number two seed headed into the post-season.

Prior to the playoffs, five of the girls represented Friends Academy at the Nassau County Championships at Eisenhower Park. The players competed extremely hard with several making All County in singles and doubles. Remarkably after being paired in doubles at the last minute, senior Morgan Wilkins and sophomore Calista Sha proceeded to “run the table” and win the Doubles Championship against the best doubles players in Nassau County.

The players looked forward to the start of the playoffs and their hunger and desire to win was quite evident. After a second-round win over Port Washington and overcoming several rain-delays against defending champ Manhasset HS, the girls won in convincing fashion to catapult them into the Nassau County Championship Finals.

Playing against a strong Great Neck North team with whom they had previously split two regular season matches, the girls stayed focused, competed in some very difficult weather conditions weather and emerged with a victory that secured the Nassau County High School Team Championship for Friends Academy.

This victory earned the team the chance to compete in the “Executive Cup” which pitted the best teams in Nassau and Suffolk County against one another for the title of “best team on Long Island.”

“The girls played an incredibly competitive match against an excellent Commack High School team to bring home the Executive Cup Trophy to Friends Academy – a fitting end to a remarkable season of tennis for the girls,” said Coach Gino Uterano.

“More important than filling a trophy case, this team filled our memories with some of the most remarkable tennis we’ve had the privilege to see,” he added. “I say without hesitation that years from now the players, coaches and parents will look back fondly on the Fall of 2016 as ‘A Season to Remember.’”

2016 ROSTER: Gabriella Bloom, Jillian Broderick, Juliet D’Aversa, Claire Handa, Kaitlyn Hardy, Marina Hibbert, Kelsey McEvoy, Kelsey Nathan, Elisabeth Quick, Grace Riviezzo, Calista Sha, Parisa Vahid, Jacqueline Walzer and Morgan Wilkins.
The Meeting House | Fall 2016/Winter 2017

FA 2016 Fall Sports

2nd place in Conference

**JV Field Hockey: Exciting Games and Wins**

The Field Hockey season started with great excitement because we were fortunate enough to be able to revive our JV team. Not only did this group of girls help to strengthen the field hockey program but also had the chance to have a lot of game experience and leadership opportunities. Through their hard work and dedication, each athlete was able to improve their skills, bond with their teammates, and establish their roles within their team. The season was filled with some very close, exciting games and some incredible wins. No matter what the score was, this team held their heads high and treated their opponents, officials, and teammates with the utmost respect. The determination and positive attitude these girls had all season really allowed them to shine on-and-off the field.

– Coach Amanda Serif

2016 ROSTER: Jocelyn Cedeno, Angelica Del Vecchio, Angelina Fodera, Alison Foley, Jayda Foote, Trayon Grant, Mary Hills, Kassandra Homayuni, Halle Krypell, Margaret Leonard, Olivia Lizza, Devishi Narula, Lola Piuggi and Layla Saad.

**Varsity Field Hockey: Competed with Best Teams**

Overall, the Girls Varsity Field Hockey team had a very successful season this year. With a majority of the team returning from last year, the Lady Quakers had extremely high hopes and expectations for the season.

They focused heavily on passing, quick transitions up the field, and with the team’s speed, they were able to catch many teams off guard.

Throughout the season they proved able to compete against the best teams in the conference, and although the team did not make playoffs, they came in second place in their conference behind an undefeated Locust Valley. The team went 6-2 in their conference with an overall record of 8-4-1. “This was a result of our hard work and dedication to the sport, and our high level of play. We would like to congratulate the team on such a successful season,” said

**INDIVIDUAL AWARDS**

- **ALL-COUNTY** – CAROLINE WILSON (HON. MENTION) – JESS OXER
- **ALL-CONFERENCE** – KAT MONGIARDO, LIZ GHERLONE
- **ALL-LEAGUE** – ASHLEY BROWN
- **EXCEPTIONAL SENIOR** – LIZ GHERLONE
- **UNSUNG HERO** – LILY NEISLOSS
**Varsity Crew:**

**New Partnership with Sagamore Rowing**

The Friends Academy crew team had a successful fall season. The Quakers gained many new rowers and had several returning Varsity rowers from last year. Joining the Sagamore Rowing Association this year, the merger went well and the team benefited from the change.

During the Tail of the Passaic Regatta, many FA rowers earned medals. Will Richter, Michael Song, Henry Jervis, and Will Durban won a bronze medal for their novice quad. Paige Lind and Jade Lewin won a bronze medal in their novice quad as well. Jack McCooey and Griffin Kang came in third in their race. Sarah Richter, participated in the Head of the Charles Regatta, which is the largest crew competition in the United States. Her boat came in ninth place, securing a spot for the team at the Head of the Charles next year.

Toward the end of the season, the team participated in the Head of the Fish Regatta in Saratoga. The team did very well considering the amount of boats in each race, and almost every rower raced three times. This was a great season for the crew team, and everyone improved greatly.

**Frostbite Regatta results:**

- **5th place:** The Women’s Novice 8x team which included FA athletes Jade Lewin and Paige Lind earned a 5th place finish.
- **Gold medal:** The Men’s Novice 8x team, which included Will Durban, Henry Jervis, Griffyn Kang, Will Richter, and Michael Song earned a gold medal/first place finish.
- **Silver medal:** The Women’s Varsity Quad team, which included Sarah Richter earned a silver medal/second place finish.
- **Gold medal:** The Women’s Varsity 8x team which included Effie Karageorgiou and Sarah Richter earned a gold medal/first place finish.


**JV Girls Tennis:**

**Positive Attitude in Wins and Losses**

“It was a pleasure coaching the Girls Junior Varsity this season. We had a nice group of athletes this year. The team worked very hard during practice and was persistent on the tennis court. This was especially evident during the two very tight tie-breakers, one of which we won. Even in loss, the girls demonstrated a positive attitude.

Although our season record was 2-5, it was not representative of the effort that was shown on the court. Many matches were very close and the win could have gone either way. As the season progressed the team was getting better each week and I am confident that next year the JV squad will be even stronger and the girls moving onto Varsity will represent the team and school well.”

— Coach Michael Giarrapto

**2016 ROSTER:** Leila Baadarani, Jordyn Cagner, Lila Grabovenko, Lilliana Gund, Angela Holloway, Ariel Kalimian, Meichen Lu, Anamaria Manu, Rina Park, Sarah Rubin, Julia Satovsky, Brianna Taylor, Despina Tsiamtsiouris, Elena Tsiamtsiouris, Shiva Ward and Zi Yang.

The Girls coxed 8 takes to the water.

The JV Girls Tennis team
The Boys JV Soccer team started their season in mid-August for two weeks of pre-season soccer, conditioning and evaluation, with 30 players. Their schedule began with two NL games against Glen Cove and North Shore. Although they came up short in both contests, these games were used as a barometer to evaluate talent and playing combinations and afforded all 30 players playing time. This may have presented the biggest challenge of the season, however, after these two games, the team was broken up into two groups affording each group the ability to rotate through the remaining games.

Despite moving the four strongest players to Varsity, the team proceeded through their season finishing with a strong 7-4-1 league record and hit its stride toward the end of the season going 4-2-1 the last seven games.

Many of the players showed marked improvement and seven or eight of the remaining sophomores should be candidates to compete for a spot on the Varsity team next year.

“With a group of 14 freshman returning next year and a good group of rising freshmen coming up from from MS Soccer, we look forward to a very good team in 2017,” said Coach Edgar Posada.


INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL-COUNTY – JOE COMO AND CIARAN BARDONG (HONORABLE MENTION) – FEDERICO DEGERONIMO

ALL-CONFERENCE – NOUR BENDARY, CASEY GLOVER, MORGAN BO AND ANDREW MARSH

The Boys JV Soccer team

The JV Boys Soccer team

Goalkeeper Joe Como dives to intercept the ball.

The Boys Varsity Soccer team had a truly outstanding season finishing second place in a very challenging 13-team conference, with a record of eight wins, one loss and three ties. Throughout the season the team had to overcome various setbacks, including numerous injuries to key players. The success of the season was a true team effort, with all 27 players contributing in one way or another. Highlights of the season included a 1-0 road win against eventual Conference Champions and Nassau County Class ‘A’ Semi-Finalists Mineola, and a thrilling 3-2 victory under the lights against Cold Spring Harbor.

Entering the playoffs they were selected as the #6 seed in the 22 team Class ‘A’ playoffs, and although they lost to perennial power 11th-seeded Garden City by a score of 1 to 0, the team played an excellent game. “We walked off the field that rainy afternoon disappointed in the result, but happy with the effort we put forth in that game and the season as a whole,” said Coach Marshall Lindner.

Finally, seven members of the team were selected for post season honors.


The Meeting House | Fall 2016/Winter 2017
Girls JV Soccer:
Despite Injuries, Players Rotate into New Positions and Never Give Up

Over the 2016 season the JV Girls soccer worked together to develop the skills and knowledge of the game. Each girl worked hard and maintained a positive attitude throughout the entire season.

These girls kept an open mind, learned to play new positions, and never gave up. This season had its challenges with injuries. However, the girls rose to the challenge, stepping up and playing positions that they never did before without any hesitation.

“Our record does not reflect the girls’ ability; they out-played most of the teams that we challenged this year,” shared Coach Michele Cella. “They outshot most of the teams they played and dominated the time of play,” she added.

The girls always kept smiling, continuing to play with heart and determination.

“They showed other teams that they will not back down and stood strong as a united front. These girls made coaching this season for Coach Maksym and myself an absolute pleasure,” ended Coach Cella.

2016 ROSTER: Uma Alagappan, Erina Bardong, Penelope Constantino, Amelia Crowley, Katherine Cuddeback, Jessie Goldblatt, Sydney Kang, Kayla Koroma, Helen Marcell, Samantha Panician, Morgan Pascucci, Vanessa Quinland, Abigail Regis, Charlotte Russell, Kayla Scott-Tolbert, Olivia Sutherland and Carleigh Zelman.

Varsity Girls Soccer:
Strong 9-0-4 Record

The Girls Varsity Soccer team finished with a 9-0-4 record in a very competitive conference. The nine graduating seniors did a great job of leading the younger girls.

As a team, the girls focused on playing a very controlled passing style game.

Early on in the season, the team made it a goal to make it to postseason, and they did. Some highlights for this season include a very important win over Carle Place and the 4-3 win over cross town rival, Locust Valley, in double overtime. This win named the girls conference champs.

“The team would like to thank all of the fans and support we received going into the post season. Unfortunately the girls season came to an end against a very competitive top seed team. Although they would have loved to continue their season, the girls were able to accomplish a lot,” said Coach Gail Baker.


Lady Quakers control ball

Katarina Heffron stays with the ball.
Varsity Cross Country: Runners Work Through Adversity; Achieve Personal Records

This fall, the Cross Country team welcomed many new young runners, as well as many new seniors to the team. Led by tough-as-nails captains Anna Asnis, Brendan Naughton, and Anna Pappas, the team was able to triumph through adversity and finish with many personal records.

Tough hill repeats left several runners spent, resulted in debilitating blisters, mud puddles as deep as their shins, a few rolled ankles, as well as lactic threshold workouts that pushed runners to their limits, and of course, cardiac hill. “But each runner ran over 200 miles this season which means that, in total, the cross country team ran over 3000 miles over the course of nine weeks: That’s the distance from Locust Valley, NY to San Francisco, CA!” said Coach Casey Reed.

The team traveled and competed in the Wild Safari Six Flags 5K Invitational, the Manhattan Invitational in NYC, Sunken Meadow State Park, and Bethpage State Park – some of the most spectacular and challenging courses in the area.

Freshmen Leah Loetman, Farrah Shikara, Alison Moser, Gracie Lavin, Jeanne Rauff, Ethan Sobel, Michael Sensale, and Joe Lostritto made huge strides over the course of the season and were major contributors to the team, both in spirit and running performance.

Sophomores Karly Eberly, Alex Clinton and Sam Rotberg were consistently hard-working and compassionate individuals, always adding to the team morale and pushing through tough workouts and races.

Juniors Emma Deutsch, Anna Asnis, and Anna Pappas were instrumental to the team: their determination and years of running experience came in handy throughout the season. “A special thank you to junior Liz Chatpar for being an excellent manager – your organization and patience were key to our success,” commented Coach Reed.

Seniors Maclain Pascucci, Julianne Cottone, James Morgan, Brendan Naughton, Will Doran, and John Lawrence offered leadership, grit, and teamwork. “The rest of the team has some big shoes to fill next year,” said Reed. The girls ended the regular season with a record of 5-8 and the boys team ended the year at 3-10.

At the County Championship meet, Leah Loetman finished in 2nd place, earned All-County honors and competed in the State Qualifier on November 5 at Bethpage State Park.

2016 ROSTER: Anna Asnis, Alexander Clinton, Julianne Cottone, Emma Deutsch, John Doran, Maclain Pascucci, Anna Pappas, Karly Eberly, John Lawrence, Maria Eberly, Grace Lavin, John Lawrence, Leah Loetman, Joseph Losritto, James Morgan, Allison Mosher, Brendan Naughton, Anna Pappas, Maclain Pascucci, Jeanne Marie Rauff, Samuel Rotberg, Michael Sensale, Farrah Shikara and Ethan Sobel.

Manager: Elizabeth Chatpar.
JV Football:
Injuries Don’t Damage Spirit

“It has been a pleasure to coach this year’s JV football team. They possessed many qualities, like hard work, perseverance, character, and a desire to be a good teammate. These qualities translated directly into our season. Consistently, week after week, our team was outmatched physically and because of a rash of injuries, severely outmanned toward the end of the year. But members of our team continued to compete and support their teammates in any and every situation. From our first game against Oyster Bay where we scored to make it a 2-point game with seconds left only to come up just short of a victory, to our final game against West Hempstead where we closed the gap after we fell behind 14-0 to make it an extremely competitive game. This team never gave up and never made excuses. The future is extremely bright.”

– Coach Patrick Maguire


Varsity Football:
Athletes Played Beyond Ability

The 2016 Friends Academy Quakers football team competed with honor all season. The team returned only 14 players with experience and entered August with 20 varsity players. Setting the bar high each game, the team earned the respect of their opponents. This season was highlighted by a victory under the lights at home vs Island Trees.

“While the team’s record may not show it, the coaching staff feels that every student-athlete played beyond his ability and gave the team a fighting chance in each game,” said Coach Ron Baskind. “The players are proud of what they accomplished this year and the bond that now exists between them,” said Coach Baskind. One Family One Goal.

2016 ROSTER: Trayvon Alexander, Kevin Baskind, Max Botwinick, Aaron Daniels, Conor Dineen, Jamison Ellinger, Matthew Feinstein, Devon Forsyth, Casey Glover, Matthew Kaplan, Patrick Kavan, Michael Manu, Daniel McCooey, Samuel Mufson, Edward Mullen, Christopher Nishimura, Peter Panacciulli, Christopher Petrocelli, Alexander Sutherland, Quintin Tyree, Jason Wang and John Yu. Managers: Caitlin Cobb and Elizabeth Panacciulli.

Varsity Cheerleading

Christine Capobianco, Hanna Goldblatt, Mya Guiler-Papin, Brooke Habberstad, Sejal Jhawer, Lily Neisloss, Elisabeth Quick, Grace Sands and Sabrina Schamroth.

(See Page 44 for the season write-up.)
In top-level Class A division this Fall Sports season, teams find success, maintain sportsmanship and build depth.

The Boys Varsity Basketball team concluded the regular season with a strong performance against Valley Stream South. The victory capped a run of 13 straight wins and left Friends undefeated in Conference A IV.

The Quakers hosted a playoff game against Mepham High School in the Quakerdome. Led by captains Hutch Tyree, Maclain Pascucci, and Trayvon Alexander, the boys team came together as a cohesive group of student-athletes who looked out for each other and pushed each other to get better every day in practice.

“Everyone contributed to this streak in different ways and we continued to grow as responsible and reliable members of our team,” said Coach Steve Hefele.

“More important than our win and loss record and how far we went in the playoffs are the following life lessons – the importance of being positive with each other and respectful of everyone’s contribution to our success; respecting our opponent and officials; and competing with the understanding that it is a privilege to represent Friends Academy,” added Coach Hefele.

“We look people in the eye when we shake their hand, win or lose. We are humble in victory and gracious in defeat. Once the games and season are over we want to look back and say that we gave our best efforts, demonstrated strong character, and selflessly helped each other be the best we could be,” he concluded.

At their last home game on Saturday Nov. 11th, the team honored five seniors, including Maclain Pascucci, Hutch Tyree, Chris Nishimura, Louis Durante, and Danny McCooey for their efforts, leadership, and unselfish contributions to the Varsity Boys Basketball season.


**Individual Awards**

ALL-COUNTY – TRAYVON ALEXANDER AND HUTCH TYREE
CONFERENCE A IV PLAYER OF THE YEAR – TRAYVON ALEXANDER
SCHOLAR-ATHLETE – HUTCH TYREE
ALL-CONFERENCE – MACLAIN PASCLICCI, STEVE POPOOLA, AND CASEY GLOVER
**JV Boys Basketball: Move to Tougher Class Motivates Players**

The JV Boys basketball season this year can be summed up with these words – character and hard work. This season the boys were faced with a lot of tough games resulting from their move up to Class A.

The boys handled it with a lot of poise and consistent effort in practices. “Much of our success had to do with the growth of our players from last year and how they matured on the court,” shared Coach Matt Simeone. The team added new incoming athletes, who added their own character to the team.

“Even though our record didn’t show it this year, our team worked very hard every night,” reflected Coach Simeone. “We were in a lot of games with a chance to win at the end. Every night it was always a different player making a big play and contributing to the team. I am very proud of all the hard work the boys put into this season,” added Simeone.


**Varsity Girls Basketball: Continuous Improvement**

The 2016-2017 basketball season for the Varsity Girls Basketball team was a year of hard work and perseverance. The Lady Quakers relied primarily on their five senior captains Ryan Weight, Lauren LeoGrande, Liz Gherlone, Sydney Themelis and Morgan Wilkins to pave the way.

Senior Lauren LeoGrande emerged as the team’s leading scorer, which was a trend that continued throughout the whole season. The senior all-conference guard scored double figures on five occasions, including a career-high 24 points vs. Mineola.

The Lady Quakers reached the win column with wins against Valley Stream Central and West Hempstead. In both games the Lady Quakers benefited from double-digit scores from Liz Gherlone, Sydney Themelis and Lauren LeoGrande. Morgan Wilkins also contributed with timely rebounds in both contests.

“Although from a record perspective we didn’t get as many wins as we hoped, the Lady Quakers competed every game and got better every time we stepped on the floor. Although all five starters graduate this year, the Lady Quakers believe we have several young players ready to make an impact next season,” Coach Navro Allen said in looking ahead.

These players include sharp-shooting junior guard Chrissy Sanoulis. Sophomores Sammy Paniccia and Collette Hughes are expected to join Sanoulis in the back court. Sophomores Jessie Del La Bastide, Morgan Pascucci and Eve Fine will contribute at the forward position. The Lady Quakers are also excited for sophomore Zeinna Ashmawy to make her debut in a Lady Quaker uniform next season.

JV Girls Basketball: Young Team

“T was a pleasure to work with the 2016-2017 Girls JV Basketball team. Our team consisted of very dedicated and talented athletes who evolved into a cohesive and hard-working team.

There were an equal mix of sophomores and freshmen, which made the team fun to coach, as returning players led the charge. Although we finished with a 1-14 record this was not an accurate reflection of the level of play and commitment of the girls.

Their growth, both individually and collectively, was evident throughout the course of the season. During the latter half, they became more evenly matched when facing their opponents for the second time around. An incredibly special attribute of this group was the way in which they bonded with each other on and off the court, and their commitment to the goals we established as a team at the onset of the season.

During practices and games, they were spirited and supportive of each other, and their thoughtfulness extended beyond basketball. As a team we attended Music With Friends on multiple occasions, demonstrating that we are more than just a basketball team. The entire coaching staff looks forward to the continued contributions of this group.

– Coach Jaclyn Mazur


Winter Track: 5 Athletes Compete at County Championships

This has been a mild winter with little snow, so the Winter Track team was able to bundle up and practice outdoors for nearly the entire season. Led by a pair of phenomenal captains, the team focused on drills, form work, conditioning, and competition to lay the foundation for the upcoming spring track season.

“The coaches are thrilled by the performances and improvements we have seen this season and are especially excited to see such talent and energy on such a young team,” said Coach Franklin Thompson. “There is nothing more exciting to a coach than athletes who are willing to work hard and leave it all on the track, and this team brought that,” he added.

The team entered the season facing the challenge of moving up from conference six to conference three and from County Class B to Class A. This meant that they raced larger schools and tougher competition, but some of the athletes still rose to the top.

At the Conference Championship meet, the girls 4 x 800m relay team of Leah Loetman, Caroline Green, Karly Eberly, and Laura Greene beat their previous time by 17 seconds and won the first place medal. Betty Pakh also came in first place in the High Jump, clearing a height of 5 feet. These five conference champions competed at the County Championships on February 8th.

2017 ROSTER: Grace Burrus, Amelia Cardone, Elizabeth Chatpar, Julienne Cotton, Francesca De Geronimo, Emma Deutsch, Maria Eberly, Guy Fernando, Caroline Green, Laura Greene, Mary Hills, Owen Ingrassia, Grace Lavin, Leah Loetman, Joseph Lostritto, Timothy Morgan, Alison Mosher, Blake Nagel, Brendan Naughton, Natalie Pakh, Abigail Regis, Samuel Rotberg, Gail Saez-Hall, Donovan Sbiroli, Julia-Kate Schamroth, Daniel Selby, Michael Sensale, Farrah Shikara, Matthew Storch, Justin Toby, Max Wang, John Yu and Stephen Zerilli.

Girls 4X800 Relay captures gold

Leah Loetman at a winter track meet

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

STATE QUALIFIER – LEAH LOETMAN

ALL-COUNTY – BETTY PAKH

ALL-CONFERENCE – LAURA GREENE, KARLY EBERLY, CAROLINE GREEN

Julia Satovsky fends off a defender.
Varsity Hockey: Playoff Contenders

The Friends Academy hockey season was built on a core of underclassman and strong upperclassman leadership. With many highs and lows, the boys fought through adversity on many levels, but most notably in an early season performance against Levittown. Down five goals, the team came back eventually to tie the game.

The season continued into the playoffs for the second time in three years.


Varsity Squash: Losses Don’t Douse Good Humor

Last year the FA squash program had its best season in its history, winning the consolation bracket of Division Three at the US High School Nationals. And in 2016-17, their burgeoning program once again played a schedule against some of the best teams in the country, “which is a platitudinous way of saying we lost to very good teams fairly often,” commented Coach Geoff Nelson.

Players spent their season on the bus, traveling all over metro New York, facing down top junior players, giving their best effort and displaying character and good humor along the way. They even hosted their first home match of the season, a 7-0 victory against rival Riverdale Country Day School.

“We graduate our senior captain Alex Merrill this year, who will be taking his talents to Middlebury College, but otherwise, in the words of Lin-Miranda, our team is just like our country – young, scrappy, and hungry – for better results against some of the best competition in the area,” said Coach Nelson.


Varsity Cheerleading: Bringing Energy and Enthusiasm

The FA Varsity Cheerleading squad had an exuberant season this year, cheering at all the Boys Varsity Basketball home games. Nine members, from the sophomore through senior grades learned new and complicated cheers. There were varying levels of experience with cheerleading, and overall the team was able to utilize everyone’s respective strengths and cheer cohesively.

2017 ROSTER: Christine Capobianco, Hanna Goldblatt, Mya Guiler-Papin, Brooke Habberstad, Sejal Jhawer, Lily Neilsoss, Elisabeth Quick, Grace Sands, Sabrina Schamroth
Faculty Professional Development

**FAREWELL TO “DOC” RICK SULLIVAN**

“We recognize Rick Sullivan for his 39 years of service to Friends Academy. A holder of the Fahey Master Teaching Award, Rick embodies the highest qualities as an educator. He loves students. He is passionate about teaching writing and a variety of literature. He enthusiastically engages his colleagues in collaborative discussions about curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment and feedback. He loves grammar. He models being a life-long learner himself through his own reading and his openness to allowing his students to see him wrestle with vexing questions about the human condition that emerge from literature.

In all that he does, he sets the highest standards for his students and then holds them accountable to those standards in a supportive and encouraging way. Legions of FA graduates rightfully credit Doc Sullivan with teaching them not just to write, but to write well. Stories abound among our alumni about how Doc’s insistence on precision and succinctness in written expression led them to appreciate the beauty of the well-turned phrase, the power of an argument cleanly articulated.

Over his years, Rick has advised; served as a Head Advisor and Assistant Dean of Students; coached football and wrestling; supported the work of TASQUE and the college office; sat on the Cum Laude Committee; directed our summer school when it was known as On Your Marks. That program was designed to support students from under-resourced school districts, and under Rick’s visionary and imaginative leadership, it offered an engaging blend of academics and athletics. Most recently, Rick was the visible leader of our work program in the Commons, reminding students of their responsibilities to clean up after themselves.

In all of his work in and out of the classroom, Rick strives to elevate and bring alive our mission and core values as a Quaker community. He asks students to look outside themselves to serve others and so discover what is truly worthwhile and meaningful. He urges us to engage each other in honest and respectful dialogue. He wants all voices to be heard.

As many of you know, Rick and Betsy are moving to Bellingham, Washington to be close to Naomi, Class of 1989, and her family. His daughter Nora, Class of 1992, lives in Denver, and his son Jack, who will marry this summer, will remain on the East Coast in NYC.

We wish Rick well on his journey and know that somewhere he will find the opportunity to continue to teach in some way. He cannot do otherwise. Join me in celebrating the remarkable service of Rick Sullivan to Friends Academy – master teacher, humanist, and friend.”

– Bill Morris Retiring Head of School

**“Rick has been a tireless and dedicated teacher, mentor and colleague. We are all the better for his insights and example.”**

– Marge Bevad Friends College Counselor and Global Scholar Studies Program Director

**“It’s very hard to imagine this institution without one of its “institutions,” especially someone like Rick who has contributed so much to so many different areas of the school.”**

– Rachel Hall, Upper School Spanish teacher
During the summer of 2016, MIDDLE AND UNIVERSITY ART TEACHER ALLISON DOHERTY made two pilgrimages to England’s Lake District. “Firstly,” I explored areas beloved by Beatrice Potter, who is best known for her children’s books featuring animals, but who was also keenly interested in land preservation. (To read more, see http:// allisondoherty.com/english.html). Secondly, I was a participant on a Quaker Pilgrimage led by a representative of Friends Council on Education. Assisted by British Quakers in the area, our group accessed sites significant to Quaker heritage and gained a broader history of Quakerism. This pilgrimage is open to Quakers and educators at Quaker schools, by application, every two years through Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, http://www.pym.org.

At the beautifully situated Glenethorne Quaker Centre, on Easedale Road in Grasmere, I met a group of Quakers, and educators from Quaker schools, who were gathered together to explore the roots of the Religious Society of Friends in England. Many of us, I discovered, enjoyed walking and after dinner the first evening, I joined others walking from Glenethorne who were eager to explore the path that led to Easedale Fell. Sour Milk Force tumbled down in torrential waterfalls right beside the path, and we immediately fell under the spell of this area.

The next morning, our bus approached Pendle Hill (in Lancashire), whose great height loomed ahead, and which we intended to climb. As we gathered our packs and walking sticks, a centering silence prevailed as we recalled our intention to follow in the footsteps of the man credited with organizing the Quaker religion. In 1652, itinerant minister George Fox felt moved to explain his theory of man’s direct access to God, the rural country people assembled before him listened with great interest. He won many like-minded supporters of his ideas, who became known as the Religious Society of Friends, otherwise called Quakers, so-called because they “trembled at the word of God.”

The ascent of Pendle Hill was not an easy job for Fox or, indeed, for many of the pilgrims on this trip. It took the better part of two hours for the group to climb the rocky hill, with younger pilgrims helping a few of the older ones. At the summit, we surveyed the spot where Fox had his vision of a “great people gathered, united by faith,” and understood why he had chosen Pendle Hill: from its height we could see the Yorkshire Dales and the distant peaks of the Cumbrian Mountains, the highest in England. We visited several 17th century Meeting Houses, among them Sawley, Brigllatts, and Colthouse (where it is documented that Beatrice Potter was an attendee. Although not a Quaker, her biographers maintain she was attracted to the simplicity and silence of Quaker worship.)

We explored Fox’s “pulpit” at Firbank Fell, a natural amphitheater created by an outcropping of boulders, where he had preached to more than a thousand people for over three hours, and toured Swarthmoor Hall, the home of Judge Thomas and Margaret Fell, which played a role in the growing Quaker movement. Fox visited Swarthmoor in 1652 while Thomas was travelling, but had an audience with Margaret, who became interested in his new doctrines; over the next six years, Swarthmoor Hall became a center of Quaker activity. After Thomas Fell’s death in 1658, George Fox married Margaret. In 1660 she was arrested for allowing Quaker Meetings to be held in her home and jailed in Lancaster Prison until 1668. During her imprisonment she began to write of equality of the sexes in all matters and based her thoughts in Quaker beliefs, a woman far ahead of her time.

We were given a tour of gloomy Lancaster Prison, whose origins date to the 12th century, where it was terrifying to think of George and Margaret incarcerated for long periods in very bleak, dark and damp conditions. We were escorted through a trial court still used today; the dungeon, which held a number of horrors; and through modern prison cells, in use until quite recently as Her Majesty’s Prison. Afterwards, we walked to Lancaster Meeting House, where we were offered refreshments, prior to gathering in their modern worship room.

The following morning, we took our last bus ride to view the Quaker Tapestries, 77 individual panels which illustrate the history of Quakerism from the 17th century to the present day. These colorful pieces were made by 4,000 men, women and children from 15 countries between 1981 and 1996 and are permanently exhibited in Kendal Meeting House. A celebration of Quaker life and events across the centuries, they portray the industrial revolution, banking, famine aid, developments in science and medicine, astronomy, the abolition of slavery, camps, service overseas, opposition to war, and ecology, among others. A link to view all of them is https://www.quaker-tapestry.co.uk/museum/tapestry-panels/. Our final evening at Glenethorne found us gathered as pilgrims for the last time to discuss highlights of the trip and meditate on a poem entitled “For the Traveler”, by John O’Donohue. Travel had been important to him and excpets resonated: “Every time you leave home, another road takes you into a world you were never in…May you travel in an awakened way…that you may not waste the invitations which wait along the way to transform you…”

**Faculty Professional Development**

**Faculty Milestones**

**Lower School teachers Sara Weinstein and Jaimee Connors** attended a Friends Council of Education conference hosted by Lycée Français de New York (April 2016). “REEL Diversity: Using Media Literacy as a Tool for Diversity/Equity Work” at the National Association for Multicultural Education at West Chester University (April 2016); “A Tale of Two Schools: Catalysts and Calamities of Creating a School Policy to Ban the ‘N’ Word” at the NAIS Annual Conference (Feb. 2016); and was a panelist at the NAIS Job Fair to Promote Diversity’s “Teaching in Independent Schools.”

**Director of Diversity & Multicultural Affairs Shanelle Robinson** facilitated several workshops: The annual week-long Institute for Teaching Diversity and Social Justice was held at Friends Academy in June 2016, which Robinson also founded; “There’s More to Me Than What You See: Using a Cultural Lens to Understand Self and Others” at the NYSAIS Diversity Conference hosted by Lycée Français de New York (April 2016); “REEL Diversity: Using Media Literacy as a Tool for Diversity/Equity Work” at the National Association for Multicultural Education at West Chester University (April 2016); “A Tale of Two Schools: Catalysts and Calamities of Creating a School Policy to Ban the ‘N’ Word” at the NAIS Annual Conference (Feb. 2016); and was a panelist at the NAIS Job Fair to Promote Diversity’s “Teaching in Independent Schools.”

**Upper School Science teacher Jen Newitt, Middle School History teacher Phil Ciccari, Upper School World Languages & Cultures Dept. Head Polly Duke, Director of Technology Ken Ambach and Dean of Students Mary Alice Kolodner** organized the first Blended and Online Symposium for Quaker School Educators from June 20-22, 2016. A collaborative planning effort between Friends Academy, Friends Semi-nary, Brooklyn Friends, Mary McDowell Friends School, and Friends Council on Education, it was attended by 45 educators from 12 differ-ent Quaker schools. I met Ray Ravaglia, founder of the Stanford University Online High School kicked off the Symposium with a thought-provoking keynote address. Thirteen Learning Sessions were presented by teachers and leaders from attending Quaker schools, and time was provided for collaborative work and “unconference sessions.” One of the highlights of the Symposium was a presentation by a panel of Friends Academy students who described their experiences with online learning and answered questions from the educators. Attendees were also able to collaborate with fellow educators from Quaker schools and consider new online and blended learning experiences for our students.

**Lower School Principal Debby McLean** was awarded the fellowship for NAIS Aspiring Heads.

**Allison Doherty in England’s Lake District participated in a Quaker Pilgrimage led by Friends Council on Education.**
Congratulations Class of 2016!

Isabel Andolina
Sydney Banks
Johndee Baptiste
Liam Bardong
Morgan Bauer
Halle Blum
Keara Cahill
Nicholas Campbell
Brian Chiang
Owen Collier
Chelsea Crane
Jalijah Daniels
Matthew DeMatteis
Ranait Denihan
Jack Deutsch
Trevor Dineen
Sachi Dulai
Grant Elgarten
Sabrina Farahani
Olivia Fine
Benjamin Freund
Ian Friedman
Jessica Friedman
Ruthie Fritz
Mairead Gahan
Merek Glover
Corey Goldgalt
Stephen Graham
Andrew Greene
Andrew Habberstad
Sarah Hickerson
Tay Holder
Emily Horne
Sloane Hughes
Theodore Ingassia
Robert Izquierdo
Samuel Kahane
Danielle Katz
Devika Kedia
Tanner Trani Kellan
Ryan Kelly
Jennifer Keogh
Scott Kriesberg
Eric Lawrence
Natalia Lee
Dennis Lin
Maximo Lipman
Saborny Mahmud
Christian Mandrakos
Nicholas Marchese
Patrick Margery
Colleen Marshall
Marcus Menzin
Eric Moslow
Eva Mullarkey
Gabrielle Nagel
Victoria Nastasi
Harry Nicolas, Jr.
Lindsay O’Sullivan
Jared Page
Constantine Pappas
Robert Parker
Sofia Patino-Duque
Samantha Podell
Peter Psyllos
Tyler Riese
Kole Rossi
Giles Rutson
Luke Sandoval
Katerina Sanoulis
Julia Savasta
Nicholas Schneider
William Schneider
Austen Schweber
Julia Searby
William Shea
Nathaniel Shepherd-Tyson
Elisabeth Shibley
Faris Shikara
Sarah Silverman
Adam Spector
Maxwell Sutherland
Gavin Tam
Matthew Tidona
Sam Towse
Nina Trovato
Julia Vascotto
Rebecca Viener
Cole Vissicchio
Emily Wachtler
Cameron Wang
Megan Wootten
Christina Yannello
Amanda Yaraghi
John Zerilli

Alumni Legacy Class Photo

From left: Andy Menzin ’81, Lauren Putter Menzin ’81 and Marcus Menzin ’16; Katie Hawkins Schneider ’86 and Nick Schneider ’16; Jeff Daniels ’90 and Jalijah Daniels ’16; Kevin Campbell ’80 and Nicholas Campbell ’16; Jeff Schneider ’78 and Will Schneider ’16; Nancy Langdon ’85 and Sarah Hickerson ’86; Robert Keogh ’75 and Jennifer Keogh ’16; Ellen Field Greene ’82 and Andrew Greene ’16; Kate Seligson-Friedman ’82 and Ian Friedman ’16; Robin Wilson Wachtler ’83 and Emily Wachtler ’16; Stacy Koppelman Fritz ’86 and Ruthie Fritz ’16; Allison Trani Kellan ’87 and Tanner Kellan ’16
Dear Fellow Alumni,

Homecoming 2016 did not disappoint! The weekend kicked off with the 50th year Reunion Luncheon feting the Class of 1966. Seventeen members of that class were reunited at their Alma Mater and were treated to a delicious lunch at The Jackson House, followed by a tour of the beautiful Friends campus in all of its autumn splendor. Nancy Rauch Douzinas was honored by her classmates with the Alumni Association Award for all of her work with the Rauch Foundation, a LI-based non-profit that invests in ideas and organizations that spark and sustain systemic change in our communities. A magnificent sunny Saturday encouraged hundreds of alumni to enjoy the Fall Fair and watch the numerous athletic events being played. Following the alumni cocktail party at The Jackson House on Saturday afternoon, the weekend was capped by tremendous attendance at reunions for classes whose graduation years ended in 1 and 6. Please see pages 70-75 to read about the reunions. It’s never too soon to plan ahead – the weekend of October 14, 2017 is the date of this year’s Homecoming and Fall Fair. The class of 1967 will celebrate their 50th and all other classes ending in 2 and 7 will also be reuniting! If you are interested in helping to plan your class reunion, please contact Christine Bowe in the FA Alumni Office (516-465-1796).

This fall of 2016 featured other alumni highlights. The inaugural FA alumni soccer game was held on September 24th. We had over 25 alumni from the classes of 1974 through 2015 come together for a competitive and fun afternoon of soccer followed by lunch. The FA alumni basketball game was held on November 25th. This annual event attracted over 20 former FA hoopsters for a battle on the hardwood. Photos of both events can be found on page 85. The FA Alumni Association Board (FAAAB) is planning more events like this in the near future. Stay tuned for details on the first annual co-ed softball game planned for the spring of 2018. Also, the fall of 2017 will feature both men's and women’s alumni soccer games. The alumni board itself has had a banner year! We have increased our membership to 29 alumni from classes ranging from 1963 to 2013. This fun-filled group of alumni meets five times per year, either at FA or in NYC, to help organize FA Alumni activities. Again, please contact Christine if you have any interest in joining us.

Fourth Day Honors is held every June to recognize the remarkable achievements of current FA students. Additionally, the FA Distinguished Alumni Award is presented at this meaningful event. We encourage you to nominate any FA alumni who you feel should be considered for this prestigious award. Dr. Larry Corash, FA ’61, was the most recent recipient. Turn to page 54 to read how Larry’s experience treating HIV patients in San Francisco in the early 1980s led to the development of INTERCEPT technology which has helped make blood supplies safer by battling transfusion-transmitted pathogens like Zika, Dengue and Chikungya. Also, page 50 features a profile written by FAAAB member Haley Kucich, ’03 on Tara Judge, FA ’11. Tara credits “FAs dedication to volunteerism” as a major factor in her motivation and her extraordinary efforts to bring light to the people of Moshi, Tanzania. Read how this phenomenal young woman is single-handedly making a difference in the lives of many.

Finally, this spring we held two alumni gatherings – on Long Island and in New York City. On May 4, the Koufakis family hosted an alumni cocktail party in Mill Neck from 6:30-8:30pm. On June 5, our annual NYC event promises to be filled with energy and fun as we gather at B Bar & Grill from 7:30-9:30pm. I look forward to seeing you at one or, preferably, both events!

Peter Stein ’79,
Friends Academy Alumni Association President

Help us help you and your fellow alums stay connected

1 Send us your news and address and e-mail updates:
Alumni Office
Friends Academy
270 Duck Pond Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
alumni@fa.org; 516-465-1796

2 Connect by website:
FA’s password-protected Alumni Community: www.fa.org/alumni
Click on ALUMNI DIRECTORY to search for classmates by last name, maiden name, class year and profession.

3 Are you on Facebook?
If you love Friends, like us!
Head to www.facebook.com/friendsacademyNY for more campus life photos, alumni updates and behind-the-scenes stories and videos.

*If you do not know your username and password, e-mail Kathy Fox in the Alumni Office: alumni@fa.org.
At Friends we prepare our students to be citizens with strong minds and kind hearts, people who lead by example. Each year Friends Academy presents the Distinguished Alumni Award to someone who has let his/her life speak. It is our hope that others will find the recipient’s life inspirational and will be motivated to devote themselves to a life of service.

Please consider nominating a fellow alum for this honor. Submit his or her name to the alumni office at alumni@fa.org or call 516-465-1796.
'It takes a story like this one to really get me thinking about we as a society. The next time someone tells me that it’s truly difficult to find good, kind people in this world, I will confidently respond that that’s simply not true; they are all around us. They are working in financial institutions, and candy shops, clothing retail stores, construction sites, art studios and also in this case, an architectural and engineering firm...’
Tara Judge graduated from Friends Academy in 2011. She attended FA as a freshman and fell in love with the community atmosphere during her initial visit to the campus.

She immersed herself in the world of Friends by participating in fall soccer, winter basketball, and spring lacrosse. Tara explains that “the people, students, teachers, and coaches were all incredibly unique and excited about their passions. Sports were home for me, they gave me the drive to get better every day. My coaches were always encouraging and pushed us all as a team.” Tara would continue her studies at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

She appreciated its small, tight-knit community that she too valued at Friends Academy. She majored in Environmental Geology as she always loved the environment and nature. This love of nature and protecting our environment then led her to eventually become a Geologist for D&B Engineers and Architects.

But I’m here not to focus on Tara’s career, which interestingly enough is worthy of an entire article dedicated to her work; she was hired to provide technical environmental review support to the Governor’s Office for Storm Recovery in support of federal recovery and rebuilding grants for victims of Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Impressively enough, considering the level of sophistication and significance that is required for such a position, it is Tara’s commitment to improving the lives of those around her that impresses and influences me the most.

During her time at Mary Washington, Tara became very involved with a local non-profit organization known as Friends of the Rappahannock where she was able to work with them for about three-and-a-half years. “This organization works to advocate, educate, and protect a local river called the Rappahannock River. While working with them I was able to teach young students about the river, ways they can help protect the river, and about the local wildlife. Along with this, I was able to be a part of a campus EcoGroup, which worked to build local community gardens and bring awareness around campus towards environmental issues.” Tara’s love and passion for helping the greater community soon led her 8,000 miles away to Moshi, Tanzania, Africa where she forged a partnership between Friends of Tanzania and the Komboa Vulnerable Groups Association, both non-profit organizations. The goal of this trip was to deliver solar-powered lanterns to families and individuals who were lacking electric power. Tara

Continued on Page 52
Tara Judge ’11: An Enlightening Journey

The surprise and astonishment on the children’s faces when we walked through the door, yelling “Teacha! Teacha!” to greet us. Families’ faces lit up at the thought of having alternate light sources.”

Tara comments on how “Friends Academy has shaped my life in more ways than I could describe. Going to school at FA allowed me to grow as a person, both in my studies but also socially. I felt at home while attending FA. From Quaker meeting to sports teams, I will always cherish my years there. The honor code has definitely been a factor about Friends that I will hold near and dear. Friends Academy’s dedication to volunteering has stuck with me all these years as well. FA helped me see that going out into the community and helping to leave it better than it was originally is so incredibly important. Do your part!”

It’s not that Tara traveled across the world to help others, it’s the reason behind it. She has enough going on in her life to remain busy and challenged between school and work, but it’s that Tara wanted to do more not for herself, but for others. It doesn’t matter if you help a child in a distant orphanage or a child in a local hospital, or an elderly veteran who needs a smile, but it’s your actions to focus your life on someone else to make his or her life better, maybe even for just that moment, that makes me confident that there are more good people than not.

For more information or to make a donation to the “The Solar Empowerment Project,” please contact Tara Judge at tjudge@db-eng.com.
Reconnect at FA's Largest Community Event

Special Reunion Celebrations for Classes Ending in 7 and 2

Fall Fair & Homecoming
October 13-15, 2017

Friday: 50th Reunion Luncheon for the Class of 1967

Friday night: Class gatherings

Saturday: Fall Fair, followed by the Alumni Tailgate and Homecoming Reception on campus for all alumni.

Saturday night: Reunion Dinners off campus for classes ending in 7 and 2.

Sunday: Meeting for Worship in Matinecock Meeting House

Volunteers in classes planning special reunions will reach out to classmates soon. More information will be posted on the alumni pages of the FA website: www.fa.org/alumni. Contact Christine Bowe in the Alumni Office with questions: christine_bowe@fa.org or 516-465-1796.
2016 Distinguished Alumnus
Laurence Corash ’61: Unlocking Life’s Mysteries

Unlocking life’s mysteries

By Jennifer Ryan Woods ’99

When Larry Corash graduated from Friends Academy in 1961, he had no idea what he was going to do with his life. However, by keeping an open mind, following his passions and embracing the support of mentors along the way, he was able to embark on a lifelong journey that would help millions of lives along the way.

“You don’t need to know where you’re going [in life],” Corash told FA’s Class of ’16 graduates at the school’s Fourth Day Honors Ceremony. “What you should do is look and find the thing that will inspire you and give you a sense of community and passion,” he said, adding, “I think the thing that enriches you the most is that you enjoy doing something every single day.”

One of Corash’s earliest mentors, who played a part in his journey, was Friends...
Academy teacher Anita Flackbert, who taught world history and French. Flackbert, who Corash maintained contact with after high school, ignited in him a deep interest in liberal arts. As he graduated Friends that was his only clue as to where he was headed.

Corash attended Dartmouth College, where he majored in history. As college came to an end, though, he still didn’t know what he wanted to do. Luckily, there were a few things that he did know: he liked liberal arts and science and he didn’t want to get drafted to Vietnam. Killing two birds with one stone, Corash decided to go to medical school.

He enrolled in NYU School of Medicine.

“I didn’t know what to expect, but it turned out that I liked it,” he said, adding that during these years, “I had some important mentors who really instilled in me a passion for research.”

One mentor, in particular, was a pediatric hematologist, who Corash continued to collaborate with for years after medical school, and who was fundamental in his decision to pursue a career in hematology (the study of blood diseases).

After graduating from NYU, Corash stayed on as an intern and resident at Bellevue hospital in New York. During that time, he worked with the Visiting Nurse Service of New York making house calls on disabled patients. The position taught him a great deal about talking to and taking care of patients.

“When I finished at Bellevue, I had a feeling I wanted to do research. I liked medicine, and I was accepted in the National Institutes of Health (NIH) research program in Bethesda, Maryland. It was a fantastic place with unlimited access to talented mentors.

Corash worked there for ten years. During this time, he was involved in

Continued on Page 56

Dr. Laurence Corash in his lab at Cerus
Laurence Corash ’61: Unlocking Life’s Mysteries

various notable developments, including studies that impacted the government regulation of lead levels in gasoline. Based on Corash’s research showing that people living in the Himalayas not exposed to leaded gasoline had almost no lead in their blood, the US government eliminated the use of lead in gasoline.

In 1982, Corash took a position with the University of California School of Medicine in San Francisco. One of his responsibilities was a large clinic for patients with bleeding disorders.

This was during the height of the HIV epidemic in America, Corash said, adding, “When I arrived in San Francisco, I almost immediately had 300 patients with HIV, acquired through blood transfusions.”

At the time, he said, there were no therapies available to the patients he was working with, making their futures uncertain. In the hopes of changing the prognoses of these patients, who had become a community for Corash, he decided to alter his research focus. He began looking for ways to develop a technology to prevent transfusion-transmitted infections.

According to Corash, “Science is a lot of luck and a lot of serendipity” and in this case he had stumbled on a bit of both as the government agreed to provide a grant that would support his work in this area. The grant allowed Corash and his team to develop a technology to make blood safer for transfusion. The problem, however, was that funding wouldn’t support the commercialization of this technology after it was developed.

The solution for Corash was to start a new biomedical company, Cerus Corp., out of the San Francisco Bay area. Corash, who serves as chief scientific officer of the company, and his team were able to raise

Blood centers in Puerto Rico, with more than 200 confirmed Zika cases, are already using Cerus’ licensed platelet and plasma technology.

Continued from Page 55

Blood transfusion is a critical supportive therapy.

Patients expect transfusion to be safe.

Can we prevent transfusion-transmitted infections?
Laurence Corash ‘61: Unlocking Life’s Mysteries

money through venture capital, which allowed them to start the company and develop the technology.

By 2002 the “INTERCEPT” technology was commercialized in Europe and other regions; and the U.S. followed in 2014. INTERCEPT works by killing pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, and parasites that can contaminate donated blood and cause an infection after transfusion.

Most recently, INTERCEPT has become an important component in fighting the effects of mosquito-borne Zika virus. In fact, the designated blood center for the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro will use the INTERCEPT system to improve the safety of the blood supply for any athletes or spectators in need of a blood transfusion during the Olympics, and for all patients in Rio de Janeiro.

The company recently received a new round of funding through a five-year contract with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ Office of Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), which could be worth as much as $180 million. The goal of the funding is to make Puerto Rico self-sufficient for blood supplies during the Zika epidemic, and complete the development of INTERCEPT technology for all blood components. Blood centers in Puerto Rico are already using Cerus’s licensed platelet and plasma technology.

“I feel very fortunate to have received a good educational foundation and a sense of community at Friends Academy that started me on a journey I never expected to take, but one that continues, and remains perpetually fascinating.”


From HIV to Zika

(Excerpted from Larry Corash’s speech at Fourth Day Honors.)

Up until that time we only had two tests. We tested for syphilis, which became available in 1938. And we tested for Hepatitis B Virus, based on a discovery in 1970. We really had no other tests at that time. Many of you may know that the United States developed a very active blood transfusion service as an outgrowth of WWII. But many, many people who were transfused in WWII acquired Hepatitis, which ultimately impacted their health.

So we really had nothing at that time in 1982 when we were starting down this road of dealing with infections acquired from blood transfusions.

Since that time (and because of your awareness of what’s going on with Zika), you may now know that the world has really exploded in terms of transfusion-transmitted infections, not only from Zika, but also exotic diseases like Dengue and Chikungunya. And those of you who travel extensively will get exposed to those.

So it was a major quest for us to develop a way to make blood safer for transfusion. In science you always stand on the shoulders of other people – that’s how you get to see through them.

THE IMPACT OF INTERCEPT BLOOD SYSTEM:

- More than 10 years of routine use
- Used in >100 blood centers in 25 countries
- Kits sold to produce over 3,500,000 INTERCEPT platelet and plasma units
1940

Florence Milyko Skinner
4202 Avalon Drive East
New Canaan, CT 06840
(203) 966-9475
nightingalelady@att.net

1942

Helen Craft Price
173 Ocean Pines Terrace
Jupiter, FL 33477
fricomaru1@aol.com

1945

Joy Mayes Brown
2110 West Center Road
P.O. Box 239
Otis, MA 01253
(413) 269-6398
Hopbrook2@gmail.com

Sheila Morrissey Potter
37 Coles Meadow Road
Apartment #301
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 584-1578
sheila85rock@comcast.net

1946

Henry Palau
38 Yarmouth Road
Rowayton, CT 06853-1847
(203) 855-0021
hspret@optonline.net

1947

If anyone from the Class of 1947 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1948

Marian Schwartz Feniger
6 West 77th Street
Apartment 9E
New York, NY 10024
(212) 362-8968
srajery@aol.com

1949

If anyone from the Class of 1949 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1950

Suzanne Didier DeVito
59 West 12th Street
Apartment 16A
New York, NY 10011
(212) 627-7103
suzannedv10@gmail.com

1951

George H. Gifford, Jr.
12 Oak Ridge Road
Stone Brook, NY 11790-2011
(631) 751-7489
ggeorgegifford@danielgale.com

1952

Margaret Whitney Shiels
5427 FM 2515
Kaufman, TX 75142
(972) 962-8124
mspaumanok@aol.com

Fay Biggins writes: “Surprise! Hopefully I can get this to you. If you have seen the movie A Walk in the Woods with Robert Redford and Nick Nolte you’ll know what I am talking about. I am doing one more year as President of the hospital auxiliary. Then I will slow down. My vice-president and I have started a few projects that need to be finished. Then it will be someone else’s turn. At least it keeps the brain active. My daughter Nancy is doing very well with her copper hummingbird feeders and is planning to get into larger production in Arizona. So that means that I will have to move to Arizona within the next few years to be with her. Physically, I am keeping ahead of arthritis and neuropathy with physical therapy but I know sooner or later it will catch up with me. So life moves on. At least for now the grass doesn’t grow under my feet. Wendy Murphy reports: “Still living a fairly normal life here in Kent on our tiny primitive island in Maine, though Jack’s Parkinson’s Disease does limit mobility somewhat of late. I’m still writing several hours a day, finding the idea of retirement entirely peculiar. My most interesting project right now is researching and developing a comprehensive view of working dogs through the ages and how various canine types are ‘wired’ and trained to achieve their extraordinary services to humankind, from scent and sight hunting dogs and sled dogs to search and rescue dogs, war dogs, diagnostic dogs, police and drug detection dogs, seeing eye and companion dogs to autistic kids and PTSD victims. I hope to submit the proposal to publishers before the end of the year if I can just keep from other distractions. Also very involved in conservation and open space preservation – goals happily shared with virtually all the towns in Connecticut’s northwest corner. News from Valerie and Laurie Castleman: “We are going to be moving to a retirement community hopefully by year-end. It is 20 minutes from our present home, so we will still be relatively close to our son John and his family. Our seven grandchildren are progressing through school, three in college this year. Caroline just finished nine months in India and starts Princeton next month. I really enjoyed seeing the photo of the young girls in our class, I guess taken at a party at Heather’s home. Donn Andre ‘54 is alive and well living at a retirement community near his younger son outside Boston and winters in Florida at The Villages.” Connie and Bob Wilkinson note: “We spent the winter in our AZ home, returning to Port Ludlow in May. Later that month we took our granddaughter to Branson and to see our farmland in KS. Natalie is starting her Masters Degree study at Princeton later this summer with a full scholarship. Her little sister Alyson will be starting at Bridgewater College in VA with a full scholarship. I attended her graduation in Williamsburg in June. And another granddaughter, Alex, will be entering Brown. We are enjoying a beautiful summer in Port Ludlow... tennis, pickle-ball, bridge and book clubs. No big trips planned at the present moment.” Connie Miller reports: “After my hip replacement last year, I’ve started to play golf again this summer; however, lost a lot of distance, and am playing like a beginner! At least I’m out there giving it a go. My two grandkids, Lindsay, 9, and Collin, 6, are doing fine. Their dad and mom, Stu and Sue, live right around the corner from me, so I get to see them quite a lot. I’m in a bridge game two to three times a week and still go up to the bank and have lunch with my former employee buddies once a week. So far life is good, and I guess we’re all lucky to still be on the right side of the grass.” Terry Schetz replied: “As a former Long Islander, I am glad to know about Walt Whitman and the meaning of Paumanok, guessing it is an Indian name. We are enjoying being back in Pittsburgh for the warm weather months. Ted still goes to the office several days a week. I am helping with fund raising for our local nature center. We are celebrating our 100th anniversary as an Audubon Nature...”

1953

Didier DeVito
Suzanne

1954

George H. Gifford, Jr.
Margaret Whitney Shiels
Fay Biggins

1955

Henry Palau
Margaret Whitney Shiels
Wendy Murphy

1956

Marian Schwartz Feniger
Valerie and Laurie

1957

Connie Miller
Connie and Bob Wilkinson
Terry Schetz
Center. Children and grands from east and west have come for overlapping visits so all the cousins can get together. The oldest heads off to college. We are planning a 60th wedding trip in September to London and Sicily where maybe I get to use some Italian.”

Ann Galbraith Hayward writes: “I moved to Petaluma at the request of my daughter, Donna, who lives in a new manufactured home while I am waiting for senior affordable housing. Unfortunately, the waiting lists are 2-5 years and most of the area needs more housing. I am still working part time at a very posh retirement home in Marin County as well as a new job at my favorite store, Talbots. Talbots has opened a new store in the Outlet in Petaluma and the store is fun to work there as well as the clothes are always great and as an employee we get 50% off the prices! My daughter, Donna, is still loving her work as a medical assistant. My granddaughter, Kristina, has just opened a specialized gym with her partner who does preparation of food for the individual who works out in their gym and wants very tasty food prepared by a ‘real chef.’ I miss our ‘great class of 1952’ at FA. Many thanks, Margaret, for being the ‘longest class rep in FA history’!”

Heather Poetzsch reports: “We were on Long Island this summer to visit Joachim’s brother, our niece and nephew and great nieces on his side. Everything has changed so much. The traffic getting there from the bridges and on the island itself is massive. Either they don’t like Vermont plates or are always in a hurry, its treacherous driving. In any event, we passed and drove through FA, but it was a Sunday and couldn’t get in. It certainly is not the school I remember. It is massive with so many buildings, etc. etc. I guess many of you have seen it. The last time I was in the school was for our 50th. We both are well other than minor aches and pains and we are trying to keep active. I became a great aunt and Joachim a great uncle this summer to the most beautiful great niece in the WHOLE WORLD!! Her name is Quinn. So we were in Hyde Park, New York for that celebration and expect to go back pretty soon.”

From Margaret Shiels: “The Shiels family is pleased to be in good shape. Granddaughter Sara is teaching in McGregor, Texas, and working on her masters in counseling as well as coaching volleyball. Sara’s brother Andrew is with a bio-medical firm in San Antonio. Kate is in Boston and Cameron is in college in Arkansas. We are going to ‘Family Weekend’ with son Frank. I am still active in the Friends of the Library here in Kaufman and in the Monday Book Club of the Woman’s Club in Fort Worth. I received an e-mail from Jerry Lester ’53 after seeing the photo of the FA girls that Heather sent. Pictures are important. Send more! If you need a suggestion for a gift for the person who has everything, my daughter Heather gave her husband a drone for his birthday! We hope they will bring it to the farm so that we can all play with it. Sadly, Dick Schulze emailed that in March his sister Betsy Schulze Luther had a massive stroke and passed away. We send out best to Dick.”

1953
Stephen Fisher
(845) 876-3242
SGF0077@aol.com

1954
If anyone from the Class of 1954 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1955
Arthur M. Geoffrion
322-24th Street
Santa Monica, CA 90402
(310) 394-0185
arthur.geoffrion@anderson.ucla.edu
The Meeting House | Fall 2016/Winter 2017

Naomi Johnson Dempsey/Denslow
69 Webster Point Road
Madison, CT 06443
(203) 245-7617
Naomi.Dempsey100@gmail.com

Doris Atrwater Bouwenscher is in her 10th year at a lovely retirement village in Wayland, MA. She is an avid gardener and takes care of a couple of gardens at the residence. She reports that a group went whale watching this summer out of Gloucester and saw at least 16 whales. Another enjoyable trip was to the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, MA. George Cadwell’s tribe continues to expand with three new great grandchildren this year. Two grandchildren received master’s degrees and one graduated with honors in an engineering/computer science double major. This summer’s reunion on Hilton Head Island hosted 27 immediate family members! In July, he did what may be his final professional gig: testing the humongous Chem-Bio systems in the bowels of the World Trade Center. Mary Foster Everett is at the same retirement village in West Hartford, CT that she has been enjoying for quite a while. She is still busy on the Board of the League of Women Voters and recently spent a week in Maine with family, thereafter joining some roommates and friends at Bates College for a small memorial and reunion. In observance of John Galbraith’s 80th in June, his son Mark organized a call-in to record greetings from friends and family. The result, delivered to him on a new Apple iPad Air, was around 60 messages that took about 45 minutes to play. John’s reaction: “Wow, that is a birthday greeting!” It certainly was, and yes, FA was represented. Stephie Giardino Dobrinin writes that all is well with her, and that she is excited over the prospect of becoming a great-grandmother in September. Her youngest grandson Kevin has gone back to school (UNC at Chapel Hill) for his master’s. Her son Chris (and wife Terri) and oldest grandson Steven (and wife Annie) both live in CT, so she sees a lot of them during the summers. She and Maurice still spend seven months in Florida each year. She reads a lot, plays a lot of bridge, but not as much golf as before. Jim Graham’s cover story with Gael was that he neglected the garden this year because he was building a new shed to replace the fallen tent that used to shield the pickup. Then the chicks arrived in the mail, and the shed was revealed to be a chicken coop (he kept chicks in the 40s). Gael’s reaction? Well, they went to Mad River, VT for a granddaughter’s “destination wedding” this summer, but that was followed by separate vacations: Gael went to Maine with son Craig and family while Jim tended to the chickens and caught up on neglected garden chores. No solace from his work, either: after seven years as a Zoning Officer since retirement, Jim can say with some confidence that no one likes a Zoning Officer. We regret to report that Sallie Hickok Ward died on September 4 last year in Port Charlotte, Florida, not long after her 44th wedding anniversary with Vernon ’53. She is also survived by five children and seven grandchildren. An obituary is available from your class correspondents. TJ Jackson is doing well after his stroke, got his driver’s license back, but allows that he doesn’t run as fast anymore. He and Angie went up to New Jersey to put their four-unit apartment building on the market. Anyone interested? They had lunch with Jim and Gael Graham while there. TJ and Angie will be going to Litchfield by the Sea, SC for a few weeks in September. Naomi Johnson Dempsey/Denslow and Clark took another trip to the Mexican Yucatan Peninsula in January. In March they went to the wedding of one of Clark’s grandsons, and then granddaughter Paige’s graduation on Nantucket in June. She is now at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy. Most of the spring and summer was spent upgrading parts of the kitchen. The work that Clark doesn’t do (the electrical) was done by Naomi’s moonlighting friends on weekends. Since she is a retired kitchen and bath designer, this undertaking surely qualifies as a busman’s holiday. Joan Konvalinka Hawkins reports that she and George ’54 sold their plumbing and heating business in May and officially retired, although they are still cleaning out the shops. George had a knee operation last year with poor results, and gel injections have not fixed his shoulder yet. Young athletes, take notice. Joanna Miller Jacobus and her husband Lee are well and still doing creative things. Lee is working on his third in a trilogy of novels called the Quarrytown Trilogy. Joan, Joanna, Naomi, and Stephie met in Port Jefferson for a mini reunion lunch in August. Naomi and Joanna took the Bridgeport Ferry over from CT in perfect boating weather. They all enjoyed the lunch so much that they decided to do it again with more local alums. So let one of them know if you’d like to join them.

1956

Anne Wauchope Smith
297 London Drive
Beaconsfield
Quebec H9W 5Z1
Canada
(514) 695-1951
awsmith297@gmail.com

Joanna Miller Jacobus, Naomi Johnson Denslow, Joan Konvalinka Hawkins, Stephie Giardino Dobrinin on August 30, 2016 in Port Jefferson, L.I.
1957

Roger O. Sanders
324 Fishing Lane
Deland, FL 32720
(386) 736-0815
ramlinрог1@yahoo.com

1958

John Hiatt
21 Brookview Drive
Glenmoore, PA 19343
(610) 942-8814
jhiatt333@comcast.net

1959

David Seeler
P.O. Box 718
Amagansett, NY 11930
(631) 267-3000
dseeler@thebayberry.com

Tom Carter has been developing a new program mandated by Congress that shifts the responsibility for development choices from the donor to local government and civil society organizations. This year, he has traveled to Vietnam, Morocco, Malawi, Serbia, and Mongolia. Tom and wife Ramola recently visited their three children in L.A., all with birthdays in September. Tom notes “we lived in a world insulated from a lot of today’s turmoil, but I think we have lived our lives in ways that should make Friends proud.”

Kelly Cammerer and wife Nancy are still living in Providence, “still making olive oil and bad wine.” Charles Jameson and wife Dana are located 40 miles west of Washington, D.C. He is enjoying playing electric guitar (trying to be a 75-year-old Buddy Holly). He said “they take pleasure in feeding local birds, squirrels, and bunnies” (Charlie, remember the great bunnies we saw at the Playboy Club in NYC?). Charlie and I had years of car competition. He drives a beautifully restored red ’57 Chevy convertible, and I just sold my BMW Z-8.

Stephen Sundgaard and fiancée Marie have been traveling to Grand Canyon, Sedona, Big Bend, New Orleans, Savannah and Hilton Head. His favorite is South Padre Island. He confirms, “Life is good.” Jim Sykes – is 2.5 years into retirement. He reports “I sold my sailboat after 20 years of mostly competitive racing with two and sometimes three children aboard.” Jim has three children and five grandchildren living within forty minutes of his home in NYC. Gerald Bocian is focusing on building a clinical research business – expanding office space, adding staff, opening additional offices. He writes, “At least we are saving and prolonging the lives of our patients.” A note about saving lives. I recently had a visit from Larry Corash, class of ’61, who was honored with the 2016 FA Distinguished Alumni Award. He has done remarkable work dealing with AIDS, ZIKA Virus, and other diseases with his company, Cerus. Bruce Burrows recently had some successful back surgeries. They just returned from a sixteen day trip to Ireland, Wales, Scotland, and England. Bruce teaches seniors history at the University of Alabama, and wife Gay is President of the Tuscaloosa Symphony (and a great tennis player). Their daughter, Kat, is Dean of Northern Virginia Community College. Daughter Emily is a Graphic Designer. John Froehlich recently traveled to Mexico, South Africa, and Italy. His wife, Carol, co-owns a contemporary Southwestern furniture store, and they spent some time in Milan for the furniture market. John got carried away and visited the Ferrari Factory. His greatest memory, though, is our 2003 Motorcycle Trip to New Zealand (Jim Sykes and I got our motorcycle licenses to join John on this wonderful trip).

Sam Sugden writes “Diane and I continue to live quietly and happily, dividing our time between Tuxedo Park, NY and Mustique, a small island in the eastern Caribbean, a part of the country of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Our two sons are married, one a lawyer in Atlanta and the proud father of two young sons, and the younger, who recently received his Master’s, focuses on environmental issues involving principally soils and water in Bozeman, Montana. Since I last communicated, my old law firm, LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae merged with Dewey, Ballantine to form Dewey & LeBoeuf. Sadly the merged firm collapsed. While Diane and I were largely not impacted, it was certainly trying to see two great institutions leave the NY legal scene. Life is precious! Enjoy every moment.” Marty Livingston McDermott is moving to a Quaker retirement community called Foulkeways in PA. She writes “The Quaker spirit is strong, and by the way, I met Peter Javinas ‘58 through a friend there.” Marty is Associate VP of the Adirondack Mountain Club. Chip Hoins writes “It’s very kind of you to include me in the list of the Master Class alumni, but, as you know, having spent just one year at FA, I really don’t qualify. My only remaining direct contact with Friends was Abbie. I enjoyed several visits with her whenever I was in California and miss her a lot. Best Wishes and warm regards to all (especially Rikki),”

Dave Seeler: “I am still involved with my business, The Bayberry, in Amagansett, L.I. although sometimes in a limited way. Had a great three-week trip to England to attend Opera at Garsington and Glyndebourne. I still do a great deal of work with non-profit local organizations. I am proud to say I was awarded ‘man of the year’ by my dogs, Horace and Scooter.”

1960

Bob Powell
5344 Reasor Court
Virginia Beach, VA 23464
(757) 201-5525
vghawk@gmail.com

Francis Edmonds (left) and Andy Dott (right), both from the class of 1960, in front of Brandenburg Gate in Berlin.

Received a terrific write-up from Andy and Francis on the Dotts’ visit to Berlin. As I write, I’m off on a trans-Atlantic voyage. Wonder if there’s any members of the “Decade Class,” heck, anyone from FA, in the Faroes, Iceland or Greenland to meet with. Any of you traveling, please let me know about it. Andy Dott ’60, Francis “Pete” Edmonds ’60, and Andy’s wife, Caroline, spent a wonderful day together in Berlin, where Francis lives. Andy and Francis had not seen each other for more than 50 years! They had been Skyping since the class reunion in 2010, so it took only minutes for them to reconnect. Andy and Caroline were fascinated by Francis’ experiences in Berlin, including the incredible, underhanded, yet futile efforts of the State Security Services (STASI) of the (communist) German Democratic Republic to enlist him as a secret agent who would steal industrial secrets from the West (in 1975). Today, all that is left of the divided world are the indelible memories of those who experienced it, marker bricks where the so-called “Anti-Fascist Protection Wall” (The Berlin Wall) once stood, and a few very short stretches of wall preserved for posterity to contemplate. Staring at the wall is an emotional experience about the degradation of mankind. This memorable day also included, among other things, a visit to the Neues Museum, where Queen Nefertiti of Ancient Egypt resides, and culminated at the revolving restaurant near the top of the TV Tower in the former East Berlin. There, they enjoyed not only the good food and drink, but also the sunset and a splendid
view of the reconstructed and reunited capital of Germany. Andy and Caroline say Francis is a terrific tour guide and such a fascinating person! In any case, he would love to meet with classmates who might visit Berlin (francis.edmonds@t-online.de). Incidentally, Francis, who has been living in Germany for 45 years, now works by himself as a freelance translator from German to English. If you need a good translation of a legal, business or IT document written in German, don’t hesitate to email him your text and ask for a quote. As for Andy, he has just completed his 50th year as an obstetrician delivering babies. He says it’s been great fun to celebrate new life with so many families. He estimates that he has delivered somewhere between 8,000 and 10,000 babies! Now, he has decided to slow down and leave the next generation of obstetricians to care for the moms. Andy will continue his practice, wearing bow ties instead of surgical scrubs, as a “gentleman gynecologist.” He will also spend much more time enjoying his wonderful wife of 38 years, as well as his four children and eight grandchildren. Caroline and Andy live in Atlanta and would love to meet with classmates there. (dradott@gmail.com)

1961

Park Benjamin, III
P. O. Box 368
Oyster Bay, NY 11771
(516) 922-9537
pbenjamin3@optimum.net

1962

Randi Reeve Filoon
P.O. Box 5495
Ketchum, ID 83340
(208) 788-1734
filoons@yahoo.com

1963

Barbara Shoen Brundige
35 Wood Lane
Lattingtown, NY 11560
(516) 922-3944
bjbrundige@aol.com

Paula E. Howe
4914 Eigel Street
Houston, TX 77007-3326
(713) 863-7541
phowe0612@comcast.net

Diane Olding Stanley writes: “My husband, Mel, and I have traveled a lot this year, mainly using our timeshares. We are also doing more building at our Northern New York camp. Mel and I spent two weeks in Quebec City this summer, participating in the L’Aujourd’hui Espoir evangelistic campaign. With our French Connection Group and France Pour Christ, I continue to study, do translation work, support and participate each summer in Christian evangelization in Northern France. Since having retired from our township high school in 2006, I have had more time to enjoy our three adult children and our seven grandchildren, as well as more freedom to pursue interests that I could not have dreamed of doing while working full time. My best wishes to all my FA classmates.”

Toni Naren Gates, Nancy Wodsworth Hanna, Kathy Laemmle Garren and BJ Shoen Brundige enjoyed a 36-hour mini-reunion in Manhattan in late August with Toni and Bud’s visit to Manhattan as the rallying point for the group. Endless hours of catching up were really enjoyed by all in a variety of fun settings! Would be great to see more of the class – let us know if you are in the New York area as these get-togethers are a fun time! BJ has started working real estate in the Hamptons as well as the Locust Valley area through the Sag Harbor office of Douglas Elliman. Her husband Jim now has his license and is helping with the two area locations. BJ and Jim are enjoying visits to their two sons in Manhattan as well as trips to see grandchildren in Maryland and Connecticut. Bruce Birkett spent part of the summer installing an American made mini-golf course on the beach in Nazare, Portugal. The course is totally portable so it can be moved before the winter storms and the end of the summer tourist season.

1964

Lesley Birkett Jacobs
57 15th Avenue
Sea Cliff, NY 11579
(516) 676-3231
lesleybjacobs@gmail.com

Perry Clark writes: “Though my term as a director and treasurer of the Friends School of Portland has ended, I remain a member of the school’s finance committee. As I have mentioned in my previous updates, FSP’s home is in an energy-efficient building, so energy-efficient in fact that it produces more electricity than it uses. Otherwise, I continue as Chair of the External Advisory Board to the Institute on Aging at the University of Pennsylvania. In that role, I was instrumental in arranging a visit on October 11th by one of Maine’s U.S. Senators, Susan Collins, to Penn’s Center for Neurodegenerative Disease Research.”

1965

Robert D. Tilden
3640 County Road 16
Montour Falls, NY 14865
(607) 535-2217
rdtilden@yahoo.com

1966

Helen Lotowycz Rising
98 South Bay Avenue
Brightwaters, NY 11718
(631) 666-0135
HRising@aol.com

Clinton Bush writes: “After returning from the six-year circumnavigation voyage in 2012, I
was walking thorough Canton Graubünden in eastern Switzerland, near Italy. Neola Caveny has lived in Maui since 1974. She has worked as a model, actress and dancer. She later started a genealogical appraisal business. She visited the East coast for our reunion and her father in Florida. Betsy Gordon Kirk and her husband have been enjoying life in Fletcher, NC and summers along the Leigh River. Tina Hokanson is retired and busier than ever. She enjoys camping with friends in the North Cascades, sitting around a campfire in the evening and starting the day wrapped in a blanket with a cup of something hot while someone whips up a yummy breakfast on the camp stove. She is also studying nutrition with the Integrative Institute of Nutrition. From Sandy Rising: “Brandt ’66 and I continue to keep active on the waters of the Great South Bay. We have a 22-foot moonbeam slope we race on the weekends. I have also been busy ‘hunting down’ classmates. It is sad to have so many ‘lost’ classmates. I have sort of retired from nursing and love to spend time growing vegetables in the garden. Kale anyone?”

1967

Diana Dickson-Witmer
24 Brendle Lane
Greenville, DE 19807
(302) 656-1190
ddickson-witmer@christianacare.org

Lesley L. Graham
615 NW Murphy Blvd.
Joplin, MO 64801
(417) 781-1858
llgraham@cableone.net

You hope all had a wonderful year thus far. As I said in the last issue, here we go again. As always, I appreciate any news from the class to report for The Meeting House, even if it’s only a few. I never want the class of 1968 to be blank. I haven’t edited the news from your replies as this way the class can see what you all were thinking. Those that are on Facebook with me, please send me what you would like the class to see, as I won’t take the liberty to show your post out of respect to you. Onto our 50th reunion in 2018. Willy Merriken reports: “Louise and I are going hiking next week in Rocky Mountain National Park. We’re holding steady with three kids and eight grandkids. John Malcolm, brother Chip and his wife Nancy and Louise and I connected this summer courtesy of my sister Josie at her lake house in VT. Josie surprised me and boy was it a great surprise!! Considering that Johnny and I had not seen each other, talked, or emailed since graduation day 1968 we only got a little way down the catch up road in a 4-hour dinner party!! Lots more catching up to do!! Best to all!” John Malcolm writes: “I had fun recently meeting up with Willy Merriken at his sister Josie’s lakeside camp on Lake Dunmore VT near Middlebury. Josie set up the surprise along with my brother who has a camp a short distance away. It was great to see Will after 48 years and to meet Louise and hear about their family and life and to see Josie and her husband. All in all, a wonderful time. We continue to be on local committees, work on the farm and rental houses, spend some time at a nearby lake, and hear some music – recently it was Trombone Shorty and his New Orleans Band. Hope all is well with you Lesley and all 68ers.” Cliff Dacso writes: “Sheiri and I continue the inexorable march with mostly good things happening. Our newest grand is due on September 17 (flavor yet to be determined) making four total. We are both still gainfully employed although we took a long cool vacation in Maine this summer. I am pleased with the success of a small non-profit that I started a few years ago, the Institute for Collaboration in Health (http://instforcollabhealth.org). We have active programs in Peru, Dominican Republic, and Tanzania. If this piques anyone’s interest, please send me an email (cdacso@bcm.edu). Jim Evans shares: “Since my last writing I have made another trip with my good friend from Brazil, Alex Lima. We spent the entire month of May on a road trip that took us from Key West all the way to New York and back. We spent a few days in Key West and then headed north. We made stops in Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Washington, D.C., New York, and Pennsylvania. Specifically, we visited friends in Orlando, visited Williamsburg, Jamestown, sites in Washington, and friends on Long Island and New Paltz. We wrapped up the trip by stops in Gettysburg and Savannah. While in New York we spent an entire morning at Friends Academy where Christine Bowe arranged a tour conducted by a student. My friend, Alex, was very impressed with the school and its students. In New York City; we took in a Broadway show and toured the memorial and museum at Ground Zero. This was a very moving experience. We spent four hours in the museum! It was a great trip! I have promised my mother to stay home for a while! I hope that this finds you well. Still looking forward to our 50th! ” Karin Neilson writes: “Howdy! As some this finds you well. Still looking forward to our 50th! ”
National Parks, Native American reservations/communities, and LOTS OF SHEEP (for wool for knitting). I was also inducted into the local chapter of the D.A.R. Obviously, the next few weeks will be hectic...Yee haw!” Mary Watkins shares all is great since her last news. Lisa Craig writes: “Hi Lesley! Well, I guess this is a milestone for me: my daughter Al, my ‘baby,’ is leaving imminently to pursue her doctorate in philosophy (a six-year program) at the University of Michigan, and for the first time ever I will truly have an empty nest. With her help, we just staged a huge two-day yard sale to unload some of the 60+ years of accumulation here at the ‘Crag Museum’ on Duck Pond Road. It was a grueling task, unearthing four generations of memories, but also very liberating! If any nostalgic classmates are ever in the neighborhood, please do stop by. Everyone in our class seems to have taken off to all the four corners of the earth, so it does feel odd to be the ‘Last of the Mohicans’ around here, but as long as the city of Glen Cove keeps me employed, here I shall remain!” Paul Hand retired from LG Electronics in May (he now owns an iPhone :) ) and his wife Bunny retired the end of August. In June, they bought a condo in Tempe, AZ (actually Ahwatukee), which is currently being renovated. Move-in date is scheduled for the end of October...bye-bye San Diego. Their daughters, Rebecca and Erika, live 20 minutes away and just far enough away to not be “too close”! In October, it’s off to the Riviera Maya in Cancun to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary. To keep busy during retirement, Paul volunteers three days a week at Mama’s Kitchen (www.mamaskitchen.org), a non-profit, that prepares and delivers three nutritious meals a day, seven days a week at no charge to men, women and children living with AIDS or cancer. It’s a little bit different than serving chicken soup every week to the homeless community which they have done for the last five years. They will be looking for similar volunteer opportunities in Arizona. Paul hopes everyone is happy and, at our ages, staying healthy and active. Bob Rushmore writes: “Hi classmate of ‘68! It’s great hearing from everyone in The Meeting House and thank you Lesley for all the work you have put in over these 48 years. Liz and I still live in a town north of Atlanta, Johns Creek. We have been empty nesters for a while. We now have four grandchildren. Our oldest daughter, Kim and her husband have a girl and a boy and live in Nashville, TN. Allison and her husband have two girls and live in Columbus, OH. Our youngest, Julie has finished her PhD and is in her third year of vet school at Univ of GA. She studies disease transition among African animals and spent last spring working for the CDC in Nairobi, Kenya. Soon after she returned she announced she was engaged to her boyfriend, also a research vet, and they wanted ME to marry them. So I became an ordained minister – online, and I am now Reverend Bob. They were married at our home over the summer and it was very special. Unfortunately they are moving to the University of California-Davis for work. It seems Liz and I spend most of our travel time seeing the country through our children and grandchildren. I am still working at my company which is a subcontractor for commercial construction. I make time for my passion which is scuba diving and I am still a volunteer diver at the GA Aquarium. Hope to see you at our 50th reunion in two years.” Duncan Guild reports: “I would like to send my best wishes to everyone who is reading The Meeting House. I am enjoying my low-key retirement in Colorado, as I am reading, playing the guitar, spending time with my family and friends, and walking our dogs in a variety of parks, on a daily basis. One piece of news I thought that I would share is that I have had the wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Robbie Thomas. I always remember Robbie as our history teacher, who taught us so much, who sincerely cared about his students, and who related to people so intimately. Also, I remember his terrific sense of humor. I am currently reading Robbie’s book, Our Mister Ensworth. I am really enjoying Robbie’s writing style and the story he tells about John Arthur Ensworth, his sixth-grade teacher in Akron, who was named ‘National Teacher of the Year.’ Robbie and I have exchanged e-mails, told stories on the phone, and shared music CDs. It has been a lot of fun. I mention this so that you may remember Robbie as well.” As for me, nothing new since the last issue as life in Jolpin remains tranquil and easy, enjoying retirement. I plan to travel to Southern California to see my buddies sometime in the fall or early next year. I have to say while writing these issues for the class, I often reflect on all my time at FA. I love hearing regularly from Kathy Attridge Anas, Greg Tarone and Duncan Guild. It is fun to see what’s new periodically on Facebook with Peggy Springted Weiner, Nancy Goldberg Kassop, Bob Piro, Betsy Harris Radecki, Paul Hand, David Porter, Bob Rushmore, Anne Maher Franchot and Susan Abrams Butler. So next time send me your news. And of course, I have to mention my great friendship with Kaj and Judy Wynot, it is such fun staying in touch.

1969

Jane Forelle Casey
49 Bay Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403
(203) 570-1866
rjntkc@gmail.com

After nearly 20 years at Blyth, most recently as its CFO, we sold the company to The Carlyle Group and I find myself slipping down the rabbit hole known as LinkedIn as I seek new opportunities. The good news is that I’ve run across several classmates, re-connected with some and garnered news for this column on others totally unbeknownst to them. So, let me start by sharing that Jon Flint is a venture capitalist and entrepreneur who co-founded the venture capital firm Polaris Partners and the beauty company Living Proof. Jon, a graduate of Hobart College and UVA Law, lives in Boston with his wife, Alice, who pursues a less capitalist endeavor, working with schools for low income students. Jon and Alice have four daughters and three dogs. Interesting fact – from 1974 to 1976, Jon served on the research teams of the Nixon Impeachment Inquiry Staff of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee and the Watergate Special Prosecution Force. Ellen Doscher Terpstra is an international trade policy consultant in Washington D.C. Ellen graduated from Georgetown University’s School of Foreign Service with a concentration in international economics and trade. Her impressive career in agricultural policy and trade includes stints as President and CEO of both the U.S. Apple Association and the U.S.A. Rice Federation, followed by positions in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, including serving as Deputy Under-Secretary for Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services. Ellen recently joined Alber & Geiger as the U.S. Representative for this Brussels-based government relations law firm providing services in lobbying, diplomacy and litigation with regard to European policy. Peter Dupont, a consultant to the venture capital world, writes that he had a busy year, with a marriage and two grandchildren. Peter’s wife, Kathy Miller, just moved from Rowayton, CT to join him in San Francisco. Peter has three daughters, two of whom, Alexandra Crosswell and Lily Leedom, have provided two grandsons. Peter’s third daughter, Charlotte, had been living in Copenhagen, exploring Europe and focusing on her blog www.itsmecharlotte.com; however, a recent entry in her blog indicated Charlotte’s back home in San Francisco. Russ Notides spent most of the 2000s as CFO and Chief Administrative Officer at Rapt, a leading provider of advertising yield management solutions for digital media publishers, until
Keefer attended the service at St. John’s of are. Longtime friends Lillian Gilden and Judy later told me is where his parents which Eli Abbe my Dad at the Westbury Friends Cemetery, enjoying her great grandchild, my grandson Max, celebrating her 93rd birthday. She was lucky to love on November 15th, just a few weeks after died abruptly, peacefully and surrounded by Kim Gross deborahgianelli@gmail.com (973) 655-1011 Montclair, NJ 07043 587 Highland Avenue 1970 may find I’ve dug some news up on my own. at rjntkc@gmail.com for the next issue…or you join our FB group and share news, or email me become a pharmacist in Delray Beach, FL. Please made a big career change, becoming Candy Barr Liz management; Melissa Moody runs a self-healing practice, specializing in transcending trauma; Candy Barr is an artist in Warren, VT and, Liz Traver made a big career change, becoming a home healthcare aide while she studies to become a pharmacist in Delray Beach, FL. Please join our FB group and share news, or email me at rjntkc@gmail.com for the next issue…or you may find I’ve dug some news up on my own.

1970

Deborah Gianelli 587 Highland Avenue Montclair, NJ 07043 (973) 655-1011 deborahgianelli@gmail.com

Kim Gross writes, “My mom, Evelyn Johnson, died abruptly, peacefully and surrounded by love on November 15th, just a few weeks after celebrating her 93rd birthday. She was lucky to enjoy her great grandchild, my grandson Max, over her last two years. Mom was buried with my Dad at the Westbury Friends Cemetery, which Eli Abbe later told me is where his parents are. Longtime friends Lillian Gilden and Judy Keefere attended the service at St. John’s of Lattingtown. Judy had lost her beloved mom just a few weeks earlier. I guess I have graduated into this next phase of life. Best wishes to all for good things in 2017, especially when faced with difficult challenges. Consider them a new adventure.”

1971

David Cressey 239 Johnson Road Holbrook, PA 15341 ddcressey23@gmail.com

Angela Manno 42 Commerce Street Apartment 3F New York, NY 10014 amanno@angelamanno.com

We have created a closed group Facebook page entitled “Friends Academy Class of 1971” – 20 members so far: if you would like a piece of the action (and we would like you to join, dear classmates; friends of the class are welcome as well) please e-mail Angela or me (see above) and we will make it happen. You do need a Facebook identity in order to join. Robin Campbell weighs in from upstate NY: “It is such fun to read about everyone. I was thinking that in 1971 we were looking forward and wondering who we would become. Now all these years later, we can report on how that journey went and where we’ve ended up. I still love teaching, both online for Excelsior College and in person for U. Albany. I am happy that my six-year term as President-elect, President, and Past-President of the Costume Society of America ended with this year’s meeting in Cleveland.” Pat Croce Balcom writes: “The last time I submitted anything to The Meeting House was in the mid-80s when, by virtue of a ‘glitch’, I stopped receiving this publication (shout out to Andrea Miller at FA for her assistance in reinstating me to the mailing list). So, now I find myself researching back to offer a brief catchup on what’s happened in my life since then. I don’t fully embrace writing about myself, but since I enjoy reading about all of you, I guess it’s only fair that I participate. As far as my working life goes, let’s just say I have a ‘varied’ (though not checkered) past…just before I was married and continuing until our first son was born, I served as confidential assistant to a New York State Supreme Court Judge. I left this position to be a stay-at-home mom and didn’t return to the workforce for ten years. I re-entered as a Medical Editor, where I worked on journals that dealt exclusively with oncology, which can be pretty grim stuff. Being a bit of a frustrated English teacher, I loved the editing aspect, but the content was difficult to pore over every day. About six years into it, I was diagnosed with cancer myself, so I left the publishing company and took some down time to recover. My next position was as Academic Administrator for North Shore University Hospital, which morphed into the North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System during my tenure. I enjoyed my years at the hospital as I had no clinical duties (which was a real plus for the patients), but was responsible for academics in the areas of accreditation and regulatory affairs. I would not have left this position, but both of my parents’ health began to fail and life took an interesting turn. After a long search, my mom and dad decided to move to a senior community in Virginia and, before long, it was evident that
how did God bring Adam to life?” asked fine artist Angela Manno ’71 and returning Friends Academy visiting guest artist. “He breathed into him,” she answered.

During a recent visit to the Friends Upper School Art Studio, Angela demonstrated the delicate art of icon painting, a “painstaking process of multiple layering of pigments according to the liturgical practice of traditional Byzantine-Russian iconography” (www.angelamanno.com). The process involves using one’s own breath to moisten brushed on clay which serves as a substrate for gold leaf.

As a half dozen art students looked on, Angela lowered her face millimeters from the board and breathed out — long, slow and deep.

“Just breathe deeply,” instructed Angela as a student nervously replicated her technique, “like you are fogging up a window.” Slowly, the student breathed onto the clay, quickly applied a layer of 22 karat gold leaf and pressed hard.

“What’s great about this, is it’s fun,” exclaimed Angela in approval, as she signaled other students to try their hand.

Icon painting connects the physical nature of the materials to their spiritual and symbolic nature. “I had wanted to learn to paint in egg tempera for many years. I finally found someone who was teaching icon painting, which uses this medium, and became captivated by the process. I ended up studying with him for 10 years,” said Angela.

Generally used to create religious iconography, Angela decided she wanted to incorporate images of the natural world into her work, like that of the honey bee. “Right now I am working on a series of icons of endangered species,” said Angela, who is constantly drawn to the beauty of her materials.

“The pigments are from all different parts of the world and are completely natural and made from earth and ground up semi-precious stones.”

For Angela, this new journey is definitely transporting her to a new place. “It really is working with nature.”

they would each need more assisted care and the oversight that went along with it. So, my husband took an early retirement package, I left my job at the hospital and we built a house in Williamsburg, Virginia. In the seven years that followed, our older son married a California girl (meaning he wasn’t leaving California), they had two children (granddaughter, Hayden – six years old – and grandson, Liam – four years old); our younger son (who works in NYC) purchased a condo in Brooklyn (meaning he wasn’t leaving NY); and both of my parents died – five months apart in 2010. All of this has brought me to where I am today, sunny Southern California. A year after my parents died (and after taking care of all the paperwork that rains down on you after the death of a parent, let alone both parents!), we sold the house in Virginia and bought a house about 15 minutes away from our son and his family. That way, we get to see our grandchildren regularly – we babysit, go to soccer games, school concerts and do lots of other grandparent things. Naturally, we think our grandchildren are brilliant and beautiful, but that goes with the territory. Otherwise, Ken and I both love to travel and have been fortunate enough to be able to make at least one trip a year to Europe since 2011. Italy is our favorite destination (what’s not to like?), but we have enjoyed most of the Mediterranean countries that we’ve visited. Last October, we were in London for a week, followed by two weeks driving around Normandy and parts of the Loire Valley before finishing up in Paris, which was great fun. We look forward to delving deeper into northern Europe over the next few years.” From Katrina Taylor Clifford: “Living in Huntington and still working for Coldwell Banker. Free time is spent playing tennis, hiking, reading & enjoying friends & family. Our 8-year-old grandson who lives out in Newport Beach, CA & is a little surfer dude – very proud of our two daughters – Niko (41) helps design, replicate and scale breakthrough program models for organizations like The Aspen Institute, Girl Scouts, and Global Migration System for Integration. Younger daughter, Jolie (26) is a concept artist at Michael Kors Creative in NY & lives in Brooklyn.”

Paula Jensen Moulton writes that she was not able to attend the 45th reunion in October because: “I was acting in a local community theatre production that day in a nearby, beautifully restored old Opera House. The original play, Spirit Whispers over the Grasse River, was first performed in February at St. Lawrence University and now there’s a reprise on October 1st. The play was dedicated to my sweet husband, who did lighting and set construction, so I’m committed to it. Hope the reunion was a great success and my regards to all!” From Angela Manno: “I will be teaching my six week course,
‘Eco-spirituality & Action’, as a webinar with the support of the Quaker Earthcare Witness, the international Quaker environmental organization. All are welcome to participate. I am still engaged in my art practice, particularly my new series, ‘Saving Beauty: Sacred Icons of the Late Cenozoic’, consisting of icons of endangered species executed in the Byzantine Russian iconographic style. And last but not least, I am loving being co-class rep. By the time this comes to publication, we will have had our 45th class reunion (please see Page X for photos). It’s shaping up to be truly memorable. We will have more to report for the next Meeting House.  

Amy Ringenbach Dawson writes: “After a sometimes successful, sometimes frustrating, always exciting career in radio and television news, public relations, sales, real estate development, and then 23 years of corporate trust software engineering, I retired to pursue my hobbies of online political activism, gardening and photography. I have devoted 27 years and almost $1M defending a family-held homestead from con-men developers and providing extensive care to my disabled Vietnam veteran brother. Two years ago I became romantically involved with a friend, a Quaker, whom I had known, respected, and admired for thirty years Graham Dawson. He, too, had retired from forty years of software development servicing global capital markets, and he hoped to finally spend time with a loving partner to explore a world more important than the pursuit of material gain. On May Day 2016, Graham and I were married at Valley Friends Meeting in Wayne, Pennsylvania. After a long honeymoon in Paris, including a lifelong dream of visiting Monet’s Giverny Gardens, we now reside in suburban Philadelphia and spend time together cooking, dining, traveling, snuggling, laughing, reading, and attending music and theater performances. We both enjoy political ‘snark’/satire since we share sane, left-of-center political views. Graham and I are now working to advance environmental sciences and justice and to grow the Quaker faith as trustees of our Quaker Meeting and the wider world. We support and cheer on Graham’s now-grown children and will become first-time grandparents later this year.” Yours truly, 

D. Cressy: “One of my odd jobs in recent years is as an election official. Our sparsely populated voting precinct has no villages or hamlets, much less a town, the political landscape harkening back to Jefferson and Jackson. The citizenry rides out from the hills (in pickups, mind you, not on horseback) dutifully and in impressive percentages, to cast their ballots. In the primaries, overall support for the Donald and Bernie was roughly even, Hillary trailing and hardly center stage. Folks then linger for the hobnobbing, the tall tales...and the pie. It is always convivial, if not downright festive.” 

1972 

Karen Spero Albers 
2513 Harris Avenue 
Richland, WA 99354-1637 
(509) 375-5356  
klalbers@charter.net 

Amy Davis writes: “On November 20, 2015 my father, Hardin King Davis, passed away just short of his 101st birthday. He was ill for about a month so he had 100 good years and one bad month. He had lived in Charleston, SC for the past 14 years enjoying being close to our family as well as making many new friends at the retirement community where he lived independently until the end. My brothers, Hardin and Jeff (class of ’65), were frequent visitors over the years. We had a Quaker-style remembrance shortly after his death with many lovely comments from family, caregivers, and friends with Jeff playing a soulful tune on the fiddle, reading one of my dad’s favorite poems, Crossing the Bar by Tennyson, and acting as emcee. His remains will be buried in Oswego, NY at the historic Riverside Cemetery. He was truly an old school ‘hail fellow, well met’. Kind, friendly, steady, and loyal are words that described him. His incredible memory allowed him to recount a century of historical and personal memories in great detail. He will be missed.” Jim Neville writes: “I think it’s excellent that Friends Academy has chosen Andrea Kelly as the new Head of School. I wish her all the best. I have had lunch with John Mankiewicz a few times in the Woolworth Building...it turns out our places of work are only a few blocks away...and it was great fun to have dinner with Auggie Mariani, Karl White, and Larry Mauer – I hope we can do it again soon.” Kevin Gunn reports: “In my ramblings about this summer I did see Jon Rapp and his beauteous wife Toni at their newly renovated love nest in Bucks County where I was treated to extraordinary hospitality (it does pay to send that annual Christmas card!). My advice is anyone worn down by the rat race is to head down to see them in New Hope, PA. On my college-search road trip with my daughter Kathleen we traveled to Seattle where we had coffee ‘Seattle-style’ with Jamie Bergford and Geof Parkins who now preside over what is no doubt a ‘très chic pied à terre’ in the Hipster District (if there is such a thing). Everybody looks great as grandparents! Not sure about myself, though.” Trish Brink “I am reporting in from aboard my brother-in-law’s sailboat. We’re on an annual cruise to Maine and just arrived this afternoon in Hadley Harbor, MA just south of the Cape Cod Canal following a 30-hour sail back from Boothbay Harbor. Cruised all the Penobscot Islands, etc. which was another wonderful adventure and I was able to cross off a few destinations on my bucket list. Also went to Malawi, in southern Africa last spring where a pseudo niece was completing a fellowship for NGO. An amazing place – the warm heart of Africa – where people are sweet, genuine, and loving – hiked mountains, kayaked to lake islands, visited village communities, and quick safari in Zambia. Life is good.” Sarah Hollett Hossfeld writes: “John and I love being grandparents to our daughter Elizabeth’s son Robert Decker Hossfeld Craft better known as Decker who is 17 months old... Just wish he and his parents lived closer, but Florida is a good place to visit. After 25 years teaching first grade at Green Vale, I am getting promoted to second grade... Not ready to retire yet, still love what I do. My dad died in May after suffering with Alzheimer’s. He was 93 and had a great life until the last few years.” Karen Spero Albers: “As for me, life is good! After 23 years, I have retired from my volunteer work with WA State PTA and am pursuing my hobbies. My husband John is now officially retired and spends time working off the ‘honey do’ list that has accumulated during the 18 years he worked in northern CA (think Sisyphus with a tool belt!). Our oldest son, Kevin, was married in May and our youngest son Kyle was accepted into the Medical Health Physics graduate program at San Diego State University. A special note to classmates who have lost loved ones during this year. We are deeply saddened by the loss that you and your family have encountered. Our hearts go out to you and may our prayers serve as comfort to you and your loved ones.”
Classmate Tommy Cullen quoted Jorma Kaukonen in a recent class communique. I think it is an appropriate way to start off our class news. He said, “Friends are always good. You can’t have too many of them… The old friends share that wondrous gift of knowing you when you were young.”

Frank “Tim” Andrea writes, “I am also sorry I missed the reunion. I would like to have seen you all. Well, I guess we are all turning the big 60 this year. Keep going and all the best.”

Peter Johnston writes, “My wife Peggy and I are enjoying life in Manhattan Beach, CA and our son Peter is in advertising living in Marina Del Rey – having a good time. I see Brian Cressey ’73 on a regular basis, my main golfing buddy – his game could use some work! I can’t tell you how much I regret not making the last major reunion, but we were out of the country at that time. My younger sister Jackie recently remarried Mike Powers – the same Powers family that lived down the road from Friends – we went to their wedding last August at Piping. It was the first time I had been back to the ‘hood’ in decades. It brought back great memories.”

Evette Beckett-Tuggle: “This is the year that most of us turned 60. I celebrated my 60th birthday traveling to Greece and Italy this spring and celebrating on my birthday late this summer laughing and dancing with family and friends. As I get older, I find that I have become a bit nostalgic. I’ve had a yearning for hearing music from my vinyl album collection and so I bought a device that not only plays vinyl, but is a radio, plays CDs, cassettes and is Bluetooth compatible! I have had lots of fun dusting off my album covers, listening to the recordings and looking at the artwork. I wish each of you good health and lots of love, laughter and joy, every day. Peace. EBT”

Tilde Mariani Giacché ’75 and her children on their family vacation to the Grand Canyon last May.

1973
Laura Wicker Hackett
2420 Chatham Court
State College, PA 16803
(814) 238-7661
lwh5@comcast.net

1974
Evette Beckett-Tuggle
1338 Shinnecock Lane
Fort Mill, SC  29707
(516) 840-5236
eob2@aol.com

1975
Tilde Mariani Giacché
11 East 12th Street
New York, NY 10003
tildemgiacche@gmail.com

Tilde reports “I moved back from Florence, Italy last August where I had been living for almost nine years. I taught Kindergarten at the International School of Florence and my two younger kids graduated from there as well. I moved back to NYC with my youngest daughter Vienna who is entering her sophomore year at NYU. My oldest, Jennifer, 30, is working with Bank of America/Merrill Lynch in their corporate access division and loves it. She and Steve are getting married next July 2017 in our hometown in Italy (San Terenzo) in the same church where she was baptized, where I was married as well as all my relatives going way back. Josh, 28, just moved back to NY from Chicago, and is working at ADP in their human capital management sales team. Oreste, 24, spent a year teaching English in Chile after graduating from college in London. He’s going back in the fall for his master’s at London School of Economics and is really looking forward to it. I’ve started something completely different – I’m working in my sister’s fashion PR company in NYC – I love the dynamic pace and even get to attend fashion shows (for the first time in my life!) I just went back for my summer vacation to San Terenzo – it was so great seeing and reconnecting with family and friends! Cathy Blechman Chermak writes that she, Terry and their daughter Vanessa spent a wonderful summer in Montauk. They are in transition as Terry retired from his business of 30 years and will embark on a new career in Project Management. Their biggest news is that Terry’s daughter Tara is expecting their first child coming in the winter. It’s a sweet time of life and we are enjoying it thoroughly.

Vicki Chesler ’75 (with husband Matt) and Tina Rose Erardi ’75 (with husband Greg) on a hike up Castle Rock, overlooking the Blue Mountain Lake in the Adirondacks.
Matthew and Jill Fowler Dragiff ’75 at Bryce Canyon, Utah

This summer, my husband and I motorcycled through National Parks in Utah and the Grand Canyon. I’m continuing to teach high school Humanities, and still love the opportunity to pour into young lives.” Vicki Chelesr and her husband Matt Kovner visited Tina Rose Erardi and her husband Greg at their home on Blue Mountain Lake in the Adirondacks this summer. The hike up to Castle Rock was rewarded with gorgeous views of the lake below (see picture!), Tina also writes: “Greg and I are in the city full time now, pretty much ‘retired’ and just having fun. It’s been so great seeing you, Vicki and Matt Kovner, Denise and Peter Flint several times a year. (Drew even went over to Centre Island during the last hurricane to check on my 95-year-old dad. Thanks Drew! Old friends are the best friends.) Kids: Nick (30) is a founding partner of a tech start up in DC, Kat (27) is the Art Director of Ecommerce for Crate and Barrel in Chicago. It’s been fun rotating cities to visit them and we all try to meet at our cabin in the Adirondacks whenever possible. Most importantly, everyone is healthy. Hoping the same for all of our ’75 classmates.” Laurie Block writes: “My best news is that my older brother Kenny Block ’74 got married on August 21, 2016. It was the most beautiful wedding. Best of all is that he married a fabulous girl! I’m looking forward to Labor Day weekend and relaxing. It was great getting together with a bunch of classmates and having dinner a few months ago. We need to do that again because it was a great time for all.”

1976

Nancy Toher Hawkins
123 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
(516) 671-8977
Nthawkins123@aol.com

Frank Forelle writes that he has been working in Chicago and commuting to Jackson Hole where his family is centered. His son, Chas has graduated from Johns Hopkins engineering and was admitted to the USAF Officer Program where he will be a cyber-operations officer. His daughter Elizabeth is at Skidmore College studying environmental science and minoring in art while being a student athlete on the soccer team and his youngest, Grace is a sophomore at Colorado College and seems to be undecided as to a major. Frank and his wife Katherine plan to spend the winter in Jackson Hole. And asks to have any classmates email me for a drink in ski country! Peter Bliven writes that he is celebrating 17 years at Citi in the municipal securities division and his daughter Brook Bliven ’10 graduated from Trinity College in 2014 with a Degree in Economics and is working for Tullet Prebon in NYC. Don Shea and Stuart Mac Donald are in the Chicago area, Don is a grandparent! Anne Silvestri is a Realtor in the Orlando area. If you are looking for property there give her a call. Robert Nappa, also known as Byrd, has been living in Tokyo for the last 27 years with his wife and daughters and would like to hear from old friends. Joanna Janoska Peterkin writes that her oldest daughter Kendall graduated from Princeton in May with degrees in ecology and evolutionary biology and neuroscience. She was also captain of the volleyball team, helping lead the team to win the League championship. She was also an ECAC, AVCA, and All-Ivy honoree, and became the ninth highest kill leader in Princeton history. Currently, she is playing professionally in France for a year before pursuing a career in veterinary science. Her other daughter Devon is currently a freshman at Princeton. She opened the season as women’s volleyball Ivy League Rookie of the Week. As for Joanna, she is a physician in San Diego, working on oncolytic viruses to treat malignant brain tumors. Todd Brown’s daughter is getting her Masters in Computer Science. Mimi graduated from college at 18. Wow! Linda Rumbold Buiocchi writes that her twin girls (they also have an older son) just started their freshman year at college-one at Hamilton and one at Wheaton, in Massachusetts. She hopes to be spending a lot more time in the next few years in NY and would love to see her old FA friends. Kim Makris has written her second book on Lyme disease, Autoimmune Illness and Lyme Disease Recovery Guide. Her first book “Out of the Woods” was widely acclaimed. Mark Goldsmith (Cruz) writes that he has been living in Jamestown, NC for the past 28 years. He has been teaching Spanish and coaching lacrosse for most of them. He recently suffered a health setback but is on the mend and sends his best to all and would love to hear from his FA classmates. Liz Brosman

1977

Chuck Cooperstein
1332 Coral Drive
Coppell, TX 75019
(972) 393-2160
coopgator@aol.com

News from the Class of ’77: This is good. Let’s keep it up. Jane Waldman is working as the head of the Permanent Placement Division at the National Recruiting Group, a search firm specializing in the placement of public relations professionals in the areas of beauty, consumer and corporate communications. Previously, she was a Broadway correspondent for the Associated Press Radio Network (Yes, there are those people who find life beyond radio). Jane and her husband Mark live on Long Island with their 15-year-old daughter Elaina, whom they adopted from Russia at the age of 4. Elaina is now embarking on a successful modeling and acting career and is the light of their lives. Duncan Riefler and his wife Wendy (Wheatley, ’80) have been in London for 18 years. “We still have a house in Wimbledon. Our house gets popular in late June every year with visitors including Coco Vandeweghe for the last two years. With three boys all in the Northeast, Wendy and I are trying to work our way back stateside more frequently. We have a house in Vero Beach, Florida and spent the winter there where I have started a small advisory business to bridge financial opportunities between the US and Europe.” David Cohen (and his wife Debbie), just finished up 18 months in London, and are now back stateside in Telluride, CO.

Brown lives in Portland Oregon. Jim Neisloss’ daughter Kate ’11 (who graduated with my son Sam Hawkins) did a fabulous job of orchestrating her fifth reunion in NYC. And lastly, my daughter Emily ’10 graduated from Wellesley in 2014 with majors in Classics and Art History and a minor in Religion. She graduated from the Tobin School of Business with a Masters in Enterprise Risk Management in 2016. She is currently interning in the Finance Department of Squishable.com and is a Kaplan Instructor/ tutor for the Kaplan LSAT Prep Course. Sam ’11 started his college process at UVM, took a year off from school and has just switched his major to Biology at Post, and Jake ’13 is a senior at Union College (John Ottaviano’s alma mater) and will be graduating this June with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Tom ’76 is still toiling away at Barclay’s Capital in NYC and I am in my 17th year working as a realtor and am affiliated with Daniel Gale Sotheby’s International Realty in Locust Valley. Stay in touch – Warmest Regards, Nancy

Continued on Page 76
Between the spring NYC Reunion in June of 2016 and various fall Homecoming class reunions, Friends Academy alumni and faculty turned back the clock and watched the years slip away.
“After partaking in the class of 1965’s reunion I was eager to connect with classmates and encourage them to save the date for our reunion. Neola Caveny inspired me with her commitment to travel all the way from Hawaii to be with the class. Bill Young, Roger Halpert, Nancy Gad-Harf, Carol Edgerton Downey and Nancy Rauch Douzinias helped to try and contact all members of the class of 1966.

A total of 43% of the class made it to one or another of the functions. The Friday luncheon provided an opportunity for the class members to reflect on the past 50 years.

David Gallagher wanted to thank the class for being so tolerant when our senior privileges of leaving campus during the day was revoked. Todd Smith spoke of the Quaker values of honesty and integrity which have guided him in his career.

Betsy Gordon Kirk mentioned the Quaker value of service to others and how her work as a social worker was based on those values. Quaker values were mentioned by the rest of the class.

After lunch we had a comprehensive tour of the school and were even incorporated into the Pep Rally!

Friday night at Barney’s restaurant Chuck Kaplanek and Brian McNeary joined the crew.

Saturday some went to the luncheon at the Jackson house and others watched the football game. That evening, we enjoyed an Oktoberfest buffet at Nassau Country Club. Bill Wicker ’67 joined us for dinner to reminisce about the undefeated football team of the fall of 1965. Everyone who came enjoyed themselves. Some comments follow.

Scott Powell, who won the award for driving the longest to get to the reunion writes, ‘Thanks, at the end of the day I’m glad I came as well. 3,900 miles. At least I got an FA mug out of it. Seeing dear friends never hurts.’

Carol Edgerton Downey writes: ‘I think the turnout was more than any were expecting, and really appreciate the effort made by classmates such as Neola from Hawaii and the California contingent!! Well, looks like if there are any more reunions, we are on our own! Nancy Gad-Harf, Nancy D, Sally and I were all together for the first time since we all graduated. I think we may try and improve upon that record!’”

– Sandy Rising

[50TH REUNION]

1966

Homecoming Reunions – October 2016

Top: Members of the class of 1966 gathered at the Jackson House after their 50th reunion luncheon. Middle: Sandy Rising and Nancy Rauch Douzinas. Bottom: Peter Van Brunt and Bill Dillof.
David Cressey and Angela Manno organized an evening of celebrating for the class of 1971 on October 1st. The party, which was held on a boat at Seawanhaka Yacht Club, was attended by about 26 guests. A good time was had by all!

"The Class of 1976 marked another milestone this past October celebrating our 40th reunion. Eighteen of us (some with spouses, some solo and some with significant others) made the trek from as far away as Wyoming and Florida to celebrate the occasion with one another.

In attendance were (back row) Jim Neisloss, Sue Broner, Terry Gordon, Frank Forell, Marc Devenoge, Jim Blihar, Joe Jackson, Bruce Paulsen; next row: Tori Butt, Laurie Stein, Nancy Nichols Dougherty, Nancy Toher Hawkins, Maryann, Gaby Levitt Altman; next row: Todd Brown, Kim Makris, John Ottaviano and Bob McGreevey.

Everyone there enjoyed connecting with old friends and walking down memory lane as the years melted away.

We have branched out to all walks of life – authors, photographers, finance mavens, teachers, coaches, grandparents, CEOs, salespeople, lawyers, veterinarians, physicians, and Realtors, to name a few. Some are retired, some are working two jobs and some are looking for a new job. Jim Blihar won a special mention for bringing our class commencement notice and Frank Forell and Todd Brown were noted for coming the furthest.

There is talk of having a Florida reunion as many of our classmates are residing in Florida. Throughout, I heard from a number of us who were unable to attend and who are planning on being at our 50th. It would be nice to get all of us together. It was wonderful to see you all."

– Nancy Toher Hawkins

From the top: Cece Levy ’71; David Cressey ’71 and Pat Croce Balcom ’71; Mr. Cressey, Mr. Jacobson, Chris Gatty ’71, Peter Darbee ’71, Mr. Hitzrot; Merle Gordon ’71 and Angela Manno ’71
Homecoming Reunions – October 2016

[20TH REUNION]

1996

“We had a great 20-year reunion in October with over 25 alumni and a surprise guest – Doc Lifshitz! It was wonderful catching up with everyone. We were lucky to have so many still living in the New York area.

Most of us have children now and a few just had babies (including myself with a four-month-old, Barbara Jurim and Catherine Callahan with four-week-olds (ps has anyone watched her on Billions?!)) and Brian Chase was expecting his first baby any day now.

Courtney Higgins just moved back to the east coast after many years in California and it was great to meet her husband and three children at the Fall Fair. Pat McGlinchey recently moved to Philly and drove in for the evening with his wife and of course, Alison Gilbert (whose home recently featured in Apartment Therapy) flew in from LA!

A few others weren’t able to join us given distance: Jane Bushey is living and working in London and recently married there and with his family, John Repko moved to San Francisco two years ago to open an office for his firm, and Allyson McAdam currently lives in Nashville with her husband and two children. And on the move, Casey Dilg will be moving with his family to Brisbane in the New Year on a Rotary Scholarship.

We are looking forward to the 25th!”

– Kerry Hsu

[5TH REUNION]

2011

The class of 2011 celebrated their five-year reunion with a cocktail party at Union Square Ballroom in NYC.

The party was a huge success, with more than 50 alums in attendance! Special thanks to Kate Neisloss ’11 for all her work putting the evening together.

The Class of 2011 gathered at the Union Square Ballroom in New York City with more than 50 alumni.

See More Photos from the Class of 2011 5-Year Reunion on Page 84.

GET READY FOR REUNION 2017!

Featuring the Classes of...

The class of 1981 celebrated their 35th reunion at Buckram Stables Café. Thank you also to those who made it to the reunion – Doug Andrea, Carol Shapiro Engel & her husband Jeff, Tom Van Riper (Go Cubs!), Paula Mallory Engel & her husband Rich, Andy Menzin & Lauren Putter Menzin, and a surprise visit by Chris Roberto.

So great to catch up with each of you, as well as to hear about other classmates near and far. We have five years to figure out how to get 100% attendance for our 40th!

– Betsy Jordan Gahagan

[30TH REUNION]

1986

The class of 1986 gathered to celebrate their 30th reunion in the party room at the Basil Leaf Café.

Our group was small but happy, and we had no problem closing down Buckram Stables after dinner! It was so nice to see everyone and catch up. We hope to see more friends at the 35th!” Special thanks to Kara Vassel Lewis, Katharine Posillico McGowan, Valerie Miller, and Patti Posillico for planning the evening!

[25TH REUNION]

2006

Brian Alessi ’06 and Emily Lepore Jonap ’06 planned a wonderful evening for their classmates to celebrate their 10-year reunion!

They had a great turnout of over 50 alums at Chloe81, a bar in NYC.

[35TH REUNION]

1981

The class of 1981 celebrated their 35th reunion at Buckram Stables Café. Thank you also to those who made it to the reunion – Doug Andrea, Carol Shapiro Engel & her husband Jeff, Tom Van Riper (Go Cubs!), Paula Mallory Engel & her husband Rich, Andy Menzin & Lauren Putter Menzin, and a surprise visit by Chris Roberto.

So great to catch up with each of you, as well as to hear about other classmates near and far. We have five years to figure out how to get 100% attendance for our 40th!”

– Betsy Jordan Gahagan

The Class of 2006 celebrated their 25th at Chloe81 in New York City.
Continued from Page 69

Their two boys are doing great. Jay is in Harvard Law School. Scott is a successful independent sports television producer. I’m starting my 12th season with the Mavericks, and am as excited as ever. My wife, Karen, has taken a big step and left her executive position with her PR firm to strike out on her own. Already lots of business to consider, and being able to pick and choose what to work on and when has been extremely exciting. My son, Jeffrey, is in his junior year at North Texas, and is already working for ESPN Radio in Dallas as well as writing for two blogs. One is Texas Longhorns-centric, the other Texas Rangers-centric. He has done this with little to no influence from, or by me. Not exactly sure where it will all wind up, but he’s finding out a lot of what he does and doesn’t like. Again, if you have something you’d like to share with the class, we’d love to hear from you. I’m not hard to find. You can reach me on Twitter at @CoopMavs. By e-mail at CoopGator@aol.com or on Facebook.

1978

Thomas Hawkins
123 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
(516) 671-8977
thomas.hawkins@barclays.com

Lis Dillof Dreizen ’78
11 Cobb Court
Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 424-3880
artland95@aol.com

1979

If anyone from the Class of 1979 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1980

Michael Salzhauser
Benjamin Partners
589 Broadway
New York, NY 10012
(212) 744-7974
michael@benjaminpartners.com

Michael Salzhauser writes “Over the years, in the absence of a great deal of information forwarded to me by classmates, I’ve tended to attempt humor and even troll social media to tease out information to share. This is the first instance that I can recall having to report really, really, sad news. Within two days of this month, we lost two of our classmates, Mark Feldman and Alex Bynum. (Please see obituaries on Page 86.) Since that is a terrible thing to have in common, let’s remember them for the traits of goodness, easy nature, and that they were both so well liked by all of us. Let’s remember that life is a blessing that is too easily taken for granted. If anyone is interested in discussing some way to remember them, please reach out to me.”

1981

Betsy Jordan Gaehagan
P.O. Box 12
142 Skunks Misery Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
(516) 759-6697
bjgahagan@me.com

Robert Blechman
42 South Knoll Road
Mill Valley, CA 94941
(415) 810-8889
rsb753@yahoo.com

1982

Leslie Oren & Michael Poloukhine
930 Embury St.
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272
fa@poloukhine.com
leslie@babybygrandi-inc.com

1983

Laura Dilimetin
66 Eakins Road
Manhasset, NY 11030
lawyers@nyc-lawyers.com

1984

Beth Anne Melkmann
162 East 80th Street
Apartment 3B
New York, NY 10075
(212) 988-1753
lebonchien@aol.com

1985

Laura Match Schaffer
1220 Studio Lane
Riverwoods, IL 60015
lematch7@gmail.com

1986

Kara Vassell Lewis
44 Pinehill Circle East
Tequesta, FL 33469
kmvlewis@gmail.com

Chuck Ritter
79 The Promenade
Glen Head, NY 11545-1739
(516) 676-8271
chuckr@universalphotonics.com

1987

Barry D. Joseph
67-66 108th Street, D66
Forest Hills, NY 10010
(718) 222-3563
barry@globalkids.org

Emily Beiles Kaufman
7 Beechwood Drive
Saddle River, NJ 07458
(201) 785-0907
emkauffman@optonline.net

Ellyn Forquer writes: “Dave and I will be celebrating our 10th wedding anniversary this October. I’m constantly staying busy as a Bucks County (PA) Adult Probation and Parole officer supervising offenders (general and mentally ill) in the community, Dave works as a civilian firefighter at Fort Dix, NJ. Morgan (9) is our wonderful daughter who is actively involved in art and is a budding equestrian. Spare time, when I get it (ha ha) is spent in the gardens, taking art classes with Morgan, and traveling a bit. We reside in Doylestown, PA and always enjoy returning to the North Fork and Manhattan as much as we can.” Elizabeth Schnelzer writes: “Doug and I celebrated our 22nd wedding anniversary with a colorful scuba diving trip in the Dominican Republic. I have my own psychotherapy practice here in Northern Virginia (www.ufringo.com) and love it. I work with adolescents, adults and families mostly around issues of anxiety, relationship difficulties, school challenges, and grief & bereavement. My daughter Pauline, 17, is going into her senior year so we are gearing up for college applications. She wants to be a surgeon, plays violin and rides horses. Travis, 15, is into rock climbing and skateboarding and plans to live in a VW Bus in California (we’re negotiating…). Logan, 12, does Men’s Gymnastics and loves everything science. Anyone else live in the Washington D.C. area?” Eric Covington writes: “Enjoying a year of acclimating to veteran status and civilian life. Working hard as a member of the deacon board at Calvary SDA Church in Newport News, VA. Wife and I will celebrate the birth of our first grandchild in Oct!” Allison Heaney writes: “Hi class of ’87. I am at FA all the time because my daughter Elizabeth is a senior this year and my son Peter is a freshman. How did we get so old? Everything is good with us. I am still in the fuel oil business and have just expanded into plumbing. We are very busy.”
Xavier just turned 13, so I’m having lots of fun navigating the rocky teenage waters. I had some great opportunities to travel to Italy twice this year as a special guest soloist for really large gospel music concerts. Coolest thing was singing at a mass in a 1300-year-old church that had never had a gospel music service. I am currently most of the way through a Master’s in Health Administration program at Drexel University here in Philadelphia. Thinking about making the jump from public health into private health systems. Beyond all of that stuff, though, I’m happy and appreciative of the blessing which is my often chaotic and always hectic life. Hoping all of my fellow classmastes can say the same.”

Beth-Anne Clancy Febre writes: “I am still residing in Tampa, Florida. I will be married 20 years this November to a wonderful man named Mario Febre. We have three beautiful children. Bethany is starting her second year of college and studying pharmacy. Mario is now 16 and a junior. He is an avid baseball player. My baby Natalia is now 12 and in seventh grade. She enjoys playing soccer. I have just started my 24th year teaching and currently I am teaching kindergarten.”

John Thomson, III writes: “I have been living in Port Washington since 2000, just moved to Manhasset last August. Before that I was a ski bum in Colorado for a little while and then starting bouncing around working for the family business. Coming up on my 20th wedding anniversary. I have three kids, Caroline (15), John IV (12), and Rylee (9). I have a fishing and boating shop in Port, Atlantic Outfitters, which I opened in 2004. I also operate a small marina and manage a couple of properties. Before that I was traveling and working for the family business until it was sold in 2002. Got burnt out on corporate BS and opened my shop. I spend most of my winters skiing at Stratton with my family. Summers are pretty much all work. Still sail occasionally, kids and work have slowed down my sailing big time. I am shocked we are coming up on 30 years. It’s amazing how the time flies. I keep in touch with the Schwartz family and Len Eder.

Benjamin Schwartz lives on the South Shore and is a well-respected OB/GYN (to put it lightly). Len Eder lives in Wisconsin, married, with two kids. He has a web business selling archery equipment, eders.com. Just ran into Mike G [Gallo] a couple of weeks ago. He was going to Louie’s bar next door and I was heading home from work. I look forward to our 30th. I missed previous reunions because I was off sailing. This time I will be sure to make it.”

Christopher Murphy writes: “Jennifer and I just celebrated our 15th anniversary while maintaining residence in Torrington, CT. We both work for Capitol Region Education Council, Jennifer as a third grade teacher and I as a systems engineer. My two eldest sons married in April and December of 2015 respectively. Ben, 24, is a hedge fund accountant in Charlotte. He and his wife Kayla have just moved into their first house. Jonathan, 22, is working full time in information security while completing his graduate degree in applied mathematics. Jon and his wife Kaitlyn are living in their RV full time through grad school and intend to travel for a few years after graduation. Kyle, #3, is 20 and a junior at UNC also studying math. That leaves our two youngest boys Finn and Ronan. Finn is ten, loves playing travel soccer and creating great things out of nothing. Ronan is eight, a budding guitarist with natural skill and a keen interest in anything mechanical. We spend most of our free time camping all over the east coast and beyond, gardening and finding that perfect tap room to enjoy. Slaire to our class of 1987... so hard to believe we are enroaching on 30 years.”

Allison Trani Kellan writes: “My son Tanner just graduated from Friends! Going to Boston College. I have a son at Portledge and daughter at Green Vale. Live in Mill Neck.”

Alfred Levitt writes: “My wife, Megan Bowles, and I live in Bethesda, MD during the year and on the North Fork of Long Island in the summers. Megan teaches Iyengar Yoga and I serve as General Counsel for a company that engages in a wide range of interesting stuff. We have two awesome teenagers, Jacob (16) and Mairead (13) who both have very (very) strong teenage personalities. We also have two Border terrier dogs, Lincoln and Zelda (the dogs also have very strong personalities). I stay in regular contact with David Fortunoff, Morgan Fischer ’88, and Alison Pace ’89. Remember when 50 sounded kind of old? Not sounding so old anymore. :’) Emily Beiles Kaufman writes: “I was shocked in June to celebrate my 25th reunion at Hamilton College but hope to have just as much fun with all of you at our 30th. My two children Phoebe (12) and Graham (10) keep me involved as a coach and volunteer in the community. On the side, I work from home managing the customer service help desk for a tech company. We still reside in NJ, which I have learned to say without that LI attitude (took some time). Looking forward to seeing everyone.”

Barry Joseph writes: “Noemi and I celebrated our 15-year anniversary this past summer. I went to trapeze school with Muri (7) and was featured with my son Akiva (10) in a New York Times Magazine cover article on Minecraft. I am entering my fifth year in the Education Department at the American Museum of Natural History (mooshme.org) and awaiting word from a publisher on my first book (Selszerotopia.com). Last spring Todd Gruepe, Andy Bart, Paul Murphy and I went to Maine with Sandy Williams to recognize his last few months before becoming a father. No one died.”
If anyone from the Class of 1988 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

JoAn Monaco
315 East 72nd Street
Apartment 18-L
New York, NY 10021
(646) 438-9264
joanlmonaco@aol.com

If anyone from the Class of 1988 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

Michael Fox
320 W 106th Street
Apartment 2F
New York, NY 10025
(646) 373-7535
mfox89@gmail.com

Colleen Doyle Moran
10 Arbor Way
Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 656-1513
colleendmoran@aol.com

In late August, Nami Payackapan Milivojevic and I encouraged a small group of us to meet in NYC for a mini reunion, at which we discussed the possibility of holding our 25th reunion in 2017, when Nami will return again to New York from Belgrade. A summary from my ghostwriter’s (Liz Siris Winchester) perspective: “Nami lives in Belgrade with her photographer-husband and two children. She has a successful career as a fashion designer and returns to NYC for the summer. She and Mike Fox have remained close friends. Check out Nami’s work here — it is beautiful: www.shopftn.com & www.kin-studio.com. Pat Twist made me belly laugh thinking about the soap opera, The Academy of Love, which I (Liz) co-wrote with Pete Nicholson. Pat starred as a welder named Sean, whose love interest, also a welder, was played by Adrienne Wichard-Edds. The soap opera included a student-teacher affair (passionately played out by Aaron Peters, as Mr. O’Keefe, and Jen Bell, as Jasmine). Pat reminded me that Willie from Lackman made a cameo as our murderer. Thank you, Friends Academy, for giving us the freedom to do this! I can’t believe that you did – we still have fun thinking about it. Pat and his wife will soon be going to a Digital Detox camp for adults. Can’t wait to hear Pat’s report on this! They have two daughters. On a somber note, very sorry to hear about the loss of Pat’s father. Much love to Pat and family. Mike Fox is so much funnier than I remember. Lots of belly laughing with him. His humor must improve with age. But his work taps into his caring side – Mike develops kids’ apps and games that support social causes. He also recently had a meeting with LL Cool J, during which the hip-hop artist busted out into song in the middle of a restaurant. Mike gave a great update on Chris Milk, whose virtual reality work is breaking boundaries. We should all support Mike’s campaign to nominate Chris for a Distinguished Alumni Award. And then we should rally one for Mike for his work and creativity. At our 20th reunion, I remember some buzz about Alina Harutunian Cullera getting the “looks the most amazing” award. She looks just as amazing five years later! It’s not surprising because she is a zumba teacher, mother of four children, and world traveler! She lives in Manhasset, near my brother, and sees him often, but I realize that may be of no interest to you :) So glad to talk to Dave Garvey and glad that he could make it out with us even though his youngest child, Xavier, was turning one that night. Dave has two other children with equally cool names, and he and his wife are raising their family in Huntington. They both are able to work from home. Dave does it quietly, though, delegating most of his work to a team in India and speculates that if this gets out he may lose his job soon. So let’s keep it on the down low because Dave is a really nice guy. Ben Tabler is a patent attorney. He lives in Chelsea. He didn’t like the Farmhouse Ale that he had ordered and realized that he is not alone in his thinking — reviewers of it had said that it tasted like dishwater! Ben always reminds me that he played guitar while I sang “Landslide” at a Battle of the Bands our senior year. We certainly didn’t win that battle but it was really fun. Bill Brown is a successful gastrointestinal doctor. He has an amazing smile and brightness in his face. I didn’t get to talk to Bill much and next reunion I’m starting with him (if ok with him too). I would very much like to hear more about what Bill is up to. I “reunited” with Colleen pretty much for the duration of my 1.5-hour traffic-ify drive to NYC that night. Because all of you who know Colleen understand that short conversations don’t exist with her. But that is why we love her. Colleen is the friend I’ve had for the most years (can’t say the oldest because that has a double meaning, which would not be correct) and I’m incredibly grateful for everything about her. She has three kids and a husband who had a landscaping, not to be confused with gardening, business, and is a firefighter. Colleen’s job is one that I often equate to Chandler Bing’s because as close as we are, I never really understand what it is she does every day. Colleen coaches her kids in sports (Mike, 14, Charlie, 12, and Cathleen, 11) and is pretty much bad-ass in every way. I have three kids with names that I like very much but are much more traditional than the cool ones rocked by the Garvey kids! My kids, Will, 11, Caroline, 9, and Mikey, 6, love growing up in Sea Cliff. I find them interesting, fun and great companions — when they aren’t fighting! I continue to work as a writer and editor for Time for Kids, Time’s magazine with editions for children in grades K-8, and love to run. But I’ve developed a love for yoga, which seems to have slowed me down a bit in a good way. I’m enjoying that and enjoyed visiting with all. Hope to see you in February. xo Liz.” Thanks to Liz for that recap of our get-together in August. What’s up next, I know that a few people are trying to make the pilgrimage to FA for the Fall Fair on October 15, followed by the reunion at Buckram’s Stables in Locust Valley. I will unfortunately not be there. I can’t wait to hear about it! I hope that you all have a great end of 2016 and I can’t wait to see you all later in 2017! xoxo Colleen

Clayton Siegert
100 I Street
S. Boston, MA 02127
(617) 821-2867
csiegert@the80sgame.com

Clay Siegert reports “I have been living in Boston for the past 12 years with my wife. We have three daughters (ages 3, 5 and 7) who keep us busy. I work at my company XL Hybrids, which develops technology to increase the fuel efficiency of vehicles. I often see fellow FA alumni Patrick Mcgillicuddy, Sarah Calderon, Kristen Brennan Shapiro, Erin McCann ’91 and Aaron Peters ’91.

Natalia Porcelli Good
2 Tondan Lane
Lattington, NY 11560
nataliapgood@yahoo.com

Danielle Valenti Smith
1036 Park Avenue
Apartment 12d
New York, NY 10028
(646) 334-3888
dvalentid@hotmail.com

Natalia Porcelli Good writes: “At the end of
Danielle Valenti Smith and Sandy Lyon Mare, both class of 1993, on Lake Norman in Mooresville, NC.

this past summer, I looked forward to my older son Julian getting ready to start Middle School at Friends Academy. The building that I remember has been completely remodeled, many of the teachers are no longer at the school, but the core values of the school have remained the same. As Adam and I feel incredibly grateful to have experienced Middle and Upper School at Friends Academy, we are equally thankful that our son will have many of the same experiences. We especially hope that he will make lifelong friends as we did. We recently spent the day with Jesse Shafer, his wife Courtney and their two children Eve, 6 and Lincoln, 3. Jesse lives in Brooklyn and works at Compass, a real estate brokerage firm. Jesse still plays guitar and it brought back so many fond memories watching him play alongside Adam Good. Todd Jacobson, his wife Jana and son Ari, 2, joined us that day as well. Todd continues to thrive in his position as Senior Vice President of Social Responsibility for the National Basketball Association. In that role, Todd oversees the NBA, WNBA, and NBA Development League social responsibility efforts, community partnerships, and public service initiatives. He also directs the league’s government affairs. Todd and his wife and two daughters recently moved to Princeton, NJ.

up in Cape Cod. Danielle Valenti Smith writes: “It was a great summer for me! My children loved FA Camp! It was wonderful to see Brie Shapiro Kraska, who teaches at FA, at camp drop-off and her beautiful children Luca and Marley. I spent a week visiting Sandy Lyon Mare where she lives in Mooresville, NC on Lake Norman. Sandy continues to teach yoga and raise her four wonderful children.

1994

Neely Cather
305 Degraw Street
Brooklyn, NY 11231
(718) 222-1373
neelycather@gmail.com

Hello FA Class of ’94! Neely and I (Alana) are thrilled to be your new class reps and would like to thank Heather Upton for her efforts over the last several years! And now for the latest updates: Heather has had a busy year working on one of the new Marvel/Netflix TV shows. It’s called Iron Fist and premieres next spring, whoo! Heather’s daughter starts Kindergarten in the fall (eek!) and she has spent much of the summer hiking and hanging out with classmates Alvin Haruthunian, Dan Herscher and Mike Baskoff. Neely turned 40 this year, like most of the class, and celebrated with a party where alumni Dana Minutoli Forbes, Eden Yariv, Josh Speisman and Adam Ronzoni were in attendance. The celebration continued with a kid-free trip to Jamaica, also with Josh and Adam, among other non-alumni. Neely and her husband Todd celebrated their 15-year wedding and Brooklyn anniversary this year as well. Mike Longo reports “After relocating to Massachusetts four years ago, in April, we bought our ‘forever’ home in Andover and are excited to finally feel like

we are here to stay. Our two kids, Connor and Susanna, are both nervous and excited to start the school year at their new school and continue their active lives. When we are not running around to their activities, I work with a law firm in Boston most days, while also maintaining my own law practice in Andover, and Rachael is, among other work and directing/acting activities, an adjunct professor at Merrimack College. I continue to play ice hockey, and am excited to coach Connor's squirt travel team this upcoming season. Alvin Haruthunian is loving life in LA still and recently opened his second bar, a cocktail lounge called ETA that was written up in the LA Times and even the New York Times! Both ETA and The Greyhound have become popular watering holes in the up-and-coming Highland Park neighborhood, and customers and the community alike really seem to be loving it! Otherwise, Alvin is taking every chance he gets to travel around the world, up to Ithaca to see her too.

Dave Gilbert ‘94 reports “I’m living in Brooklyn these days, along with my wife Janet and three-year-old daughter Eve. Janet and I run a small indie videogame development studio called Wadjet Eye. Things are well, overall!” Meredyth Kravitz is living in Cold Spring Harbor with her husband, David, and their two sons. She continues to work as a pediatric neuropsychologist on Long Island and Manhattan. She keeps up with her friends from Friends Academy regularly and just got back from a family vacation with the VanRipers and their adorable three kids. Meredyth also had an exciting “big” birthday celebration including a ropes course, zip line and other fun activities with some FA alum in attendance as well. Kim Colombo Aberman reports “I still love being an OR nurse and I am happily married to Steve for 13 years. Our kids are Sara, 7, and Jack, 10. Amanda Scholl Boudry’s (who is no longer with us) daughter (she’s nine now) comes to visit us for holidays with her dad and we also try to get up to Ithaca to see her too. Derek, Kristin Pieper and I have been trying to meet for lunch as we all work at Long Island Jewish.” Dana Minutoli Forbes was also happy to send us an update, reporting the following: “I’m working real estate for Daniel Gale Sotheby’s and I am dual licensed so I work the Gold Coast and also the Hamptons/Montauk areas. My boys are 7 and 3 and we just moved to be on the water because all my kids like to do is fish, study sea life and hunt for treasures on the shore.” Dana now lives right down the road from me, so am hoping we will see each other more often! As for me, it’s been a great few months enjoying summer time on L.I. I’m excited to be jumping into the Class Rep role with Neely and am grateful to be reconnecting with so many of you. I appreciate hearing from all of you and look forward to keeping in touch!”

1995

Thomas A. Pascarella
156 Lewis Avenue
Westbury, NY 11590
tompasc@tompasc.com

Kelly Reid Walsh
96 Grove Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
(781) 237-2893
reidkel@gmail.com

Kelly Reid Walsh writes to tell us that she is now at a new school! This summer, Kelly moved to be the Director of the 9th & 10th Grade Programs at the Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School in Waltham, Massachusetts. Kelly is enjoying her new position and is very excited to meet all the new staff and students. Amanda Sokolow Mancuso writes in to tell us about the newest edition to the Mancuso family: Cole Michael arrived on his brother’s birthday on December 13, 2015. Big brother Ryan and big sister Piper are extremely excited and have enjoyed the addition of their little brother. Finally, my contribution is that I am proud to say I officiated at my fifth wedding since being ordained in 2001 this past April. It was a lovely ceremony in Puerto Vallarta for one of my best friends. Keep us posted, if you enjoy reading these notes, send Kelly or myself your updates, pictures, and celebrations. Cheers! – Tom Pascarella

1996

Luke Cass
3000 Washington Boulevard
Apartment 823
Arlington, VA 22201
lukecass@gmail.com

Congratulations to Catherine Callahan on the birth of her son, William Michael Blanchard, who is going by Liam these days. He’s a beautiful boy! Congratulations Catherine.

Catherine Callahan ’96 welcomed William “Liam” Michael Blanchard earlier this year.
Dion Short Metzger ’98 (third from left) with her co-author and their mothers at the launch of their book The Modern Trophy Wife in Atlanta.

Dion Short Metzger has a new book out entitled, The Modern Trophy Wife – How to Achieve Your Life Goals While Thriving At Home. She co-authored the book with Ayo Gathing, who like Dion, is a practicing psychiatrist in Atlanta. They pooled their wisdom and humor to address issues of the heart and mind with the goal of improving relationships, giving meaningful, productive approaches to life’s challenges, and improving “life balance,” while creating happier homes. Dion is a frequent contributor to HLN, was featured in a recent article in The Wall Street Journal, and was just asked to do a book signing at Emory University where she attended as an undergraduate. She also has written pieces and been referenced in Essence, Aspire, HLN, Glamour, Redbook, Vice, Bravo, Atlantic and Bustle and was recently featured on “The Doctors.”

1997
Devon Broderick Carroll
28 Bedford Street
Apartment 23
New York, NY 10014-4471
(917) 531-7579
devon.broderick@gmail.com

Devon A. George
163 West 18th Street
Apartment 98
New York, NY 10011
(516) 457-8082
devon@dmvcapital.net

1998
Justin J. Boults
222 Gates Avenue
Apartment 2
Brooklyn, NY 11238
boultsman@hotmail.com

Justin P. Meli
1500 Chicago Avenue
Apartment 620
Evanston, IL 60201
(713) 553-4108
justinpmeli@gmail.com

1999
Jennifer Ryan Woods
2 Meadow Spring Lane
Glen Cove, NY 11540
(516) 398-0888
JenniferLynnWoods@gmail.com

Dara Bromeyer Gruenberg
24 Hampton Road
Scarsdale, NY 10583
914-723-1796
dara513@gmail.com

Geri Lake-Bakaar and her husband, Mike, are expecting their first baby, a little girl, in December. Kate R. Mincer is a professional Costume Designer throughout NYC and beyond, and has worked in TV, film, theater and dance for over a decade. This year, she was thrilled to design costumes for her 50th show (Shakespeare’s A Midsummer Night’s Dream). She and her husband Rocco (a video designer/animator for theatre) live in Queens with their awesome hound dog, Scarlett. Together, they love exploring their neighborhood, traveling, and finding the best soup dumplings in Queens. They met in grad school and recently celebrated their fifth wedding anniversary. Kate is currently working on a “whimsically gritty” children’s musical (Young Charles Dickens) with the award-winning New York City Children’s Theatre, which returned last December. To see some of Kate’s work, visit KateCostumeDesign.tumblr.com Andrew Gambling and his wife, Meaghan, had their first child, John Michael (Jack) this past April. He was born on April 21, 2016 and weighed 9 lbs. and was 22 inches. Brad Gambling married Nina Housel this past August. They currently reside in Boston, MA. Dara Bromeyer Gruenberg reports: “My family and I are doing well. My daughter, Cornelia, is starting first grade in September and will be at the same school as Jordie Davis’ daughter, Norah, who is going to be in Kindergarten. My son, Jake, is in Pre-K. I am currently chairing a campaign to renovate my town’s library and running the Parents’ Association for my son’s school.” Jennifer Dean writes: “After having graduated from both grad school and law school, I turned around one day and said “What the heck am I doing?” I don’t want to do this.” So I went off and became a flight attendant, which is a surprisingly difficult gig to get. Who knew? So, now I’m working for Delta and I’m based in New York. Never been happier. I ran into Lindsay Roth in Madrid, on what we later figured out, was the day of the Fall Fair. We had paella instead of cotton candy, and we got caught up on lots of missing years. I also ran into Henry O’Connell at a friend’s son’s birthday party. I don’t know if you’ve met her, but his little girl is his spitting image, ears and all. Anyway, that’s about it on my end. If you need anything else from me, shoot me a FB message or a text: 561.662.6052.” We are saddened to report that Alexis D’Elia passed away on October 26, 2016. (Please see tributes from classmates and faculty to Alexia on pages XX-86.)

John Gambling ’99 and wife Meaghan welcomed their first child, John Michael (Jack), this past April.

2000
Meredith A. MacKinnon
539 East 6th Street
Apartment 1A
New York, NY 10009
(516) 759-2063
mmackinnon35@yahoo.com

2001

Hadley Devon Mongell
245 E. 63rd Street
Apartment 924
New York, NY 10065
(516) 759-1377
hmongell@gmail.com

2002

Lauren Marie Bebry
160 Madison Avenue
Apartment 42E
New York, NY 10016
(631) 875-5725
Lauren.Bebry@gmail.com

Michael Jason Weiss
60 West 23rd Street
Apartment 411
New York, NY 10010
(516) 695 3155
michael.jason.weiss@gmail.com

Luis Sanchez writes: “My immediate family and I moved to the State of Washington late last Fall. We moved to Whidbey Island in the Puget Sound. I took a position working as an Associate Pastor at the Island Church of Whidbey. We are well and having loads of fun!” Yan Margolin reports that he owns a successful law practice in NYC’s West Village area, concentrating on business litigation, commercial disputes, complex litigation and appeals. On November 21, 2015, Jonathan Lax married Jennifer Balaban of New York, NY. The couple met in 2013 during a young alumni event for the University of Rochester. The wedding was in New York City and many Friends Academy alumni were in attendance. Andrew Lax ’07, Lauren Bebry, Phil Kim, Corey Pierno, Sarah Holland Roman, Elias Roman, and David Ventresca. In May 2016, Jonathan was appointed an Assistant U.S. Attorney to the criminal division of the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Eastern District of New York. He previously served for more than two years as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney in the office’s business and securities fraud unit. Joe Ramkhelawan and wife Valerie had twins Stephan Joseph and Olivia Stephanie in December 2015. They are residing on the Upper East Side of New York City. Joe is an Account Executive for Amazon Media Group covering the Nestle Account.

2003

Jessica Jakobson
434 East 11th Street
New York, NY 10009
jess.jakobson@gmail.com

William Gambling and Whitney Wortman were married on October 17, 2015 in NYC. Check out www.fa.org/alumni to read more about how they met and other Alumni Love Stories.

2004

Angela Teresa Batista
451 East 14th Street
Apartment 5G
New York, NY 10009
(516) 857-6572
batista1023@gmail.com

Jonathan Harley Koenig
15 West 72nd Street
Apartment 3M
New York, NY 10023
jonathan.h.koenig@gmail.com

2005

Helen Simpson Hatch
(917) 634-7646
helen.s.hatch@gmail.com

Garrett Dooley
(516) 314-5241
gsdooley@gmail.com

2006

Brian T. Alessi
brian.t.alessi@gmail.com

Emily Lepore Jonap
lepore.emily@gmail.com
Congratulations to Danielle Farrell and Brendan O’Kane ’03, who were married this summer. The ceremony was at Saint Dominic Chapel in Oyster Bay and the celebration was at Piping Rock Club in Locust Valley on June 25, 2016. The couple only overlapped at Friends Academy for one year (2002-2003), and did not know each other then. They officially met at the Friends Academy reunion in NYC in June 2011. Following the reunion, they reconnected at a Fourth of July celebration at Piping Rock Club in July 2011. The wedding was almost five years to the date after their re-introduction, at the same venue!

Mark Scoroposki recently opened Garvies Point, a craft brewery in Glen Cove (www.garviespointbrewing.com).

Cassandra Sclafani Merolla ’07 married Jamie Merolla on September 3rd, 2016 at the Caramoor Center in Katonah, NY. The pair met in Italian class at Trinity College. Cassandra works as a Relationship Manager for Bloomberg LP’s newest regulatory product and Jamie also works at Bloomberg LP as a Team Leader in the Financial Analytics and Sales department.

2007

Rebecca Pacchiano
93 Tenth Street
Hicksville, NY 11801
(516) 932-0002
rebeccaleigh17@gmail.com

Christine Farrell
284 Mott Street
Apartment 2E
New York, NY 10012-3492
Farrell.chrissy@gmail.com

2008

Laura Berke
429 East 52nd Street
Apartment 36B
New York, NY 10022
(516) 680-4437
lnberke@gmail.com

Alexandria Phillips
316 West 19th Street
Apartment 2W
New York, NY 10011
(516) 305-1813
afp1013@gmail.com

2009

Nell C. Kucich
(516) 965-0635
NellKucich@gmail.com

John E. Mascari
Dartmouth Geisel School of Medicine
45 Kellogg Building
Hanover, NH 03755
john.mascari@dartmouth.edu

2010

Alexa Gordon
24 West Creek Farms Rd.
Sands Point, NY 11050
 alexa.gordon@wustl.edu

Emily Hawkins
123 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
 ehwakin2@wellesley.edu

Chichi Anyoku is working as a management consultant at A.T. Kearney which offers her the opportunity to travel all over the US – keeping things interesting. Anastasia Williams was promoted to a segment producer position and talent booker at Good Morning America, where she has produced DJ Khaled, Misty Copeland, Chrissy Teigen, Stephen King, among many others. She lives with sister Zoie Williams, who graduated from Marymount Manhattan College in 2015 and has since been working at PR Consulting, a public relations firm. Samantha Nesfield is still wearing all black, she’s currently in her last year of a master’s program in DC. She is frequently spotted with Emily Hawkins when the two are in the same city. Emily has just graduated with her MS in Enterprise Risk Management from St. John’s University and is excited to take on her new Class Representative responsibilities! Olivia Pascucci has recently started her Ph.D in clinical psychology and will be getting married next June!

2011

Holly Constants
52 Ayers Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
hol9331@aol.com

Gabrielle McPhaul-Guerrier
188 Leaf Avenue
Central Islip, NY 11722
gmcpaul-guerrier@live.com

Katie Sands has recently founded “Honestly Kate” (www.iama honestlykate.com), a fashion blog that features “high and low” brands (both glamorous and accessible price points), fashion advice and tips for exploring New York City. Kate writes: “My blog began as a fun way to share my love of fashion with friends – however, my follower base has recently begun to grow towards a more serious level.” She has curated several partnerships with fashion and beauty brands. In addition to working on her blog, she is pursuing a career in the theater and film industry.

2012

Gabrielle Rechler
58 Hoaglands Lane
Old Brookville, NY 11545
 grechler11@hotmail.com
(516) 404-4105

Jake Ingrassia
95 Feeks Lane
Lattingtown, NY 11560
 jake.ingrassia@gmail.com
(516) 236-6064

Chris McCann
170 Linden Farms Road
Locust Valley, NY 11560
Christopher_mccann@me.com
The class of 2011 celebrated their five-year reunion with a cocktail party at Union Square Ballroom in NYC. The party was a huge success, with more than 50 alums in attendance! Special thanks to Kate Neisloss '11 for all her work putting the evening together.
Devin Gerzof graduated Cum Laude from Georgetown University and has accepted the position of Staff Assistant with House Majority Leader Congressman Kevin McCarthy.

2013
Sydney Menzin
6 Tappenwood Drive
Lantingtown, NY 11560
sfmenzin@gmail.com
(516) 639-2083

John O’Brien
16 Wishing Well Lane
Old Brookvile, NY 11545
john.obrien1294@gmail.com
(516) 419-2689

2014
Lydia Graham
2000 Front Street
East Meadow, NY 11554

Simi Akinola
215 Rushmore Street
Westbury, NY 11590
simisolaakinola@yahoo.com

Congratulations to William Sands, who is playing for Bucknell’s D1 lacrosse team. He was named Rookie of the Year his freshman year and MVP of the team sophomore year.

2015
Cameron Hellerman
cameronhellerman@me.com
(516) 554-5401

Marianna Cuomo Maier
mariannacm430@gmail.com
(516) 355-1498

Danielle Kahn
danikahn@me.com

2016
Christina Yannello
(347) 703-0899
christinayannello@gmail.com

Maximo Lipman
(516) 666-0215
Maximo1219@gmail.com

Over 25 alums gathered to play in our Alumni Soccer Game on September 24, 2016. Coach Marshall Lindner organized the multi-generational event, remarking that, “It was 60 minutes of well played, good quality soccer. I was very impressed!”

Alumni Basketball Game | Nov. 25, 2016

The even year grads pulled out a highly competitive and well-played victory over the odd year grads, 102-96. This year marked the 16th consecutive year for this event. The post-game gathering included special stories shared regarding the glory days of different teams, as well as catching up on the latest things going on personally with families and friends over some beverages and appetizers. Another benefit of the event is the ability to network with Friends Academy graduates in different stages of their professional lives and give or receive advice and contact information. Kwasi Boah earns the award for traveling the furthest over the weekend, as he has moved to Dallas, Texas. Special thanks again go out to Clayton Siegert for motivating the troops to burn up some of those Thanksgiving calories.

Alumni Soccer Reunion | Sept. 24, 2016

Over 25 alums gathered to play in our Alumni Soccer Game on September 24, 2016. Coach Marshall Lindner organized the multi-generational event, remarking that, “It was 60 minutes of well played, good quality soccer. I was very impressed!”
Reflections on Alexis D’Elia ’99
From her classmates and teachers

“She made people around her feel like they were the best at everything they did’

“I met Alexis my junior year, her sophomore year, at Friends on the lunch line. I remember her asking for some weird combination of food and when someone questioned her decision she laughed. ‘What? It is all going to the same place anyway.’ I was instantly drawn to her down-to-earth confidence. I found her refreshing and genuine so I turned around and introduced myself. Little did I know it was that split second that sealed our fate as friends. Alexis became my best friend in every sense of the word and as time went on she became like another sister to me.

I can only try to put into words how much Alexis meant to me and everyone around her. It’s hard to express how impactful she was to me in my life, to choose the memories when they were countless, incredible ones, and to summarize our bond as best friends, when I was supposed to be writing a speech for her wedding.

Alexis was full of life and she bestowed that upon everyone she was around. Her smile, her laugh, her humor and mostly her genuine understanding and compassion made those close to her feel incredibly loved and protected. One of her greatest strengths was empowering others. I always felt I was with my army when I was with her.

Alexis excelled at everything she did, which was intimidating for some upon first meeting her. She was gorgeous, a successful cardiologist, an artist, she spoke French perfectly, a publisher…the list goes on. And yet she made people around her feel like they were the best at everything they did.

We spent endless time together and whenever I walked away I always felt she was the strongest person I knew. She never let her disease define her. She lived life to the fullest, surrounding herself with positivity and people who loved her, especially her brother, Justin and his family as well as her parents Joseph and Ann. She even had a true fairytale love story. Kevin was her perfect match.

As she was approaching being married, Alexis stressed that it was important for her not to be just the bride in the white dress, who captures all the attention. What she valued most was sharing the happiness with the people she loved. She even said to me, ‘Joce, I’m not going to make you do any of the matron of honor duties, but that said, I hope all the attention I put on you doesn’t make you uncomfortable!’

I feel blessed to have had Alexis in my life, to have grown with her through different stages, experiencing the ups and enduring the downs. I am honored to have been able to learn from her strength, passion and zest for life.

My two daughters were lucky to also have a bond that compelled them to refer to her as Aunt Lexy. As my 7-year-old daughter Eden said, ‘Mom, she was the prettiest. She laughed the hardest at all my jokes and was the best dancer at our dance parties. She was just part of our family.

We will forever miss her.”

— Jocelyn Lund Ringler ’98

Alexis D’Elia ‘99: Fighting against her’s and others’ breast cancer until the end

Alexis D’Elia M.D. ’99 passed away on October 26, 2016 at the age of 34, after a courageously fought four-year battle against breast cancer. After graduating from Friends, she attended Connecticut College and St. George’s University Medical School. She trained at Winthrop University Hospital and Montefiore Medical Center, a teaching hospital of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

A dedicated cardiologist, she devoted the last year of her life in intense research into breast cancer, while writing for and aiding every breast cancer organization and individual fighting cancer who called upon her. She spoke with other victims of breast cancer on how to cope with the effects of chemotherapy and radiation, and other young women on preventative measures by early detection through self-examination. She wrote many articles on those subjects and took phone calls at all hours of the day and night. She also encouraged patients to find strong, reliable and innovative cancer navigators who would advocate for their concerns. She often said she never felt ashamed to cry, for it cleans the slate and shockingly makes you feel stronger afterwards. Alexis is survived by her father and mother, the Honorable Joseph D’Elia and Mrs. Ann D’Elia, her brother and sister-in-law Justin Joseph D’Elia and Stefanie D’Elia, her two nephews Joseph D’Elia and James D’Elia, her fiancé Kevin Fallon, as well as countless colleagues, friends and patients who loved her and mourn her loss today.
Abandoning clichés to describe a true friend

“I take no solace in my utter and complete inability to grasp the idea of a ‘tribute’ for my friend. The semantics of grief, the well-meaning clichés, fail me when it comes to talking about Alexis.

If you knew her at all, you understand exactly what I mean.

Cancer, though... cancer loves clichés. It loves reducing lives to body parts and turning memories into ribbons and walks and bumper stickers and commercials with healthy, attractive actors.

Cancer wants me to talk about Alexis’ illness. To use banal verbiage like ‘survivor,’ ‘fighter,’ ‘courage,’ as though she were in the Green Berets or a gladiator film. It wants me to see “breast cancer” a million times and pin a rosy ribbon on every memory of a woman who could wear any color, not just pink. It wants me to reflect on her life in somber tones, to recall memories with bittersweet, maudlin stoicism. To anyone who knew Lex, she would much prefer I put a joke at the end of this paragraph. Or a selfie, because she was the queen of always looking stunning, no matter how ill she felt.

Alexis’ cancer wants me to reduce her body and her breasts to victims of her disease, but she was much, much more than a composite of cells.

Alexis’ illness. To use banal verbiage like ‘survivor,’ ‘fighter,’ ‘courage,’ as though she were in the Green Berets or a gladiator film. It wants me to see “breast cancer” a million times and pin a rosy ribbon on every memory of a woman who could wear any color, not just pink. It wants me to reflect on her life in somber tones, to recall memories with bittersweet, maudlin stoicism. To anyone who knew Lex, she would much prefer I put a joke at the end of this paragraph. Or a selfie, because she was the queen of always looking stunning, no matter how ill she felt.

Alexis’ cancer wants me to reduce her body and her breasts to victims of her disease, but she was much, much more than a composite of cells.

Abandoning clichés to describe a true friend

physician” as our late twenties took us to opposite ends of the country. Or how she became an actual, real-life cardiologist, from Lexi to Alexis Ann D’Elia M.D., Cardiovascular Disease Fellow and Assistant Clinical Instructor, a fact that was so uproariously and outrageously badass that we were still laughing about how incredible it was up until...

And there’s death, cancer’s passenger.

The problem with death, much like that plus one that you absolutely didn’t invite to the party, is that it ruins every giddy memory. I don’t want to be writing this. I want to be texting Alexis asking about whether or not it’s poor etiquette to give lingerie as a wedding gift, or sending her a dumb video from the Internet to make her laugh. She was the first person I’d want to ask about the study linking lower oxytocin to a reduced empathy response, and any possible generic alternatives being created out of the EpiPen scandal, and, most importantly, do I wear heels or ankle booties to dinner with this dress?

Alexis was a human being who transcended every definition that could be ascribed to her. She wasn’t just a doctor, she interacted with countless patients and healthcare providers with a voracious curiosity and genuine compassion. She wasn’t just a stylish glamazon, she could bring style to a pair of yoga leggings and oversized sunglasses. She wasn’t just a student, she was an overachieving, ardent pupil of every subject that was put in front of her. She wasn’t just a determined doctor, she gave every ounce of her time and strength to each aspect of her field. She wasn’t just my longtime friend, she was Lex.

I used to think that maybe she had some kind of form of Munchausen’s Syndrome where a person was so vain and so untouchably sick, they would attempt to suffer through cancer while looking fiercer than Beyoncé in a Versace gown. I refused to fully absorb the idea of her as sick. She was a cardiologist, not a cancer patient.

I didn’t want to believe that she was suffering, even when it was apparent in her tone of voice, or her need to end conversations to sleep off whatever treatment her body had been put through that week. Anybody who had been in touch with her over the past few years knows what I am talking about. There was that feeling of, “She can’t really be going through chemo! Look at how hot she looks in that picture!” Or, “It can’t be cancer cancer. Waiters don’t flirt that hard with girls who are actually sick...”

Denial seemed sewn into the fabric of those later years of our friendship. I just simply couldn’t accept that anything would take her from us. She was going to marry Kevin and it was going to be the most kickass wedding. We would dance and laugh and she’d compliment everyone with that signature smile and bubbly laugh. I would feel that weird hybrid of almost-jealousy and complete joy that I had felt each time I saw her since 1996.

I can’t hear that laugh anymore. I have almost texted her three times since October 26th and had to stop myself. It will get easier in time, that would be the appropriate cliché, right? Nothing will replace her memory but time will heal the wound? I can’t say the word I want to when presented with these trite, overused phrases in the same context as Alexis. (I’ve actually come to respect the FA Student & Parent Handbook.)

She meant too much to all of us who were privileged enough to meet her or, for those who were truly lucky, to call her a friend.

So I end this tribute with some fighting words, something that cancer loves to appropriate. If this was truly a battle, with cancer scoring my friend in its staggeringly incalculable body count, it doesn’t mean that we, those living without Alexis, have lost.

We knew her. We shared her time on this earth. We are still here, smiling when we think of her.

It doesn’t make it any easier, but the truth is that we knew her and will always have Alexis as a part of our proverbial, and anatomical, hearts. Even in the grief of this incomprehensible loss, those who knew her all too briefly, we won.”

— Ainsley Drew Nelson ’99

continued on page XX

The Meeting House | Fall 2016/Winter 2017
In her own words

Sometimes in life, you suddenly find a kindred spirit in someone that you’ve known forever. Such was my friendship with Alexis D’Elia. After high school, as is often the case, Alexis and I lost touch. Then about two years ago – at the most serendipitous of moments – she stumbled back into my life. She was in remission at the time. I was in a period of transition. She was a smart-talking angel that just appeared in my Facebook feed one day. So many people never get around to truly living their lives. They exist. They go through the motions. Alexis was not one of those people. To quote another one of our classmates, Janelle Villiers ‘She lived life on purpose.’

It took me 35 years to find something I love. Alexis was lucky enough to find her passion in half that time. She accomplished more than most people do in a much longer lifetime. I am not talking about her resume as impressive as it might be – and it really is, I hope that one of the other people chosen to write a dedication on these pages managed to cram all of Alexis’s accomplishments into their 500 words. If not? Google her. You’ll feel like you haven’t done anything yet. I am talking about understanding what is important in this life we are given. She loved being a doctor and a teacher. She never stopped. She continued this tradition, yoloing to work, and sometimes during them, we continued this tradition, yoloing to work, try musicians up and down Broadway. We sang to the amazing unknown country musicians on these pages. In 1997, I had a book. Today, I have an app. To honor Alexis, I’d like to leave you with her words, because they are some of my all-time favorites.

‘Love life like it’s rigged in your favor.’

‘Anyone who knows me, knows I love hard. I almost too often tear my chest open and show people my heart. I chase that feeling. It might be one of the only miracles you experience in this lifetime. Love is my fondest memory; what powers me to achieve any goal in life. It is and always has been what I live for. The most exciting part is thinking it is always out there waiting to be found, discovered, and experienced.’

– Dr. Alexis Ann D’Elia

We already miss you Lex.”

– Jennifer C. Dean ’99

‘Blessed to have known you’

‘My dear, sweet Alexis. As I write this I feel as though you are by my side smiling your usual beautiful smile and looking on with your understanding eyes. You were the fullest circle of any girl I have ever met in my life. Beauty. Brains. Wit. Intelligence. Humility. A purer soul I’m not sure I will ever know.

Whichever way our paths crossed, we found common ground and left the world with more than we came in with. Alexis, your success was always in the service of others, not for yourself. This isn’t just for the sake of saying something that sounds good, or even because it’s what society says we should do. It is because it’s the right thing to do.

She was a catalyst. Alexis never needed a catalyst, even though life dealt her one anyway.

Now, here’s the rub, and the lesson that Alexis helped me turn from an inspirational wall poster into a life lesson that I never ever take for granted. None of us has a certain future. All we get is today. We get this moment right here and now. If you are reading this and don’t have a sparkle in your eye, or if you’re worrying about the plumber or the wallpaper in the bathroom? Stop. Take a look around. Even on the darkest of days, you have a big beautiful world in front of you. It is full of infinite possibilities, and your life can be anything you want it to be. The only person that you have to answer to is you. You have nothing to prove.

As seniors in high school, we sit and choose words to put in a yearbook – other people’s words – song lyrics, poems, famous lines, and yes, inspirational wall posters. I imagine that just as we had our favorites (“Don’t cry because it’s over. Smile because it happened.” – Dr. Seuss; ‘What a long strange trip it’s been.’ – Grateful Dead), teenagers today have their own. I still collect quotations. In 1997, I had a book. Today, I have an app. To honor Alexis, I’d like to leave you with her words, because they are some of my all-time favorites.

‘Love life like it’s rigged in your favor.’

‘Anyone who knows me, knows I love hard. I almost too often tear my chest open and show people my heart. I chase that feeling. It might be one of the only miracles you experience in this lifetime. Love is my fondest memory; what powers me to achieve any goal in life. It is and always has been what I live for. The most exciting part is thinking it is always out there waiting to be found, discovered, and experienced.’

– Dr. Alexis Ann D’Elia

We already miss you Lex.”

– Sahar Hakakian ’00

Post-surgery epiphany of a trip

‘Lex and I went to Nashville after her surgery. She decided this would be our ‘YOLO’ trip, and from that moment on we would yolo hard, and yolo often.

While in Nashville we explored without an itinerary; rented a car to see outer Tennessee, and danced and sang to the amazing unknown country musicians up and down Broadway. It was us at our best.

After Lex’s relapse, after the tears, and sometimes during them, we continued this tradition, yoloing to work, to the beach, to the store, around Brooklyn, to the manicure spot, to a foot massage, to Garden City Bistro... you get the point. Lex had the most amazing spirit and humor. It was contagious. With her, every day, and every task was an adventure. I miss her terribly and hope you will join me yoloing in her honor always.

‘She made broken look beautiful and strong look invincible. She walked with the Universe on her shoulders and made it look like a pair of wings.’

– Jennifer C. Dean ’99

‘Positive and kind to everyone’

‘I remember always having fun with Alexis in French class with Dr. Phillips. She was always positive and kind to everyone.’

– Jenny Lindner ’99
A desire for ordinary, yet nothing short of extraordinary

“I first met Alexis in the halls of Friends Academy in the ninth grade way back in 1996. I remember instantly becoming friends and laughing ALL of the time. Whether we were spending our summers together at tennis camp, hanging out in downtown Huntington or just listening to music at each other’s houses, we were attached at the hip. Over the years she went on to pursue her dream of becoming a physician. She earned an M.D. and was accepted into a cardiology fellowship. Then the unthinkable happened and Alexis was diagnosed with breast cancer. I recall her saying that she just wanted an ordinary life; she wanted to practice medicine and she wanted to spend time with loved ones. However, even in her quest for this ordinary life in the face of cancer, Alexis could never be anything short of extraordinary. She completed her rigorous cardiology training program, published many scholarly articles and devoted countless hours of research to her own disease. She stayed passionate about medicine; it was a true calling. She saw her friends and family as often as she could. She fell in love. She got engaged. She was hopeful, resilient, and strong.

Alexis was my dear friend. She was magnetic, magical and full of life. Her light, her smile, her laugh made me happier every time I saw her. She inspired me with her beauty, warmth, intelligence and wit when I first met her 20 years ago and she will continue to do so every day. I am so thankful for her friendship and open heart. I am thankful for all our belly aching laughs. I am thankful for some of the most enlightening conversations of my life. This isn’t fair and the world is lesser having lost her. I will carry her in my heart always.”

– Chinar Mahadkar ’99

Caring, vivacious – a true loss

“Alexis was such a caring and vivacious student. She truly had a kind heart. She had that cute little mole on the side of her face that was a beauty mark in every sense of the word. My, what a loss for society.”

– Tamara Clark, faculty

James Reid ’54: Writer, businessman and General Store owner

James M. Reid, a writer and store owner who embraced life’s adventures and its humor, an outdoorsman who skied, played tennis, ran marathons, and climbed mountains, died Oct. 11, 2016. His wife and sons were by his side at Applewood Rehabilitation and Nursing Center in Winchester, NH, when he passed quietly, ending a three-year struggle with the consequences of a stroke. Jamie, as he was called by all who knew him, was 81. He and his wife, Pamela Tomkinson Reid, made their home in Vermont for 26 years. He lived in Ridgefield on Cooper Hill Road most of the 1970s and on Redding Ridge in the late 1960s, and also lived in New York City.

“He will be remembered for his sense of humor, his laugh, and his strong opinions on many topics,” said his wife.

Born July 10, 1935, in New York City, he was the son of James M. Reid Sr. and Helen Grace Carlisle. In his youth he lived in New York, in Stamford, and for a time in Landgrove, VT, where he attended a one-room schoolhouse. He fondly remembered working summers on a Vermont farm and driving a tractor when he was 12.

James was a boarding student at Friends Academy in the late 40s and early 50s, graduating in 1954. Friendships he made there lasted his entire life, particularly with Herb Cares ’55 and his lifelong best friend Gene Depalo ’54. He spoke of teachers who were particularly kind and inspirational and of his success on the football team, even though he was not a big person. He remembered getting ice cream from the Good Humor truck after football practice, and there were some shenanigans that are perhaps better left unmentioned!

He graduated from Friends Academy in Locust Valley, NY, in 1954 and from Cornell University with a degree in psychology in 1958. He was drafted and served stateside in the U.S. Army from 1958 to 1960.

He worked for the next 30 years as a writer, operating the James M. Reid Company, writing American Banking Association. He was the author of books on writing: The Handbook of Basic English Skills, Better Business Letters and Effective Letters, which he was proud to note had been translated into Japanese in 1998.

In 1990, he and his wife purchased the Jamaica General Store in Jamaica, VT, which they owned and operated for 15 years, retiring to Brattleboro in 2005. In retirement he wrote many letters and opinion pieces for the Brattleboro Reformer, offering his views on topics that ranged from politics to medicine to animals.

He was a lifelong believer in working out and keeping in shape. A runner, he completed two New York City Marathons. He led family and friends on mountain hiking expeditions, reaching the summits of Mt. Marcy in the Adirondacks, Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, and Mt. Rainier in Washington State.

A runner, he completed two New York City Marathons. He led family and friends on mountain hiking expeditions, reaching the summits of Mt. Marcy in the Adirondacks, Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, and Mt. Rainier in Washington State. In a similar spirit of extended family, he also organized canoe trips down the Housatonic River. He loved tennis, playing at the Sugar Hollow Racquet Club during his Ridgefield years, and winning some local tournaments in Londonderry, VT. He was an accomplished downhill skier, and also enjoyed cross country skiing. A voracious reader, he had wide-ranging tastes in both fiction and nonfiction, enjoying detective novels, high literary works, and books on science and evolution.

He married Pamela Tomkinson, who survives him, June 5, 1982. He also leaves sons, Jonathan Reid of Brattleboro, VT, and Jesse Reid and wife Lee Reid of Allen, TX, and two grandsons, Calvin and Jacob Reid, also of Texas. His eldest son, James ‘Bo’ Reid, died in 2013. In Ridgefield he leaves a brother, Macklin Reid, his wife, Betsy, and their son Grady. He also leaves a sister, Anne Reid Kessler of Westborough, MA, her husband Garry Kessler, and their daughters Eileen Sawyer of Milton, MA and Sharon Szentpetery Kessler of Berlin, Germany. Other survivors include his first wife, Martha, of Seattle, WA, and his sister-in-law Carol Reid of New York, and daughters in spirit Barbara Middlebrook of Denver, CO, and Liz Cates of New York. Two older brothers, Peter Reid and Chris Reid, died before he did.

Because he loved animals, donations to the Windham County Humane Society, PO Box 397, Brattleboro, VT 05302 would be appreciated by the family. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

– Pam Reid

Obituary

Please send announcements and memories to Christine Bowe at christine_bowe@fa.org or call (516) 465-1765. Feel free to include a photo with your message.
Jack Sandler ‘98: Devoted mentor, leader and coach, friend and believer in equality

Jack Sandler, Friends Academy 1998 Alumnus, unexpectedly passed away at the age of 35 on November 19th, 2015. Jack is a Bates College graduate and became the youngest head men’s Lacrosse Coach at the age of 25. He coached at Skidmore College for eight years before taking charge at Colby College in 2013. Coach Sandler was widely respected for his immensely positive attitude, genuine care for his players and innovation within the sport of lacrosse.

At Bates College, Jack gave new life and meaning to the attack position. He was a tough, rugged player who garnered respect for his position and became the second leading scorer in Bates history – a title he still holds today.

At Friends Academy, Jack immersed himself in athletics. Jack captained the wrestling, football and lacrosse teams. Friends’ teammates recounted Jack’s passionate support and leadership on and off the field. Lacrosse was his true passion – a sport that he not only loved, but built a career in.

Yet, to describe Jack as just a lacrosse coach would be a great disservice. As Colby President David Greene remembers, “It was clear he loved the game of lacrosse and coaching, but his real passion was teaching and helping students develop their full potential physically, intellectually and personally.”

Coach Peter Lasagna eloquently expressed: “Jack’s warmth radiated in every setting. His poise, wit and capacity for empathy enabled him to relate equally with every age, all paths. Whether Fortune 500 executive, Saratoga stablehand or Texas lacrosse pioneer, Jack was all-in, all the time.

Coach Sandler drank fully from life’s goblet and implored you to do the same. He possessed an unquenchable intellect, a love of history, lacrosse and games of chance. Smartphones were never more intelligent than when wielded by his whipsaw fingers.”

Jack made each person feel valued, important. Jack pursued his passions so deeply, made them look so tempting that everyone had to follow. This gift was part of what made him such a profoundly effective coach, teacher, mentor, guide.

A former player described Coach Sandler as a connection with the real world – constantly trying to help his players out for post-graduate success. He was a mentor – teaching everyone the proper way to achieve goals. Most importantly, he was a friend.

A believer in equality, Jack recruited assistant coaches and players from less advantaged backgrounds – a legacy that the Jack Sandler Leadership Foundation will continue to support.

The Jack Sandler Leadership Foundation; www.jacksandler.org is a registered 501(c)(3) charitable organization EIN #812023187, that invests in the future of less advantaged high school lacrosse players by providing scholarships to attend elite summer lacrosse camps.

Donations can be made via the website or checks mailed to:

Jack Sandler Leadership Foundation
262 Thimbleberry Rd.
Malta, NY 12020

– Barbara and Lance Sandler
Jane Freeman passed away in September 2016 at the age of 93. According to her daughter Christine Freeman ’73, Friends always had a special place in her heart and she would frequently say, “I can’t believe I got paid to do what I did.” At 4’11, wearing a size 4 shoe, Chris described her mother as someone who faced tremendous adversity earlier in her life (she was orphaned) but “never let anything stand in her way.” She spoke frequently of her FA colleagues, who were not just her co-workers, but also her friends... Ted Withington, Marty Jacobson and Hans Fickenscher.

Chris and her brother, Scott Freeman ’70, have not yet planned her service but anticipate it may be in a few months.

Memories of Jane...

“Jane was a math teacher by trade and continued to teach in MS while being Assistant Principal. She was a wonderfully generous person – I remember she really mentored and supported me in my transition to FA. I vividly remember she cared deeply about the faculty and their happiness. She bought the most delicious walnut cinnamon coffee cake for us – fresh from her bakery – nearly every day! Jane lived in Wantagh, so she had a bit of a commute to school every day. Hans Fickenscher was indeed a close friend to Jane and to me! Great people.”

– Deb Schoman

“Jane Freeman was a dedicated and popular teacher and administrator. She loved Friends Academy and contributed much to the success of the middle school and the fortunate students, parents and coworkers who learned and worked with her. I was blessed to know her and very thankful for all she taught me.”

– Martin Jacobson, Director of Physical Education and Athletics 1967-2005
We are grateful to all who choose to support the uniqueness of a Quaker education and the mission of Gideon Frost by making Friends Academy a charitable priority. Your generosity helps to create a community that is committed to building strong minds and kind hearts throughout our entire student body.
DID YOU MEET US ON ONE SIDE OF THE BRIDGE...

...OR THE OTHER?

Thursday, May 4th on LI

... reception for cocktails and hors d’oeuvres
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
New this year! 239 Cleft Road, Mill Neck (Graciously hosted by Katie ’07, Cristen ’09, Johnny ’10, Shailja and John Koufakis)

Monday, June 5th in NYC

... for tacos and cervezas
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
New venue! B-Bar and Grill
40 East 4th Street
(21+ to drink)

Look for Photos (coming soon) on the alumni pages of the Friends Academy website: www.fa.org/alumni

We hope you were able to make it to one or both of these events!
Save The Date!

June 5
NYC Alumni Reunion, 7:30 PM (B-Bar and Grill)

June 7
Fourth Day Honors, (Theater)

June 10
Commencement, 10 AM

September 5
First Day of School

October 13-15
Fall Fair and Homecoming Weekend

November 24
Alumni Basketball Game

Friends Academy hosted its annual Chess Tournament for students in grades Kindergarten through 8th grade. Over 100 students from FA and competing private schools attended.

Find us ... and join us online

Our website
WWW.FA.ORG
Visit our official school site to see regular slideshows of school and updates on campus life.

Facebook
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FRIENDSACADEMYNY
Become a member of our Friends Academy Facebook page and see behind-the-scene videos, alumni updates and campus life photos.

Twitter
WWW.TWITTER.COM/FATODAY
Sign up and follow instant updates about athletic wins, art and theater openings, news coverage, and more.

LinkedIn
WWW.LINKEDIN.COM
Register and join the Friends Academy Alumni group to network with fellow alums.