

SUMMER 2017

# shady side

academy

## Fields of Learning

The Shady Side Academy Farm

COMMENCEMENT 2017 • LANCE LABUN '66 • BEN PORTMAN '03

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*Shady Side Academy Magazine* is published twice a  
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The following icons denote stories related to key goals  
of SSA's strategic vision, entitled *Challenging Students to  
Think Expansively, Act Ethically and Lead Responsibly*.

For more information, visit [shadysideacademy.org/strategicvision](http://shadysideacademy.org/strategicvision).



Academic  
Program



Community  
Connections



Faculty



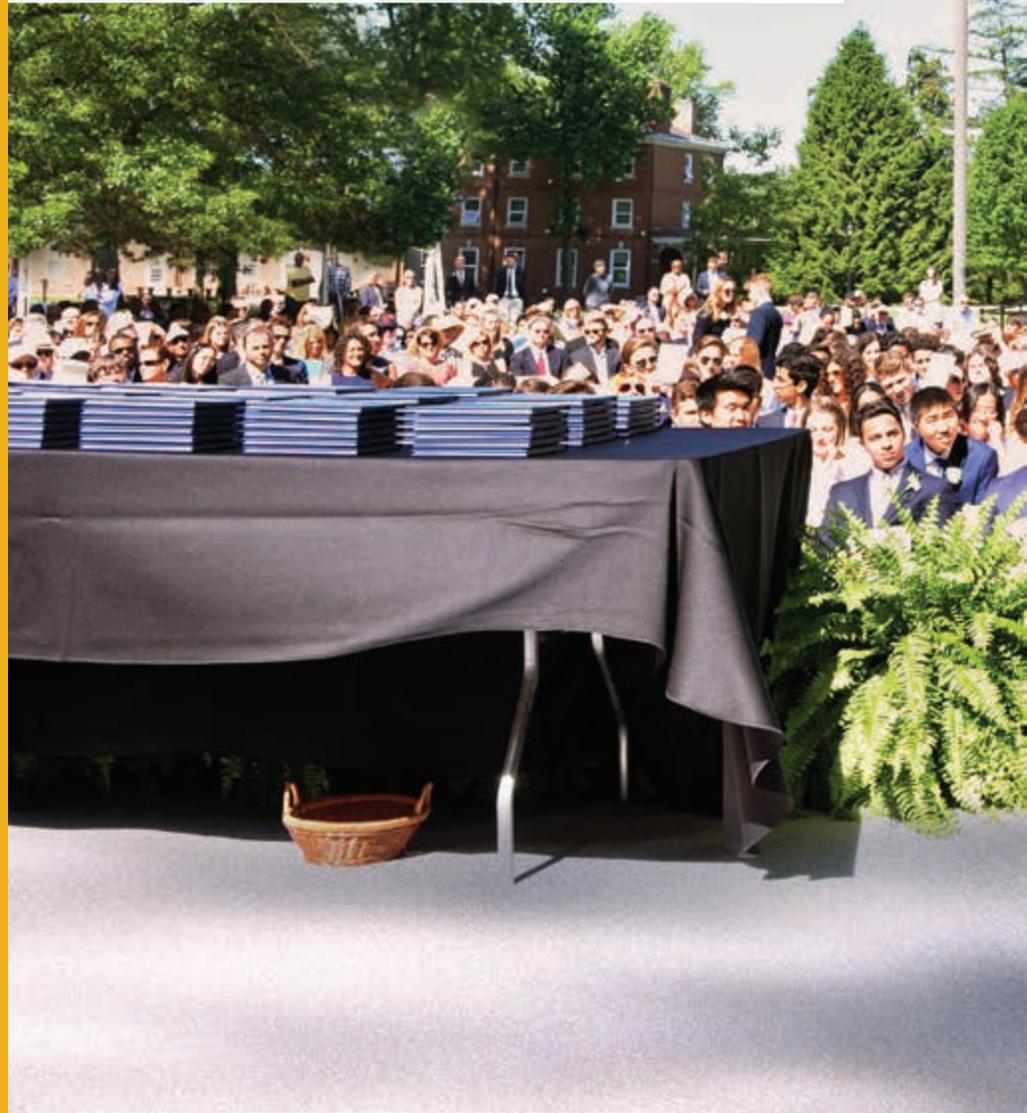
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Students



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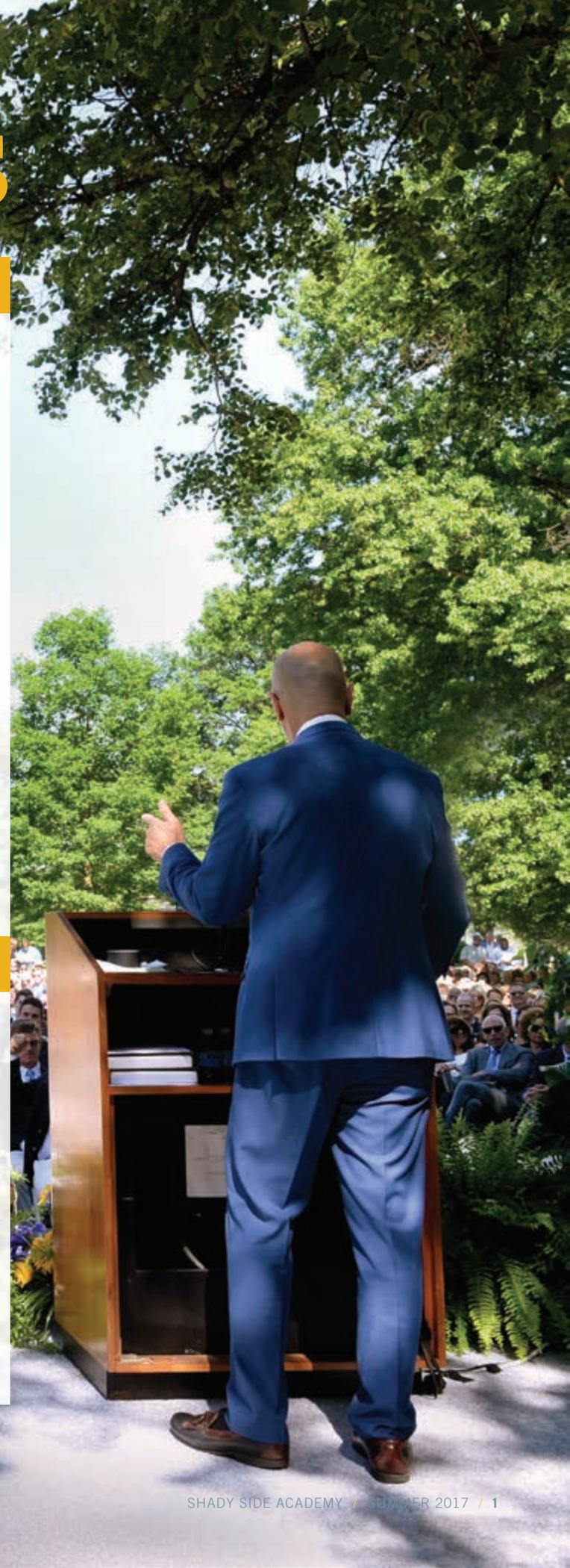
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# President's Message

## DEAR SHADY SIDE ACADEMY COMMUNITY:

As a kid growing up in the Boston area, I remember going on a school excursion on a boat in Boston Harbor. As the guide told us about the various landmarks that came into view, he also mentioned that if anyone fell into the harbor, he or she would have to get a tetanus shot. And he wasn't joking. After years and years of dumping solid waste, storm runoff and lots of other pollutants into the streams and rivers that fed the harbor or directly into the harbor itself, Boston Harbor had essentially become an open sewer.

Pittsburgh has had its own environmental challenges. One of the first books I read about Pittsburgh before arriving in the city in the summer of 2010 was a book edited by CMU professor Joel Tarr, *Devastation and Renewal: An Environmental History of Pittsburgh and Its Region*. The essays in the book paint a bleak picture of the various types of mainly industrial pollution – mine runoff, the dumping of industrial waste into rivers, slag heaps, soil contamination, deforestation and, of course, terrible air pollution.

The “happy ending” to the Pittsburgh pollution problem and an underlying theme of the book is that changing attitudes, good policy and a transformed economy all have contributed to the renewal of the Pittsburgh region's environment. Air pollution is still an enormous challenge for the city – Pittsburgh regularly scores among the worst cities in the country in terms of air quality – but there has been impressive progress in many other areas. The same can be said for Boston Harbor. The city of Boston has made a concerted, multi-pronged effort to rectify the various problems. After just a few decades, Boston Harbor is once again used for a wide array of recreational purposes – including swimming! – and the fish and shellfish have returned.

In recent years, Shady Side Academy has worked hard to implement an extensive list of sustainable practices. We have introduced recycling and composting programs; we have made our buildings and facilities more energy efficient; and we are now embarking on a project to implement long-term environmental and ecological planning for our campuses. Assisting us with this project is the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, which is in the process of surveying our campuses and recording and mapping the data. Not only do we wish to be a school sustainability leader in the Pittsburgh region, but we hope that some aspects of this particular initiative will be added to our natural sciences curriculum at the different divisions. Coupled with our burgeoning SSA Farm program (see story pg. 16), Shady Side students are getting an excellent education in how ecological systems work and how to be good stewards of the planet. That's a result of which we can all be proud.

Sincerely,



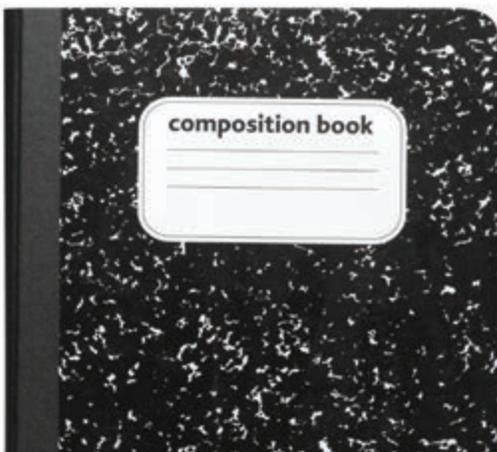
Tom Cangiano  
Academy President





## Middle School Rocketry Team Competes in TARC National Fly-Off

For the first time ever, the Middle School Rocketry team competed in the Team America Rocketry Challenge (TARC) National Finals Fly-Off, held in The Plains, Va., on May 13. SSA was among 100 middle and high school teams across the country who qualified for nationals, and the only team from Western Pennsylvania. The TARC contest challenges teams to design, build and fly a rocket that can carry a raw egg to an altitude of 775 feet and safely return it to the ground in 41-43 seconds. In the first round, SSA's rocket reached 674 feet and landed in 35.04 seconds, with the egg intact, but the team did not advance to the final round. The day before the Fly-Off, teams attended a breakfast reception on Capitol Hill where Team SSA met astronaut Paul Lockhart (below).



## Sophomore Among 10 National Winners in Historical Essay Contest

Sophomore **Drew Sveda** was one of 10 winners nationwide in the 2017 Age of Revolution Essay Contest, sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. His winning essay was entitled *A City Upon a Hill: Examining the Ties Between Christianity and the Early Republic*. As a top 10 winner, Sveda received a \$1,000 prize, and SSA received \$500. Sveda spent two months working on his essay under the guidance of Senior School history teacher **Dan Coyne**.

## Middle Schoolers Place Second in National Science League Contest

Middle School seventh grade students placed second in the nation at the 2017-2018 National Science League's Life Science Contest. The top 10 highest-scoring students were **Jack Hathaway, Prayag Vemulapalli, Andy Marous, Rosie Blodgett, Braden Crow, Emily Jordan, Ariya Tayal, Jeffrey Patterson, Megan Dollard** and **Lars Barkman**.



## Three Students Place First at PJAS State Competition

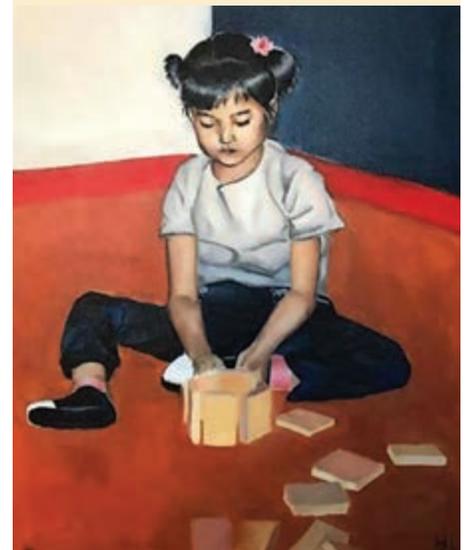
Eighth grader **Nora Navid**, freshman **Feno Monaco** and junior **Jai Ganesh** earned first-place awards in the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) State Competition held May 14-16 at Pennsylvania State University. Navid received a perfect score for her project, *Polling Pollinators*. Monaco presented the project *Yogurtalicious!* while Ganesh presented *Sleep Quality and Stress Among Shift Workers*.

## National Merit Scholarship Winners and Finalists

Three seniors were awarded 2017 National Merit Scholarships. **Emily Winterhalter** was awarded a National Merit \$2500 Scholarship, while **Sameer Annamraju** and **Patrick Bem** were awarded corporate-sponsored scholarships. SSA's National Merit finalists included **Brian Foster, Chirag Kulkarni, William Lu, Jesse Plung, Rakesh Ravi, AnnaElaine Rosengart, Thomas Sherlis, Winterhalter** and **Eric Zhang**.

## Scholastic Art & Writing Awards

Freshman **Hyelim "Rose" Lee** won a national Silver Medal for her painting, *Past Memories* (below), in the 2017 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards, the nation's most prestigious competition for creative teens in grades 7-12. A total of 19 Senior School students won 72 awards in the regional Scholastic competition (58 in art and 14 in writing), including 16 Gold Keys, 27 Silver Keys and 29 Honorable Mentions. The 10 students, including Lee, who won regional Gold Keys had their work advance to the national competition.



## Senior Wins Princeton Prize in Race Relations

Senior **Caroline Benec** was selected as the regional winner of the 2017 Princeton Prize in Race Relations, awarded by the Princeton Alumni Association of Western Pennsylvania. As a regional winner, Benec received \$1,000 and an all-expenses-paid weekend trip to a national symposium on race at Princeton University in April. The Princeton Prize in Race Relations recognizes and rewards high school students who have had a significant positive effect on race relations in their schools or communities through their volunteer efforts.



## Speech & Debate Students Compete at National, International Competitions

Two Senior School Speech and Debate Team members competed in national tournaments this spring after advancing from district qualifiers. Freshman **Max Minard** competed in Dramatic Performance at the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament in Louisville, Ky., in May, and senior **Nathan Genstein** competed in Congress (Senate) at the National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament in Birmingham, Ala., in June. In April, juniors **Jennifer Jaffe** and **Antoni Yotov** (left) competed as members of Team USA at the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship in Sydney, Australia – an international tournament that SSA hosted in 2016.

## Science Olympiad State & National Tournaments

The Middle School Science Olympiad Team qualified for nationals for the 11th time in 15 years, finishing 20th overall out of 60 teams at the National Science Olympiad Tournament in Dayton, Ohio, in May. The team qualified for nationals by placing second out of 26 teams at the state tournament in April. The Senior School team finished sixth out of 36 high school teams at the state tournament, marking the team's fourth consecutive top 10 state finish.





### Seventh Annual MLK Day of Service

More than 150 volunteers engaged in hands-on community service projects at three locations in Pittsburgh on the Academy's seventh annual MLK Day of Service on Jan. 16. The volunteers, which included students in grades PK-12 plus parents, faculty and staff, celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day by volunteering on the national day of service, making it "a day on, not a day off." Partner organizations included Beverly's Birthdays, Meals on Wheels Southwest PA, Auberle's 412 Youth Zone, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC, HealthSouth Harmarville Rehabilitation Hospital, and the H.J. Heinz Campus of the VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System.





## Third Grade Collects PJs

The third grade class collected 437 pairs of pajamas and raised \$560.26 for local foster care children through a pajama drive and pajama day fundraiser benefiting the Mattress Firm Foster Kids program. Donations were delivered to a local Mattress Firm store for distribution to one or more local foster care agencies included Every Child, Pressley Ridge, Three Rivers Adoption Council and Ward Home.

## Bounce for Bundle-Up

Kindergartners participated in Bounce for Bundle-Up, an annual class service project, in March. Students worked with their third-grade buddies to practice dribbling basketballs, which coincided with their P.E. basketball lessons, and collected pledges from family and friends. On “bounce day,” the third graders counted how many times their kindergarten buddies bounced a basketball for three minutes. The students raised more than \$3,000 for Project Bundle-Up.



## HATS FOR CANCER PATIENTS

Throughout the winter and spring, Senior School Service Learning Club students, along with faculty, staff and parents, knitted and crocheted more than 35 hats that were donated to patients at the Hillman Cancer Center.

## Service Above Self Award

Graduating senior **Brian Foster** was honored by the Rotary Club of Fox Chapel with the annual Service Above Self Award in June. The award is a \$2,000 prize given to a local student who serves others in significant ways. Foster was involved in numerous service projects at SSA and in the Pittsburgh community. Foster plans to attend Princeton University in fall 2017.



## Ceramics Students Create Bowls for Empty Bowls Dinner

Senior School students in **Scott Aiken's** ceramics class made bowls on the pottery wheel to donate to the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank and Just Harvest's Empty Bowls Dinner, an event designed to raise awareness about hunger in the Pittsburgh community. Attendees who purchased a ticket to the March 19 dinner received a simple meal of soup and bread, donated by some of the best restaurants in Pittsburgh, and a beautiful handmade ceramic bowl to take home. Proceeds benefitted the Food Bank and Just Harvest.

1. Pre-Kindergarten Alphabet Parade
2. Kindergarten Art Show
3. 1st Grade Play
4. 2nd Grade Play
5. 3rd Grade State Fair
6. 4th Grade Greek Museum
7. 5th Grade Wonder Performance
8. Middle School Musical *The Music Man*
9. Senior School Musical *The Addams Family*
10. Senior School Original Works Theatre Festival





6



7



8



9



10



## Holocaust Survivors Visit

On April 26, Classrooms Without Borders brought Holocaust survivors Aron and Henryka Bielski to SSA for a Q&A session with seventh, eighth and tenth grade students. Aron was a member of the Bielski partisan brigade that saved more than 1,200 Jews fleeing Nazi oppression during World War II. The story of the Bielski brothers is featured in the 2008 movie *Defiance*. The students listened intently to the Bielski's personal stories and asked questions to help them broaden their understanding of the Holocaust.

## Accidental Activists Documentary Screening

The Senior School Gay-Straight Alliance welcomed Emmy Award-winning photojournalist and producer Mandi Wright to campus on May 8. Wright, a Pittsburgh native, spoke to various classes about her position as a photographer/videographer with the *Detroit Free Press*, her role as producer of the documentary film *Accidental Activists*, and the evolution of newspapers and the media. In the evening, she premiered *Accidental Activists* in the Hillman Center for Performing Arts. The documentary screening was followed by Q&A with Wright.



## Sean Gibson Speaks at the Middle School

Sean Gibson, executive director of the Gibson Foundation, spoke at a Middle School assembly on March 16, as part of the school's Black History Month programming. Gibson is the great-grandson of Pittsburgh baseball legend Josh Gibson, who played in the Negro Leagues from 1930 to 1946 and was known as "The black Babe Ruth." Gibson fielded questions, showcased Negro league memorabilia and spoke about his great-grandfather's legacy. Then, on May 4, Middle School students attended a matinee performance of the Pittsburgh Opera's *The Summer King – The Josh Gibson Story* at the Benedum Center, where they saw music teacher **Jeff Gross** perform as a member of the chorus.





## Parent Education Programs

As part of SSA's 2016-2017 Parent Education Programs, a free documentary screening of *Screenagers* was held Feb. 23 in the Hillman Center for Performing Arts. In *Screenagers*, physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston takes a personal approach as she explores family struggles over social media, video games, academics and Internet addiction. The film reveals how tech time impacts kids' development and offers solutions on how adults can empower kids to best navigate the digital world and find balance.

In March, Alexander Heffner, host of *The Open Mind* on PBS, presented *The Future of Civil Discourse*, to parents at the Hillman Center. The following day, he shared the presentation with students at Senior School community assembly. Heffner's presentation explored the contemporary state of the U.S. media and politics, including free speech and social media.

## Artist Baron Batch Visits Junior School

Local artist (and former Pittsburgh Steeler) Baron Batch visited the Junior School on March 6 to speak with kindergarten students about his artwork and being an artist. The class had been studying artists, including Van Gogh, Jackson Pollock, Frida Kahlo and Alma Thomas, and they were excited to meet a local artist. Students took turns asking Batch questions about his childhood, how and why he became an artist, playing football and more. Prior to his visit, students visited Batch's gallery, event space and creative agency Studio AM in Homestead.

## STUDENTS ORGANIZE 2ND ANNUAL TEDXYOUTH@SHADYSIDE

Twelve Senior School students organized the second annual TEDxYouth@Shadyside, an independently organized TED event, at the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust's August Wilson Center on April 15. The event featured speakers that showcased the innovations taking place in Pittsburgh in research, business, medicine, film and more, headlined by Pittsburgh Mayor Bill Peduto. Seniors **Ethan Forgas** and **Anya Satyawadi** were the event co-directors, and the organizing committee included seniors **Carter Ayers**, **Annika Dhawan**, **Alicia McMahon** and **Luke Tomasovic**, juniors **Meredith Cummings**, **Jack Demchak**, **Ashvin Dhawan**, **Anna Jovin** and **Lauren Levy**, and sophomore **Madigan Wolfanger**.

**TED<sup>x</sup>**  
**Youth@Shadyside**  
x = independently organized TED event



Above: Shady Side Academy administrators, alongside donors and representatives of the architectural and construction firms, officially broke ground  
Below: Jon Kamin '91 addressed the crowd

# MCILROY CENTER FOR SCIENCE AND INNOVATION GROUNDBREAKING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES KNOX

Construction is underway on the newest addition to the 130-acre Shady Side Academy Senior School campus, the McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation.





Bottom left: Peter McIlroy '61 and his wife, Pam, alongside Bruce Wiegand '65, and his wife, Barbara, attended the groundbreaking

Below: Architectural drawing of the McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation



A groundbreaking ceremony for the new building was held May 18 and attended by lead donors, trustees, administration, and Senior School faculty and students. After a welcome by SSA Director of Development Rick Munroe '84, Board of Trustees Buildings & Grounds Committee chair Jon Kamin '91 thanked the McIlroy and Wiegand families for their lead gifts to the building, and everyone who helped to make the project possible. Academy President Tom Cangiano echoed that appreciation and spoke about the transformative impact the McIlroy Center will have on science at Shady Side for years to come. Finally, key administrators, donors, and representatives of the architectural and construction firms donned hard hats and dug their commemorative shovels into the ground for a celebratory photo op.

Site preparation and utility relocation work for the building began in late March, and crews began laying the foundation for the 22,000-square foot, U-shaped, two-story building in May. The goal is to complete construction in

time for the 2018-2019 school year. The center will sit along the campus entrance drive, just before McCune Library, and house the Senior School Science Department with 10 flexible classroom/lab spaces, plus spaces for research, collaboration and independent study, and an outdoor amphitheater. Sustainable features include a rain garden, rooftop solar panels, energy-efficient windows, water-saving plumbing and motion-sensitive lighting, with the goal of earning LEED Gold certification.

The building was designed by the architectural firm Frederick Fisher & Partners of Los Angeles. Strada is the local and construction architect, while PJ Dick is overseeing construction. Scalo Solar Solutions is generously donating the solar rooftop array and monitoring inside the building.

The \$14 million capital project includes \$11 million in construction costs and a \$3 million endowment for maintenance. Fundraising efforts have raised roughly \$10.7 million to date and include a seven-figure naming gift by Peter McIlroy '61 and his wife, Pam; a \$1 million gift from the Bruce and Barbara Wiegand Family Foundation; a \$1 million anonymous gift from an alumnus of the Class of 1956; and a grant from the Richard King Mellon Foundation. To help SSA reach its \$14 million goal, contact Director of Development Rick Munroe '84 at [rmunroe@shadysideacademy.org](mailto:rmunroe@shadysideacademy.org) or 412-968-3044.

# THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY: SSA'S EQT SCHOLARS

BY VAL BRKICH / PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES KNOX

Kellan Kight is a strong-willed little boy with a compassionate heart and an infectious laugh. "He loves to be silly and make others smile," says his mother, Vanessa. Still, when her spirited 5-year-old began pre-kindergarten at Shady Side Academy Junior School last fall, Vanessa was concerned about how Kellan would handle the transition. "He'd never experienced any consecutive time away from home during the day," she says. "I'll never forget the first time he entered the school and walked through the halls on his own. Kellan has really found his place there and now leads his days with confidence."

Along with kindergartner Adrianna Ballard, Kellan is one of SSA's two inaugural EQT Scholars. Funded by an endowment from the EQT Foundation, the charitable arm of natural gas producer EQT Corporation, the EQT Scholarships cover full tuition for two students who already have been accepted to SSA's pre-K or kindergarten program

and have demonstrated financial need. Kellan and Adrianna will remain EQT Scholars for the entirety of their SSA career, as long as they continue to qualify for financial assistance and remain in good academic standing. When each student graduates from SSA, a new EQT Scholar will be selected.

Adrianna's mother, Rachel Eleam '07, attended SSA as a child along with her brother. She says SSA helped her develop a curiosity for learning and an insatiable desire to read that continues to this day. Now she's hoping the Academy will have the same transformative effect on Adrianna. "Shady Side's culture encourages children to reach their highest potential while at the same time giving them the space to express their creativity," says Rachel. "There is balance, diversity, and true opportunity for any child who



"I WILL FOREVER  
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EQT AND SSA FOR  
PROVIDING THE  
GIFT OF ENDLESS  
OPPORTUNITY TO  
ADRIANNA."

– Rachel Eleam '07



receives an education there. That's why I will forever be grateful to EQT and SSA for providing the gift of endless opportunity to Adrianna."

Rachel says one of the best things that's come out of Adrianna's first year at SSA has been watching the 6-year-old become a stronger reader. "At the beginning of the year, Adrianna couldn't read any words at all," says Rachel. "Now she can recognize close to 100 sight words. I've really seen her shine!" She says Adrianna has also developed a passion for art. "It's given her a way to express herself. She even won an award for one of her works." Adrianna has also grown through the after-school soccer program. "At the beginning of the year she had never been involved in any contact sport of any kind," Rachel says. "But I've watched her become stronger. When she falls, she will quickly get back up and with no tears. She doesn't sweat the little stuff. She's more confident and sure of herself. She really is quite the little warrior on the soccer field!"

Vanessa says she also has witnessed Kellan blossom over the past year at SSA. One particularly memorable moment came when she got to see her son on stage as he represented his class during community assembly. "He practiced his speech and delivered it flawlessly," she says. "Kellan has grown so much while remaining such a beautiful, warmhearted little boy. Everyday is a memorable moment."

Vanessa says she and her husband, Trenton, always knew they wanted their son to attend a reputable private school. When they decided to relocate to Pittsburgh, they specifically searched for homes close to SSA. "After visiting the Academy, we knew it would offer the best atmosphere to provide academic challenges and help build strong character," says Vanessa.



**"I'LL NEVER FORGET THE FIRST TIME HE ENTERED THE SCHOOL AND WALKED THROUGH THE HALLS ON HIS OWN." – Vanessa Kight**

"When I received the news of the EQT Scholarship, I was completely speechless. We are devoted to providing the best scholastic experience possible for our children, and this award has made that task just a bit more accessible."

"Unique scholarships like this one from EQT allow for more students to experience the myriad of opportunities a school like Shady Side Academy can provide," says Ellen McConnell, head of SSA's Junior School. "The EQT scholarship allows for students to be truly known by their teachers. With an 8-to-1 student-to-teacher ratio, our students are in the amazing position of having their individual needs met on a daily basis. Without this scholarship, students would be missing out."

McConnell couldn't be more pleased to have Kellan and Adrianna at SSA. "Kellan is a smart, vivacious student who loves to learn," she says. "He comes to life with all of the unique opportunities presented by our pre-K program and devours information." As for Adrianna, McConnell says she's a "delightful, sparkling student" who has found herself a home at SSA, just like her mother did when she was a young child. "Each morning she skips into the building to find out what exciting lesson she's going to learn that day. All teachers who come into contact with her enjoy her sly smile and work hard to present lessons that will garner that smile."

Rachel says watching Adrianna's progression from the tiny, two-pound preemie she once held in her palm, into the curious, insightful kindergartner at SSA has given her a sense of fulfillment she never thought possible. "EQT and SSA have created multiple pathways for Adrianna to achieve success," she says. "Words cannot describe this moment, this gift, this opportunity. I am so thankful."

Vanessa shares Rachel's sentiments. "As a family, we are committed to partnering with SSA to create a joyous atmosphere where Kellan will thrive. We are full of gratitude and truly appreciative of this scholarship and the opportunities the future will bring."



## THE SHADY SIDE ACADEMY FARM

BY VAL BRKICH

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES KNOX

**I**T WAS A BRISK YET SUNNY morning in March as Director of SSA Farms Gianna Fazioli walked around the then-dormant Senior School farm, a large vegetable garden on the far fields of the campus. “It’s not much to look at right now,” said Fazioli, alluding to the empty 40’ x 100’ fenced-in space. “But before long, this thing will be packed with kale, spinach, tomatoes, onions, strawberries and more.” Established in 2012, the SSA Farm was created as a way to give students opportunities for hands-on, experiential learning. More than 600 pounds of organic vegetables are harvested annually from

farm plots on SSA campuses, with 75 percent of the summer harvest being sold at the Fox Chapel Farmers Market to fund the purchasing of more seeds and equipment. Any unsold items are donated to the Academy’s dining hall for summer camp and school lunches.

Fazioli was brought in as the new full-time director of the farm in June of 2016, taking over for founding director Tina Nussbaum Wagler, who along with her husband, Derek, started the farm shortly after arriving at the school in 2011. That fall Tina was named part-time director and Derek began teaching a new PE Farm class for students

who wanted to work on the farm. The following spring the farm program was expanded to include gardens on the Middle and Junior School campuses, and that summer they welcomed student interns for the first time.

By summer 2014, the farm’s production had improved dramatically, thanks in part to improved soil quality and more effective pest protection, in the form of a three-foot metal fence in front of the nylon deer fence to prevent groundhogs and other smaller critters. Also that year, Middle School teacher Tim McGuigan secured a School Garden Grant from the Whole Kids



Foundation to fund Middle School garden improvements and implement a rain-fed irrigation system with gutters attached to the various garden sheds.

When Fazioli took over last June, she became the farm's first full-time director. In the position, she oversees all aspects of the farm, as well as the Fox Chapel Farmers Market.

Before coming to SSA, Fazioli, who holds a bachelor's degree in environmental sciences and sustainable agriculture from the University of Michigan, previously spent two years as an assistant farm instructor and graduate research assistant while earning her Master of Arts in food studies from Chatham University. Prior to Chatham, Fazioli worked and taught on several farms in Illinois and Pennsylvania.

Since coming to SSA, Fazioli has focused on developing new curriculum with faculty across the Academy that integrates the farm into what they are already teaching.

"I'm really excited for all of the new curricular opportunities on the

**"Hopefully I can encourage students to think expansively and build their own knowledge through constructivist, hands-on learning opportunities."**

– Director of SSA Farms Gianna Fazioli

horizon," she says. "Hopefully I can encourage students to think expansively and build their own knowledge through constructivist, hands-on learning opportunities."

Currently Fazioli is working with PK-12 faculty to expand the farm's interdisciplinary curricular connections in the classrooms.

At the Junior School in Point Breeze, students help tend the garden and five raised beds during recess. They also help care for several egg-laying hens, assisting with feeding, watering and egg collection. Each Friday Fazioli gives the

pre-kindergartners a cooking lesson using local or seasonal foods. The kids help her prepare the foods by ripping up vegetables and herbs or whisking eggs from the schoolyard chickens. Second graders learn about sustainability by growing fresh, whole foods and eliminating food waste, while fifth graders work with seeds, learning about all the variables that can affect plant growth.

At the Middle School, where Fazioli helped build vermicomposting bins, sixth and seventh graders study the role of decomposers and pollinators in our food system. Last fall the seventh graders supplemented their life sciences curriculum by growing a hybrid version of the American chestnut tree, which has succumbed to a blight in the last century.

With the Senior School students, she is focusing more on environmental science, doing soil testing and showing how mushrooms can help clean up pollution through bioremediation. She also challenged students to create an aquaponics table. "They are really excited about that," she says. "It's something innovative that they get to actually design and build."

Fazioli had 17 students working on the farm through the PE Farm course, with more on a waiting list. "The Senior School students come out every Tuesday and Thursday evening," says Fazioli. "They mulch the aisle ways, weed, harvest – they really get a lot done."



Senior School students also have the opportunity to serve as managers of the farm and the Fox Chapel Farmers Market, which takes place on Wednesday afternoons, mid-June through October. Launched in 2010, the market features locally sourced, seasonal food and items from farms and vendors within a 120-mile radius of campus, including grass-fed meat, eggs, homemade honey, canned pickles, jams, cold-pressed juice, flowers, specialty olive oils, baked goods, jewelry, art and hanging baskets. About 10 students work on the farm during the summer, with four or five serving as market managers. “It really helps the students hone their leadership skills and teaches them valuable lessons about the rewards and challenges of operating a small business,” says Fazioli.

Up until last year the farmers market was held in the Senior School’s main parking lot, but this year it was moved to the Academy’s far fields along Squaw Run Road East, next to the SSA Farm, due to construction of the new McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation.

Just a stone’s throw away at Country Day School, SSA’s newest campus, Fazioli plans to incorporate the students into the farm program through the use of their existing campus gardens.

The SSA Farm fits right into the Academy’s sustainability initiative, which began under past President Tom Southard and has since become an Academy-wide focus under the leadership of President Tom Cangiano. “We feel we have an ethical obligation to teach our students about sustainability and how to be responsible citizens and caretakers of the planet,” says Cangiano. “The SSA Farm is a major part of this initiative. It not only lets them get their hands dirty – literally – but it also teaches them valuable leadership skills, respect for



“We feel we have an ethical obligation to teach our students about sustainability and how to be responsible citizens and *caretakers* of the planet.”

– President Tom Cangiano

the environment, and how to function as active members of a global community.”

As part of this sustainability initiative, Fazioli is part of a group representing SSA in the Green Building Alliance’s Green & Healthy Schools Academy, a two-year long program designed to support a cohort of teachers, administrators and staff in developing more sustainable and livable schools. Participants meet on a monthly basis for a speaker series event and an intensive day of workshops. “We think through large, abstract and structural ideas and then try to turn them into actionable items or strategic plans to bring back to our school,” says Fazioli. “This is a really pivotal time in Shady Side Academy’s history. Sustainability is now on the forefront of our decisions as we renovate parts of our school and take our farm program to the next level.”

Fazioli is also overseeing SSA’s partnership with Chatham University’s innovative carbon-neutral Eden Hall campus, which is home to the Falk School of Sustainability & Environment. Through student field trips, the living laboratory has enabled SSA students to study leading-edge technologies in

sustainability through problem-based learning models. “Students can take what they learn at the Eden Hall campus and create projects for Shady Side Academy,” says Fazioli, “which they can then submit for larger, state-wide sustainability and science competitions.”

Through a new 2017 partnership with the Western PA Conservancy, the Academy is working to make further sustainable improvements to the campus grounds through ecological assessment, consultation and implementation. Fazioli says she hopes to interweave SSA’s curricula throughout this process. “The head ecologists, landscape designers and ornithologists are excited to include our students in some of the assessment work they will do. I think it has the potential to motivate students who are interested in the natural sciences to explore that passion and the available career options.”

Cangiano says he hopes that the education in sustainability that SSA students receive through things like the farm will help them develop into responsible citizens of the world. “They need to understand and appreciate things like energy consumption, recycling and composting; what it takes to produce

food; and how we, as a school with a very large campus footprint, can be an exemplary steward of the natural environment now and into the future.”

He points out that the students who work on the farm have a very good understanding of what it takes to grow good food. “They understand the science of food cultivation,” he says, “especially the interconnected system of weed and pest control, soil restoration, and the growing seasons of different fruits and vegetables. And through Gianna’s work, these lessons are being incorporated into the natural sciences curriculum on all three campuses.”

Moving forward, Fazioli says she wants to make sure the SSA Farm program continues to be a valuable learning tool through the expansion of growing and integrated curriculum work. “The farm is a dynamic educational resource within the Academy,” she says. “It’s not just a place where students can learn leadership skills, critical thinking and teamwork. It’s also a place for personal and professional growth. It’s truly a field of learning.”





2017

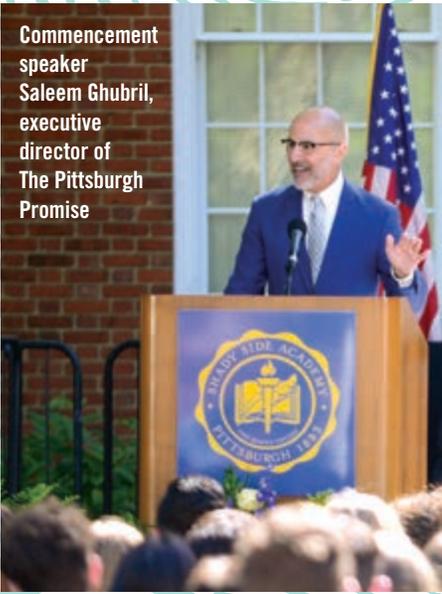
# SENIOR SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT



Class of 2017



Commencement speaker  
Saleem Ghubril,  
executive  
director of  
The Pittsburgh  
Promise



## 2017 PRIZE WINNERS

First Honor Student in Senior Class: **Haoran Fei**

Second Honor Student in Senior Class: **Emily Winterhalter**

Raymond F. Arnheim Memorial Award: **Katherine James**

Richard S. and Kenneth L. Simon Award: **Elijah Abo**

Princeton Alumni Awards

Fifth Form: **Grace Anania**

Fourth Form: **Emmie Lau**

Third Form: **Giridhar Viswanathan**

Alfred C. Dickey Memorial Prize: **Haoran Fei**

Joseph Bole Hare Steffey Memorial Prize: **Dante King**

Edward Ernest Ebbert Memorial Prize: **Brian Foster**

All-Round Cup: **Gannon Leech**

Todd Drelles Memorial Prize: **Rain Du**

Lowell Inness Award: **Brian Foster**

President's Prize: **Kay Hughes**

Visit [shadysideacademy.com/commencement](http://shadysideacademy.com/commencement) for complete coverage of Commencement week, including videos, legacy family photos, event recaps and more.

Senior speaker  
AnnaElaine Rosengart



Lifers



# THE CLASS OF 2017 BY THE NUMBERS



Will attend **72** colleges  
in **26 states plus D.C.**

Were admitted to  
**176**  
colleges and universities

**69%**  
will attend college **out of state**



**100%**  
of those seeking merit  
scholarships were offered  
awards ranging from **\$2,000**  
to **\$50,000+ per year**



**1**   
will attend a  
**U.S. service  
academy**

**25** are **“lifers”** who  
attended SSA and/or  
FCCDS from grades K-12

**17%** participated in  
the **Senior School  
boarding** program

**17%** were recognized by the  
**National Merit Scholarship  
program** (scholar,  
finalist, semifinalist or  
commended student)

**20%** will attend a **Times Higher  
Education Top 25 World  
University**

**49%** participated in the  
**performing arts**  
(theatre production  
or musical ensemble)

**22%** participated in an  
international or  
off-campus program

**11%** will attend a **US News  
& World Report Top 10**  
National University or Liberal  
Arts College; **62% will  
attend a Top 50 school**

**17%** will play **NCAA  
collegiate athletics**

**42%** completed an  
**independent study or  
senior project**

**46%** will attend a **“most  
competitive” college**, the  
highest rank by Barron’s  
Profile of American Colleges

**78%** lettered in at least  
one varsity sport;  
**41% lettered in  
two or more**





# CLASS OF 2017 COLLEGE CHOICES

Allegheny College (3)  
 American University (3)  
 Baldwin Wallace University  
 Belmont University  
 Bennington College  
 Berklee College of Music  
 Boston College (3)  
 Boston University  
 Bowdoin College  
 Brown University  
 Bryn Mawr College  
 Bucknell University (3)  
 Carleton College  
 Carnegie Mellon University (6)  
 Chatham University  
 Claremont McKenna College  
 College of Wooster (2)  
 Colorado College  
 Columbia University (2)

Cornell University (2)  
 Dartmouth College  
 Davidson College  
 Delaware Valley University  
 Denison University  
 Dickinson College  
 Drexel University  
 Elon University  
 Emory University (2)  
 Franklin & Marshall College  
 Georgetown University (2)  
 Georgia Institute of Technology  
 High Point University  
 Hobart and William Smith Colleges  
 Howard University (2)  
 Johns Hopkins University  
 Mount Holyoke College  
 New York University  
 Northwestern University

Nova Southeastern University  
 Pennsylvania State University (4)  
 Pennsylvania State University, Altoona  
 Pepperdine University  
 Princeton University (2)  
 Rhodes College  
 Rochester Institute of Technology (2)  
 Skidmore College  
 Southern Methodist University (2)  
 Trine University  
 Tufts University (2)  
 Tulane University  
 United States Military Academy  
 University of Akron  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of Chicago  
 University of Colorado, Boulder (2)  
 University of Denver  
 University of Kentucky

University of Massachusetts,  
 Amherst  
 University of Miami (2)  
 University of Michigan (5)  
 University of Pennsylvania (4)  
 University of Pittsburgh (9)  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Rochester (4)  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Wisconsin,  
 Madison (2)  
 Vanderbilt University  
 Wake Forest University  
 Washington and Lee University  
 Washington University  
 in St. Louis (4)  
 West Virginia University  
 Wingate University



2017

# MIDDLE SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES





# 2017 PRIZE WINNERS

- Erwin W. Cole Award: **Braden Crow**
- Form I Improvement Award: **Kira Meyers**
- David McNaugher Marsh Award: **Cecelia Messner**
- Willard E. Mead English Award: **Bridget Onest**
- Charles P. Shriver Mathematics Award: **Celia Cangiano**
- Robert B. Stiffler Athletic Award: **Annabel Kuhn and Charles Katarincic**
- Betsy Watkins Form II Improvement Award: **Mark Fire**
- E. Bruce Hill Memorial Award: **Nicholas Zana**
- David A. Mancosh Award: **Charlotte McDaniel**
- The Sixth Grade Academic Award: **Miyu Yamane**
- The Betty C. Labun Citizenship Award: **Miyu Yamane**
- The Audrey Ashworth Sixth Grade Improvement Award: **Sophia Stafford**
- The Blanche C. Wick Math Award: **Miyu Yamane**



Form II speaker  
Charlotte McDaniel



Class of 2021



2017

# JUNIOR SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES AND MOVING UP DAY







2017

# COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL CLOSING EXERCISES



# POSNER AWARD WINNERS

*The Posner Award for Meritorious Faculty Performance*

*is presented annually to up to two Shady Side Academy teachers who have a “gift for teaching” and who have had a significant impact on the learning, development and lives of their students. The 2017 recipients were Senior School English teacher Buddy Hendershot and Senior School math teacher Sue Whitney.*

## Harold “Buddy” Hendershot

Harold “Buddy” Hendershot has taught English at the Senior School for 44 years and is now embarking on a well-earned retirement. Known as kind, patient and for having a huge heart, Hendershot earned numerous Posner Award nominations from students and parents alike.

Described as having an unwavering commitment to the betterment of his students both in and out of the classroom, one alumnus stated, “He led by example and truly immersed himself in every event that Shady Side students were a part of, whether it was at a sporting event or a school dance – you could always count on Mr. Hendershot being there with a smile on his face.”

Another alumnus stated, “Mr. Hendershot is able to gain the confidence of his students because he demonstrates genuine respect for them. While recognizing that they are still young and still have a lot to figure out, he nonetheless treats them as autonomous individuals. He encourages them to make decisions for themselves, then take responsibility for those decisions once made. Perhaps most remarkably, exposure to his patient nature tends to make one more patient in her own dealings with others. There is nothing fake or pretentious about Mr. Hendershot. Students know this and are grateful.”



## Susan Whitney

Susan Whitney joined the Senior School math faculty in 1991 and has been an exceptional teacher and coach. She also currently holds the Academy’s Richard K. Mellon Chair of Mathematics.

Described as kind, passionate and motivational, Whitney is often credited for building confidence in the classroom or on the cross-country course.

“Sue Whitney is a tremendous role model of Shady Side’s guiding principles,” stated one parent. “She is unfailingly honest with our children, and consistently empathizes the importance of kindness, responsibility and respect.”

Another parent stated, “I could rattle off 20 stories about Sue Whitney, and my daughter could tell you 100 more. And I have no doubt that there are 10,000 more that we will never hear because that is how Sue Whitney lives her life... with respect, admiration and friendship.”





# winter/spring sportsbriefs

## GIRLS SWIMMING – WPIAL CHAMPIONS

by Ashley Azzarello '17

The girls swim team was undefeated in the regular season and captured the section title, eventually becoming WPIAL champions for the third straight year. At the WPIAL meet, SSA won gold medals in three events, plus five other medals. The 200 medley relay team of **Jeanne Lauer, Maya Groff, Ashley Azzarello** and **Lindsey Grune** placed first and broke the 15-year old WPIAL AA record. Azzarello won the 100 backstroke, and the 400 freestyle relay team of Meredith Cummings, Heather Grune, Lauer and Lindsey Grune also won gold. SSA went on to the PIAA Championships where they finished fourth overall. The team has placed in the top four at the PIAA state meet 11 times in the past 20 years, and are looking forward to a continued tradition of excellence.



## BOYS PREP HOCKEY

by Cole Stine '17

The boys prep hockey team was led by captain **Mac Ference** and alternate captains **Cole Stine** and **Luke Tomasovic** through the demanding winter season. The team finished 20-18-2, stringing together two six-game winning streaks at the end of the season. The high level of play was a challenge to the young team at the beginning of the season; however, the hard work and dedication of the players resulted in clinching a playoff spot with their last regular-season win over Gilmour Academy, who was in first place at the time. Ference was recognized as an MPHL All-Star and Head Coach **Jonathan Johnson** was recognized as the MHPL Coach of the Year. Although the team fought hard, they were defeated 5-0 in the first round of MPHL playoffs by eventual champion Lake Forest Academy. The team is looking forward to returning stronger than ever next season.

## GIRLS PREP HOCKEY – WIHLMA CHAMPIONS

by Olivia Coyne '17

The girls prep ice hockey team had another terrific season. With a young team comprised of mostly sophomores, the girls dominated the Women's Interscholastic Hockey League of the Mid-Atlantic (WIHLMA). The undefeated season ended in a nail-biting match-up between SSA and the Hill School. At Hill's home rink, SSA pulled out a 1-0 win with a goal from **Mary Katherine Gialames** and a shutout from **Gwyneth Philips**. The win secured SSA's third straight WIHLMA championship. Leadership and strong play from seniors **Olivia Coyne, Crosby Deliman** and **Zoe Horne** will be greatly missed and difficult to replace, but the rest of the girls are excited for next season and to continue the program's winning tradition.



## BOYS BASKETBALL

by Kirf Olander '17

The boys varsity basketball team enjoyed a revitalizing season under Head Coach **David Vadnais**, and assistants **Kyle Smith** and **Denis Cronin**. With an overall record of 19-8, the boys clinched a section title for the first time since 2010, led by captains **Kirf Olander** and **Etai Groff**, who joined the 1,000-point club midway through the season. For the first time in a number of years, the team made the semifinals of the WPIAL playoffs and qualified for the state playoffs. The team lost to WPIAL champion Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic in the second round of the state playoffs, and hopes to have continued success in the coming years with a large group of capable, up-and-coming players.

## GIRLS BASKETBALL

by Sarah Hacke '17

The girls basketball team finished the season just shy of playoffs with a 7-15 overall record. After a six-year hiatus, Coach **Amy Szlachetka** returned to lead the Indians with a powerful, defense-first mentality. The team was led by senior captains **Caroline Benec** and **Sarah Hacke**, and junior **Megan McInerney**. Although the team faced tough adversity, they persisted with resilience and finished the season strong, winning three of the last four section games. SSA will miss the senior leadership and contributions of Benec, Hacke and **Jacqui Huggins**, but the team has a bright future.

## BOYS SWIMMING

by Zac Coughlin '17

The boys swim team made waves this season with a series of solid wins, led by senior captain **Zac Coughlin**. Seniors **William Lu**, **Ethan Forgas**, **Gannon Leech** and **Collin Flaherty** performed well this year and Coughlin, Lu, Forgas, and Leech qualified for the WPIAL Championships along with junior **Sev Napora** and sophomores **Adrian Beckford**, **Nick Lauer** and **Will Engel**. The boys placed fifth overall at the WPIAL Championships, which is a 12 spot jump up from the 2016 championship meet, and medaled in five events. Coughlin, Lu, Leech, Napora, Beckford and Lauer qualified for the PIAA Championships in the 200 and 400-free relays, and Coughlin qualified individually in the 500 freestyle. This was the largest boys team sent to states in years, and the team is looking forward to another strong season.



## 2016-2017 WINTER SPORTS RECORDS

Varsity Teams	W	L	T	PCT.	Team Accomplishments
Boys Basketball	19	8	0	0.704	WPIAL Semifinals; PIAA First Round
Girls Basketball	7	15	0	0.318	
Boys Prep Squash	1	2	0	0.333	
Girls Prep Squash	0	0	1	0	
Boys Swimming	8	5	0	0.615	Fifth Place WPIAL
Girls Swimming	10	2	0	0.833	WPIAL Champions
Boys Prep Ice Hockey	20	18	2	0.526	Sixth Place MPHL
Girls Prep Ice Hockey	17	0	0	1.000	WIHLMA Champions
Boys Var. Ice Hockey	7	6	3	0.613	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0.631</b>	

## BOYS TENNIS

The boys tennis team had a strong season, finishing with an overall record of 9-2. In the WPIAL Class AAA team tournament, SSA swept all five matches against Latrobe and North Allegheny in the first round and quarterfinals before falling to Fox Chapel 4-1 in the semifinals. The duo of sophomore **Naman Dua** and senior **Tanay Kumta** won the section doubles title to earn the top seed in the WPIAL doubles championship, but unfortunately had to default their first playoff match due to illness. Also qualifying for the WPIAL doubles tournament were junior **Clayton Guyaux** and junior **Luke Uhlman**, who finished third in the section. With a solid core of returning players, the team is looking forward to another strong showing next season.

## BOYS PREP SQUASH

by Henry Friedlander '18

The boys prep squash team had a rebuilding season and ended 1-2 overall. Unfortunately, many of the squash matches were canceled due to inclement weather. But, in the completed matches, the team displayed an intense determination and promising athletic ability which can be attributed not only to the players themselves but also to the strategy of the coaching staff. The squash team this year was led by returning coach **Mary Georgis** and a new coach, **Mercedes Dollard**.

## GIRLS PREP SQUASH

by Quinn Wilojanapa '17

The girls prep squash team had a positive season this year. The team gained many promising freshmen players and had seven returning players. The team had one match against Sewickley Academy, which resulted in a tie. Considering that a few of the freshmen girls had to play boys on the Sewickley team, the girls were pleased with the tie. The team is looking forward to next year.



## GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

The girls team had a strong season, finishing 5-4. At the WPIAL Championships, SSA medaled and qualified for the PIAA Championships in six events. Junior **Lindsey Grune** won the high jump, setting a new school record, while junior **Jeanne Lauer** placed third in the 800 meters and the 1600 meters. The team of sophomores **Gabby White** and **Jordyn Harris** and seniors **Elizabeth Harper** and **Crosby Deliman** placed third in the 400-meter relay, and Harper placed sixth in the 100 meters. An overall team highlight was when Harper, Deliman, Harris and White set a new school record in the 4x100 meters five times throughout the season.



## 2017 SPRING SPORTS RECORDS

Varsity Team	W	L	T	PCT.	Team Accomplishments
Boys Baseball	7	11	0	0.389	WPIAL Quarterfinals
Girls Softball	5	6	0	0.455	WPIAL First Round
Boys Tennis	9	2	0	0.818	Third Place WPIAL
Boys Track and Field	5	4	0	0.555	
Girls Track and Field	5	4	0	0.555	
Boys Lacrosse	13	9	0	0.591	WPIAL Semifinals, PIAA First Round
Girls Lacrosse	13	4	0	0.765	WPIAL First Round
<b>Totals</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.588</b>	

## BOYS TRACK & FIELD

by **Brian Foster '17**

The boys team finished the season with a 5-4 record. Senior captains **Brian Foster, Chirag Kulkarni, Gannon Leech, Peace McAllister, Caldwell Holden** and **Patrick Bem** led the team to a successful year in ways the record does not show, as nearly every athlete on the team improved their personal records over the course of the year. Another bright spot of the season was the performance of younger athletes like sophomores **Leo Liu** and **Dino Tomlin**, who participated in the WPIAL Championship in the 3200-meter run and 300-meter hurdles, respectively, alongside Leech, who ran in the 1600-meter run. Tomlin qualified for the PIAA Championship meet due to his third place finish at WPIALs. The team's future is a promising one as it begins a new chapter in its story next year.

## GIRLS LACROSSE

by **Kendra McBroom '17**

The girls lacrosse team placed second in their new section, finishing the regular season 13-4 and earning a playoff berth. The team closed out the season with a hard-fought 12-11 loss in the first round of the WPIAL Class AAA Championship. Five players received all-section honors: sophomores **Emmie Lau** and **Abby Todd**, junior **Riley DiFiore** and seniors **Kendra McBroom** and **Caroline Benec**. In addition to the great season, four girls players represented the Pittsburgh region on the U.S. Lacrosse National Team: DiFiore, Lau, Todd and freshman **Coco Redican**.

## SOFTBALL

by **Kate Hart '19** and **Trinity Murphy '19**

The softball team had a great season and qualified for the WPIAL playoffs for the first time in 12 years! Under Head Coach **Mashea Johnson** and captains **Olivia Coyne, Kate Hart** and **Trinity Murphy**, the team finished 5-5 in section play. Highlights included a no-hitter against Northgate in the season opener, a marathon 35-28 slugfest win over Springdale, and a dominant late-season victory over rival Greensburg Central Catholic to jump past them in the standings and take third place in the section. Despite losing to Mohawk in the WPIAL first round, the team's emerging talent and proven resilience has it poised for continued improvement and excitement next year.



## BOYS LACROSSE

By **Mac Ference '17**

The boys lacrosse team had the enthusiasm, stamina and talent to finish the regular season 13-9 and earn a playoff berth. The team advanced to the WPIAL Class AAA semifinals and then won a consolation match to qualify for the PIAA Championship. In the PIAA first round, SSA lost a close match to State College, 7-6. Seniors **Mac Ference** and **Clayton Krol** and sophomore **Ronan O'Connor** were named to the All-WPIAL team, while sophomore **Connor Leemhuis** joined those three on the all-section team. The team has 10 graduating seniors but it looking forward to a solid core of returning players.



## BASEBALL

by **Nick Tarasi '17**

The baseball team had a solid overall year, finishing third in the section with a 5-5 record. The team advanced to the WPIAL playoffs, where the Indians won the first round against Avonworth but ultimately fell short in the quarterfinals to Mt. Pleasant. The team will only lose senior **Nick Tarasi** and return 16 varsity players. **Ben Kosbie** proved himself to be one of the best hitters in the WPIAL, and **Luke Keenan** and **John Salvitti** anchored the defense. The team is thankful to the leadership of the coaching staff, **Bob Grandizio Jr., John Cappa** and **Harry Fleishman**, who have all decided to retire. The coaches have been the figureheads of the baseball program since 1999, and the team will miss the guidance, leadership and sportsmanship they have promoted and provided. The trio was one of the most successful coaching staffs in Shady Side Academy baseball history, and will be missed greatly.



# Hillman Series: Show-Stopping Fun

BY CHRISTA BURNEFF / PHOTOS COURTESY OF PERFORMERS

The 12th season of the Hillman Performing Arts Series is quickly approaching and is sure to bring show-stopping fun! In October, the series will kick off with magician Jason Bishop. With his grand illusions and charisma, Bishop is certain to become a Hillman favorite. November welcomes percussive dance group Sole Defined. Turning their bodies into human drums, this group puts an innovative twist on dance and interactive performance, creating a free-flowing conversation through music and movement. After a brief winter hiatus, the series gears back up in February with Six Appeal, a world-class vocal ensemble that will take you on a journey that spans decades of music, all sung a cappella. The season wraps up in March with the genre-defying masters of storytelling, PUSH Physical Theatre. Bringing intense athleticism, gravity-defying acrobatics and soulful artistry, this group will show audience members what it means to be human.

In April 2018, the Hillman Series is very excited to be co-presenting with MCG Jazz *A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald*, featuring Delores King Williams and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra. The event is the culmination of a yearlong celebration of what would have been the infamous Ella Fitzgerald's 100th year. It will feature arrangements that were put together specifically for this special event. Tickets to the show are not included in Hillman Series subscription packages but are available for a great price.

During the 2017-2018 season, the Hillman Center will also continue its constant commitment to community outreach. Six Appeal will host a master class, PUSH Physical Theatre will be doing a workshop at Children's Hospital, and members of the Smithsonian Masterworks Orchestra will do a master class with Mr. Nevola and SSA students on the Senior School campus.

We look forward to seeing you throughout the 2017-2018 season! For more information, be sure to visit [TheHillman.org](http://TheHillman.org).

*A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald*



PUSH Physical Theatre



Six Appeal

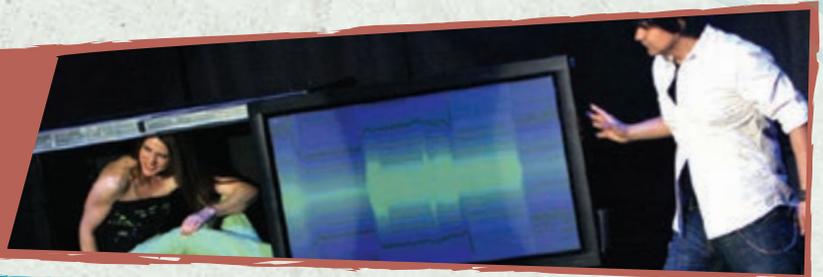




# Show-Stopping Fun

≡ All Season Long! ≡

**THE JASON BISHOP SHOW**  
OCTOBER 21, 2017



**SOLE DEFINED**  
NOVEMBER 18, 2017

**SIX APPEAL**  
FEBRUARY 17, 2018



**PUSH PHYSICAL THEATRE**  
MARCH 10, 2018

**SPECIAL  
EVENT**

**A TRIBUTE TO  
ELLA FITZGERALD**  
APRIL 14, 2018



**ALL SHOWS SATURDAY AT 7:30PM**  
THE HILLMAN CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS | RICHARD E. RAUH THEATER  
Shady Side Academy | 423 Fox Chapel Road | Pittsburgh, PA 15238

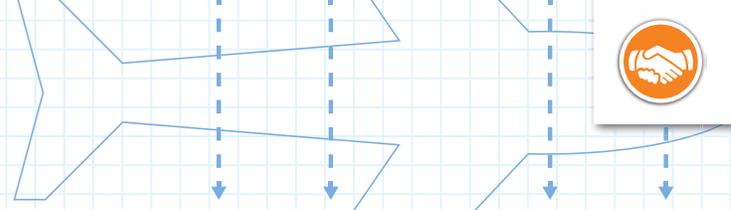
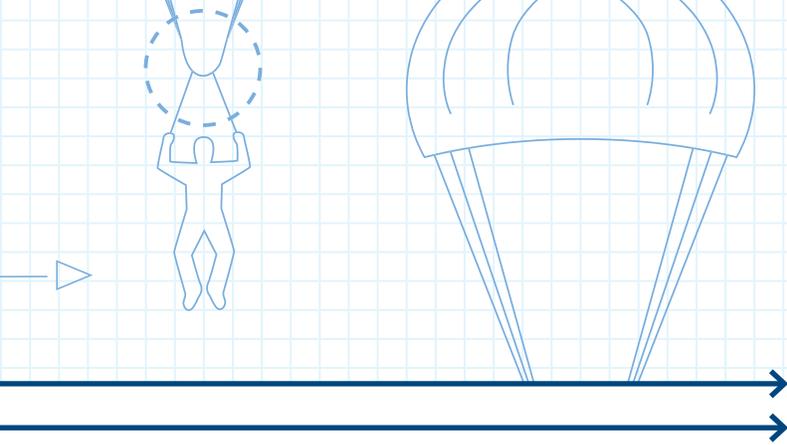
[www.TheHillman.org](http://www.TheHillman.org) | 412-968-3040

# LANCE LABUN '66

PILOTING INNOVATIVE  
WAYS TO MAKE AIRPLANE  
CRASHES SURVIVABLE

BY CRISTINA ROUVALIS  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAN COOGAN





**“HE IS QUITE A GUY. HE HAS A VERY PLEASANT TEMPERAMENT AND AN INQUIRING, ANALYTICAL MIND. THAT HAS ENABLED HIM TO BUILD TEAMS THAT MAKE INNOVATIONS THAT SAVE LIVES. HE IS A REAL ASSET TO THE AVIATION INDUSTRY, AND OUR NATION AS A WHOLE.”**

– Jack Cress

#### WHEN LANCE LABUN BOARDS A PLANE,

he wears a wool jacket, cotton socks and a long-sleeved cotton shirt. He believes a person should dress up for flying, but his wardrobe is more than a sartorial choice. He wears natural fabrics because he knows that synthetic ones melt in the event of a fire, which would decrease his odds of surviving a crash.

Once he takes his seat, he listens to the flight attendant as he or she reads the safety instructions aloud and checks the seat pocket in front of him for the card with the same information. And yes, he even pivots in his seat to count the number of rows to the nearest emergency exit.

But Labun is not a fearful flyer who winces at every bump or patch of turbulence. The man who sometimes pores over crash reports at 40,000 feet is a safety engineer who analyzes crash statistics as a way to make air travel safer. “I find it fascinating,” he said.

For the past 27 years, Labun has worked to increase the likelihood of passengers surviving a crash. He has conducted an in-depth analysis of previous helicopter and airplane crashes to develop practical improvements of aircraft equipment and safety measures. In classes for aviation professionals from around the world, he passes on the crucial findings so that passengers are more likely to walk out alive even if the aircraft goes down.

“Planes are so reliable. They just don’t fall apart,” he said. “Of the airplane crashes that occur, many are survivable.”

In aviation circles, Labun is credited with a new seat design in helicopters that has been shown to increase the odds of surviving a crash. Even if the vehicle loses power and goes down, the seats his team developed protect the passenger from the force of the impact.

“Lance has made big contributions to making aircrafts much safer, especially ones involved in crashes,” said Jack Cress, who worked with him in the aviation industry.

“He is quite a guy. He has a very pleasant temperament and an inquiring, analytical mind. That has enabled him to build teams that make innovations that save lives. He is a real asset to the aviation industry, and our nation as a whole.”

Labun said he may not have become a safety engineer had it not been for his well-rounded education at Shady Side Academy.

He entered Shady Side Academy Middle School as a boy who always had an aptitude for math and science. The school only deepened that appreciation. He learned “new math” in David Mancosh’s class. “I felt like I was doing real math, not arithmetic.” He also loved William Sayles’ science class, where he learned how to calculate a star’s location on any given night and time, and apply other scientific concepts to the world around him.

But without much writing experience from his previous school, he struggled in his English courses. He figured that literature wasn’t necessary for an aspiring engineer, but a Senior School English teacher, David Britton, gave him a new appreciation of the printed word.

Other teachers had talked about great works of literature, but Mr. Britton brought it alive. Labun remembers learning Wilfred Owen’s poem about a gas attack during the World War I. He can still recite the words:

*Gas! Gas! Quick, boys! – an ecstasy of fumbling.  
Fitting the clumsy helmets just in time...*

Once he came to appreciate the power of great writing, he became motivated to learn to express himself in writing.

The day before winter break his freshman year, Mr. Britton had the students play a game that made a lasting impression on Labun. The students received colored geometric shapes glued to a piece of black construction paper. Their assignment was to write instructions on how to assemble the pattern for someone who only had the black sheet and loose pieces of colored ones. Labun worked hard, writing step-by-step instructions that would leave no ambiguity. Not only did he succeed at the game – the student

**“IT SHOWED ME HOW CRITICAL WRITING SKILLS ARE, EVEN IN ENGINEERING.”**

who read his instructions recreated the pattern – but he learned something valuable. “It showed me how critical writing skills are, even in engineering.”

After graduating from SSA, he went on to Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, N.J. He began on an engineering track before switching to science, graduating

with high honors with a B.S. in physics. At the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, he earned an M.S. and Ph.D. in metallurgical engineering. It was there that he met his wife, Patricia, a fellow doctoral student.

He began his career at General Electric (GE), working there for 12 years as a senior metallurgical engineer and a manager at a plant in Ohio. Labun developed a process that helped convert copper alloy powder into copper wire. Every GE incandescent bulb manufactured in the 1980s and 1990s contained that wire. “It saved about a million dollars a year,” he said.

In 1988, the year Labun turned 40, the family moved from Ohio to Arizona so his wife, Patricia, could take a job at Arizona State University’s Center for Electron Microscopy, and Labun became a stay-at-home dad to his then-toddler son.

His son, also named Lance, remembers building models of wooden trains and playing with blocks and other construction toys. “We spent a lot of time building things and occasionally drawing things,” said the son. Now a physicist at the University of Texas at Austin, he believes those early years with his father

helped him to develop a sense of spatial reasoning. Father and son also bonded over *Sesame Street* and *Mister Rogers*. “He’s a terrific father,” Patricia said. “He’s very kind and gentle.”

After two years as a stay-at-home dad, Labun began looking for a new job, and his career took a turn down an unexpected path. Calling on the strong writing skills he had developed at Shady Side, Labun volunteered to write a newsletter for a materials professional organization. That led to an engineering job at Simula, a small research firm that developed crash-worthy seats for helicopters. He was hired to write proposals that would secure funding from government agencies. “Finding an engineer that could write a good proposal was challenging,” he said. “I was good at it.”

He didn’t only write reports. He applied his scientific mind to critical safety issues in the event the helicopter lost power and started to go down vertically. He and his team of engineers helped to make improvements on the company’s existing seat that would slide down on the frame toward the floor if the aircraft made impact. He likens the principle to lowering the spoon during an egg toss in order to prevent the egg from cracking.

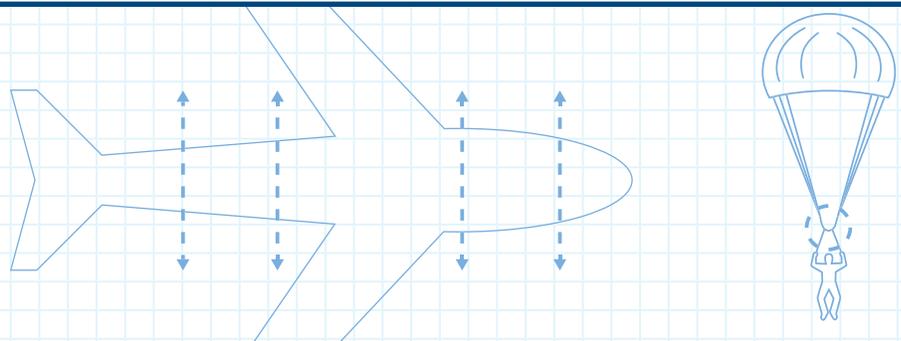
“It reduces the force that is transmitted up the spine. It’s all basic physics,” he said. “It saves people from serious injury.”

The original seats were developed for a medium-sized man. But it takes less force to injure a lighter person, and Labun and his team noticed a growing number of female pilots. “We realized we could save more lives if we made the seat adjustable,” Labun said, and he developed the algorithm that allowed the seat to self-adjust based on the occupant’s weight.

His colleague, Jack Cress, who was the product manager for military products at Simula, said that while Labun was responsible for several improvements in seat design, he never came across in a self-aggrandizing way. “Lance is not a guy prone to tantrums or self-importance. He’s a results-oriented guy.”

Labun also began teaching a course on the physics of crashes, part of a two-week seminar for safety education. He eventually became the lead instructor of a course designed to educate government officials on how to equip their aircrafts as safely as possible.

When the company was bought out, Labun started his own consulting firm and continued to teach the accident investigation



Reference #	Identifier	Aircraft type	Date	Scenario	PK G Vert	PK G Lat	PK G Long	Velocity	Airspeed	Angle	Angle
CSRTG-ADG #	Nickname				G	G	G	ft/s	ft/s	Degr	Degr
20091118a	Norfolk Isl. IAI 1124A	IAI 1124A	18-Nov-09	A	4.1	NI	-8.9	-11.3	169	-3.8	6
19940424A	BOTANY BAY DC3	DC3	24-Apr-94	A	1.3	0.0	-2.4	-6.7	123	-3.1	6
19700502A	ST CROIX DC9-33F	DC9-33F	2-May-70	A	2.9	0.0	-3.3	-10.1	152	-3.8	6
20090115A	HUDSON A320-214	A320-214	15-Jan-09	A	0.3	0.2	-3.7	-12.5	211	-3.5	9.5
20050806A	PALERMO ATT75	ATT75	6-Aug-05	A	24.1	0.0	-8.8	-15.6	210	-4.3	4.2
20020116A	BENGAWAN BOEING 737-400	BOEING 737-400	16-Feb-02	B	6.0	0.0	-3.1	-23.8	272	-5	13.5
20010227A	SCOTLAND SD350	SD350	27-Feb-01	B				-47	144	-19	6.8
20000113A	LIBYA SD360	SD360	13-Jan-00	B	3.0	0.0	-4.2	-17.1	170	-5.8	6
19910418A	NUKU HIVA DO228	DORNIER 228	19-Apr-91	B	3.1	-0.8	-9.4	-7.7	155	-6.7	10.6
19790310A	MARINA DEL REY N262	NORD 262	10-Mar-79	B	4.3	0.0	-6.4	-12.5	147	-4.8	6
20130413A	NGURAH RAI B737	B737-800	13-Apr-13	C	1.7	3.0	-2.2	-18.3	219	-4.7	-1.6
19790217A	NEW ZEALAND F27	F27	17-Feb-79	C	2.3	0.0	-13.8	-28.33	248	-6.5	3.1
19780508A	PENSACOLA B727	B727-235	8-May-78	C	12.7	0.0	-10.4	-20	233	-3	-3
19690113A	SANTA MONICA BAY DC8-62	DC8-62	13-Jan-69	C	1.6	0.0	-4.2	-28.3	262	-6.2	
19670630A	CARAVELLE HONG KONG CARAVELLE	CARAVELLE	30-Jun-67	C				-24.2	200	-6.4	2
20000130A	ABIDJAN A310	A310	30-Jan-00	D	3.4	0.0	-11.6	-10.9	354	-1.8	0
19931104A	HONG KONG B747-400	B747-400	4-Nov-93	E				-19	50.4	-20.6	7.7
19840228A	JFK DC10	DC10	28-Feb-84	E				0		-10	-5.8
19820123A	BOSTON DC10	DC10	23-Jan-82	E	8.0	0.0	-5.8	-12.5	72.4	-18	7.6
19790731A	SHETLAND 748	748	31-Jul-79	E				0	143	0	-11

course in the United States, Canada and Australia, with other safety engineers.

“Lance oversaw all of the effort,” Cress said. “Before our course, people focused on cause of crash. But now it is survivability and who survived and why. Lance was a strong contributor to that.”

Labun also worked on a range of technologies to keep planes safer, including a sensor built into a combat pilot’s oxygen mask to detect the early stages of hypoxia (lacking oxygen). Much like the reaction to alcohol, pilots respond differently to a lack of oxygen. “Some get bold and some get timid. Neither is good for a combat pilot,” he said. “All eventually lose judgement and motor control.”

Though semi-retired, Labun still analyzes airplane crashes and compiles data on passenger outcomes through a contract with the Federal Aviation Administration. Among the crashes in his database is US Airways Flight 1549, which struck a flock of

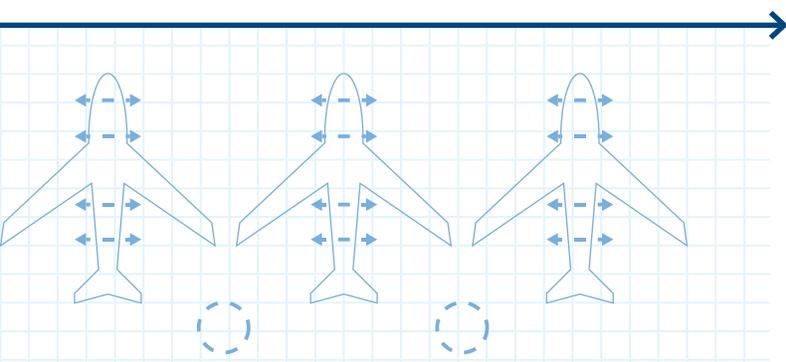
Canadian geese and lost power on Jan. 15, 2009. Dubbed “The Miracle on the Hudson,” the plane averted disaster after all 155 passengers were rescued by nearby boats on the river.

Labun said passengers survived that crash because of the skill of the pilot in landing it, the fact that a river has a smooth surface (as opposed to waves of an ocean), the equipment on board, and the fact that rescue boats were scooping passengers from the chilly water within minutes of the crash. It only takes about 20 minutes for someone to die in 34-degree water, he said.

In his free time, Labun might be found playing squash or woodworking in his garage, and he absolutely loves cars. He especially loves tinkering with the red Mazda Miata he’s driven for the past 20 years. For a while before his son was born, he even raced cars at the track – the daredevil side of a safety engineer.

That daredevil side also came out when he went paragliding. Strapped into a gliding parachute with another person, he ran down a ski slope against the wind until it caught the chute, sending him soaring into the air. “It was breathtaking, and I would do it again in a heartbeat.”

He enjoys floating through the clouds, whether as a passenger on a small plane or helicopter. “Flying doesn’t bother me because I’m strapped in,” he said. “But I actually have a fear of heights. Get me on a ladder and I am petrified.”



# BEN PORTMAN '03

## BRINGING IT ALL TO THE TABLE

BY CRISTINA ROUVALIS / PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRIS HAMILTON

ONE EVENING IN FALL 2012, BEN PORTMAN came home from his job as a financial manager, took off his tie, rolled up his sleeves and let his culinary imagination fly. He whipped up a dish of pureed parsnip, sautéed kale and pan-seared scallops. For his finishing touch, he sculpted a candle out of bacon fat. When his dinner party guests took their seats, he lit the candle and the bacon fat drizzled over the dish, setting off a chorus of ooohs and ahhs from his friends.

The dripping bacon fat and other photos of that meal became part of his audition for the 2013 season of the hit competitive cooking show, *Top Chef*.

The interviewer praised the scallops à la bacon-fat candle as “insanely whimsical and outrageous.” But in the end, Portman didn’t make the cut to compete on the show. “You’re a financial planner. Not a chef,” the interviewer told him.

It’s true – Portman is a Certified Financial Planner and a financial planning specialist for Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. But he also has a lifelong passion for cooking, and *Top Chef* added kindle to that fire. While he doesn’t own a restaurant, Portman is the co-founder and executive chef of Porkman’s Table, an Atlanta supper club that host private events and auctions off inventive meals to small groups and donates the proceeds to charity. A growing number of supper clubs have sprouted in this southern city, offering diners an intimate experience they can’t find anywhere else. Not only has Portman found a following in Atlanta’s underground food scene, he received national acclaim when he took third place on the Food Network show *America’s Best Cook*.

As a financial planner, Portman pores over numbers and investment portfolios during the day – on weekends, he makes dishes such as monkfish over leek risotto and fennel ice cream. “It is quite an unusual double life,” he said.

Running a supper club has freed him from the relentless work schedule it takes to own a restaurant. Instead, he and his friends serve elaborate five-course meals to small groups.

“Ben is super creative. There is always something mind-blowing on the plate,” said Jason Assenmacher, a chef at Porkman’s Table. For example, he said, a dessert might have fruit caviar or some other equally unexpected touch.

Portman, 32, draws inspiration from the many cookbooks stacked throughout his bungalow in Atlanta. As he once told a diner, “I read cookbooks like some people read novels.”

He learned to cook the old-fashioned way – in the Fox Chapel home where he grew up, he spent time with his mother in the kitchen. At age 4, during a family vacation, his eyes widened as he watched a hotel chef work the omelet bar at the end of the buffet line. “It was the coolest thing in the world,” he said.

Once, when his mother told him to make his own breakfast so she could sleep in, Portman didn’t pour a bowl of cereal. The little boy made an omelet. He served breakfast in bed to his parents, who were delighted by the sweet gesture – until they saw the royal mess he’d left in the kitchen.

As he grew up, he branched out to pasta dishes, meatloaf and traditional Pittsburgh favorites like pierogis. He watched cooking shows such as *Iron Chef*, and in high school, he even sat in on classes at Le Cordon Bleu Institute of Culinary Arts in Pittsburgh.

Only a block away from Shady Side Academy, Portman attended the school from kindergarten through 12th grade. Looking back, he realized how the school shaped him. “It wasn’t just learning the content. It was learning how to think, how to learn, how to communicate



PORKMAN'S TABLE

Menu

- Mezze Platter
- Smoked game & dr...
- Cheese on the griddle
- Fish consommé w/ Pasta Pil...
- ... of Istanbul

↳ Welcome C...

↳ 2012 Californ...

↳ 2014 Bouygues...

↳ 2015 Oregon Tech...

↳ 2011 Pers...





with people. The idea was to think about the big picture on things.”

He liked physics and biology and other science classes, but he also explored the humanities. He doubled up on English classes his junior year, taking six in two terms. “There was always freedom and flexibility to study what interested you, whether it was drama classes or walking around campus writing poetry.”

After graduation, Portman attended Bucknell University, where he majored in economics. “It helps you understand human interactions and why things happened. That kind of deep, heavy lifting enthralled me.”

He also worked in restaurants near the university in Lewisburg to earn money as he continued to refine his cooking skills.

At Bucknell, he started a fraternity and then became president of the

Interfraternity Council. He did an internship with Brian Mitchell, president of the university from 2004-2010. The experience was so valuable that Portman founded an executive internship program in which students would work under senior administrators at Bucknell.

His senior year, Portman received plum job offers from Lehman Brothers and Bear Stearns. It was the reward for all of his hard work.

Imagine his surprise when president Mitchell called him into his office and encouraged him to decline the offers.

“Excuse me?” Portman said, astonished. “Wall Street will always be there,” he recalls the president telling him. “This is the only time in your life you can do something out of your comfort zone.”

He took Mitchell’s advice and deferred his Wall Street plans. He decided to take

the opportunity to join Teach for America. When he got his assignment, he moved to Arizona, where he taught middle school science in a school with predominantly low-income students.

When he walked into the classroom on the first day, he was terrified by the 25 young faces staring back at him. But he quickly established himself as a disciplinarian and earned their respect by challenging his students beyond science facts. “Learning the layers of the earth is inconsequential unless you want to become a geologist. I tried to give them what I got at Shady Side, teaching them to question things and proving and disproving a thesis.”

He also made an effort to connect with his students outside the classroom by coaching several sports. “I found out what made them tick and their world view. It helped them widen their opportunities.”

From 2007-2009, he continued to teach as he earned a master’s degree in secondary education and teaching at Arizona State University. “It was a truly life-changing two years,” he said.

Mitchell’s advice was on target. He loved teaching, and it was hard leaving his school, but the time had come to give Wall Street a try.

Portman landed a job as a financial planning specialist at Morgan Stanley in Atlanta in 2009. “It was quite a change of pace. But my job is still helping people. I help people make plans for their future and help people with concepts that are foreign to them.”

Living by himself, he rarely cooked. But his friends had not forgotten his creativity in the kitchen. When they heard about a *Top Chef* tryout in Atlanta, his friends signed him up. When he didn’t make the cut, he was partly relieved because he knew his kitchen skills were rusty. “I would have embarrassed myself,” he said. Even so, the experience of making his one-of-a-kind scallops dish reignited his passion.

He set out to improve his culinary skills, staging as a line chef and taking



every opportunity to introduce himself to well-known chefs in Atlanta.

They told him about the underground supper club scene in which the host uses his own kitchen and opens his home to a small group of paying guests. Initially, Portman and a few other friends put up a website and sent some emails to spread the word, and voilà – diners came to his home. “It was a pop-up restaurant in my house.”

A glowing review in an email blast increased the email list from 40 to 400 recipients overnight. “All of a sudden, strangers were coming to my house.” As word spread, he and a staff of five others would host supper club dinners and private parties on Saturdays and Sundays, working every weekend.

Then in 2014, Portman got a call from *America’s Best Cook*, a show on the Food Network. His bosses at Morgan Stanley were kind enough to let him take time off from the business world to follow his cooking dreams.

The first day of the competition, he and 15 other contestants were introduced to their celebrity mentors. Portman was thrilled to find himself standing beside Cat Cora, the chef he had grown up idolizing on *Iron Chef*. For the first round, he and 15 other contestants were sent to Kitchen Stadium, where half of them would be eliminated the first round. The pressure inside the kitchen was on, as chefs had to complete dishes in 30 minutes.

Cora taught him about organizing food and utensils and how to deconstruct and reconstruct a dish. She also taught him about a chef’s swagger. “Chefs have a rock star mentality when they cook for other people,” Portman said. “I would be timid and apologize if someone didn’t like what I made. She taught me how to stand behind my food.”

Week by week, Portman kept winning – all the way to the finale. Whitney Portman, his wife, and his other relatives and friends cheered him on at a barbecue restaurant back in Atlanta, screaming at the screen,

cheering on his third-place finish. She said he was a fan favorite. “He is a lovable and personable person,” she said.

When he came home, he brought his sharpened culinary skills back to the supper club.

If Chef Gordon Ramsay’s famous temper and meltdowns are on one end of the emotional spectrum, Portman’s steady demeanor is the opposite. “Ben is as cool as ice. He has cut the tip of his finger off multiple times,” Assenmacher said. “He has no time for stress and negativity.”

**“ONE THING ABOUT COOKING IS THAT SOMETHING ALWAYS GOES WRONG, USUALLY AT THE WORST POSSIBLE TIME. BEN CAN ADAPT TO EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS.”**

– Payne Midyette,  
co-founder of Porkman’s Table



Payne Midyette, co-founder of Porkman’s Table, added, “One thing about cooking is that something always goes wrong, usually at the worst possible time. Ben can adapt to everything that happens.” When the oven wouldn’t turn on before one dinner party, Midyette started to panic. But Portman calmly told his crew to start preparing the meal on a grill outside. The dinner guests raved about the smoky flavor of the roasted tomatoes.

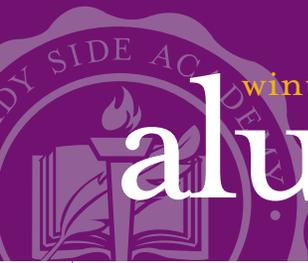
Portman also has taught himself to make desserts, one of the highlights of his meals. He reverse-engineered the famous burnt almond torte from Prantl’s Bakery in Pittsburgh to make his own version, and he serves up ice cream in flavors like sweet potato and fennel.

In 2013 and 2014, Portman and his crew were in the kitchen most of the weekend, only to be back at their full-time jobs on Monday morning. They were starting to burn out. They had two options: scale up and start a restaurant or scale down and do dinner parties once or twice a month. They decided on the latter and now will book the entire table for private events, and auction off meals once or twice a month. They have raised \$150,000 for charities ranging from Wounded Warriors to others that benefit breast cancer research and children with terminal illnesses.

Portman never repeats a meal for his supper club parties. He recently made toasted barley and octopus consommé, serving it with halibut, potato-stuffed pasta and spring vegetables. “It was outstanding. I would put it up against anything I’ve made.”

But who knows – maybe next month, he will outdo himself again. He is already planning a 10-course meal around bacon and ham, an ode to Southern cooking.

As Whitney said, “It’s great to see him use the creative side of his brain that he doesn’t get to use every day. When he’s in the kitchen, it elicits a spark in him.”



winter/spring

# alumni events

## ALUMNI GATHERINGS



## SPRING DOWNTOWN LUNCH

The Spring Downtown Luncheon was held at The Duquesne Club on May 16, 2017. Local sports commentator David Todd '83 was the featured speaker. He spoke about Pittsburgh sports trends and turning a passion into a career.





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1. **Pittsburgh:** Members of the Class of 2009 at Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens on May 31, 2017
2. **Pittsburgh:** Bob Maloney '64 shares a laugh with Patricia and John Whitehill '68
3. **New York City:** Liza John '06, event host Andrew Ross '98, Milla Hartner, Gordon Fu '95, Ben Hartner '95 and Chad Martin '98 on April 4, 2017, at The Harmonie Club.
4. **Darien, Conn.:** Charlie Whinery, event co-host Tia (Grzymkowski) Whinery '94, Katie Dick Zorub '96, event co-host Mark Kramer '96 and Hunter Smith '86 on April 5, 2017
5. **Boston:** Steve Ayers '72, Will Rodman '72 and Aims Coney '72 at the Boston Beer Works-North Station on May 11, 2017
6. **Naples, Fla.:** Ted Hoopes '50, Dick Cuda '50, Dee McClay, A.J. Jenkins, Benny Benedum '50 and President Tom Cangiano on Jan. 31, 2017, at the Ritz-Carlton Beach Resort
7. **Los Angeles:** Adam Levine '05 and Mike Farrell '08 on March 2, 2017, at Spago-Beverly Hills
8. **San Francisco:** Harsha Krishnappa '90, Jeff Caruso '08, Abby Wilson '09, Catherine Edwards '07, Jeremy Gordon '04 and Sam Leff '09 on March 1, 2017, at One Market Restaurant. Board of Visitors member Dan Wolf '07 hosted the event.
9. **Atlanta:** Andy Sayles '80, Samantha Goodman '13, Athena Petredis '13 and Ben Portman '03 at The Cherokee Town Club on Feb. 22, 2017. Dan Kennedy '84 hosted the event.

Gatherings were also held in Palm Beach, Fla., at The Colony Hotel on Feb. 1, 2017, and in Charlotte, N.C., at the home of Board of Visitors co-chair Linda LaMagna '83 on Feb. 23, 2017.

## BOARD OF VISITORS ANNUAL MEETING

The Shady Side Academy Board of Visitors gathered at the Senior School campus on April 28, for its annual meeting. In the morning, BOV co-chairs **Tom Worrall '87** and **Linda LaMagna '83** welcomed members back to campus for a day of discussion and strategizing, and President Tom Cangiano and key administrators provided updates

on the current landscape of the Academy. At Senior School community assembly, a panel of four BOV members offered students advice on college and career, and then the group reconvened for a discussion about athletics at SSA. In the afternoon, the BOV toured the Country Day School campus, and then partnered with the Board of Trustees for a joint strategic session, discussing financial aid, challenges and opportunities, and SSA's institutional identity. In attendance were **George Egan '78**, **Margaret Hazlett '84**, **Alex Howson '82**, **Mark Kramer '96**, **Linda LaMagna '83**, **Michele Lieber '86**, **Abhishek Mehta '01**, **Fred Parkin '59**, **Ryan Ruskin '86**, **Bill Wallace '66**, **Annie Westbrook '96** and **Tom Worrall '87**. The BOV was founded 13 years ago by **John Kramer '57** and **Ed Grefenstette '85**.



# THANK YOU for another outstanding year!

## BLUE & GOLD FUND



Your gift to the Blue & Gold Fund will help reach a new goal of \$1.6 million in support of our students and faculty as they think expansively, act ethically and lead responsibly in the 2017-2018 academic year.

[www.supportssa.org](http://www.supportssa.org)

The faculty, staff and students of Shady Side Academy thank you for being a part of our success story:

We raised a total of \$1,460,000

More than 1,500 alumni, parents, grandparents, corporations and friends contributed this year.

213 first-time gifts, totaling \$132,683

We launched a successful Alumni Cornerstone Giving Challenge! We met our goal and released \$19,022 to the Blue & Gold Fund.



# classnotes

Included in this section are news items received through May 1, 2017.

## 1945

**Jack Smiley** writes: "I'm comfortably retired after 65 years as a Presbyterian minister. Maryellen and I are in good health (reasonably), and we are still talking to each other."

## 1951

**John McKee** writes: "Rita and I have been visiting family. Rita has been knitting, quilting and crocheting. Things in the garden were tough this year because we had 15 days of rain followed by a month of hot weather. The kids and grandkids are doing well."

## 1955

**Gerald Fincke** writes: "In my retirement as a lawyer, I now work in my wife's business, which is a 'C' store. The store sells commuter bus tickets, cigars, candles, chimes, candy and confections. My salary is one free cigar a day."

## 1957

**John Thistle** is emeritus professor of medicine, gastroenterology hepatology division, at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

## 1958

**Bill Warrick** writes: "Greetings from Jupiter, Fla., where my golf game struggles but the fresh squeezed orange juice is heavenly."

## 1959

**Foster Goldman** reports: "I am still practicing law but spending more time in Arizona in the winter. It's better for golf and pickle ball."

## 1960

**August Tarasi** writes: "Here we go again! Hurricane number four – Charlie, Jean, Francis and, most recently, Matthew. We're used to it now but it doesn't make it any easier."

## 1962

**Tom Celli** writes: "I continue to practice architecture in Pittsburgh with projects (mostly colleges and universities) from Nebraska to Bulgaria. The firm is Celli-Flynn Brennan and is now 66 years old. Other projects that are fun include an addition to a prep school in Sofia, Bulgaria. Fortunately, I am also a trustee of The American University in Bulgaria – fascinating. My son, **Michelangelo '95** has two businesses in Bulgaria. Another notable project is the \$109 million new high school for Mt. Lebanon, which is just finishing construction. My daughter, Delta-marie, in addition to her career at JP Morgan, is making a big name for herself in sporting clays shooting. She recently finished third in her class at the national championships and is the champ at all of the clubs in Western PA. Jeannie, my wonderful wife, and I celebrated 49 years of marriage in June. **John Mullin** is now retired, living in Southern California, and he paid us a visit at our home in Greensburg, Pa., a few months ago. I see Harley once in a while, and Terry Slease and Kent from time to time. If you are coming to the 'Burgh', give me a call."

## 1964

**William Rial III** writes: "With eight grandchildren, child care is a part of our life again."



## 1964–1965

Old track teammates at Bill Succop's 70th birthday party. L to R: **Mike Maloney '64, Bill Succop '65** and **Bob Maloney '64**

## 1966

**Greg Hill** writes: "Sorry we missed my 50th reunion. It sounded outstanding. My best to all. Hopefully we make the 55th and 60th reunions!"

**Myron Grauer** writes: "I seem to be flunking retirement. After being a bum for the last year and a half, I accepted a position as a visiting professor at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law for spring 2018, where I am scheduled to teach federal income taxation. Additionally, I have agreed to teach the same tax course in fall 2017, as well as estates and trusts in spring 2018, at Capital University Law School, where I am professor emeritus. That's basically three-quarters of a typical full-time load, split between two law schools that are about four miles apart. At least I won't have to do the committee and administrative work I used to do and have negotiated a schedule that has me teaching only two days a week."

**Casey Wolff** and his sister, Wendy Becker Payton, hosted an educational dinner for more than 100 medical, business, professional and concerned locals on Alpha-1 Anti-Trypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) in Naples, Fla. He writes, “The Alpha-1 Foundation of Miami, Fla., is the lead nonprofit funding research for a cure and trying to educate doctors and patients and their families nationwide to understand Alpha-1 and to test for it (which is free). Alpha-1 is a genetically driven defect causing emphysema and COPD, mostly in adults, and/or cirrhosis of the liver, mostly in children. This genetic flaw was discovered in Scandinavia in the 1970s and traced through the Viking explorations into to Northern Europe, England/Ireland, Iceland and (maybe) Maritime Canada. Available treatment started in the 1980s. Part of treatment is education until a cure is found. It has become my new passion, as I had lost more than 50 percent of my lung function prior to diagnosis, despite symptoms that arose eight years before. There is no cure, only weekly infusions of a blood product that keep the dogs at bay. Skiing, tennis, swimming and mountain biking are not possible. But I do walk with oxygen.”

## 1972

**Mark Lauterbach** and his wife, Rondi, recently moved to Tucson, Ariz., where he is serving as one of the pastors in a Presbyterian Church in America. After 40 years in the west, he still remembers SSA and its formative influences on life.

## 1976

**Bahra McConnel Fisher** notes: “What a fabulous 40th reunion! It has been a well-needed, wet winter in Northern California. I am still working at Kaiser Permanente. My middle son just graduated from UC Berkeley, while my daughter is at UC Davis and is looking into medical school.”

## 1978

**Terry Jones** writes: “I have influenced a generation of children by practicing pediatrics in Virginia Beach, Va., for 28 years. But I still love fishing with Wentley



## 1971

Beth and **Gus Succop** were rooting on the Steelers in the Dead Sea during the NFL playoffs in January.

and seeing folks at our well-attended reunions!”

## 1979

**Steven Cohen** reports: “Our daughter, Taylor Cohen, just won the 2016 NCAA Division III National Championship in soccer with Washington University in St. Louis, where she was a starting forward as a freshman.”

## 1980

**Jeff Pollock** was proud to be the second and/or third base man for “The Bomb,” as part of its 15th championship season since 1989 in the Allegheny County Bar Association’s annual summer softball league.

## 1981

**Catherine Vodrey** has recently launched OutspokenWomen.org, a website for women and girls devoted to celebrating women and their achievements. She writes: “The goal has been to create a women-centric website and online store that isn’t anti-men or isn’t political. The idea is to offer cool goods that feature every possible stripe of fascinating women from all over the world, branching out beyond Susan B. Anthony, Gloria Steinem, Oprah and some of the other, well, usual suspects. These goods showcase and celebrate the thoughts, innovations and achievements of a huge and varied



## 1982

**Leon L. Haley Jr., M.D., MHA**, is the new vice president for health affairs and dean of college of medicine for the University of Florida-Jacksonville. He is also a professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine as of Jan. 1, 2017. He formerly served as the executive associate dean, clinical services and chief medical officer of the Emory Medical Care Foundation for Emory University, among several other leadership positions over the course of his career.

swath of women. In addition to items for women, we stock a lot of stuff for girls as well. There is free shipping is standard on every order, and 5% of the purchase price of every order is donated to the Financial Clinic, which does great and important work primarily benefiting women and children. Please visit and like us on Facebook and Instagram. And in the meantime, I’d love to have your input on the website, so feel free to get in touch.”

**Tom Kurlander** is the cofounder and director of 21Voices. 21Voices is setting out to create a first-of-its-kind documentary, *21Voices: Touched by Alzheimer’s*, an unflinching, wide-ranging and comprehensive look at the ongoing detrimental effects of Alzheimer’s disease. Through the lens of 21 voices and varied perspectives, the film illuminates the crushing impact Alzheimer’s has on families

and the ever-increasing ripple effect it's having on our society. Interviewees range from those living with Alzheimer's to family members and dedicated caretakers coping with the unpredictable and often frightening nature of how the symptoms manifest, to scientists and medical researchers working to cure this illusive disease with cutting-edge techniques.

## 1983

**William Vodrey** recently became a cofounder of the Diogenes Club of Cleveland, the first Sherlock Holmes society in northwest Ohio in many years. He continues his service on the local board of the American Constitution Society.

## 1985

**Todd Stein** is the screenwriter of *2:22*, a new film starring Michiel Huisman (*Game of Thrones*) and Teresa Palmer (*Hacksaw Ridge, Lights Out*). *2:22* is the story of "A man whose life is derailed when he starts



## 1985

**Timothy Sayles** recently was promoted to captain, medical corps, U.S. Navy. The May 5 ceremony was held at Portsmouth Naval Hospital, Portsmouth, Va. It was held in the same building where he delivered his first Navy baby approximately 20 years ago. Sayles' remarks thanked many people and particular attention was given to Shady Side Academy. The Junior School was very important for its motto at the time, "Do it because it is right."

ending up at Grand Central Station at precisely 2:22 p.m., each day, which soon points to a larger mystery involving life, love and the nature of reality itself." The movie opens in more than 40 nations worldwide in summer 2017, including limited release across North America beginning June 30.

## 1987

**Jonathan Zittrain**, the George Bemis professor of international law at Harvard Law School, professor of computer science at the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and a professor at the Harvard Kennedy School, was recently named a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Zittrain joins some of the world's most accomplished leaders from academia, business, public affairs, humanities and the arts.



## 1990

**Andrew Hegedus** competed in his first full Ironman triathlon race in Cambridge, Md., in October 2016. The triathlon included a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike ride and a 26.2-mile run. Bad weather shortened the swim course, but it was an epic day after nearly a year of training. Andrew lives in Princeton, N.J., with his wife Kate and three daughters, Verity, Olivia and Grace. He recently took a new position as the vice president and general manager for Covance Cardiovascular and Metabolic Clinical Research.

## 1995

**Roland Criswell** was named president of the SSA Alumni Council in July 2016.

## 1996

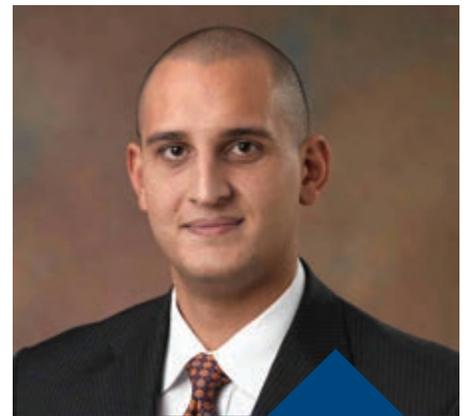
**David Fink** was the highest-ranked professional handball player in the world in April 2017, according to the World Players of Handball (WPH) Foundation website. Fink is the oldest athlete to earn a No. 1 ranking for the first time in any professional sport. He is the lead color analyst for the sport on ESPN3 and resides in Tucson, Ariz., where he is the development director for the WPH Foundation.

## 1997

**Dr. Beth Appleman** and Dr. Michael Kaplan welcomed their second child, Kieren James, born March 17, 2017. They also have a daughter, Shelby Rose, age 2.

## 1999

In February 2017, **Andy Seguin** published *The Room In Which I Work*, a book written during his 2013 Fulbright Fellowship in France. It is available for purchase on Amazon.com. More information on Seguin and his work is available at [andrewseguin.com](http://andrewseguin.com).



## 2002

**Joe Romano** writes: "I was recently promoted to member at Burns White LLC. My practice is focused on the defense of employers, ranging from small family-owned businesses to Fortune 500 companies and insurance companies, in workers' compensation litigation in Pennsylvania."



## 2005

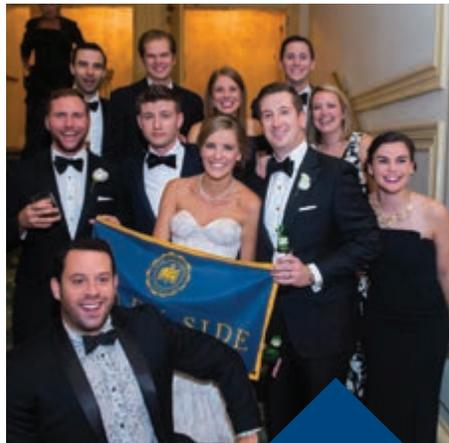
**Stewart West** and Kristi Moss were married March 25, 2017, at Marathon Village in Nashville, Tenn. The rehearsal dinner was held at the Country Music Hall of Fame and the reception was at the Cordelle. Alumni **Karen West '75, Philip Pavlovich '78, Valerie (Henderson) Rice '96, Jay Mangold '06, Nick Petrelli '05, Steve McKnight '05, Ben Washburn '05, Renee (Welker) Hassel '05, Sara Mangold '09** and **Brendan Scott '09** were among the guests. West works at EdgeMarc Energy in Canonsburg, Pa., and plans to start graduate school this fall. His wife, Kristi, owns Kristi Boutique in Aspinwall, Pa.

## 2003

**Monica Harrison** has been named the first head softball coach in Carnegie Mellon University history. The hire came following the announcement in March that Carnegie Mellon will be adding softball as an intercollegiate sport beginning in spring 2019.

## 2005

**Adam Levine** writes: "Inspired by my marvelous teachers at SSA, I am currently teaching sophomore and junior English at Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles."



## 2005

**Ben Schmerin** and **Andrea Lucas** were married Oct. 8, 2016, at the Bellevue in Philadelphia, Pa. The couple currently resides in Wayne, Pa. Pictured: **Evan Frye, Jack Dingess, Matt Orié, Nick Macpherson, Jim Ambrose, Tiffany Shento, Mike Hootman, Erica Headlee '04** and **Kathryn Egan**.

## 2006

**Charles Petredis** is first vice president, investment officer and chartered financial analyst with Petredis Investment Advisors of Wells Fargo Advisors.

**David Hirsch** is currently completing his third-year residency in orthopaedics at UPMC.

## 2008

**Kristen Slinkard** graduated from Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, Pa., and is completing her residency in family medicine at Forbes Hospital in Monroeville, Pa. She received a bachelor's degree in biochemistry from Grove City College in 2012.

**Peter Hirsch** is an analyst of reconstruction and development at European Bank. He currently resides in London, England.

## 2009

**Alexandra Petredis** is engaged to Anthony Cameron, and is currently planning an August 2017 wedding. She is a financial advisor with Petredis Investment Advisors of Wells Fargo Advisors.



## 2006

**Casey Mindlin** married Angela Sternberg at the Fairmont Hotel, San Francisco, Calif., in October 2016. Shady Siders in attendance included: **David Allon '72, Justin Weinberg, Justin Young, Zach Kuba, Eric Weiss, Jake Rogal, Geoff Abraham '04, Clancy Nixon '75**, former Middle School teacher **Martha Banwell, Luke Mindlin '05, Morgan and Alexa Geistman, Sam Leff '09, Mara Leff '07, Louis Leff '77**, Head of Middle School **Amy Nixon** and **Sam Mindlin '03**.



## 2007/2008

**Jordan Foley '07** and **Katie (Miller) Foley '08** welcomed a baby girl, Aida Rose, on Feb. 2, 2017. The family currently lives in Portland, Maine. Aida is the first grandchild of Senior School English teacher Jeff Miller.



## 2008

Broadcast journalist **Nia Phillips** won her first Emmy Award on April 30, 2017, as part of the team at *Good Morning America*, which was named Outstanding Morning Program at the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences 44th Annual Daytime Emmy Awards. Phillips, who is a graduate of Wellesley College and the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, is an associate producer for the ABC News morning show.



## 2009

**Eva Raimondi** and **Becky Tisherman** hiked the Appalachian Trail in 2016. The 2189.1-mile trail runs from northern Georgia to central Maine and was completed in 162 days, from Feb. 25-Aug. 4. Eva lives in Los Angeles and works for Netflix, while Becky is at the University of Pittsburgh getting her Ph.D. in geology and environmental science. The two are planning on hiking the Pacific Crest Trail sometime in the next few years.

**Christian Petredis** was named an honoree of the 2017 Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Pittsburgh's 50 Finest. He is a financial advisor with Petredis Investment Advisors of Wells Fargo Advisors.

## 2012

**Erin Gorse**, a student at Duquesne University School of Pharmacy, was on the first-place team for both the national and international segments of the Novo Nordisk 2016 Innovation in Action Case Competition. The competition involves teams of graduate students from all academic backgrounds and multiple universities, who are challenged to use their talent and analytical skills to work together and propose solutions to real global issues. Gorse's team was tasked with coming up with a plan to help the citizens of Shanghai manage the disease state of diabetes, which is expected to dramatically increase in the coming years.

## 2013

**Athena Petredis** graduated with high honors from Emory University, Goizueta College of Business.



## 2009

**Sean Hannon** and his wife, Emily, welcomed John Robert Hannon at 7:33 p.m. on March 15, 2017. He weighed 10 lbs., 4 oz., and was 22 inches long.

## 2014

**Dominique DeRubeis** reports: "After a trip to Reykjavik, Iceland, I will be interning at JP Morgan in New York City as a computer analyst before beginning senior year at William Smith College."

## 2015

**Kara Pooley** was one of six Hamilton College student-athletes selected for the 2017 Division III All-Region Team by the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association. The midfielder collected 23 goals, 12 assists, 28 draw controls and 21 ground balls as a sophomore.

## 2016

**Erin Frohlich**, freshman outfielder for the Grove City College softball team, earned All-Presidents Athletic Conference honorable mention from the league's head softball coaches. Frohlich played both corner outfield spots and hit .381 in 12 conference games and had a .333 batting average.

**Isak "Gustav" Liden** composed a bassoon concerto that was performed by The Chamber Orchestra of Pittsburgh on Feb. 5, 2017, at the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh. Liden studies the bassoon under James Rodgers, principal contrabassoonist of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, and wrote the concerto in his honor.



**2016**

**Doc Szlachetka**, lacrosse coach Dan Usaj, **Kyle Murphy** and a friend after the Air Force-Notre Dame men's lacrosse scrimmage at Notre Dame on Jan. 28, 2017. Szlachetka plays for the Air Force lacrosse team.



**1988–2027**

The Hartner Family hosted a party attended by many alums, including some former members of the SSA wrestling squad. Top row, L to R: **Nick Hartner '96**, **Bill Semins '88**, former head wrestling coach Tim Giel, **Ben Hartner '95**, **Ernie Hartner '98**, **Matt Giel '10**.

Middle row, L to R: Colin Hartner, Mason Hartner, Max Hartner  
Seated, L to R: Sam Hartner, Brinley Hartner, **Madiera Semins '24** and **Sage Semins '27**

## ALUMNI TUITION GRANT PROGRAM

Pass the legacy of a Shady Side education on to your children



The Alumni Tuition Grant Program, established in 2014, offers grants to academically talented children of alumni who may not qualify for financial aid but find the cost of full tuition a challenge. The program is open to applicants in grades PK-6 and grade 9, and qualified families may receive annual awards of 10-25% of tuition. After three years, the program has made an SSA education possible for 12 alumni families.

Learn more about the program and other tuition assistance options at [ShadySideAcademy.org/AffordingSSA](http://ShadySideAcademy.org/AffordingSSA).

The Academy expresses its deepest sympathy to the families of the following Shady Side Academy alumni and friends. Although we are unable to include remembrances of all, we sincerely value the special involvement in and contributions to the Shady Side Academy community during their lives. These listings include all information received by May 1, 2017.

## Henry L. Hillman '37

Henry Lea Hillman passed away April 14, 2017. He was a graduate of Princeton University and served as a U.S. Navy aviator in World War II. Over the course of the next 30 years, he transformed the family business from its roots in coke and chemical production and related industries into the diversified investment company that it is today. He served as a director of many companies in Pittsburgh and across the country, including General Electric, Cummins Engine, Merck, PNC Financial Services and Texas Gas Transmission.



A renowned philanthropist, he was perhaps best known for the support that created the Hillman Cancer Center at the University of Pittsburgh Cancer Institute. His most recent major gifts focused on advancing medical and technological research at Pittsburgh's leading universities. He served as a trustee and director of numerous nonprofit and civic organizations, including the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh, Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Action Housing, the Urban Redevelopment Authority, the University of Pittsburgh and the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

A dedicated and loyal alumnus, he was also one of Shady Side's most generous benefactors, especially in support of the arts. His \$5 million gift through the Henry L. Hillman Foundation made possible the construction of the Hillman Center for Performing Arts, a state-of-the-art performance and classroom space on the Senior School campus that opened in 2004. The Hillman Foundation is also a major sponsor of the center's annual Hillman Performing Arts Series. He generously supported projects on the SSA Junior and Middle School campuses as well. Hillman and his late wife, Elsie, were regular attendees at Hillman Series performances and SSA reunions over the years, and were Lifetime Founders Society members.

"Henry Hillman was such a generous supporter of Pittsburgh and its important institutions," said Academy President Tom Cangiano. "We will be forever grateful for his family's leadership in making our Hillman Center for Performing Arts possible. Not only has that building transformed arts programming at Shady Side, but it also has been an important cultural venue for Fox Chapel and the greater Pittsburgh area."

He was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 70 years, Elsie Hillman. He is survived by his children, Juliet Lea Hillman Simonds, Audrey Hillman Fisher, Henry L. Hillman Jr. '70 and William Talbott Hillman; 10 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

## DR. RICHARD L. WECHSLER '40

Dr. Richard Lawrence Wechsler passed away Jan. 13, 2017. He was a graduate of Harvard College and the University of Pittsburgh Medical School, and a lifelong Pittsburgher, where he practiced internal medicine and gastroenterology.

He was predeceased by his wife, Marjorie Wayne Wechsler. He is survived by his children, Ellen Wechsler, Dr. Lawrence (Phyllis) Wechsler and Richard Wechsler; stepchildren, Carl (Natalie) Kurlander '78 and Thomas Kurlander '81; four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

## HERBERT BLUMENFELD '42

Herbert Blumenfeld passed away Feb. 5, 2017. He was an attorney and practiced law for 58 years. He was also a founder and director of Camp Skylemar in Naples, Maine, one of the premier summer boys' camps in the country. He was predeceased by his wife, Elaine Martin Blumenfeld. He is survived by his sons, Steve (fiancée Jana) Blumenfeld and Marty (Ronna) Blumenfeld, and one grandson.

## ALEXANDER REED '42

Alexander "Sandy" Reed passed away May 28, 2016. He was a graduate of Amherst College and Harvard Law School. During World War II, he served as an officer on several U.S. Navy minesweepers in the Pacific. He practiced law for several years in Pennsylvania before embarking on an international banking career, living and working in more than 30 countries over 40 years. Upon his retirement, he authored five books, including a textbook for financial specialists concerning the world's monetary infrastructure, a self-published novel and several collections of short stories. He is survived by one sister, a former wife, three stepchildren and four step-grandchildren.

## RICHARD D. BAKER JR. '43

Richard "Dick" Baker passed away Nov. 21, 2016. After SSA, he joined the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy, graduating in 1946 as an Ensign USNR and Third Officer of the Maritime Service. Upon discharge, he graduated from Williams College. He worked for Pittsburgh Coke and Chemical Co., which later merged with Shenango, Inc., and retired in 1986 as manager of coke, iron and by-product sales. He was predeceased by a daughter, Susan Baker. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Anne Eisaman Baker; children, Richard Dexter Baker III and Meg (Tom) Baker Ownbey; and two grandchildren.

### **JOHN R. SIEBER '44**

John “Jack” Rothrock Sieber passed away Feb. 14, 2017. He was a graduate of Bucknell University and served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. He was predeceased by his parents and brother, Dr. Paul Sieber Jr. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Joan Heppenstall Sieber; children, Cynthia Simons, Susan McGinley, John (Kate) Sieber Jr., Jeffrey (Lisa) Sieber and Sam H. Sieber; 10 grandchildren, two step-grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

### **ROBERT SUTTER '44**

Robert Sutter passed away Nov. 17, 2016. He attended Cornell University before entering the U.S. Air Force, and was stationed in California as a staff photographer. He studied design and calligraphy at the New School, as well as at the Art Students League of New York. He taught graphic design at Pratt Institute and lectured on antiques technology at the Fashion Institute of Technology. He also owned a photography studio for many years. He and his wife, Mary Lou, passed away on the same day. They are survived by two daughters, Ellen (Gary) Reynolds and Faith (Phillip Carpenter) Sutter, and one granddaughter.

### **JEROME WOLK JR. '44**

Jerome Wolk Jr. passed away Dec. 16, 2016. Upon graduation from The University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business, he joined his father at Jerome Wolk and Brother Furs. He was predeceased by his parents and sister, Natalie (Richard) Grant. He is survived by a brother, Tony (Lindy) Wolk, and many nieces and nephews.

### **DR. JAMES B. MCCLEMENTS '45**

Dr. James B. McClements passed away Aug. 22, 2016. Upon graduation, he joined the U.S. Navy V-5 pilot training program. As the war effort wound down, he transferred to Williams College, where

he was Phi Beta Kappa. He attended University of Pennsylvania Medical School for his M.D. and residency, focusing on obstetrics and gynecology. He worked for 35 years as an OB/GYN in Dover, Del. In the 60s, he served as president of the Capitol School District board and helped to lead the desegregation of Dover area schools. He was predeceased by his wife, Anne McClements. He is survived by his children, Mary Jane, Jimmy (Heidi), Nancy, Walter (Charlene) and Bill (Susan); 12 grandchildren and three great-children; and his second wife, Ruth Morris.

### **HUGH M. LYNCH '45**

Hugh McKenna Lynch passed away Feb. 26, 2017. After graduating from SSA, Lynch spent a brief period in the U.S. Navy, and then went on to Dartmouth College, graduating in 1950 with an A.B. in mathematics. After completing his B.S. and M.S. degrees in engineering at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, he worked for the Kodak corporation in Rochester, N.Y., returning to Pittsburgh in 1957 to teach math and coach football at Shady Side. In 1962, he moved to Baltimore to pursue a Ph.D. in electrical engineering at Johns Hopkins University. Upon graduation, he worked for Northern Virginia defense contractor Scope Inc. until his retirement. He was predeceased by his wife, Jane Lees Lynch. He is survived by his daughters, Janet Lynch, Katharine Lynch (Jonathan Clapp) and one granddaughter.

### **RICHARD W. DANFORTH '46**

Richard William Danforth passed away Feb. 13, 2017. After graduating from Bucknell University, he joined the U.S. Army serving during the Korean War. He became an investment manager at Moore Leonard and Lynch, where he became partner, then headed up the Pittsburgh office of the New York firm Blyth & Co. He was extremely proud of his family's influence on Pittsburgh's development. His great uncle, Frank Nicola, conceived and led the redesign of “Schenley Farms”

(now Oakland) and was responsible for building iconic structures such as Forbes Field, the Mellon Institute, the Pittsburgh Athletic Association and the University Club. Danforth was a former trustee of Shady Side Academy. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Leslie McCord Danforth; two children, Richard (Nicole) Danforth '77 and William (Patricia) Danforth '82; and one granddaughter. He was preceded in death by his brother, Robert Nicola Danforth '43.

### **ROBERT EGAN '48**

Robert Egan passed away Jan. 10, 2017. He attended Yale University and served in the U.S. Army in the early 1950s prior to earning an MBA from Harvard University. He started his career in sales with Pittsburgh-based Allegheny Ludlum Steel at an office near Detroit, and advanced through a series of sales and marketing jobs prior to becoming group president of the metals and metal products group of Allegheny International, a successor company. In 1985, Egan led an investment group that purchased an AI subsidiary, Alloy Rods Corp., which made welding materials. He was a longtime board member and chairman at Gateway Rehab, a drug and alcohol addiction treatment center. He is survived by his wife, Barbara Forrester Egan; brother, Murray Egan '44; children, Robert Egan Jr., George Egan '78, Emily Thomas and Sarah Hebert; and 11 grandchildren.

### **ROBERT J. KRAMER '49**

Robert John “Bob” Kramer passed away Jan. 13, 2017. He was a graduate of the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. In the 1950s, following a stint in sales and market research with Westinghouse Electric Corp., he took over his father's residential real estate business, the O. H. Kramer Company, which later became Lloyd & Kramer Company, building and selling homes primarily in Pittsburgh's East End. After selling the company, Kramer specialized in commercial real estate throughout

Pittsburgh with Arnheim & Neely/CBRE and the Massaro Corp. He is survived by his wife, Winifred; his brother, John (Penny) Kramer '57; children, Katherine (Edward) Cerullo, Christine (William) Vincett, James Kramer and Steven Kramer; grandchildren, Edward, Megan and Julie Cerullo, Kathryn Vincett '09 and William Vincett '13, and Sarah and Michael Kramer; nephews, Matthew, Douglas Kramer '88 and Mark Kramer '96; and stepchildren Alison Lally, Charles Irwin, Lisa Bishop, Clancy Nixon '75 and Amy Nixon, current head of SSA Middle School.

### **JOHN D. ADAMS '50**

John Derby Adams passed away March 8, 2017. He was a graduate of Yale University and University of Connecticut School of Law. For many years, he worked as assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Connecticut and practiced private law. He also served as the town attorney for Enfield, Conn., and was appointed as a hearing officer for the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. Adams was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Rita Adams. He is survived by five children, Pamela Adams, Deborah (Kevin Mooney) Eliason, Samantha (Kenneth) Bishop, David (Lita) Adams and John (Kelly Blakeney) Adams; 10 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren.

### **LOUIS FRIEDMAN '52**

Louis Friedman passed away July 25, 2016. He taught English at Kingswood-Oxford School in West Hartford, Conn., and later founded Westledge School in Simsbury, Conn. The school, which was on the cutting edge of progressive education at the time, touched the lives of many students, faculty and trustees in meaningful ways that are still felt today. He also founded Beyond Nuclear, a national nonprofit that has a goal of achieving a nuclear-free world. He passed away alongside his wife, Judi Friedman. They are survived by

their three children, Kim Friedman, Dana Friedman and Seth Friedman; and four grandchildren.

### **JOSEPH D. SHUMAN '60**

Joseph Duff Shuman passed away March 4, 2017. He graduated from Yale University and Harvard Law School. He returned to Pittsburgh to practice law with the firm of Thorp, Reed & Armstrong, where he remained his entire career. He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Ann McMillan Shuman; a son, David S. Shuman; a daughter, Lauren (Tim) Floyd '93; and two grandchildren.

### **JOHN C. PRICE '65**

John Charles Price passed away Nov. 18, 2016. He graduated from Lafayette College with a degree in metallurgical engineering. He had a distinguished career at United States Steel Corporation from 1969-2009, retiring as a vice president. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Noday Price; sons, John Price and William Price; and two grandsons.

### **HOUSTON B. MARSHALL '66**

Houston B. Marshall Jr. passed away Feb. 7, 2017. He was a graduate of Washington and Jefferson College and California Western School of Law, San Diego. He was also a private in the U.S. Army. He spent his career practicing law in Florida and Pennsylvania. He is survived by his siblings, Corinne (John) Babson and Robert Marshall; girlfriend, Carrie Thomas; and many nieces and nephews.

### **ANDREW L. ROGAL '66**

Andrew Rogal passed away Jan. 30, 2017. After spending more than 10 years in law litigating employment discrimination, he joined Hilb, Rogal, and Hobbs Inc. Over his 25-year career, he rose to become chairman and CEO, leading the company to its position as the 10th largest insurance brokerage intermediary in the world. He is survived by his wife, Vicki Loveness Rogal;

children, Erin (Jason) Scheu, Lisa Rogal (Jack Russo), and Samuel Rogal (Elena Skopetos); and two grandchildren.

### **BENJAMIN KOSKOFF '76**

Benjamin Koskoff passed away Feb. 11, 2017. He is the son of Elizabeth and the late Yale Koskoff; brother of Karen Koskoff and Ellen Koskoff; uncle of Theodore and Gilda Koskoff and David and Meagan Morris.

### **BESTY (WERTHEIMER) FRANKLIN '76**

Betsy Klee Wertheimer Franklin passed away Nov. 30, 2016. She is survived by her husband, Grant Franklin; siblings, Wendy Wertheimer, Herbert (Jane) Wertheimer III and Susan (Jerry) Iwler; and many nieces and nephews.

### **WILLIAM CLACK '77**

William Clack passed away Aug. 10, 2016. He was a graduate of Princeton University. In the early 1980s, he joined Scholz Research and Development, where he designed Rockman electric-guitar products. He most recently worked as a freelance sound designer and filmmaker. He is survived by his wife, Holly, and daughter, Miranda.

### **LOREN J. HALEY '86**

Loren John Haley passed away Dec. 9, 2016. He was a graduate of the University of Virginia, the University Pittsburgh School of Law and the University of Pittsburgh's Katz School of Business. Haley was formerly employed by the Urban Redevelopment Authority, WQED, the African American Chamber of Commerce in Pittsburgh; Pepper Hamilton in Philadelphia, Pa., and Morningstar Investments in Chicago, Ill. He is survived by his parents, Leon and Elizabeth Ann Haley; siblings, Dr. Leon Haley Jr. '82 and Lisa Haley Huff; and many nieces and nephews.



## FAMILY AND FRIENDS

**James Balzer**, former Metz food service employee

**Walter Baczowski**, former Senior School Latin teacher

**Elva Louise Young Belles**, mother of Senior School English teacher Suzanne Belles

**Joseph Burneff**, father-in-law of Hillman Center Artistic Director Christa Burnerff

**Linda Lee Bushkoff**, mother of Robert Bushkoff '77, mother-in-law of Richard Rattner '80 and Ben Wecht '83, and grandmother of Nate Rattner '11, Jonah Rattner '12, Rose Rattner '16, Dylan Wecht '13 and Zoe Wecht '14

**Jane Cangiano**, mother of Academy President Tom Cangiano

**Otto Gruner III**, father of Sam Gruner '76

**Joseph Hartwick**, father of Senior School Assistant to the Deans Michele Zentgraf and father-in-law of Facilities member Eric Zentgraf, grandfather of Grant '12, Greger '12, and Erik '09 Zentgraf

**Sally Horner**, wife of Mike Horner '54

**Robert Kavanaugh**, father of Deirdre Kavanaugh '98

**Jay Little Jr.**, father of Junior School Admissions Assistant Joyce Greece

**Robert McGinnis**, former Senior School science teacher, 1998-2007

**Josephine Mitesser**, mother of Academy Bus Driver Ed Mitesser

**Ellen Jane Pasman**, mother of Suzanne Pasman '83 and Caroline Pasman Craig '85

**James Pasman Jr.**, father of Suzanne Pasman '83 and Caroline Pasman Craig '85

**Solon Person III**, father of Solon Person IV '78 and Nelson Person '81, and grandfather of Piper Person '09

**Elaine Selz**, mother of Erik Selz '86

**Carol Shaughnessy**, mother of Maureen Shaughnessy '84 and Michael Shaughnessy '88

**Shirley Smith**, mother of Senior School Library Assistant Amy Harrison and mother-in-law of Neal Harrison '93



## Dr. Bernard Sauers SENIOR SCHOOL HISTORY TEACHER, 1970-1999

Dr. Bernard (Ben) Sauers passed away Feb. 22, 2017. For 29 years, Dr. Sauers taught in the History Department at the Senior School. As the History Department Chair, he worked closely with his colleagues to develop a new

comprehensive social studies curriculum. He also introduced the process of a rotating chairmanship to allow all members of the department the opportunity for leadership. Always motivated by a strong sense of integrity, Dr. Sauers never hesitated to address issues involving fairness to his students and to the faculty. His continued emphasis on teaching critical thinking and writing was a hallmark of his classes. He was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, teacher and friend, and he will be deeply missed by those who knew him well.

– Submitted and handwritten by his wife, Rosanne Sauers



## Samuel Greene HEADMASTER, 1966-1976

Samuel S. Greene, headmaster from 1966-1976, passed away on Nov. 27, at the age of 89.

“Sam Greene was a visionary leader who shepherded Shady Side through the tumultuous years of the 1960s and 1970s with a steady hand,” said President Tom Cangiano.

“During those watershed decades, Shady Side Academy transformed itself from a predominantly white all-male prep school into a co-educational school with an ethnically, religiously and racially diverse student body. His foresight and commitment to students and faculty fundamentally changed our school for the better.”

Greene ushered Shady Side into the era of coeducation in 1973. He encouraged student ownership in decision-making and a more relevant curriculum, adding electives, independent studies, internships and arts classes to more traditional offerings. Teachers introduced more cooperative learning, class discussions and video technology in the classrooms, where circles and clusters of desks began to replace rigid rows. Students began serving alongside faculty on curricular and disciplinary committees, and a counseling department was added to tend to students' emotional needs. New facilities built during his tenure included Mellon Gymnasium in 1968 and the second floor of the science wing connecting Rowe and Memorial Halls in 1974. He and the board also built up the Academy's endowment, a portion of which was used to bolster faculty salaries and benefits.

He and his first wife, Martha Payne, had five daughters; Meg, Georgia '75, Julia '77, Sarah '79 and Lydia; and five grandchildren. He shared the last 32 years with his wife, Phyllis Gansz, living in Maine.

*Note: All obituaries appearing in Shady Side Academy Magazine are edited to a consistent size and format.*



**Richard Gable**  
SENIOR SCHOOL  
START DATE: 9/1/74



**Paul Bodnarchuk**  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
START DATE: 9/1/78



**Carol Hendershot**  
JUNIOR SCHOOL  
START DATE: 8/29/89

At the heart of any great school is its faculty. Shady Side Academy has built its remarkable reputation on a foundation of passionate, inspiring, iconic faculty

# OUR HEART. OUR FACULTY.

members who serve as teachers, coaches and mentors to our students. Here's a snapshot of some the longest-serving current faculty members at SSA's various divisions.

**Francine Gardiner**  
JUNIOR SCHOOL  
START DATE: 8/29/89





# SHADY SIDE ACADEMY

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OCTOBER 6–7, 2017

# HOMECOMING

## REUNION CLASSES:

1942 • 1947 • 1952 • 1957 • 1962  
1967 • 1972 • 1977 • 1982 • 1987  
1992 • 1997 • 2002 • 2007 • 2012

The classes of 1967 and 1992 will be celebrating their 50th and 25th reunions, respectively.

A detailed schedule of events will be available at  
[shadysideacademy.org/homecoming](http://shadysideacademy.org/homecoming).

For more information, contact Assistant Director  
of Alumni Relations Lisa Page at 412-447-2252  
or [lp@shadysideacademy.org](mailto:lp@shadysideacademy.org).