Because “How” Matters
The Shady Side Academy Difference
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.
### FEATURES

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DEAR SHADY SIDE ACADEMY COMMUNITY:

I’ve never subscribed to the strategic tidbit “build it and they will come.” In an effort to be competitive, many schools frantically upgrade their facilities in the hopes of attracting applicants and boosting enrollment. We’ve seen an independent schools arms race of sorts, where schools are scrambling to have the best athletic complex, the best STEM facility or the best performing arts center.

However, without correspondingly strong academic and co-curricular programs – and a talented, passionate faculty to lead them – new facilities are just a form of window-dressing. What looks impressive on the outside may not necessarily be supported by what is going on inside.

This has not been our approach at Shady Side. While we strive to offer the best academic, arts and athletic facilities, it’s what happens inside those facilities that is most important. It’s how our curriculum engages and challenges, how our teachers inspire and mentor, how our students grow and thrive. Because at Shady Side, “how” matters.

For example, before beginning construction on the McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation, our Senior School Science Department spent six years refining and strengthening the science curriculum, because how we teach science at Shady Side is more important than where we teach it. When it became clear that our facilities were holding back our program and our faculty, only then was it time to build. Led by Department Chair Dr. Joe Martens, our science faculty was essential in determining how the McIlroy classrooms should be configured and what equipment should be purchased to enable the kind of advanced scientific study our teachers envision. As a result, the McIlroy Center is not just another beautiful STEM building; rather, it has been intentionally designed and equipped to further elevate an already outstanding science program.

Many of you have heard the news that this will be my final year as president of Shady Side Academy. In July 2018, I will assume the head of school position at GEMS World Academy in Chicago, and Middle School Head Amy Nixon will serve as interim president in 2018-2019 while a search for my successor is underway. I am grateful that the McIlroy Center is scheduled to open before I leave, for it is the final step in fulfilling our long-term strategic goal of strengthening the science program across all three divisions.

Sincerely,

Tom Cangiano
Academy President
New Senior School Health Center Opens

On Dec. 1, Shady Side Academy Senior School opened the doors of its new on-campus Health Center. The spacious 2,000-square-foot facility will provide health services to approximately 460 day and boarding students in grades 9-12 and serve as the home of the Senior School nursing team, which includes school nurse Maria Thieman and night/after-hours nurse Amy Gray. It includes a nurses’ office, exam room, waiting area, six private beds, a kitchen, two ADA-accessible bathrooms and wireless internet.

The Health Center was constructed over the summer and fall as an addition to Kappel House, an on-campus faculty house where Nurse Gray and her family reside, located just across the street from Rowe Hall Courtyard. It is a significant upgrade to the previous nurse's office, which was a small 160-square-foot room inside the Deans' Office suite in the heart of Rowe Hall. The new facility is 12.5 times larger, can accommodate multiple students at once, and is away from the noise and bustle of the student center. It also provides a place for boarding students who are ill to stay overnight, out of the dorms and steps away from the night nurse. Previously, ill boarders slept in a designated "sick room" inside each dorm, and the night nurse would need to walk across campus to the dorms to check on them.
Diversity Leadership Conference

Six students and four faculty members from the Senior School attended the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) People of Color Conference (PoCC) and Student Diversity Leadership Conference (SDLC) in Anaheim, Calif., from Nov. 29-Dec. 6. Nearly 6,000 students, educators and civil rights activists attended the conferences, which ran concurrently and focused on “Voices for Equity and Justice Now and in Every Generation: Lead, Learn, Rededicate, and Deliver.” Students attending the SDLC were juniors Chayla Edwards, Shreya Gulati, Hank Lin, Brooklynne Lowry and Caitlin Mulvihill and sophomore Qingqing Zhao. The students were actively engaged in open discussions pertaining to the eight cultural identifiers: race, family structure, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion and ability. They felt a unique sense of community among the 1,600 student participants, enabling them to have real and honest conversations about diversity. Faculty members attending the PoCC were Pam Boehm, Creighton Runnette '89, Amy Yam, Becci Carter and Judi Williams. The PoCC equips educators with knowledge, skills and experiences to improve and enhance the interracial, inter-ethnic and intercultural climate in their schools.

Cohen and History Prizes Awarded

Prizes were awarded to four Senior School students at a community assembly on Sept. 1, for their achievements in the 2016-2017 academic year. The John H. Cohen Family Award is a book prize given for general improvement in scholarship, vigor, citizenship and character. The recipients were current sophomore Aaliya Aga, junior Joseph Tomson and senior Lindsey Grune.

The Instructor’s Prize in American History is a book prize is awarded to the student who completed the research paper that best displays the qualities of scholarship essential for developing competence in the study of history. The winner was senior Emily Weiss.

FRESHMAN A NATIONAL FINALIST IN BROADCOM MASTERS STEM COMPETITION

Freshman Nora Navid was one of 30 national finalists in the 2017 Broadcom MASTERS, the nation’s most prestigious science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) competition for middle school students. Navid was selected for the research project she completed in SSA Middle School and presented as an eighth grader at the Pittsburgh Regional Science and Engineering Fair, titled Polling Pollinators: Do Pollinators Prefer Native Plants, Cultivars or Nativars? A Two-Year Study. As a finalist, Navid received a $500 cash award and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., from Oct. 19-25 to showcase her project at Union Station and compete for additional awards. In addition, the Middle School received a $1,000 award to support STEM education.
Almost, Maine

The Senior School staged four performances of John Cariani’s play Almost, Maine as its fall student drama production on Nov. 2-5. The cast and crew consisted of nearly 30 students. Since it was an ensemble show, there were no lead roles; however, seniors Felicia Devorris and Rachel Winterhalter each played two roles. Faculty member Dana Hardy-Bingham directed the production, with seniors Julia Zoratto and Izzy Calihan serving as assistant directors.

A Midsummer Night’s Prom Dream

The Middle School presented the fall play A Midsummer Night’s Prom Dream for parents and guests on Nov. 10. The cast and crew included more than 20 students in grades 6-8, and was co-directed by English teacher Camille MacRae and music teacher Randy Broker.
Junior School Hurricane Relief
On Sept. 15, the Junior School held “Hearts for Hurricane Relief,” a special dress-down day to raise money for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria. A total of $1,074 was raised by the school’s nearly 300 students, faculty and staff, with an additional $141.50 donated by Pittsburgh Japanese School, which holds classes at SSA Middle School. A generous SSA family offered to match the amount raised, donating a grand total of $2,289.50 to Brother’s Brother Foundation, a local nonprofit that will use 100 percent of the donations for hurricane relief efforts.

Operation Gratitude
Junior School students collected 230 pounds of candy for Operation Gratitude’s Halloween Candy for Heroes effort, which sends sweet treats to deployed U.S. troops and first responders.

The drive was spearheaded by fifth graders Autumn Sheehan, Ava Terezis and Linden Wallace, with several other fifth grade girls pitching in to help collect donations.

Second Grade Food Drive
The second grade collected a total of 2,683 non-perishable food items in the annual Food Drive, which ran from Oct. 30-Nov. 16. On Nov. 20, the class delivered the busload of donations to the food pantry at the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood, in time to be distributed to needy families for Thanksgiving.

Middle School Fall Community Service Efforts
This fall, the Middle School Community Service Committee spearheaded several successful efforts to help those in need. In September, a dress-down day and bake sale were held to raise money for the victims of the hurricanes that swept across the U.S., and a total of $1,325 was collected from students and faculty. The funds were donated to Brother’s Brother Foundation to support their hurricane relief efforts. For Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, the school raised $672 from students and faculty through a dress-down day and a candy guessing game. The funds were donated to the University of Pittsburgh for breast cancer research.

In November, the Middle School held its annual Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit Heritage Community Initiatives in Braddock. A total of 431 Thanksgiving food items, plus 20 Giant Eagle gift cards, were donated by students and faculty. Finally, the school sponsored a winter outerwear drive in late November to benefit North Hills Community Outreach. Families donated a total of 25 coats, 21 scarves, 30 hats and nine pairs of gloves to help our neighbors in need.
Allegheny County Holiday Project

The Senior School community collected more than 120 gifts for local children through the annual Holiday Project organized by the Allegheny County Department of Human Services. Four members of the Service Learning Club, seniors Rachel Winterhalter, Leila Skinner, Hannah Steffey and Alicia McLaughlin, organized the distribution of children’s names and collection of gifts among students and faculty. The Holiday Project has been providing gifts for children since the 1960s. The gifts are given to children who receive in-home care, community-based services and out-of-home services such as foster care, as a way to provide a sense of normalcy for children and youth whose lives are shaped by daily challenges.

Middle School Global Action Day

For the fifth straight year, Middle School students devoted an entire school day to service learning on Global Action Day, held Dec. 14. Students spent the day learning about complex social issues and engaging in hands-on service activities. The theme this year was health, and each grade learned about a particular aspect of this larger topic. Sixth graders focused on global issues surrounding access to clean water, having recently read the book A Long Walk to Water by Linda Sue Park. Seventh graders learned about the history of Pittsburgh’s air quality, hearing presentations from Thaddeus Popovich of Allegheny Clean Air Now and Aja Ellis, a Ph.D. student at Carnegie Mellon University. Eighth graders explored the issues of food access and waste. They participated in a learning exercise where they had to plan a menu and go grocery shopping at Giant Eagle on a SNAP budget. At the end of the day, Hana Uman from the organization 412 Food Rescue spoke to them about food waste. The goal of Global Action Day is to raise awareness and educate students about key issues while empowering them to impact change in their local community. The annual service day is organized by social studies teacher Molly Braver ’94 in cooperation with school head Amy Nixon and the entire Middle School faculty.

Wear a Hat for Cancer

Shady Side Academy joined the fight against childhood cancer by participating in Wear a Hat for Cancer Day on Oct. 13, raising a total of $849.50 across the Junior, Middle and Senior School campuses to benefit the Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology and the Division of Blood and Marrow Transplantation and Cellular Therapies at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh of UPMC.
Junior Named to Board of Beckwith Institute

Junior Dijbril Branche was named a student member of the board of the Beckwith Institute, a health care institute dedicated to improving patient care. Branche will serve one year on the board. Shady Side alumnus and trustee emeritus G. Nicholas Beckwith III ’63 is the co-founder of the Beckwith Institute along with his wife, Dorothy. SSA President Tom Cangiano worked with Beckwith several years ago to create this unique experiential leadership opportunity for SSA students with an interest in health care.

Author Laurie Halse Anderson Visits Middle School

Laurie Halse Anderson, award-winning author of children’s and young adult novels, visited the Middle School on Oct. 19. She met with students in grades 6-8 about her novels *Fever 1973* and *Chains*. She also spoke about her childhood, career path as a freelance journalist-turned-writer, and the strong and challenging subjects in her books. In her presentations, she demonstrated the value of freedom of voice, especially related to adolescent development, and spoke about the power of words, literature and advocacy. Anderson’s battles against censorship have been recognized by the National Coalition Against Censorship and The National Council of Teachers of English.

Senior School Students Take Trip to New Orleans

The Senior School History Department took 15 students to New Orleans to visit The National World War II Museum and attend the 10th International Conference on World War II on Nov. 16-20, accompanied by History Department Chair Kyle Smith and Senior School Head Sophie Lau. After arriving late Thursday night, the students and chaperones experienced a full day of programming at the World War II Museum on Friday. Highlights included educational sessions where students were able to handle artifacts used in the museum’s exhibits, and docent-led tours of the Road to Tokyo and Berlin exhibits. After the museum, students had dinner in the historic French Quarter and attended a live jazz performance at the historic Preservation Hall. On Saturday, the group attended a series of lectures at the 10th International Conference on World War II, highlighted by a keynote lecture from Norman Ohler, author of the best-selling book *Blitzed: Drugs in the Third Reich*. After the conference, the group experienced a swamp tour outside the city and a ghost tour of the French Quarter.
Pro Runners Visit Kids of Steel Assembly

On Nov. 3, course record holder and 2015 EQT Pittsburgh 10 Mile champion Tyler Pennel, along with teammate and U.S. Olympic Trials qualifier Johnny Crain, were special guests at the Junior School Kids of Steel kickoff assembly, to meet and inspire the next generation of runners. SSA’s among more than 130 schools and community organizations registered for the 2018 Kids of Steel program, a free, award-winning youth physical activity and nutrition program designed to instill lifelong, healthy habits in children. Students complete their Kids of Steel training by participating in the Pittsburgh Kids Marathon in May.

Cross Country Team for Grades 3-5 Debuts

Shady Side Academy’s first-ever cross country team for elementary students in grade 3-5 made its historic debut on Sept. 14. In its very first season, a total of 41 boys and girls in grades 3-5 joined the team, including 36 Junior School students and five Country Day School students. The team practiced twice a week in Frick Park and competed in five meets against other schools. The team was coached by Junior School physical education teacher Karen DiFiore and third grade teacher Dan Stern, with counselor Claudine Runnette and first grade assistant teacher Melissa Petitto serving as assistant coaches.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Shady Side Academy named four new members to the SSA Board of Trustees for the 2017-2018 school year. Nicole Snyder Bagnell is a current parent and an energy attorney and partner at Reed Smith LLP. James Bernier, who previously spent seven years as a member of the board of Fox Chapel Country Day School, is executive vice president and head of the Derivatives Product Group at PNC Financial Services Group and a current parent. Ramsey Lyons is a current parent and owner of Mecox, a home furnishings store in Shadyside. James Rohr Jr. ’92 is an alumnus and current parent, who is senior director of customer connect, pricing and customer marketing, loyalty and analytics at Giant Eagle Inc.

Parent Education Program

On Dec. 11, 2017, Shady Side welcomed John Tummon for a free parent education program, Talking to Your Children About Alcohol and Drugs. Tummon is a prevention specialist from FCD Prevention Works, a nonprofit organization that provides substance abuse education to schools. Tummon also spoke to Middle and Senior School students and faculty.
Students Build and Launch New SSA Student App

A team of students developed and launched a new mobile app for iOS and Android that helps Senior School students manage their class schedules and more. The new app, called SSA Student, was launched to the student body with a Steve Jobs-like demo at assembly on Sept. 29.

Students enter their class schedules into the app and it automatically generates each day’s schedule based on the date and cycle day, taking into account special schedules, late starts on Tuesdays, assemblies on Mondays and Fridays and more. It also allows students to share their schedules with friends by scanning a QR code, enabling the user to see which friends have the same lunch or free periods. Teachers can also use the app to share their teaching schedule with students, so that students can easily find a common free period to meet with their teacher.

The app also allows students to scan the barcode on their student ID card so it is stored in the app for easy use at the campus dining hall. It also includes a digital planner, where students can enter homework assignments for each class. Other features include in-app access to the Senior School daily bulletin, lunch menu, campus map, school news and more.

The app was developed by members of the Senior School Computer Science Club, including senior Henry Friedlander (president), senior Fuad Youssef (vice president and lead android developer), junior Peter Wang, (lead iOS developer), freshman Nick Zana (iOS developer), junior Aidan Shilling (graphic designer), Tom Scherlis ’17 (server developer), senior Thomas Jordan (administrative tool development) and Rain Du ’17 (administrative tool development).

The SSA Student app won the 2017 Congressional App Challenge for Pennsylvania’s 14th District, and Friedlander, Youseff, Wang and Zana were honored at an awards reception hosted by U.S. Congressman Mike Doyle on Dec. 4.

The SSA Student app design is based on a previous student-developed app called SSA Mobile, built by alumni Collin Mason ’11 and David Franklin ’11 when they were students at SSA. However, the new app was built from the ground up, incorporating the best features of SSA Mobile and adding some great new features based on student input, such as schedule sharing.
Senior Henry Friedlander has developed an application to help students practice their grammar skills, and the app is now being used in some SSA Middle School English classes. Friedlander was inspired to create the app by his eighth grade English teacher at SSA, Dr. Sara Kajder. Kajder lamented having to make up sentences for her students to practice grammar and, knowing Friedlander’s interest in coding, challenged him to develop a program that would automatically generate practice sentences.

Four years later, after honing his coding skills in Senior School computer science classes and working on the app outside of school, Grammatica Academy was born. The app allows students to choose a different grammar category, such as nouns, verbs or capitalization, and automatically generates sentences in a lightning-round fashion. For example, if you choose nouns, it will auto-generate a sentence and ask you to identify all of the nouns in the sentence. You make your choices, then click to find out if you are correct. If not, you can go back and try again. Once you get a sentence correct, a new sentence appears. After completing a set of 10 sentences, you can stop or generate another set of 10. A unique part of the app is that sometimes the sentences it generates are nonsensical – such as ‘The bananas fly to the city of rhinos’ – which makes students laugh and adds a bit of challenge. “Sometimes the best way to teach grammar is to laugh and not know what’s coming,” said Friedlander.

After testing the app with a few local groups over the summer, Friedlander shared it with the Middle School English faculty early this fall, and on Sept. 26, he introduced it to students in Pam Onest’s sixth grade English classes. The students really liked the app, commenting that it felt like a game and they liked getting instant feedback as to whether they got a question right vs. waiting for a teacher to review a worksheet the next day. They were also impressed that it was developed by a Shady Side student who sat in their same seats not too long ago.

“Young people are really happy and using it and how it might be used at my own school in classrooms that I was sitting in six years ago is really exciting,” Friedlander said.

Friedlander plans to use the feedback he gets from the SSA Middle School teachers and students to improve and work out any final kinks in the app, and he hopes to eventually offer it to other schools. Friedlander and his app were featured on KDKA-TV’s weekly Kidsburgh segment on Oct. 4. To see the story, visit www.kidsburgh.org.
Blue and Gold spirit was shining bright at Shady Side Academy for Homecoming weekend, Oct. 6-7, 2017. Homecoming was a much anticipated and celebrated event, full of reunions, athletic contests and community events. Classes ending in 2s and 7s celebrated their reunions this year.
As the fog lifted off the golf course at the Fox Chapel Golf Club, alumni and guests teed off to play in the annual Alumni Golf Outing on Friday morning. Across the street on the Senior School campus, four alumni celebrating their reunions served as guest speakers at community assembly. Alumni Council President Roland Criswell ’95 enthusiastically led the assembly and welcomed alumni John Kramer ’57, Ray Celli ’67, Veronica Corpuz ’92 and Sean Gray ’97 to the stage. Following an SSA trivia game, each alumni guest reflected on how Shady Side profoundly impacted their lives and what it means to be connected as a part of this alumni community. They also spoke about what each of their classes means to them and how years later there is a strong bond that still exists.

On Friday afternoon, fourth grade students at the Junior School welcomed their pen pals from the 50th Reunion Class, Ray Celli ’67 and Clark Mycoff ’67, who answered questions about their time at Shady Side Academy. Students were most interested in the fact that the school was all boys at that time.

On Friday evening, family members, alumni, students and faculty gathered in Memorial Hall to celebrate and remember the lives of those alumni who passed away this past year. Rev. Christopher Bender ’72 from St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral presided over the memorial service, which included Dr. Dan Brill’s chamber choir singing a beautiful rendition of
The Road Home by Stephen Paulus. At the conclusion of the service, alumni and faculty made their way over to McCune Dining Hall for the Alumni & Faculty Mixer. The evening included good food, cocktails and reminiscing with former classmates and teachers. Academy President Tom Cangiano welcomed the crowd and presented the alumni awards. The Paul R. Pigman ’52 Prize, awarded annually to a young alum whose activities in their daily life or profession exemplify strong character and good citizenship, was awarded to Mara K. Leff ’07. The Robert E. Walker Award, presented annually to an alum whose sustained commitment to the Academy is consistent with the vision of Walker, the revered leader of SSA’s Alumni Office during the 1960s and early 1970s, was presented posthumously to alumnus and trustee J. Keefe Ellis, Jr. ’74. The award was accepted by his children, Emily Ellis ’10, John Ellis III ’12 and senior Patrick Ellis.

Saturday morning festivities got off to a running start as alumni, students and friends participated in the Al Stewart Memorial Shady Stride. Senior Carolyn Stewart, granddaughter of Al Stewart, officially started the race. Alumnus Matt Minno ’77 crossed the finish line first.

The President’s Coffee and Conversation took place on the J. Michael Grzymkowski ’90 Terrace, where Cangiano shared recent updates from all four campuses and answered questions about the Academy. Campus walking tours for alumni and their families were led by current student ambassadors, seniors Sydney Cleveland, Shaila Fye and Julie Staley, and juniors Shreya Gulati and Brendan McLaughlin.

As the activities throughout the day continued, children enjoyed a petting zoo, balloon artist, inflatable bounce house, music and face painting at the Kids Carnival. Alumni and their families connected with fellow classmates and former faculty members at the Blue & Gold Community Tailgate. Many alumni and visitors strolled through the Benedum Visual Arts Center to view the wooden pieces created by alumni artist Doug Morrison ’82.

Athletic contests were a big attraction of the weekend. On Friday, the girls soccer team defeated Greensburg Central, 1-0, and girls field hockey defeated Western Reserve Academy, 3-1. On Saturday, boys soccer blew out Steel Valley, 8-1, and the football team won big against Valley by a score of 54-16. During halftime of the football game, athletic team captains from reunion class years were recognized on the field.

On Saturday evening, alumni gathered in various venues around Pittsburgh to reminisce and celebrate their time at SSA at their class reunions.

Classes ending in 3s and 8s will be celebrating their reunions in 2018. We look forward to seeing you there!
1. Alumni Artist Doug Morrison ‘82 and his mother, Connie Morrison
2. President Tom Cangiano speaking about the state of the Academy at the Coffee and Conversation
3. Shady Stride winner Matt Minno ‘77 with members of the Stewart Family
4. Middle School field hockey warm up
5. Senior School boys soccer game
6. Freshman Charlotte McDaniel singing the National Anthem
7. Junior School and Country Day School students singing the Alma Mater
8. Enjoying the day at the Kids Carnival
1. Class of 1947 – Peter Bolanis
2. Class of 1967 – Gay Guthrie, Mark Donley, Clark Mycoff
3. Class of 1972 – Dave Ressler
4. Class of 1977 – Derek Minno, Steve Lee, Tom Eddy, Peter Ellis, Sally (Ressler) Torney, Richard Steeber, Jamie Egan
5. Class of 1982 – Marvin Carolina, Doug Morrison, Jeff Swensen, Julie (McMahon) Sorkin
8. Class of 1997 – Erin Cohen, David Petett
9. Class of 2002 – Britton Wean
11. Class of 2012 – Chris Leech, David Lembersky, Aaron Budd, Katie Natoli, Kelcei Edmunds, Michael Hazenger, Audrey Buckman, Will Suppowitz, Tyler Edwards, Annie Pooley, Josh Weinberg, Lindsay Cozen, Jake Ellis, Molly McGovern
1. Class of 1947 – L to R: Arthur McSorley, Peter Bolanis, Aims Coney
2. Class of 1952 – L to R: Thomas O’Shaughnessy and Dick Fisher
Standing L to R: John Mullin, Lou Martone, Larry Succop, Thomas Celli, John Dickson, Brian Whitaker
5. Class of 1967 – First Row L to R: Mark Donley, Bill Sheers, Tom Wible, Ray Celli, Harvey Allon, Jay Apt, Jay Pottenger
Second Row L to R: Jerry Little, Barry Hootman, Dave Donley, Clark Mycoff
Third Row L to R: Pat Loughney, Dave Diebold, Jim McCune, Gay Guthrie, Michael Gilberti, Bill Schulz, Chris Skelly
HOMECOMING 2017 CLASS REUNIONS (CONT.)

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2

3

4

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6
1. Class of 1972 – L to R: Christopher Bender, Jonathan Saxton, Dan Mancosh, David Ressler, Aims Coney

Second Row L to R: Steve Lee, Jeff Rich, Ned Denney, Peter Ellis, Adam Kessler, Derek Minno, Thomas Greulich
Third Row L to R: Matt Minno, Matt Wolff, John Rieck, Jamie Kyne, Bud Person, Tom Eddy

3. Class of 1982 – Front Row L to R: Julie (McMahon) Sorkin, Mark Groz, Mimi Fairman, Stanley Ference, Jeff Swensen
Back Row L to R: Kate Shanahan, Marvin Carolina, Ted Weigand, Debbie Kim, Bryan Nett, Doug Morrison

4. Class of 1987 – Front Row L to R: Raja Mahidhara, Scott Engelberg, Thomas Worrall, Lillian Wu, Susanna (Bjorkman) Finke, Martha Runnette, Julie Srodes, Craig Leslie, Edward Mitre, Andrei Gursky, Wendy Munroe, Kara (Salvitti) Conomikes, Mike Scalfuri, Rod McMahon, Jon Roscow
Back Row L to R: Chris Kintner, Ivan Amayo, Elizabeth (Taffe) Collins, Nick Terezis, Stephen Choi, Doug Henry, Clark Slater

Back Row L to R: Albert Lin, Monica Kapoor, Alexandra Marks, David Turner, Johnine (Bennett) Williamson, Michelle Semins, Sean Gray, Sheela Pawar De Groot
2nd Row L to R: Nicole Antonino Cugliari, Rob Mallinger, Katie (Mooney) Minister, Sloane (Berrront) Davidson, Leena (Ahmad) Matthews, Neil Badlani, Joel Pomerantz, Jordan Crosby, Toby Lynch, Lacey Cass Lupetin
3rd Row L to R: Faye Kapakkas Finaldi, Dave Petett, Andrew Lynn, Shannon Siewman, Andrew Gifford, Jordan Strassburger, Huma (Malik) Mohiuddin, Alexandra Compare
Back Row L to R: Matt Kamin and Morton Stanfield

2nd Row L to R: Nicole Antonino Cugliari, Rob Mallinger, Katie (Mooney) Minister, Sloane (Berrront) Davidson, Leena (Ahmad) Matthews, Neil Badlani, Joel Pomerantz, Jordan Crosby, Toby Lynch, Lacey Cass Lupetin
3rd Row L to R: Faye Kapakkas Finaldi, Dave Petett, Andrew Lynn, Shannon Siewman, Andrew Gifford, Jordan Strassburger, Huma (Malik) Mohiuddin, Alexandra Compare
Back Row L to R: Matt Kamin and Morton Stanfield

Standing L to R: Christina (Zona) Cummings, Ian Cummings, Pallavi Mandiga, Christina (Davides) Tsatis, Danielle Katz, Jen Yates, Dean Deluca
Sarah (Heberle) Schifino, Adrienne Genovese, Nisha Srinivassan, Sarah Steinfeld, Britton Wean

8. Class of 2007 – Kneeling L to R: Will Frederick, Daniel Siger
Standing L to R: Kimberly (Nederlof) Chesko, Molly Lurie-Marino, Philip Amstler, Adam Roskowski, Mara Leff, Austin Warren, Brendan Jamison, Ben Briston, Jordan Foley, Katherine (Miller) Foley ‘08

Thanks to the foresight and generosity of Fred H. Parkin ’59, the Parkin Fellowship for Global Service Endowment Fund was established in June 2006. Parkin Fellowships award grant money each summer to assist Shady Side students in completing service or environmental projects around the globe. The experiences make an impact not only through direct service or environmental improvements, but also through the stories that students share upon their return. These stories enrich the Shady Side community while inspiring other students to make a difference in the world.

To date, Parkin Fellows have traveled to 45 countries, spanning six continents, and have left a unique footprint across the globe. The following excerpts have been pulled from the Parkin Fellows Global Learning Blog and provide a glimpse into their unique experiences, all in their own words. To read the posts in their entirety, visit shadysideacademy.org/globallearningblog.
The Dominican Republic is known for its beaches. The beautiful, clear water with waves crashing on the white sand is what one may picture when thinking about the Dominican Republic. While many of the beaches in the Dominican Republic do fulfill these images, many of the beaches I saw were covered in trash. The significant thing was that most of the trash was plastic that could have easily been recycled. Digging to the bottom of this issue, I learned that many individual problems all stem from this problem and all of them relate to each other. First of all, drinkable water. In the Dominican Republic, I experienced the difficulties of brushing my teeth with filtered water out of my water bottle or even being careful while I shower to not get any water in my mouth or nose. These daily struggles are intensified for the majority of the population without any running water at all. Water systems and pipes in the Dominican Republic force civilians to buy huge water jugs, boil water, or resort to rainwater because any sources of water that hasn’t been properly filtered can be very harmful. Therefore, the people have to buy water and if they are unable to afford it, they have to rely on the rain… The Dominican Republic is a beautiful place with spectacular beaches, but there is a lot of “damage” to those beaches. The experience motivated me to want to learn more and help the Dominican Republic find systems to better regulate water.

JEANNE LAUER ’18 TRAVELED FOR THREE WEEKS IN SEVILLE, SPAIN, to work with troubled and marginalized children through several workshops that entailed teaching children English, leading arts and crafts activities, and tutoring.

Every day here in Seville, I find something new in this city that I love. First it was my host family, then the rich and delicious food, and finally the magnificent architecture of the center of the city. But what I have discovered I love more than anything else here is my volunteer work with the Asociacion Alternativa Abierta (AAA). AAA is an organization that provides support for children who live on the outskirts of the city and are at risk of social exclusion. Though almost all of them are under financial strains, the intricacies of their situations differ: some battle learning disabilities, others have parents who are drug addicts, and still others don’t know their parents at all. Throughout the school year, AAA hosts an after-school program for these children where they can bring their homework and receive help and advice from numerous professors. They also have access to resources, such as computers and school supplies, that they may lack at home. Through the program, AAA hopes not only to give the children the tools to complete their daily assignments, but also those to develop lifelong study habits and a sense of confidence and self-worth. It was amazing to be part of a group that was having such a tremendous impact on the children.

SHAILA FYE ’18 SPENT TWO WEEKS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, through Global Health Initiative, working to improve the quality of health care of impoverished children and adults.

The Dominican Republic is known for its beaches. The beautiful, clear water with waves crashing on the white sand is what one may picture when thinking about the Dominican Republic. While many of the beaches in the Dominican Republic do fulfill these images, many of the beaches I saw were covered in trash. The significant thing was that most of the trash was plastic that could have easily been recycled. Digging to the bottom of this issue, I learned that many individual problems all stem from this problem and all of them relate to each other. First of all, drinkable water. In the Dominican Republic, I experienced the difficulties of brushing my teeth with filtered water out of my water bottle or even being careful while I shower to not get any water in my mouth or nose. These daily struggles are intensified for the majority of the population without any running water at all. Water systems and pipes in the Dominican Republic force civilians to buy huge water jugs, boil water, or resort to rainwater because any sources of water that hasn’t been properly filtered can be very harmful. Therefore, the people have to buy water and if they are unable to afford it, they have to rely on the rain… The Dominican Republic is a beautiful place with spectacular beaches, but there is a lot of “damage” to those beaches. The experience motivated me to want to learn more and help the Dominican Republic find systems to better regulate water.
Each day in Nablus started with an omelet from Omar, the owner of a local convenience store that also serves omelets, falafel and pita with hummus all made right in front of you. On the first day I arrived, Omar read my necklace (my name translated to Arabic), and like many other local people, instantly welcomed me, offering me a seat and to stay for tea, but I never took him up on his offer given that Arabic class started at 8:00 and I didn’t want to be late. Since I was only in Nablus for two weeks, I chose to take the intensive Arabic classes – two hours, every day. Although difficult, it turned out to be one of the best choices I made because my teacher invited me to spend the weekend in her village, allowing me to dance at two Palestinian weddings, visit Hebron, and witness the effect of the Israeli settlers’ presence on Palestinian life.

The waste system in Trivandrum is a bit faulty to say the least. The people do not have a scheduled waste management truck to pick up their trash once a week like we do in Pittsburgh. In fact, there used to be a garbage/compost factory in the city suburb of Vilappilsala, but residents living close to the site complained about the rancid smell and the factory was shut down. Since then, the people of Trivandrum don’t have a public garbage disposal system. People are left with the option to burn or dump their trash somewhere illegally. You can find piles of trash on the sides of the road or in nearby streams and rivers. The project that I am working on has to do with figuring out whether this unregulated system is bad for the ecosystem due to heavy metal contamination. There is a lot of work to be done, but I am up for the task.

My end destination was ShaXi, located in the southern-most area of Yunnan. …I was struck by ShaXi’s tight-knit rural community vibe and its geographical beauty. Upon my return, many people asked, “Did you have fun?” When asked this question, I typically take a second to gather my thoughts, then launch into an explanation of the sights that I saw, the people that I met and the things that I did, but at the end of my five-minute spiel, I always realize that in getting caught up in the recounting the details of my trip I failed to answer the initial question. My answer to this is, yes, of course. I had loads of fun. But it was a different type of fun. It was not a load-up-the-car-and-head-to-the-beach type of fun, or rollercoaster fun, but the type of fun that comes with challenging yourself to interact with people that are very different from you. If your idea of fun consists of sharing a joke in a foreign language, or getting to see an adult’s face light up when they learn an English phrase like “good morning” for the first time, or watching local Yi woman shop for food, then yes, the trip was fun. China was about as much fun as I could ever possibly have.
One day, after about two hours of uphill rocky driving, my group and I finally reached the house where we began to do our work on renovating water tanks. As we did with the other villages, the same procedures applied here: mix the cement, smack it against the wall and then smooth it out. However, there were some differences. Unlike the past, we painted the water tanks in a light blue, and on a more surprising note, the members of the village helped us out which really helped expedite the process. The cement mixing that took us 30 minutes at the other villages took us about five with the locals’ help. It was encouraging to see that citizens will do whatever it takes to help out others, even when they are not required. That’s what I noticed so far during my trip to the Dominican Republic. No matter what, the people of the Dominican Republic always try to better the community. I believe that when our group went to the Dominican Republic, we really cut down on our complaining. This particular experience showed me how the majority of the world lives, and I realized that we have things in our daily lives that people here dream of having. Specifically, do not take simple things for granted.

It was my last day… I turned around to see the students laughing and enjoying the day and instantly I felt my stomach drop. I sat down on the step of the school and as I watched my students play, I could not help but start to cry. They were too young to understand that they would not see me the next morning at school and the basic vocabulary that I taught them was not enough for them to understand if I were to explain to them what was wrong. One by one, mothers started to arrive at the gate to pick up their child like usual, but when Chandhi (the head teacher) opened the gate the mothers came over to me for the first time and surrounded me with hugs while thanking me. This was when it hit me. Everything I had done over the past month, all the lesson plans, the early mornings, the times I lost my voice from screaming “Eppa!,” (the Sinhalese word for “Don’t”), the appreciation the mothers expressed towards me showed me how much my time spent here truly mattered. This is what volunteering is all about in the first place, isn’t it? An appreciation and care for others. And my only response to them was to say thank you back for trusting me with their children and allowing me to grow connections with each and every one of them. There was a mutual respect and without being able to communicate, I felt so connected to these women… I said my final goodbyes, gave my last few hugs and felt as though I had done all that I was able to in order to make sure my students benefitted the most that they could have over the past month.

SOPHIA DEL SOLE ’18
SPENT TWO WEEKS IN SRI LANKA teaching English and caring for children with special needs. Serving an underdeveloped area of the country, the goal was to promote the educational, physical and mental growth of the children.

SHIVAM PATEL ’18 TRAVELED FOR TWO WEEKS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC to help local doctors treat injured patients and assist in therapy, and to work on building projects that help neutralize the spread of disease and jumpstart a healthy environment for rural families.
BECAUSE “HOW” MATTERS

THE SHADY SIDE ACADEMY DIFFERENCE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GRANT GIBSON

At Shady Side Academy, our mission to prepare students for future success begins with how we approach the educational experience: academic rigor; hands-on learning; active, discussion-based classes; supportive faculty; individual attention; and exceptional arts and athletics opportunities.

The Shady Side faculty presents a curriculum that engages and challenges students while providing individual attention for every child. Our rigorous curriculum manifests itself in detailed assignments, such as immersive projects, group collaboration and experiential learning opportunities. Meanwhile, supportive teachers empower students to take intellectual risks in solving problems. Students not only engage with the material on a deeper level, but they also build confidence and embrace new perspectives. As a result, our graduates leave Shady Side as strong leaders, effective communicators and responsible citizens prepared to improve the world around them.

We believe our approach to education distinguishes Shady Side from other schools, and the following examples from across all four of our campuses illustrate how. Because “how” matters.
HOW WE WRITE

Our Junior School students write, edit, illustrate and publish their own books, exercising their imagination and expressing their creativity. Our Writing Workshop curriculum provides opportunities for students to practice presenting cohesive arguments and writing persuasively. Students undertake a full writing process just like real authors, learning to brainstorm, draft, edit, revise and publish a finished masterpiece. Finally, they share and celebrate their work at our semiannual Authors’ Night events.

Our faculty create a warm environment for students to respectfully critique each other’s work – one in which students support their peers and offer observations that help everyone improve as writers and thinkers. Shady Side’s elementary writing program teaches students to write in three genres – narrative, informational and opinion – building the essential foundational skills to become exceptional writers and communicators.

Colleges and employers in all industries value effective communication. No matter the profession, the ability to express and defend ideas will always be a vital trait for success. At Shady Side, our Writing Workshop empowers students to think critically about their own ideas, and gives them the confidence to present their opinions in compelling ways.

HOW WE EQUIP

In organic chemistry, our Senior School students use microscale glassware equipment to synthesize and separate compounds that can be analyzed with our FTIR spectrometer. Our innovative curriculum allows students to gain hands-on experience using college-level lab equipment in advanced classes.

This is just one example of the many impressive projects in our Senior School science curriculum – from a fruit fly lab commonly taught at the collegiate level to a genetics study investigating the mystery of the Romanov family. Whether it’s in biology or organic chemistry, Shady Side ensures its students work with updated technology under the tutelage of expert faculty – many of whom hold PhDs and bring college teaching experience to the classroom. Our graduates leave Shady Side feeling confident in their experience and prepared for the rigors of science courses at top colleges.

The McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation is set to open at the Senior School in fall 2018 and will include 10 classroom/labs with state-of-the-art equipment; a special projects room for supervised independent research; and a Gold LEED-certified design with sustainability-centered architectural features.
**HOW WE ENGINEER**

Equipped with only pencils and rubber bands, eighth graders compete to design and construct the strongest catapult. By following supply and time constraints, students embrace challenge, efficiency and creativity in the engineering process.

As part of the Middle School computer science curriculum, the catapult competition introduces students to the concept of “fail early, fail often.” This principle teaches students to accept failure as a part of progress and challenge themselves to innovate and improve. The catapult project encourages students to expand their creativity and take smart risks in their work.

Shady Side faculty members craft hands-on projects that present opportunities for students to develop their critical-thinking and problem-solving skills. The catapult competition allows students to contribute their knowledge from multiple academic areas, such as math and physics, and apply it to concepts in computer science. Such cross-disciplinary exercises mimic the way problems are solved in the real world.

**HOW WE LEARN**

Country Day School first graders meet with management and staff at a local restaurant to see all the jobs and effort that contribute to making food and running a successful business. After the trip, the students work together to open their own restaurant for their parents. Students vote for their preferred restaurant name, visit the grocery store, write and mail invitations, create menus and handle table reservations.

Students then turn their classroom into a restaurant and help cook delicious meals for their families. Each child completes their own assigned tasks – from taking food orders to adding measured ingredients to cleaning tables and dishes – in making sure their restaurant runs smoothly.

Besides expanding their writing, speaking and math skills, students also begin to realize the importance of their classroom learning as they apply their knowledge to the world around them in a meaningful, memorable way. From the beginning of their academic careers, Shady Side introduces clear communication, respectful collaboration and shared responsibility as positive values for our youngest learners.
HOW WE DESIGN

In architecture class, our Senior School students draft original structures with computer-aided design (CAD) software. Considered a highly marketable skill by college programs and employers, CAD experience opens the doors for students across many engineering and design fields. Our students then bring their plans to life by producing intricate 3-D models of their structures, allowing them to see the tangible results of their creativity. By working one-on-one with advanced technology, Shady Side students develop a comfort with the type of software that many students don’t experience until college.

Shady Side’s Senior School curriculum includes classes that immerse students in their passion, provide real-life training, and provide a window into the careers of industry professionals. Such courses are invaluable at the high school level. For instance, our students can determine if pursuing a career in architecture is really for them before ever stepping foot on a college campus. From architecture to glass class, the array of hands-on courses in our Senior School provide avenues for students to find inspiration, express their creativity and engage fully in their learning.

HOW WE INVEST

As part of our Junior School’s financial literacy program, fourth graders practice wise money management through immersive classroom exercises in which they earn a fictional weekly salary. Using ledgers, students apply their math skills by subtracting each week’s debits, such as desk rental, taxes and health care (nurse visits), and adding credits for completed homework and good deeds.

In the second half of the program, students create an original product to sell at two on-campus marketplace events. They determine their product’s pricing by calculating expenses and projected sales – with the aim of returning a profit. To increase sales, they develop advertisements promoting their product’s benefits and learn to persuade their “customers” one-on-one, sharpening their communication skills along the way.

By participating in a hands-on simulation, our fourth graders appreciate the cause-and-effect relationship of financial decisions in the safety of a low-stakes, educational environment. Throughout the program, students gain valuable lessons in marketing, sales and economics that will benefit them in future math and business courses as well as life after school.
HOW WE EXPLORE

On our spacious, wooded Country Day School campus, second graders complete an Earth Detective unit in science class each fall, exploring the forest and collecting soil, seeds, rocks, sand and clay. They carefully examine these natural objects, along with specimens borrowed from the Carnegie Museum, to record clues and make inferences. For example, the stripes in sedimentary rock reveal how it was formed over time, while a skull's teeth give clues as to what the animal ate and whether it was predator or prey. Students display their findings in the science room, creating an “Earth Museum” for parents and guests.

At Shady Side, a hands-on approach to our curriculum sparks students’ curiosity and takes advantage of our beautiful surroundings. We introduce immersive educational experiences in the outdoors, where students embrace learning in a new environment. In this particular project, we create the artifacts in our Middle School 3-D printing lab, incorporating technology and history. As students handle and classify each object, they relate to the lives and perspectives of people from around the world.

Through these participative learning experiences, students gain a sense of curiosity and openness to learning, while developing the critical-thinking skills they will need later in life.

HOW WE DISCOVER

Our sixth graders follow the excavation process of actual archaeologists as they unearth 3-D printed “artifacts” from on-campus archaeology pits. Working with a partner, students carefully dig around and remove objects designed to represent tools and everyday items from different cultures and time periods. Then, they learn how to analyze and contextualize their findings by imagining the skills, responsibilities and lifestyles of people in these cultures.

At Shady Side, a hands-on approach to our curriculum sparks students’ curiosity and takes advantage of our beautiful surroundings. We introduce immersive educational experiences in the outdoors, where students embrace learning in a new environment. In this particular project, we create the artifacts in our Middle School 3-D printing lab, incorporating technology and history. As students handle and classify each object, they relate to the lives and perspectives of people from around the world.

Through these participative learning experiences, students gain a sense of curiosity and openness to learning, while developing the critical-thinking skills they will need later in life.
HOW WE ACHIEVE

Shady Side’s varsity girls’ soccer team powers its way into title contention year after year. After winning the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League (WPIAL) title in 2010, 2013 and 2016, our girls continued their run of excellence with their first-ever PIAA state title in 2017. Like many of our athletic teams, the girls’ soccer program provides a testament to hard work and athletic achievement.

Shady Side maintains a rich history of championship performance – including 61 league titles since 1993. However, our coaches and student-athletes don’t focus solely on winning. Rather, they develop the qualities shared by all champions: self-discipline, commitment, teamwork, sportsmanship and perseverance.

Our Senior School fields 30 teams in 17 sports and maintains impressive athletic facilities on campus, including our own hockey rink, turf stadium, two gymnasiums, 10 tennis courts, swimming pool, squash courts and more. With outstanding coaches and plenty of opportunities to compete and improve, our student-athletes benefit from a comprehensive athletic experience that many Pittsburgh schools cannot match.

HOW WE GUIDE

Our three full-time college counselors provide regular, one-on-one counseling to students and families, and meet directly with college admissions officers across the country. Our counselors possess the expertise and the tools to ensure our students find their best-fit school, pursue their passions and achieve in a wide array of programs and fields.

Our college counseling staff visits approximately 50 college campuses and welcomes nearly 140 admissions officers to Shady Side every year. As a result, our staff builds and maintains strong relationships with college admissions representatives and provides students with firsthand knowledge of as many schools as possible. Through their connections with admissions representatives, our counselors not only act as advocates for Shady Side students in admissions decisions, but they also ensure students represent themselves well through an impressive transcript and moving application essay.

Our process of self-exploration, research and decision-making begins officially with individual meetings in the winter of junior year. Our counselors take the time to understand each student, his or her family, and their financial situation, ensuring he or she can make the most informed decision and find the school with the best fit.

Read more stories at ShadySideAcademy.org/HowMatters
Season 12 of the Hillman Performing Arts Series got off to a magical start with *The Jason Bishop Show*. The Philadelphia-based magician appeared before a nearly sold-out audience, showcasing large-scale illusions and close-up magic tricks. The evening also included an appearance by Bishop’s adorable yorkie, Gizmo, who stole the hearts of everyone in the audience. November brought body-percussive dance troupe SOLE Defined to the Rauh Theater stage. With a unique spin on dance and vocals, the audience was taken on a journey to create a free-flowing conversation between music and movement.

The Hillman Series partakes in a winter break but will heat things up in February with the vocal stylings of award-winning a cappella group Six Appeal. The group will lead the audience on a journey that spans decades of music, from classic oldies to current chart-toppers, all sung a cappella. As part of the Hillman’s community outreach program, Six Appeal will also host a master class with SSA Junior School and Country Day School students together in the Rauh Theater prior to the performance.

The series rounds out with PUSH Physical Theatre in March. With intense athleticism, acrobatics and soulful artistry, these masters of physical storytelling are sure to amaze children and adults alike. The group will also make a stop at Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh for a special pre-show outreach performance.

In April, the Hillman, together with MCG Jazz, will co-present a special event, *A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald*, featuring vocalist Delores King Williams and the Smithsonian Jazz Masterworks Orchestra (S.J.M.O). The members of S.J.M.O are looking forward to hosting a workshop for the Senior School Jazz Ensemble, continuing the outreach that MCG Jazz already does on a daily basis within the Pittsburgh community.

For more information on the upcoming shows and to purchase tickets, visit TheHillman.org.
GIRLS SOCCER – PIAA CHAMPIONS

by Julie Staley ’18

The 2017 girls soccer team had its best season ever, making school history twice by earning the titles of section and PIAA Class A Champions. The season started out strong, however the team suffered from numerous injuries. While it was a blow to the team dynamic, Head Coach Leah Powers adjusted the lineup, and the success continued. The team finished the regular season 10-2, winning SSA’s first section title. In the WPIAL playoffs, the girls defeated Apollo-Ridge, Sewickley Academy and Seton LaSalle by the same score of 4-0 to advance to the WPIAL championship. Unfortunately, SSA lost to Greensburg Central Catholic (GCC), 1-0, at Highmark Stadium. However, the team advanced to the state playoffs, beating Wilmington in the first round, 6-0, and Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic, 3-1, in the quarterfinals, setting up a rematch with GCC in the semifinals. SSA came out victorious, 3-0, avenging the WPIAL title game loss. In the PIAA Championship at Hershey Park Stadium, SSA defeated Camp Hill, 4-0, powered by goals from Melissa Riggins, Callie Davis, and two from Krystyna Rytel, and a shutout by goaltender Molly Skrovak and the defense. It marked the first time in school history an SSA soccer team won a state championship. The girls finished the season 17-4.

BOYS SOCCER – WPIAL CHAMPIONS

by Chester Todd ’18

The boys soccer team had big plans going into the 2017 season, but didn’t know the road would have so many detours. The team won only six games in section play, and entered the WPIAL playoffs as the No. 15 seed. However, strong coaching from Ed Ellsworth, Jerry Hare and Nathan Verbanets prepared the team well. After defeating No. 2 South Park, No. 7 Waynesburg and No. 12 Central Valley, the boys met Quaker Valley in the WPIAL 2A Championship at Highmark Stadium. The game was one for the ages, as SSA won 3-2 in double overtime to win its first-ever WPIAL title. The team went on to the PIAA playoffs, defeating Fairview before failing to Oley Valley in the quarterfinals. A truly great season for SSA boys soccer!
BOYS CROSS COUNTRY
by Brendan McLaughlin '19
The boys cross country team had a strong season, finishing with an overall record of 7-2. Led by coaches Paul Ejzak '89 and Adam Janosko, the team placed well at various large meets, including the Freedom Invitational (5th out of 22 teams) and the WPIAL 2A Championships (9th out of 31 teams). At the WPIAL meet, junior Leo Liu placed 14th overall with a time of 17:35. The team is looking forward to another strong season, returning all but one runner.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY
by Lucia Santos Huertas '18
Senior captain Jeanne Lauer crossed the finish line at the PIAA Class A Championship meet in Hershey, marking the end of another successful season for the girls cross country team. Lauer finished 24th out of 227 runners with a 5000-meter time of 20:13. Overall, the team had an impressive 7-2 record and a ninth-place finish at WPIALs, led by captains Lauer, Alicia McLaughlin, Carolyn Woll, Megan McInerney and Lucia Santos Huertas. Under the direction of Head Coach Sue Whitney and promising potential of juniors Emmie Lau, Josie Szlachetka, Bella Cavagna and Natalie Capretto, the cross country team is sure to continue to achieve greatness.

FOOTBALL
by Josh Morrow '18
It was a year of redemption for the Shady Side football team under first-year Head Coach Chuck DiNardo '00. The team was small but mighty, with 27 players on the roster, while some competitor schools had more than 40 players. But the team was motivated to win and finished with a record of 6-3, which easily could have been 9-0 if it weren’t for a few tough losses. The team finished third in the Class 3A Allegheny Conference, and junior QB/DB Skyy Moore was named the conference’s Offensive Player of the Year and Co-Defensive Player of the Year. The team will be remembered for playing tough, hard and for the love of the game.

GIRLS TENNIS
by Anna Jovin '18
The girls varsity tennis season was filled with energy and excitement. Led by senior captains Anna Jovin, Lauren Davies and Kirsten Kann, the girls finished 16-5. Overall, they were second in their section and finished fourth in the WPIAL 3A playoffs. The team shared an incredible bond this year. Not only did they exude talent during their matches but also camaraderie and genuine interest. It was a great season!
FIELD HOCKEY

by Eliza Worrall ’18

Under the direction of new Head Coach Valerie Hickman Lohr and Assistant Coaches Betsy Gorse and Ali Mears ’09, the field hockey team had a very successful season.

On the field, the team was led by captains Eliza Worrall, Ella Benec and Sophie Moritz. The girls had a winning streak of 11-0 and one tie game against the team’s rival, The Ellis School. The team won the section in a game against Sewickley Academy and earned the No. 1 seed in the WPIAL Class A playoffs; unfortunately, the team fell short against Ellis in the championship game, 2-1, to finish as WPIAL runner-up. The team is looking forward to another successful season next year!

2017 FALL SPORTS RECORDS

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BOYS GOLF

by Frankie Fuhrer ’18

The boys golf team had a great season, filled with numerous individual and team success stories. With an overall record of 11-2, the team won the section title for the first time in nearly 10 years. The team headed into the playoffs with a major win in the ISPLs, led by senior captain Frankie Fuhrer shooting a 73, and freshman Adam Lauer shooting a 76, to win outright by 41 strokes. The team then went on to shoot a 383 in the WPIAL 3A team semifinals, resulting in the first WPIAL team finals appearance since 2008. In the finals, the team shot a 406, with a 73 from Lauer, and finished fourth overall, which is the strongest finish in SSA golf history. With a great core of returning players next season, the team is looking forward to a successful future.

GIRLS GOLF

By Alexandra Muracca ’18

The 2017 girls golf team had a successful season, finishing with an overall record of 5-4. Under the leadership of senior co-captains Elizabeth Walsh and Alexandra Muracca, the team battled in the most competitive section against rivals Fox Chapel and North Allegheny. The girls finished third in the section, and individually, Muracca went on to compete in the WPIAL 3A championships, placing 12th. Under the instruction of coaches Helene Gosse and Courtney Smith ’99, the young team looks forward to another competitive season next year.
Wasn’t he a little young for this? Shouldn’t he be at a high school football game – or in bed?

The 20-something performers on stage had asked for audience volunteers to try their wits at improvisational comedy. Jon Daly, a junior at Shady Side Academy, jumped right in, undaunted by his youth and inexperience.

It was 1993, and Daly, a fan of Monty Python and Ghostbusters, didn’t miss a comedic beat, playing off the jokes and straight-lines fed to him by the Improv’s established performers. The audience howled with laughter at the precocious kid.

Sitting near the stage, Melena Ryzik ’94 stared up at her friend and SSA classmate. She knew he was a funny guy, but she was witnessing an amazing seat-of-his-pants comedy performance. “He killed,” she recalled.

The audience at the Friday Night Improv saw a teen with natural timing and an imaginative flair for sketch comedy. But they had no way of knowing they were watching the accidental world debut of a future A-list Hollywood comedic actor, writer and producer.

Sixteen years later, Jon Daly is a national name in comedy, acting and collaborating with stars such as Zach Galifianakis,
Adam Scott and Ben Stiller. In fact, Daly helped Stiller write *Zoolander 2*, and acted in it, too. He also performed alongside Stiller in *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, his first big role in a major studio movie.

Currently, Daly is a regular character on Showtime's original hit series *I'm Dying Up Here*, which focuses on a group of standup comics vying for stage time and fame in an L.A. comedy club in the early 1970s.

The show takes place decades before Daly's career started, and it's fiction. The competitive characters and story lines mirror many of his own experiences in standup, but the comedy world was much smaller and more cutthroat then.

Daly plays Arnie Brown, a sleazeball comic/booker in Goldie's comedy club who bombs on stage and then undercuts the more talented comedians at every turn. With lamb-chop sideburns and a mustard-yellow polyester shirt over bell bottoms and platform boots, Daly embodies Arnie's total sliminess, both outside and in.

"Arnie's Arnie," he said. "He is a guy who will say anything and is motivated by selfishness and greed. The writers on the show always give me moments of raw 'Arniness' that are delightful. Every script I read, I am like, 'Oh my God, I get to do this. I get to wear this.'"

With *I'm Dying Up Here* being renewed for a second season, Daly says he's excited about being able to play Arnie in all his hilarious hideousness again.

After years of being a starving artist, it's a joy to be a full-time comic – and to have a regular TV role, write his own sketches and get more movie jobs. "I am really happy right now," he said. "I am super-grateful to be able to do this."
JON DALY’S BIOGRAPHY DOESN’T COME CLOSE
to fitting the stereotype of a standup comedian – someone who cracks jokes or uses laughter to mask a tortured childhood or cover up their inner emotional pain.

Growing up in the North Hills of Pittsburgh, he was the youngest of three boys, the son of a doctor and a psychologist. He said his happy 1990s childhood included learning to play the sax at age 8 and rooting hard for Mario Lemieux and the Pittsburgh Penguins.

In the ninth grade he transferred to Shady Side Academy, where he played hockey. He caught the acting bug after landing the lead in the school play, The Crucible.

Looking back, he quipped that a 15-year-old probably shouldn’t play the heavy role of The Crucible’s tragic hero and angry adulterer, John Proctor. But he loved that Shady Side gave him lots of opportunities like that, and he ran with them.

He got his first formal taste of comedy when he performed in the one-act play The Adventures of Comic Nemo. It was the senior project directed by his friend Ryzik, who’s now a writer for The New York Times. “It was straight-up silly comedy,” she remembered. “Jon loved getting laughs from the audience.”

Along with learning his first acting lessons at Shady Side, Daly also improved his writing skills – something that would help him later when he would sit in the writers’ room at Comedy Central.

It started in Dr. Sarah Eldridge’s creative writing class, where students had to free-write a children’s story in class. After reviewing her student’s papers, Eldridge called Daly into her office and said, “Hey, I think you are really good. I really want to see more of your writing.” She offered to mentor him, and he showed her his other work. “She really cared about her students,” Daly said.

Along with his forays in high school theater, Daly became a regular audience performer on the Friday Night Improv stage, which met in the basement of the Cathedral of Learning at the University of Pittsburgh.

During one improv sketch, the comics were gathered in a pyramid formation and it was Daly’s turn to advance the plot. He did an extemporaneous verbal riff on the then-popular video game Q-bert, where the player used a joystick to change the color of squares on a pyramid. “The audience just died,” Ryzik said. “It was like, ‘Where did you get that?’”

Those Friday Night Improv shows offered more than just good training for his future in standup. Afterwards, Daly and the older improv performers would hang out at Eat’n Park. “I would get my Smiley cookie with guys who were 28,” he said. “It was 2 a.m., and I found it very dangerous and cool and very validating.”

He had found his tribe.

After graduating from Shady Side, Daly went to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts in Winston-Salem to study acting. Then he moved to New York, still thinking he would be a serious actor.

But the early joys of stand-up comedy kept a strong hold on him. “Comedy seemed like a viable thing to do,” he said, “and I was going for it.”

Daly became a regular at the Upright Citizens Brigade, an experimental improv troupe started by Amy Poehler and other comics. He established himself as a talent, but it wasn’t easy paying his bills in the Big Apple. He waited tables and took oddball acting jobs.

In 2013, Daly moved to Los Angeles to be closer to the TV and film industries. It was a smart career move. He landed guest appearances on many popular TV shows, such as Parks and Recreation, Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Life in Pieces, Family Guy, New Girl and many more.

People started to notice. “Jon Daly is everywhere,” wrote Alex Russell on the pop culture website Poor Scholars in 2013. “If you’re watching something funny in the next few years, you stand a good chance of running into him.”

“JON DALY IS EVERYWHERE. IF YOU’RE WATCHING SOMETHING FUNNY IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS, YOU STAND A GOOD CHANCE OF RUNNING INTO HIM.”

– Alex Russell, Poor Scholars

While Jon Daly was working hard to make his name as an outrageously funny comic, another much more famous John Daly was making his name as an outrageously hard-drinking, hard-gambling pro golfer.
Daly got a zany idea on how to capitalize on his famous—except-for-one-letter name. In 2013 he invented “The Jo(h)n Daly Project” and created a website called JonDalyIsJohnDaly.com, where he photoshopped his own face into the golfer’s plaid-panted body.

“The Jo(h)n Daly Project” didn’t make Shady Side’s Jon Daly famous on Google or anywhere else. But in 2016 the same idea led to him and comedian Adam Scott collaborating on an online spoof of televised professional golf tournaments, The Adult Swim Golf Classic.

In a mock charity match from the Trump National Golf Club in Los Angeles that he wrote and produced, Daly portrayed golfer John Daly while Scott played Scottish pro golfer Adam Scott. (Both comedians were awful golfers. Daly lost to Scott by only one stroke, finishing 72 over par for nine holes.)

Over the years, Daly’s fertile mind has hatched many characters – including Sappity Tappity, a drunk English rollerblading Christmas tree, for the comedy website Funny or Die. “It was ludicrous and hilarious,” his friend Ryzik said, “but it was a real character that said things that were emotionally true.”

After he began writing his own sketches and making videos with fellow comic John Kroll, and in 2013 their work morphed into Kroll Show, a sketch series on Comedy Central. Daly was a writer and a regular performer, playing one of a pair of obnoxious rich guys as well as other characters.

He also got to show off his “yinzer” roots with a sketch called “Pawnsylvania,” where he played a pawn shop owner with a thick-as-pierogi Pittsburgh accent while another comic hawked stuff in a Philly accent.

“He was such a gifted improviser,” said John Levenstein, Daly’s comedy mentor and head writer of Kroll Show. “There are a lot of trained improvisers at Second City and Upright Citizens Brigade and you recognize patterns that are not that original. In the case of Jon, he was always very surprising. He separated himself from the pack with his spontaneity.”

As a sketch comedy writer and actor on Kroll Show, “you would never know what he would do next,” Levenstein said. “He could make the most normal people seem crazy. Not everyone can play a character who is flat and make them entertaining. Peter Sellers can do it. Jon can do it.”

Daly’s slate of online videos eventually became his ticket to the big screen. They caught the attention of Ben Stiller, who asked him to audition for his 2013 movie The Secret Life of Walter Mitty. Daly played the part of a neurotic office worker, appearing in his first major studio film and working alongside one of his comedy heroes.

That acting job led to even more collaboration, helping Stiller write Zoolander 2 and playing the role of Agent Filippo. “It was beyond cool,” Daly said. “He gave me creative freedom.”

An upcoming movie role will allow Daly to channel a childhood comedic hero, Bill Murray. He is playing the role of Murray in an upcoming Netflix movie called A Futile and Stupid Gesture. He studied clips of the famed comedian, getting the Chicago accent and mannerisms, and it’s a good bet he’ll look a lot like the young Bill Murray when the shooting starts.

Daly’s looks are wildly variable from role to role. Perhaps it’s because he can scrunch his dimpled face into an expression that can be either goofy or brooding. In fact, he’s such a chameleon that people sometimes stop him on the streets of Los Angeles and do a double-take. “They recognize him – or do they?”

Ryzik has stayed close with Daly, even though they live on opposite coasts. “He is a steadfast friend, welcoming even as his life changed,” she said.

“A lot of comedy people do bits in their off time,” she said. “But Jon can always be depended on to listen if I need him to listen, without having to deliver a laugh line. That’s not to say that he is not hilarious. He spoke at my wedding and brought the house down.”

Daly’s generous spirit is also evident on his trips home to visit his family. Ryzik said what’s great about Jon is that when he comes to Pittsburgh, he’s still likely to go out and do an improv show. When he does, she said, “he’s treated like a visiting conquering hero, which he is.”

For Ryzik, it has been a fun ride watching Daly evolve from intrepid teenage performer to an established and brilliant comedian. “To see him make those very first jokes on stage back then, and now see him play and write all these amazing characters – it’s just the best.”
ASHLEY Forsyth ’99

IRONWOMAN TACKLES THE ULTIMATE COURSE

BY CRISTINA ROUVALIS
PHOTOGRAPHY PROVIDED
BY ASHLEY FORSYTH ’99

AT 7:20 A.M., ASHLEY (DALTON) FORSYTH dove into the ocean off of the Big Island, Hawaii, among 1,200 of the best female athletes in the world. Limbs flew in every direction – she took elbows to the side and kicks to the head. Swimmers shoved their way over and ploughed underneath her as they jostled for position.

She was at the pinnacle of her athletic career – the Ironman World Championships in Kailua-Kona, the gold standard of triathlons. The 36-year-old had trained relentlessly to get here, but nothing could prepare her for the body blows and the swells of the salt water on race day, Oct. 14, 2017.

“The swim is like nothing you’ve ever done,” she said. “There is no way you could train for this, unless you swam in the ocean and had your friends beat you up.”

Forsyth emerged from the water with a fat lip, her goggles knocked off, her eyelid bruised. But when she looked at her watch, she was thrilled. She had swum the 2.4 miles in one hour and eleven minutes. “It was a great swim. I was excited to get on the bike.”
But it was still early on race day, and this was Kona, a grueling course that winds through lava fields at temperatures of over 100 degrees, a competition that is known to bring grown men and women to tears.

Once she mounted her bike, Forsyth knew something was wrong. Her neck hurt badly and she couldn’t lower her head to get into the “aero” position, a crouch over the handlebars that maximizes speed.

Eighty miles later, out on the course longer than expected, her food supply depleted, the winds kicking up, Forsyth dismounted her bike and laid down flat on the ground for 10 seconds.

Could this Ironman competitor push through the pain for another 32 miles on the bike? And then run a 26.2 mile marathon in the Hawaiian heat?

FORSYTH’S RAPID RISE AS A TOP age group triathlete has been nothing short of remarkable. In 2013, she entered the Ironman Mont-Tremblant in Quebec. She had one goal: to finish. She checked that off her bucket list and with each subsequent triathlon, improved her time. By 2015, she had her sights set on Kona.

The next year, Forsyth was the second woman to cross the line at the Ironman Maryland, passing other women during the marathon. She broke into tears of joy when she crossed the line of her best race ever. The next day, she learned she had qualified for Kona. “It’s the pinnacle,” she said. “There are people who spend decades trying to qualify for Kona.”

Looking back to her high school days, there was no sign that Forsyth would become an unstoppable distance athlete.

The McKeesport native transferred to Shady Side Academy in her junior year because she wanted an academic challenge. She played on the ice hockey team and ran cross country to stay in shape, but she finished near the bottom of most of her races.

If she didn’t stand out as a runner, she thrived as a student in the rigorous academic environment. “I loved the constant commitment of being better every day,” she said. “Shady Side was a great community of people, well-rounded. I loved it so much.”

She was so inspired by Buddy Hendershot’s nature writing class that she returned to Shady Side years later to do student teaching in his English class. Dr. David Weill, her organic chemistry teacher, also pushed her to do her best. “Dr. Weill was the toughest teacher I’ve ever had, but whom I learned the most from. He passed away shortly before our organic chemistry final my junior year.”
Sue Whitney, her senior advisor and cross country coach, was the most influential. “She was the best! She was my mentor, coach and confidant.” Whitney encouraged her to look into St. Lawrence University, where Forsyth received a Bachelor of Arts in English. She then earned an M.A. in organizational leadership at Point Park University while serving as director of campus life.

In 2009, she moved to Philadelphia to start a job as associate dean of student affairs at The Art Institute of Philadelphia. There was only one problem – she was lonely in a new city.

So she joined a hockey team, and when some of her teammates began doing triathlons, she figured she would try it too. She went to register for a triathlon in Philadelphia, but it was sold out. The only way to get in was in a charity spot. The American Cancer Society sponsored her as a charity entry. She was happy to do it to honor her grandmother who died of cancer.

As a charity runner, the American Cancer Society provided her with a coach, Jack Braconnier, who has been with her for the last six years. “She sets an example. If you go in and do the work every day, you can chip away and get to the highest level,” he said. “She always embraces work. I can put anything on her schedule, and she’ll do it.”

He said qualifying for Kona “is 10 times harder than qualifying for the Boston Marathon,” because it’s not based solely on times. Spaces in Kona are awarded first to the top competitor in each age group, and the remaining spaces are handed out according to a complex formula. So, even after she finished second overall in Maryland, she wasn’t sure she had qualified for Kona until the next day.

Forsyth combines her type-A work ethic with a sense of fun. Her training partner, Emily Koch, said, “When we work out together, we grunt at each other. She is also super-supportive, bringing new people into the sport.”

As Forsyth trained for Kona, she was also finishing a doctoral degree in higher education at Immaculata University. And she held down a full-time job as an academic programs specialist at the Project Management Institute, a demanding position that requires a lot of travel. “It’s unreal the amount of things she is able to balance,” Koch said.

Leading up to Kona, Forsyth’s workouts were so rigorous that her husband, Mark, would occasionally find her asleep on the living room floor at 8 p.m.

Seven weeks before the world championship, she was training 23 hours a week, before and after work and on weekends. During one workout, she spent two of those grueling hours with her bike on an indoor trainer, increasing her power every 30 minutes. Then she got off the bike and hopped on a treadmill, with the thermostat set to 88 degrees to simulate the heat at Kona. “When you say this out loud, it sounds so unbelievably bizarre,” she said with a laugh.

She felt ready for Kona – even the challenge of swimming through the ocean. About 2,500 people from around the world competed in Kona, and Forsyth entered the water with 1,200 female competitors. She didn’t fully anticipate the impact of the elbows and kicks, but she could take it.

She was confident until she mounted her bike – her neck hurt, and she knew she wasn’t having the race she wanted. Slowing down at that point was a real disadvantage, because the winds kicked up after noon.

At the lowest point, she had abandoned a top age group spot and wondered if she could even finish. But she told herself, “I cannot quit.”
By the time she got off her bike and started running, replenishing herself with food and fluids at all the water stops, she knew she was home free. “I was so happy to be off the bike. The run felt awesome.”

Two miles from the finish, she made a right turn on the course, and she could hear the announcements as the triathletes crossed the finish line.

“I have to get to that voice,” she told herself. At the end of the course, where the crowds had gathered to cheer everyone home, she picked up her pace.

“My husband was there. My coach was there. I could see them as I was coming down the finish line.”

She did it! She finished Kona – and with an incredibly gutsy run. Coach Braconnier said, “I was very proud of Ashley’s result and effort at Kona. She didn’t have the exact result that she wanted due to some tough conditions on the bike that disrupted her nutritional intake. Because she was on the bike longer than expected, it is tough to come back from that. She did an amazing job of battling on the run and still holding a solid speed to finish with a marathon to be proud of. I know she wanted more, but I am so proud of her first finish at Kona. She will be back.”

Next year, she wants to concentrate on half Ironmans, because she also excels at the shorter distances. She was the overall female winner at Ironman 70.3 Maine.

Forsyth also recently competed in the USA Triathlon long-course national championship and qualified to represent Team USA the world championships in Denmark in 2018.

Looking ahead to May, she and her friend Andrea (Hohler) Karsko ‘00 will run the Pittsburgh Marathon together to honor Major Benjamin Follansbee ’99, a classmate, friend and cross country teammate. He passed away in December 2012. They are raising awareness of PTSD and suicide prevention by encouraging donations in his memory to Pets for Vets through Animal Friends.

And Forsyth envisions a return trip to Kona. Memories of that bruising swim and biking past lava fields don’t scare away this Ironman competitor. “Absolutely, I hope I can do it again.”
IN-COLLEGE BOWLING PARTY
Members of the classes of 2014-2017 gathered at Arsenal Bowl, Pittsburgh, on Jan. 3, to visit with classmates and teachers. Alums enjoyed hitting the lanes and socializing with former classmates.

ALUMNI RECEPTION
DENVER, COLO: Dr. Allison Saras, Harvey Allon ’67, Greg Jacobs ’92, Beau Bergman ’09, President Tom Cangiano, Courtney (Hershey) Bress ’92, Martha Runnette ’87, Jill (Strassburger) Barkin ’94, Ed Wilson ’51, Pete Ritchie ’00 and Adam Barkin

ALUMNI ATHLETIC EVENTS
Over Thanksgiving weekend, hockey alums reunited to hit the ice at McKnight Hockey Center. The event, which took place on Friday, Nov. 24, was well-attended and proved to be a great success. The following day, lacrosse alums gathered on McKelvey Field for the second annual lacrosse game. The day was a great success and, most importantly, a lot of fun. Thank you to all of the participants.
JINGLE & MINGLE
Local Pittsburgh alumni gathered on Dec. 19 to kick off the holiday season at Penn Society.

Sean Gray ’97, Jordan Strassburger ’97, and Mary McKinney Flaherty ’97

Aaron Budd ’12, Erin Caplan ’12, Devon Chosky ’12

Roland Criswell ’95, Jim Ambrose ’05, Stewart West ’05

Pat Loughney ’67, John Whitehill ’68, Patricia Whitehill, Candy Loughney

Kevin Rich ’04, Katie Rich, Maura Natale, Philip Soeder ’08

Gil Schneider, Dan Gillman ’00, Amit Grover ’01, Dr. Allison Saras,
Roland Criswell ’95
Included in this section are news items received through Nov. 1, 2017.

1940
Bob Thompson writes: “I am 95+ and still driving and doing well, but less active.”

1947
Bill Patterson writes: “I turned 88 in July. What happened? I live at Longwood above Oakmont. I lost my wife, Marilyn, more than three years ago to a brain tumor. She was 18 years younger than me.”

1959
Rick Taylor writes: “I became an English major at Denison University because of the background I received at SSA. Law school and legal practice were only diversions. Within weeks, I’ll be publishing a compendium of my poems entitled Never Alone in a Cemetery, which will be available on Amazon (hopefully). Please buy several copies (I need the money).”

1960
Bing Beeson writes: Parker Beeson ’90 and his wife, Ryan, had a son on May 27, 2017, named Augustus Jeffrey Beeson. Coincidentally, it was the 50th wedding anniversary of myself and my wife, Bett. What a great anniversary gift!”

1961
Jim Hackett writes: “I went to London this summer with Rutgers Alumni Association. It was a great trip and the last one on my bucket list.”

Jack Singer writes: “I enjoyed a great dinner with classmate Ramsay Liem and his wife, Joan, at a wonderful Vietnamese restaurant in Cambridge, Mass. It was the first time we had been together since SSA graduation more than 45 years ago!”

1964
Craig Ramsey is the chairman and one of the founders of Vlocity, an industry-specific cloud and mobile software product. Built in partnership with Salesforce, the global leader in CRM, Vlocity is Salesforce’s fastest-growing company on the Salesforce AppExchange, out of 3,700 companies, and was recently featured on InformationWeek.com.

1965
Sandy Rea writes: “I had two wonderful visits with Robin Flowerdew and wife, Jennifer, in the last year at their home near Manchester, England. Also, I still see Jeff Lott frequently for baseball, astronomy and family celebrations.”

1966
Chris Abernethy writes: “I am proud to toot my horn for something that I actually did, as opposed to something that I took credit for. In July I was named Rotarian of the Year for the 2016-17 Rotary Year. I did some serious fundraising for the End Polio Now! campaign. I was pleased and humbled to receive the award, which is seldom given, but I had to promise never, ever to ask anybody else for money. After 40 years of membership in the Rich-Mar Rotary Club, I have also been named the second honorary member for life. The first is a guy you might have heard of – Arnold Palmer. Between the two of us, we have four Masters Championships. I am in the throes of negotiating the sale of my law practice. After 42 years at this, it is time. By the end of the year I should be working for my prospective buyer in an Of Counsel mode. That means that the less I show up, the more he will pay me. I am now trying to get a grip on the next phase of my life. We still live in the home we bought 46 years ago, so every day I throw something away. The other day the dog jumped back out of the garbage and ran off. I asked Bif how I will know if something should be tossed, and she said, ‘If you haven’t touched it in a year, pitch it.’ I said, ‘Gee, honey, I’m going to miss you!’ I have started a hobby of wood carving. I am terrible at it, so my margin for improvement is massive. It passes the time and gives me something else to think about rather than other peoples’ problems. So far, I still have all of my fingers so I must be doing something right. We are headed to Sarasota in a month or so for the winter. Then back to Allison Park in the spring to work on the house.”

Lance Labun was presented the Michael R. Grost Career Achievement Award by the Safe Association. The Safe Association is dedicated to ensuring personal safety and protection in land, sea, air and space environments. The award is presented to a person who throughout his or her career has made significant contributions in the field of safety or survival.
Dusty Nelson and John Harrison report: “Here’s one for Ripley’s Believe It or Not! After 40 years, Dusty Nelson’s first movie, Effects, which we shot in Pittsburgh and Ligonier, Pa., was restored in 4K Blu-ray by the American Genre Film Archive, a division of the Alamo Drafthouse Theater chain. It was the first feature-length production of our production company, The Image Works, and it had limited distribution when we first made it. Over the years, it became a ‘lost cult classic,’ notable for its mysterious unavailability and because it was part of Pittsburgh’s independent movie scene of the 1970s. It is hard to believe that it is now available on Blu-ray DVD, and that Alamo is showing it in theaters across the country. Quite amazing to think that the film is being seen by more people now, most of whom weren’t even born when we made it! We were both invited to Austin for a sold-out premiere of the restored version of the film at the famous Alamo Drafthouse Theater. The place was packed and the audience loved it. Everyone stayed for the Q&A afterwards and to get Dusty’s autograph.”

1968

Erik Buell is shown explaining Indian motorcycle economics at the Pittsburgh Grand Prix.

Casey Wolff writes: “I am moderating an ACLU panel discussion concerning the rather timely topic of cyber-bullying. I have been the chair of the legal panel for the ACLU of Collier and Lee Counties in Southwest Florida for the past 10 years. The legal panel is a group of volunteer attorneys who vet all complaints filed with the ACLU. We are the first line of defense between the those who have a bona fide case of governmental over-reaching affecting the constitutionally protected rights of the individual and those that do not. Unofficially, the ACLU probably turns down 95-98% of the submitted complaints.”

1967

George Cramer writes: “I am sorry we missed the 50th reunion. Life is good, having recently retired after 37 years a specialty adhesive company. We spent most of the summer teaching our five grandchildren, ages 3-5, how to swim, and traveling to the Smokey Mountains and coastal Georgia where we have second and third homes.”

David Vogt writes: “Happy 50th Reunion to Class of 1967!”

Pat Loughney writes: “My wife and I visited Bucknell this summer and read the archive information on Matt Ridgeway. It was very moving and educational as there was a lot of information about his father. We also visited the Hare Krishna Temple in West Virginia where Kuladria Das, aka Art Villa, was president for many years.”

1974

Michael Cohen writes: “It is hard to believe I left Pittsburgh 36 years ago with a wife and a toddler for Orlando and the Sunshine State. A few years ago, I cofounded a nonprofit that forms solar co-ops based on an NPR story about a group in Washington, D.C., that did them starting in 2007. With their help, we launched the first two solar co-ops in Florida. Florida has the third most solar potential in the country but is not in the top 10 in terms of solar power. After two co-ops, we got calls and emails from all over Florida wanting us to do a co-op in their area. This was too much for a volunteer organization, so we officially became part of Solar United Neighbors (www.solarunitedneighbors.org). In just two years we have done 20 co-ops across Florida installing $13 million worth of PV solar, which is more than five megawatts. Those of you in Pennsylvania will soon have local solar co-ops. The Heinz Foundation provided startup funding for Solar United Neighbors of Pennsylvania, and there are also affiliates in Virginia, West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland, New Jersey and Minnesota. Our organization also works with other groups to advocate for solar-friendly governmental action. We successfully passed a state-wide initiative helping businesses go solar and defeated a utility-supported one that would have further limited solar in Florida. The City of Orlando is committed to 100% renewable power by 2050 with our push. The Cohen home has been ‘net zero’ for two years, meaning that over the course of a year my wife, Cynthia, and I produce all the electricity we need. Some months we have a credit and other months a bill for electricity, but at the end of twelve months it comes out to zero. I think of the solar like an inflation-protected, fixed-income investment. I get a return every month, and if the utility raises the price of electricity, I save more. In a sense, we have a printer on the roof that spits out money.”

Pictured: Orange County Mayor Theresa Jacobs presented Cohen with a community service award for bringing solar co-ops to Florida. Mayor Jacobs added solar to her home as part of the 2017 Orange County co-op.
1975
Steven Bosse writes: “From Northbrook, Ill., a quick salute to the Class of 1975. While my cross country and track days are long gone, I have passed the baton to my son. In May, his 4x800 relay team broke the high school record and took fourth at the state meet.”

1980

1976
(From left to right) John Pentin, David Glosser and Bill Knepper at a Pittsburgh Penguins game in Tampa. John is now retired from US Steel and lives in Venice, Fla. David is in his 22nd year in Sarasota, Fla., and is the “Plant Dad” of a horticultural service company called Plant Parents. Bill is the successful owner of Knepper Press in Pittsburgh.

1981
Jim Perry and Catherine Vodrey had dinner together at her house in Ohio, along with Amy Householder Tomaszewski ’83 and Catherine’s daughter, Lillian Klein ’14. Jim teaches science at the Kiski School, where he also serves as assistant director of college counseling. Catherine is an adjunct faculty member at Kent State University, where she teaches academic writing. She serves as vice president of the Tuition Mission Foundation. Amy is the director of the law library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Lillian is currently a junior at Ohio Wesleyan College.

1982
Dr. Leon Haley was named chief executive of University of Florida (UF) Health Jacksonville. Haley joined UF Health Jacksonville less than a year ago as the dean of the University of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville. He will retain that position, in addition to the CEO role for the hospital. As CEO, he leads more than 6,000 employees that provide health-care services to residents in Southeast Georgia and Northeast Florida. He held previous positions at Emory University and the Grady Health System in Atlanta, including chief medical officer of the Emory Medical Care Foundation. Prior to Emory, Haley served as a senior staff physician at the Henry Ford Health System in Detroit.

1992–2010
A group of alums gathered in support of the Children’s Hospital Foundation. L-R: Amy Hilton ’10, Tiffany Shento ’05, Jen Yates ’02, Sean Gray ’97, Kathryn Egan ’05 and Jason Levy ’92
1989
William Generett Jr. was named Duquesne University’s first vice president for community engagement in September 2017. Generett will facilitate and develop relationships with community organizations, local governments and civic organizations, strengthening the University’s partnerships with its neighbors. He also serves as president and chief executive officer of Urban Innovation21, a unique public-private partnership started in 2007 by Duquesne, the Hill House Economic Development Corporation and UPMC Health Plan. Generett earned his J.D. from Emory University School of Law and is a Phi Beta Kappa, magna cum laude graduate of Morehouse College. In 2016, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by Carlow University.

1990
Parker Beeson and his wife, Ryan, had a son on May 27, 2017, named Augustus Jeffrey Beeson.

1993
Pictured are SSA girls’ cross country coach Sue Whitney, boys’ cross country coach Adam Janosko, senior Jeanne Lauer (who was competing in the state meet for SSA) and alumnus Artie Gilkes at the PIAA Cross Country Championships on Nov. 4. Artie is the assistant coach of the State College Area High School girls’ cross country team.

1995
Tony Calandra writes: “Congrats to Gia Calandra, the last of my three children, on joining the SSA family as a pre-K student.”

Peter Sauer, who passed away in 2012, will be remembered by Stanford University’s basketball team with a patch worn during the 20th-year anniversary of Stanford’s Final Four team.

1996
Arvind Grover writes: “We left our long-time home of NYC for Massachusetts as I assumed the head of school seat at the Meadowbrook School of Weston. My wife, Carolyn, and our twin sons, Kiran and Raj, and our dog, Franny, are settling in to our new digs in Wellesley. We see Sunil Wadhwa and his family, and are looking forward to meeting Zach Kaufmann and his wife when they come to town.

1997
Serdar Bankaci founded CyberCrunch in 2012. As the company’s name implies, CyberCrunch is in the data destruction business. “We recycle anything with a plug,” said Bankaci. CyberCrunch’s main mission is to address widespread concerns over identity theft and data breaches, especially in an era when almost every electronic device contains personal information. CyberCrunch serves Ohio, West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania through its Greensburg facility, and Eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland through its Delaware County facility. CyberCrunch and Bankaci were featured in a Pittsburgh Tribune-Review article in July 2017.

Sloane Davidson is the founder of Hello Neighbor, a new program in Pittsburgh that matches refugee families with American families for a four-month period. The families get together around once a week for dinner or coffee or to visit a museum or the zoo—whatever they all feel like doing. The goal? Friendship. The program is currently in its first session, with 50 families in Pittsburgh. Davidson hopes to expand to more cities in the future, and Hello Neighbor recently won funding through the USA for UNHCR and the Heinz Foundation.

2002
Ali Krzton writes: “This year I finished a Master of Library Science at Kent State and recently started as a research data management librarian at Auburn University. Therefore, my husband, cat and I moved to Auburn, Ala.”

Kate Schelbe has embarked on a six-month trip to volunteer in Mgaraganza Village, Tanzania, as part of Project Wezesha, to provide teacher training, co-teach an English course and run an after-school girls’ program. Additionally, Schelbe will work with the Jane Goodall Institute’s Roots and Shoots program, which empowers young people to become leaders and create local change. Follow her adventure at KateSchelbe.wordpress.com.
2002


2002

Britton Wean married Jarrett Orzechowski on Nov. 4, 2017, in Palm Beach, Fla. Several SSA alums were in attendance.

2004

Congratulations to Kevin Rich and his wife, Katie, on their recent marriage. In attendance were John Woodruff ’05, A.J. Brungh, Dan Cephas, Ryan Rich ’84, James Ambrose ’05, David Cunningham ’06, Tiffany Shento ’05, Matt Medley ’99 and Kathryn Egan ’05.

2004/2005

Kelsey Sutcliffe ’05 and RJ Casey ’04 were married Oct. 7, 2017, at The Pump House, a historic landmark of the Rivers of Steel preservation in Pittsburgh, Pa. Pictured from left: Bo Wholey ’97, Luke Wholey ’02, Jed Rosenberg ’04, Dan Stafura ’04, Kathryn Egan ’05, Michael Casey Jr. ’01, Michael Casey Sr. ’70, Patrick Casey ’10, RJ Casey ’04, Max Scheider ’04, Kelsey (Sutcliffe) Casey ’05, Amit Grover ’01, Sarah Casey ’03, Len Wholey ’99, Adam Bell ’01, Elizabeth (Casey) Schermer ’06, Meredith (Mullen) Barnyak ’05, Brian Deal ’04, RK Galey ’05 and Jon Weingarden ’05

Bari Weiss was the featured alumni guest at SSA Senior School assembly on Oct. 20, 2017. As part of a new Alumni Fireside Chat series, Weiss spoke about her work as an op-ed writer for The New York Times.
2005

Mallory Falk produced a podcast for The Atlantic titled “The Student Who Taught Me to Grow Up,” featuring Senior School history teacher Matt Weiss and his reflection on how one of his most determined students, Kate Schelbe ’02, shaped his teaching. The podcast was produced in collaboration with the Teacher Project, an education reporting fellowship at Columbia Journalism School. The podcast can be found on iTunes and The Atlantic website.

2009

Alexandra Petredis married Anthony Cameron in August 2017. She is a financial advisor with Petredis Investment Advisors of Wells Fargo Advisors.
Jerome Barnes ’10 and Justin Barnes ’13, known as The Keymakers, were featured in The Pittsburgh Courier for the release of their debut single, Good For You. You can hear the single on their website, wearethekeymakers.com, and on Spotify and Soundcloud. For the latest news and announcements about the group, follow them on Instagram (@TheKeymakers) or Facebook.com/WeAreTheKeymakers.

Chelsea Dickson is an associate account executive with Bliss Integrated Communications in New York City.

Madeline Sheerer ranked third out of the 97 students in her class at Duquesne University School of Law after completing her first year. As a result, she was awarded a full academic scholarship through the Tom and Rose Brennan McManus Scholarship, the Paul Gilardi Memorial Scholarship and Duquesne University School of Law. Madeline spent the past year working in the Child Abuse Unit and Domestic Violence Unit at the Allegheny County District Attorney’s Office, and plans on pursuing a career in litigation.

David Steiner is currently an investment analyst at JBG Smith, a private equity real estate company in Chevy Chase, Md.

Annika Dhawan reconnected with her former advisor and Senior School faculty member Adam Janosko at a University of Michigan game.

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.
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 Nov. 1, 2017.

**A.R. “Bob” Dismukes Jr. ’41**
A.R. “Bob” Dismukes Jr. passed away March 30, 2017. He attended Williams College and served in the U.S. Army during World War II. After the war, he graduated from Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh. He worked for Allegheny Ludlum Steel, Dravo Corporation, and retired from Babcock and Wilcox Tubular Products, where he was a purchasing manager. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Barbara Evans Dismukes. He is survived by twin daughters, Sarah (Richard) Dines and Dr. Margaret “Peggy” (Dennis) Delmonaco; a son, Scott (Susan) Dismukes; and two grandchildren.

**Alexander H. Hoon ’46**
Alexander H. “Sandy” Hoon passed away May 14, 2017. He was a graduate of Williams College and served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He began his career as a salesman for Jones & Laughlin and later became general manager of its Pittsburgh works, retiring in 1979. In the 1980s, he was a co-founder of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy and served as a director for many years. He also was a co-founder of the 1782 Society of Washington College. He was predeceased by his wife of more than 50 years, Ann Wilmer, and one son, David Hoon. He is survived by twin daughters, Sarah (Richard) Dines and Dr. Margaret “Peggy” (Dennis) Delmonaco; a son, Scott (Susan) Dismukes; and two grandchildren.

**William R. Curtis ’48**
William Ralston Curtis passed away July 15, 2017. He was a graduate of Oberlin College and Purdue University. He served in the U.S. Navy and later obtained an additional master’s degree from the U.S. Navy Postgraduate School. He had a variety of Navy assignments, including two seven-month-long expeditions to Antarctica and a year in Guantanamo Bay. He later became an operations officer charting U.S. waters aboard the USC&GS Explorer, and served as a visiting scientist studying the impact of deep-sea mining south and east of Hawaii. When he retired from the service in 1976, he became an instructor at the Maritime Institute of Technology and Graduate Studies, training deck officers of the Merchant Marines for 16 years. He was predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Sadie Garrett Curtis. He is survived by his three children, Bob, Carol and Cindy Curtis; and three grandchildren.

**Robert A. Lyne ’48**
Robert Addison Lyne Jr. passed away Oct. 2, 2017. He was a graduate of the University of Virginia and served in the U.S. military. He worked in sales and management for Sweco Products Inc. for more than 20 years. Well-known for his storytelling, Lyne quietly donated Dr. Elisha Cullen Dick’s watch to the George Washington Masonic National Memorial. Dr. Dick was the youngest of three doctors at George Washington’s death bed and was a family friend and colleague of Lyne’s great-great-grandfather. Gifted and passed down through the family, this last watch completes the set of three, all of which can be viewed at the museum in Alexandria, Va. He was preceded in death by his first wife Eleanor Lyne. He is survived by his second wife of 22 years, Beverly Lyne; his children, Greg (Teresa) Lyne and Julie Lyne (Michael); stepdaughter, Dori (Jody); and three grandchildren.

**John D. Adams ’50**
John Derby Adams passed away March 8, 2017. He was a graduate of Yale University and the University of Connecticut School of Law. Except for several years when he served as an assistant United States attorney for the District of Connecticut beginning in 1963, Adams was engaged in the private practice of law, eventually partnering with his daughter in 1983 at Adams & Eliaison. He served as the Enfield, Conn., town attorney from 1967 to 1977, and in 1977 was appointed as a hearing officer for the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities. He was predeceased by his wife of 53 years, Rita Adams. He is survived by three daughters, Pamela Adams, Deborah Eliaison (Kevin Mooney) and Samantha (Kenneth) Bishop; two sons, David (Lita) Adams and John Adams (Kelly Blakeney); 10 grandchildren; and many great-grandchildren.

**Clark Van Voorhis Coyle ’54**
Clark “Boris” Van Voorhis Coyle passed away April 24, 2017. Coyle was a graduate of Lehigh University, and worked in insurance throughout his life. He was predeceased by his son, Donald Coyle. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Nancy (Kurtz) Coyle; daughter, Sally Coyle (Quentin Caron); son, Van (Natasha) Coyle; seven siblings; and two grandchildren.

**Robert G. Runnette ’56**
Robert Gray Runnette passed away May 15, 2017. He was a graduate of Bucknell University and worked for 55 years in life insurance at Connecticut Mutual, serving his clients through Mass Mutual up to his death. He served on the Board of Directors of Pressley Ridge and was a former member of the SSA Board of Trustees. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, Nancy (Kurtz) Coyle; daughter, Sally Coyle (Quentin Caron); son, Van (Natasha) Coyle; seven siblings; and two grandchildren.

**Dr. M. Royden Astley Jr. ’58**
Dr. Mason Royden Astley Jr., known as Dr. Roy Astley, passed away May 31, 2017. He was a graduate of Harvard University and the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He worked as a counselor at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, St. Paul’s School in Concord, N.H., and the Berkshire School in Sheffield, Mass., and as a tutor with...
in memoriam

numerous students in the area, focused on SAT preparation and related counseling. He is survived by his wife, Christine Bruce Astley; two children, Anne (Ryan) Padnuk and Mason (Christina Mills) Astley; and four grandchildren.

EDWARD D. SHEAHER JR. ’58
Edward David “Ted” Sheafer Jr. passed away June 27, 2016. He was a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and the Defense Intelligence School. Graduating first in his class, he was assigned to the staff of the commander-in-chief, U.S. Naval Forces Europe, as a Soviet submarine analyst. He later assumed command of the U.S.S. Persistent, where he was the youngest commanding officer of any ocean-going warship in the U.S. Navy. He was selected as a Chief of Naval Operations Scholar in 1973, and graduated with honors from Georgetown University with a master’s degree in foreign service. He received numerous personal awards, as well as multiple service and campaign ribbons. He is survived by his former wife, Enid Suzanne Sheafer; two daughters, Elizabeth Hensley and Lesley Hargreaves; and three grandchildren.

WILLIS M. MILLER JR. ’59
Willis “Cookie” McCook Miller Jr. passed away Sept. 12, 2017. He was a graduate of Yale University and Colombia Law School. He was a decorated Navy veteran, having been assigned as a weapons officer on the LSMR St. Francis River, which operated along the coast of Vietnam. During his service, that ship inflicted more casualties on the enemy than any other naval vessel. He began his legal career with Kirkpatrick, Lockhart, Johnson and Hutchinson, and later started his own practice. He is survived by his brother, George (Dale) Miller; sisters, Margaret (Rod) Douglas and Katherine (Rob) Thomas; and seven nieces and nephews.

THOMAS A. HILL ’61
Thomas “Tim” A. Hill passed away July 20, 2017. He attended Colby College and the University of Pittsburgh, where he received a master’s degree in teaching. He served four years in the U.S. Navy, serving aboard the U.S.S. Newport News during Vietnam. He taught history at Falmouth High School and social studies at Yarmouth Jr. High School, where he was selected as Yarmouth Teacher of the Year in 1987. After retiring from teaching, he worked as a sales representative and trainer at L.L. Bean. He is survived by his wife, Adora Clark Hill; two sons, Bruce (Susan) Hill and Christopher (Jennifer) Hill; and four grandchildren.

CHARLES S. ARENSBERG ’66
Charles Shaw Arensberg passed away Feb. 11, 2017. He received his bachelor’s degree from Knox College and his master’s degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He worked for the Civil Aeronautics Board, Allegheny International and Chemetron Process Equipment before purchasing Dispenser’s Optical Service Corporation, where he was president/CEO. He is survived by his wife, Anne Miller; and sons, Charles (Joanna Jones) Arensberg and William Arensberg.

JOHN “KEEFE” ELLIS JR. ’74
John “Keefe” Ellis Jr. passed away June 24, 2017. He was a graduate of The University of Virginia and The University of Pittsburgh Business School. He served on the SSA Board of Trustees for 12 years, as well as the Boards of the Children’s Institute, St. Vincent De Marillac and St. Bede Church and school. He worked with his father at Ellis Real Estate for 30 years, merging into Langholz Wilson Ellis in 2005, and eventually into Hanna Langholz Wilson Ellis in 2014. He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Stacy (Hughes) Ellis, and his children, Emily ’10, Jake ’12, Caroline ’14 and Patrick ’18.

JAYNE McINTYRE GUDMUNDSSON ’77
Jayne McIntyre Gudmundsson passed away Feb. 10, 2016. She attended the University of California San Diego and studied for a semester in Sweden. She enjoyed traveling throughout Europe and was fluent in many languages. She is survived by her husband, Gunnar Gudmundsson, and two children, Eric and Inga.

LAURI WEISBERG GOLDBERG ’87
Lauri Sue Weisberg Goldberg passed away June 29, 2017. She is survived by her parents, Gail and Charles Weisberg; son, Joseph Goldberg; and brothers, David (Rikki Hommel) Weisberg ’88 and Michael (Elizabeth Goldberg) Weisberg ’94.

ALEKSANDER E. PIERCHALSKI ’03
Aleksander E. Pierchalski passed away Sept. 23, 2017. He received his education at Mt. Gallitzin Academy, Shady Side Academy and the University of Pittsburgh. He was a talented violinist and a lover of history who understood the depths and complexities of international diplomacy. He is survived by his parents, Rick Pierchalski and Denise Bozich, and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS
Anthony Braunstein, brother of Facilities staff member Diane Curry
William Ejzak, father of Senior School faculty member Paul Ejzak ’89 and Richard Ejzak ’82, and grandfather of Elizabeth Ejzak ’15
Mary (Veda) Guering, mother of Middle School Librarian Mary Guering and Junior School Librarian Phyllis Guering
Thomas Henderson, father of Paul Henderson ’86
Josephine Balkovec Krauland, mother-in-law of Mary Krauland, Senior School dean of studies and faculty member
Constance McCormick, sister-in-law of Senior School faculty member Heather Fani
Anita Pfister, sister of former Senior School faculty member Buddy Hendershot and sister-in-law of Junior School faculty member Carol Hendershot
Gloria Schneider, mother of Chief Financial Officer Gilbert Schneider
Teresa Stevick, grandmother of Assistant Director of Alumni Relations Lisa Page

Note: All obituaries appearing in Shady Side Academy Magazine are edited to a consistent size and format.
What’s Old is New Again

AS WE PREPARE TO OPEN THE STATE-OF-THE-ART McIlroy Center for Science and Innovation, we thought it would be fun to take a look back at the “new” Memorial Hall science facilities, which opened in fall 1973. The first phase of renovations included new classrooms and study spaces in the basement of Memorial Hall. Each room was furnished with a trapezoidal table, periodical racks and bookshelves. A new office area was also built, which served as the headquarters for the six-member Science Department. Construction was done throughout the school year, and complete by September 1974. Richard Gable, a first-year science teacher in 1974, then stated, “The new science classrooms, with their openness and with the faculty office and student study areas side-by-side, are the finest teaching arrangements that I’ve seen.”

The second phase of renovations included updating the laboratory area. The remodeling of the science labs was supposed to be complete by the start of the 1975 school year, but due to a strike at Fisher Scientific Co., the remodel was delayed. In January 1976, the renovated lab opened, showcasing 14 work tables, electrical connections and new plumbing.

Science classes that year focused on dissection and an ecological study of the Glade Run stream to determine how safe the water was to drink.

If you have any memories of the “new” science classrooms and laboratory, we would love to hear from you. Please email Lindsay Kovach at lkovach@shadysideacademy.org.
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