

THE MEETING HOUSE

SPRING/SUMMER 2017

WHAT WAS AN
A-HA! MOMENT
YOU HAD?

I realized
our being
open to
+ knowing
bring us
together

Intelligence is
not what you
know, but
what you do
when you
don't know.

I used to
think EXPECTATIONS
meant me expecting
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my student
(Jen) I hope
about
at FA
or FA

! ♡
Duggles!

Through the power of peer-led workshops, student teaching, keynote speakers and student panels, faculty and staff explored and unleashed creativity at FA's first Teaching & Learning Conference.



STRONG MINDS.
KIND HEARTS.

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 770 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

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FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

ANDREA KELLY

Friends,

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FROM THE ARCHIVES: 1948 – 1ST FOURTH DAY HONORS



COURTESY OF FRIENDS ACADEMY ARCHIVES

Above, a scene from Fourth Day Honors circa 1985.

Later this year, a collection of Fourth Day Honors materials will be made available as part of our digitization initiative. These materials will include Fourth Day Honors pamphlets along with transcribed speeches and lists of award designees.

This past spring, Todd Jacobson '93 earned the distinction of Distinguished Alumni at our annual Fourth Day Honors ceremony. The Distinguished Alumni award became part of the Fourth Day Honors Ceremony in 1979 under the administration of Frederic B. Withington. The roots of the ceremony go back even further. This tradition began in 1948 under the administration of Merrill L. Hiatt and formally became known as "Fourth Day Honors" in 1951. The name comes from the Quaker practice of using numbers to describe months and days of the week. This practice emerged from a desire to avoid using names with pagan origins.

The Fourth Day Honors ceremony was created to supplement Friends Academy's original honors system: Scarab Points. This system, in effect from 1914 to 1962 was a house points system similar to the fictional Hogwarts of Harry Potter fame. All Upper School students were divided into two groups called the Reds and the Blacks. Both teams scrambled each year to win the cup, which was awarded to the group with the most Scarab Points. These points could be earned for accomplishments in studies, sports, and extracurricular activities like volunteering.

“THIS IS YOUR BRAIN - ON NATURE”

Lucas Foglia '01 captures Singapore's “city in a garden” for his recently published book *Human Nature*, which details how people across the world are rediscovering nature and its numerous health & wellness benefits. [Read more on Page 61.](#)



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THE MEETING HOUSE STAFF

EDITOR

ANDREA MILLER, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
516.393.4295 | ANDREA_MILLER@FA.ORG

WRITERS

NATALIA PORCELLI GOOD '93, HAYLEY KUCICH '03, LAUREN PUTTER MENZIN '81 AND ANDREA MILLER

PHOTOGRAPHERS

ALAN QUACKENBUSH, AMANDA FISK '99 AND MARY ALICE KOLODNER

on the cover

STUDENT TEACHERS. Faculty and staff deliver a standing ovation to two panels of 5th through 12th grade students after they share direct, honest and candid reflections about their experience as a Friends Academy student. AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

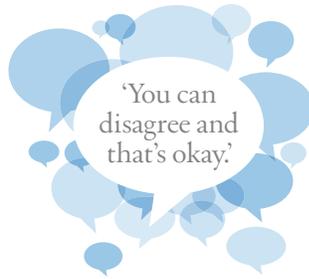
MEETING HOUSE

LETTERS

Thoughts, memories and reflections from our readers ... you!

AROUND THE QUAD

COMMON GROUND OPENS WAY TO CIVIL DISCOURSE



Role-playing, debate and personal stories help pave a way

Under the canopy of 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 advisors and students alike 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, Learning, Understanding,” the way to common ground was read by students in every grade. Beginning early in the fall, Middle School history teachers, PA&C Co-Chair, David Frame and

Danny Szymon, designed and orchestrated an event all-discourse program that took place in the respectful space of the Meeting House. Role-playing scenarios and scenarios the most teachers demonstrated the consequences of poor listening, assumptions and labeling. “You’re going to hear our inner voice to show what the other person is really thinking,” instructed Frame, as the two teachers stepped off in a conversation, which quickly devolved into an argument. “What is very important to that both of them are trying to win and are unable to listen to each other,” explained Szymon. “Both of them are only trying for their own to speak, he added in the dialogue took a negative turn. Showing how assumptions, history and

group shaped interactions, the teachers modeled how “pass” listening and then reworked the scenario for students as they modeled the impact of active listening, openness and compromise. “How can you have a civil, civic discussion?” asked Szymon. “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,” concluded Co-Chair.

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, David Hart and Mikayla Wozniak, students from the Independent Club chose and asked questions of each political party.

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



In the fall session of the Meeting House, panelists shared their views and perspectives on the election. Middle School students took part in the event. Middle School students took part in the event. Middle School students took part in the event.



Students and Upper School students had a “living conversation” in the Meeting House. “To see our kids’ passion and their ability to have a conversation, listen, and respect each other, it was a great experience,” said David Frame, PA&C Co-Chair.

A coming together of all three student political clubs at the start of the school year facilitated their desire to model civility and civil discourse in front and within the entire Upper School. “Diversity is a major part of our Quaker values and is the driving force 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 listen when their voices emerged,” urged Hart.

“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 only become hostile,” concluded Wozniak.

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 party.

Following the election results, club leaders issued public statements to the Upper School student and faculty body that called for reflection, compromise and understanding. “Take this time for self-

reflection and to heal wounds,” encouraged Hart. “Step outside your bubble and reach out to those who your faction 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 give things a try,” concluded Wozniak.

In January’s Director of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, Shantell 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 reflections on 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 ranged around and through religion, socioeconomic and class race, sexual orientation and culture. “These truths should come out,” urged Frame. “And the guidelines we’ve given you can help shape how that truth manifests.”

Reader appreciation

Kudos to you and your staff for the last issue of *The Meeting House*.

I have always been proud of Friends, but that issue was over the top – great pictures, interviews, news, layouts.

Thanks and keep up the good work.

– Leigh Sorensen '60

Former journalist and currently a landscape designer in Rumson, NJ

SEND US A “MEETING HOUSE” LETTER OR REMEMBRANCE

Let us know what you think about an issue or article or send us a remembrance of Friends Academy past. We would love to hear from you! Please send all letters to editor Andrea Miller at andrea_miller@fa.org or 270 Duck Pond Road, Locust Valley, NY 11560.

CLARIFICATIONS

Due to an editing error, the coach of the Girls JV Tennis team was incorrectly published. The coach is Michael Giarrapto.

‘Desperately needed’ wisdom

Dear friends/staff of Friends Academy, To introduce myself, I’m 88, Class of ‘47 (as was my husband, Alex, my high school sweetheart, who passed away 15 years ago). We were married for 50 years and 3 months!

My reason for writing is because of the truly wonderful thing you, your faculty, especially your 3 Middle School teachers have done! “Civil discourse,” “Embracing Differences,” “Listening,” “Understanding”! Oh, wouldn’t it be fantastic if there were such enlightened faculty in every school and college in this nation? The amount of extreme anger, hatred, vicious, livid, unspeakable rhetoric, such extremes we see or hear about in our wonderful country now is truly heartbreaking! “You can disagree and that’s okay.” It is a theme so desperately needed! I am so very grateful to hear someone, somewhere expressing this!

Your children are so blessed to be exposed to a logical, sensible way to handle such a touchy subject. I thank you all from the “bottom of my heart.”

I want to add a tiny bit of ancient (unimportant, except to me) history. On the front cover of your “FA Magazine” is a small picture of the FA Tower. I guess that means it’s still there!

In my senior year, as a “Boarder,” the window to the left on the tower was my small bedroom! Those last 2 years (at FA) were by far the happiest of all my school years.

Thank you all for your wisdom, your caring and imparting the wisdom to all your children. Please do keep it up, every year and more – it is desperately needed!

– Warmly, Louise Milyko '47



Friends Academy – Standing for Peace.



ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY FOR FRIENDS ACADEMY

Congratulations Class of 2017!

DANIELLA AUERBACH
 CHRISTIAN BARAKAT
 KEVIN BASKIND
 GABRIELLE BAUER
 LAUREN BELL
 NOUR BENDARY
 MAX BOTWINICK
 AMBER BRODER
 AMELIA CARDONE
 BROOKE CHARTASH
 JOSEPH COMO
 OLIVIA CONSTANTINO
 JULIANNE COTTONE
 JOHN DORAN
 LILY DROESCH
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 KATHERINE EMLOCK
 WILLIAM EVANS
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 SABRINA HARRIS
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 BROOKE JUHEL

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 JENNA KOUFAKIS
 JOHN LAWRENCE
 LAUREN LEGRANDE
 DANITZA LEON
 NATHAN LERNER
 FRANK LIZZA
 CATHERINE LORI
 MISHA MACY
 JULIA MARIANI
 DANIEL MCCOOEY
 KELSEY MCEVOY
 ALEXANDER MERRILL
 CAROLINE MILLER
 JAMES MORGAN
 REED MULLEN
 CHARLOTTE MURPHY

MARIAM NAGHAVI
 BRENDAN NAUGHTON
 CHRISTOPHER NISHIMURA
 JESSICA OXER
 ELIZABETH PANACCIULLI
 CHRISTOPHER PANICCIA
 MACLAIN PASCUCCI
 KANAN PATEL
 CHRISTOPHER PETROCELLI
 WILLIAM PODBELA
 VASILY POTANIN
 ELISABETH QUICK
 SARAH RICHTER
 STEPHANIE ROTHBERG
 JACOB RUSH
 LAUREN RUSSELL
 SABRINA SCHAMROTH
 ELEANOR SCHOEFFEL
 GABRIELLE SCORDIO

NICHOLAS SEQUINO
 JULIA SERKO
 ANGELIQUE SIMEONE
 ANDI SIMON
 ELIZABETH STEIN
 MARY STINGI
 SAMANTHA STRAUSS
 RYAN TAM
 DANIEL TAUTER
 SYDNEY THEMELIS
 QUINTIN TYREE
 JACQUELINE WALZER
 JASON WANG
 RYAN WEIGHT
 MORGAN WILKINS
 CAROLINE WILSON
 VICTORIA WU

FRIENDS ACADEMY CLASS OF 2017 COLLEGE MATRICULATIONS

Amherst College • Bentley University • Boston College • Bucknell University •
 California Institute of Technology • Carnegie Mellon University • Chapman
 University • College of Charleston • College of the Holy Cross • College of
 William and Mary • Connecticut College • Cornell University • Dartmouth College
 • Davidson College • Drexel University • Duke University • Emerson
 College • Emory University • Fairfield University • Fordham University
 • Georgetown University • Harvard University • Lehigh University
 • Middlebury College • Muhlenberg College • New York Institute
 of Technology • New York University • Northwestern University •
 Stanford University SUNY College at Geneseo • Syracuse University

• The George Washington University • The University of Iowa • The University of
 the Arts • Trinity College • Tufts University • Tulane University • Union College •
 University of California, Riverside • University of California, San Diego • University
 of Chicago • University of Colorado at Boulder • University of Miami • University of
 Pittsburgh • University of Southern California • University of St. Andrews
 - Scotland • University of Toronto • University of Virginia • University
 of Wisconsin, Madison • Vanderbilt University • Villanova University •
 Wake Forest University • Washington University in St. Louis • Wesleyan
 University • Williams College • Yale University



STRONG MINDS.
 KIND HEARTS.

Black people just want to be treated equally

Nyah Thomas May 1, 2017

STUDENT VOICES PROJECT

Dear Donald J. Trump

Over the years there has been a hashtag, #BlackLivesMatter. Some people like to argue that all lives matter, but if that were true there would be no Black Lives Matter movement.

This all started in 2012 when Trayvon Martin was shot for looking suspicious, and his shooter (George Michael Zimmerman) was not held accountable for his actions. He was put on trial and found not guilty. In 2016, 258 black people were killed by police brutality in the United States. Thirty-nine of these people were unarmed. One of them, Alton Sterling, a 37-year-old father of five, became the 135th black person killed by police in 2016. The incident is on video, and it can clearly be seen that he simply did what the police told him to.



An excerpt of Nyah Thomas' (then 7th grade) letter to President Trump, which was published in *Friends Journal's* Student Voices Project.

'Dear, President Trump:' FA students write of concerns and hopes

Five Middle and Upper School student letters joined nearly 300 from around the world in a package sent to President Trump this past May as part of the Friends Council on Education's fourth annual Student Voices Project. All of the FA letters were published in the May issue of *Friends Journal*, in addition to 25 from other Quaker schools. FA students included (then) 7th graders Nyah Thomas and Savannah Mahmud, and freshmen Jeanne Marie Rauff, Abigail Regis and Pius Lo.

This year, the Project included submissions from Monteverde Friends School in Costa Rica (a school that FA 8th graders visit on their outdoor ed trip) and Ramallah Friends School in Palestine.

Friends students spoke of equality and injustice in Muslim and African American communities, confusion about U.S. policies, views on immigration and asked President Trump to listen to the voices of all Americans.

Submissions for the 5th Annual Student Voices Project is February 12, 2018 and will highlight "Testimony Stories."

FA FIELD DAYS

COMPETITION AND COLLABORATION



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Every spring, red and white and blue brighten up the FA fields, gym and Fieldhouse. "Lower School Field Day highlight many of the motor skills that students work to develop and enhance throughout the year," explained FA Athletic Director Alan Quackenbush. "They involve activities and games that involve many of these skills, but most importantly the students do it in a setting that requires an emphasis on teamwork, collaboration and good sportsmanship among their classmates." MS Field Day represents a "Battle of The Classes," where 6th, 7th and 8th graders compete against one another through a variety of motor skill and physical challenges and activities. Teamwork is rewarded and positive sportsmanship, fun and respect for your classmate opponents is emphasized.

FA WINS GOLDEN GAVEL AT 47TH ANNUAL MODEL CONGRESS

Preparation and bipartisanship

At the 47th annual Middle School Model Congress, held at The Packer Collegiate Institute, FA's Middle School Model Congress Club emerged with top honors.

Eighth graders Isabella DiMeo and Vikram Gupta both won the Golden Gavel which is awarded to the top delegate in each of the 24 separate committees. "Isabella won for her willingness and preparation to argue both sides of each bill, including her own," shared advisor and 7th grade history teacher Dave Frazer. "She was impressive in her delivery, but showed great kindness in her arguments," he added.

Gupta demonstrated a legislative selflessness. "He wanted to improve every bill to make them work for the majority of the delegates," said Frazer. In addition, Gupta offered and won debates on at least one amendment for each of the 12 bills in his committee.

Seventh grader Ethan Labelson's bill passed unanimously and classmate Pierce Hirschfield's bill was defeated by only one vote.

Two Upper School students joined the club as volunteers – sophomores Jack McCooey and Liam Jachetta. "They helped us during our prep periods leading up to the Congress," explained Frazer. The Upper schoolers accompanied the Middle School students as Parliamentarians and helped the younger students run a committee.

"They managed a committee of mostly novice legislators and did so with deftness toward procedure, yet with a kind and understanding way that was focused on educating their young group as to how to debate and improve bills," praised Frazer.



DAVE FRAZER/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Eighth grader Isabella DiMeo argues her bill at the 47th annual Model Congress in the spring of 2017.

Ultimately, their teamwork was rewarded with the Barbara Moore Parliamentary Leadership Award, of which only four are awarded each year.

"I am very proud of the hard work and outstanding poise these young people showed on a very long and intense day," said Frazer.

"More than once, I was told of the way our kids handled themselves – everything from cleaning up after themselves, to the manners they showed, to how hard they would fight for a legislative point. Our students showed the best of FA."



Members of the Middle School Model Congress display their awards, including the coveted Golden Gavel.

'FRIENDSVILLE' DEVELOPS 5TH GRADE BUSINESS ACUMEN

*From cupcakes to slime, 5th graders enter
the open marketplace with empty pockets and full hearts*



Friendsville!

By ANDREA MILLER
Director of Communications

For three days, the fifth grade classrooms at Friends Academy bustled with an open marketplace buzz as hopeful entrepreneurs shouted their wares from assorted tables. “The bows are really trending with the teachers,” encouraged one student.

A part of the Social Studies curriculum, “Friendsville” helps bring alive the concepts of supply and demand, opportunity costs, advertising, complimentary goods vs. supplementary goods and more for the entire fifth grade.

“I sort of see Friendsville as an iceberg,” commented advisor and fifth grade Social Studies teacher Cindy Bayne. “There’s so much hard work that the students do that goes into putting this all together and customers really only see the top of the iceberg during the days that Friendsville is open.”

Bayne wanted to emulate as many real-world scenarios as possible, from roving health inspectors to currency. “The students have three forms of currency,” explained Bayne. “They use \$25



Kjaesean Forde and Davin Foote demonstrate a booth at their Spectacular Sports business.



Sanouli Pereis and Ariana Quan-Soon-Victor display their edible wares for sale.

real-world dollars to create their business and product, are given \$75 Friendsville dollars (student-homemade currency) to rent tables, pay for electricity, etc. and are awarded Premium dollars for positive actions that they can then use on advertising.”

Bayne also includes a period shortly after the first day, where students can discuss what worked and what didn’t.

This year, Friendsville spanned the gamut, from dozens of cupcakes, sweets and smoothies to paint-your-own marshmallows, basketball contests, sugar scrubs, shell necklaces, body art and of course, Super Slime - one of this year’s very popular items, which was available in quickly sold-out Neon colors.

“A lot of people did food, so we wanted to do something different,” explained Laila Walker, one of Super Slime’s owners. “Even though it takes a long time to make, it’s worth it,” she added.

At Origami & Tattoo, founders Delia Zhong and Hannah Sperry knew they needed to adjust their strategies early on, when they realized the food booths were drawing away potential customers from their origami crane mobiles. “People weren’t really interested until we created a raffle for a big crane that we hung from the ceiling,” shared Hannah. “We also tried more advertising,” she said.

At Spectacular Sports, owners

Kjaesean Forde and Davin Foote knew they needed to come up with the right location and pricing structure for their business. “We tried it out ourselves and based the pricing on the difficulty,” said Davin. “The harder it is, the less money you should pay,” the two agreed. “Where we set up is important,” said Davin. “Our other biggest challenge was finding the right place to attract people. More people makes more money,” they shared.

At the end of the day, Friendsville dollars were flying as students from all Lower School grades browsed and bought. And were the Super Slime owners ready to reveal their secret ingredient? Not so fast. “I don’t think we want to say what it’s made of,” smiled Laila. Touché, Friendsville.



Friendsville currency is what everyone is trying to woo.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

To play, teams of four Lower School students queried each other from game cards: "A classmate gets a friend to ignore you every day. Is this classmate being unkind or a bully?" Players advanced using Kind Kash, Challenge and Chance cards.

A team of MS students measure and teach kindness with new game

"Is this like Monopoly?" I asked one third grader as she surveyed the brightly-colored game board? Not quite.

Four Middle School students partnered with Harvard's Making Caring Common project to brainstorm, create and teach the principles of kindness through play.

The students surveyed both teachers and students about unkindness vs. bullying behavior and then created game cards that posed scenario questions to help students grasp the difference. Third and fourth graders piloted the game and 70 kids eventually played and were surveyed to test their understanding.

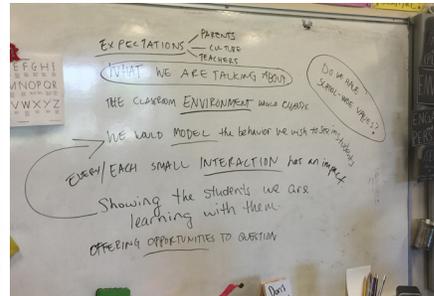


Sam Rosenberg, Tristan Jean-Baptiste and Toby and Rigel Mummers share their project over breakfast with Head of School Andrea Kelly.

FIRST FA TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE

INSPIRING WORK

Teachers learn from each other and their students



MARY ALICE KOLODNER/FRIENDS ACADEMY

(Clockwise from top): Teachers become students in Ed Dugger's class; mapping out teaching strategies; keynote Tim Westerberg; and a 5th-8th grade student panel share their experiences as a student at FA.

At the close of the 2016-17 school year, faculty and staff gathered for Friends Academy's first Teaching & Learning Conference. Stretched over three days, FA colleagues learned from each other in peer-led workshops that explored new ways of thinking, collaboration and classroom instruction, listened to keynote speakers and heard directly from students.

"This is new. This is different. This has never been done before," said Head of School Andrea Kelly as she opened the conference.

Two keynote speakers, Dr. Sandy Klineman and Tim Westerberg introduced FA teaching staff to new concepts of teaching and assessment.

"Performance-based assessments are the way students can show what they've learned and then be able to apply their knowledge to something completely novel," explained Klineman to faculty as she outlined Understanding By Design. "For example, being able

to apply strategies of chess to political campaigns," she added. "This high-level understanding is the way an expertise is developed," she added.

In his keynote address on day two, Westerberg strove to guide teachers to the close the gap between common practice and best practices in assessment and grading as he looked for higher accuracy in reflecting student knowledge.

During the final day of the conference, teaching staff gathered in small break-out "Unconferences," including sessions devoted to project-based learning, advisory curriculum, standards-based grading and more. Additionally, teachers listened to panels of students in grades 5-12. Seniors Reed Mullen and Mishie Macy moderated two separate panels of Grade 5-8 and Grade 9-12 students, as they talked about their experiences as a Friends Academy student.

GLOBAL STUDIES SCHOLAR SYMPOSIUM: MAY 15, 2017



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Ambassador to the United Nations Isobel Coleman discusses the correlation between Mideast revolutions and womens' rights.



Senior Olivia Constantino shares the process behind a rearrangement of Beatles pieces.

On Monday, May 15, the Upper School hosted its first full-day Global Studies Scholars Symposium, which featured Keynote speaker United Nations Ambassador Isobel Coleman and numerous GSS student presentations. Upper School students presented their research and findings in areas including public health, music, dance and the arts, gender and technology, xenophobia, nationalism, science and international relations, the rise of the Nazi Party, South Korean cosmetics, prison populations and more.



Senior Reed Mullen speaks to the effectiveness of nuclear deterrents.



Senior Amy Geiger presents on the role of gender and technology in "Metropolis."



Junior Morgan McCartan examined legalizing medical marijuana and its effect on the community.

UPPER SCHOOL CAREER DAY

‘What would you say to your 11th/12th grade self?’



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Current parent and alum Jed Morey '90 led a panel of five alumni who shared perspectives and career lessons with juniors and seniors this spring.

BY CHRISTINE BOWE
Director of Alumni Affairs

Five alumni returned to campus this April in FA's inaugural "Career Day" presentation. The panel was moderated by Jed Morey '90 and featured Chris Gillick '99, Kim Fahey Brown '88, Lucky Gobindram '04, and Romola Ratnam '03. The discussion was framed by the question, "If you could go back in time and say something to your 11th or 12th grade self at FA, what would it be?" Each panelist offered their own unique perspective on life after FA, ranging in topics from getting into college, choosing a major, and navigating the working world after graduation.

Morey began the panel with a moment of seriousness in the otherwise light hearted and humorous session

with the seniors and juniors. He told them, "The education you get here fortifies your whole being." He spoke of his experience here at FA and how it had guided his career in publishing.

Ratnam currently serves as the Deputy Director of Corporate Business Development for UNICEF, a position that her 11th-grade self might have predicted she would be in. In recounting her career path, Ratnam shared with students her experience in the sports and music industries, but emphasized that she has now ended up in a role that she is truly passionate about. "When I was in high school, I was very socially minded and wanted to go in the Peace Corps. I thought I wanted to major in International Relations, and had a very strong sense of social justice. That was a big part of me and it was my experience here [at FA] that led me to that. When I was your age, I actually had a clearer sense

of what I wanted to be in this world,” said Ratnam.

Lucky Gobindram’s path after Friends followed an unlikely arc. After dropping out of George Washington University, he built a chain of Dunkin’ Donuts stores as a franchisee. However, he and his brother Ashwin (’03) had always been interested in tinkering with hardware and software, coding, building circuits and investing in technology. They worked on small projects on the side as they built the Dunkin’ Donuts chain. Eventually, their passion project snowballed, and 10 years later, he and Ashwin now run an international Digital Innovation Lab that employs 70+ people in three locations. His advice to the students, “Don’t be scared of failure... Failure is the father of knowledge and learning. The more you fail, the more you try, the more you learn, the more you will be able to see.”

Current parent Kim Fahey Brown ’88 spoke about defying the odds, and not being afraid to take the path less traveled. Fahey spoke of being a mother and a doctor, and the unconventional route she took. While in medical school and during her residency, very few women were having kids and simultaneously a career. “Most people thought it couldn’t be done,” said Fahey. Despite the challenge of juggling school, rotations and raising children, Kim had all four of her children during medical school and residency. “Never let anyone tell you what you can or cannot do,” urged Fahey. “Just because nobody else is doing it, doesn’t mean it can’t be done and it doesn’t mean you can’t make your own way. If there’s a path you want to go down that doesn’t exist, make it.”

Chris Gillick spoke about beginning his career in finance, and then realizing that he was better at writing and talking about finance than actually doing it. He has worked on the communications side of finance, first as a journalist covering



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY
Top, Kim Fahey Brown ’88; middle, Lucky Gobindram ’04 and bottom, Romola Ratnam ’03.

Wall Street, and more recently working in public relations and marketing for financial services organizations. His advice: “Never be afraid to ask for help.”

Each of the panelists stressed the importance of the educational foundation they received at FA – how this foundation has guided them through their decisions, challenges and successes as they have navigated their careers. The overarching message from all of them was clear – that there is no straight career path, and the journey never ends, but allows us to continue to gain knowledge and build character.

If you would like to participate in a future Career Panel or networking event, please contact Christine Bowe in the Alumni Office.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

This spring, fifth graders combined circuitry and innovation in their Little Bits science unit.

‘littleBits’ excite young inventor minds

This year the fifth grade will once again embark on a creative journey of building inventions that solve problems demonstrating their knowledge of simple machines. In the past, students created inventive devices at home and showcased them at school as the culminating event to the Simple Machines unit.

Last year, however, Science teacher Meghan Stott decided to try something new – students were asked to use recycled materials and littleBits to create their inventions. Students worked through the engineering design process in class, to create an innovative device that solved a problem.

littleBits offered a new framework for student learning and exploration. “littleBits is a platform of easy-to-use electronic building blocks that empower you to invent anything, from your own remote-controlled car, to a smart home device,” said Stott.

“We can’t wait to see this year’s inventions!”

131ST COMMENCEMENT

The 'Distinguished Class' of 2017

Students live the Quaker mission in areas of service, social justice, visual and performing arts, athletics and research



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Fourth graders perform traditional African dances at Lower School Goes Global.

Global Informances cap months-long studies

Each year, students in Early Childhood through fifth grade embark on a semester-long study of a specific continent of the world – examining culture, language, ethnicity, and more.

Students research a particular country or region, sometimes Skype with peers in other countries, learn from visiting performers and musicians and work with partners and in small groups to create illustrative and project-based presentations, which parents are invited to view during a student-led tour.

For all grades, Lower School Goes Global culminated in a final “informance” for family members and classmates on March 7th for EC-2 and March 24th for Grades 3-5, which featured vocal and instrumental music, choreography and oration.



Third graders deliver their presentation on the continent of Europe.



ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY FOR FRIENDS ACADEMY

Caps soar as seniors from the Class of 2017 graduate into FA alumni on Saturday, June 10, 2017.

Seniors, their families, friends and Friends Academy faculty and staff gathered under the tent to celebrate the 131st Commencement Proceedings on Saturday, June 10, 2017.

In remarks to his fellow classmates, opening speaker Cade Huseby asked them to consider the importance of a diverse life. “A diverse life is not one of difference, but rather, one of awareness,” said Huseby. “Celebrating each other’s differences is ultimately what allows us to shine even brighter within a crowd,” he added as he congratulated the Class on starting their next sequel. Daniel McCooley presented the Senior Class Gift, an 7X30 foot mural depicting actual FA athletes, which is displayed on the walls above the Main Gym’s bleachers. Faculty speaker and Upper School History teacher Sven

Pamuk asked students to consider the true meaning of success. Finally, closing speaker Jackie Walzer pondered how own journey of self-discovery. “What have I discovered about myself here? What lessons can I take with me?”

According to Director of College Counseling Edward Dugger, 81 students in the class matriculated out-of-state with over a quarter of the class choosing liberal arts colleges. Two students received the prestigious Presidential Scholarship; six students were recruited athletes; and two seniors pursued “Gap experiences” – a “Gap Semester” in Israel and participation in the three-week International March of the Living, which occurs in Poland and Israel.

See the list of all 2017 graduates and their accepted colleges on Page 7.

{SCENES FROM THE THE 25TH ANNUAL FRIENDS ACADEMY DINNER & AUCTION}

By DIANE BIOLSI

Director of Annual Fund and Special Events

The 25th Anniversary of the Friends Academy Annual Dinner and Auction was held on March 30, 2017 at the Garden City Hotel, FA's second return to that venue. Since 1874, the Garden City Hotel has been a Long Island landmark, an iconic retreat beloved for its timeless elegance and modern-day comfort. Over 400 parents, alumni and faculty turned out for an evening of fun and good cheer to support a great cause – Friends Academy. The gala generated over \$816,000 to benefit our children, an all-time record.

Maureen Bergmann, Michele Cagner and Carolyn Mott served as our Auction Chairs. Their leadership, hard work and attention to detail truly produced an incredible 25th anniversary celebration for the FA community. Pounding the pavement looking for silent auction items, creating gift baskets, decorating the Garden City Hotel with a farm to table theme, and proofreading the catalog, the volunteer committee worked tirelessly to ensure the Auction's success. The evening began with cocktails and appetizers as guests browsed the vast selection of Silent Auction items, which included travel packages, fashion accessories, sporting events and unique internships for our students donated by the FA community.

The Upper School Jazz Band led by Joe Romano and James Liverani provided an encore performance. A sit-down dinner and live auction, which proved to be the highlight of the evening, was conducted by Jed Morey '90, who returned as Auctioneer for his fifth year. Some of the Live Auction's biggest ticket items included Schultz's Famous Clambake with Raw Bar for 25, a Jets Luxury Box at MetLife Stadium, Beekeeping and Brunch at La Selva and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony at Barclays



25 YEARS OF CELEBRATING WITH FRIENDS: Auction Committee chairs Carolyn Mott, Maureen Bergman and Michele Cagner. The 25th Auction Committee included Jennifer Adoni, Rita Afzelius '80, Lakshmi Alagappan, Rebecca Baadarani, Ingrid Bragoli, Kimberly Griffiths Broder, Emily Chu, Angela Classi, Roberta Clinton, Lisa Crowley, Elvire Daniels, Debra Del Vecchio, Franciska Doshi, Krystal Forde, Isabelle Gardner, Natalia Porcelli Good '93, Beth Green, Rachel Green, Kim Guo, Liz Harris, Molly Henry, Randi Hoyt, Sara Hu, Gina Jaklitsch, Maria Kahane, Julie Kalimian, Gina Kang, Joanna Karageorgiou, Phaedra Kazanas, Pamela Keefer, Debra Krypell, Gemma Lee, Roseann Martin, Suzanne McCooley, Alison McGowan, Gina Oh, Joanne Panagopoulos, Irene Pappas, Nicky Pratt, Golnoosh Rak, Kim Reardon, Julie Riviezzo, Allison Rosen, Lori Rothberg, Aimee Roti, Debra Russell, Maria Ryan, Amy Schamroth, Michelle Selby, Nicole Skolnick, Pamela Sperry, Michelle Statfeld, Katrina Steel, Lisa Sutherland, Sandra Themelis, Ling Wang, Allison Weight and Veronica Wu.



Clockwise from top: The simplicity of the farm-to-table theme sets the tone for the evening; vigorous bidding; Head of School Andrea Kelly chats with parents; auctioneer Jed Morey '90; FA parents enjoy the Auction; parent volunteers at the Wine Pull; and members of the Upper School Jazz Band.

Center! The Auction Scholarship Endowment Fund was created in 2014 to support children who need financial assistance to attend Friends Academy. The FA community came together to support this fund with overwhelming generosity resulting

in \$96,450 in donations. The fund will be a highlight of the Dinner and Auction for years to come.

Mark your calendar for Friday Night with Friends on Friday, March 16th, 2018 at the Garden City Hotel!



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

What do you get when you combine 19 Middle School playwrights, a bit of drama and a few missing cell phones? Why...

'The Greatest Middle School Play Ever Written'

BY ANDREA MILLER

Director of Communications

For two weeks, 19 Middle schoolers gathered in a creative writing incubator with recent alumni Ryan Dobrin '14 and Julia Newitt '15, as their student mentees penned their way through tween-to-teen real life.

Exploring a range, from comic to darker moments, Dobrin and Newitt used several writing prompts to guide the students – everything from losing a cell phone to conversations with imaginary friends to social alienation.

"Few schools do shows with 30+ kids," said Director of Arts Tracey Foster, who was looking for a vehicle to give creative space to a large group of students. "I thought that we might get four to six plays total and maybe seven students interested in writing," first surmised Foster. "We ended up with 19 playwrights and 23 works."

From the top, "Project" written by Ava Morey, with Luke Jennings and Kyleigh Mitchell; "Easy A" inspired by Jasmine Chandy, choreographed by Kimo Kepano; "Rush Hour" choreographed by Kimo Kepano; "In My Head" written by Ava Morey, with Luke Jennings, Graham Semlies and Richie Walka.

From the top, "The Great Adventure" written by Billy Daal with David Cooper-Boyce, Ethan Labelson and Ben Martin; cast members of "Field Trip" written by Luke Jennings; cast members of "Cafeteria Jungle" written by Kyleigh Mitchell; Brandon Shore in "Freddie" written by Dominick Williams.

In conjunction with Foster, Dobrin and Newitt, made it a very user-friendly process – a combination of writers' workshop with writing and feedback and subsequent writing at home.

"After two weeks, I sat down with Ryan and Julia and we were blown away by all the work," recalled Foster. "This is the first time we've asked students to write," she added.

Graduates of both FA and the summer Artist's Institute program teaching staff, Newitt and Dobrin used their writing mentor skills with each student.

"Not only do they understand about guiding the process to something we can put on stage, but Julia and Ryan were able to look at the pieces in develop-

ment, and if student pieces were not entirely age-appropriate, work with them to structure into something that was," said Foster.

The one-act plays dealt with a multitude of themes, from navigating platonic and romantic relationships to finding unity when battling extra-terrestrial creatures.

"When I read all of the pieces, I was amazed at the quality of the work about growing up, friendships and the struggles with all of that," commented Foster. "There was so much honesty in all of their writing."

Like any other production, the crew brought each piece to life, from costumes, the set and choreography. A team of Middle School

students worked diligently with Technical Director Michael Grant and Foster also recruited Upper School students as a part of the process.

"Every year, we have high school students come in and mentor - stage crew, acting coaches and assistant directors," explained Foster. "We always want them working with the students as closely as possible. And from time to time, we also have them do some directing. In this

production, we ended up having seven to eight students directing a piece or two each. We had high school students do most of the directing," said Foster.

"It gave the high school students a wonderful opportunity to direct and they had so much fun

together. It really had this cross-divisional collaboration."

At Friends, playwriting is first offered in 7th grade. "Our 7th graders wrote such great material for our 8th graders," shared Foster. "That was a big of a surprise. I was thrilled with how challenging the material was and how much it gave students to work with as actors," she added.

Putting on and together a multi-act play is a model that Foster uses and enjoys.

"We do chapter plays a lot because it gives every kid a lot to do. There are multiple roles, which is great developmental experience for young actors. Educationally, it's

Continued on Page 20



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Richard Wang is super excited to be fried chicken in "Making My Own Choices" – and wants you to be too!

'THE GREATEST MIDDLE SCHOOL PLAY EVER WRITTEN!'



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

The cast of the Middle School play perform the closing number, "Extraordinary," an original song by freshman Penelope Constantino.

Continued from Page 19

what we should be doing with kids all the time."

In addition to the student-written pieces, the production contained several movement pieces, including one that was girls-only, one for boys and a mixed-gender piece called "Easy A," which kicked off the production.

"This is another way to look at storytelling," said Foster. "The large group pieces allows everyone to come together."

Student work was not just limited to playwriting. Freshman Penelope Constantino wrote and composed the production's ending ensemble song, "Extraordinary."

"Penelope wrote specifically for the Middle School Play. She captured how she had felt, both in Middle School and in the plays," said Foster.



Mewmbers of stage crew with Technical Director Michael Grant.

The soaring, lyrical notes of "Extraordinary" juxtaposed against the last act of the Play – a piece about two kids who throw a party without their mother's permission and ends with the chaotic and random choreography of Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen

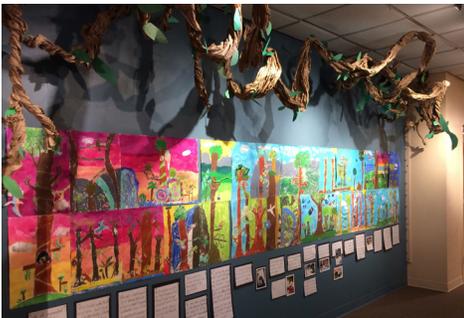
Spirit."

"The opportunity to go from that crazy, pinball machine of 'Teen Spirit' to this hopeful, heartfelt place with 'Extraordinary' – that captured the duality of being a tween and a teen," finished Foster.

THE SPRING CONCERTS AND ART SHOW SERIES

Springtime Sights and Sounds

LOWER SCHOOL



MIDDLE SCHOOL



UPPER SCHOOL



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Above, scenes from the Lower, Middle and Upper School concerts in May 2017. Students gave choral and instrumental performances in grades 3-12 with a special finale of "That's What Friends Are For" at the end of the Lower and Upper School concerts. In Lower School, third grade art docents toured visitors through the Early Childhood - Grade 5 art exhibit.

MIDDLE SCHOOL ARTS WEEK



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Xxxxxxxx

IMAGINATION WEEK!



Drumming, hip hop, Zines, songwriting and more. It's a week of all-out Arts immersion.

BY ANDREA MILLER
Director of Communications

Every year, for four days in April, the entire Middle School enjoys a hands-on, immersive arts workshop with Friends Academy arts faculty and guest artists.

Students pick from a variety of workshops that explore the arts in music, dance, visual, digital and fine arts. The Middle School Play draws in those students who want to explore performing arts, stage crew and the technical aspects of theater. This year's play, "The Greatest Middle School Play Ever Written," featured the original work of 19 Middle School playwrights – a series of student-written 1-act comedies and dramas that breathed the experiences, feelings and inner monologues of Middle schoolers.

During the week, Middle School students either rehearsed for their two evening performances and one matinee or participated in two to three different Arts Week workshops. A community sharing on the final day provided all students and faculty the opportunity to see the week's culmination in songwriting, African drumming, improv, MakerSpace robotics, hip hop, spoken word poetry, songwriting and more, as each session of students presented highlights for the entire school:

MAKER MADNESS: Students designed robots using LED sensors and motors in the Middle School MakerSpace. Two types of motors that spun 180 to 360 degrees allowed student-engineers to create robots that could perform gross motor skills off of motion sensor technology.

ART THERAPY: Through two projects, "Safe Place" and "Who Are You?," students used ModelMagic to create self-exploration collages and learned about the practice and psychology of Art Therapy.

TOTEM EXPLOSION: Student-artists envisioned an animal or spiritual creature that represents peace and used cardboard to create a series of five totem poles.

ZINE MACHINE: Aspiring student-publishers learned about the low-budget,



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Creating through "Art Therapy"

self-published and outside the mainstream field of Zines. Motivated by a desire to express oneself, students created Zines of "My Top 6 Pet Peeves," "Advice to Teachers," "How to Survive Middle School," "Friends Academy Handbook," and "The Adventures of Gideon Frost." Folding small pieces of paper into four folds, students created stapleless mini-zines that they then individually "mass" produced by hand. "Zines had a punk rock beginning," explained US Arts Department head and workshop leader Joy Lai. "This project is all about doing it themselves. You don't have to answer to a publisher and that's the whole point."

FAMILY CREST: Student-art historians created their own family crests based on four squares of thought – where are you and your ancestors from; where do you currently live; an animal that represents you; and somewhere you want to travel.

AFRICAN DRUMMING: Led by former FA faculty member Yahaya Kamate, boys' and girls' groups explored traditional African themes, percussion and technique.

SONGWRITING: A group of student-songwriters lyricized about babies, sneakers, summer and life using a myriad of instruments, including the flute, piano, drums and base guitar. "You never have to write for anybody but yourself," commented FA music teacher Eden White.

HANDS-ON SCULPTURE: A fine and visual arts session in sculpting and

journaling, students learned subtractive sculpting to carve their hand out of a block of foam. In journals, students wrote to the prompt, "What kind of message do we send and share when we shake hands with a stranger versus an old friend?"

MONSTERS, INK: Students gave life to inkblots as they experimented with the art of cartooning to add monster-like features to their blots.

CLICK, TAP, RATTLE, SHAKE, BOOM!!: A student-percussion jam session, the ensemble performed a mini-concert with drums, gongs, xylophones and bongos, conducted by a classmate.

PHOTO FRENZY! Students explored connections between digital and analog photography as they made lists of adjectives to describe themselves, took photos of each other and then manipulated the photos with Photoshop filters. The final images were printed on transparencies.

IMPROV: Students learned a series of improvisational games to help them warm up, listen to each other and connect voices to bodies. The group demonstrated two games, "The Prince of Paris" and "The Game of Thrones" during sharing.

STEPS: Led by the brother-and-sister team of Courtney and Camille (former FA dance faculty) Edwards, the pair led a group of boys and girls through spoken word poetry, comprised of anonymous truths about each other and capped by a hip-hop dance-off between girls and boys.

iPAD FILMMAKING: A small group of students chronicled Arts Week in film through student interviews and workshop footage.



AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Final Hands-On sculptures

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: TODD JACOBSON '93

'THE POWER OF SPORT...'



...to inspire and change lives.'

ISTOCKPHOTO

BY NATALIA PORCELLI GOOD '93

Imagine driving down a dusty road into one of the most impoverished villages in the world. You pass by aluminum shanty huts the size of bathrooms that house up to 10 people. The majority of the people have no running water or electricity. It is a completely different world from anything you have ever experienced. Next, imagine that the community is gathered together to meet you. Drums are beating.

Children are singing and dancing. The look of pure joy and excitement on the faces of complete strangers eagerly awaiting your arrival is astonishing. Yet as you step off the bus, everything comes to a screeching halt. Rather than an NBA star like Michael Jordan or Kobe Bryant whom they were hoping to meet, the children see only an unrecognizable face.

As Todd Jacobson, '93 described this story to the Class of 2017 at the Fourth Day Honors Ceremony, he came to understand “the universal look of complete confusion and utter disappointment on the faces of children when they realize I am the one there from the NBA.” But the story doesn't end there: once the children learn that Jacobson in fact knows Michael Jordan, the encounter turns into a makeshift press conference, the excitement returns and Jacobson “witnessed firsthand the power of sport, the NBA and our players... to inspire and change lives.”

Little did the children in Klip-town, South Africa realize that they weren't meeting just any representative from the NBA. Rather, they were meeting someone who has dedicated his career to making a difference in the lives of others through the power of sport. Jacobson has not only worked with many NBA superstars, including Michael Jordan, LeBron James and Steph Curry, but he has also worked alongside Nelson Mandela, George W. Bush and Bill Clinton, among others, because of the incredible work that he does



Todd Jacobson from the 1993 Lamp

at the NBA to positively impact communities in the United States and around the world.

I have known Todd Jacobson '93, for nearly 30 years as a classmate and close friend. As anyone who knows him can tell you, his smile and laughter are contagious, he has a true zest for life, a passion for sports and helping people. The son of Martin Jacobson, a revered Athletic Director at Friends Academy for 35 years, and Lynn Jacobson, a physical education teacher at a local public school, sports have always played an important part in his life. A proud and self-proclaimed “faculty kid,” Jacobson grew up on the grounds of Friends Academy, and he had

the good fortune of being raised by an extended family of FA faculty, coaches and staff during his formative years. Jacobson has fond memories of playing sports in the field house and on the soccer fields, having dinner with other faculty members and their families and thinks of Friends Academy not only as a school but as a “home.” Jacobson also greatly values the incredible friendships he forged during his many

Continued on Page 26



AMANDA FISK PHOTOS/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Todd Jacobson '93 addresses the Upper School at last June's Fourth Day Honors.

“Sports is woven into the fabric of our society.

On the microlevel, it is the values we learn being part of a team and participating in sports. Things like respect, hard work and learning how to win and lose – important values that are transferable in life.

Overall, sport has the power to bring people together, break down barriers and achieve the extraordinary. Its ability to be so transformative on many levels is why it has been such an important part of my life. Since the beginning, Friends Academy and sports have been a big part of who I am.

As I headed off to college, I wanted to figure out ways to utilize sport as a tool for development to help others as it had helped me.

It turns out that except for teaching and coaching, the field of sports for development was almost nonexistent.

That did not stop me from pursuing it – I was not going to be deterred when others only saw a jock and failed to understand the potential sport had to change lives and make the world a better place.”



COURTESY TODD JACOBSON

Todd Jacobson, NBA's Senior Vice President of Social Responsibility visits with some children in Klip-town, South Africa.



Todd Jacobson with his father, Martin Jacobson, former FA Athletic Director, and Head of School Andrea Kelly

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: TODD JACOBSON '93



COURTESY TODD JACOBSON

Todd Jacobson poses with some of the residents of Klipptown, South Africa on a recent trip.

Continued from Page 25

years at Friends Academy, many of which remain strong to this day.

Jacobson credits Quaker Meeting as a place that taught him valuable lessons that have guided him throughout his career: sitting quietly, listening to others, processing those thoughts and sharing ideas in an honest, straightforward manner. As Jacobson spoke about the importance of consensus-building at Fourth Day Honors, “strength can come from an individual, but true power comes when people work together around a common goal. This is a Quaker-based approach I learned, as you did, during my years at Friends and it has served me incredibly well.”

Upon graduating from Friends, Jacobson continued his education at Cornell

University, where he played on the Cornell soccer team winning the Ivy League Championship in 1996 and finishing sixth on the all-time career assists list. He majored in Human Development and Family Studies, but mid-way through his sophomore year, he took a Sports and Society class that marked the beginning of an incredible career. It was this class that sparked the idea that sports could have the ability to impact society at large in positive ways. “While previously I had only understood sports through the lens of teaching and coaching, I now could see that sport could be used as a tool for community impact...and as a vehicle to do more.”

During his junior year at Cornell, Jacobson spent a semester in New York City and interned at the Hispanic American Sports Coalition. He was able to experi-

ence what it was like to do grassroots work in Latino communities throughout New York City, creating youth sports programs.

After receiving his degree from Cornell, Jacobson was not exactly sure which direction his career was going to take. His first job was with the New York City Parks Department, where he set up sports and community programs for teens in group homes, often located in neighborhoods that didn't have many other outlets for kids to play. Through his work, he discovered how critical parks were to the communities in which they were located. “This is somebody's backyard. Whether it is grass or blacktop, it is a place for kids to play that must be clean and safe, something that we often take for granted.”

It was also during Jacobson's time working at the Parks Department that he met two important people in his life, Pape Seye and Bouna Condoul, both students from Senegal who attended Martin Luther King High School. Jacobson helped mentor them through high school and continues to have a relationship with them to this day. With Jacobson's guidance, Seye attended Cornell University, earned his MPA at Columbia University and currently works as an Associate Dean and soccer coach at the Kent School. Condoul attended SUNY Albany, went on to play in the MLS and became the goalie for the Senegalese National Team. For Jacobson, it is relationships like these that have been defining moments in his career. “Sport has the amazing ability to bring people together. We had nothing else in common other than a love of soccer, but

NBA CARES

In 2005, Jacobson helped manage the launch and execution of the NBA's social responsibility program, which was recognized by ESPN in 2016 with its inaugural League Humanitarian Leadership Award.

4.1M

Hours of hands-on community service

\$270M

Amount donated to charity

1,090

Number of places in 37 countries that NBACares has created for children and families to live, learn and play in

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI: TODD JACOBSON '93

that alone brought us together. Now our relationship is so much more than that.”

In 2001, Jacobson began working at the NBA in the league’s Community Relations department and is now the Senior Vice President of Social Responsibility, where he is responsible he oversees the NBA, WNBA and NBA G League’s global social responsibility efforts, community partnerships, and public service initiatives. Jacobson also manages the league’s government affairs, including White House and State Department relationships. Jacobson realized that the NBA had the power to inspire people to make a difference and serve as a platform for social responsibility.

As Jacobson experienced first-hand on his first visit internationally to the township of Kliptown, South Africa, the NBA has a significant global reach. “At its core, basketball is an inclusive, easy-to-understand sport that can bring people together



COURTESY TODD JACOBSON

Todd, his wife Jana and their son, Ari

and serve as a bridge across cultures.” In 2001, the NBA developed “Basketball without Borders” (BWB), a program which to date has staged 42 camps in 24 cities in 20 countries on five continents and has hosted more than 2,300 participants from more than 125 countries and territories. BWB “use[s] the sport of basketball to influence social change and features dozens of current and former NBA players and team personnel as camp coaches.”

In 2005, Jacobson helped manage the launch and execution of NBA Cares, the league’s social responsibility program. To date, NBA Cares has provided more than 4.1 million hours of hands-on community service, donated \$270 million to charity and has created nearly 1,090 places for children and families to live, learn and play in 37 countries and territories around the world. In addition, the program has enabled the NBA to increase its reach and impact by partnering with programs that support youth and family development from the Boys and Girls Club of America, the Special Olympics, and Make-A-Wish Foundation to LeanIn.Org and Hope for St. Jude, among others. In 2016, NBA Cares was recognized by ESPN with its inaugural League Humanitarian Leadership Award for driving social impact over the last decade.

The NBA also addresses issues that are important to building stronger, safer communities that experience racial and economic injustices. “In July of [2016]

four NBA players, Chris Paul, Carmelo Anthony, LeBron James and Dwayne Wade, spoke out about recent tragedies and social unrest, and the need for athletes to stand up, come together and work more in our communities. Since then, led by our players, the NBA and the players

association, the NBA ramped up its efforts working together along with our teams to create impactful community activations.” Through these efforts, this past season, the NBA Family has

held more than a hundred community conversations, building bridges through basketball programs and mentor events throughout the country.

As he concluded his speech to the Class of 2017, Jacobson stated, “I could never have dreamed that I would be able to make professional sports a career and, most importantly, be given the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people and communities around the world.” For Jacobson, following his passion with determination has led him to be a great success and a model for others to follow.

Jacobson lives in New York City with his wife, Jana, and son, Ari. He holds an M.P.A. in advanced management and finance from Columbia University and in addition to his responsibilities at the NBA, manages to find time to teach at Columbia University as an adjunct professor for the School of International and Public Affairs and to serve on various boards and committees.

“True power comes when people work together around a common goal.”

BASKETBALL **WITHOUT** BORDERS

Developed in 2001, this program, which features dozens of current and former NBA players/personnel as camp coaches allowed the NBA to achieve significant global reach.

42

Number of camps around the world in 24 cities

2.3K

Number of participants in 125 countries and territories



Todd Jacobson with President Barack Obama



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

From a history-making season to persistence, grit and determination, the **Spring 2017 Sports season** showcased FA athletes.

Top row: Friends and Sagamore Rowing, Will Parker and Albert Pannicia.. Middle: Sophia Pavlakis, Maclean Pascucci and Max Botwinick; Bottom: Lauren Russell, Elizabeth Gherlone and Pius Lo.

2017 SPRING SPORTS

Varsity Boys capture LI crown

BOYS GOLF:

TEAM MAKES HISTORY

This year's Boys Golf team continued its tradition of high class performances and low scores. We finished 11-1 giving senior captains Danny McCooley and Will Podbela a 42-2 overall record and four consecutive conference titles over their careers.



Coach of the Year
Geoff Nelson

The most memorable of these wins was away at Plandome Country Club against Manhasset High School – our team's biggest rival. Everyone stepped up and contributed to win us the 2017 conference 2 title. Juniors Will Parker and Cristian Del Vecchio had two of the top scoring averages in the county in this effort, while Erik Zetterstrom and Max Popper quietly and consistently won clutch matches to lead us to many victories this season.

The team also added some young guns in Ethan Shalam and Jack McCooley. On Wednesday, May 31, the team made history for itself and FA



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Will Podbela takes aim.



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Max Popper sends the ball down the green.

when it captured the Long Island Championship crown for the first time against Suffolk County champion Northport HS.

Friends won by a wide margin of approximately 55 strokes.

2017 ROSTER: Cristian Del Vecchio, Tyler Fox, Liam Jachetta, Michael Manu, Daniel McCooley, Jack McCooley, William Parker, William Podbela, Maxwell Popper, Ethan Shalam and Erik Zetterstrom. Coach: Geoff Nelson

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL-COUNTY – WILL PARKER, CRISTIAN DEL VECCHIO AND ERIK ZETTERSTROM

ALL-COUNTY HONORABLE MENTION – WILL PODBELA

ALL CONFERENCE – MAX POPPER AND ETHAN SHALAM

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS

Boys Lax returns to post-season play



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Albert Panicia looks to a teammate.

BOYS VARSITY LACROSSE YOUNG TEAM HAS DEPTH

The 2017 Lacrosse team had a strong year, and for the first time since joining the public school league, were regular season co-champions of the C-2 division. The team had an overall record of 10-4, and a league record of 8-1 and qualified for the playoffs with a first-round match-up with Mineola high school. It had been three years since Friends saw action in post season play, but with a total team effort, they won a hard-fought battle to move on to the quarterfinals against town rival Locust Valley.

While there were only five seniors on

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

HONORABLE MENTION

ALL-COUNTY – ANDREW MARSH

ALL-COUNTY – RYAN TAM

ALL-CONFERENCE – RYAN TAM,
ANDREW MARSH, MORGAN BO, CHRISTIAN
BARAKAT, GEORGE PANAGOPOLOUS

ACADEMIC ALL-CONFERENCE –
RYAN TAM, ANDREW MARSH, MORGAN BO,
CHRISTIAN BARAKAT AND GEORGE
PANAGOPOLOUS



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Chris Nishamura breaks through.

the team, their leadership and contributions on both sides of the field were invaluable to the team's success. They were supported by ten juniors, six sophomores and two 8th graders. While considered a young team, they played with maturity and a dedication to success and improvement. With a loss of two key players in the heart of the season, even more responsibility fell on the shoulders of the younger players. The strength of the team was on the defensive side of the field, but without the improvement of the young offense, their success would not have been as great.

The team had five players recognized with all-conference honors, as well as, two players recognized at the county level. Given that much of the team is returning next year, with continued dedication, the future is bright.

2017 ROSTER: James Araskog, Christian Barakat, Luke Baskind, Morgan Bo, Alexander Campbell, Vincent Como, Blaise DellaFera, Luke Dillmeier, Conor Dineen, Louis Durante, Patrick Kavan, Andrew Marsh, Nicholas Miller, Edward Mullen, Christopher Nishimura, George Panagopoulos, Albert Panicia, Christopher Panicia, Jonathan Sgaglione, Cal Stellato, Ryan Tam, Michael Wootten and Stephen Zerilli. Coach: Bill Garry

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS

Seniors see exponential growth

**GIRLS VARSITY LACROSSE:
SEASON FINISH OF 10-3**

The Girls Varsity Lacrosse team had a very successful 2017 season. This year the Quakers finished 10-3 with three losses all being by three goals or less. For seniors, this was a great accomplishment from their freshman year of only two wins and 11 losses and a huge reason why the program is improving greatly.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL-COUNTY – JULIET D'AVERSA

ALL-COUNTY HONORABLE MENTION – SOPHIA PAVLAKIS

ALL-CONFERENCE – EJ WAECHTER

UNsung HERO – KAT MONGIARDO

SCHOLAR ATHLETE – CAROLINE WILSON

Apart from having a goal of a winning season, the girls also made sure to stick to the most important thing – to make lacrosse fun every day. FA lax traditions, like spirit days, pre-game pump ups, and pasta parties, bonded the girls as a team. To seniors and captains, Lily Droesch, Caroline Wilson, and Julia Serko, thank you for all you have done for this program. We will miss you!

2017 ROSTER: Ashley Brown, Lilly Brown, Caroline Carrello, Juliet D'Aversa, Lily Droesch, Meriwether Florence, Ashleen Hughes, Colette Hughes, Katy Hunt, Sydney Kang, Melina Kazanas, Charlie Kliger, Halle Krypell, Margaret Leonard, Alexis Mack, Morgan McCartan, Katarina Mongiardo, Samantha Paniccia, Anna Pappas, Sophia Pavlakis, Lola Piuggi, Hannah Popper, Charlotte Russell, Kristina Sanoulis, Julia Serko, Olivia Sutherland, Parisa Vahid, Emily Jane Waechter and Caroline Wilson. Coach: Victoria Kotowski



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Michael Droesch on the lacrosse field

BOYS JV LACROSSE**.500 SEASON IN CLOSE GAMES**

It was a pleasure to coach the 2017 JV Boy's Lacrosse team. As coaches our vision for the team revolved around teamwork and a commitment to improve. The boys bought into these concepts and had a terrific season. We are proud of the effort and dedication the boys put forth both in practices and in games. We played a lot of close games that could have gone either way. This team never quit no matter the circumstances and played hard until the final whistle. Those attributes allowed us to have a lot of success and while our focus was never on the outcome of the game the boys did finish 6-6 winning five of their last eight games. This year's JV lacrosse team is one that our community can be very proud of and the future is bright for the Friends Academy lacrosse program.

– Coach Patrick Maguire

2017 ROSTER: Harry Afzelius, Connor Andersen, Christian Cottone, William Cuddeback, Jake Damm, Jack Davis, Laurence Denihan, Luke Dillmeier Michael Droesch, Maxwell Fernando, Devon Forsyth, Robert Grella, Andrew Hartog, Jake Katz, Faraz Khan, Edward Mangiarotti, John May, Michael Mead, Peter Panacciulli, Chandler Perry, Jared Rothberg, George Sanoulis and Lucas Themelis. Coach: Patrick Maguire



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Caroline Carrello takes the ball down the field.

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS

Girls Track finishes 2nd in Division Championships

Varsity Girls and Boys Track: New Team Members Add Depth

The Boys and Girls 2017 track teams enjoyed a successful spring season. Both teams are quite young with 20 new team members. The team had to face the challenge of moving up two divisions and one conference to compete against much larger teams. Despite a cold and rainy spring, the team worked hard, stayed positive, and made progress throughout the season.

Many individuals set personal records by jumping farther, running faster, and throwing greater distances than they had previously. The team participated in four invitational meets and individuals won 29 medals for their competitive efforts. The girls traveled to Philadelphia to compete



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY
Above Betty Pakh and below Matt Storch compete in spring track and field events.



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Vanessa Quinland clears the hurdles.

in the Penn Relays and ran their best times of the season in the 4 x 100m relay and 4 x 400m relay.

Over 150 runners and walkers joined us to participate in the 6th annual memorial run and the team raised over \$2000 for the

Brian J. Hom Scholarship fund. Several of the athletes continued their service efforts this season with sandwich making, art with Friends, and volunteering with La Fuerza Unida.

At the Division 3B championship, the Girls finished 2nd in Division IIIB Championships and the Boys finished 6th.

2017 ROSTER: Anna Asnis, Grace Burrus, Amelia Cardone, Julianne Cottone, Madison Daal, Francesca De Geronimo, Jessica de la Bastide, Emma Deutsch, Kyla Graham, Caroline Green, Laura Greene, Kaitlyn Hardy, Mary Hills, Angela Holloway, Kayla Koroma, Grace Lavin, Leah Loetman, Catherine Lori, Alison Mosher, Natalia Pakh, Vanessa Quinland, S. Abigail Regis, Gail Saez-Hall, Courtney Taylor, Trayvon Alexander, Alexander Clinton, Guy Fernando, Owen Ingrassia, Taye Holder, Joseph Lostritto, Aidan Lundy, Gavin Murphy, Blake Nagel, Brendan Naughton, Maclain Pascucci, Michael Sensale, Matthew Storch and Jeffrey Wu. Coach: Louisa Garry

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

ALL-COUNTY – LAURA GREENE AND LEAH LOETMAN

COUNTY AA MEDALISTS – AMELIA CARDONE, MAISIE HILLS, ABBY REGIS AND FRAN DEGERONIMO

ALL-DIVISION CHAMPION –
3000M - LEAH LOETMAN
1500M - LEAH LOETMAN
800M - LAURA GREENE

ALL-DIVISION – CAROLINE GREEN, ABBY REGIS, BETTY PAKH AND MATT STORCH

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Daniel Selby follows through on his swing.

VARSITY BASEBALL: THE SEASON OF "NO EXCUSES"

The following is a quote that Coach Damm chose to share about the Boys Varsity Baseball season and certainly applies to any sport that anyone participates in and everything we do.

"Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday's success or put its failures behind and start over again. That's the way life is, with a new game every day, and that's the way baseball is." (Bob Feller)

It was a pleasure to have coached our baseball athletes for the spring 2017 season. Our team was comprised of 15 dedicated and talented ball players who always arrived with great enthusiasm and a competitive spirit. Our season did not shape out the way we might have hoped it would, as injuries threw us off track a bit. That being said, throughout the season we always followed the motto of "no excuses." As a team, we embraced that ethos and always arrived ready to compete and progress both individually and collectively.

One of the highlights for the season was our experience playing at the Long Island Ducks Stadium, where we recorded our first win of the season. With a major league atmosphere, our players executed their

finest game of the season. What made it most memorable was that each and every one of our players contributed to the team's overall success.

Our two seniors and captains, Max Botwinick and Chris Petrocelli deserve great recognition for their positive and motivating leadership during a difficult season. These guys never wavered, always keeping the team focused and eager to compete. Leaders don't lead...they inspire others to do their best, and these two guys knocked that out of the park.

We would like to say a special thank you to our parents, for their continued support. Also, we owe our gratitude to Mrs. Jones for all that she does for our athletic program, and to Mrs. Muller for keeping us healthy. Finally, a big shout to the maintenance staff for doing an amazing job on our field in a spring season filled with difficult weather."

2017 ROSTER: Andrew Becker, Javont Boose, Max Botwinick, Alexander Carden, William Daal, Aaron Daniels, Joseph Horne, Ryley McEvoy, Christopher Petrocelli, Samuel Rotberg, Henry Schoeffel, Daniel Selby, Jared Toby, Justin Toby and Jared Zelman. Coach: Mike Damm

GIRLS VARSITY SOFTBALL: DESPITE LOSS OF PLAYERS, TEAM FINISHES 8-2

The Friends Academy Softball team had a successful season with a record of 8-2. After a loss of many previous players right before the start of the season, the remaining nine, including three new members, realized the importance of commitment and relying on each other. With no subs and a risk of forfeiting each game, every player had to work harder this year and play a different position from last year, with Ellie Schoeffel and Amberlin Mott stepping up to pitch.

The team found so much success on the field because of their close-knit bonds with one another and the feeling of family within the team. The most common phrase on this team was "I love you guys so much," and with fun nicknames, cheers, a swaggy playlist, and a never-give-up attitude, every team member showed up, allowing us to successfully finish every game. Each player truly worked for the girl beside her. The biggest game of the year was our second face-off with North Shore where we emerged victorious in a close home game following a previous defeat, and being down by many runs at the beginning.

We hope to see this amazing team spirit and commitment continue.

2017 ROSTER: Yusra Azaz, Jocelyn Cedeno, Raquel Doscher, Ella Fitzhugh, Kassandra Homayuni, Amberlin Mott, Lauren Russell, Madeline Scanlon, Eleanor Schoeffel and Sherry Yang. Coach: Christine Botti



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Kassandra Homayuni stands ready.

GIRLS GOLF:**COMPETITIVE AND DETERMINED**

Spring 2017 was another great season for girls golf. After only graduating one senior last year, the team maintained a similar starting lineup, including the addition of five underclassmen who were enthusiastic about developing their skills.

Throughout the season, the team was able to sustain a competitive attitude and persevered through any challenges they faced. Everyone on the team worked hard

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD – TEAM

ALL COUNTY – SERENA BIONDI AND LIZ GHERLONE

ALL STATE – SERENA BIONDI

every day at practice, improved their individual scores, and remained committed throughout the whole season.

Even

though the team graduated three of their starting players, coaches are confident that the team will continue to be successful in the coming years. On behalf of the team we would like to thank Coach Baker and Mrs. Bruen for all of their help this season.

2017 ROSTER: Erina Bardong, Serena Biondi, Angelica Del Vecchio, Elizabeth Gherlone, Lauren LeoGrande, Jade Lewin, Olivia Lizza, Julia Satovsky and Ryan Weight. Coach: Gail Baker



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Ryan Weight lets the ball fly.

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS

ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Samir Singh runs the court.

BOYS VARSITY TENNIS:**NEW AND RETURNING PLAYERS TAKE ON CHALLENGING MATCHES**

The 2017 Boys Varsity Tennis season began in early March with a unique combination of many new players joining a small group of remaining players from last year's team vying for positions on the Varsity squad.

As a whole, the group did a great job dealing with a number of early-season obstacles, in particular the cold and wet spring weather, which hampered both team tryouts and practice time. With a limited amount of court time, both indoors and out, the players remained focused and participated in numerous on-court tennis/ cardio fitness and weight training workouts to help prepare for the season.

After a week of tryout matches, the roster was paired down to fourteen (14) players and the team began a series of practice matches in week two. The remaining players from last year's team did a great job of welcoming the first year players into the fold. In particular the senior leadership of team captains Will Kaminsky and Will Doran, along with junior Samir Singh made the transition into the 2017 season

very smooth.

As team match play began, the players competed in their early season matches facing the very difficult task in week one of playing against the strongest of the Conference I teams in Nassau County. Although their match record will not indicate this, the team did an outstanding job of taking on the challenge presented to them. The team leadership was very successful in maintaining both team morale and keeping the group focused on the task at hand.

In May the team competed in the Nassau County team playoffs as well as the Nassau County Tennis Tournament. Many thanks go out to this year's players from the Coaching Staff for their efforts and enthusiasm in taking on the challenges of the 2017 tennis season.

2017 ROSTER: Roaiz Azaz, Kevin Baskind, John Doran, Peter Fornell, William Kaminsky, Ryan Kliger, John Lawrence, Pius Lo, Alexander Merrill, James Morgan, Timothy Morgan, Matthew Sgaglione, Samir Singh, Quintin Tyree and Philip von Stade. Coach: Gino Uterano

FA 2017 SPRING SPORTS



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Above and top: Max Wang and Nick Hoffman return a volley.

BOYS JV TENNIS: PERSISTENT ON THE COURT

“It 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. Although we had to forfeit a number of matches, we still managed to win five times out of 11, sometimes with only half of the squad. Credit goes to those athletes that stayed the course, balanced their academics and athletics, and were mentally and physically ready when it was game time. Great job team!

I am hopeful that next year the team will be even stronger! See you all next year.”

– Coach Michael Giarrapto

2017 ROSTER: Charles Andolina, William Duke, Nickolas Hoffman, Tyler Hu, Spencer Login, Miles Miller, Timothy Morgan, Maxwell Savasta, William Stein, Brian Wang, Max Wang and Edward Zuckerbrot. Coach: Michael Giarrapto

2017 COLLEGE-RECRUITED ATHLETES



KATARINA HEFFRON
Amherst (Soccer)
JESS OXER
Muhlenberg (Field hockey)
CLAIRE HANDA
Univ. of Chicago (Tennis)
MORGAN WILKINS
Trinity College (Tennis)
JOE COMO
Cal Tech (Soccer)
ALEX MERRILL
Middlebury (Squash)
MAX EVANS
Stanford (Crew)
AMANDA FISK/FRIENDS ACADEMY

VARSITY CREW: TEAM MERGES WITH SAGAMORE ROWING; BRING HOME 34 MEDALS

Spring 2017 was a remarkable season for Friends Academy Varsity crew. The Friends team joined Sagamore, the local rowing association, over the fall season, and are getting better because of it. The Quakers started out the season with a rigorous month of pre-season workouts, and have since improved exceptionally, especially new rowers – freshmen Amelia Crowley, Dylan Sklar, Haydn Ellinger, and sophomore Uma Alagappan. Returning rowers include freshmen Trevor Bruderman, Henry Jervis, Griffyn Kang, Will Durban, and sophomores Paige Lind, Effie

Karageorgiou, and Will Richter.

The team competed in a number of races over the season, including the Row for Autism, the Cooper Cup, and The Long Island Championships. In those races, Friends Academy rowers brought back a total of 34 medals, including 9 bronze, 10 silver, and 15 gold. All in all this has been a very successful season for the crew team.

2017 ROSTER: Uma Alagappan, Trevor Bruderman, Amelia Crowley, William Durban, Haydn Ellinger, Henry Jervis, Griffyn Kang, Efimia Karageorgiou, Paige Lind, William Richter and Dylan Sklar. Coach: Jason Moskowitz '00



ALAN QUACKENBUSH/FRIENDS ACADEMY

Friends Academy in a coxed-8 with teammates from Sagamore Rowing.

FACULTY SUMMER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Christine Botti and Mandie Haughey

Physical Education teachers

CHRISTINE BOTTI and **MANDIE HAUGHNEY**

examined Friends Academy's health curriculum this summer with the purpose of aligning it across all divisions. They looked at existing practices and implementation of the current curriculum. Following their summer review, Botti and Haughey will look to structure the curriculum and develop lessons that best meet the needs of students.



Jess Levey

Digital Arts Director **JESS LEVEY** worked to write a semester-long Animation course for a new course, "Introductory class in Animation."

Learning Specialist **ALEXIA WALKA** and 6th Grade English teacher **DEBBIE ALBER**



Alexia Walka and Debbie Alber

teamed up to look at the 6th grade literacy schedule, so that this fall an extension

of the English class incorporated mini-lessons in reading and writing. The lessons include outlines from "The Writing Revolution" and the Judith Hochman method.



Mary Ann Vascotto

Upper School Physics teacher **MARY ANN VASCOTTO** reviewed the Physics curriculum to modify it with an emphasis on using instruction that illuminates student discovery of scientific truths.



Jillian Chiarenza, Jaclyn Wirth and Erin Nolan

Upper School math teachers **JILLIAN CHIARENZA**, **JACLYN WIRTH** and Middle School math teacher **ERIN NOLAN** designed a mastery assessment model for Algebra 1. The team created multiple versions of mastery assessments for each identified skill and discussed how to best structure this model for grades 8 and 9, as well as aligning with the current grading system.

Two new Upper School World Language GSS (Global Scholars Studies) classes were created: Spanish teacher **EDGAR**



Edgar Posada and Polly Duke

POSADA created course development for GSS Spanish Language and Culture;

and World Languages & Cultures department head **POLLY DUKE** worked on course development for GSS French Language and Culture.

Upper School Science department head **JEN NEWITT** and Science teacher



Jen Newitt and Carolyn Pocius

CAROLYN POCIUS partnered to redesign the Upper School biology course. Each unit is

now guided by essential questions and Newitt and Pocius developed alternative summative assessments that foster real-world connections to the material. Additionally, they intergrated student choice into lab work and inquiry.



Casey Reed

Upper School science teacher **CASEY REED** redesigned the Chemistry course using principles of "Understanding By Design" and implemented standards-based grading, as well as integrating Quaker practice into the classroom.

Upper School history teacher **RICK SIMON** continued to build upon the new strands of the annual Junior trip to Washington, D.C. Launched in November 2016, students have the opportunity to choose a strand (i.e. political, art, journalism, etc.) that appeals to he/she within the trip. Each strand follows a different itinerary.



Rick Simon



Sara Pozzi

Upper School Spanish teacher **SARA POZZI** developed the GSS Just Add Water course.

The history team of department head **CHRISTINE KULKE**, and history teachers **JACKIE MAZUR** and **MICHAEL SERIF** revised



Christine Kulke, Jackie Mazur and Mike Serif the 9th grade history course using Understanding by Design principles and standards assessment tools with an emphasis on positive impact on student learning.



Brie Kraska, Chelsea Bertani and Colleen Bode

Over the summer, Lower School math learning specialist **BRIE KRASKA**, 1st grade teacher **CHELSEA BERTANI** and 3rd grade teacher **COLLEEN BODE** determined how to best assess the students learning using a problem-solving approach along with math workshop (formative vs. summative assessment).

Early Childhood teacher **PAM MARTOCCI**, Kindergarten teacher **JEN MADDEN**, first



Pam Martocci and Jen Madden

grade teachers **CHELSEA BERTANI** and **DALE WATERHOUSE**, third grade teachers **COLLEEN BODE** and **NIKITA DESAI** and fourth grade teacher **KIM SOSCIE** worked in



Dale Waterhouse and Nikita Desai



Kim Soscie

tandem to redesign and restructure the Lower School Social Studies curriculum with an eye toward social justice. The work kicked off with a full-day retreat involving all Lower School social studies teachers in the spring of 2017.

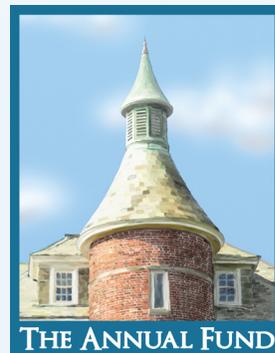
FRIENDS HOLDS 1ST ALL-DIVISIONAL TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE

FA colleagues learned from each other in peer-led workshops that explored new ways of thinking, collaboration and classroom instruction, listened to keynote speakers and heard directly from students. **Page 12**

A QUAKER EDUCATION: A GIFT FOR LIFE

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.



**THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE
IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN**

www.fa.org/give | (516) 393-4269

from the president

PETER STEIN '79

Dear Fellow Alumni,

There is no shortage of phenomenal FA Alumni! We have accomplished so much in all professions, occupations, careers and walks of life. Todd Jacobson, '93, Dion Metzger, MD '03 and Will Roland, '07 are just three remarkable alumni who are featured in this issue of *The Meeting House*. Beginning on page 24, read about Todd's incredible odyssey as the Senior Vice President of Social Responsibility for the NBA. Todd, who was honored as the 2017 Distinguished Alumnus at 4th Day Honors in the spring, mesmerized the FA student body and its guests with his wonderful presentation describing how he has let sports impact society in such a positive way. His leadership at the NBA Cares program that he helped launch in 2005, has led to over \$270 million donated to charities. That's making a difference! Dion Metzger, MD, a member of the FA Class of 2003, is a board certified psychiatrist who is also making a difference in others' lives. Page 40 features a small glimpse into Dion's very busy life. In addition to practicing psychiatry and having academic appointments at three medical schools, Dr. Metzger has found time to co-author the bestseller, *The Modern Trophy Wife: How to Achieve Your Life's Goals While Thriving at Home* and has actively spread her message of "better mind, better life" in numerous media outlets. FA has produced many very talented performers in the arts. Will Roland, '07 is featured on page 42. Read about his journey from the Dolan Center in Locust Valley to The Great White Way as a star of *Dear Evan Hansen*. Will details his



PETER STEIN '79,
FRIENDS ACADEMY
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT

background and how FA has shaped him into a true star and a multi-talented performer. And, perhaps most importantly, he offers up some great advice that everyone should take to heart – "Work hard. Be nice to people."

The spring of 2017 saw two major FA Alumni gatherings. First, we celebrated a Long Island event at the gracious Koufakis house in May. This well attended affair saw many local alumni converge for an elegant evening of nostalgia and reminiscing. The New York City function was held in June at B Bar and Grill and attracted several hundred alumni for an informal night of camaraderie. It was a truly spirited event that was enjoyed by all who attended. Check out pages 54-57 to see photos of many smiling alumni at these two great events!

I look forward to repeating these great events in the spring of 2018 and I hope to see you there!

The second annual alumni soccer game took place in September. Alumni spanning five decades played a spirited and skilled game and enjoyed a postgame lunch. Hopefully, all those sore muscles will be rested for next year's event and we look forward to welcoming

additional alumni soccer players to this fun afternoon!

The weekend of October 13-15 saw FA welcome back another group of spectacular alumni as the 50th year reunion Class of 1967 and we look forward to seeing photos of Homecoming in the next issue of *The Meeting House*.

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.



FRIENDS ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni are the living legacy of Friends Academy.

THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

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.

2017: TODD JACOBSON '93 –

Senior Vice President for Social Responsibility for the NBA, Todd used the power of sport to bring people together and change lives.



2016: LAWRENCE CORASH '61 –

Deeply affected by the 1980s HIV epidemic, Larry devotes his career to developing a technology to prevent transfusion-transmitted infections.



2015: PAUL HAND '68 –

Finding the needs, fixing the problems one person at a time, Paul and his wife Bunny provide homemade soup every week for 60-100 people.



2014: SHARON MCGEE CRARY '89 –

Founder of Social Promise, an organization that supports critical health and educational resources in impoverished Ugandan communities.



2013: MARJA BRANDON '79 –

Life-long educator and educational innovator helps found and cement a school for girls based on her Quaker beliefs.



2012: BARBARA BOYLE WEANER '73 –

Establishes rural clinics to treat patients with chronic kidney disease; uses organic farming to educate others about sustainability.

2011: PETER GALBRAITH '56 –

Leaves dental practice and private sector to answer Quaker-inspired calling in public health.

2010: SUSAN STEIN DANOFF '60 –

An inner-city family court judge with a heart and mind continually open to service.

2009: JOHN GAMBLING '69 –

An unparalleled devotion to Friends and its values and a longtime member of the Board of Trustees.

2008: THOMAS CARTER '59 –

Dedicating his life to working with economically struggling communities as they strive to improve their conditions.

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.

DION SHORT METZGER '03

HELPING THE WORLD FROM THE INSIDE OUT



Acclaimed psychiatrist teaches others to prioritize their mental health

BY HAYLEY KUCICH '03

In today's busy world where society is consumed with one's outward appearance and physical well-being, we oftentimes put our mental health on the back burner. While maintaining one's physical health is vital to a happy life, it goes hand in hand with our mental health. I have found that while attending school or university, it is considered more acceptable to seek out advice in dealing with mental health issues because there are so many resources available to students free of charge, in fact it is highly encouraged to seek out guidance. This is why people like Dr. Dion Metzger are essential – by helping people to understand that it is ok to talk about their personal issues, and in fact that it is healthier to do so.

A little bit about Dr. Dion Metzger '03 – she is a board-certified psychiatrist whose approachable demeanor and compelling expertise have helped her transform the lives of her patients.

It was during a psychology class her senior year at Friends Academy that Dr. Metzger developed an interest in human behavior. That led the New York native to Atlanta, Georgia, where she enrolled in Emory University and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. She earned her Doctorate of Medicine from Morehouse School of Medicine and completed her psychiatry residency at Emory University School of Medicine. In addition to obtaining her degrees, she also completed medical research at Stanford University School of Medicine and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

She is the co-author of *The Modern Trophy Wife: How To Achieve Your Life Goals While Thriving at Home*, a book that gives women the tools to strengthen, deepen or revitalize



Dion Short Metzger from the 2003 Lamp yearbook.

DION SHORT METZGER '03: HELPING THE WORLD FROM THE INSIDE OUT

themselves and their relationships. Dr. Metzger is not only a physician, professor and health media expert but also a wife and a mother.

She has been featured on *The Doctors*, CNN's HLN network, and in *The New York Times*. She has provided her expertise through features on many media outlets discussing relationships, marriage, work/life balance, parenting, sex, fitness and other wellness topics. Her motto of "better mind, better life" encourages her audience to prioritize their mental health in life's balance.

Now to the path that led Dr. Metzger to her successes... Dr. Metzger grew up in Elmont, Long Island, where her family still lives. Her mother, Cleve Short Austin, was the Controller at Friends Academy. Dion explains that her mother began working there in 1988 and discovered what a wonderful place Friends Academy was. She was especially impressed with the diverse and nurturing environment.

Dion then joined Beta II the following year in 1989, and was there until she graduated high school in 1998. She explains how she has "such fond memories of FA. It exposed me to so much and helped me to discover interests I never knew I had. Friends Academy taught me to 'go for the new,' which is a mantra I still use today and share in my book."

"I was able to experience activities across the spectrum, from the diversity club to the judiciary board to serving in the soup kitchen to playing violin in the orchestra. Between FA's summer camp and during

the school year, I pretty much tried every sport including, basketball, ice skating, horseback riding, skiing, sailing, lacrosse, field hockey and even archery. I treasure these memories."

Following high school, Dion enrolled in Emory University and became the

President of the Minority Pre-medical Society and a member of the National Honor Leadership Society, Omicron Delta Kappa. She also was the Vice President of the Association of Caribbean Educators and Students, where she organized a mission trip of 12 Emory students to volunteer and donate supplies to an elementary school in Montego Bay, Jamaica. After graduating from college, Dr. Metzger attended medical school at Morehouse School of Medicine and completed her residency in Psychiatry at Emory University School of Medicine.

She currently has her own private practice, in addition to serving the severe and persistently mentally ill of metro Atlanta through an Assertive Community Treatment Team. Dr. Metzger is also a professor at three medical schools in Georgia, including Morehouse School of Medicine, Emory University School of Medicine and Medical College of Georgia. While

most would consider this to be a plate that is already full, Dion collaborated as co-author of the bestselling book, *The Modern Trophy Wife: How To Achieve Your Life Goals While Thriving at Home* (www.themodern trophywife.com). Her motto of "better mind, better life" encourages her audience to prioritize their mental health

in life's balance. Dr. Metzger also owns the company, Ellison West Media, which is designed for doctors who would like to expand their career into television, radio and/or print.

Although she lives states away from most of her FA classmates, social media has allowed Dion to stay connected with many of her friends from Friends. She also has plans to attend her 20th reunion – coming up next year!

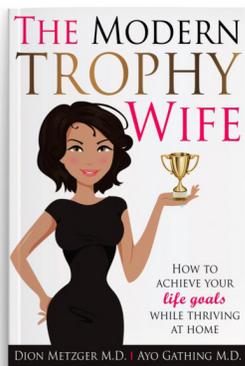
The lessons that Friends taught her stay with her today. "FA instilled the values of kindness, acceptance and fearlessness in me from a young age. It has helped to shape me into not only a caring physician, but also a person, who is always looking for new horizons to find joy and help others."

Dr. Metzger has reminded me through learning about her life's work to take care of what is on the inside because without regular maintenance, life on the outside does not stay in harmony and balance. And isn't that what we are all searching for throughout our journeys?



Dr. Metzger is a frequent guest on "The Doctors" and CNN's HLN Network.

"(FA) exposed me to so much and helped me to discover interests I never knew I had. Friends Academy taught me to 'go for the new.'"



DION METZGER, M.D.

www.dionmetzgermd.com
www.themodern trophywife.com
www.facebook.com/dionmetzgermd
twitter.com/dionmetzgermd

THE JOURNEY (so far) OF — WILL ROLAND



*From FA stage to Broadway's lights,
this actor/musician/performer knows where it all began*

OUR FAMILY IS ONE OF MANY that has had the pleasure of watching Will Roland grow up on the FA stage. Our children Sydney ('13) and Marcus ('16) had the honor of his mentorship at the Artist's Institute and the chance to act with him in an FA production at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. We have been lucky to see him OFF (where Joel Gray was sitting in front of us) and ON (that night it was Faye Dunaway) Broadway in the acclaimed musical, *Dear Evan Hansen*. Despite his grueling schedule, Will was very gracious to meet for coffee before a show and also took the time to answer questions by email

during a doctor-recommended week off to rest his vocal chords.

His facial expressions are vividly animated behind his signature Warby Parkers as he recounts, with hands gesticulating, his Broadway adventures and how he got there. He shares anecdotes and stories with a flair, making us all chuckle (my husband and daughter have joined us after a day in the city). He looks just like his character in casual shorts, tee and button-down shirt, toting a backpack, and exudes ease as he freely associates boundless life observations. It is a challenge to summarize this young alum's intriguing story thus far, but I will try...

WILL ROLAND '07: FROM THE FA STAGE TO BROADWAY'S LIGHTS

BY LAUREN PUTTER MENZIN '81

Will Roland's arrival at Friends Academy in the 5th grade was 'serendipitous.' A friend of his father, alumnus Barry Osbourne, saw something special in him and encouraged the Bayville-based family to consider the Friends Academy community and all it had to offer for a "charismatic, extroverted" young man to thrive. He describes his parents as supportive, "My dad was an auctioneer/antiques dealer who worked hard to give me opportunities that he didn't have."

It was not long before Will found a home in the theater at FA, where his enthusiasm and talent led to roles in *Peter Pan*, *Les Miserables*, *City of Angels* and *Macbeth*. He explains with a wistful air of appreciation that the Theater Department has always challenged the students to be "thoughtful consumers of art," teaching them the skillful process of telling stories while also providing a safe haven to explore their true selves. He professes, "My journey definitely began in earnest at Friends. I received very well rounded, multidisciplinary training not only in performing but also in technical theater, writing, leadership and regular academics that have helped me tremendously in terms of bringing real, three-dimensional characters to the stage. In addition to all that, it's helped me find my way to a fulfilling life outside of my work, which in turn gives me a lot more to draw upon when I am working."



Will Roland from the 2007 Lamp Yearbook.

The close relationships Will Roland forged with the Theater and Arts faculty as a child have grown along with his talents and has admittedly shaped his career path thus far. Graduating from Friends in 2007, he continued to teach at the FA Artist's Institute summer program during and after college (ten years in total), and performed as an alum with FA students in Scotland's Fringe Festival in an original Geha production. He even worked as Resident Lighting Designer for the 2011 FA show of *Guys and Dolls* while taking the train back and forth to the 59th Street Theater for a role in the play *The Bus*, his 'first professional gig' – he was so happy just to pay the rent!

Will graduated from The Steinhardt School of Culture, Education and Human Development with



Top, Roland appears in *The Bus*, his first "professional gig." Middle, Roland performs with Ben Platt and future *Dear Evan Hansen* collaborator in the Berkshire's Barrington Play Company's *Black Suits*. Above, Roland, Platt and Mike Faist rock the stage in the number, "Sincerely Me" in Second Stage's performance of *Dear Evan Hansen*.

a Bachelor of Music in Voice Performance and a Specialization in Musical Theater in 2011.

Then, in 2012, he went on to perform for a year and a half with the Berkshire's Barrington Play

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WILL ROLAND '07: FROM THE FA STAGE TO BROADWAY'S LIGHTS



Will Roland's early theatrical career at Friends included *Les Miserables* (top), *Macbeth* (middle), and *Into the Woods* (bottom).

Continued from Page X

Company in *Black Suits*, “which had the promise of going to Broadway,” Will said. That is where he met Ben Platt, who would later coincidentally star in the Tony Award-winning production of *Dear Evan Hansen* with Will alongside playing the sarcastic,

narcissistic family friend Jared. Will gets a mischievous look as he recalls, “It was 2014 when I received the watermarked script with my name on every page.” The cast gave it their all, doing workshops and then a Washington D.C. production for three years, before moving to Off Broadway and then finally Broadway.

Dear Evan Hansen is a musical that skillfully tackles the difficult subject of teen suicide, but there is so much more to it than that. It touches the heart on so many levels – dealing with the spectrum of autism, depression, young love, friendship, tolerance, the pitfalls (deception and misperception) of social media, peer pressure, the need to fit in, loneliness, family dynamics, social class, and societal expectations of young people causing kids to act out in desperation. In the end it is about acceptance and respecting all for who they are – allowing everyone to know that their voice is important no matter what. The show has been a runaway hit with its six recent Tony awards and takes the audience on a rollercoaster ride of emotions, relatable characters, hard-to-believe, yet true-to-life, plot and poignant music.

“The commercial and critical success of the show feel like the cherry on top of a spectacular experience... from the beginning I knew it was special with something important to say,” recalled Will. “However, one can never be certain that all that importance translates when presented to an audience. I’m thrilled that the show’s success has amplified the message and allowed it to reach so many people,” he added.

“I think a lot about social media, phones and the general ubiquity of technology and hyper connectedness of our culture,” he continued. “This is technology that was in its infancy when I was an adolescent, and young people today are very much acting as psychological and sociological guinea pigs with regard to the wider effect this will all have on us. I think the show explores some of these ideas taken to their extreme, and hopefully encourages people to be thoughtful about their interactions with one another, both on and off line.”

When asked about how his experience at Friends has influenced Will and his journey, he mentions

ON KNOWING YOURSELF

“Acknowledge where you come from and who has helped you.”

WILL ROLAND '07: FROM THE FA STAGE TO BROADWAY'S LIGHTS



Will Roland as Jared Kleinman on the set of *Dear Evan Hansen*, which won the 2017 Tony for Best Musical.

how FA provided a “diversity of offerings” when he was a student. “From choir to theater, dance and stagecraft, to Latin, Calculus, and creative writing, I was able to establish foundations in a variety of disciplines, and I think that has had a huge effect on my abilities as an actor,” he said. Will notes, “Friends

Academy and a Quaker Education come up in all kinds of unexpected ways in my day-to-day life.”

Proud to be involved with the nonprofit organization, Broadway Cares, Will also enjoys giving back by working with youth. He personally has hosted and given theater tours to FA performing arts students and members of the Artist’s Institute who have come to see him in action. Will and other *Dear Evan Hansen* cast members recently collaborated with an arts education organization

called ArtsConnection, leading workshops in which public school students were encouraged to explore and express themes from the show through artwork.



Bat Boy at the NYU Steinhardt Black Box

As one young participant put it, “We all want to have our voices heard;” another student wished, “every kid could see this show.”

Reflecting further about his years at a Quaker institution, Will states, “There’s also something intangible I absorbed about things like work ethic and worldview. I think a lot about societal topics that were covered mostly in Quakerism or Poverty

courses that give me perspective about responsibility – personal responsibility, responsibility to society and the responsibility that accompanies the privilege of having gone to a school like Friends.”

Upon leaving the Music Box Theater after seeing the show, I overheard two teenage girls talking about how obnoxious and mean Jared’s character was – I stopped them and said, “We know the actor from high school and he really IS a good guy.” They didn’t believe me... Now that’s good acting!

ON WHAT IS IMPORTANT

“Work hard.
Be nice to people.”

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
friscomaru1@aol.com

1945

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

Sheila Morrisey 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
srajerry@aol.com

1949

Joan Macy Kaskell '49
3181 Meadow Ridge
Redding CT 06896
joankaskell@gmail.com

Many thanks to **Joan Kaskell**, who has volunteered to be the rep for the class of 1949. Joan writes, "Peter and I moved to Meadow Ridge, a very nice retirement community, where we have a great apartment. Peter stopped driving a year ago at age 93, shortly after I decided to retire from the Metropolitan Museum (before they might wish that I would!). At the Met for many years I had invented and run a program for high level donors. It was called 'Behind the Scenes,' in which I lectured on art-historical topics and got curators to take us to and discuss hidden places and projects. It was a wonderful time. Now I've been reading mysteries and promising myself I'll (a) get back to the gym, (b) go to Europe to see friends or (c) write that novel as my mother was always sure I would. So this – if I am the only volunteer – is my first step back to an active life. Help me!!" *Please send all news and correspondence to Joan at the above address or email.*

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
Stony Brook, NY 11790-2011
(631) 751-7489
georgegifford@danielgale.com

1952

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

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

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

Janet Boeing Francis entertained a lot of family for her 80th birthday, including 16 grandchildren, the oldest of which is a sophomore at Kenyon College in Ohio. She and Rich managed to finish a screened-in porch and a croquet court before the event. They are now snowbirds and go to Florida January through March. **Peggy Egan Alley** has finally published her life work! *An American Odyssey 1535-1615* is about early settlement of our country with a lot of carefully-researched background explaining why the Walloons came here to settle the lower Hudson Valley. Partthree is the true story of a loving 'Belgian' couple who emigrate to the New World to escape persecution and certain death under the Spanish Inquisition to find a better life and raise their young family. Although this is fiction, they are real people who lived in the 16th and 17th Centuries. **Joan (Hawkins)**, a European history major in college, was particularly impressed by Peggy's ability to flesh out the effects that the Spanish acquisition of the Netherlands had on the lives of ordinary people. "It's difficult for me to imagine the fear of speaking one's mind even when in the sanctity of one's home; it's this that Peggy illustrates so clearly. Equally powerful are the parts that deal with the lack of food and the planned starvation to accomplish the political goals of the Spaniards. It is the strength of family that enables the De la Vignes to survive and to make it to the new world and presumably ultimately prosper. I am anxiously awaiting the next installment which I understand is currently in the research stage." **Art Geoffrion** enjoyed a visit to the school in January to meet Andrea Kelley (the impressive new Head of School) and follow up on an archival project. Art and his immediate family (wife, two daughters, five grandchildren) vacationed at Napili Kai in Maui in February, a tradition that dates back about 20 years. Another 20-year tradition for Art and his wife, spending July at their condo near Breckenridge, Colorado, concluded with a briefer visit this July to put it on the market; the logistics of

that now outweigh the benefits. Four of his grandchildren are more than very serious about their sports – swimming, beach volleyball, and water polo. Though never a serious athlete himself (unlike his wife), recognizing that there are many important life lessons to be learned that way was an epiphany he had way too late in life. **Stephie Giardino Dobrinin** writes that she and Maurice have moved full-time to Devonshire at PGA National in Palm Beach Gardens, which is lovely and supports their active lifestyle. The future of their Garden City condo is uncertain at present. **Jim Graham** is still working two days a week. He and Gael are looking forward to spending time in Maine with family. **Connie** and **Mike Hellman** have been in good health. Mike recently had a hip replacement, and was surprised to find that, in this age of computerized surgery, it only took a month out of his busy life. They continue to spend a month every summer in Drakes Island, Maine, at a beautiful spot right on a big sandy beach where they entertain family and cousins. Life in Hilton Head continues to be wonderful, where less and less golf and tennis are being replaced by more and more volunteering in the community. There are many opportunities for that, and they find it very satisfying. But most satisfying of all is following the lives and accomplishments of their children and grandchildren. In that they are truly blessed. **Joan Konvalinka Hawkins** and **George '54** took the whole family (15+) to Cooperstown, NY early in August. **Joanna Miller Jacobus** reports that she is reasonably well, and that she and Lee are busy with family. **Peter Klinge** and wife Sandy had about a dozen family members visit in July. His chronic back problems have slowed him down, but he remains active. One of their grandsons, Bill, is working on a PhD at the University of Florida and will finish next year after spending some time at Oxford. Pete reports that **Jean Claude Aubourg** is now confined to a wheelchair owing to the polio he had many years ago, but is still “hanging in there.” **Keville Larson** reports that he lives on the water in a setting not too different from Douglaston. Although he still has an office at the forestry consulting business he sold some years ago, he prefers being a fair weather forester out burning, bush hogging and spraying on his Longleaf forest land. He couldn't be happier to have spent his working life in the South. His daughter and granddaughters (12 & 16) also live in Mobile, and his son works in computers in Austin, TX.



Peter Bergh '56 flies one of his large model motor-gliders.

1956

Anne Wauchope Smith

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

Peter Bergh writes, “Good to hear from you, all is well with me here in the Colorado Rockies, I find it to be so refreshing to be able to enjoy 300 sunny days a year where I live. Still very active mentally and physically, skiing and hiking and very much involved in a healthy care business in Vermont, www.edgevt.com, that has some 400 employees and over 12,000 members. The Edge is recognized nationally as one of the leaders in the field of Healthy Care, as opposed to Healthcare. We work upstream to offer a variety of services to young children, teens and adults of all ages in an effort to keep people fit and healthy rather than trying to address (mostly unsuccessfully) the myriad of ailments resulting from a poor diet and a lack of regular daily exercise. Though I am no longer flying full-scale airplanes, many mornings find me flying large model motor-gliders in lovely surroundings, a true Zen experience. I still spend the fall at my family's lovely summer place on Buzzards Bay in South Dartmouth, MA, and welcome visitors there or here in Colorado. My email address is pbergh@vail.net. I would enjoy hearing from any of my classmates.”

1957

Roger O. Sanders

324 Fishing Lane
Deland, FL 32720
(386) 736-0815
ramblinrog1@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

Bob Pickels writes “Still live in central New York, completely retired from medicine. Make a lot of Adirondack furniture and turn some neat bowls. Family is healthy, life is good.” **Charles Jameson** ran mini marathons until his hip surgery. His great love is still model trains. His grandchildren love it. Charlie wears a conductor's hat. Obviously he is out of control. **Jim Sykes** is joining Charlie with hip surgery – this time for a re-do. He just purchased a used black Audi 4-door, while **John Froehlich** advised a fire engine red convertible with wire wheels. **John** sends his best to all. Carol has sold her furniture business in Tucson and plans to work with her brother and John in the home building business. John's loss of his sister, Emy, was a sad time for all of us. **Carol Gerdt's Ressi di Cervia** sold her apartment in Manhattan and has relocated to smaller “digs.” She also sold her home in Amagansett. We all remember our great reunions in Amagansett. Had a great visit with **Larry Corash**, Class of '61, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Larry helped sponsor an opera about Steve Jobs. Larry's wife, Michelle, and my wife Ngaere and I, did some great hiking between operas in the surrounding mountain ranges. I had severe back pain and had to be carried off the mountain. The last two events with Larry required medical attention from a bad jelly fish sting in the BVI and a foot sprain in the Redwood Forest of California. It's great to travel with a doctor! He said it was my last trip with them. **Kelly Kammerer** and wife Nancy are still making olive oil on their farm in Provence. They took a break from the August heat to travel to Edinburgh to see their daughter Katy perform at the

Edinburgh Fringe Festival. They are traveling to Australia and New Zealand this fall, hiking on the South island with Backroads, then onto Australia's Lord Howe Island. **Tom Carter** writes, "Ramola and I became grandparents for the second time, when our daughter gave birth to Leela. Ramola and I are a bit late to the grandparenting business. The clock is ticking toward my retirement on November 30th." **Steve Sundgaard** is enjoying retirement and recently returned from a 5,200 mile road trip to Big Sur, San Francisco, Lake Tahoe, Utah, and Arizona. The next trip will be to the wilds of Minnesota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wyoming. Yippe-Ki-O-Ki-Yeah! (Mrs. Stubbs correct spelling please). **Bruce Burrows'** daughter, Kat, recently moved to Virginia and is dean of NOVA, a student community college. Other daughter Emily is the graphic director with Markit, a financial services firm based in London. Bruce still has the travel bug after retiring from the Airlines after 30 years. Wild man! **Gerald Bocian** is still focusing on the clinical research business and is now moving to larger offices. "We are considering a stem cell trial for the aging and frail. Too bad I can't get into it since we would be running the research. Anybody moving to the desert willing to be a test subject? **John Wenger** & wife Sally just returned from their annual "Wengerpalooza" (total of 12 family members) in Dublin, Ohio. Three FA graduates attended. John '59, **Jane** and **Tom** '62. **David Seeler**: "Still having fun at The Bayberry, my business of 47 years. I enjoy doing some nonprofit work in East Hampton and Amagansett. Ngaere and I are subdividing some of our property in Amagansett, and reducing my company size somewhat, but still operating fully as a garden center and landscape contracting. We still enjoy opera and spent June in England seeing operas at Gossington on Glynbourne. Don't forget to contribute to annual giving – that's where you thank Friends Academy for getting us into great colleges."

1960

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

A spinoff from the **Andy Dott-Francis Edmonds** visit in Berlin is I'm again trying to send "Pete" the packet from our reunion. (First try was returned for reasons unknown.) **Fred Kuffler** writes, "Still working part time trying to get the ship-owners of the world out of trouble. At FA I wrote a freshman paper about wanting to attend Webb Institute to study naval architecture and marine engineering. I still wind up with a life-

long connection with the maritime industry. Who knew?" He also had back surgery which was, "a residue of the athletic excesses of my youth but would not trade a nanosecond of any of it." Fred also commented on current politics. Bet as sound thinkers we all have our opinions, but better we save those for letters to the editor. **Tina Matkovic Spiro's** pithy note says, "Still alive and kicking, that's the news! Painting and exhibiting like mad, kids are big and one fantastic granddaughter, husband hale and hearty. All is good." Take a look at her Facebook page to see her art work. Considering what the past winter wrought, there's this from **Anne Wadsworth Moody**, "My husband, Michael, and I continue to live in the same old (1833) farmhouse on 13 acres in down-east rural Maine since 1985. The winters are hard work, but the summers are glorious and make up for the snow shoveling, icy driveway and power outages of winter. I have officially 'retired' from my volunteer positions as Producer for our theater company, *The Magnificent Liars*, as well as Production Manager of Bangor Ballet. The former is a company Michael and I and two others formed in 2001; I have produced all our shows to date, including the latest, *Master Class* by Terrence McNally. Bangor Ballet is a pre-professional teen company located two hours from my home. I continue to commute the four hours plus round trip at least once/week to study classical ballet at the affiliated dance studio. Since I am in class with 10- 15-year-olds, I have contact with that generation, which is more than interesting. Our own children are: Nellie, age 36, now with her fiancé, an Australian citizen. They live in Noosa on the east coast, work in hospitality and travel all over the world. We see her once/year when she comes to the U.S. and Mack: age 34 who lives in Brooklyn, NY with girlfriend and border collie and supports himself as a finish carpenter and fabricator while he writes (episodic TV and film so far). I would love to hear from anyone from FA of our era!" **John Trauth** and wife Astrid did quite a bit of traveling: cruise to Alaska, their "regular" months in Tahoe and Paris, and to Dartmouth for his 50th reunion of the Tuck School of Business. Business-wise, he sold a contract for developing a planned giving program for the Alliance Française of San Francisco. John also plans to give more seminars on his book, *Improving Your Retirement*. Does the FA library have a copy? I just had the pleasure of donating a copy of my latest, *Wave Off!* Any more books by the Class of '60 out there FA should have?

1961

Park Benjamin, III
P. O. Box 368
Oyster Bay, NY 11771
(516) 922-9537
pbjbenjamin3@optimum.net

1962

Many thanks to **Randi Reeve Filoon** for her years of service as class rep. If anyone from the Class of 1962 would like to be the class representative, please contact alumni@fa.org.

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

1964

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

Ann Sheedy Bradburd writes, "Mother-in-law still alive, grandchildren thriving, retirement off to mixed reviews. I spend much of my time in the 19th century playing with "microhistory," not quite genealogy, not quite history.

1965

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

Hello, Hello... I said. The caller ID read "Wendy Coslett," but all I could hear on the phone were faint and muffled voices. Quickly, I realized that I had been butt-dialed by one of our more readily remembered classmates, **Wendy Miller Coslett**. I chuckled and felt honored to be in her address book half a century after graduation. She had pressed the right combination of buttons while rummaging through her purse; the store clerk asked what she was going to

do about her “talking purse” and she replied with a shudder “I’m not going to talk to some strange guy in my purse...” That evening, we laughed and talked for almost an hour; she said her life is perfect in Betterton MD, but she also travels. She insisted that Betterton is surrounded with miles of corn fields, and somewhat defensively I said that we are too. Later I went to Google earth, and saw that from Betterton, on the tip of a peninsula opposite Baltimore, you drive past miles of agriculture to find even a stop light. Nice. I called **Steve Beslity** recently, and was lucky to find him at home. He is “un-retired” and spends a lot of time on the road, much of it with his wife Lisa. He was just back from London and was shortly leaving for Japan, Hong Kong, and Singapore. As it turns out, he will land at Japan’s Fukuoka airport, which I knew as Itazuke Air Base when I was stationed there in the late 60s. It was a different world then, and coincidence has it that the new and sparkling International Terminal is built exactly where our workshop was. **Dave Pratt** has resettled comfortably in an old Vermont farm house, and his children are nearby. We didn’t talk long because it is summer and there are things to do; we’ll talk longer when our woodstoves are warmed up. Early last summer I traveled over the hill to Ithaca to see a performance by **Jeff Davis**. He and his friend Brian Peters have assembled an engaging presentation of vintage Appalachian music. Besides fiddles, banjos, and song, the show includes photographs and historical tidbits of the times and of the mountain musicians. The last we talked, **Jay Tucker** was alive and well in Hendersonville, North Carolina. I think we can all agree that nobody wore a madras jacket as well as Jay did. I know I always hoped I looked half as good as Jay did when I wore mine. Stop by fa65.com and see today’s picture of me, still (barely) fitting into the one sport jacket that I couldn’t throw out!

1966

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

1967

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

1968

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

Hope you all have 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 words. 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. **Mary Watkins** shares: “I look forward to seeing you at our 50th ! I can hardly believe that we are at this point in our lives. I continue to teach full-time in a doctoral program on critical community psychology, liberation psychology, and eco-psychology that I co-founded at Pacifica Graduate Institute. I now have four grandsons, and a wedding of our family’s ‘baby’ in the offing. I am more deeply embroiled post-election in trainings for psychologists to work on forensic reports to assist immigrants facing deportation and asylum seekers. I now live in New York City each fall where my husband teaches philosophy at SUNY Stony Brook and Santa Barbara the rest of the time where we both teach.” **Jim Evans** shares: “In my last response to your request for an update on the ‘doings’ in my life I think I had written about my travels with my good friend, Alex Lima. I may have mentioned that we did a road trip in May 2016 that took us from Key West, FL to New York, NY and back. It was a great trip with stops in Florida, Georgia, DC, Virginia, Long Island, and Pennsylvania. The highlight of the trip was visiting the 9/11 Memorial and Museum. It was a remarkable emotional experience. I recommend it to anyone who has not had the opportunity to visit. Alex and I will do another road trip this summer (2017). We will work through parts of the Midwest and West (Intermountain Region) where we both have good friends. We start in Cedar Rapids, IA where I attended Coe College as an undergraduate. The trip will take us to Des Moines, IA, Minneapolis, MN, Deadwood, SD, Bozeman, MT, Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson, WY, Salt Lake City, UT, Park City, UT where I used to live, Arches National Park, and Denver, CO. It is a 4,400 mile trek which will take about 27 days. I am planning to go back to Brazil in October when I

will spend about two weeks at Alex’s Bed and Breakfast, Casa dois Gatos. Otherwise, I will be in Ruston, LA where I continue to support my 92-year old mom. I am anticipating our 50th reunion next year and will do my best to be in New York for that event! **Karin Neilson** writes: “There isn’t much new to report here. I’m still enjoying Cody very much. I skied and snow shooed all winter. And once the roads cleared, I took some day trips to see fossil remains and petroglyphs. This photograph is from the land I just bought: 70 acres of sagebrush and wildflowers. I haven’t decided yet what to do about a residence but I can worry about that next year. In any event, the view is unparalleled; this is a view of the Beartooth Mountains. In the meantime, I’m enjoying the rodeos, powwows, and an annual event in the mountains called the Rendezvous. (It actually dates back to the years when mountain men were still scouting these ranges. They used to gather to show off their pelts, and dance and generally have a wild time. The entire event is a little more civilized now.) I hope you’re well. Have a great summer, everyone.” **Lisa Craig**: “I wish I had some earth-shaking news to share, but life continues at a normal pace. I am still working for the City of Glen Cove as director of their Adult Day Program, and I am so gratified by all the creative programming we have managed to put in place for this very deserving population of elderly seniors. At the Senior Center I am always running into retired F.A. teacher Pat Parmelee, who still looks the SAME and still has that terrific smile. She is on the fund-raising board there, always helping to organize golf outings. My daughter A.J. has come home from U. Michigan for most of the summer, and I’m so happy to have my ‘playmate’ back! We just spent a delightful week exploring Montreal and Quebec City (and trying to dust off Ms. Flackbert and Ms. Gordon’s French lessons!). I just added a new grandchild; daughter Amanda gave birth to 10-pound baby boy, named Chase. There are now five! They live in Pennsylvania, but we visit as often as we can, which is never enough. **Steve Tilden** is ever a wonderful, thoughtful friend. We speak together quite often, and we never miss Fall Fair! While many of us are contemplating retirement, he and I are both still hard at work. Happy summer to everyone! And Lesley, thank you for threading us all together with your alumni news. I really appreciate your effort. Love, Lisa.” **Willy Merriken**: “‘No news is good news’ OR ‘No news is boring so make up some fake news since it is now the newest fad!’ So here’s our news. I finally gave in and bought a lottery ticket and I won! \$10,000/month for life!! Woooo Hooooo!!! Retirement here I come! Louise and I decided we needed all new furniture in our house so we

had a colossal yard sale and then bought all new Frank Lloyd Wright designed stuff. Last year, I was in the right place, at the right time, doing the right stuff and I had the pleasure of meeting Bobby Richardson, the only player in baseball history who was a world series MVP for a losing team. I'm still coaching soccer and had a new girl on the team last year who reminded me of Cinderella. I ended up kicking her off the team because she kept running away from the ball. I heard a rumor that next year (2018) is our 50th anniversary. Now THAT is some fake news!! Sooo, which of the above is real vs. fake news? I hope all is well with everyone. See you all next year." **Paul Hand:** "Looking forward to our 50th Reunion hopefully we can attend. Bunny and I purchased a condo in Tempe, AZ in June 2016 and closed when it was 120 degrees in the shade. Officially moved from San Diego in mid-November and have so far enjoyed the Arizona climate until starting in June where we have been in the 105+ temps from then on. In fact, it hit 121 degrees in mid-June. So we have nicknamed the Arizona weather in Phoenix... HELL once temps exceed 105 degrees. Best thing about moving to Arizona is our daughters (Rebecca & Erika) live 20 minutes from us and we are once again enjoying family Sunday dinners (ala *Blue Bloods* – the TV show) after so many years apart. Was elected the President of the HOA and now my moniker when I sign emails is POTHOA). I made some minor improvements and the community is happy...so far. Bunny and the girls now address me as 'Mr. President.' In the current political climate I am not sure if that is a good or bad thing. Loving retirement and keeping busy volunteering and been approved for a LYFT and VEYO driver. Also starting my AZ Real Estate License studies and hopefully will start a small retirement source of income and use the proceeds to buy my Aston Martin DB9. Wishing everyone a healthy year and please stay in touch. A 'BIG THANK YOU' to Lesley for keeping us informed on the happenings of the Class of 1968 in the *Meeting House* class notes. Last comments: Bunny and I were so honored to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2015. Words cannot explain how humbled we were to receive the award on behalf of our 1968 Class. Look forward to seeing us together at our 50th reunion. God bless and thank God for Medicare and AARP ;-). Feel free to email me anytime: ocean731@gmail.com or Facebook: Paul J. Hand." **Greg Tarone:** "Wina and I continue to be charmed by our numerous discoveries of lovely Connecticut from our home in Danbury, but we have also found Dutchess County, NY reminds us of the North Shore in the 60s, except that bridle paths are

hard to find and equestrians therefore stay mostly on their farms. We have even found sheep, too. Of our four surviving cats, two are 18 and 20, so our home is now an Adult Cat Congregate Living Facility. A memorable and gratifying experience for us was to watch Maryland – one of my four higher education alma maters – win the men's NCAA national championship in lacrosse for the third time since I red-shirted there in the 70s. The focus of my law practice now is on a lawsuit I brought against UConn for violating my female student-athlete client's civil rights and title IX, which is scheduled for trial around the time of our reunion a year from this October. I plan to be at the reunion no matter what." As for me, nothing new since the last issue as life in Joplin remains tranquil and easy, enjoying retirement. I plan to travel to So. 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. Hard to believe this fall would have been my dear brother Todd's 50th reunion, great class of 1967. It is fun to hear on Facebook from **Pete Lyman '67** and **Doug Simes '67** – two guys he had fun with. You are dearly missed but always in my heart. 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 Springsted 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 Kal and Judy Wynot, and our favorite history teacher Robbie Thomas. It is such fun staying in touch.

1969

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

1970

Deborah Gianelli
361 Claremont Avenue, Apt. #11
Montclair, NJ 07042
(201) 303-5570
(212) 530-9257
deborahgianelli@gmail.com

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

Thank you all for contributions to the Roger Erickson Scholarship, our Class Gift, marking 45 years since "back in the day." Please forgive any ham-handedness in the attempt to reach out; it can be daunting to cross so many years – and whatever may have happened in between. Missives bearing donations arrived from SoCal, Locust Valley, upstate New York, all over; bearing familiar names like **Tom Feigman, Paul Gaddis** and **Jeffery Haydu**, among others. And this wonderful slice of a life from the pen of **Marcia Weirda Halpern**, in San Diego: "Friends was a really special place for me – the threads of students, teachers and academic challenge woven together to create a kind of magical place in my psyche. I think of those years, and especially the people in them, very fondly. Life has been good to me. I have a fun job teaching 12-year-olds how the world works; that is, I am a science teacher. My husband Phil is a career federal prosecutor. We have three terrific sons: Griffin is in the skateboard business, Moose a math teacher, and Gator is starting a business restoring coral reefs. Yes, we are the animal family; they didn't call me 'weirdo' for nothing." As a group, true to our time, we are proving a bit wary of social media, protective of our privacy, not inclined to over share. Nevertheless, the "closed" group set up on Facebook – Friends Academy Class of 1971 – has 23 members. The latest to join is **Julie Rogers Even**, residing in Pensacola, FL. Let's revisit our 45th Reunion – October 1, 2016--sitting on the dock of a bay, in **Peter Darbee's** NOT the USS Minnow. We went rogue, eschewing both the FA campus and the designated Homecoming Day. Credit for organizing the event goes to **Angela Manno**, our resident artist/den mother, and the Skipper (and first mate Melinda): Mister Darbee. (I am strictly the messenger. Just shoot me now.) The inescapable backdrop was the Election of 2016. How fitting, given that the Presidential contest that punctuated our high school years was the 1968 barn burner between Nixon, Humphrey and George Wallace! In the early afternoon of Oct. 1 a small group of us visited Walt Whitman's birthplace farmstead in Huntington Station. We had the place to ourselves, with the guidance of an enthusiastic young docent, to consider that iconic American spirit, his ties to Quakerism, his rural beginnings, his expansive life story. Inevitably, the Trump brand popped up in conversation. Ponder this, then, life-long learners: Whitman and Trump

– New Yorkers to the core, best-selling authors both, avatars of the “people” – how did we get here from there? On the boat, we find the eternally enthusiastic **Pat Croce Balcom** – many thanks to her and husband Ken for shepherding us country cousins through the mid-Island sprawl—and the elegant and preternaturally composed **Cathy Viscardi Johnston**. There is **Cece Levy**, who apparently has located the fountain of youth as she travels the continent, and **Katrina (Kitty Taylor) Clifford** who attended Friends only freshman year but steadfastly maintains her bond to the class and the school. **Sharon Barbano**, as sculpted as any Greek goddess, arrives to much cheering. On the poop deck, **Billy Vitriol**, trying out a new hip, and **Christopher Gatty** en route from a Notre Dame game, hold sway. (For those keeping score, that would be football players 4, the soccer brotherhood 0; at long last, the numbers skew in favor of those who sacrificed themselves on the gridiron.) It is great fun catching up with **Nesa Hassanein**, a charter member of the class from Kindergarten through 9th grade and now an attorney in Colorado, and **Amy Ringenbach Dawson**, brimming with her signature sensitivity to social causes. And **Merle Gordon** is on board, very animated and warm to all. Known to but a few, she is in the midst of a long battle with cancer. **Merle Sue Gordon Dowling** passed on July 12, 2017. Her obituary will be published in the next issue of *The Meeting House*. **Angela's** two cents: “One of the highlights of the past year for me was working on our 45th Class reunion. I loved working with **Peter Darbee**, **Bill Vitriol**, **Scott Neilson** and **Danny Robinson** to make it a reality. A big Thank You to Peter and Melinda Darbee for the use of their beautiful yacht for the cocktail hour! Most of all, though, I loved hanging out with **Merle Gordon**. She picked me up at the train station in Glen Cove. We plopped our things down in our room at the Glen Cove Mansion, where **Nesa Hassanein** and **Cece Levy** were also staying, and headed off for the dock. After the reunion, the four of us took in a quirky two-man band playing music from our era, and Merle danced up a storm. I was amazed at her energy and zest for life. The following day we took a swim in the indoor pool and then met CeCe for breakfast, where Merle drew CeCe out in conversation and allowed me to know more about them both. There are many classmates I know now better than I did in high school! Merle dropped me off at the train station, and one of the last times we saw each other was at Thanksgiving in the country with her tight knit extended family. I will miss Merle tremendously: her vitality, her clear-headedness, her sense of humor, generosity, warmth and kindness.”



Jim Kane '72 and Kevin Glynn '72 at Fenway Park

1972

Karen Spero Albers

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

Matthew Stevenson recently published a new book, *Reading the Rails*, an account of rail journeys across Russia, China, Eastern Europe, Malaysia, pre-war Syria, and the United States. **Karen Hohner** writes, “We’re still enjoying life in Palo Alto, and I continue to work as a freelance editor of foreign-language textbooks. I got to practice my Russian (Thanks, Mrs. Sampsidis!) when I joined the San Francisco-based Slavyanka Chorus on their tour to Moscow and St. Petersburg in October 2016. It was a wonderful trip, and Randy and I topped it off with one week in Berlin. Our daughter, Mattie, graduated last year from Ithaca College School of Music with a major in voice. Now she’s living at home working on a Masters in Social Work through an online program from the University of Southern California. Life with a young millennial in the house is interesting! That’s the news from here. We always welcome visitors to Palo Alto and the Bay Area!” **Jim Neville** writes, “I send greetings to all from Port Washington! I’ve been occasionally training up to Boston to visit with my daughter Ravenna, who has settled there, and is now a Red Sox fan. I’ve seen **Robert Copp '73** on the Long Island Rail

Road, heading into New York, and that’s been great. Occasionally, I’ll ride my bike out to Friends for some good exercise and fond memories.” **Mike Della Ratta** writes from Japan, “Hey all, still loving life in the land of disasters (record heat/rain/floods/landslides/tsunamis/you-name-it). Things are relatively calm at the base of Mt. Fuji. Every week, I tear myself away from paradise and enter the controlled chaos of Tokyo to meet with my clients. I try to do as much work from my home office, but Japanese really like face-to-face meetings, even with my strange and exotic (to them) face. I guess the highlight recently has been having lunch with **Gene Hamilton** and wife Katie when they were in Tokyo for work. They both look great! I tried to find a basketball court near lunch so I could show Gene some of my ‘after 60’ moves, consisting mostly of ground based maneuvers. Was I really able to jump before? My trips to LI are few and far between now that my parents decamped to Vermont (hey you went the wrong way) for their 90s decade of life. Perhaps the next gathering will include Skype or Face Time. No excuses anymore! Enjoy the Golden Years!” Joining the ranks of the retired, **Kevin Glynn** chimes in from CA, “**Jim Kane** and I had a good time as we met my brother Tom and spent four nights in Long Beach enjoying the boardwalk, good pizza, and the waves. Jim and I then drove back to the Kane ‘mini-farm’ in Maine where he put me to work as an indentured servant taking care of his pigs, sheep, and chickens while chatting up his wife, Melissa. We went to a Red Sox game at Fenway as well. Retirement so far is just like summer vacation but that will change I am sure.” **John Mankiewicz** took a break from his busy schedule to drop a quick line. He’s back in California working on a couple of new projects, including the Amazon series “*Bosch*” and a movie script. **Karen Spero Albers** writes: “I am enjoying retirement. In May, I attended my last Washington State PTA convention and was pleasantly surprised to have been awarded their ‘Outstanding Service Award.’ John and I purchased a trailer and spend our time camping and exploring the Pacific Northwest with our loyal companions Ajax and Diesel.” Please keep in touch via email (klalbers@charter.net) or our Facebook page.

1973

Laura Wicker Hackett

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

Thanks for all of you who have sent me updates! **Barbara Boyle Weaner** wrote that she

was just reading *The Meeting House* again from the winter issue (she had a busy spring), and is hoping to catch up with some classmates now that she “retired as a nurse practitioner in late December to spend more time on our farm and more time with my aging and not-so-well parents, who live in Florida. It involves lots of plane trips, but I am happy after 41 years of living in West Virginia, to spend time with them. My sister Liz lives near Charleston SC, and we take turns. We have two grandsons that live outside of Philadelphia and we enjoy them thoroughly too!” **Tony Marvullo** just finished his first year of retirement after 30 years of teaching. He continues to work at a golf course during the season and volunteers at Cape Cod Hospital. Tony’s son, Anthony recently got married in Kennebunk, Maine. Tony’s daughter, Katherine was the “best ma’am” and also sang the mother-son dance song. Tony and Mary will celebrate 35 years of marriage in August. Anyone in the Cape Cod area feel free to get in touch. tonymarvullo@comcast.net. **Bill Dudjoc**, our phenomenal cyclist writes: “Spring found me quite busy. After the snow melted from the March blizzard, me and five others from Team Remission, a team within Team In Training had to launch heavily into our training for America’s Most Beautiful in Lake Tahoe. Losing two weeks of riding we increased our efforts with hitting about 150+ miles per week in CT (Yes we are hilly !!!). Not a bad effort for a team whose average age is 60! The six of us raised over \$ 87,000 towards the treatment and cure of blood cancers. We were the #4 team in the nation. As a whole the event raised \$3.5M for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. Hats off to FA alumni who really pushed me over the top helping me to raise \$10,600. Many alumni donated 2 or three times!!!! Bless you all guys. Who’s gonna be at the Fair?? Tailwinds, Billy.” From Facebook, I’ve gleaned a few bits of info: **Paulette Lagana Suchomel** became a grandmother when Asher James Suchomel was born in July, and she continues to hit the golf course and was the runner-up in the club championship in March. **Van Stogner** spends time playing golf and tennis when he isn’t working, and has been doing some regional travel this summer. **Scott Burkhardt** and Debbie Toney are engaged, and doing a lot of great sailing. **Elizabeth Rose** continues to trot the globe, she is a professor at University of Otago and lives in New Zealand. **Jan Klocke O’Sullivan** writes, “ I just went to the annual meeting of the National Puzzlers League and am still competing in the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. I’d love to know if there are also other FA alums who are involved. My husband Dan came out of a very brief retirement to run Outreach to Haiti, which

has a clinic and educational programs in the Port-au-Prince area. We’re looking forward to the third annual Ride to Rebuild, a bike ride to raise funds to rebuild their facilities that were lost in the earthquake in 2010.” **Mark Howard** writes, “David Rosenberg from our class is in Cleveland this weekend from San Diego. I’m on my second family, with a freshman daughter at American and a high-school senior making her choices now. I am heading to Thailand soon and hope to catch up with **Dang Permpnich**, who was an exchange student when we were at Friends.” Well, it’s been a great run, but it is time for a change. I am hanging up my Class Rep hat, and looking for someone to take over for me. Please contact Christine Bowe at christine_bowe@fa.org if you are interested and she can answer any questions you may have!

1974

Evette Beckett-Tuggle

1338 Shinnecock Lane

Fort Mill, SC 29707

(516) 840-5236

evettebt@gmail.com

Kenny Block writes: “Hope everyone is doing well. I am married for almost one year. Thought I was only 40 but time flew. We thought about having a child but I didn’t want the child to look at me and the first word to be ‘Grandpa!’ Living in Boca and still traveling the country and performing in arts centers and on ships doing my impression show. **Jimmy Greene** is living in Palm Springs and has a two-year old daughter added to his family.” **Robert Connery** writes: “Just spent a weekend with **Ellen Dauscher Dobrescu** and her husband Andy up in their lovely home on Lake Tahoe. Ellen was a good friend 8th-10th grades at Friends. We reconnected via Facebook due to our 40th Reunion, and had met up after 40 years here in West Hollywood last year for lunch as one of her daughters works here close to my home. I finally took her up on an invite and had a wonderful time visiting them. They put in the boat and we had a fun day on the Lake in 70-degree weather surrounded by snow-covered mountains (following weekend after it snowed up there!). I also saw **Billy Dudjoc ’73** who also started out in kindergarten at Friends. He was up there riding in the Tahoe Century 100 mile bike ride to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We all went to lunch one day and caught up on our lives. It was a great visit and very fun trip reconnecting with old friends.” **Chris Flanagan** writes: “I have four kids, two boys and two girls, ages respectively, 31, 27, 15 and 13. I live in Westchester County, NY. Still an avid skier, tennis player and golf addict.

I work as a financial advisor in White Plains, NY.” **Patti Francolini Rowe** writes: “It’s hard to believe another year has gone by. I am still working as a full-time broker selling real estate here in Charlottesville, Virginia. I would love to see anyone that may be coming to visit the area. A lot to do in this area from Monticello, Thomas Jefferson’s home to the University of Virginia. I got to catch up with **Robin Walker Jeffery** this year – finally! We had a great time.” **Roger Stern** writes: “Last year we moved to what feels like a rural house but is in the heart of Hartsdale in Westchester – the kids are out of the house, so it was time to size down. I’m still doing the news working as a reporter and anchor, freelancing at 1010 WINS radio. ‘You give us 22 minutes, we’ll give you the world.’ I also work for Fox radio – for you liberals, it’s very different from their cable channel. Fox has an all-news service on Sirius XM 115. It’s like a national all-news radio station and I anchor there. Gail is in product licensing, working for WME IMG and busy trying to get products to market for Cosmo and Dylan’s Candy. Our son, Jeremy, graduated college two years ago and is the assistant to the head of Cinetic which is a film production and finance company. He’s looking to move up the food chain in the entertainment world. Our daughter, Gemma, is one year out of college and planning to go to graduate school for psychology. Right now she is working at the Judge Baker Children’s Center in Boston which provides mental health services to young people. Hope all of you are doing well. I look forward to hearing about your lives.” **Dean Tilden** writes: “Alive and well in already hot Dallas, Texas. Currently working as a Project Manager for a Direct Mail facility here in Dallas, and my wife and I just passed our 35 year anniversary. My son, David, was married last year and is currently a Bio Med Engineer for a Tech firm based in Tel Aviv.” As for me, I keep busy with my executive coaching practice and facilitating EOS – Entrepreneurial Operating System™ to the leadership teams of small businesses. I saw **Judith Batty ’76** briefly in D.C. this summer. She has retired from a very successful career at Exxon Mobil and spends much of her time traveling the globe visiting friends she has made along the way. Reggie and I traveled to the Panama Canal this spring and plan to do a two-week cruise through Europe with friends in the fall. The girls are all doing well in their respective careers. Life is good and we are thankful and blessed. – **Evette Beckett-Tuggle**



A group of ladies from the class of 1975 at lunch in NYC. Standing from L to R : Laurie Block, Kimi Puntillo, Betsy Bober Polivy, Lisa Kimmel White, Ellen Fasano, Tilde Mariani Giacché, Sue Gravina King. Sitting from left to right: Valerie Taylor Hamilton, Daphne Riker Hagan, Vicki Chesler Kovner and Robin Beckhard

1975

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

Vicki Chesler and her husband Matt Kovner are thrilled about the upcoming marriage of their daughter Melissa to long-time boyfriend and California native Nick Levine. The wedding will take place near their Ulster County home at the spectacular Glen Tonche estate overlooking the Ashokan Reservoir. Melissa's younger sister Kelsey will be the maid of honor. Melissa is Production Manager for the television show "Say Yes to the Dress," and her fiancé is a Manager at Brooklyn Bowl in Williamsburg. Kelsey just received her Master's Degree in Biology and works in the Education and Video Production Departments at the Bronx Zoo. Vicki and Matt have been enjoying spending time with **Tina Rose Erardi** and her husband Greg in NYC, as well as **Tilde Mariani Giacché** and other FA friends at periodic reunions. A get-together in Chicago last fall reunited seven long-time friends from Buckley Country Day School, including five who went on to Friends Academy: **Daphne Riker Hagan**, Tina, **Lynn Chamberlain Adams**, Vicki and Tilde. It was amazing how much we all loved spending the weekend together! In fact, we're making it an annual! A group of 11 ladies from

the class of '75 recently gathered at the restaurant Rio Mexicana in NYC. We had so much fun catching up – our class was and still is so amazing – we're looking forward to our next one in a few months! **Robin Beckhard** recounts, "It was great to see everyone, thanks to Tilde for organizing it! Also wonderful to see Betsy's terrific *Manhattan Sideways* photo exhibition at the Manhattan Municipal Building, capturing the vibrant small businesses on every side street that make our city unique. This week I started a new job as Director of Client Solutions for an innovative leadership development firm called Performance of a Lifetime. I'm doing a cabaret on February 11 to benefit my chorus, the New Amsterdam Singers. And my grandson Kermit turns two on February 24. Life is busy and good!" **Laurie Block** writes, "I had the most fabulous time at 'ladies who lunch' when about 11 of us ladies from '75 got together for lunch at the end of January to talk about life, relationships, vacations, work, etc. Also, I just had an amazing vacation going to Vietnam and Cambodia. I totally recommend it! It was great getting together with friends from Friends! A great moment was on our way out – a few of us were talking about B'way shows and **Valerie Taylor Hamilton** said that's one more thing she got from Friends- the love of theater because there was a theater group. WOW – I said Valerie that was me – I started the Theater Goers Club! Ok, I'm bragging but that was cool to hear." **Ellen Fasano** writes, "just started to take a class

in Digital Design at Pace University where my 20-year-old son, Zac, is a freshman in lower Manhattan. Pace offers free tuition for one class per semester for parents of matriculating students, which is terrific. I am learning to use Photoshop. My son Alex has been working for the City of New York as a computer analyst. I have worked for 20 years as an asylum officer for the Dept. of Homeland Security, Citizenship & Immigration Services, NY Asylum Office. This is by far the most difficult time period to be working for US Immigration. I had a terrific time getting together with my classmates in Manhattan and I look forward to another FA Class of '75 get together soon." From **Daphne Riker Hagan**, "Nothing new to report for the FA Alumni news, just that Kevin and I have been traveling a lot ...Portugal in September and family trip to Peru in November (a National Geographic tour), obvious highlight was Machu Picchu, just an unforgettable experience. Off to Tortola next week for a wedding and then on to Dominican Republic for business." **Valerie Taylor Hamilton** writes, Gary and I are appreciating that we are somewhat empty nesters. Our son has been in his apartment for over a year and Nicole is a senior at Georgetown (graduating in May 2017). **Betsy Bober Polivy** writes, I adore living in Manhattan. We have been here for over eight years now. We have three beautiful grandchildren who live in Boston. We do our absolute best to see them every few weeks. There is nothing like hugs from these little ones. When I am not scooping them up into my arms, I am strolling on the streets of New York....What began as a whimsical idea, crisscrossing the side streets of Manhattan, quickly became my passion project. I have thoroughly enjoyed the past five years of walking the side streets of Manhattan. I began on 1st Street and I am almost at the finish line – 155th Street. From the East River to the Hudson, my objective is purely to bring attention to the side street businesses – to give them the exposure that they do not always receive. In my own small way, I am hoping to shed an honest and positive light on each of them. I strongly believe that these places are the true fabric of New York. The website sideways.nyc is filled with thoughtful articles, beautiful photography, behind-the-scenes videos and more. It took me some 30 years to meet up again with the wonderful class of 1975. Thanks so much to Tilde, I thoroughly enjoyed spending time with many of the women who made my experience at Friends so memorable. From **Terry** and **Cathy Chermak**, "Lots of news... Our family is growing... Terry's eldest daughter, Tara, had a baby boy last November. This is the first boy and Terry is over the moon. As of this

Continued on Page X

Reunion!

LI REUNION – MAY 2017
NYC REUNION – JUNE 2017



On June 5, 2017, alumni came together for our annual New York City gathering at B-Bar and Grill on East 4th Street. The new venue helped create an electric atmosphere for all in attendance. A record number of alumni, spanning many decades, shared stories and reminisced about their days spent at FA.



Reunion!

LI REUNION – MAY 2017
NYC REUNION – JUNE 2017





On May 4, 2017, former parents Shailja and John Koufakis along with their children Katie '07, Cristen '09 and John '10 hosted our first Long Island Alumni reception at their home just a few blocks away from campus. Many alumni and faculty were present to enjoy the Koufakis' warm and generous hospitality.





A group from the class of 1975 at dinner in April – Vicki Chesler & her husband Matt, Tina Rosa Erardi and husband Greg and Tilde Mariani Giacché.

Continued from Page X

writing, Ari is five months old and very adorable. Terry's middle daughter, Jennifer, is engaged to marry next February. Our third daughter, Vanessa, is 14 now and entering Upper School at Viewpoint School next September. We feel lucky all is well. Terry closed his business after 31 years and reinvented himself as a Project Manager with his focus on alternative energy. He is consultant to a medical fabrics company and is Director of social media for PMI Los Angeles. After my wonderful mother died, I realized that families need help in creating a family plan with their aging parents. I started a new company, Barbara's Angels, which offers distinctive resources for families of seniors. Ted Talk featured Jane Fonda talking about how she's in her 'third act.' That resonated to me. I really want to make the most of what I do and not take for granted the time. What about you guys?" **Chip Behal** writes, "I will be leaving Verizon, voluntarily, on May 5 after a 27-year career. I am starting my own consulting business, Contingency, LLC, offering Business Continuity Planning Services to medium-sized businesses. Please remember to use my Verizon.net address, as I will not be able to access Verizon.com after May 5. Looking forward to the next class gathering." **Jill Fowler Dragiff** reports, "We became grandparents to a terrific little boy, Makaio, born to our oldest son Malachi and wife Monica. So blessed they live only about 45 minutes away and we spend time with them frequently. Youngest son is in college so empty nest is delightful after raising six

children. Nest needs TLC and redesign after a few decades so my husband Matthew and I are actively doing as much as we can ourselves in the process. It's an exhausting way to have fun but we look forward to having more relaxed home time with everyone in the future. This summer I will be in Jerusalem working with a small group at Yad Vashem International School of Holocaust Studies doing research for the museum. I'm honored to go and serve there and look forward to my first experience in Israel. Still loving teaching High School Humanities courses at Christ's Church Academy, which I am completing my 12th year." From **Jeff Jones**, "I'm turning into a snowbird. Moving to St. Maarten and coming back to ski with my peeps when the snow hits!" **Tilde Mariani Giacché** writes: "Exciting summer ahead – my oldest Jennifer is getting married to Steve in San Terenzo on July 1st in the same church where she was baptized and all of our family has been married and baptized for many generations. Jennifer is working in Corporate Access in Bank of America, Josh is going back for his Master's in Middle Eastern Studies, Oreste is finishing up his Master's at the London School of Economics, and Vienna is a sophomore at NYU and just got back from her Spring Semester in Madrid. Ever since I moved back from Florence, Italy back in August 2015, I've been working at my sister's Fashion PR company in NYC – completely new experience for me but really exciting and fun! I love keeping in touch with my friends from Friends and hope to get a nice reunion dinner organized either over the summer or early fall."

1976

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

1977

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

1978

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

Lis Dillof Dreizen

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

1981

Betsy Jordan Gahagan
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@babygrande-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 Vassel Lewis

44 Pinehill Circle East
Tequesta, FL 33469
kmlewis@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
Info@barryjoseph.com

Emily Beiles Kaufman

7 Beechwood Drive
Saddle River, NJ 07458
(201) 785-0907
emkaufman@optonline.net

James Pagett recently released his first novel, *The Raine Forest*.



Melissa Errico '88 with her mother and oldest daughter of three.

1988

Roberta Koepfel Foss

7431 Rancho Cabrillo Trl
San Diego, CA 92127
858-381-6368
robbykfoss@gmail.com
FAclassof88@gmail.com

Many thanks to **Roberta Foss**, who has taken on the role of class rep for the class of 1988! She writes: "I am excited to be volunteering as the new class rep for the Class of 1988. As we approach our 30th Reunion next year, please feel free to reach out to share input and collaborate. The email for our class is faclassof88@gmail.com. My own personal news is that I have been residing in sunny San Diego for the past eight years with my husband, Dudley, who is a physician here at Kaiser Permanente and our 9-year-old son, Spencer. We have been enjoying trips to Disneyland, Universal and regularly attend the San Diego Comic Con. Spencer and I often dress up in family Cosplay outfits! I volunteer with the University of Pennsylvania San Diego Alumni Club as a Board member and interviewer for high school student applicants. For the past five years I have coordinated a Holiday Toy Drive that benefits foster youth through Promises2Kids organization. My background of community service at FA instilled a lifetime thought process of service to others and how I may use different positions via work or volunteer to benefit those in need. Last year, I had the pleasure of meeting up with **Melissa Errico** after her outstanding performance with San Diego Symphony Pops. It was so much fun to see her shine!" Melissa is the founder of Bowery Babes, a NY 501 c-3 non-profit dedicated to supporting expectant & new mothers in Lower Manhattan, currently with a membership of over 3000 families. It

offers support and resources for post-partum depression, fertility and many diverse aspects of parenting and urban life. It began in 2006 and will be featured in August in *New York Family Magazine*. Melissa also has a column titled "Stories" in a new magazine called *The Purist*. She recently published two pieces for the *NY Times*, essays on life as an actress, and made her Carnegie Hall debut alongside Michael Feinstein. She writes "I continue to sing & dance like I did at Friends!" **Matthew Unger** writes, "Coming up on 10 years in the U.S. Army on March 1st. In that time I have deployed to Iraq (2008-2009) and Afghanistan (2011-2012) and been assigned to South Korea for a year (2014-2015). South Korea is an interesting society and has some great people



Matthew Unger '88 who has spent the last ten years in the U.S. Army.

there. I got to work with Republic of Korea (ROK) Army personnel for a month during the annual Ulchi Freedom Guardian joint exercise. Since then I have been assigned to Fort Bragg, NC (82nd Combat Aviation Brigade) where I will leave Active Duty beginning in November. I plan on re-entering the

Information Technology field in some capacity after spending some family time with my wife Amy and daughter Zoie." **Eileen McGlinchey Hume** writes, "I left Condé Nast in February of 2015 to take on the role of Chief Marketing Officer for American Friends of the Hebrew University, the U.S.-based philanthropic organization that supports Israel's top-ranked university. The institution was founded in 1918 by Albert Einstein, Chaim Weizmann, Sigmund Freud and other luminaries of the time. Today, it is a research powerhouse that continues to advance discovery and innovation at an astounding rate. From agriculture and archeology to medicine and cyber security, the work coming out of Jerusalem reaches far beyond Israel's borders and I'm delighted to play a part. I still reside in New Jersey with my husband, Linus and daughter, Ellie (age nine), although we spend most summers out on the North Fork of Long Island. It's hard to believe we're coming up on 30 years since graduation – it sure went fast!"

1989

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

1990

If anyone from the Class of 1990 would like to be the class representative, please contact us at alumni@fa.org. We would love to hear from you!

1991

Michael Fox
320 W 106th Street
Apartment 2F
New York, NY 10025
(646) 373-7535
mfox789@gmail.com

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

1992

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

1993

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

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

As far as what our class has been up to, **Josh Sussman** and his wife Katya, who live in LA, had a beautiful baby girl Genevieve in May; **Amanda Levy Laserson** and **Jesse Laserson** just had their daughter Sophie's Bat Mitzvah in May and it was a wonderful celebration filled with so much love. Many of our fellow classmates were there to share in their joy: **Angeliqa Mitra**,



Danielle Valenti Smith '99 and Sandy Lyon Mare '93

Rebecca Seaman Bonventre and Joe Bonventre, Amanda Valente Anzalone, Adita Mattoo, Jesse Shafer, Shaleen Patel and Natalia and Adam Good. Becky, Amanda and I (Natalia) recently have been in touch with **Shana Solerwitz**, who is doing great. She lives in Manhattan, works for G2 Investment Partners and has two children, a son Jacob who is almost two and a six-month-old baby girl named Katie Rose. It has been terrific reconnecting with her after so many years. **Danielle Valenti Smith** writes, "I recently met **Matt Coleman, Tim Kane** and **Bill Varrichio** for drinks in NYC. All are doing well!! Matt and Tim both live in the city with their wives and children. Bill lives in NJ with his wife and three children. I am looking forward to my annual trip to Lake Norman, North Carolina to visit with **Sandy Lyon Mare** and her family. She has four children and is a yoga instructor."

1994

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

Alana Teutonico Brock
39 North Drive
Plandome, NY 11030
(646) 594-8413
teutonico13@hotmail.com

1995

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

Kelly Reid Walsh
80 Hope Avenue, Apt. 108
Waltham, MA 02453
617-285-5819
kellyreidwalsh@gmail.com

1996

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

1997

Devon Broderick Carroll
443 Woodbury Road
Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724
(917) 531-7579
devon.broderick@gmail.com

Devon A. George
163 West 18th Street
Apartment 9B
New York, NY 10011
(516) 457-8082
devon@dmvcapital.net

1998

Justin J. Boult
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



Paintings by Abby Weir, class of 1999

Dara Broxmeyer Gruenberg

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

Abby Weir recently returned to campus to present to the GSS Visual Response classes. She recounted the history of her family-owned Young's Farm in Old Brookville through a visual presentation and discussed ways to consider the topic of landscape in art. Abby graduated from Cornell University's School of Fine Arts with a studio concentration in painting. She then worked at the Pollack-Krasner Foundation in Manhattan for a few years, but missed the inspiration of Long Island's landscapes and seascapes. She has since returned to LI and has resumed painting locally.

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

Alexandra Wasp Loveless and husband Gunnar Loveless welcomed their second child, Avery



Alexandra Wasp Loveless '01 and Gunnar Loveless welcomed their second child, Avery Alexandra.

New York City from November 30 - January 13. *Human Nature* begins in cities and moves through forests, farms, deserts, ice fields, and oceans, towards wilderness. In an age when the average American spends 93% of their lives indoors, Foglia photographed government programs that connect people to nature,

Alexandra on May 27, 2017. Alex and Gunner also have a three-year-old girl, Tessa. Nazraeli Press just published **Lucas Foglia's** third book, *Human Nature*, with an exhibition at Fredericks & Freiser Gallery in



A photograph from Lucas Foglia's '01 recently published book, "Human Nature."

neuroscientists measuring how spending time in wild places benefits us, and climate scientists



measuring how human activity is changing the air. "A lyrical meditation on the complex dynamic between humans and the natural world at what may prove to be

a critical time for both," wrote Sean O'Hagan of *The Guardian*. To see more photographs, or purchase a copy, visit: www.nazraeli.com/complete-catalogue/lucas-foglia-human-nature **Lucas** also taught at the Maine Media Workshops + College this summer. The week-long course began July 9th and "looked at how photographs can delve deeply into subjects and present distinct personal visions of the world." For more information, visit www.mainemedia.edu.

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

Heather Austin, in addition to being a Category Manager at Lifetime Brands of Garden City, is also a part-time Salsa and Bachata instructor.

2003

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

Kristen Campbell Murphy and her husband Timothy welcomed their first child, Jackson Oliver Murphy on January 24, 2017. She writes, "Baby boy couldn't wait to meet us so decided to make his big debut a month early! We are head over heels in love with the new addition to our family."

2004

Angela Batista Forrest
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

Paul Wagner married Dr. Jennifer Landon on April 22, 2017 in the Florida Keys. Many FA alumni attended the fun-filled weekend. Congratulations to **Matt Schoman**, who married Danielle Smith on July 1, 2017 in Mystic, CT. **Angela Batista** and Matthew Forrest were married on March 18, 2017



Angela Batista and Matthew Forrest were married on March 18, 2017.



A group of FA alums celebrating the marriage of Paul Wagner '04 and Dr. Jennifer Landon this past April.



Hilary Armstrong '04 and her fiancé Matt Roverly with Matt Schoman '04 and Danielle Smith on their wedding day on July 1, 2017. Hilary and Matt will be married in March 2018.

at Pine Hollow Country Club. A number of FA alums were in attendance, including **Francesca Batista '05, Stephanie Batista '11, Judy Garafalo-Torres '97, Alegre Bianco '02, Denis O'Kane '04, Brendan O'Kane '03, Danielle Farrell-O'Kane '06, Peter Karches '04, Nancy Karches '11, Brian Dooley '03, Ashley Dooley '04, Tim Dooley '02, Remsen Dooley '02, Connor Dooley '11, Sydney Cohen Alperowicz '04, Alexis Maruca Tsoutsoplides '04, Jen Tytel '05, and Taylor Ross '11.** Sisters **Kali Ventresca '07** and **Noelle Ventresca '04** own and operate Impish Lee, a customizable apparel brand providing a new experience and service for women of all sizes. Their website gives shoppers the ability to design their own bras, underwear, lingerie, and loungewear, and have it made-to-order to their exact specifications. Launched almost two years ago, Noelle and Kali hit the growing mass customization world with an easy-to-use, online design tool that enables customer visualization



Sisters Kali '07 and Noelle Ventresca '04 founded Impish Lee, a customizable apparel brand.

of the end product. With attention to high-end design and superior comfort, Impish Lee appeals to the contemporary woman interested in a personalized product and a fun experience. Kali writes: "My sister and I spend a lot of time together and are very similar, however, our styles and body types are quite different. We founded this company out of a love for fashion and intimates, but more importantly a love for individuality. Our mission is to empower women by providing a platform where they can really express themselves through fashion; a platform that isn't limited by style, size, or availability."

2005

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

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



Jen Tytel '05 with her husband Philip Wolf and daughter, Charlotte.

Stefanie Polauf Carter welcomed her second child, Sutton Anne Carter, on March 2, 2017. She and husband Blake also have a daughter, Eleanor. **Jen Tytel** writes, "Charlotte Lee Wolf was born on February 24, 2016, 8 pounds, 8 ounces and 21.5 inches. She's a little cutie and we can't wait to take her to Fall Fair this year!"



Stefanie Polauf Carter '05 and husband Blake welcomed their second daughter, Sutton Anne Carter on March 2, 2017.

2006

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

Emily Lepore Jonap
lepore.emily@gmail.com

Lots of wedding news to report for the class of 2006! **Lindsay Alper** married Andrew Maller on March 25, 2017 at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. **Rachel Lackert** and Paul Chaves were married on June 10, 2017 at The Village Club of Sands Point in Sands Point, NY. **Julia Bereslavskiy-Ashner** is to marry Casey William Klyszeiko on May 19, 2018 at the Penn Club



Rachel Lackert '06 with husband Paul Chaves on their wedding day, June 10, 2017.



Lindsay Alper '06 with husband Andrew Maller on their wedding day, March 25, 2017.



Julia Bereslavskiy-Ashner '06 and her fiancée Casey William Klyszeiko. The couple will marry in May 2018.

of New York. The couple met as freshman at UPenn and were engaged in November 2016.

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

Caitlin Koufakis
20 Exchange Place, Apt 4402
New York, NY 10005
caitlin.koufakis@gmail.com

Andrew Lax writes, "I just finished my MBA with distinction from NYU Stern having won the Dean's Award for exceptional scholastic achievement, as selected by a committee of staff and faculty, and the NYU Stern Center for Real Estate Finance Research Academic Excellence Award, as the top real estate MBA in my class." **Emily Gittelman** is an actor, voice actor, and writer. She's narrated more than 160 audiobooks along with acting for TV and film. She's the published author of three books and has written a TV movie as well as several other

WTCC Staffer's Academics Far From Lax

World Trade Center Construction Lead Cost Engineer **Andrew Lax** recently graduated with distinction from the New York University Stern School of Business. He earned his Master of Business Administration degree with specializations in real estate, finance, and management.

Mr. Lax earned a 3.92 overall G.P.A. and the Dean's Award for exceptional scholastic achievement. He also received the NYU Stern Center for Real Estate Finance Research's Academic Excellence Award as the top real estate MBA in his class.

Congratulations to Andrew Lax '07, who completed his MBA with distinction from NYU Stern.



scripts which have won her much regard. In September 2017, she's marrying her boyfriend of five years, a nautical archaeologist who spent his childhood sailing around Latin America on a 40-foot sailboat his dad built. They live in Los Angeles and are very active in the SoCal LARP (Live Action Role Play) community where they run a dark fantasy game they co-created. Other highlights of the last ten years include traveling to 23 countries in Europe, driving cross-country three times, road-tripping around the Yucatan Peninsula in Mexico, and reconnecting with her passion for aerial cirque. If you want to check out Emily's work, visit her website: www.emilylawrence.com.

2008

Laura Berke

429 East 52nd Street
Apartment 36B
New York, NY 10022
(516) 680-4437
lberke@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

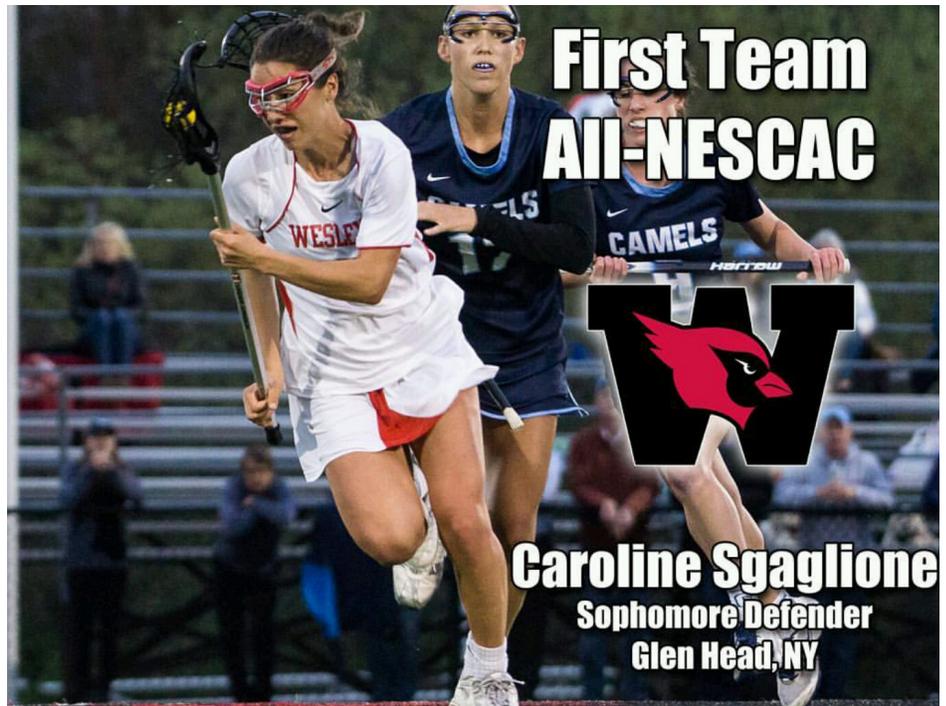
Emily Hawkins

123 Duck Pond Road
Glen Cove, NY 11542
ehawkin2@wellesley.edu

2011

Holly Constants

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



Caroline Sgaglione '15, a rising junior at Wesleyan College (above and below), made the First Team All NESCAC and was named an All American for Women's Lacrosse.

Gabrielle McPhaul-Guerrier

188 Leaf Avenue
Central Islip, NY 11722
gmcphaul-guerrier@live.com

2012

Gabrielle Rechler

grechler11@hotmail.com
(516) 404-4105

Jake Ingrassia

jake.ingrassia@gmail.com
(516) 236-6064

Chris McCann

Christopher_mccann@me.com

Sarah Chartash

sarah.chartash@gmail.com
(516) 941-7309

2013

Sydney Menzin

6 Tappenwood Drive
Lattingtown, NY 11560
sfmenzin@gmail.com
(516) 639-2083

John O'Brien

16 Wishing Well Lane
Old Brookville, NY 11545
john.obrien1294@gmail.com
(516) 419-2689

Jake Hawkins recently made the ABC news affiliate in Schenectady - CH 10 News with his senior group project. The group created a tool that will help a start-up company build cloth diapers and employ people with disabilities.

2014

Lydia Graham

2000 Front Street
East Meadow, NY 11554

Simi Akinola

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

Ryan Dobrin spent his fall 2016 semester studying Italian in Bologna, Italy. In his spring 2017 semester, he directed a production of *Peter and the Starcatcher* at Wesleyan College. **Harmony Grodsky** was awarded the Scholar-Athlete Award for her major (Communications) at Quinnipiac University.

2015

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

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

Danielle Kahn
danikahn@me.com

Matt Feinstein, a sophomore at Dartmouth, had nine hits in the first weekend of the 2017 baseball season. **Gloria Fortuna** is a member of the 2017-18 Breakthrough Fellows program. Breakthrough is a global human rights organization that works to make violence and discrimination against women and girls unacceptable. At Davidson, she helped to lead a Davidson Against Bigotry protest and attended American Friends Service Committee's "Activist Training Camp." Gloria recently interned with the Take Back the Night Foundation, serving on the planning committee for the first-ever International Summit to End Sexual Violence in July 2016. **Caroline Sgaglione** completed her sophomore year at Wesleyan University in Connecticut where she led the Women's lacrosse team to the NESCAC playoffs and to the first NCAA playoff bid. Caroline made the First Team All NESCAC, was a First Team All-Berkshire Region honoree, was named an All American for Women's Lacrosse and named 2017 Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association (IWLCA) Division III Second Team All-American. She is the second player from Wesleyan to ever earn an All-American title.

2016

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

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

Sam Towse performed at the Baryshnikov



Sam Towse performed at the Baryshnikov Theater for YoungArts in April 2017.



Eight Legacy seniors graduated this past June from the Class of 2017. (From left): Jennifer '88 and Jacob Hutt '17; Susan '84, Peter '79 and Elizabeth Stein '17; Allison Heaney '87 and Elizabeth Panacciulli '17; James '83 and Julia Mariani '17; Joseph '76 and Mishie Macy '17; Robert '85 and Joseph Lawrence '17; Carol '84 Connor Febesh '17; and Kristina '86, Michael '86 (not pictured) and Olivia Constantino '17.

Theater for YoungArts in April 2017. While on vacation in Vermont with her family, **Sarah Hickerson** ran into **Sofia Patino-Duque**, who was there studying at Middlebury. They had an impromptu reunion at the Basin Harbor Club, where the Hickerson family was staying!



Sarah Hickerson '16 (Villanova University), Sofia Patino-Duque '16 (Stanford University) and Emma Hickerson FA '19 at the Basin Harbor Club in Vermont – an impromptu reunion!

2017

Mishie Macy
mishie_macy@icloud.com
631-827-3284

Elizabeth Panacciulli
efp1298@gmail.com
718-309-9872

Reed Mullen
reedmullen1@gmail.com

516-640-9146
Kaitlyn Hardy
hardykaitlyn7@gmail.com
631-987-0733

The Class of 2017 graduated eight Legacy seniors, those students who had one or both of their parents also graduate from Friends Academy. Congratulations to **Jennifer '88 and Jacob Hutt '17; Susan '84, Peter '79 and Elizabeth Stein '17; Allison Heaney '87 and Elizabeth Panacciulli '17; James '83 and Julia Mariani '17; Joseph '76 and Mishie Macy '17; Robert '85 and Joseph Lawrence '17; Carol '84 Connor Febesh '17; and Kristina '86, Michael '86 (not pictured) and Olivia Constantino '17!** We wish all the new FA graduates the best of luck at your new homes this fall – and don't forget to write in.



Andrew Stingi '14 and Catherine O'Connell Stingi '10 returned to campus to celebrate sister **Mary Stingi's** (class of 2017) graduation on June 10, 2017.

Margot Hicks Newhouse '56: Pioneering woman in the fields of computer-aided design and computer graphics

Margo Hicks Newhouse was born Margo Stiles Hicks on June 11, 1938 in Bridgeport CT. She was preceded in death by her mother Harriet Schwarz Hicks, of Glen Cove NY and Montgomery Village, MD, and her father William Mott Hicks, Sr., of Roslyn NY and West Palm Beach FL, as well as her siblings Williams Mott Hicks, Jr., of Glen Cove NY, and Sally Foreman Hicks Conklin (FA '63), of Corvallis, OR.

She is survived by her husband Alan and her children Daryl, Jeff (Rachel), and Bill (Kay), and six grandchildren. She graduated Friends Academy in Locust Valley, NY. A born Quaker, she was a member of the Matinecock Friends meeting, later becoming a unitarian universalist as a member of River Road Unitarian Universalist Church (RRUUC) and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Southern Maryland (UUSFM). She graduated with a degree in Fine Arts from Cornell University and was an active and prolific artist promoting



Margot Hicks Newhouse

As a pioneering woman in computer aided design and computer graphics, she worked for Applied Graphics Corp., A. Morton Thomas, and J.J. McMullen and Dames & Moore until her retirement in 1999. In retirement spent in Southern Maryland, she continued to volunteer her artistic talent to UUSEM and designed album art for musicians Marianna Nystrom and Gretchen Richie. She enjoyed sailing at the Hempstead Harbor Club growing up in Long Island and again in retirement with the addition of a 31 foot sailboat which was sailed near Solo-



Margot Hicks Newhouse in 1956 was born a Quaker and attended Matinecock Meeting.

mon's Island.

Her lifelong love of gardening was demonstrated by rooms full of house plants and yards with at least one plant bloom at all times during the growing season. Her love of choral singing brought her to many groups including one at Cornell where she met Alan. Singing alto in weekly rehearsals and Sundays at RRUUC and UUSFM brought her much joy, as well as her years with the Inter-American Chamber Singers, Continuum, and the University of Maryland Chorus and the St. Maries Singers and the River Concert chorus. Her extensive singing with the University of MD Chorus included trips to Eastern and Western Europe performing large choral pieces with orchestras in some magnificent cathedrals and theaters.

Retirement included lots of traveling. Contributions in lieu of flowers should be given to the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee which advances human rights through grassroots collaboration. A memorial service will be held locally in Southern Maryland this fall.

Jane L. Carter '62 passed away on May 7, 2017.



WE REMEMBER...

Margot Hicks Newhouse '56

John "Peter" Javsicas '58

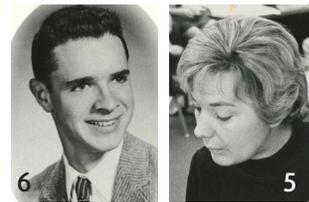
Jane L. Carter, '62

Sally Hicks Conklin '63

Hardin Davis, Jr. '63

Esther Alexis

Patricia C. Campbell



1. Sally Hicks Conklin '63

2. Jane L. Carter, '62

3. Hardin Davis, Jr. '63

4. Margot Hicks Newhouse '56

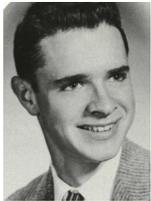
5. Patricia C. Campbell

6. John "Peter" Javsicas '58

7. Esther Alexis

John "Peter" Javscas '58: Guided by conscience and social activist ideals

Activist and community organizer John Peter Javscas, 76, of Mt. Airy, died June 13th at Hahnemann Hospital after being struck by an out-of-control van that jumped a curb in Center City Philadelphia. Peter was born in Queens, New York, to anarchist author Gabriel Javscas and Erma (Rockhill) Javscas.



John "Peter"
Javscas in 1958

He graduated from Friends Academy in Locust Valley, New York, and attended Columbia University and the London School of Economics. He was a high school wrestler and excelled as a distance runner in both high school and college. After leaving college he began a career in the New York film

industry, where he became a union film editor despite refusing on principle to take a loyalty oath the union required. Peter would go on to change careers several times throughout his life, each transition guided by conscience and social activist ideals.

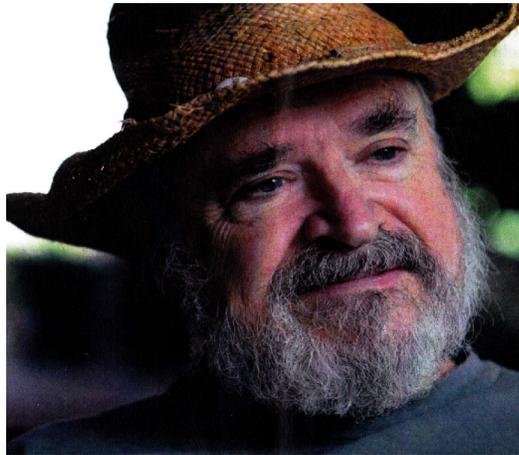
In 1970 he met his future wife, Anne, on a train as they returned to New York from a Washington, D.C. peace march organized in response to the Kent State shootings. They married a year later. In 1972, Peter, Anne, and two other couples founded an intentional community on a farm near Unityville, Pennsylvania. After the community dissolved they continued to live on the farm with their children, Aaron and Laura, raising goats, pigs, rabbits, geese, chickens, honeybees, a horse, and a vicious rooster named Mr. Kelly, until 1981 when they moved to Bloomsburg, PA.

He established his own film and audio visual production company, Looking Glass Films, and won several national awards for his work. In the late 1970s Peter was part of a group that founded Greenwood Friends School in Millville, Pennsylvania, which Anne would eventually direct as head of school. During

this period Peter, Anne, and their children joined the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) as members of Millville Monthly Meeting. Peter eventually transitioned to a new career in public relations and development for nonprofit institutions. In 1989 Anne became head of Plymouth Meeting Friends School, Peter accepted a job as development director for Delaware Valley Friends School, and the family moved to the Philadelphia suburbs.

Over the years Peter developed a conviction that many social and environmental ills were fundamentally related to the decline of mass transit and the rise of automobile dependency. He came to devote all of his professional time to this issue. He founded Pennsylvanians for Transportation Solutions (PenTrans), a group devoted to multimodal transit for the state of Pennsylvania, with a focus on increased public transportation funding. This group continues to operate. Later, he would go on to help found Northwest Village Network (NVN), an aging in place community for residents of Northwest Philadelphia, which also continues to function through the leadership of his wife, Anne, and others.

Other interests included, at various times, dancing (Peter had been one of the founders of a creative dance group in Northeastern Pennsylvania), theater (as a young man he participated in Summer stock theater, studied acting at the HB Studio in New York, and operated a theater loft with friends near Kennedy Airport; later, he would appear in a number of community theater performances), film (he was a cofounder of Bloomsburg's Classy Film Society in the early 1980s), food co-ops (Peter was a founder of The Real Food Co-op



John "Peter" Javscas

in Northeast Pennsylvania and would later be an active member of Weaver's Way in Philadelphia), cooking (an interest he inherited from his father; he was always in search of the perfect cast iron pan), Green Party Politics, and, more recently, Rotary International. He loved organic garden-

ing, good wine and beer, dark chocolate, rosette de Lyon sausage, films, opera, classical music, jazz, American history, science fiction, and the novels of Patrick O'Brien. He regretted never learning to tap dance.

Peter had a difficult childhood and struggled with depression throughout his life. Perhaps as a result of his early experiences, he focused on building and maintaining a strong family and community. Peter was humble, charitable, and moral. He wanted to give away whatever money he had. He had a slate of oft-repeated jokes, silly and usually self-deprecating, but his humor was sometimes so subtle people couldn't tell when he was joking: he'd ask waiters whether could have the biggest piece or if he had to sign the credit card slip with his real name. He was a powerful combination of humble and charismatic: He could never turn down an opportunity to speak to a crowd of 500, or a one-on-one conversation at 2 a.m. When you spoke to him he listened.

Peter is survived by his wife and children; by his daughter-in-law, Lucinda Bartley, and son-in-law, David Ross Javscas; by four grandsons, John David (named for his grandfathers), Daniel, Evan, and Oliver; by his sister, Michele Childers, and by his nephews Peter and Dan Childers. He was preceded in death by his parents and by his brother-in-law, Rory Childers. Peter is deeply missed by his family and many hundreds of others whose lives he touched.

Obituaries & Memorials

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.

Patricia C. Campbell: Former Lower School teacher

Patricia C. Campbell (nee Heffernan) of Glen Cove passed away on August 15, 2017. A former Lower School teacher, Pat taught on the Beta Team between 1969 and 1984.

Beloved wife of the late Thomas J. Campbell. Loving mother of Thomas (Lily) and Christopher (Laura). Cherished sister of Jacqueline. Adored grandmother of Thomas, Alex, Nicole, Christopher and Michael. Great Grandmother of Kinsey.



Patricia Campbell, former Lower School teacher

Sally Hicks Conklin '63: Member of OSU's School of Veterinary Medicine first graduating class

Sally H. Conklin of Corvallis died Oct. 4, 2016, peacefully surrounded by friends, family and her beloved pets.

She was born on March 10, 1945, in Glen Cove Long Island, New York, to William and Harriet Hicks. She attended Friends Academy Quaker School on Long Island. Sally transferred to UC Berkeley from Syracuse University and earned a bachelor's degree and a Pharmacy Degree (1978) at Berkeley. In 1983, she was awarded the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from Oregon State University where she was a member of the first class to graduate from OSU's School of Veterinary Medicine.

Sally was independent, brilliant, fun and well-loved. She owned her own House Call Veterinary Clinic for many years and often volunteered veterinary services at Heartland Humane Society where she also served as a Board Member.



Sally Hicks
Conklin in 1963

She is survived by her sister Margo Newhouse; a niece; two nephews and many friends.

Remembrances for Sally can be made to Cornerstones Associates (where she also was a longtime Board Member), Monroe Rural Fire Department, Benton Hospice or Heartland Humane Society.

REMEMBRANCES OF SALLY HICKS CONKLIN FROM HER CLASSMATES

“Our dear classmate, Sally Hicks, passed away last October. Kathy Garren located the obituary. As most of you know, Sally had been in poor health for some time. She valiantly made it to our 50th reunion in 2013. I was lucky to see her once more when she drove across country by way of Houston on her way home after the reunion. She came to Citizens for Animal Protection where I work part-time in addition to volunteering. I am attaching a picture of us there. We were having a special event and she sat at a table for an “Ask the Vet” session. Sally would periodically call me and the last time was last year. She told me if I did not hear from her again she had died. And then I did not hear more...so very sad. Sally and I go way back at FA (1950 for me and 1952 for her) and I have enjoyed spending time with her at recent reunions. For the 45th she even picked me up at LaGuardia and we drove to BJ's [Brundige] where we were staying and spent time driving all over to look at places we had both lived and just enjoying the area. I will miss her very much.”

– Paula Howe

“OK, my reminiscence – I can't remember if it was eighth or ninth grade. As we can recall, Sally was a big girl who had developed, let's just say early. We (classmates) were in the Common Room sometime during the day on a break and I remember her spinning and twisting around



Sally Hicks Conklin and Paula Howe '63

from her waist and, as she was twisting back and forth, she was repeating “We must, we must develop the bust!” And, of course, by this time they already extremely well-developed. It was so fun then and I can't tell why I'm recalling it now but, that was Sally as we knew her – fun and carefree. After all, this was the far more societally repressive late 1950s.”

– Bruce Birkett

“Sally and I did have a few lovely conversations over the years since we graduated from F.A. At Syracuse University, where we were both students from 1963-1967, we would see each other from time to time, and then chat a bit about what each of us was doing. Later I would see her at our F.A. class reunions. Our last conversation was in front of the Quaker meeting house at the 50th class reunion. At that point, Sally did tell me about her health problems. How terrible to hear that Sally is no longer with us! To comprehend the passing of one's high school classmates, so vivacious when they were young, brings to my mind the brevity of life, and the fact that numbers of our classmates, and now sadly Sally, have passed on.”

– Diane Olding Stanley

“Just to say I will miss Sally, her indomitable spirit.”

– Arno Finkeldey

“I loved Sally's unforgettable smile. Sally always struck me as larger than life and she certainly was stronger than her health issues, which she did not let hold her back. Sally always spoke her mind, whatever the topic. She was candid, forthright, and passionate, especially about her own animals or those in her care. I will miss seeing her at our next reunion.”

– Van Schwiebert

“She will be missed. She was a good friend for all of us.”

– Stephen Lyon

“It sounds as though she was a very courageous woman. I only remember our FA days. I know she often had me laughing. I do remember one incident when we were playing basketball. If you all remember, I am rather short and Sally and I probably looked like Mutt and Jeff on the court. She passed a ball to me, and she was powerful, and it hit me right between the eyes. I hit the floor like a rock. To this day, I have no recollection of the outcome, but Sally and I had a good laugh about the situation. She was an interesting and intelligent woman. I know she will be greatly missed.”

– MaryAnn Engle Jenness

“Sally was the first person who greeted me when I arrived in fourth grade. She also was my date for my bar mitzvah. She was a person that was easy to talk to. She kept secrets well. We commiserated when we did not get into our first college choices. We rejoiced when we transferred. When she graduated from vet school I sent her a long note. When I graduated from medical school she sent me a telegram... Rest in peace Sally. We will miss you.”

– Earl Kabnick

“Sally stood tall at the center of our class. Who didn't know her! Who didn't enjoy being in her aura. Who didn't feel her powerful spirit. Don't you think she kind of mothered us? Ah, it is always so difficult to lose a mother. Sally will be missed... but remembered.”

– Toni Naren Gates

“Sally is a treasure! Such sad news. Sally always impressed me with her spirit and athletic skill. Sports are some of my favorite memories of Friends. Field Hockey and Basketball were my favorite and Sally was such a strong player. Sally was good at scoring in both sports.

Remember when in girls' basketball the guards could only play half the court?! Times have changed. Sounds like she had a passion for her life as a Vet which must have been rewarding for her. She will be missed."

– Wendy Bartlett Lauman

"When I had the beach house in Bayville and we did a Sunday barbecue there during our 30th Sally did a local "pet inspection." I shared with a neighbor three wonderfully entertaining kittens who joined our party, drawn by the activity. While Sally and I were chatting by a table looking out on the Sound she routinely picked up each, plopped them on the table and proceeded to give a physical w/o skipping a beat or a break in the conversation.

Teddy, I believe, and someone else boosted Sally from the Seawanhaka dock onto the boat, fanny first. She landed on her coccyx on the upright protruding winch and – "if looks could kill" – glad I had not been part of that operation. The first time we did the boat ride we had 15 aboard. Sadly, the crew has thinned out."

– Bob Darbee



From bottom left clockwise: Kathy Laemmle Garren, Tom Waldes, Regina Waldes, Van Schwiebert, Bob Darbee, Diane Olding Stanley, Paula Howe, Sally Hicks Conklin.

REMEMBRANCE OF SALLY HICKS CONKLIN AND HARDIN DAVIS

"It is very sad to learn of the passing of Sally Hicks Conklin and Hardin Davis. At the same time, it is uplifting to read their obituaries. Both Sally and Hardin were unique and remarkable individuals who contributed greatly to their communities and will be sorely missed, although their contributions will live on. Both Sally and Hardin added greatly to our 50th reunion, which has added poignancy since they will never again grace us with their physical presence."

– Elin Richards

Hardin Davis, Jr. '63: At the center of the music scene

In 1967, the US Army sent Hardin Davis to Ft. Douglas in Salt Lake City instead of Saigon. It was in Salt Lake that he lived, worked, married, raised two boys, played music, raced bicycles.

Hardin was born on Long Island, NY, May 27, 1945. He briefly attended Colgate Univ. and San Diego Law School but eventually, in his own time, graduated with a BA in History, University of Utah. He was a perpetual student.

His immeasurable contribution to the Salt Lake music scene began in the 70s. In his unassuming way, he championed, encouraged and participated in the art of music as much as any one person could. As a performer, he delighted audiences with skillful instrument mastery and songs ranging from thoughtful to humorous. He was active as a solo performer, played in The Jordan River Uptown Band, Great Basin Rangers ('76), Loggerheads ('88), and others. More recently you'd find him in music gatherings with friends, often with a banjo in hand. He was a member of the Board of Directors of Folk Alliance International and an early board member of Intermountain Acoustic Music Association.

As owner of Acoustic Music for 28 years, he was at the center of the music scene, rubbing shoulders with both local and professional touring musicians. Acoustic Music continues his legacy under the ownership of his son, Brian Winter.

Hardin was an intellectual and voracious reader. In 1982, with good friends and equally voracious readers, he founded "Bullwinkle's Corner," a book club that survives him.

He was a long-distance cyclist and bike racer, touring across the US twice and racing in the USA Nat'l Cycling Championship Masters. He commuted daily, racking up 115,000 miles over the years. He biked the route taken in 1846 by New England historian, Francis Parkman, over the then newly-opened Oregon Trail. This trip resulted in his self-published book, *Serious Earth: Dreaming Through an American Landscape* – a book of history, philosophy, poetry, and imagination. Left unfinished in his studio is a modern-guise novel based on the work of the Roman poet Virgil, a work that also involved writing songs based on ancient Myths.

For 30 years he played basketball on the Pub sponsored team. His last game, at age 70 and already quite ill with cancer, he scored seven three-pointers. He also excelled at tennis and played rugby in his younger years.

Hardin is survived by wife Sandi; son Jeff Winter (Claudia); son Brian Winter (Katey Martin); grandsons, Parker, Oliver; granddaughter Emerson; sister, Amy Davis (Phil



Saul, Charleston, SC; nephew Davis; niece Lillian; brother, Jeff Davis (Lisa Davidson), Woodstock, CT; cousin, Deke Conklin (Barbara Fraser), Nelson, NH.

Hardin was a lifelong vegetarian who demonstrated kindness to all creatures. He was quiet, kind, and frugal, characteristics in short supply these days. The days and weeks ahead are comforted by the knowledge that Hardin wasn't afraid and he believed he had a very full, productive life.

Published in Salt Lake Tribune May 27 to May 28, 2017.

REMEMBRANCES OF HARDIN DAVIS

"I am saddened to read this and recount the passing of another classmate. Harden was a quiet, but engaging, person with good humor and sensitivity. Unlike the rest of us, he rode his bike to our 50th, adding to those incredible miles. He will be missed."

– Van Schwiebert '63

"I am sorry to report that Hardin Davis died today. He was with his family, brother Jeff, sister Amy, and wife, Sandi. Hardin leaves a legacy of songs, a novel, and cycling. You may recall that he biked from Utah to our 50th FA reunion."

– Ted Keefer '63

"I really enjoyed visiting with him at our 50th and was so impressed with his biking all that way. I remember learning that he, and a few other people, had also attended Miss Stephanie's dancing classes at Nassau Country Club all those years ago. Our classmate Hugh Brown pulled the chair out from under me when I went to sit down one time during the class...those were the days."

– Paula Howe '63

"Hardin I recall as a gentle, thoughtful, gentleman.... Paula, I can't believe you mentioned the dancing classes at Nassau Country Club...I think I attended a few times with a friend Pre-coming to FA in the ninth grade. Girls taller than boys. Sweaty palms. Horrendous!"

– Nancy Wadsworth Hanna '63



Hardin Davis, Jr. in 1963, above and top

**Esther Alexis: Former Middle School teacher
and summer Breakthrough Director 'gave children a voice'**

Esther Alexis was on the trip of a lifetime, exploring southeast Asia with her husband Christopher when she suddenly lost her life in an accident on September 28, 2017. Esther was the fourth of five children born to Dieulima and Anne Alexis. She was born in Spring Valley (Rockland County), New York and moved to Orlando, Florida when she was six years old.

Esther graduated from Lake Howell high school in 2000 where she served as class president all four years and went on to receive her Bachelors of Arts in Anthropology from The University of Florida in 2004. She then went on to receive a Masters in Educational Leadership from Columbia University in 2016.

Esther was a passionate educator who loved working with children. Her teaching career began during the summer of 2003 when she taught in the Breakthrough Collaborative program at Friends Academy on Long Island. She met her husband Christopher Benz teaching there.

Esther was such an incredible presence in the classroom that she soon rose to become the Program Director. She was a teacher at Friends Academy as well. Later she moved to New Orleans, where she continued her work in education as a teacher and administrator at several different schools and impacted every life she came across in the classroom and beyond.

While Esther was known for her many personal and professional accomplishments, it was her character that defined her and made Esther so incredibly special to many that knew and loved her. Esther made the most isolated feel connected. She chose justice over her own self-preservation. She secretly funded milestone events. She truly listened. She never showed up at someone's house empty handed. She was proud of her Haitian roots.

She gave children a voice. She noticed those who needed a hand, and she lent it. She was inquisitive about different cultures and the world. She embraced her natural beauty. She intervened in domestic violence. She was well known for her modern and unique personal style, and had a gift for uncovering countless hidden gems in thrift stores. She did not judge. She was prepared for things big and small, and always carried a bag fully stocked with wet naps, hand sanitizer, or



Esther Alexis worked at Friends Academy from 2004-2009 as Director of the summer Breakthrough program and later as a teacher of eighth grade Ethics and seventh grade World Cultures.

tissues for herself and others.

She lived her Christian beliefs. She helped others overcome personal demons. She was the first one on the dance floor. She made the vulnerable feel safe.

If you were fortunate enough to truly know Esther Alexis, Esther challenged you, Esther made you a better person, and Esther was unconditional love.

Esther was preceded in death by her father Dieulima Alexis in 2014. She is survived by her husband Christopher Benz. Esther is also survived by her mother Anne Alexis, and her siblings, Samuel Alexis (Lusta Alexis), Natasha Kenol (Ralph Kenol), Rebecca Alexis (Nick Horton), and Tamara Sashington (Andrew Leon Sashington II).

She is also survived by her beloved nieces and nephews: Issac Alexis, Ralphie Kenol, Andy Leon Sashington III, Justin Kenol, Annalise Claire Sashington and Lucas Horton. She is also survived by her in laws, Ann and Bill Benz, Emily and David Boxer and their children Hugo and Olympia Boxer.

Please join us in celebrating the beautiful life of Esther Alexis on Saturday, October 14th at 10:00 am at the Calvary Chapel of Orlando.

An educational opportunity foundation in honor of Esther Alexis is in the works. In lieu of a donation at this time, we ask you to please give an act of kindness or be of service to someone in need as a tribute to Esther and all that she stood for.



Esther Alexis in 2009.

MEETING FOR MEMORIAL

Friends Academy
remembered Esther at a
memorial
Meeting for Worship
on
Saturday, Nov. 4th at 10 a.m.
in the Matinecock
Meeting House.
A brief reception followed the
Meeting in the Community
Room adjacent
to the Meeting House.



“Supporting Friends is a priority for us...”

— Penelope Wylie Mayer '75 and Chris Mayer '75, former FA parents and alumni

Penelope and Chris Mayer had a strong connection to Friends Academy before they even stepped foot on campus.

Penelope's mother, Barbara Booth Wylie, was a graduate of the class of 1954 and Chris' aunt, Nancy Dean Dayton, a graduate of the class of 1950. Friends Academy has had a lasting impression on both of their lives ever since.

Penelope recalls, “When I got to college, I realized how well prepared I was, and the introduction to the Quaker philosophy has become an important part of our approach and outlook on life.”

Penelope and Chris reconnected over this bond at an alumni gathering after graduating in 1975. When it was time to choose a school for their daughter Augusta, “Friends was the obvious choice for us,” said Chris. “Augusta had an incredible academic and athletic experience, preparing her for life beyond FA and as she transitioned into college.”



The Mayers and Wylie families represent three generations of Friends Academy graduates on both sides.

The Mayers knew long before Augusta graduated that they would support Friends Academy with a Planned Giving Bequest. “Supporting Friends is a priority for us because the quality of education they provide is so exemplary, and we feel strongly about contributing to maintaining that standard of excellence,” said Penelope.

PLEASE JOIN JENNIFER AND HENRY WILLIAMS, WHO HAVE INCLUDED FRIENDS IN THEIR ESTATE PLANS:

You can make a gift that has a substantial, long-lasting impact.

You can leave a legacy and recognize the value Friends holds in your heart.

You can make a difference in more students' lives with a bequest than with a gift that comes from today's income or savings.

**A bequest is a simple way to make the maximum positive impact
without compromising your lifestyle or budget.**

For information on how to include Friends Academy in your estate plans, how to establish an endowment, or to discuss ways to match your interests with school needs, contact Director of Development Jim Michalek at jim_michalek@fa.org or 516-393-4269.



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KIND HEARTS.



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SAVE THE DATE!

NOVEMBER 18

VEX ROBOTICS
TOURNAMENT, 8 AM - 2 PM
(COMMONS)

NOVEMBER 20

"BREAKING BREAD" ALL
COMMUNITY MEETING FOR
WORSHIP, 2 PM
(MEETING HOUSE)

DECEMBER 7, 12, 19

WINTER CONCERTS (LS/MS/
US) (THEATER)

JANUARY 16-19

ALL-SCHOOL PEACE WEEK

FEBRUARY 8, 9, 10

ALL-SCHOOL MUSICAL,
"MARY POPPINS,"
7:30 PM (THEATER)



Middle School students uses physical and mental resourcefulness to invent and tinker during a MakerSpace Enrichment activity.

FIND US ... AND JOIN US ONLINE

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WWW.FA.ORG

Visit our official school site to see regular slideshows of school and updates on campus life.

FACEBOOK

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/
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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](http://WWW.TWITTER.COM/FATODAY)



Sign up and follow instant updates about athletic wins, art and theater openings, news coverage, and more.

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