

Peddie

FALL/WINTER
2024

CHRONICLE



THE LEGENDARY "EXPLODING CHICKEN"

THE FOOD ISSUE

DINING HALL CLASSICS,
ALUMNI IN THE FOOD BIZ,
AND HOW FOOD SHAPES
THE PEDDIE EXPERIENCE

IN THIS ISSUE



Elevating Performance

Peddie's New Fitness Center Opens



Annenberg Hall at 100

A Century of Stories, Symbols and Legacy



“His infectious enthusiasm for life revealed in every Class Notes column he wrote encouraged us to share our lives with him.”

— Clarence Kugler '63

The Scribe of '63

Mike Duffy and the Art of Class Notes

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PEDDIE CHRONICLE

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The Food Issue

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“As a new student, I kept hearing rumors about the mysterious ‘Exploding Chicken,’ a Family Style staple that had apparently ruined a generation’s worth of students’ ties, slacks and dresses.”

— Alexander Dacey '03

At Peddie, food does more than fill our plates — it fills our lives with connection, culture and community. Every shared meal here is an opportunity for something special to unfold.

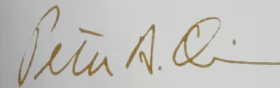
Our exceptional Peddie Food Service (PFS) team works tirelessly behind the scenes, crafting thousands of meals weekly and supporting special events. Their creativity and dedication make every meal memorable, and the PFS staff know and remember us, even long after we've left campus. I have a soft spot for their chicken cheddar wraps — they always hit the spot!

And of course, there's the magic of Family Style Dinners, where students are seated randomly, often turning strangers into friends. Many seniors and alumni have shared how these dinners sparked some of their closest friendships. Faculty love it, too, as it's a chance to connect with students they might not teach or coach.

In this special food-themed issue, you'll explore how food shapes our experiences at Peddie, from favorite local eateries to alumni making an impact in the food industry. These stories remind us that food is more than nourishment — it's a connection that unites us across generations.

So dig in — there's plenty to savor.

Bon appétit, and Ala Viva!



Peter Quinn P'15 '18 '21
Head of School

Head of School Peter Quinn speaks with students during a recent Family Style Dinner.



Peddie Food Service employee Joanie Cecere prepares a chocolate-raspberry dessert.

James A. Hamilton Named Peddie's 17th Head of School

The Peddie School begins an exciting new chapter with the unanimous appointment of James A. Hamilton as its 17th Head of School by the board of trustees in September. Currently the head of school at Berwick Academy in Maine, Hamilton will officially begin his tenure at Peddie on July 1, 2025.

Hamilton brings a wealth of experience from leadership roles at esteemed institutions such as Brooks School and St. George's School, and his involvement with several educational and community boards.

Board Chair Doug Davidson '64 shared his confidence in Hamilton's leadership, stating, "Jim could not be a better educator to

lead Peddie in its next chapter. The search committee and the board of trustees were convinced that his strong and steady leadership, his vision for Peddie's future and his genuine warmth and care for others will make him successful beginning in Peddie's 162nd year."

Hamilton will succeed Peter Quinn, who is retiring after 11 years of dedicated service. Reflecting on the transition, Quinn expressed optimism about Peddie's future under Hamilton's guidance. "Jim Hamilton has the heart to understand and cherish Peddie, the experience to celebrate and challenge Peddie, and the vision to lead the Peddie community in that wonderful habit of beginning 'anew,'" he said.

A Letter from Jim Hamilton

Dear Peddie School Community,

I am honored to be named the 17th head of school at Peddie. Peddie's rich history, vibrant community and commitment to academic excellence, diversity and personal growth resonate deeply with me. I look forward to working alongside such a passionate and talented group of students, faculty and staff, as well as building meaningful relationships with all members of this extraordinary community.

The opportunity at Peddie brings me back to the roots of my career in a boarding school setting, which offers a unique opportunity to engage with students in a deeper, more holistic way, extending beyond the classroom into their everyday lives. Living and working alongside students and faculty will allow me to be fully immersed in the vibrant energy on campus, creating an environment where learning, mentorship and connection flourish.

My wife, Lucy, and I are also excited to be closer to our two oldest children, who have made their way to the Philadelphia area. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Doug Davidson, the search committee and the board of trustees for entrusting me with the leadership of this remarkable school. Following in Peter Quinn's footsteps will be no small task — his leadership has left a lasting impact, and I am humbled to take on the challenge of continuing to build upon his legacy.

As I reflect on Peddie's motto, "We Finish Our Labors to Begin Them Anew," I am filled with excitement for the journey ahead. Together, we will continue to shape Peddie into a place where students from around the globe can thrive, challenge themselves and grow as individuals who will truly make a difference in the world.

I am eager to begin this next chapter and look forward to meeting you all soon!

Ala Viva!
With appreciation,
Jim Hamilton



Heirloom Herringbone Blanket \$130

Peddie Monogram Belt \$30

Peddie Seal Ivory Mug \$12

The North Face Mountain Beanie \$32

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FALCONS BEAT THE BUCS!

In an unforgettable finish, the Falcons claimed victory over Blair Academy, capturing the Kelley-Potter Cup with a final score of 6–5 on November 9. Wins from JV Field Hockey, Girls JV Soccer, Coed Varsity Cross Country, and the undefeated Girls Varsity and Girls JV Tennis teams contributed to Peddie's triumph. The intense competition was especially poignant as it marked Head of School Peter Quinn's 21st — and final — Peddie-Blair Day. Reflecting on the spirited week, Quinn remarked, "In the end, the outcome reflected a totality of effort. The conduct, enthusiasm and support for each other were tremendous."

The Girls Varsity Tennis team completed their season undefeated with a resounding 7–0 win over Blair. Their impressive 21–0 record capped off an extraordinary run with a 46–1 record over the past three years. The Girls JV Tennis team also finished an undefeated season (13–0–1), securing the first point for the Kelley-Potter Cup earlier in the week.



ON CAMPUS



BLUE & GOLD CHAPEL





ELEVATING PERFORMANCE

PEDDIE'S NEW FITNESS CENTER OPENS



new to the weight room and aspiring college athletes,” said Mike Volkmar, strength and conditioning coach.

According to Volkmar, the new community fitness center offers everything a fitness enthusiast could want to achieve their fitness goals, including cardio machines, free weights and strength machines.

Since its opening, the Zhao and Li Family Fitness and Exercise Center has been buzzing with activity, attracting hundreds of students and community members who use the upgraded facilities daily. “The energy in here is infectious,” said Director of Athletics Rich D’Andrea ’01. “Students and employees are clearly inspired, and the energy is evident throughout campus.”



“THE ENERGY IN HERE IS INFECTIOUS.”

– RICH D’ANDREA ’01, DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

IN SEPTEMBER, Peddie unveiled the Zhao and Li Family Fitness and Exercise Center, a game-changing addition that champions health and well-being school-wide. The two-level facility boasts the 8,710-square-foot Michael L. Li ’17 Sports Performance Training Center on the lower level for top-tier athletic training. The upper level is home to a rowing facility, yoga studio, state-of-the-art golf training rooms with high-tech simulators, and a community fitness center with views of Shuman Field.

The Sports Performance Training Center facilities, which include six dedicated training spaces, have enabled the athletic department to implement a foundations program for JV teams and a more consistent workout regimen for in-season varsity athletes. “We now have a space where we can simultaneously train students



ANNENBERG HALL AT 100

A Century of Stories, Symbols and Legacy

For 100 years, Annenberg Hall, originally named Memorial Hall, has stood as the centerpiece of The Peddie School campus, a symbol of tradition and progress. As we celebrate its centennial, we delve into nine defining moments, legends and enduring symbols that have made Annenberg Hall the cornerstone of the Peddie experience.

1 Architectural Grandeur

The building's exterior is a striking example of classical architecture, resembling a Roman temple with its four grand Corinthian columns beneath a stately pediment. The frieze prominently displays the school's Latin motto: *Finimus Pariter Renovamusque Labores* — "We Finish Our Labors to Begin Them Anew." Or, as it's practically understood: Every day is another chance at the best day ever.



2 The Walter Annenberg Legacy

In 1992, Memorial Hall was renamed Annenberg Hall to recognize the significant contributions of Walter H. Annenberg '27, a distinguished Peddie alumnus and one of America's foremost philanthropists. His generosity helped shape Peddie into the institution it is today, and his legacy is permanently enshrined in the building that now bears his name.

3 A Monument to Sacrifice

Originally named Memorial Hall, this iconic building was dedicated in 1925 to honor the 502 Peddie students who served in World War I. It was the largest building project in Peddie's history at the time, led by Headmaster Roger Swetland. A dedicatory tablet still hangs in the lobby, while the Ayer Memorial Chapel now honors veterans of all wars.



4 The Mysterious Car Caper

Peddie's history is rich with legends, and one of the most intriguing involves Annenberg Hall. Sometime between the early 1960s and mid-1970s, a car was allegedly hoisted onto the roof of the building. The details remain elusive, but the story is a favorite among alumni, adding a mischievous chapter to the building's storied past.



5 The Bell of Tradition

Standing in the lobby is the Wilson Hall Bell, rescued by students who surprised Headmaster Ed Potter in 1978 by retrieving it shortly before the building's demolition. For more than a century, this iconic structure had been the face of Peddie. Today, the Bell serves as a popular meeting spot.

6 Masterpieces of Impressionism and Post Impressionism

In 1989, Walter Annenberg curated high-quality photographic reproductions of iconic works by Monet, Van Gogh, Cézanne, Renoir, Degas and others from his personal collection for Peddie. These reproductions, chosen for their resonance with young minds, are displayed throughout Memorial Hall and the Peddie Arts Center, ensuring that students encounter great art every day.

7 The Heart of Knowledge

Annenberg Hall houses the Walter H. Annenberg '27 Library. With its impressive 33,000-volume collection, the library is a favorite spot for both serious study sessions and relaxing breaks.



8 The Gateway to Peddie

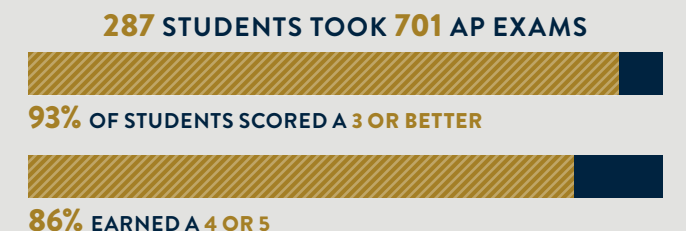
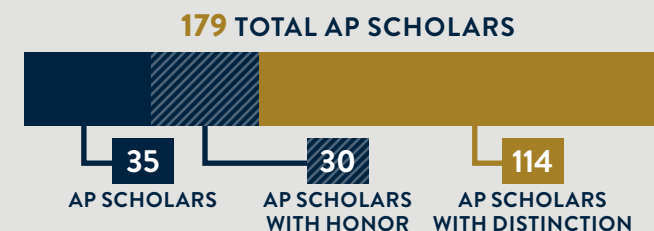
Annenberg Hall is the first building many prospective students and their families encounter. The admission department, located within its walls, is where campus tours begin and interviews occur.



9 A Living Legacy

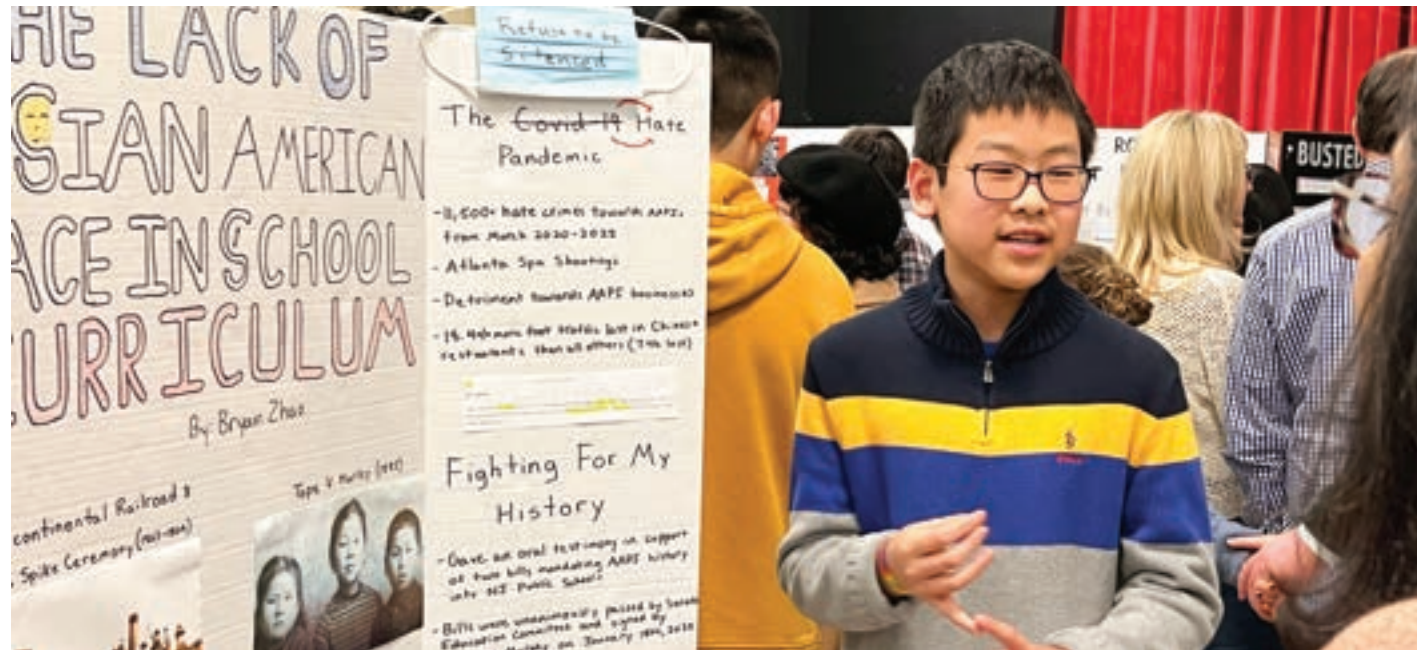
Today, Annenberg Hall continues to be a vibrant part of campus life, housing administrative offices, classrooms, the admission department and the technology department. It is a building that has adapted to the needs of each new generation while maintaining its historic charm, standing not just as a monument to the past but as a dynamic space that continues to shape the lives of those who pass through its grand columns.

PEDDIE STUDENTS SHINE IN AP EXAMS



Education FOR A New Generation

A Peddie sophomore embraces the role of advocate for Asian American studies.



Bryan Zhao '27 presents his Asian American history project at his eighth-grade curriculum fair. This photo, taken by Zhao's mother, appeared in *The New York Times* last spring.

Bryan Zhao '27 first encountered stereotypes against Asian Americans when children on his elementary school bus used thin eye expressions, saying “Chinese Eyes” and “Japanese Eyes.” “I kind of laughed at it because I didn’t really know how to respond,” Zhao recalled, “but it became one of my defining memories.”

In fifth grade, Zhao watched a PBS documentary introducing him to the long history of Asians in the U.S. The program reminded him of the incidents on the school bus, and he wondered how other Asian kids coped with stereotyping and discrimination. He later wrote an essay advocating for including Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) history and contributions in the school curriculum, which was showcased at an Asian American United Coalition webinar.

When the pandemic hit in 2020 and racist acts against Asians escalated, Zhao had a shocking encounter with a passerby in his town. “I was outside on the trampoline, and a guy walked across my backyard,” he said. “We made eye contact for a second, then he looked down, spat in my direction and walked away.”

“I didn’t expect that to happen in my neighborhood,” he continued. “It was one of the reasons why I wanted to advocate for Asian American equality and awareness.”

Zhao joined the advocacy movement in 2021 when Make Us Visible New Jersey, an organization combating anti-Asian violence through education, urged state legislators to mandate AAPI studies in K–12 curricula.

“My parents subscribed to the Make Us Visible newsletter, and the organization was looking for young advocates to testify in the statehouse,” said Zhao. “So I signed up.” Zhao testified before the New Jersey Senate Education Committee as the youngest advocate. The legislation was adopted.

“It was a really gratifying experience, being able to fight for the inclusion of my own identity and history and also for my little sister’s,” said Zhao. “She’s in third grade now, and at the time, she was starting kindergarten. To know she will be able to learn about her own history is really important to me.”

Zhao believes the decision will provide momentum toward helping

“It was a really gratifying experience, being able to fight for the inclusion of my own identity and history and also for my little sister’s.”

— BRYAN ZHAO '27

underrepresented Asian kids feel included — especially at school.

“Growing up was a bit of a struggle between being Asian and being American,” he said. “My parents cooked Chinese food at home and I embraced Chinese culture. But American history in my school was Abraham Lincoln and George Washington. There was never really an Asian face for me to identify with. So I felt like I’d always be Asian American and never just American.”

“I think when the Asian American curriculum is added, Asian American students will be able to identify with the country and feel like a part of it and embrace it. That will be really big for them.”

Not long after Zhao’s visit to the statehouse, Make Us Visible New Jersey contacted him.

Chinese American historian Erika Lee had heard about the students who had testified and wanted to interview them for “Made in Asian America: A History for Young People,” a book she was writing with Christina Soontornvat. The book explores racism and marginalization of Asian Americans in the U.S. and amplifies their efforts to be seen and heard here.

Zhao was excited to contribute his story to the book and got another surprise: Turns out a picture his mom snapped of him presenting his Asian American history project at his eighth-grade curriculum fair had made it further than his family’s photo album.

“Dr. Lee sent me an email,” he grinned. “It said, ‘Look who is in today’s New York Times! Check out the review of our book in today’s paper!’”

Zhao indulged his passion for advocacy further last summer when he got to explore the history of Chinese Americans whose ancestors immigrated to the South 150 years ago. He also interviewed several active Asian Americans in Arkansas. “The community members went from sleeping in the back of grocery stores to becoming life savers and community leaders and builders — something I found very inspiring,” he said.

Zhao knows his testimony in the New Jersey statehouse and his contribution to the Lee/Soontornvat book were significant stepping stones toward Asian American inclusion. He also recognizes the challenges ahead in the classroom and why the effort to keep the conversation going is worth it.

“Even with these bills being passed, different schools have different curricula,” Zhao said. “It starts with different kids and different teachers at their own schools coming together to try to make this change.”

“America is becoming more diverse by the day,” he continued. “It’s really important to be able to understand other people’s perspectives, where we’re all coming from, our histories and identities.”



Bryan Zhao '27 interviews Dr. James Suen, a renowned otolaryngologist and second-generation Chinese American, in Arkansas in July.



Bryan Zhao '27 visits the Mississippi Delta Chinese Heritage Museum in June, where he learned about the Chinese American migration to the South in the late 1800s and their role in running small businesses that bridged Black and White communities during the Jim Crow era.

A Consummate Connector

Brian Davidson's retirement marks the end of an era at Peddie, but his legacy continues to connect and inspire.

When Brian Davidson arrived at Peddie in 1991, he brought a distinctive blend of intellectual curiosity and easygoing charm. Few could have predicted his profound impact on the school community. Over the next three decades, until his retirement last May, Davidson became a unifying force that bridged generations of Peddie alumni, students and faculty.

From his earliest days on campus, Davidson's approach to his roles in the alumni & development department and as a student advisor was defined by genuine engagement and an innate ability to forge deep connections. Though his official title may not have included the word "mentor," that is exactly what he became to countless students. Through more than 2,200 dorm duties — each one an opportunity to connect — Brian offered students guidance and a friend and trusted confidant who genuinely cared about their lives.

"Brian developed strong relationships with students through dorm duty, Family Style Dinner, serving as their advisor, and making it a point to see them at their games, plays and concerts," said Head of School Peter Quinn during a retirement tribute last spring. "His conversations, always rich with humor and insight, became a lifeline for many students navigating the exhilarating yet daunting terrain of adolescence far from home."

Something that endeared him to students was his habit of bringing freshly-baked cookies to dorm duty — a tradition that



Above: Brian Davidson listens to tributes during a retirement ceremony in chapel last spring.

Below: Head of School Peter Quinn congratulates Brian Davidson at last spring's retirement ceremony.



began in the 1990s and has since become legendary. These cookies, which he baked himself every week, brought students out of their rooms and into the communal space, where they could relax, socialize and connect with Davidson and each other.

As director of alumni relations, Davidson's influence extended far beyond campus. He became a familiar and beloved figure at alumni events worldwide, known

for his uncanny ability to create a sense of home wherever he went, and his efforts were always infused with a deep respect for Peddie's history and people.

"I've always been struck by the fondness and deep appreciation our alumni retain for the faculty, coaches and staff who mentored them as students," Davidson reflected. "Their vivid memories about the school's enduring impact on them, often in life-changing ways, are truly inspiring."

Davidson was a bridge between Peddie's past and present, especially during times of change. His diplomatic approach eased alumni's concerns about new initiatives, helping them see how tradition and progress could coexist. He was known for his remarkable memory, easily recalling personal details about students and alumni, whether it was their favorite book or the name of their childhood pet.

"Brian's contributions to Peddie have been remarkable, both in the depth of relationships he has nurtured and the breadth of ways he has helped people feel seen, heard and valued," said Karyn Vella, assistant head for development. "He'll be deeply missed."

Now settled in coastal New England, Davidson is adjusting to this new chapter of his life. "The beach is at the end of the street, which is great for a long walk and a swim," he said. "It's been fun rediscovering my community and catching up with old friends. And I am always happy to hear from Peddie people!"



PEDDIE FOOD SERVICE (PFS) GARNISHES MENUS WITH THE FAMILIAR AND THE FUN

“PFS has the toughest job on campus because it’s the only department that’s critiqued three times a day.”

Peddle Food Service Director and Executive Chef Jeremy Stahl grins when he recalls former CFO Mike McKitish’s assertion — but then, Stahl tends to view his work as a playful challenge. And one could argue that this is the only sane way to walk the tightrope of trying to feed his clientele — about 530 students, plus 200 full-time employees and families, all with varying tastes and needs — every day.

Stahl joined PFS on a part-time basis in 2007 and in 2012, was promoted full time to sous chef. He changed into executive chef’s whites in February 2020.

The hardest part of the job is trying to please every palate, Stahl says. He knows it’s not possible to do every day, but it’s not for lack of trying. The shortest distance between what’s on the daily menu and a happy clientele is accessibility — a concept he goes out of his way to advertise.



SALTY BITE: ROBIN WOJCIK

“Cheryl Jamison (pictured above) was the unofficial basketball coach. She was a fan. I went with her to the games a couple of times, and she was jumping up in the stands and yelling. One day, the team screwed up, and those boys came through the line to get their lunch. And they came up to Cheryl and were hanging their heads and were like, ‘We’re sorry, Miss Cheryl, we’re sorry.’ She said, ‘Do you think the good Lord would give you six-foot-four inches of height and not expect you to jump?’”

“WE ARE A WORLD KITCHEN.”

— EXECUTIVE CHEF JEREMY STAHL

“When we do the International Student Dinner (in the spring), I always say to the students, ‘If you’re missing a taste of home, email me, and we will make it,’” he said. “‘If I don’t know how to make it, you can get into the kitchen with me and show me how. Send me your mom’s recipe, or your grandmother’s, or your father’s — whoever’s.’ We have never said no to any of their requests,” he continued. “We usually get a lot in the fall. That little taste of home helps.”

A WORLD KITCHEN

A key reason for why Stahl and his staff don’t refuse any requests is because sometimes, they miss the mark on what will or won’t be popular with the Peddie community. Why take a chance?

“Once, by the end of the year, three students were sending me weekly ideas, and I’m not going to lie: With one of the dishes, I was like, ‘This is not going to work; I don’t understand it.’ And then we probably moved more of this special than we ever have of anything else.”



Peddle Food Service sous chef Matthew Walker prepares dinner for hundreds of students, employees and their families.



Peddle Food Service Director and Executive Chef Jeremy Stahl is committed to accommodating special meal requests.

SWEET BITE: EXECUTIVE CHEF JEREMY STAHL

What’s the best part of heading up PFS?

“The cast of characters, especially my co-managers, Pam Houskeeper and Jimmy Hamnett, and my sous chef, Matthew Walker. It’s a we, definitely not a me. Second best: the kids. To see them excited about food, happy and smiling; seeing a line upstairs before we open the door; coming back for seconds. They work so hard with their studies. It’s not every career that you can see all of your hard work being appreciated so quickly.”

BLUE-PLATE SPECIALS: A VANISHING TRADITION

The “blue-plate special” once symbolized an affordable, satisfying meal — typically featuring meat, sides and a drink — offered at diners across America from the 1920s to the 1950s. Its roots lie in dining at railroad stops, where budget-conscious travelers and workers were served hearty portions on sectioned blue plates. The concept is believed to date back to 1892, when the Harvey House chain popularized these discounted meals, catering to railroad passengers in the Western U.S.

Knowing their clientele is from Hightstown as well as all over the globe galvanizes Stahl and his staff to draw from a wide variety of cultural influences on a regular basis. The team regularly hosts dinners that feature a particular cuisine, along with “the most exciting”: a week that showcases international foods.

“We are a world kitchen,” Stahl emphasized. “African cuisine is huge here. Those dishes became some of our most popular ones. And they’re flavors I’d never done. There’s Asian cuisine; we do three different kinds of rice, and are now doing sticky rice every day.” Dishes like this are typically served as blue-plate specials ... and Stahl doesn’t miss the opportunity to serve them on ceramic blue plates.

Along with heartfelt appeals for certain dishes, Stahl regularly gets requests to carry specialty oils and sauces. “We have a tray full of different kinds, and it’s growing, getting out of control,” laughed Stahl. “But the students are happy.”

LOCAL-FOOD EDUCATORS

Alumni who graduated 15 or more years ago who visit Peddie’s dining hall may see something that inspires a double take: platters of unusual local fruits or vegetables, beautifully prepared, arranged and labeled. PFS works with purveyors who seek out what’s in season at local farms, in and around New Jersey.

**SWEET BITE: SNACK BAR
SUPERVISOR JAMES HAMNETT**

"It's been an amazing 30 years working for Peddie Food Service and seeing how much the department has evolved. I had the privilege of working with some hard working colleagues over the years, including my mother, Mae Hamnett, who dedicated herself to the success of the department for 25 years.

"Reunion is one of PFS's greatest days — a day for us to reconnect with former students and reminisce about all the great times they shared with us. They tell us how much they loved our food and that the food at most of their colleges and universities doesn't compare to ours."

"That really started with (Head of School) Peter Quinn, Mike McKitish and other administrators," said Stahl. "They told us, 'regardless of who you are on campus, we're all educators. There are always lessons we can teach the community — especially the students.' We really took that to heart, so we took the initiative and said, 'Let's find some food that you may not find every day. Let's talk about it, let's educate our staff about it.' We love to create, as chefs and as cooks. And I try to use as much Jersey produce as possible."

ADDITION AND SUBTRACTION

Stahl also makes smart ecological choices, regularly recycling and composting. He recently joined Peddie's Sustainability Committee and has "learned a lot," he said.

Earth-friendly choices are also included on PFS menus, with a sustainable food distributor providing much of it. And "all of the seafood we get is sustainable," said Stahl. "Some of it is farm raised, but in an ethical way. We try to play our part."

PFS has evolved further, providing kosher, halal, vegetarian and vegan options on each day's menu. And the department is keenly proactive when it comes to food allergies and intolerances.

From left: Peddie Food Service employees Lucy Armstrong and Julie Heymach



BIG BITE: ROBIN WOJCIK

"Tris and Leigh Wood's oldest, Duncan, would sneak in 10 or 15 minutes sooner than his parents because he wanted to eat cake before they got there. And we knew it, and we'd watch him eat his cake and put his plate on the return, and then he'd be ready for dinner."

FORMER DIRECTOR OF FOOD SERVICE ROBIN WOJCIK

"I was hired in May 1994 and was my predecessor's assistant for nine years. Back then, we served simple fare — a lot of processed food, not a lot of imagination.

"In 2005–07, there was a whole new crew of faculty and they had a lot of expectations and demands. I'd had it drilled into my head not to spend money. It took me and (then Head of School) John Green and (then CFO) Mike McKitish a good six months to go and spend some money. That was really hard.

"We had 700 people who all wanted different things. So who were we gonna be? Mike and I went to see some other schools, and no one was doing anything that was knocking my socks off. So I wrote a mission statement and a vision statement. And then I sat with the staff, asked who we were going to be, and we'd go from there. We made decisions together.

"From 2007-10, we started to turn things around and got our mojo going. Today, 80–85% of the food is made from scratch.

"When Jeremy got promoted, he was the final help I needed to push through what I wanted to get done before I retired. Now it's an operation that's really in touch with the community."



"IT'S ABOUT THE COMMUNITY."

— EXECUTIVE CHEF JEREMY STAHL

"When I started here 12 years ago, it was only nut and seafood allergies," said Stahl. "Now there's a list of eight or nine items, and we hit all of them." The PFS staff identifies all menu items that contain allergens and also lists them on a public wall on a large placard.

How is Stahl and his team able to keep everyone's needs straight? By "communicating with the community – getting to know them," he said. "Students with certain diets, we will make individual meals just for them – their own fryer oil, their own plates. We want people to feel comfortable, not like they're singled out.

"It's about the community."

SWEET BITE: ROBIN WOJCIK

"Janice Brown was an amazing woman. She retired in 2022. I think she was at Peddie for 38 years. She brought her own sense of integrity to everything she did. She never called out of work — hurricane, snowstorm, whatever. I would watch that woman never miss a trick, never burn anything. It was amazing to be in her presence. And she loved those kids. 'They're my kids,' she would say. She went to the concerts. She went to the Dec Contests. She went to the recitals. She'd be annoyed by something that someone burned and would wrinkle her nose and say, 'Not for my babies.'"



Student clubs and organizations, like Bon Appétit (left) and the Jewish Heritage Alliance (right), embrace food as a central part of their activities.

BREAKING BREAD AND BUILDING BONDS

For Greg Wriede, director of student leadership and student activities, food is key in fostering community and creating memories. From informal gatherings to campus-wide events, Wriede sees food as an opportunity for students to form bonds beyond the classroom.

"Food drives contact between our students, faculty and community as a whole," Wriede noted. "Whether it's a late-night snack in the dorm, an all-school barbeque or our traditional Family Style Dinners, food encourages our community to gather in spaces that foster conversations and connections."

Wriede pointed out that student clubs and organizations embrace food as a central part of their activities. "Our Bon Appétit Club, for example, has hosted all-school BBQs and other meals for student mental health breaks. Also, our Japanese Culture Club hosted sushi-making, which was a huge hit last year."

When planning student activities, Wriede always considers how food can enhance the experience. Some recent favorites include waffle fries, grilled cheese nights and nostalgic snacks like Dunkaroos, Gushers and Fruit Roll-Ups during exam breaks. "Food encourages students to show up and stay a little longer, giving them more time to connect with their peers," Wriede said.

I love breakfast food, and the French toast always hit the spot after morning swim practice.
— Bryce Hillman '07

The infamous small BLT! Food service served us just one small BLT for lunch. Hungry young men need more! A ruckus began in the corner of the Wilson dining hall, a pounding of the tables with the chant, “We want seconds.” In just moments, the entire student body was in revolt. Dean DuBois jumped up from the head table, shouting, “The next boy to make a sound is out!” All quiet broke loose as Mr. DuBois stormed back to the kitchen. Minutes passed. Then, out came seconds. Mr. DuBois was our hero!
— John M Roberts '70

As a new student, I kept hearing rumors about the mysterious “Exploding Chicken,” a Family Style staple that had apparently ruined a generation’s worth of students’ ties, slacks and dresses. Our dorm prefects regaled us with tales of unsuspecting students doused in butter as they unknowingly cut into the harmless-looking Chicken Kiev. My mind ran wild when I heard it was on the menu one Fall evening. I approached the dish as if I was about to embark on a major surgical procedure. To my surprise, the “explosion” was nothing more than a little pop of butter. Not only did I survive the chicken bomb, but it was actually pretty good!
— Alexander Dacey '03

Chicken fingers.
— Aidan Lawrence '26

Beef stew on noodles.
— Jennifer Orlick '81

Breakfast hash browns were always a go-to.
— Matt Pustay '02

Pork roll and cheese sandwiches for lunch were my favorite.
— Mark Gartner '84

Muffins on Thursdays! Would not miss this day for the world, and Cheryl would be passing them out with a big smile, making the whole thing amazing.
— Cal Rohde '12

My Peddie dining experience was defined by learning to eat incredibly fast. If I didn’t, I could not finish a complete meal, especially as a freshman and sophomore when upperclassmen essentially dictated your portions. To this day, 55 years later, I am still a speed eater.
— Roy Grossman '70

Char Siu pork buns.
— Megan Cheng '27

BBQ ribs.
— Siwoo Jeong '27

Breakfast for dinner.
— Liam Ruiz '26

Chicken nuggets.
— Eason Wang '27

Chicken nuggets were my favorite.
— Bridgette McKnight '10

Turkey Divan was my favorite. It was only served at Family Style Dinner. Before I tried that dish, I had never eaten broccoli, but it turned me into a broccoli lover and got me to try other foods I never thought I would enjoy. When I went home for a break and told my mom I liked broccoli, she almost fell out of her seat. It was a miracle! Peddie got me to try broccoli.
— Bill Volckening '84

Chicken breast, BBQ ribs.
— Andrii Golubchuk '26

Shepherd’s pie! Never had it before Peddie.
— Jay Gorry '57

Corn fritters and Canadian bacon.
— Jennifer Miksis-Olds '92

Peaches and cream for dessert.
— John Wall '51

The salmon salad, berry smoothies and pork buns.
— Ivy Zhao '25

Oddly, potato chips and cottage cheese come to mind. Hey, it was the 80s.
— Stephanie Martin '91

Definitely the yucca fries blue plate.
— Anjali Sudarshan '25

Muffin Thursdays and chicken cheddar wraps.
— Christine Lee '08

I would sit next to the teacher to get first pick at the food. One I remember was chipped beef on toast.
— Sam Havens '61

Brunch (after Saturday classes) was by far the best meal. My roommate and I would try to outdo each other until we eventually ended up with the toast-egg-cheese-bacon-sausage-hash brown double-decker sandwich.
— Robert Zakon '86

Chicken cheddar wraps.
— Fred Sullivan '26

The mystery meat that had a sheen which glowed in several colors, red, green and brown, once reputed to be kangaroo! We swallowed it often, even if suspect.
— John Roberts '70

Vegetable chili.
— Ayaan Nagarkatti '27

Chicken cheddar wraps.
— Nicholas Massenburg-Abraham '17

Chicken cheddar wraps, taco night and the salmon rice dish!
— Olivia Dewar '24

Chicken cheddar wraps.
— Gabriel Spadaccini '13

Sunday morning waffles were the best.
— Chris Ransom '06

Anyone else remember what we called creamed chipped beef?
— Steve Cole '60

Roast beef and mashed potatoes (even if mixed with condensed formula) smothered in gravy. Yum!
— Richard Gerweck '78

Every once in a while, they did a make-your-own potato bar, and that was my favorite.
— Jon Siegel '91

Thursday muffins! With Cheryl serving and smiling, of course! “Exploding Chicken” at Family Style.
— Megan Hill Grewal '97

“Exploding Chicken.”
— Beth Strum '94

“Exploding Chicken” and the muffins on Thursday mornings!
— Lauren Smedley '09

I like “Exploding Chicken,” chicken nuggets and chicken cheddar wraps.
— Kohana Brown '25

“Exploding Chicken” and flank steak were a fave!
— Katherine “Kate” (Ridgeway) Lobben '11

Loved “Exploding Chicken” and Muffin Day.
— Sarah Letter '02

All-time favorite dish was Chicken Kiev, aka “Exploding Chicken.”
— Peter Cao '05

Chicken Kiev is my all-time fave.
— Celine Hau '03

Chicken Kiev. That’s it. That’s the story.
— Alex Valentino '13



“Exploding Chicken,” aka Chicken Kiev. It was always fun to see who at Family Style meals would get absolutely demolished by the hot melted butter. Plus, it was delicious!
— Jennifer (Prostoff) Braciak '11

Chicken Kiev, aka “Squirting Chicken,” might’ve been the favorite and the scariest.
— Lauren (Laurie) King '88

The most fun was “Exploding Chicken” (aka Chicken Kiev), especially the first Family Style they served it at each year!
— Julie Saker Schlegel '90

WHAT’S YOUR ALL-TIME FAVORITE DINING HALL DISH?

Dining hall memories at Peddie are packed with tales of “Exploding Chicken,” early morning treats and the comfort of timeless favorites. We asked students and alumni to share their favorite dining hall dishes, and their responses reflect not just the food they loved, but the memories and connections that came with them.



FEEDING MINDS

Peddie's food-focused lessons equip students to tackle global challenges.

Peddie students work with Science Teacher Madeline Cozine in the school garden, where students grow vegetables to donate to local food pantries.

At Peddie, food is more than just a subject of study – it's a gateway to understanding complex social, environmental and cultural issues. Students learn to navigate the connections between what's on their plates and the world around them, preparing them to tackle some of the most critical global challenges.

SCIENCE MEETS SUSTAINABILITY

In AP Environmental Science, Nika Blank '16 leads her students through the tactile process of growing microgreens, a hands-on project designed to teach them the intricacies – and fragility – of food production. The challenge isn't just cultivating the greens but realizing how a minor oversight, like missing a watering session, can devastate a crop.

But the most striking revelation comes when students realize their disconnect from the very food they've grown. "Some ask, 'Wait, we can eat these? Is it safe?'" Blank recalled, highlighting how distant many students are from their food sources. It's a revelation that carries weight, especially as Blank pushes her students to think critically about sustainability and the scale required to feed a growing population.

Blank recalled an eye-opening moment when Peddie Food Service Executive Chef Jeremy Stahl and Catering Manager Pamela Houskeeper visited her class to discuss the logistics of feeding the school. "The students were surprised at the cost variation, and how produce can sometimes be the most expensive item on Chef Jeremy's shopping list," Blank said. It was a stark reminder that feeding a school mirrors the global struggles in producing affordable, sustainable food.

A TASTE OF CULTURE

In Peddie's French classes, food is essential to learning about culture. French Teacher Nathalie Letourneau moves beyond traditional language instruction to explore the significance of meals in society. "It's really about how much cultural knowledge and competency we can develop in students," she said. "And food is such a great gateway for that."

In French III, students explore the traditions surrounding mealtimes, while those in French IV dig into the history of the Michelin Guide and its influence on global culinary prestige. By AP French, students are exploring critical global topics like food insecurity and the debate over genetically modified organisms. Along the way, they make crêpes in the dining hall and brew traditional Moroccan mint tea, finding that language, like food, is best digested with experience and reflection.

FOOD AS A PERSONAL NARRATIVE

While science teaches the mechanics of food production, art delves into its emotional resonance. Joyce Chen, who teaches Drawing and Painting, asks students to illustrate or paint dishes that hold deep personal significance in her food autobiography project. Whether it's a beloved childhood snack or a traditional

"The goal is for students to reflect critically on how food is shaped by their lives and communities."

— JOYCE CHEN, ART TEACHER

family meal, the students' art reveals how food is tied to memory, culture and identity.

"The goal," Chen said, "is for students to reflect critically on how food is shaped by their lives and communities. I want them to think about the systems, values and traditions that shape their food choices and, ultimately, who they are."

What begins as an intimate exercise in nostalgia quickly becomes a broader examination of how personal identity and cultural history are entangled in what we eat. From family traditions to the impact of globalization on local cuisines, Chen's students gain a layered understanding of the role food plays in their lives.

THE SCIENCE OF EATING

In Madeline Cozine's Food Science course, students are invited to step into the kitchen as both scientists and chefs. Here, they experiment with cooking techniques while engaging in broader discussions about food production's ethical, social and environmental implications. Beyond the classroom, students venture into community-based projects, growing vegetables alongside Peddie's environmental club members to donate to local food pantries, emphasizing the connection between scientific knowledge and social responsibility.

PERFORMANCE ON A PLATE

Jordi Serrato's Sports Science class tackles nutrition from an entirely different angle, teaching students how to fuel their bodies for optimal athletic performance. "I want to teach them the basics – like nutrition requirements and reading a food label – and build it from there," Serrato said. From understanding macronutrients and hydration to meal prepping for specific athletic goals, students learn how food choices can enhance their physical and mental capabilities.

Serrato takes it further by encouraging his students to engage with the ethical dilemmas of sports nutrition, including debates on performance-enhancing drugs and supplements. This focus on sports nutrition reflects a holistic understanding that food not only fuels the body but also shapes athletic integrity and ethical decision-making.

Peddie students explore the connections between personal identity, cultural history and food.



CAMPUS CRAVINGS

From the warmth of a fresh chocolate chip cookie at The Grille to the juicy goodness of a burger at the old Canteen, Peddie's campus snacks have been a tasty tradition for generations. We asked students and alumni to share their favorite go-to bites.

THE GRILLE

Warm chocolate chip cookies in The Grille. They were huge and so good, plus Fran always served them up with a smile.

— *Lauren Einhorn '08*

Warm cookies at The Grille.

— *Julia Ulrich '25*

Cookies from The Grille!

— *Charis Chien '27*

Fresh chocolate chip cookies remain a favorite at The Grille.

Annie Bortey '06 and I always got bowtie donuts from The Grille during DMX.

— *Allie Rich '06*

Cookies from The Grille!

— *Caitlin McCorkle '07*

They had these twist donuts at The Grille that were about a buck. Washing that down with a 99 cent Arnold Palmer gave me the fuel to get through some late nights of study!

— *Alexander Dacey '03*

The Dunkin' Donuts muffins in The Grille. Even better is the memory of Fran, who always asked, "Want a muffin, honey?" when you walked up to order. She had such a sweet and unique voice. I still use this phrase in my best Fran voice with my kids today.

— *Jennifer Miksis-Olds '92*

Warm chocolate chip cookies at The Grille.

— *Jennifer (Prostoff) Braciak '11*

Big cookie and a Mountain Dew Code Red from The Grille.

— *Brian Chaszar '02*

THE ANNENBERG CAFE & THE PEDDIE STORE

Biscoff cookies or jalapeño chips from the Annenberg Cafe.

— *Aarushi Gupta '26*

Haribo gummies from The Peddie Store.

— *Dasyer Bullock '26*

Chocolate Hello Panda Snacks from the Annenberg Cafe.

— *Grace Lee '26*

Hi-Chew from the Annenberg Cafe!

— *Sophie Liz Wang '27*

Cold chocolate milk from the Annenberg Cafe, paired with Hello Panda.

— *Ophelia Ni '26*

A Stewart's root beer from the bookstore was the perfect post-chapel drink. In the winter, I'd grab a couple before chapel for my friend and me, then deposit them in a snowbank. When we got out, they were perfectly frosted, and we didn't have to wait in line for anything before the long block.

— *Bryce Hillman '07*

THE CANTEEN

Toasted roll with jelly and butter from the Canteen. 10 cents.

— *Thomas Bifano '76*

Drake's Cherry Fruit Pies. I went to the Canteen almost every night for a pack. Still eating them today.

— *Bart M. Rogers Jr. '75*

Bagels and Snapples from Frannie in the Canteen!

— *Nicole Rossi O'Brien '95*

I liked the Canteen's cheeseburgers in 9th grade.

— *Claude Elenewich '75*

Fried onion sandwich on a hard roll. 10 cents in the old Canteen.

— *Wes Lawson '76*

Fried bologna sandwich at the Canteen. 20 cents.

— *Richard Benes '65*

The Canteen. I remember the French fries.

— *Gerard Fritz '81*

Canteen. Rose Lipszic Hayet '72 and I would go. Cherry Coke and matchbox football.

— *Deborah Tiff-Tufts '72*

Not even a question: Frannie's chocolate chip cookies from the Canteen.

— *Jonathan Besler '98*

Burger at the Canteen.

— *Bob Dunne '71*

I worked part-time in the Canteen. A favorite snack for myself and many others was a grilled hard roll done on the flat top.

— *Mary Stella '75*



Peddie students enjoy snacks and conversation in the late 1960s at the Canteen, a favorite campus hangout.

Muffins in the Canteen! Fran behind the counter would say, "Can I help you, hon?" "Muffin, please." "Blueberry or chocolate chip?" "Chocolate chip!"

— *Marisa Coppola Procopio '87*

A burger and chocolate milkshake at the Canteen. Sometimes, when busy, we got to go behind the counter to make our own.

— *Robbie Lobban '74*

Went to the Canteen for greasy burgers.

— *David Mintzer '71*

Canteen. The milkshakes, of course!

— *Sharon Evans '63*

A coffee roll donut from the Canteen, always saved for me by the lovely Frannie who would set it aside knowing I'd be in to buy it before lunchtime.

— *Amy Elkes-Simon '95*

Grilled cheese from the Canteen.

— *Lisa Gonnella '86*

Anyone from my era is going to say the apple bombs from Frannie at the Canteen.

— *Kevin Sanderson '92*

Probably milk.

— *Dave Ennis '58*

Hostess Apple Fruit Pies from the Canteen.

— *Kathryn Riley Andrew '84*

Canteen. I would have a glazed donut pretty much every day.

— *Stephen Bratcher '69*

Hamburger at the Canteen.

— *Paul Rossos M.D. '72*

Fries from the Canteen coupled with Super Mario Bros.

— *Jon Siegel '91*

Between classes, there was a stop at the Canteen for a Ring Ding and a Cherry Coke.

— *Ted Brooks '64*

ALUMNI FOOD

INDUSTRY

IN THE ME

NINE ALUMNI SHARE INSIGHTS FROM VARIOUS ROLES IN THE FOOD INDUSTRY, FROM BUSTLING RESTAURANTS TO VITAL EFFORTS IN TACKLING FOOD INSECURITY AND ENHANCING TODDLER NUTRITION. THEIR EXPERIENCES HIGHLIGHT THE MEANINGFUL WAYS IN WHICH FOOD CONNECTS US ALL.

SPICING UP THE CULINARY WORLD CINDY GILBERT '95

As McCormick & Company's culinary development manager, Chef Cindy Gilbert '95 is the creative force behind recipes enjoyed by millions. Gilbert's culinary adventure surprisingly began not in a kitchen but at Christie's Auction House in New York City. Immersed in the city's vibrant culture, the art history major discovered a new passion that would ultimately reshape her career.

"New York City has a pretty robust food scene," said Gilbert. "It was there that I decided to transition into the food industry." With that revelation, she pivoted from fine art to fine dining.

Eager to dive into her newfound calling, Gilbert relocated to Boston, where she split her time between an internship at America's Test Kitchen and night shifts as a line cook at an upscale seafood restaurant. The dual experience offered valuable insights into meticulous recipe development and the fast-paced restaurant industry.

"It showed me that restaurants are definitely not for me," Gilbert admitted. "It was the recipe development side of things from America's Test Kitchen that I fell in love with because it speaks to my type A personality that loves the minutiae and why this works or doesn't work."

Determined to hone her skills further, Gilbert returned to New York to study at the Institute of Culinary Education. Her career blossomed with positions in the test kitchens at "Good Housekeeping" and "Family Circle" before she joined McCormick in 2014.

Gilbert's role at McCormick is wide-ranging. She develops recipes for product packaging and the company's website, coordinates photo shoots, and ensures that home cooks experience McCormick's flavors at their finest, just as the company's food scientists intended. Her influence extends to product innovation and high-profile campaigns, including the buzzworthy

French's mustard ice cream she helped develop for National Mustard Day in 2019.

Gilbert has been influential in popular licensing collaborations like Old Bay Seasoning Goldfish and Frank's RedHot Goldfish. This season, she's especially excited

"New York City has a pretty robust food scene. It was there that I decided to transition into the food industry."

about the launch of new holiday finishing sugars. "Working on those big holiday campaigns is really, really fun," she said.

Through it all, Gilbert finds deep satisfaction in her work: "I love my job because it allows me to have a real, tangible impact on people's lives — helping them enjoy life more through the food we eat and the meals we share."



THE RISE OF AN ICONIC DINING EMPIRE

ELLEN KORETZ
BROMBERG '80



In 1992, Ellen Bromberg '80, her husband, Eric, and his brother, Bruce — both chefs — took a leap of faith and opened Blue Ribbon Brasserie in New York City's Soho. What started as a single restaurant has since blossomed into Blue Ribbon Restaurants, a renowned culinary empire with 20 locations spanning multiple states, many specializing in sushi and Japanese-inspired cuisine. Among their most iconic dishes is Blue Ribbon's fried chicken, a signature

noting Blue Ribbon's staff numbers around 1,000. "It's a balancing act to make sure everything is done the way we want, every day, in every location." Despite the challenges, she finds it incredibly rewarding to provide so many people with jobs and to witness their growth alongside the restaurant group. "We value

“It's a balancing act to make sure everything is done the way we want, every day, in every location.”

favorite born from a spontaneous kitchen experiment that has delighted diners for over 30 years.

"The story behind the fried chicken is actually funny," Bromberg explained. "One evening, the kitchen had a bowl of egg whites left over from making crème brûlée, and there was matzah meal on the counter. My husband had the idea to use those ingredients to make a crust for fried chicken, and it came out great!"

Running a successful restaurant group comes with challenges, and staffing remains one of the most demanding aspects of Bromberg's role. "There are so many moving parts, and so many employees," she said,

our staff, and seven of our original ten employees are still with us today."

Bromberg continues to expand the Blue Ribbon brand. Their latest ventures include two restaurants in Las Vegas — a sushi spot and a Mediterranean-inspired concept — further enhancing an already impressive portfolio across Los Angeles, Miami and beyond.

For aspiring entrepreneurs, Bromberg offers simple but sage advice: "It's a tough business with a high rate of failure that requires a ridiculous amount of hours, but as for my family, I can't think of anything else we would rather do."

CULTIVATING SOLUTIONS FOR GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY

FRED DAVIES '67



As a horticulturist and plant biologist, Fred Davies '67 has spent his career tackling one of the world's most pressing issues: how to feed an ever-growing population sustainably.

"We've got this wicked problem," Davies explained, referring to the challenge of feeding an additional billion people in the next 13 years. "It's a problem that you can't easily solve. A lot of times when you fix one part of the problem, you create other problems you've got to deal with."

soil microorganisms. His work has taken him from the high altitudes of Peru to the laboratories of Texas A&M University.

Davies emphasized the critical distinction between food security and nutritional security. "Food security is about having sufficient calories," he explained, "but nutritional security involves having adequate minerals, micronutrients and vitamins from nutrient-dense fruits, vegetables and protein sources." He pointed out that "hidden hunger"

food security. However, he remains optimistic about the future, citing technological advancements and innovative approaches like vertical farming, controlled environment agriculture, and even the potential of insect protein.

Davies' passion for his work is palpable, and his optimism is infectious. "We can live in a dystopian world of winners and losers

“Nutritious food should be a universal right.”

Davies' journey into the world of horticulture began with humble roots in Cranbury, New Jersey, where he and his three younger brothers attended Peddie as day students. As a teenager, Davies worked on local potato farms, gaining practical experience that would later influence his career path. However, it wasn't until after college, during a year-long backpacking trip around the world with a horticulturist friend, that Davies found his true calling.

"About three months into our travels, we were in Mexico and decided, 'Hey, let's start to focus on agriculture and horticulture,'" Davies recalled. This decision led them to visit research centers, farms and plantations worldwide, igniting Davies' passion for the field.

Throughout his career, Davies has worn many hats. He's worked on enhancing production systems for the green industry, collaborated with NASA on their "Salad Bowl" program to grow plants in space, and spent over 30 years studying beneficial

due to malnutrition and insufficient micronutrients is a significant global problem, leading to issues such as obesity, stunted growth and cognitive impairment.

"Nutritious food should be a universal right," said Davies. He pointed out that one-third of the world's food is wasted, enough to feed about 2 billion people. "We're super spoiled," he said. "We want to have that unblemished fruit, that unblemished vegetable, that perfect shape, which we call No. 1. If it doesn't make that No. 1 standard, a lot of times it just gets chucked."

Davies stressed the importance of "sustainable intensification" — doing more with less. This approach involves finding innovative ways to increase food production while minimizing environmental impact. "We have the ability to do this. It's not simple, but there are real opportunities," he said.

Climate change, population growth and deforestation are significant challenges Davies identified in the quest for global

— or we can live in a world of abundance of water, energy, food — if we have the political will and smart and sustainable policies in place," he stated.

"There is a food revolution going on," Davies concluded. "People are interested in eating healthier, tastier — trying new food and recipes. What a great time for producers, chefs, restaurateurs and food delivery!"

ALOHA SPIRIT: RESTAURATEUR'S JOURNEY OF RESILIENCE AND COMMUNITY

JIM ANDERSON '75



For Jim Anderson '75, owning Dollies Pub & Cafe in Maui is about more than running a business — it's about fostering a sense of community. When Anderson became the seventh owner of the once-struggling restaurant, he transformed Dollies into a thriving local favorite. "I was the seventh owner but the longest and most successful one," he said.

“It will take 10-15 years to rebuild one of the most beautiful places in the world.”

Anderson's journey to Maui's food scene was anything but straightforward. After graduating from the University of Florida as a four-time All-American swimmer, he ventured into the food and beverage industry as a bartender. His career took him across the globe, leading him to top roles in major hospitality brands like Planet Hollywood and Rainforest Cafe. But it was a call from an old boss that lured him to Hawaii, where he became the Food & Beverage Director at the Ilikai Hotel.

In 2010, Anderson acquired Dollies, paying tribute to its namesake — a dog named Dollie — by naming his own Labrador after the pub's mascot. Under his leadership, Dollies became known for its award-winning pizza, even earning the

Ai'pono Award for the best pizza on Maui.

Expanding his culinary reach, Anderson opened Beach House Bar & Grill at the Sands of Kahana resort and established a second Dollies location on Maui's Northshore.

In August 2023, when wildfires devastated Lahaina, Anderson's restaurants were spared, but he witnessed the destruction of over 1,000 homes, 100 businesses, and the heartbreaking loss of life. In response, Anderson and his team donated \$40,000 in food and supplies and provided free breakfast and dinner to the West Maui community for ten days. "Things are still very sad in Maui, and it will never be the same," he said. "It will take 10-15 years to rebuild one of the most beautiful places in the world."

Anderson named his yellow Labrador "Dollie," after the restaurant's namesake. The original owner named the restaurant "Dollies" after his dog more than 40 years ago.

As Anderson plans for semi-retirement on the mainland next year, he remains committed to hospitality. "The most important thing is to get to know your guests," he emphasized, "and I pride myself on manager table visits. That visit makes a difference."

LEADING INNOVATION IN MEAL DELIVERY AT HELLOFRESH

LAURA LOUGHRAN '10



Laura Loughran '10 serves as the general manager of new ventures at HelloFresh, where she drives the growth of the company's diverse portfolio. This includes meal kits, ready-to-eat meals, seafood and meat delivery, premium pet food, and most recently, supplements, which were introduced in September. Loughran's role encompasses marketing, product development, and brand strategy, with oversight of brands like Factor, known for its dietitian-approved, health-conscious meal service. "At HelloFresh, the general manager role is like being the CEO of your brand," Loughran explained. "I'm responsible for the financial success of the brand and everything that goes along with it."

Loughran's transition to HelloFresh followed a career in tech, including positions at IBM and various startups. A positive experience shared by a friend at HelloFresh sparked her interest and led her to the company.

“We're trying to do what we can to meet people where they are at in terms of how much time they have to cook or consume food.”

Her commitment to improving food options for busy lives drives Loughran's work. "We're trying to do what we can to meet people where they are at in terms of how much time they have to cook or consume food. What mechanisms, what innovations can we use to help them with that time saving, but not at the cost of sacrificing the quality or the nutrition of the food that they eat? I see a lot of opportunity in that space moving forward."

Reflecting on her Peddie days, Loughran credited her experience as a varsity swimmer for refining her time management and prioritization skills. She fondly remembers Pierogi Day and ziti pizza at Mannino's, joking, "When you're 16 and swimming a lot, you can eat things like that."

The Mai brothers have distilled their love for coffee and design into a thriving business.

In 2015, Robert Mai '08 and Charles Mai '11 co-founded Ovalware, a Los Angeles-based company known for its elegantly designed, functional coffee brewing equipment. Their mission: to enrich the daily coffee ritual for home brewers who appreciate both craftsmanship and the sensory

elements of a perfect cup.

While Charles spoke for this interview, the company is very much a collaborative effort. "Our journey with Ovalware began from a shared passion for design,

and coffee quickly became the medium through which our passion grew," Charles said.

Ovalware's specialty lies in premium brewing products, with their Cold Brew Maker emerging as a bestseller. The company distinguishes itself through sleek, minimalist designs that elevate the art of homebrewing. Recent innovations include stainless steel filters to reduce paper waste, part of a broader sustainability initiative that includes a transition to zero-plastic packaging.

“The creative experiences at Peddie significantly shaped my approach to entrepreneurship.”

Charles attributes much of his entrepreneurial spirit to his time at Peddie, particularly the creativity he explored in Andrew Harrison's art classes. "The creative experiences at Peddie significantly shaped my approach to entrepreneurship. Just as creativity knows no boundaries, being an entrepreneur is about pushing beyond what you already know and venturing into the unknown. I frequently ask myself, "What if we tried this instead? What if we combined these elements?" It's this ongoing process of testing and trial and error that defines the entrepreneurial spirit."

With their commitment to sustainability and focus on enhancing the coffee experience, the Mai brothers are brewing more than just coffee — they're crafting a better future, one cup at a time.

BREWING A BETTER FUTURE: THE MAI BROTHERS' COFFEE JOURNEY



Whether you're picking up a sandwich at Wawa or buying a bagged salad at Wegmans, there's a good chance Michele Williams '90 played a role in making it happen.

At Taylor Farms, one of the largest producers of ready-to-eat salads and fresh foods in the U.S., Williams ensures that healthy, convenient meals and fresh produce are available at grocery chains, restaurants and convenience stores nationwide.

Williams works closely with retailers to drive innovation under the Taylor Farms brand and for the retailers' private labels, helping the company thrive in three key areas: food service, retail and convenience. "If you buy a Taco Bell taco, that shredded lettuce is made by us," she



FRESH VISIONARY: HOW THIS PEDDIE ALUMNA IS KEEPING THE SALAD INDUSTRY CRISP

MICHELE CONKLIN WILLIAMS '90

explained. "And if you grab a sandwich for lunch at Wawa, that lettuce, along with all those snacks and fruit and grab-and-go, Taylor Farms does all of that product." The company also supplies fresh foods to restaurant chains like Olive Garden and to major retailers like Starbucks, Walmart, Trader Joe's and Wegmans.

Managing the complexities of fresh produce is no small feat. "We're developing an infrastructure to get to every major retailer quickly with the freshest product," Williams said. "With products that have a shelf life of seven days or less, it's not like selling a box of cereal."

Williams' passion for the food industry began when she worked in her family's restaurants along the Jersey Shore. This early experience, coupled with a degree in food marketing from the Rochester Institute of Technology, set the foundation for her successful career.

Beyond her work at Taylor Farms, Williams is a managing member of St. Pete's Brewing Company in Florida, where her husband, Tom Williams '90, serves as president and CEO.

Looking ahead, Williams is enthusiastic about emerging trends like hyperlocal sourcing, hydroponics and sustainable packaging. In an industry constantly evolving, she continues to lead with innovation, helping shape the future of fresh food.

UNCORKING SUCCESS AT MICHELIN-STARRED MUSKET ROOM

STELLA MARTINDALE '16

Stella Martindale '16 has found her stride as the wine director at New York City's Michelin-starred Musket Room, where her role encompasses far more than recommending the perfect pairing. As she puts it, she manages "all things wine," from selecting and purchasing to storage and staff education.

Martindale discovered her love for the wine industry in college. After gaining hands-on experience in wine production and retail, she found her niche in the restaurant world.

"I really fell in love with restaurants when I realized the impact I have on the biggest moments in people's lives," she said.

"I have gotten to be a part of some truly amazing moments, including graduations, engagements and birthdays."

Despite her success, Martindale hasn't been immune to the challenges women face in the wine industry. "I still get remarks about how people are so shocked I am a female sommelier," she revealed. "I also find that staff are more likely to try and correct me than my male colleagues." However, at Musket Room, with its all-female ownership and management team, Martindale has found an environment where inclusivity thrives. "I think the type of people you work for really resonates even down to the type of guests you have walking through the door," she said.

When curating Musket Room's wine list, Martindale focuses on farmers who are passionate about their craft. She aims to create a diverse, globally representative selection that highlights the best of each region while delivering good value.

For those considering a career in food and beverage, Martindale's advice is straightforward: Start at the bottom.

"I have worked every hourly front-of-the-house job

"I really fell in love with restaurants when I realized the impact I have on the biggest moments in people's lives."

in a restaurant," she said. "I think because I have done this, I have a better understanding of how restaurants work and more respect for how the entire system works together."

To aspiring sommeliers, Martindale encourages persistence: "Keep going," she urged. "Guests can be mean, and days can be hard. I have had days when I leave in tears, convinced I know nothing about wine. I still show up the next day and talk about and serve wine."



REVOLUTIONIZING TODDLER NUTRITION WITH PEDIAGROW

ZAC OMAR '21



Zac Omar '21 is making waves in child nutrition with his company, PediaGrow, which will soon be available in baby store giant Buy Buy Baby. After two years at George Washington University, Omar made a bold decision to leave school and dedicate himself fully to creating a better nutritional alternative for toddlers. PediaGrow offers a clean, nutrient-packed formula crafted from grass-fed, French-made milk and has earned endorsements from leading pediatricians across the U.S.

The idea for PediaGrow was born in the summer of 2022, during the infant formula shortage that shook the United States. Moved by the crisis, and inspired by research he had begun for an entrepreneurship class, Omar immersed himself in FDA guidelines, market analysis and scientific data. His growing passion for the project led to a pivotal decision: leaving college to pursue his vision full-time. "There wasn't an ounce of anxiety," he said. "It was pure passion and excitement. I knew I could do really meaningful work. I was excited about it."

PediaGrow's toddler formula, designed for children 12 months and older, addresses the nutritional needs of early childhood, particularly for those struggling with the transition to solid foods. The company's commitment to quality sets it apart — no corn

syrup or unnecessary additives. From sourcing milk from farms in Normandy to ensuring rigorous safety standards, Omar's attention to detail is firm. "Quality and safety is where we start. It's got to be number one," he emphasized.

Omar credits Peddie for nurturing his self-reliance, which has fueled his entrepreneurial journey. "I left there a lot more independent and confident in what I could do," he reflected.

Looking ahead, Omar is preparing to launch an infant formula by the end of 2024 and is in talks with other major retailers. His advice for aspiring entrepreneurs? "Just read everything. The more prepared you can be, the more confident you'll feel in every situation."



INTRODUCING THE 2024 PEDDIE SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

During Reunion Weekend, Peddie proudly welcomed a new class of extraordinary athletes into the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame. For more than three decades, the Hall of Fame Committee has celebrated individuals who exemplify the spirit and excellence of Peddie athletics.



PJ HORGAN '84

Football, Basketball, Baseball

PJ Horgan's tenure at Peddie was defined by his dedication and versatility. He excelled in not just one, but three sports — football, basketball and baseball. A previous Hall of Fame inductee with the 1983 baseball team, Horgan was instrumental in the success of the 1982-83 NJISAA Prep 'A' Championship baseball team. "Whenever we walked on the field, I believed we were going to win," he recalled.

Horgan also played three years of varsity basketball and football, and he competed in winter track during his senior year. His football teammate Rich Rebh '84 remembered Horgan's grit and determination, recounting a critical play against Blair that defined their senior year.

When a botched snap threatened a scoring attempt, Horgan's quick thinking turned the situation into a touchdown, securing a 22-20 victory. This moment of quick decision-making not only secured a win but also inspired his teammates. "That one play was the catalyst of that whole game and defined our entire senior year," said Rebh.

Reflecting on his time at Peddie, Horgan expressed gratitude for the strong foundation it provided. "Traditional team sports are really the centerpiece for life learning skills," he said.



MELANIE NICHOLAS '04

Track & Field

Melanie Nicholas '04 is one of Peddie's most decorated track and field athletes, holding school records in six individual events and one relay until 2023. Recognized as the best female high jumper in Peddie's history, Nicholas still holds outdoor records for the 100-meter high hurdles, triple jump, and high jump and is part of the record-holding high jump relay team. Indoors, she retains records in the 50-yard high hurdles, 60-meter high hurdles and high jump.

Nicholas amassed 11 MAPL Championships and 10 state titles, earning four varsity letters in both indoor and outdoor track. She was twice awarded the Robert Lawson Leadership Award and the Outstanding Award for outdoor track. Her coach, Tim Brennan, highlighted her method and adaptability. "She was extremely disciplined and one of the happiest athletes I've ever coached," he said.

At the 2004 National Championships at The Armory in New York City, Nicholas placed fifth in the high jump, setting a school record of 5-7 that still stands today and earning All-American honors.

SHELLEY PEARSON '09

Rowing

Shelley Pearson '09 has already earned a place in the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame with her teammates from the legendary 2007, 2008 and 2009 Girls Varsity Fours. These crews achieved an undefeated three-year streak in dual competitions, back-to-back Stotesbury Cup victories, two Youth National Championships, and set a course record at the Henley Women's Regatta in England.

Though rowing is a team sport, Pearson's individual accomplishments are equally impressive. She earned a seat on the U.S. Junior Women's National Team Four as a junior, finishing sixth at the 2008 World Rowing Junior Championships. In 2009, she became a World Champion in the U.S. Junior Women's Eight. Recruited by Harvard, she rowed in the Radcliffe Varsity Eight and later earned an MBA from Oxford, where she won The Women's Boat Race in 2015. Pearson represented Bermuda in the 2016 Rio Olympics, finishing 16th in the women's single (IX) and becoming the first Bermudian woman to compete in rowing at the Olympics. "I tried to put Bermuda on the rowing map," she said.

Pearson credits Peddie for laying the foundation for her success, where she found a supportive environment that nurtured her ambitions. She also holds the school record as part of the 2007 indoor track 4x800-meter relay team.



1999 BASEBALL TEAM

The 1999 Falcons marked the beginning of Peddie baseball's most successful era, becoming the first team in school history to win both the Mercer County Championship and the NJISAA Prep 'A' Championship in the same season.

The Falcons' triumphs were a testament to teamwork and resilience. Entering the Mercer County Championship as the fifth seed, they upset the third, second and top seeds to claim victory in an all-prep school final — a rare achievement. Pitching was crucial, with freshman Matt Pustay '02 and Cam Van der Veer '99 allowing just seven hits to defeat top-seeded Lawrenceville. Pustay, the tournament MVP, pitched six and one-third innings, while Van der Veer secured the final outs.

Their momentum continued in the NJISAA Prep 'A' Championship, where Clay Nixon's '99 clutch two-run double and Jung Wi's '00 complete game sealed the title, finishing the season 18-7. The 1999 Falcons set a new standard for Peddie baseball, leaving a legacy that continues to inspire future teams.

ALUMNI NEWS



2014 BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

The 2013-14 Falcons, led by Head Coach Joe Rulewich and Assistant Coach Matthew Roach, delivered a season that would redefine Peddie basketball, finishing with a 19-4 record and remaining undefeated at home.

Post-graduates Nate Hickman '14, Bryan Rivers '14 and George Langberg '14 led the team to a PSIT Championship, ending a 20-year drought and paving the way for three titles in four years. Their leadership and dedication to the team earned them the respect of their peers and the audience. Rivers secured a 61-59 victory over Wilbraham & Monson with a clutch floater in the lane with just 2.5 seconds left in the title game. Both Rivers and Hickman were named to the All-Tournament team, with Hickman earning MVP honors.

The Falcons also claimed the Mercer Invitational Tournament title, defeating Episcopal High School (Va.) 63-44 in the final. Everson Davis '15 was named Most Outstanding Player, with Rivers also making the All-Tournament team. Coach Rulewich earned his 100th career win during the season.

This well-balanced and relentless team laid the groundwork for future success, including Peddie's first MAPL Championship in 2017. Their dynamic play and unwavering commitment to excellence established a lasting legacy in Peddie basketball.

2009 GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

The 2009 Peddie girls basketball team epitomized toughness and excellence, achieving a remarkable 24-2 record and securing the MAPL and NJISAA Prep 'A' Championships. This season stands as one of the greatest in Peddie girls basketball history.

The team was led by standout players Lexie Gerson '09 and Haley Peters '10, who reached the milestone of 1,000 career points in the same game during the NJISAA Prep 'A' semifinals against Lawrenceville — a first for the program — and the team's dominance was undeniable.

Coach Sean Casey earned his 300th career win that season, and Assistant Coach Eric Gustavson fostered a culture of accountability, hard work and camaraderie. "Things were always done the right way, and there was an expectation that we would all do things the right way," said Peters.

Despite their success, the team remained humble and focused, balancing seriousness with fun. Their commitment to the team's goals and their strong sense of unity was a testament to the culture Coach Casey built at Peddie.



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I have written a book, "Sailing through Life: Ninety-three years of adventure," containing my essays and adventures. If you would like a copy, it is available on Amazon.

From **Jon Heinrich**: "I am one of those still left, fortunately in good health and enjoying retirement. I'm now living in Tucson, Ariz., quite a change from Rochester, N.Y., where I spent many years. I remain active, sailing in the Caribbean with my two daughters and their husbands and plan to visit Yellowstone National Park next week with my granddaughter and great-grandkids. I play golf often, and now that I'm over 90, I can sometimes beat my age. "My wife, Gretchen, passed away last year. The caregiver who looked after her for several years has stayed with me and makes it possible for me to remain in my home and be reasonably independent.

"Hard to believe next year marks our 75th. I have yet to return to a reunion, but might consider this one."

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Greetings, classmates!

The Athletics Department advises that Peddie has hired a new varsity football coach. The team arrived for pregame practice in the third week of August. Of our three arch rivals, Hill School, Lawrenceville and Blair, two of the three games are home games. The Lawrenceville game is in October and the Blair game is in November. Hill School is the away game.

I checked in with **Bruce Gilbert**. All is well. He is looking forward to the 100-meter dash in the Penn Relays. Of course, it's for seniors, but nonetheless, it is a 100-meter dash!

Bruce and his wife have four children and five grandchildren. One of his daughters graduated from Lehigh University, as did he.

I close with acknowledging the retirement of Brian Davidson, director of alumni relations. Brian has retired after 33 years, beginning in 1991. Tom DeGray was the headmaster. He worked under four headmasters. He was the dorm master in Coleman Dorm. Class secretaries, class agents and all alumni communicated with him. He was available to all of us at any time.

When the headmaster and members of his staff wanted a Peddie trip to Europe or Asia it was Brian who handled all of the logistics of each trip. And, of course, Brian was part of the group.

And, the beat must still be going on. I recently spoke with him, and he informed me that he had two lunches, one with Singapore

parents and one with parents from Hong Kong. The get-together was held in Boston. Also, he recently was in touch with the widow of former Headmaster Tom DeGray, Ellen DeGray. They will be getting together in Boston in October.

So, it is with gratitude that the Class of '53 sends Brian Davidson best wishes for a happy and healthy retirement.

Until next time, be in touch and be well.

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Jay Greenblatt
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As you may have heard from the alumni office, **John Nolan** passed away in May. John was a really good guy. I visited him once at his place of business in Pennsylvania. Let's remember him.

From **Jerry Levine**: "Nothing newsworthy to report on my end. Advancing years and medical issues are creeping up on all of us, but that's to be expected as we all turn 88 or more this year. This past year, I am helping my doctors and dentists become super wealthy. This past February, I had a pacemaker implanted, and during the pre-op prep, they discovered I had an AFib valve flutter, so they also put me on Eliquis pills. Funny thing though, I never felt sick or had any signs of either condition. Last week, during a scheduled six-month checkup, they told me the AFib flutter was still active and that my pulse rate was still too high. Therefore, they have scheduled me for an AFib flutter ablation of my heart muscle to try to get everything synchronized. As for my dentists, they charged me more than \$60K for major tooth and gum restoration over the past 18 months. To quote Forrest Gump, 'S#&t happens,' as we age 'gracefully.' But guys, I'm still kicking, albeit at a much slower pace. My wishes to all of our remaining Peddie Class of '54 buddies are to have good days ahead, and as my old buddy and teammate **Bill Young** would say to me, 'Have tight lines and flat water.'"

From **Bob Jaffe**: "Life is indeed good up here in Saratoga Springs, NY. Deb and I have been Saratogians for just over seven years, and we continue to love being North Country citizens. There's much to love: the Adirondacks; Lake George; the racing season; SPAC-Saratoga Performing Arts Center, summer home to The Philadelphia Orchestra; New York City Ballet; The Chamber Music Society of New York; The Hyde Collection, a superb museum of art; and so many nice people. "I still have a client base and work full-time as their financial advisor, remotely from my in-home office and in visits to our New Jersey firm in Totowa. We enjoy playing golf when the weather suits us and take frequent long walks in Saratoga Spa State Park, known for both its natural springs and mineral baths. To sum it up, we enjoy this wonderful community and have become involved in Saratoga Hospital Foundation, as well as SPAC and The Hyde. In a word, we're both busy and content. "We both have also visited my 'other' alma mater, Dartmouth College, fairly often and recently met with new President Sian Leah Bialock, a real 'star.' Unlike others of the Ivies, she put a stop to the protest/encampments quickly by making it clear that 'actions have consequences.' I'm pleased to say Dartmouth hasn't brooked any of the disgraceful behavior sadly prevalent on other campuses. As a former art history major, I've kept in close touch with a good friend, a professor, who oversees the Artist in Residency program, which we are privileged to sponsor through an endowment begun by my father. We were delighted to donate a painting



Bob Jaffe '54 (left) and his wife, Deb, attend Dartmouth's Hood Museum of Art with Hood Director John Stomberg.

to The Hood Museum, which is another family involvement of which I am very proud.

"That's enough about me. Hope you're all enjoying your lives and doing well. I will miss my long friendship with Brian Davidson, whose excellent direction of alumni affairs has kept Peddie in our hearts and minds."

Nothing much for me to report. I am accepting no new cases and increasing my leisure activities. I continue to maintain my intellectual acuity by reading the sardonic musings of **Gene Sarafin** on Facebook.

Hopefully, by the time the next Chronicle is about to be published, I will hear some news from a few of you good fellows to share with the group.

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Reporting from his home in Fairfax City, Va., is **Malcolm Mercer**, who says his section of the city, Mosby, had street names referencing the old South, but some of these have been changed of late as connections to the Confederacy become politically unpopular. He and wife, Serena, have been spending part of their summers at their cabin in the Catskills near the Beaverkill River, where they can watch a couple of families of bald eagles. Their younger daughter, Marjorie Dwyer, who lives near them, is about to retire after 20 years of teaching music at an elementary school. Marjorie has three boys, two of whom (Jason and Jacob) are students at Eastern Mennonite University, while the youngest (Jack) is a junior at Fairfax High School, where his father, Terry, teaches physical education and coaches baseball. Not surprisingly, then, all three of his sons are baseball enthusiasts. Jason spent the summer interning for Senator Cotton in Richmond. Malcolm's older daughter, Serena Deaton, also teaches, and she and her husband, Edward, operate a farm in Chilhowie, Va. Their older boy, James, was a submariner in the Navy for 10 years and now works at the Savannah River Labs in Aiken,

S.C. The younger son, John, works for General Dynamics. Good to hear how well your family is doing, Malcolm. Congratulations!

Donald (Charlie) Weinberg and his wife, Nancy, are as active as ever. They were in London and Paris this past spring. In London, they delighted in a production of "Carmen" at Covent Garden. Donald was disappointed, however, to find that the famous "speakers' corner" at Marble Arch was being used by persons interested in converting listeners to a faith, rather than the political reformers of the past. Nancy took Donald to high tea at Fortnum and Mason and also cream tea at the British Museum, where they saw a display recreating camp life for a Roman legion. Donald also got "hooked" on the Lewis Chessmen at the museum and has ordered a replica set, more for the aesthetics than for actually playing the game. He continues to operate a karate studio, which has been so successful that he has had to hire a chief instructor. In November, he plans to go to Buenos Aires, Argentina, and teach karate at the South American Masters Clinic, where he will be renewing old friendships. You continue to amaze us all, Donald, with your energetic embrace of life past 80.

Yours truly, **Martin Tweedale**, has spent a quiet summer here in Edmonton, Alberta, reading, writing and helping out with a group of students reading scholastic philosophy in Latin. He also has been leading some discussions of current topics at a seniors centre here and plans to be organizing philosophers' cafes later this fall.

I hope more classmates will respond to my call for notes next time, even if it is just to inform us all that you're still kicking.

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Alan Sackman leads off with an update that mixes contemplation, appreciation and optimism. "Walter, I'm sitting here in Colorado at our ranch, just looking out the window, and saw a group of female turkeys with a clutch of little ones running around on our lawn. We've had two more great-grandchildren in the last month, bringing our total to 12. I just got back from a week in Wyoming, hunting with my son. Warren shot a real nice moose, and tomorrow will butcher it up. Barbara and I are planning several trips in the future. As you know, we keep active at our age: planning on going to Spain to shoot some birds, and then on to Tajikistan. I think the thing in our lives that keeps us going is activity, and with us, it's continually traveling somewhere."

Ron Page sent me a couple of emails that sounded almost like an answer to Alan. "The Pages just celebrated 63 years of marriage on August 26 and gained their first great-granddaughter. On the other side of the coin, we are mostly down to nine-hole rounds of golf. As an aside, Al Sackman was married in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on graduation afternoon. Lois and I attended the ceremony. He may be the first in our class to tie the knot. As for the cutest great-granddaughter in the world, her name is Brooke. Unfortunately, we don't get to see her very often, since she lives with her parents in North Carolina (Dad is a helicopter pilot in the Marine Corps; Mom, our granddaughter, is an English teacher)."

These class notes were written during the summer, and in Los Angeles, where I live, the heat got quite intense. If you're reading this, you very probably received my complaints, such as "So, I took my instant-read thermometer outside to my backyard and checked. At first, in the sun, it read 123 degrees. In the shade, it dropped and settled in at 113 degrees."

Steve Brown writes, "I am visiting my daughter, Christina '95, in San Marino (Pasadena), Calif., and commiserate with you (109 in the shade here at 3 p.m.). Headed back to New York City to cool off. Stay cool."

Harry Zisson proposes a solution: "May I suggest, most

earnestly, most fervently, you move to New York, for convenience and your peace of mind." Frankly, I have an outlandish respect for Harry's wisdom, but dared to mention a few, perhaps insurmountable, hurdles I needed to clear first.

He brushed them aside. "Redundantly, may I suggest, again, you relocate to New York? No cars or bicycles are needed here, and the temps are more civilized. Alternatively, Boise, Idaho, or Portland, would suit you. My Air Force basic training in Texas in July - August was similarly sizzling. We were given salt pills to enhance our fleshly robustness." (I couldn't resist fooling around with Harry's "fleshly robustness" (the words, not the real thing) and ended up with "robust fleshiness," just a short step from "fleshy bustiness.")

Lou Wallis suggests a more modest solution to the heat problem: Stay out of it. "I do not go out to exercise if it is over 85 degrees. I have followed the advice of Ken Cooper in his 1960s aerobics books. He said not to exercise beyond 85 degrees."

Lou's mention of Cooper brought back all sorts of memories, and I wrote to him, describing how Cooper had inspired me to run marathons. Also, I suggested a few other books from the '60s I'd found inspirational (Colin Fletcher's "The Man Who Walked Through Time" and Stuart Brand's "Whole Earth Catalog").

Lou's answer: "I am proud of you that you still have that original aerobics book. Jogging in what looked like underwear back then was the height of hilarity in ye ol' South Boston [where Lou lived] in 1968, and I stuck to it for many years. Today, it's walking, and the knees approve.

"In 1978, I became fascinated with the idea that I could win races in my age division. I did run cross country (about two to three miles back in those days) and track, but not noteworthy. It was not until I tried the longer distances that I hit my stride (as they say).

"I was disappointed that when I got to Rhode Island School of Design after Peddie that there was not only no track but no sports whatsoever. I started a fencing club and only girls

CLASS NOTES

showed up, which was beautiful since Peddie was a boys' school.

“My best distance was 10 miles or half-marathon. Did one marathon, and that was enough. My real love is hiking in the woods, and I spent too many study hours walking in the Peddie woods.

“Colin Fletcher is my hero and I still have a copy of ‘The Man Who Walked Through Time.’ Remember, he took the strings off of his tea bags to save weight! What a guy! And the ‘Whole Earth Catalog,’ too.”

Howard Kramer updates us as follows: “I’m tempted to complain about some negative aging issues, but my wife keeps pointing out that we are still together in our condo and not in a nursing home or coffin. On the other hand, as you surely know, several dear friends have departed.

“Our days are blessed by some visits with family, including sweet grandchildren. Sometimes, I get to help them with homework. It reminds me that teaching has probably been my favorite role.”

I apologize, but as of now, Howie’s update is almost a year old.

Mike Armellino: “Small-world department: My godson Nicholas ’94 is an emergency room doc in New Hampshire. He emailed last week that a new associate is the daughter of **Kirby Gale ’57**. Asked if I knew him. I told him that Kirby was our class star — smart, athletic and a natural leader. I also told him that I had heard that Kirby died in a boating accident.

“His daughter was very moved to hear about her dad from a classmate.”

That is “small-world,” verging on eerie. I remember Kirby going to Edinburgh to check on how his daughter was doing in her medical studies, and occasionally wondered what had become of her. Very welcome news. Thanks, Mike.

Ready to get the inside scoop on **Chuck Morgan** and Penn Yan? Read on! “For the next two months, we’re up at our summer home on Keuka Lake in New York’s Finger Lakes region. The town, Penn Yan, at the end of the lake, is the town that I grew up in, and where I found that agricultural education was not my thing. So I shot off to Peddie to get something better and more productive in my

lifestyle. Sixty-seven years later, I can vouch that the move was good.

“I had a surprise when I got up to Penn Yan last week: A friend from the American Legion Post called to tell me that a picture of me in my officer’s uniform was placed on a banner in town, honoring me as one of ‘Penn Yan’s Hometown Heroes.’ Picture attached!

“[I have a view] from my porch to the lake where I am relaxing now — a beautiful day today after three days of very heavy rain. Yesterday, within a two-hour period, we had four-and-a-half inches of rain here. It was something else.”

All getaways do not work out as well as Chuck’s. **Hoppy Hopkins** writes, “My wife [Glady] has been after me for years to go to New England in the fall to see the beautiful colors, so last October [2023], we went. I did an Airbnb rental of a nice place on the water near Rockport, Maine. Two days after we got there, she got COVID. Four days later, I got it and lost my lunch, but I also lost my sense of taste and smell. All this before I even had a lobster. The three-week rental turned into two weeks with no refund, but we’d had enough of Maine and returned home to Virginia.

“I got my annual physical exam in January [2024], and as I was leaving, the doctor gave me a prescription for a shingles shot. I put it in my wallet because I knew shingles only affects old people. Two weeks later, I had some chest pain, went to the ER, got sent to a hospital room and connected to an IV, blood pressure machine, blood test, EKG, the whole lot. The good-looking female doctor, whose name was Electra something, came in and said, ‘Good news, Mr. Hopkins, your heart checks out fine.’ I’m lying there with the sheet down to my waist and she leans over and says, ‘See that rash just below your heart? You don’t have a heart problem. You’ve got shingles, and that’s what is causing the pain.’ Luckily, it was not too bad of a case, but there went another few weeks without golf. Just healed up from that, and then I started expelling things from both ends and lost nine pounds in 24 hours. That was norovirus, the ‘Cruise Ship Illness.’ I healed up from that, only to injure my shoulder by

doing too many overhead presses in group fitness class. For a golfer like me, this resulted in disaster. The good news is that I’m OK now and playing golf as usual.

“Another positive thing is about to happen on September 14 [2024]. I think everyone knows I was a fighter pilot in Vietnam. While there in 1968, one of the F-100 Super Sabres in my squadron was ‘assigned’ to me as pilot and to a young sergeant who was responsible for having the plane’s maintenance ready whenever it was scheduled to fly. That actual plane is now in the Military Aviation Preservation Society (MAPS) Museum in Canton, Ohio. [Note: Hoppy described the incredible history of his plane and how it got to be in the MAPS Museum in the Fall/Winter 2021 Chronicle.]

“The September 14 event will have a permanent display of hundreds of F-100 artifacts and memorabilia, and my name will again be painted on the canopy rail of my old Vietnam airplane, along with the name of my crew chief. He now lives in Massachusetts and will be at the event as well.” [Note: Google “MAPS Museum Ohio,” then search on “September 14.” With an ounce of perseverance, you will get to a Facebook page with pictures of the celebration including one of Hoppy and his crew chief with their plane “081” in the background. Very, very cool.]

And now, let’s listen to tales of a small New Jersey town from our astute observer and raconteur nonpareil, **Guy Butterworth**. “Today, I attended the ‘Retirement Chapel’ because Brian Davidson was retiring after 30-plus years at Peddie as director of alumni relations. At the back of Ayer Memorial Chapel there were some armchairs, into one of which I settled, though I was invited to sit up front in a reserved section.

“It didn’t really matter where I sat, as the acoustics defeated any attempt to have my hearing aids give me knowledge of what was said, and [so] I can’t report much of that aspect of the ceremonies.

“The chaplain, who is also an English teacher, spoke, as did the head of school, at some length, telling us, I presume, all about the two retirees. The other retiree

was a math teacher, [Tim Corica], who also spoke at length.

“For me, it was the contrast between what I remember from our time and the present laid-back atmosphere. For example, the head of school, Brian and the older of duffers, including yours truly, all seemed to be in almost identical uniforms: blue blazer, khaki trousers, ties in Peddie blue and gold. The choice of Peddie tie exhibited the only real diversity. The head’s was a bow tie; Brian’s had narrow stripes; one alumnus wore one with falcon heads, but in the school colors. Alumni of more recent classes were sometimes almost indistinguishable from the students.

“But, oh, the students: a female chem teacher sat down next to me, and I would have enjoyed hearing more of what she said, but she did say that PJs had been worn, even to chapel. Alas, I didn’t get an opportunity to see any fashion that far out, but the variety was fairly astounding and demonstrated total insouciance among the student body. Of course, not a tie, battered old sport coat or even penny loafers could be seen. Times do change.

“We gathered after the students were released to say hello to the honorees, and then we gathered on the stairs outside for a group photo



Captain Chuck Morgan '57, hometown hero of Penn Yan, N.Y.

before retiring for a nonalcoholic nosh at Coates-Coleman and companionable conversation.

“When I wondered what would happen to the uneaten spread, Karyn [Vella, assistant head for development] reassured me that the leftovers would be devoured by students later.

“I apologize that this summary isn’t more spellbinding. But I suppose it wasn’t expected to be. All the while, a crew of folks were starting to erect the tent for the Reunion Weekend, but classes must have been still on.

“I was struck by the diversity of the student body I saw — a real United Nations of a sort.”

Guy also brought us up to date on his defense of the Lanterne Rouge in the annual Helene Cody Cranbury 5k.

“Suffice to say that my Lanterne Rouge self-awarded award, first suggested by our secretary, was safely won yet again, as I finished a far-distant 430 out of 430 actually-timed competitors at 1:32:58.4, but still a prize winner in the male 80-99 group. The overall winner, who was in the 25-29 male group, had a time of 17:16.8. I saw him before I even got to leave the park, as he was coming near the end of his run.

“This year, most of the three place winners in each age and gender group received not a small trophy (what does one do with a trophy, anyway?), but a spiffy sky-blue baseball cap with the logo



Guy Butterworth '57 participates in the Helene Cody 5K in Cranbury, N.J.

of the foundation and its name on the front and, stitched on the back, ‘Cranbury 5k’ and the first, second or third place. I was a bit confused at first, but, being happy that there had been only two other contestants over 80, I wasn’t going to ‘kvetch,’ and, indeed, I think it a good and interesting solution, as I have not been able to wear the other two trophies I have received (I hesitate to say ‘won’), but can wear my Myanmar-stitched cap just about any time.

“But enough of a very small success. On August 6, I attended a Naturalization Ceremony performed at the Peter W. Rodino Federal Building in Newark, N.J. The new citizens making the ‘leap of faith’ were from 39 countries, a few of which even I would have had trouble finding on a map. And they were there with a motley crew of the rest of us: family, friends, hangers-on, perhaps even some mistakenly looking for the auto licensing window.

“Instead of some national political celebrity to swear them in, there was a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the District of New Jersey. The judge welcomed the soon-to-be citizens and, after the playing of a short film (‘Faces of America’), the presentation of the candidates, the administration of the oath, the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem, there was their vital piece of bureaucratic bumf: the presentation of the certificates of naturalization in a kind of enthusiastic rush from seats in the candidates’ section to run up and grab them from the people handing them out. All I saw of the new Americans as they returned to their seats were broad smiles for the cameras of their family and friends, and I was happy for them. It gave me a positive feeling that this group of about 100 or whatever was willing to throw in with the unfinished business of democracy in a soon-to-be 250-year-old country. Of course, I wondered if they would be steadfast, but I wonder about that among native-born Americans (and myself?). And I wondered whether their smiles were genuine. Mine definitely was. I was there for my tenant and friend, who earned a doctorate even though she was ‘undocumented’ due to the usual

problems her family had had. But she is all in for life in somnolent Cranbury. And I hope she thrives along with her husband. We carried on at a small lunch party she hosted of Italian-American food and wine for drinkers like me.”

Charlie Ballance: “I’m doing pretty well, somewhere between surviving and thriving. I enjoy daily walks with my two dogs, spending too much time on my iPad, reading too much political stuff. But I have downloaded Steinbeck’s ‘Travels With Charley’ to enjoy again. My mind continues to serve me fairly well ... until it doesn’t.

“I just returned from a leisurely river cruise down the Danube with two college friends. That was fun. We ended up in Budapest. No Victor Orbán sightings ... good. I find him to be a rather unpleasant chap anyway.

“Now that I’ve played through most Cavett reruns, I’m into some Letterman reruns, but, by and large, TV and I parted ways a while ago.

“There you are, my man. Now I’m going to take a nap.”

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To submit news or if you are interested in serving as class secretary, email editor@peddie.org.

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Bad news first: we have lost three of our classmates this year, **Alan Feldman** in January, **Chris Probasco** in February and **Harvey Honig** in June. Alan was graduated from Lafayette College and then began work with his father in the garment industry. In 1979, he struck out on his own as a financial consultant at Shearson Lehman Brothers, Citigroup and, finally, at UBS, where he retired as Senior Vice President in 2018. His obituary described Alan as having “sweetness and a sense of ethics that he brought to every situation, along with joy and humor.” He served as president of Middle Bay Country Club and of the Seawane

Club and was the only member in the history of Middle Bay to win the golf championship in three different decades. Alan was very philanthropic and dedicated to the Jack Martin Fund (JMF), that was founded by his family in 1950 to find treatments for poliomyelitis but which later partnered with Mt. Sinai Hospital to develop pioneering programs in adolescent psychiatry and pediatric oncology. Under Alan’s leadership, JMF raised over \$45 million. Alan is survived by his wife, Judith; his sons, Evan and Gabriel; and his grandchildren, Mack, Maisie and Mary Delaney.

Chris was graduated from Syracuse University and began work in New York, first for Procter & Gamble and then the textile division of Monsanto. In 1971, he was transferred by Monsanto to Chicago and, in 1978, to Michigan, where he enjoyed a long, successful career in sales for Monsanto’s Flexsys Division. Chris was an emeritus member of the rubber division of the American Chemical Society and served as president of both the Fort Wayne, Indiana and West Michigan rubber groups. He was an avid runner, golfer and gardener and, particularly, an avid observer of Nature’s extremes, as seen from his home near the shores of Lake Michigan. He is survived by his wife, Donna; son, Brett; daughter, Brittany; and grandchildren, Christopher, Ethan and Ada.

Harvey was graduated from Lehigh University and then earned a law degree from the University of Wisconsin. He practiced law in New Jersey’s beautiful Sussex County and spent the last 20 years as a self-employed real estate title searcher. He served on the Hardyston Township Board of Education for over 23 years. When first elected President of the Board in 1973, he was the youngest person in the state to hold such office. He enjoyed French cuisine, classical music, puzzles and his German Shepherd, Maya. He is survived by his wife, Ann; his daughters, Laura and Deidre; and grandchildren, Nicole, Anthony and Xan.

Last April, I received a lovely note from Martha E. Pultz, the sister of **Oscar Romer**, who passed away in Valencia, Venezuela,

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on November 11, 2021 from complications of COVID. Both Oscar and Martha's youngest brother died of COVID within a month of each other. Martha said that the government allowed no services and performed cremation within 24 hours of death. Oscar was retired and living in the family compound where he managed the family business. He is survived by his wife, Luisa; sons, Oscar and Michael; daughters, Maria Elena and Karin; granddaughters, Brittney, Sophia, Alexandra and Isabel; and grandson, Wes.

On to the living, and one of the most vibrant members of our class, **Clem Kost**, whom we see here standing next to Peddie's Baseball Wall of Fame, in which Clem has been enshrined. He continues his stellar athletic performance but now on the golf course, where he recently shot a two-over-par round, well under the "shoot one's age" brag standard for our peers! He plays two or three rounds per week, is an avid bocci player and works out in a fitness center every other day. Even beyond his exceptional sports achievements are Clem's cooking triumphs. His parents owned the Old Mill Inn, that served as many as 900 persons in an evening and employed five Europe-trained chefs. While working in the pantry, Clem spoke with and watched the chefs ply their trade and himself learned the art of cooking. Indeed, he has won



Clem Kost '59 stands beside Peddie's baseball captains board, where he is honored as a member.

several cooking contests covering a broad range of cuisine from a spicy Texas chili to a very complex fish chowder. Despite going through an expensive divorce, Clem is thriving, enjoying life and blessed with many loyal friends, including **Stan Solomon**, from whom and to whom much support has been given in recent years.

Sadly, Clem missed our 65th Reunion in June and, of course, we remembered fondly the loyalty that **Lloyd Reynolds** had shown over several decades, but we did have a good turn-out: **Skip Goldfein**, **Stan Solomon**, **Bob Berman** (and Phyllis), **Kraemer Luks** (and Christi), **Gabe Galindo** (and two sons whom I never had a chance to meet) and, happily, **Dick Heuser**, who, in defiance of his Parkinson's Disease, cycled the 16 miles to Peddie.

Barry Radick has been another class member with a vibrant, productive life. His wife, Sloan, just retired from the Hospital for Special Surgery, where she had worked for over 20 years as Vice President and Deputy General Counsel. Their daughter, Julia, formerly a contemporary ballet dancer, is now in the last year of a doctorate program in physical therapy at Columbia University. In January, she will start a five-month clinical rotation in Downey, Calif., at Rancho Los Amigos, one of the best neurological physical therapy centers in the country.



Members of the Class of '59 attend their 65th Reunion. From left: Stan Solomon, Skip Goldfein, Nelson Levy, Dick Heuser, Bob Berman and Kraemer Luks (missing Gabe Galindo).

Their other daughter, Olivia, is a certified pilates instructor in New York. Barry and Sloan's sons, Neil and Rob, are both practicing attorneys. Neil is a public defender in Los Angeles. He and his wife, Allison, have two daughters, one a student at Ohio State and the other a junior in high school. Rob is a partner at a New York firm, where he specializes in white collar crime defense. (I have his number for any of you errant brethren!) Rob and his wife, Lindsay, have two daughters, one at the University of Wisconsin, the other at George Washington University. Barry has finally retired from his legal and consulting careers and now cooks, shops, volunteers in local political organizations and enjoys opera, walking their dog, Franklin, and spending time with his extended family.

John Waterman wrote: "My wife Betsy and I enjoyed meeting **Chris Duff** and wife Deb for lunch in Midway, Ky. I had to buy because Army (Chris and his dad) defeated Navy (me). Chris enjoys life on a beautiful thoroughbred horse farm in the bluegrass region just outside Lexington. Chris bred and raced numerous stakes-winning horses but has yet to win the Kentucky Derby — maybe next year. Chris also stays busy administering a charitable foundation."

Skip Goldfein, always too modest to write about his own rich and productive life,

described in glowing terms the Peddie classes he had recently attended on environmental science, government and philosophy. He also sent me a photo of the Hightstown Diner, with a kind invitation to join him there for dinner. (Let's do it at our 70th, Skip.)

My six sons, six daughters-in-law and 13 grandkids are all doing well and, thankfully, still love us (mainly Louisa) enough to call and visit us on a regular basis. Unlike many of you, we have not been clever enough to get our kids to live near us, with two in Seattle, one in San Francisco, one in Denver, one in Garrison, N.Y. and just one reasonably close-by in Evanston, Ill. Our eldest grandchild just started at the University of Washington, so, finally, I am using some of the gazillion dollars I have been stashing in 529 accounts for each grandkid. We are taking the whole family (26 people) to the Galapagos next July and hope the unrest in Ecuador has quieted by then. I have resigned from all public company boards but remain on some not-for-profit boards, most significantly that of Osher Lifelong Learning, a terrific organization with chapters in almost every state. We did a dangerous, but successful, move in ChemBridge Corporation, the company started in 1993 by three Russian immigrants and me, and which we four still own, in moving the major operations of the company, including almost all of our 500+ employees, from Moscow to Astana, Kazakhstan. The move was to protest – and escape – the current evil that now consumes Russia's government.

Stan Solomon, always honest and candid, in a note to Peter Quinn said: "The essence of Peddie is not only the academic aspects but also learning the true meaning of friendship and trust." Stan lauded Peter: "I admire what you have done for Peddie. Most of all, I admire your level of commitment; you are a true leader." We, Stan's classmates, can be proud that he has been invited to speak at Peddie next year on Memorial Day.

Peter responded to Stan's comments: "It was such a pleasure

to be with your classmates and you. I've had connections to that class longer than any other Peddie class, probably because of **Finn Caspersen** and **Mort Goldfein**. But I am lucky to meet more of you, I feel more clearly the ethos of the late 50's at Peddie, and of course the differences in the classes. '54, '56, '57 and '59 each include remarkable people, amongst whom there exists a fabulous diversity of personalities and interpretations of their years at Peddie."

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In 2025, it will be 65 years since we left Peddie. But for many classmates, Peddie has never left us. Our 65th Reunion is fast approaching and will be held June 6-7 of next year.

After some back and forth, it appears that, as one classmate put it recently, more of us '60ers are on the right side of the grass than we originally thought. Thanks to **Dick Bonner** for going through our yearbook and counting 106 class members, as opposed to the previously reported 94. However, I do need to report that **Lou "Buddy" Hano** passed away on July 2 of this year. On my first day at Peddie (my sophomore year), I met Buddy, who was rooming across the hall from me on fifth Wilson. He was a serious guy and an excellent soccer player; I often watched him



From left: Paul Albert '60 and Roger Golden '60 attend their 60th Princeton Reunion last spring.

play in the games and admired his talent. Later, he became an excellent and ranked bridge player. He will be remembered.

Always reliable **Paul Albert** checked in with his news and updates: "HURRICANE: First, other than being out of power for five days, Beryl did not cause any direct damage to us. The good thing at our Texas house is the city water still worked (unlike in New York, where our well water tank was gone in a day, so we could not stay in the house very long, particularly in winter with no heat). In neither place can we cook on an electric stove. Without AC, the house got warm, but not unlivable. Two things were annoying: 1) I had to throw out all the food from the refrigerator/freezer. 2) I could not go to The American Legion State Convention in Austin; could not leave Irma in the house without power, and for example, she cannot lift our heavy, normally automatic garage door by herself.

"This was our first extended power outage in our five years in Texas, many more in New York (winter and summer), one of which lasted eight days, requiring a hotel stay 50 miles away. The biggest issue was lack of email and internet connection as well, so I could not do anything other than read during daylight. Fortunately, nothing happened in financial markets during the week that required any action on our portfolios, and we managed to survive on water, chips and candy bars for the first three



Paul Albert '60 with former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army General Mark Milley at the Princeton Reunion last spring.

days. EAST TRIP: Accomplished everything planned: 1) Visited twin sister in Pennsylvania, including a big luncheon with many friends from Emmaus High School Class of 1960, of which I am an honorary member. 2) Visited Peddie, met with Peter Quinn, Tim Corica, new head of math department, wrestling coach, etc. Attended math class, and met with students, added money to my endowed math fund. 3) Visited beach club on Jersey Shore where my grandparents were longtime members (Grandfather was president from 1942-43), learned to swim there with my twin sister 77 years ago, and spent time there in summer with my grandparents. 4) Main event: 60th Princeton Reunion: One of my few surviving roommates, Willy Childs, emeritus professor at Princeton, not the reunion type, but had dinner with him. Great attendance, including **Roger Golden**. Roger and I are the two survivors from the seven Peddie Class of 1960 that joined the Princeton Class of 1964.

A special highlight for me as a veteran Army officer, so involved with the American Legion, was an opportunity to have in-depth discussions with just-retired Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army General Mark Milley, Princeton Class of 1980, but also an honorary member of our Class of 1964. He did talk about Russia/Ukraine at a forum with the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, his fellow Princeton 1980 classmate,



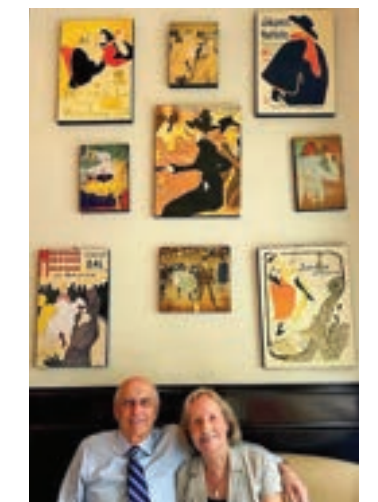
From left: Army Brigadier General (Ret.) David VanKleeck, Paul Albert '60 and Texas State Guard Commander M.C. Woods at the Sugar Land, Texas, Memorial Day event last spring.

but it was more interesting to get more in-depth with him at one of our class dinners. Note Princeton Hockey hat; he was an outstanding varsity hockey player.

I did manage to rush back to Texas on Sunday to be available to participate in the Sugar Land Memorial Day event as an American Legion Post 294 Honor Guard member, presenting colors, etc. Participation was mainly arranged by me because of my friendship with Army Brigadier General (Ret.) David VanKleeck (Princeton 1973) who is the longtime emcee of this event. Similar to me, David had rushed back the previous year from his Princeton 50th Reunion so he could emcee the Sugar Land Memorial Day.

Of more importance, Irma and I celebrated our 56th wedding anniversary at the Toulouse Restaurant in River Oaks, Houston, with our son, Alex, and his Norwegian girlfriend, Vivien."

Terry Hensle gave his updates and some good advice. "Still teaching and writing. Golf is more of a struggle. I've given up skiing and riding (horses). Lizzy and I still like each other. I see **Eddie King** and **Steve Brown '57** often. Make a Peddie football game once a year. The new coach (Penn All-Ivy receiver) is a great coach and role model." Terry's advice? "Just keep moving."



Paul Albert '60 and his wife, Irma, recently celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary.

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Mike Kay is still working — and enjoying it! He reports: “Hard to believe it’s going to be 65 years! Life is good, and both Bonnie and I are very grateful to be where we are. I have always agreed with Dick Joslin that Peddie definitely changed my life. We spend five months a year in Florida, but when I am in Philly, I still work two days a week. (Bonnie says I am the oldest ophthalmologist still working at Wills Eye.) I have great partners (all women) who have basically told me to do what I want ... and my name is still on the door. I love suiting up for work and seeing longtime patients. We feel so fortunate and grateful; we both have our health, remain pretty active, playing lots of golf and my newest sport, padel. The two kids are doing great and our four grandchildren are in or graduated from college. We have great hopes for the youngest generation. We moved again a couple of years ago (one of many), and as Bonnie says: ‘You are never too old to make a move that will improve the quality of your life.’ If it were up to me, I’d still be living in Brooklyn, N.Y. The world has been front and center in our lives the past year because my cousin’s son has been one of the eight American hostages still being held in Gaza. His parents have been incredibly active, advocating for the release of all the hostages, constantly being interviewed on American and Israeli TV. So, we are blessed, grateful, concerned and hopeful. Cheers and warm regards to all.”

Roger Golden continues to travel, visit family around the country and stay active. His updates: “I turned 80 on June 14, but still vividly remember turning 18 on June 14, 1960! Eddie King’s response that turning 80 beats the alternative is correct. I feel lucky to have made it this far in good health. Some of our classmates are no longer with us, including five (**Austin Wright, Barry Simon, Francois Gros, John Bellios** and **Lee Smith**) of the seven that Peddie ’60 sent to Princeton (only Paul Albert and I remain). Joanie and I will celebrate our 57th anniversary this December. We raised three wonderful daughters, who are married and have children

of their own. Our oldest grandson just graduated from Lafayette College in May 2022. I retired from full-time law at the end of 2003 (nearly 20 years ago). I then did a little part-time work for a few years and three volunteer activities, one of which I continued until the virus lockdown in 2020, which seems to have ended that program as a practical matter. Joanie and I have not done any international travel since our October 2019 trip to Japan. Our domestic travel generally has been limited to our daughters and grandchildren, who live in Milwaukee, Atlanta and Arlington, Va. I keep mentally active with the continuing study of two foreign languages for the past 10+ years, taking occasional online history courses and reading books (fiction and nonfiction), articles and the Wall Street Journal. I minimize mental anguish by not watching televised news or listening to radio news. I keep physically active by swimming, playing golf (mostly with Joanie) and going to the gym. My competitive swimming career may have ended (last meet was in 2020) because the muscular strength and coordination required for butterfly has diminished significantly for me in recent years. However, I still swim about 3,000 yards three days a week with a masters group.” But, unlike Mike Kay, Roger states, “We have lived in the same house since January 1971 — more than 53 years ago.”

Gene and **Ron Cantlie** were comparing hot-weather temperatures in Tucson, Ariz. (Gene) and Las Vegas (Ron), with Ron the obvious winner. His report: “Not only has it been hot here in Las Vegas, but it has been really hot, up to 115 degrees Fahrenheit. Yes, it still is my hometown since early 2019, and getting used to living here is most intriguing. For instance, my days of running and tennis have been replaced by 6 a.m. walking before the heat is an issue. And the landscape is very different from New Jersey and Ohio. My partner, Leah Girolami, and I enjoy sightseeing and retirement. We met at St. Lawrence University in the early ’60s and got together in early 2019. We spend a lot of time planning and traveling to see family all over east of the Mississippi.

We have five children (me, three), 13 grandchildren (me, eight), five great-grandchildren (all Leah’s). That’s it for now. Take care to all.”

Dave Molitz, unlike several of us, has little need to travel to see family. His report explains why: “It is disconcerting to remember that I came to Peddie 66 years ago as a junior. That was in 1958. For those 66 years, I have enjoyed a wonderful life. My wife and I have been married for 60 years, and we spend a great deal of time together now. We watch sporting events, British mysteries and the political channels each day. I live in Henderson, Nev., with my sons and my grandchildren. We all live in the same subdivision. One of my sons lives directly behind me, and the other only nine houses away. I am told by my physicians that people our age are sick, hurt or both. Bette Midler tells us that in the distant past we took drugs and now we take medication. So, like many of us, I have some injuries that my physicians and I keep tending. Considering my current state, I suspect that the Hawaii Ironman race is out of the question. But I enjoy my life here, and I am continually wrapped up in my grandchildren and the rest of my family. We are all sports fans and we are fortunate to have an NHL team, an NFL team, a WNBA team, and soon we will have a major league baseball team. We go to events like these from time to time, and now we have other events that we find enjoyable. Of greater interest is the burgeoning enjoyment of both box lacrosse and field lacrosse in our market. My granddaughter entered high school a few days ago and will be part of her school’s lacrosse team. It is one of the best in our valley. I have watched her for a serious amount of time as a goalie. She will be playing with a team that sent four players to Division One colleges for women’s lacrosse. All games are significantly different than they were that lifetime ago when I was at Peddie, but we all, as a family, are great fans irrespective of the sport and where in our valley we can see it live. My grandson, who turned out to be a MENSA member, just entered middle school, and he is a true STEM kid who works on the school’s robotics team. From time

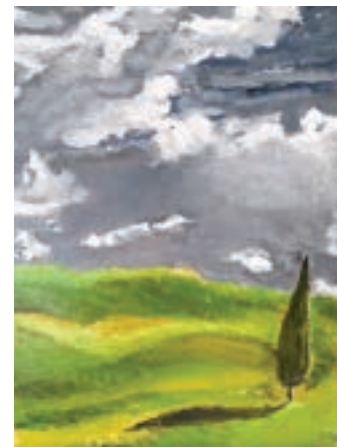
to time, I still do consulting work and that is seriously enjoyable. It keeps my mind sharp, makes me happy and it gives me things that I truly enjoy doing. There are still times when I miss working every day, but that is just not going to happen. It is my hope for the balance of us that there is sufficient length for us to remain in our own worlds and enjoy the quality of our lives. For my classmates, please enjoy your families and keep yourselves well and happy.”

Tom Crosswell reflected on the loss of class members but reports he is doing well. “Sorry to hear each time we lose another class member. Reinforces the fact that we all have an expiration date! So far, Caroline and I have made it this far (43 years) with the help of a replacement part or two, however! Still play golf one or two times a week, but hung up the tennis racket years ago. Planning to get back to cruising again next March. Before COVID, we were doing a couple of cruises a year. Our daughter, Katie, and her family now live in Morristown, N.J., since her husband, Charlie, went to work for the NBA corporate in New York. So, we get up to New Jersey often to see the grandkids (Teddy will be 9 this month, and Maddie is 6). We will try to plan a trip up to New Jersey next year to visit them, and at the same time, hit our 65th Reunion. See you then.”

What would our class notes be without a report from our class writer/editor/marketer, **Dick Harrison**? Dick reports from Knoxville, Tenn., the location of Gene’s first job at the University of Tennessee. Dick’s updates: “I’m 81 years old, a milestone I never thought I would achieve since neither of my parents and none of my grandparents lived past 70. And there have been a number of other nice surprises: I have a perfect marriage. It took me three tries, but I finally got it right. The last 33 1/3 years have been beyond my most positive expectations (and I’m an inveterate optimist). I have two wonderful children and four absolutely delightful grandchildren. Each set is a flight away (one family in Houston, the other in Los Angeles), but visits with them or when they visit us are a delight. After spending most

of my working life in major cities (New York, San Juan, Mexico City, Atlanta and Dallas) and on the road in most of Latin America, London, Paris and even a bit of Africa, I live in a small Appalachian town and love it. I feel pretty good with the help of a primary care physician, a physician’s assistant, a cardiologist, a gastroenterologist, an ophthalmologist, a dermatologist, a urologist and my wife (whose degrees include one in nursing). I no longer have an oncologist since he told me that if my cancer recurs, something else will doubtlessly kill me first. Now I read more than I write, but I’ve outlined and researched two series of five novels, one set in Chiapas, Mexico, the other in the Amazon: an example of that inveterate optimism I mentioned earlier, since at the rate I’m writing now it would take me more than a decade to finish them all. Back when I did it for a living, I ghost wrote books in three months on nights and weekends while going to a day job. But those days — and abilities — are long gone. We’re not wealthy, but we have enough to be comfortable and secure for as long as my wife and I might conceivably live. (Another one of my wife’s degrees is an MBA, and she manages our portfolio.) I hope my old friends and acquaintances from Peddie are happy and well. My best to you all.”

Our resident lawyer/artist **Steve Boyers** continues his law practice and his second artistic career. Steve writes, “I may retire from law at the end of the year. It probably takes \$15K and some aggravation to keep



The fields of Tuscany provide inspiration for artist Steve Boyers ’60.

my law office open, and I don’t know if I’ll have enough business to make it worthwhile. Will ponder for a few months and let you know if I move full-time into painting. I think our increasing age and inability to handle problems as easily as before led me to try to get Sara to recognize that our comfort requires us to simplify our lives.” He adds, “When life gets a bit too hectic, I look to my simpler paintings for calm and respite. The fields of Tuscany, Italy, always provided me with an awe-inspiring contentment.” If you want to see some more of Steve’s art, and a little of Steve himself, go to: [instagram.com/srboyersart/](https://www.instagram.com/srboyersart/).

As the saga of **Gene Scanlan** and Joanne’s move to Tucson, Ariz., in October of 2023 continues, we are still somewhat getting settled in. Joanne continues to teach her online master’s course for the University of Maryland, and I am kept busy with writing articles and my blog for my professional association. Peddie also has me on three committees, so Zoom has become my friend. Being somewhat of a nerd, I’ve started messing with AI (Artificial Intelligence), but recognize I am AI (Actually Ignorant) about much of it. I do believe all of these tech things may help keep us going as they get more intelligent and we get less so. One can hope. Healthwise, we’re doing OK except for some minor issues. Finally, I again encourage you to try to get back for our **65th Reunion, June 6-7, 2025**. As always, thanks for your news and updates.



Michael Gilbert ’61 (fourth from left) celebrates his birthday with family.

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Michael Gilbert
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I trust you have all “weathered” the unprecedented environmental shifts this summer — rain, heat, etc. — and were able to enjoy yourselves and your families.

I still see you as you were when we were at Peddie (harkening back to Mr. Chips). Here are some interesting thoughts (not mine) to remind us of where we are in our lives:

Happy Day

“I can hit the golf ball any way I can and laugh if it goes in the lake. Those are the breaks. I am happy I can still hit the golf ball.

“As I’ve aged, I’ve become kinder to myself and less critical of myself. I’ve become my own friend.

“I’ve seen too many friends leave this world too soon, before they understood the great freedom that comes with aging.

“Whose business is it if I choose to read, play on the computer until 4 a.m., or sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the ’50s, ’60s and ’70s, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love, I will.

“I will walk on the beach in a swimsuit that is stretched over a bulging body and will dive into the waves with abandon, despite the pitying glances from the jet set. They, too, will get old.

“I know I am sometimes forgetful. But there again, some of life is just as well forgotten.

And, eventually, I remember the important things.

“Sure, over the years, my heart has been broken. How can your heart not break when you lose a loved one, or when a child suffers, or even when somebody’s beloved pet passes? But broken hearts are what give us strength and understanding and compassion. A heart never broken is pristine and sterile and will never know the joy of being imperfect.

“I am so blessed to have lived long enough to have my hair turn gray, and to have my youthful laughs be forever etched into deep grooves on my face. So many have never laughed, and so many have died before their hair could turn silver.

“As you get older, it is easier to be positive. You care less about what other people think. I don’t question myself anymore. I’ve even earned the right to be wrong.

“So, to answer your question: I like being old. It has set me free. I like the person I have become. I am not going to live forever, but while I am still here, I will not waste time lamenting what could have been or worrying about what will be. And I shall eat dessert every single day (if I feel like it).”

I was blessed with a “surprise” birthday party from my family. Pic includes all my kids and grandkids, minus one son-in-law and two oldest grandsons. (Look for #90 on the UTenn FB team this fall, Max Gilbert, the place kicker.)

From **Alan Brown**: “Time to submit an update after many years of delinquency. My wife, Malinda, and I are graduates of the College of William and Mary, and, upon graduation, I served for seven years — active duty and reserves — as a military police officer. Then, it was on to a career in education — 15 years in public school as a teacher and superintendent, then 16 years in Christian education as headmaster of a school in Connecticut.

“Following some trips to the former Soviet Union after the fall of communism, we moved to Kiev (now Kyiv), Ukraine, to serve as education consultants to Christian schools in Eastern Europe. We’ve not heard from some of our close friends there since the war started. From there, we moved to

CLASS NOTES

Budapest, Hungary, where I served for a dozen years as the Europe director for the Association of Christian Schools International, and Malinda served as a consultant. We somehow managed to arrange training conferences and school visits in multiple countries.

“Upon our retirement, we moved to the beautiful Shenandoah Valley of western Virginia.

“We have three married children living in Virginia, Pennsylvania and California, and 12 grandkids. Pre-COVID, we managed a 9,000-mile, cross-country trip to visit family, national parks and presidential libraries. Coming up soon is a trip to Tennessee and Georgia, followed by a couple weeks in South and North Dakota. Otherwise, we’re much involved in the life of our church.

“We’d welcome a visit if any of you are ever in our area. We live between Harrisonburg and Staunton, Va., between the Appalachian and Blue Ridge Mountains.”

From **John Boynton**: “I have continued to thrive in my man-cave efficiency in Groton, Mass., close to son Matthew, his wife, Edie, and my grandchildren, Milena and Douglas. Daughter Anna is also nearby in Worcester. Sister Julia is in Burlington, Vt., a scant three-hour drive northward. Much as I enjoy her company, having an airtight excuse to head for Lake Champlain is a bonus.

“I have always been more into activities rather than hobbies, but as gravity works its way on my formerly robust frame, I have become interested in book making [MBG: taking bets?] and bookbinding and am making a modest foray into the craft in anticipation of my upcoming parish holiday (aka Christmas) craft fair.

“The publishing business kept a roof over our heads, and the refrigerator stocked for four-plus decades. A chance Christmas season gig in a bookstore led to three years of bookselling, 10 years on the road peddling the wares of a couple of major publishers and managerial positions in sales management marketing and acquisitions.

“I’m told by a reliable source that the three pillars of a hobby are learning/education,

interest and social interaction. I’ve got a lot to learn about the craft, a lifelong interest in books, and opportunities to take my completed efforts to community craft fairs. It looks like three for three to me.

“If God sees fit to carry me over in traveling condition to May of 2025, I’m contemplating a trip to ‘Jersey’s southward plain’ for our 64th Reunion. Until then, carry on, my wayward friends.”

From **Ward Hindman**: “Just puttering around the house and occasionally going to watch my grandson play football.”

From **Roger Hansen**: “I am still alive and kicking! I have had a great summer with my family, traveling with my grandsons to Singapore, Bali, Borneo and the Indonesian islands. I then took my two daughters and their daughters to Norway to visit my grandfather’s home and meet some of my second cousins. We also went on a backroads bicycle tour for six days.

“I have been playing a lot of golf, and once in a while, I consult with my oldest daughter about the business. She is running an outpatient rehab center for those with drug addiction and a 26-bed detox center, both located in Atlantic County, N.J. My wife has been working hard on our foundation golf outing that raises money to support the 10 sober living homes we have near Atlantic City.

“I went to the Peddie function at **Bob Kaye ’54’s** home on Jupiter Island last spring and talked with Peter Quinn. He gave a great report on the state of the school. [MBG: Sorry to see Peter leave. He has been a good shepherd of the Old Gold and Blue.]”

From **Tony Parsons**: “To date, my journey has been unspectacular, but very satisfying: Followed father and uncle as grads of Peddie; Lehigh University, B.S. in Finance, Student Commander AF ROTC; Married high school sweetheart Clare; three great kids and five special grandkids; USAF pilot/instructor pilot during Vietnam, honorable discharge in 1971; Procter & Gamble, associate director of purchases, VP Ben Hill Griffin OJ subsidiary, etc.; Retired in 1999 in Cincinnati, then to Hickory, N.C., in 2001 to 32-acre

horse farm; Most recent move to downsized home in Denver, N.C.

“Clare and I celebrated our 59th anniversary. We have been blessed with our family of three strong, successful kids and families — one in Tallahassee, one here in the Charlotte area, and one in Columbus, and a cast of five grandkids ranging in age from 12 to 26. While we both battle lower back pain, we have had many years of joy together serving in our local churches and communities.

“Keeping up with our grands as they progress remains our favorite activity, and they are all performing as stars! Walt and Linda Owen [MBG: in Bakersfield, Calif.] have remained our closest class friends, though many miles have separated us for far too long. We extend greetings to all other Peddie fans with an open invitation to stop by for a reunion any time passing through the Greater Charlotte area.”

From **Scott Smith**: “My son, Andrew, was an assistant director of the U.S. Marshals Service after his career with the U.S. Government. He is now working for Amazon and heads their hardware security department internationally.

“My daughter works for Orion, a financial planning company. She is in their technology department.

“My wife passed away a year ago after 58 years of marriage. Believe me when I say you don’t appreciate someone until they are gone. I still miss her. I live on the west coast of Florida and play golf twice a week. My friendships with my ‘golfing buddies’ have really kept me going.

“I have become active in my church and have begun to travel. Health is good, and I enjoy reading about my classmates. Keep in touch.”

From **Michael Gilbert**: “In closing, I pass along condolences to Scott and his family for their loss. I share with all of you wishes for comfort emotionally and physically as we carry on ... and this special meditation by Merrit Malloy:

“When I die, give what’s left of me away to children and old men that wait to die. And if you need to cry, cry for your brother walking the street beside you.

And when you need me, put your arms around anyone and give them what you need to give me.

“I want to leave you something, something better than words or sounds.

Look for me in the people I’ve known or loved, and if you cannot give me away, at least let me live in your eyes and not in your mind.

“You can love me best by letting hands touch hands, and letting go of children that need to be free. Love doesn’t die, people do. So, when all that’s left of me is love, give me away.”

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This is the year when many of us — but not all — reach that magical age of 80 and embark upon the ninth (!) decade of life. (Who would have believed?) Your secretary recalls a TV show in the New York City area (1950–56) called “Life Begins at 80.” We watched that TV show to marvel at all the “old codgers.” Many — yours truly included — never dreamed of making it that far. Well, that time is upon us — for both the group that has attained that milestone and for those few of us who will get there early next year.

We therefore sought input from members as to whether they were “there” yet, while advising that we here at ’62 HQ will not reach 80 until next January. That prompted **Jim Coley** — now of Hightstown — to respond, “I too am ‘only’ 79. We must be the kids of the class.”

(More on Jim below.) With Jim counting us as “kids,” we polled the class to see who else was on this younger side of milepost 80. From **Bill Kontes**, we received this survey response: “(1) Who among us is still one of the Class “kids”? No longer qualify. Always was mature for my age. (2) If you have already turned 80, how did you celebrate that milestone? Took a walk on the wild side of the neighborhood. (3) What elder advice have you to share with us

kids from that experience? Walk softly and ... avoid neighbor’s lawn. (4) If you are still working, what are you doing — and why? Consultant. Otherwise unemployable.”

Jim Crothers chimed in, noting that — in our era — some students came to Peddie for post-graduate college prep, to enhance their resumes for applying to the college of their choice. As a result, some would graduate from Peddie a year or two older than many of their classmates. Jim guesses that several of our class graduated when they were 19, and that “... many will be 80+ and maybe even 81. I’m in the latter class. Being eighty means the loss of a lot of friends.

Peter Weaver isn’t here to cackle at my jokes. **Jerry Tydlacka** isn’t ushering for the Orioles when I go to the games. **Phil Citta** isn’t here to tell us how it really is. And on and on. You can make new friends that become ‘good’ friends but they don’t remember the ‘real old days.’

“Judy and I are still very fine here at the Old Folks’ Home in Lancaster, Pa. Been here seven-and-a-half years, and still haven’t eaten a whoopie pie. Hope we can gather again in Florida.”

A similar slant on this milestone came from **Harry Shucker**: “(1) I am not a ‘kid,’ as I was a post-

grad when I entered Peddie. Best decision at that time in my life, as I needed new surroundings by getting out of my hometown. Ninety percent of my high school never left the area. [Harry came to Peddie from Lebanon, Pennsylvania. — John.] (2) Celebrated 80 with a family party with my wife, my children and my grandchildren. (3) 80 is just a number and has no relationship to how you relate to others or go through the day. The key to me is continuing to live a life of purpose by helping others and staying active in community service. [Amen.] (4) For years, I have spoken on ‘The Influence of Technology and Social Media on the Social and Emotional Development of Children and Teens.’ I have done this presentation in elementary, middle and high schools, both public and private, as well as to businesses and church groups, probably more than 100 times. My last position before retirement was as VP for Student Services at Furman University. The counseling center was one of nine areas I supervised. I watched the deterioration of mental health in young people that continues to this day. There are not enough mental health professionals to meet the needs of college students.

This is a part of my community service: to give back to others.”

We hope that Harry has many more years of delivering that essential message. **Spencer Stickley** replied, “Turning 80 tomorrow [September 6]. Planning my 100th birthday party, and you are all invited. Get a car which goes fast and stops fast.”

Peter Dorsen’s cryptic response to our milestone inquiry was, “Wilderness camping with Nada and Willow, our substandard poodle,” accompanied by a photo of Peter rowing and his dog barking commands. Peter had earlier brought us up to date, advising that, “Working on what I sadly say will be called ‘My Last Book,’ which will cull the writing I have saved since starting posing as a journalist in about 1985. I think this venture will be easier than both writing and editing of a de novo book such as my memoir(s), ‘Crazy Doctor and Up from the Ashes,’ and my most recent, ‘Men Over 60: Don’t Quit Now!’

“By the way, ‘Fill me in on your life in Miami [home to this New Jersey native since 1957. — John.]’ I was in Miami Beach over spring. The ambience was striking on South Beach and North Beach. Both places

were gracious. The amount of buildings in Miami per se was amazing — cranes everywhere. I wondered how anyone could work in the heat. [Amen — so do we.]

“Watching several dear men and women in my life taking a downward trajectory soon after 80 has made me painfully more alert to the cognitive and physical conclusion, even with an active life. Persevere. Don’t stop. Have fun. Laugh a lot.”

After **Jim Coley**’s “kids” suggestion, we asked Jim to update us on what he’s doing and why he is back in Hightstown. He replies, “In answer to your question as to why I have settled in Hightstown after traveling overseas for so long, my second wife, Agnes, is a ‘townie,’ having lived in Hightstown all her life. Also, Hightstown is convenient to my heart transplant medical team and to international airports. I’ll be 80 this October and am no longer a ‘kid.’”

Jim continues: “**Rick Rogow** and I reconnected at our 60th class reunion and realized that we had a common aspiration: to do something positive for humanity. I have been working on an off-grid, renewable, clean power source that can provide reliable power to rural and developing populations



UPCOMING REGIONAL GATHERINGS

Jan 28: Washington, D.C. • **Feb 5:** Sarasota, Fla. • **Feb 12:** Orange County, Calif.
Feb 13: Santa Barbara, Calif. • **Mar 9:** Atlanta, Ga. • **May 8:** Richmond, Va.

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that have never had the benefits of electricity. The system uses a new battery chemistry, superior to lithium, that is durable, long-lasting and maintenance free. (It's the same battery technology currently used in satellites, the space station and the Mars Rover.)

"When integrated with a solar array by an advanced battery management system, it will be reliable in the most remote areas. Rick saw the benefits of the system, and he and I have been working to bring it to fruition. We call it the 'Omega System' because, at our age, it's probably our last. We expect to have a prototype running in Colorado this year, with actual deployment before the end of next year." [Wow! Stay tuned.]

Lastly, our survey about who among us are still "kids" prompted this response from **Merlin Renne**, who suggests that he and your secretary "are probably the two youngest members of Peddie Class of 1962. I will turn 80 in mid-January, and you [i.e., yours truly] are close behind me. We are the kids!"

Regular readers know that this column invites and encourages members to let us have life stories, telling the rest of us what they did after we all went our separate ways 62 years ago. Merl sums up that interval this way: "I retired from 'the bench' on June 30, 2007, having served exactly 17 years as General District Court Judge in the Ninth Judicial District of Virginia. I was the presiding judge for the general district courts of York County and the City of Poquoson, of King William County and of King and Queen County. I was the added judge in July 1990. Until then, just two judges handled the nine counties and two small cities comprising the Ninth Judicial District. I suppose it is not altogether surprising that, despite population and caseload growth and given Virginia's reputation for governmental frugality, this number hasn't changed.

"When I retired, I was only 62 years old but had reached the maximum service years needed for the highest pension award. In 1990, the Virginia Code still provided that for every year a judge served, they would receive 3.5 years service credit toward retirement. Thus, by

June 30, 2007, I had amassed an amazing 59.5 years' service credit! The legislature had apparently set this very generous formula because, historically, lawyers had only sought judgeships when they were in their fifties. I was only 45 in 1990, and many of the new judges I met in pre-bench training were much younger than I. This new trend of appointing younger judges caused the legislature to re-think its retirement formula, and three years later they chopped that service credit to just 1.5 years for every year served. However, the Virginia constitution forbids the legislature from reducing the compensation and benefits accrued to judges already in service. Yippee for me and my 1990 pre-bench classmates!

"I was still curious as to how other local courts operated where I had never been nor practiced during my former position as an elected county prosecutor. At that time, the state code still read that retired judges in good health were expected until age 73 to make themselves available as substitute judges in their respective category of trial court, if approved by the Chief Justice. I was eager to continue my retired status as a substitute judge so I could get to know other localities and their courts.

"Once the Chief gave me his approval, I was added to the list of available retired district court judges and began to receive calls for assistance. Since then, I have presided over many courts throughout eastern Virginia, from the Potomac to the North Carolina border, and from Richmond, Virginia, to the ocean. I have not ventured into the megalopolis that extends from Washington down through Fredericksburg, mainly because I have never been invited. Those courts would likely have to pay for my overnight lodging and meals, and there are many more substitutes in their own backyard who are already very experienced in the nuances of how each of those courts operate and are acquainted with most of the courtroom bar, who appear more or less regularly. Thus, the clerks of those courts are reluctant to splurge their substitute budget on some out-of-towner from out yonder.

"With all that said, I have rarely been in court more than 60 days per year, and that number has diminished over time to about 40. I still enjoy the courtroom, but I have other interests now and am considering how soon I should wean myself away from it. I am paid a set per diem for each day's court appearance, plus a non-taxable mileage allowance. The money is not essential for my needs but is always welcome. I will be weighing my decision in the coming year as to when I should pull the plug.

"Looking back over the years, I am rather amazed that as the son, grandson and great-grandson of South Jersey dairy and truck farmers, who never owned the farms on which they lived and worked (but were always only leaseholders or a salaried farm manager), I was privileged to graduate from Peddie, Brown University and William and Mary Law School. And in the meantime, I served as a Navy officer at sea, then taught German in a public high school, and later became a thrice-elected county prosecutor before being elected to the bench by the Virginia General Assembly for three six-year terms. By keeping active in the Navy Reserve after my release for full-time active duty, I was able to retire after more than 20 years service at the rank of captain from the Navy Reserve Intelligence Command, just at about the end of the Cold War. All in all, it has been a great adventure, and I recognize how much Peddie had to do with it at the start. My parents' inspiration and guidance had much more to do with it, and I give credit to our Peddie teachers, Dean DuBois and Assistant Headmaster Ben Roman, who took a position at Brown after my first year there.

"Marion and I will celebrate our 57th wedding anniversary in September. Our daughter Michelle lives in Fairfax County, Va., and is a senior marketing properties specialist with Mars, Inc. A 1994 graduate of James Madison University, she is an expert trademark paralegal who oversees the legal aspects of marketing many of her employer's products worldwide.

"Our son and his family reside in western Montana, where

he manages his own cyber-intelligence business, and he and his wife now have a small farm. He is a 1996 graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, a former Marine Corps major and a former CIA officer who served in foreign assignments for several years. He and his wife have two daughters in school.

"Marion and I still enjoy traveling whenever we can, but Virginia is home for us. Thank you for always keeping our remaining class members informed about Peddie and one another."

Happy holidays, remember to floss and write to your secretary (still one of the "kids"). — John

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Bruce Turiansky
bturiansky@comcast.net

Mike Duffy
Class Secretary Emeritus

Dear Mike,

With your unique style of writing, the Class of 1963 notes in the Chronicle, you have been the "glue" that has held us together. For that, we, the Class of 1963, are forever grateful.

Your sense of humor and warmth have been so consistent that, with great anticipation, your classmates, upon receiving each issue of the Chronicle, excitedly turn to your notes. In addition to us, members of other Peddie classes read your entertaining notes, only to wish that their scribes had as much talent as you.

Your sometimes irreverent words about Peddie, e.g., "Planet Morong," as well as its many other characters, have kept us laughing for more than 60 years. And then there is that rock 'n' roll stream of consciousness that permeates your notes. Those "shake a tailfeather" expressions remind us of our teenage years and bring us a "forever young" feeling that you have captured and infused into your writing. Instead of facing the reality of our aging, your humorous and sensitive writing nostalgically reminds us of the good times, pranks and all, as well as the "not-so-good times" of our years at Peddie.

Your style of writing reflects the motto on our class flag:

WE LIVED IT!
WE HATED IT!
WE LOVED IT!

Mindful of what you have done for our class, we appealed to the school for their help in recognizing your role. With gratitude for the assistance of several people at Peddie, we are proud to append our letter to their document, proclaiming you Class Secretary Emeritus.

Ala Viva!
Affectionately,
Your 1963 Classmates

And speaking of **Mike Duffy**: "Greetings from Deeeeetroit! "Yep, it's me, your ailing class secretary with a bent sense of humor honed over four years at Peddie in the very early 1960s. Still on oxygen for my pulmonary fibrosis lung-scarring disease. Whoopee! And accentuating the positive whenever possible.

"Hanging in there pretty darn well, focusing on the joys of my life with so many blessings, including my wonderful wife, Jane, who has been truly amazing in supplying endless love and caring for me in my altered physical state. Driving me to pulmonary rehab exercise and therapy sessions and to assorted other medical appointments. We recently celebrated our 57th wedding anniversary! Yes, some more Veuve Clicquot, please!



Mike Duffy '63



The Class of 1963 honored Mike Duffy '63 with this Proclamation.

"Speaking of blessings, there's the magical Old Gold and Blue connection of Peddie and a rather outrageously wonderful collection of Class of '63 classmates and friends. I've been humbled and deeply touched by the outpouring of love and affection in emails, cards and letters from everyone.

"That's right, we're a quirky, cool, refreshingly hectic, eclectic bundle of fun and colorful personalities. We are all so very fortunate to be part of each other's lives.

"And now it's time to get back to one of my new joyful activities: seated chair and couch dancing to my favorite new disco divas, like Dua Lipa and her cool recent summer album of hip-shaking bliss, 'Radical Optimism.' And then there's nifty indie disco diva Romy, who wisely advises 'Enjoy Your Life' to a swirling beat temptation sound. **Ala Disco Viva!**"

Arthur Brown: (Secretary's note: Arthur, on behalf of the entire class, thanks for your hard work on Mike's Proclamation.)

"I speak to Mike Duffy and Roger Burns regularly. Roger and Joanne Burns flew up from Chapel Hill, N.C., to visit Jo and me in June at our Pound Ridge home (near their previous home in New Canaan, Conn.) for a long weekend. Lots of 'in-person' catching up, good times and good meals together."

Cal Caligaro: "Tock Ticknor and I enjoyed our mini reunion that we had with our wives, Malu and Pam, but this time, we

were joined by **Ralph Vargas**, who came all the way from the Dominican Republic. It still strikes me as odd that a guy and his wife who live in Southern California enjoy summer vacations in southwest Florida!

"Of course, we talked about the world today compared to the one we lived in while at Peddie and how we see the school now versus in '63. That conversation turned to a discussion about our family lives before joining Peddie. I was taken by the realization that the three of us shared more similar family environments which led us to Peddie than dissimilar ones. It occurred to me that I got to know more about my classmates after leaving Peddie than while there, which had a lot to do with how Mike Duffy kept us together and encouraged conversations over the decades. It is also fascinating to talk about events and teachers who influenced us and learn how the same events and people are seen and remembered with such different interpretations."

Bob Kapp: "I'm surviving, thanks, but not without setbacks. Just had emergency abdominal surgery, which has me in the hospital in Toms River, N.J., for about a week, but I'm writing from my hospital bed, so I guess it could be worse. Just a long recovery. My daughter Bonney was just here visiting me at the hospital.

"Yep, once I get out of the hospital prison and recover, we should get together. It's only been 61 years! That would be nice.



Cal '63 and Pam Caligaro, Tock '63 and Malu Ticknor, and Ralph Vargas '63 enjoyed a recent mini reunion.



Bob Kapp's '63 daughter Bonney covering Barack Obama's campaign for CBS.

The Scribe of '63

MIKE DUFFY AND THE ART OF CLASS NOTES



Mike Duffy '63 has distinguished himself among Peddie's class secretaries as an extraordinary figure. For over 50 years, he has been the beloved narrator for the Class of '63, capturing the essence of his classmates' lives through his eloquent Class Notes in the Peddie Chronicle. His words, infused with humor, empathy and a profound understanding of the human experience, have served as a time capsule, preserving memories and forging connections that bridge the gaps of time and distance.

Duffy often described for his readers a ritual of "dancing like nobody's there" in his family room, grooving to contemporary hits from artists like Lizzo, the Linda Lindas and Dua Lipa to channel his unique voice. "Shaking my geezer tailfeather, getting fired up with a little crazy old dude disco dancing. Just my twisted mister way of sliding into the Chronicle Class Notes groove," he quipped in his latest column this past spring.

Sadly, the family room disco ritual has come to a halt. Duffy recently announced that he has been diagnosed with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a condition that has forced him to step down from his role as class secretary.

A Legacy of Connection

Duffy was elected class secretary during his senior year by his classmates, and his voice quickly became a defining element of the Class of '63. Unfortunately, his initial Class Notes columns were never printed due to space constraints and later overshadowed by the coverage of President Kennedy's assassination. After a brief hiatus in the early years, Duffy resumed his role, maintaining it for over half a century.

His columns, always brimming with comedy and heart, were about more than keeping the class informed. They were a testament to his ability to knit people together. "Yes, we're cuckoo. Not for Cocoa Puffs. For life. For enjoying the simple pleasures. For connecting with each other. For realizing how lucky we've all been," Duffy wrote in 2022. His longtime friend and former Peddie roommate, Arthur Brown, described him as "the glue" that holds their class together. "Writing with phenomenally good humor, he has never missed a deadline and written with such a unique style such that additionally he has many followers from other Peddie classes who read his Class Notes regularly," Brown said.

Classmate Clarence Kugler added, "Every ship needs a captain. Lucky for the good ship Ala Viva '63, we crew members have had Captain Duffy at the helm. Mike began cheering for Peddie on campus as a Falcon cheerleader. His infectious enthusiasm for life revealed in every Class Notes column he wrote encouraged us to share our lives with him."

The 20th Reunion: A Moment of Reflection

One of the most notable moments during Duffy's tenure came at the Class of '63's 20th Reunion. The event was marked by the presence of Sharon Evans, formerly known as Bill Evans during their time at Peddie. Evans' decision to transition to female in the late 1970s was a significant milestone for the class, challenging and ultimately strengthening their bonds. The 20th Reunion was the first time Bill Evans would meet his classmates as Sharon Evans.



“Every ship needs a captain. Lucky for the good ship Ala Viva '63, we crew members have had Captain Duffy at the helm.”

– CLARENCE KUGLER '63

Duffy's account of the reunion, published in the Detroit Free Press, where he was a television critic, captured the anticipation and acceptance surrounding Evans' arrival. "Bill Evans is now Sharon Evans," he wrote, eloquently conveying the class's respectful curiosity and support. "None of us, not even Sharon, would deny that a very real part of the allure of our 20th Reunion was coming back to meet her. Coming back to watch Sharon watch us watching her. She loved it, too."

Evans reflected on the experience, saying, "I was surprised at just how totally open and accepting everybody was at the reunion. I totally felt accepted as a woman."

Duffy's observations on the reunion went beyond Evans' story. He saw the gathering as celebrating the class's diversity and individuality. "Peddie was a lot cooler than we ever imagined at the time. As for the Class of 1963, well, it was even more so. But we will accept notorious, infamous, and rampantly individualistic," he wrote.

A Life of Storytelling

Duffy's passion for writing has been a lifelong affair. Born and raised in Mansfield, Ohio, he developed an early love for storytelling, which he nurtured through his education at Peddie and Denison University, where he majored in English and minored in creative writing. After graduating, Duffy pursued a career in law, earning a juris doctor degree from the University of Iowa. However, his true calling was journalism, and he enjoyed a 37-year career as a reporter and columnist, including 31 years at the Detroit Free Press.

Duffy's decision to leave law for journalism reflected his deep commitment to storytelling. He once wrote to Alumni Director Bob Titzel, "The novice Clark Kent took his first hesitant steps into the journalism jungle today, and I think I'm going to like it just fine, especially

At Peddie, Duffy played basketball, and was nicknamed "Spider" because of his long limbs. According to classmate Ralph Copleman in the 2003 Chronicle, Duffy "liked the nickname so much that for a time his personal stationery was headed 'Michael Spider Duffy.'"

when I get to sports in a month or so. For now, though, it's obits, cops and courts."

The Art of Keeping a Class Together

Even as he faces serious health challenges, Duffy remains upbeat and grateful. "I've had a really fortunate and blessed first 78 years of a great life — true love with a soulmate at age 18, two wonderful children, amazing and memorable educational experiences at Peddie and then Denison University in Ohio. Plus, a fabulous and fun career as a newspaper reporter and columnist," he reflected.

He continued, "I've had a wonderful 60 years as class secretary and as the scribbler for the '63 Class Notes. We have a very



Duffy wrote a feature on his 20th class reunion for the Detroit Free Press.

interesting, slightly maverick class with a whole bunch of original personalities."

As Duffy steps back from his role as class secretary, his legacy stands as a testament to the power of storytelling and human connection. In recognition of over a half-century of service as class secretary, Peddie officially named Duffy, at the recommendation of the Chronicle editor and members of the Class of 1963, Class Secretary Emeritus. He is the first alumnus to receive the honor.

Duffy's final Class Notes column reflects his deep nostalgia for Peddie and his remarkable ability to keep his classmates connected as their long-serving class secretary: "It's those old Gold and Blue memories, so vivid still over the many decades, that continue to connect us all. To me, that's a blessing."

“It's those old Gold and Blue memories, so vivid still over the many decades, that continue to connect us all.”

– MIKE DUFFY '63



A group photo taken during the Class of '63 60th Reunion Weekend in May 2023. From left: Arthur Brown, Ralph Vargas, Clarence Kugler, Mike Duffy, Sharon Evans, Bob Baldanza, Cal Calligaro, Tock Ticknor and Bruce Turiansky. As class secretary, Duffy was asked to design the class flag, which debuted at their 20th Reunion in 1983. The flag features the words, "We lived it. Hated it. Loved it."

Lakes, including Michigan, Huron and Superior.

Joe Latchum successfully defended the senior division title of the Kingsmill Club Championship. He writes, "Certainly, retirement from the legislative world has provided an opportunity to practice and play, so am lucky. If anyone is in the Williamsburg, Va., area, let's play ... or in south Florida in January – March."

Tim Hurson: "On Saturday, August 24, 2024, over 70 friends and family — ranging from under one to mere moments over 80 years old — converged on beautiful Chapel Hill, N.C., to celebrate Roger Burns' 80th birthday. Honored to be included were three other Peddie '63s: Tim Hurson, Nils Pearson and Bill Matlack. More Peddie boys had RSVP'd, but you know how it is with old bones and long journeys. In spirit, it felt like the entire class was there. It was a wonderful celebration organized by the incomparably competent Joanne Burns. A fine time was had by all,



Pete Minard '63 canoes on the Dworshak Reservoir with his dogs Blue and Red.



Rusty '63 and Judy Dersch, aboard a zodiac on Lake Huron, Ontario.

without a single report of a DUI on the way home — although a few people did complain of grapefruit juice-induced heartburn." Happy Birthday, Roger. You were classy then and you're the head of the class now. Ala Viva, dear pal. Ala Viva! Love you, man." Tim also recently came back from officiating his youngest son's wedding in the British Columbia mountains, which was a "kick and a half!"

Roger Burns: "Yes, I had a birthday, so I am officially 80. My wife organized a party to celebrate, which was a great success. Nils Pearson, Bill Matlack and Tim Hurson were all there with their wives. A few other classmates were planning to come but were unable. Bob Baldanza, for one, planned to come but fell the day before and had to cancel. The party was a success and a lot of fun."

David Mitchell: "Both Diane and I celebrated our 79th birthdays and 57th wedding anniversary, events for which we are grateful. Our lives continue being enriched by the blessings of God. We



Joe Latchum '63 (center) defends the Kingsmill Club Championship senior division title.



Ralph Vargas '63 and family.

recently cruised the Mediterranean from Rome aboard a ship commanded by Captain Belinda Bennett, the only woman of African descent in the world to captain a cruise ship. She is a delight, to say the least. Earlier in the spring, we spent a few days on campus at Peddie to attend the annual past Trustee's Dinner in New York City. We enjoyed that experience, especially seeing Arthur and Jo Brown. Those occasions have become fewer in recent times, so we cherish them ever so much. Peddie not only looks wonderful, but it is wonderful! It continues its evolution as an incubator of young minds from throughout the nation and world. It remains a kaleidoscope of possibilities for our society. It is not what it was, and certainly is on a journey that we few dare to take. Just as we are not who we were in May 1963, Peddie is not what it was then either. Peddie will continue evolving and be present in the future. As for me, besides enjoying time with Diane, the children and grands,

Paul Irwin writes, "This is a wonderful tribute to Mike. I can still picture him dancing the Mashed Potato in the Canteen at Peddie to Dee Dee Sharp — a smooth dancer. Mike has done a great and creative job with our Class Notes. All good wishes are sent his way!"

Doug and I recalled running into each other at a ski area in Vermont about 45 years ago! Sharon Evans writes, "We recently stayed at the Nassau Club (Princeton) and are reliving earlier times. During a lull in the action, we drove to Hightstown, not to the main campus, but to the golf club. The quality of the course is excellent. Some of the holes are still the same, others changed. Everyone on the golf team had a good record because, except for a trip to Blair, all matches were at home."



From left: Tim Hurson '63, Nils Pearson '63, Roger Burns '63 and Bill Matlack '63 celebrate Burns' 80th birthday.



David '63 and Diane Mitchell with Captain Belinda Bennett on their Mediterranean cruise.

I try to keep up with my exercise (the excuse to walk the golf course three times a week), assorted visits to an ever-growing list of doctors, friends and colleagues, friends and classmates from Fisk and Peddie, I am blessed with health for both Diane and myself. I never had a "bad-feeling day," as one of my grandmothers said."

Doug and I recalled running into each other at a ski area in Vermont about 45 years ago!

Sharon Evans writes, "We recently stayed at the Nassau Club (Princeton) and are reliving earlier times. During a lull in the action, we drove to Hightstown, not to the main campus, but to the golf club. The quality of the course is excellent. Some of the holes are still the same, others changed. Everyone on the golf team had a good record because, except for a trip to Blair, all matches were at home."

We heard from Sharon Evans back in June about some serious health problems she was experiencing that caused her to cancel her attendance at the "We Soar, Women of Peddie" event with the students, but we are very happy to report good news: "Yes, I can give some positive news! The pulmonologist has placed me on a long-acting bronchodilator/



Paul Irwin '63 recently played golf at the Peddie Golf Club.

steroid inhaler that I use daily. This has allowed me to get back to my walking, and most days, I am able to do a full 3.5-4 miles. Mostly, I am back to pre-March levels. I am planning to head to school early in October for the Bell Society dinner in New York City.”

Kugler’s Korner: “Last month, we had a family reunion to meet and greet our eight-month-old granddaughter, Quinn. Youngest son, Colin, and his fiancée, Lindsay, flew in from Brisbane, Australia, and his brother Kyle and wife, Maria, drove down from Greenville, S.C., with their bundle of fun. Teetering on 80, I found myself rolling on the carpet, doing tongue clicks and various other moronic activities just to draw a laugh from my only grandchild. I ask the aged grandparent veterans in our class if this is normal activity for a sober new grandfather or should I seek counseling?”

“We also recently flew to Canada for two weeks to attack lobsters and enjoy cool temps. We landed in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and traveled to Prince Edward Island and onto New Brunswick. The highlight of the trip was walking on the beach at the Bay of Fundy amid towering stone structures and not drowning. The differential in tides is 50 feet and the water was coming in fast.

“Next month we head to Springfield, Ill., to attend a reunion of my Army 1969 Infantry Officer Class graduation. We all experienced an all-expense-paid trip to South Vietnam for a year.”

Bruce Turiansky: Been a busy year. Mariann and I spent about two weeks in London and then Amsterdam with some friends, plus a long weekend in Miami with our



Clarence Kugler '63 (top right) had a recent family reunion in Greenville, S.C.

24-year-old daughter, Lilei. In case you missed it, we moved back to New Jersey from Georgia two years ago to be near our three children and five grandchildren. We miss Georgia, but seeing the family frequently made it all worthwhile.

Mariann and I still work full time, both from home. Mariann is a former hospice social worker who has had her own home-based private psychotherapy practice for about 15 years. My partner and I run a company we started a few years ago, dealing with senior healthcare. Check it out if you're interested: seniorhomeservices.com.

Thanks to all who contributed. Enjoy the fall and winter, and I'll start pestering you again in a few months! Ala Viva!

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John Pyfer and his wife, Carol, were recently honored by Lancaster Conservancy with two hiking trails, named for the Pyfer family in recognition of their generous support of and lifetime commitment to conservation. John served as board president of the Conservancy from 2019-2021. If you're in the Lancaster, Pa. area, be sure to visit the trails in Tucquan Glen and Pyfer Nature Preserves!



Bruce '63 & Mariann Turiansky enjoying a few days in Miami Beach.

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Charlie Clark writes that his nephew **David Clark '97** just graduated from the Army War College in Carlisle, Pa., and is now a Lt. Col in the U.S. Air Force. David is also the son of **Ret. Lt. Col. Howard Clark '62**.

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It is an exciting time for many of us as well as Peddie. I know that **Larry Livoti** and **Jewels** are having a great life. They travel a lot and also use their boat for great excursions.

As for me, I purchased an 18-foot Cobalt runabout soon after my first wife and I had our two children. Over the years, I've owned a dozen and a half more. I've cruised up and down the East Coast from Miami to New York 14 times. I even built two boats, one that I designed and another that I built with my daughter.

In addition, I previously owned three boat dealerships. I've also boated on four of the five Great Lakes, cruised the canals of New York, and, as a result, researched and wrote my 464-page Cruising Guide to New York Waterways. It was ranked by Amazon as their #2 bestseller in the category of cruising guides.

Fast-forward several years to my trip in a runabout to the Bahamas, I had the experience of navigating the currents. Now, I let my friends pay for gas. I do spring for lunch, though.

I also ran a store and seven departments within stores that were a leader in arts and crafts. And I found the right locations for eight new stores.

As a real estate agent, I sold a shopping center as well as a golf course. Since then, I launched four sites on Facebook, where I have 45,000 followers and post about boats every day. I also have about 13,000 followers on LinkedIn.

Speaking of LinkedIn, my second wife, Linda, is an award-winning personal branding and LinkedIn coach. We love living in Annapolis, Md., with great history. My two children and my two grandkids still live in Southern California.

In closing, I'm thinking about 17 members of our class who have passed on, including my Peddie 10th grade roommate, **R. Anthony Marcson**. I miss the camaraderie we had in those early years.

Would love to hear from the rest of you! Please email me at brcwb@aol.com or phone me at (518) 281-0045 if you want to update your fellow classmates.

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Thanks to the great work by **Jim Soltz**, we have had a number of Zoom meetings. Attending some or all have been **Jim Sporn**, **Ralph Davies**, **Earl Shepherd**, **Doug Heppie**, **Ken Nelson**, **Vince Grasso**, **Dave Zenker**, **Steve Del Vecchio**, **Bob Hendrickson**, **Phil Procacci**, **Charlie Shaw** and **Link Hansen**. Hansen lives in Medford, N.J., and is still writing music and performing. He toured with Peter Tork (of The Monkees) and lived 10 years in Santa Monica, Calif. He has four kids, ranging in age from 22-33. Sporn has done some impressive traveling, including a six-week Mediterranean cruise. He also told us the story of his sophomore year at William and Mary, when he ran the lead-off leg on a world-record-setting medley relay team. Quite impressive! Hard to believe, but Jim has a grandson who is a star high school cross country runner in South Carolina. Go figure. Jim regaled us with stories of the gators, snakes and coyotes living near his home. Shepherd spent the month of May in France. Shaw describes himself as a “recovering educator.” His four grandchildren, aged 2, 4, 6 and 7, lived with them in Michigan this summer. I don't know how they survived.

Davies now has four grandkids, with a fifth on the way. The oldest is 2! Unfortunately, one is moving

U.S. District Judge Robert Kugler '68 Reflects on Decorated Career



Last May, after 32 years on the bench, U.S. District Judge Robert B. Kugler '68 stepped down. But don't use the word “retired.”

“I'm working,” he said. “It's just different work. I'm doing mediations for a company called JAMS,” which also provides arbitration and alternative dispute resolution services.

Over the course of his career, Kugler served as a federal magistrate and a judge in the federal courthouse in Camden, New Jersey. He presided over high-profile cases such as 2008's “Fort Dix Five” trial, convicting five brothers who conspired to kill members of the U.S. military.

When he started practicing law, Kugler didn't have a clear plan of how he wanted his career to progress, but he's enormously satisfied with how it all fell into place.

“I had no idea whatsoever when I started practicing law that I would end up where I am,” he said. “It was nothing I ever contemplated. I wanted to try to be a trial lawyer. And I worked hard at it and I was pretty good at it.

“Then all this judge stuff sort of happened,” he continued. “I enjoyed it immensely; it seemed to fit my personality perfectly. It didn't bother me that I was called upon to make all of these split-second and difficult decisions. The challenges were terrific.”

Kugler's consistent fairness earned him the respect of his colleagues, from seasoned lawyers to those who just passed the bar. Patrick Sandman '07 clerked for Kugler between August of 2018 and August of 2019 and calls him “the real deal.”

“On the bench, he reflects the very highest standards of the law: a fierce commitment to getting it right and an unwavering belief in fairness,” Sandman said. “Off the bench, his integrity is complemented by civility. There is no better person or mentor.”

Kugler said that in the late '60s, Peddie's teachers worked to establish a strong foundation of “honesty, integrity and compassion for others” upon him and his classmates, and it stuck with him.

“We had the honor code, and it was very important to be truthful in all matters. It was something Peddie was big on,” he said. “You're talking about a bunch of teenage boys; it's not an easy sell. But they tried to instill that in everyone.”

He also surprised himself at Peddie, gaining skills that have proven useful in both his career and his life.

“I think perhaps the most valuable class I may have taken was public speaking,” said Kugler. “I was terribly, painfully shy. And it instilled something that lingers throughout my life: forcing me to get up and speak in front of an audience, even if it was my friends. It was really hard but really valuable.

“The other thing I learned at Peddie was confidence in myself,” he continued. “Not so much from the academic side; I wasn't a real academic guy. I was a jock. But that really gave me a lot of confidence. Peddie was a great experience in my life.”

Kugler is currently a member of The Peddie School Board of Trustees, staying actively involved with the school that played such a pivotal role in shaping his life.

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soon to Australia. Procacci is winding down his business in Boca Raton, Fla. He has played some golf with **Jim Schechter** in Florida. Soltz attended a Peddie event in Richmond, Va., at the home of **Bill Allen**, and reports a good time was had by all. Otherwise, he enjoys retirement, reading and volunteering. Ken Nelson is very involved with Peddie, helping support a student investment committee and building a garden. Del Vecchio still lives on Long Island, New York, though he spends time in California, visiting family.

I spoke with **Mike Rakoski**. He still has his law office in Marlton, New Jersey, though claims he is working part-time. He, like many of us, wants to downsize from his current 200-year old farmhouse in Cinnaminson, N.J. He has four grandkids. The oldest is embarking on a career in medicine with the Army.

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Alfred Kahn '62 recently called me. He owns the pink Cadillac convertible that frequents Peddie reunions. Al wanted to gift it to our class for future reunions. Guess who lives in Hightstown and generously offered to create garage space and store this treasure? **Bob Turco!** Meanwhile, Bob is now a proud grandfather to 12 and the proud recording artist of "Music to Heal By," an original New Age album you can hear on Amazon music and elsewhere. Parts were arranged by people affiliated with the London Philharmonic. Bob's beautifully orchestrated and produced music has been enjoyed in many different countries.

Joe Cornelius is chief executive officer at Bill & Melinda Gates Agricultural Innovations.

John Roberts diligently keeps up with Peddie people. He shares news about six classmates below:

"**Eric Wen**, born in Hong Kong and at Peddie 1965-68, found his life interest while studying under our late music teacher Gary Nair. Eric excelled at Columbia University and Yale School of Music. Despite his proficiency in violin (he performed with several orchestras in England and met his wife in the U.K.), Eric excelled at teaching music theory at Curtis, Juilliard and Bard College. We met up, after over 50 years, to recall our 1967 trip to hear the Czech Philharmonic's lilting performance of Bartók's 'Concerto for Orchestra' and to reminisce on the mentorship of inspirational Gary Nair. Eric and his wife have three grown children. Since his recent retirement from Bard, they have lived in England.

"**James (Jim) Niederberger** passed away on November 11, 2023, in Charlottesville, Va. You may recall Jim's uncanny ability to impersonate. His versions of the likes of teachers Dyer, Kiviat, Schuman, DeBois and Dr. Kerr often left us in stitches! While at UVA, Jim rode his one-speed bike on a quest to become an organist at Blue Ridge School, some 20 miles away. Bach preludes and fugues in the front basket, he performed, was hired and spent 54 years teaching music, but more so, American history. Jim served the school in many capacities, as choir director, head of history, admissions advisor and dean of scholastics. His knowledge of U.S. history was astonishing, and his musical talents led him to participate in many local theater productions. (His memory of melodies was far reaching.) Jim was our first class agent. Hailing from a Pittsburgh family that sent three more children, **John '72**, **Mike '77** and **Cathy '78**, to Peddie, Jim had recently planned to retire either there or in Charlottesville. I counted Jim as a best friend at Peddie, and he had a strong positive influence on me with his intellect but also his down-to-earth attitude to life. Attending his Celebration of Life (late March 2024) in the packed chapel, there was a profound acknowledgment of his devotion to the school and his impact on so many student and faculty lives. Jim's obituary: freyvogelfuneralhome.com/obituary/JamesA-Niederberger

"**Gene Gaffken** came to Peddie as a sophomore in 1967 as Jim Niederberger's roommate on Wilson South 3. His easygoing manner endeared him to many classmates, and his interest in things cultural led to a degree from Brown in archaeology (he transferred from Syracuse University after one year). With these talents, he became a cultural guide on many luxury tours to Europe. Somewhere along the way, Gene met a woman from Rio de Janeiro. They were married and moved to Argentina for a number of years. Gene also lived in Hawaii and then in Paris for about 10 years. A few years back, I hunted for Gene and mailed off some letters to people of the same last name in his hometown. Apparently, one reached a relative who passed it on to Gene. A letter came sometime later, telling of his life in Rio, but I just could not believe it was Gene, so I never replied. It was Gene, and I am sorry not to have reconnected with him. Gene was a kind and honest person. A link to his obituary follows:

jvleahyfh.com/obituary/eugene-gaffken

"**Tony Ruscitto** passed away last April. I had spoken with him a week before his passing. He was excited about returning to Peddie for the next reunion.

"**Ed Maclin**, always the optimist, lives in Urbana-Champaign, Ill., with his wife, Beth, only 75 miles from the April 8 solar eclipse zone of totality. He enjoyed quite good views of the corona, a very large prominence, Jupiter and Saturn, and the 360-degree 'sunset.'

"I recently communicated with **Paul Arllen**. You may



Members of the Class of 1971 reunite in Wilmington, N.C., last spring. From left are Rich Sachs, David Mintzer, Billy Almond and Howard Stein.

recall his abiding interest in philosophy. Paul was one of the 'Rivenburg House clan' during the 1969-1970 school year.

"If any classmate would like to get in touch with me, John Roberts, I'm at zbttaz@yahoo.com."

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"Not everything that can be counted counts, and not everything that counts can be counted." — William Bruce Cameron. I can count the classmates who returned for our 50th Reunion (25), those who would have but for family health issues (5) and the golfers

in our foursome at the DeGray Tourney (?!), but what actually counts are the stories, the hugs, the laughs and the tears.

Let me start with disclaimers and acknowledgments. The ensuing paragraphs cannot capture my singularly satisfying moments, let alone those of the other attendees. I can't give thorough updates on everyone, and I hope I don't miss anyone. Where my memory doesn't fail, I'll mix the stories in with the weekend's events, sharing more on folks who haven't appeared in the Chronicle recently (Artie, you're out).

Hopefully, the snippets whet your appetite to see the pics on our Facebook group (Peddie Class Reunion '74 — contact me to join) or reach out to someone yourself. On that note, **Glen Grossman** has a lot of contact info and gets huge kudos for contacting dozens of classmates, with **Mike "Schu" Schumacher** coming in a close second. Thanks, guys! Which one of you will take my place? So, with a little help from my friends, here goes ...

Our Friday foursome (**Art Ammermuller**, **Mike McCrabb**, **Steve Cohn** and me) was joined by fellow duffers **Dave Monahan**, **Jeff Mohr** and **Schu**. Mono, Mo/Moose and Schu attracted a gallery of sorts, with **Linda Perritt Ward** and **Charlie Dawson** cheering us on for a few holes. Although our seven-some broke all forms of etiquette, we did not break into the top 10. Even our stylish outfits, courtesy of Dr. Cohn, placed second to the "Brian Davidson" shirts.

The reunion really started Friday night, with a pool party



Greg Wriede '95 P'23 '25 '27 (second from left), Peddie's director of student leadership and student activities as well as the 11th grade dean, unexpectedly met fellow Peddie and Purdue alumnus Jeff Caster '73 (left) while visiting Purdue University with his son Brayden last spring.

hosted by **Chuck Hector**. Etiquette would have called for us to join the other classes by Peddie Lake, but as Mike McCrabb noted, "This was the best time for the class to just focus on us and the past 50 years (or forget that 50 years have actually passed)." The aforementioned cast was joined by **Chet** and **Jon Atkins**, **Janice Brissette** (and her sister **Renee '76**), **Valerie Cable Ogle**, **Joann Coates**, **Don DeAngelis**, **Glen** and **Regina Grossman**, **Jon Heifetz**, **Henry Peddle** and **Anya**, **Steve Rolleri**, **Scott** and **Jodi Zifferer**. There were a lot of memories shared, but this reflection from Janice sums up our class the best:

"One of the most memorable and scary experiences of my life was being among the 20 'pioneering' girls in 1970 — 20 girls and 400 boys. It was quite apparent that some of the upperclassmen were not pleased with the decision to go co-ed. I remember listening to a speech to that effect before girls were admitted to the Gold Key Society. But the boys in our class were always welcoming. I never felt excluded or disdained by our group. I felt supported. All my apprehensions quickly vanished. It gave me confidence. I got to do things that girls were discouraged from doing at the time (taking calculus comes to mind). So, I remember and appreciate the camaraderie of our class for how encouraging it was, as well as for being a hell of a lot of fun."

Chuck's party was "the icing on the cake in getting folks to return," like Valerie Cable Ogle,



Alumni gather at a memorial for Fred Bull '77 last summer. Back row, from left: José Santacana '78, Cary Niels '71, Mike Niederberger '77, Jeff Intravolata '77 and Dennis Wells '77. Front row from left: Mark Hutchinson '73, Mike Rolleri '77 and Stuart Kerr '73.

Glen's grade school classmate. He found her in Canton, Ga., where she and her husband retired after a career in consumer brand management, mostly Borden Foods, and then her own consulting firm. Georgia is close to their daughter and four grandchildren. I second that emotion.

Perhaps Glen's biggest "find" was Jon Heifetz, who had retired in Juneau, Alaska, after 36 years with NOAA. John now spins tunes on public radio ("Tidelines with The Heif") and dedicated his post-reunion show to our class, with some Jorma, Allman Brothers, The Boss and the Dead. Check him out on Thursdays, 9-11 p.m. ET on KRNN.org. John may not have finished with the class, but it was clear that the bonds over his 2 1/4 years were no less deep.

As were those of Chet Atkins, who spent three years with us. Chet reconnected with Scott over the past few years, and I was happy to do so last year. To say Chet and Wen have balanced body, mind and spirit is an understatement. Their aura, karma, tai chi or "je ne sais quoi" were a welcome addition to the festivities. Sadly, I didn't get to talk with **Don DeAngelis**, and he had a family commitment on Saturday, but thanks to Steve Rolleri, who chronicled the pool party, you can see Don's wonderful smile on Facebook. Indeed, Steve's photography has proven to be a truly talented avocation after years as a CRNP in cancer facilities. Steve has "found some inner peace" as he's aged and is looking to relocate to Italy. This fall, I've received



Members of the Class of '74 relax at the Peddie Golf Club clubhouse during Reunion Weekend.

some great shots of Naples, Turin and Perugia. Buon viaggio!

Mono spent the weekend with his old roomie Chuck, but spends most of his time in Hawaii, with a few months in Tahoe. He extends an "open invitation," which from a Cornell hospitality major is something you can count on. But the real hospitality award goes to Chuck — you remain the pillar of our class. I just hope you and Dave didn't play the tunes too loudly or too late ... Mr. Anthony might be listening still.

Saturday started with a walk around campus and a chance encounter with **Sue Koffler**, who always seems to be the first to arrive. Susie didn't have any news she wanted to share and told me I could make up stories about her, but I save my jests and jabs for Artie and Kevin and Bunky (my fellow class secretaries). Besides, Sue, Joann and Linda are my three favorite perennials! Reunions wouldn't be the same without them.

A more planned encounter (thanks, Mike) occurred at the Graham Gallery, where Susie, Mo and I greeted **Jim Bamberger**. I hadn't seen Jim for 25 years, but the bonds forged by monitoring for Harry Holcombe were easily rekindled. In short, Jim has spent the last 23 years protecting all of us. After his business ferrying folks across the Potomac and Hudson was pressed into service during 9/11 (ferrying folks to safety off Manhattan), Jim became the 40th person to join Sec. Tom Ridge at Homeland Security, when the org chart was still on a napkin. Jim had flown in from Paris on Friday, where he was monitoring the plans to keep our Olympians safe ... and did a



Jeff Mohr '74 wears his dink during Reunion Weekend, with Dave Monahan '74 in the background.

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great job! He should have been tasked with cleaning the Seine.

Back on Center Campus, I found my freshman roommate, **Dave “The Rave” Rogers**. Dave is retired and was excited to get his pilot’s license recertification after some heart surgery. I’m glad he made it. Connecting with all three roommates made the celebration complete, and I tear up thinking about it. But then, I also teared up when I saw Dr. Leslie Rudnyansky — go figure. Coach Rudy was only at Peddie for a couple years, but the fact that he came back to see us was awesome. It was also great to see **Mick Donelon**. His mobility isn’t the greatest, but he still shows up. Indeed, “presence” is what life is all about. We need to show up for others when and where we can.

That theme was repeated time and again at the Gold Guard Dinner. At my dad’s banquet 25 years ago, it was the “Old” Guard, but Peddie wants us to feel young. Anyway, an Alumni and Development Office staffer remarked to Janice that we were “unusual in that virtually everyone spoke about their favorite memories and what being in the class meant to them. At most dinners, just one or two people speak. What a good cast of characters our class had!”

Glen spoke with many cast members who could not return. His roommate, **Jon Woltmann**, had approached him after our graduation ceremony and said, unceremoniously, “Well, this is the last time I’ll ever see you, so have a good life.” Glen has managed to stay in touch, but neither he nor I



Chuck Hector '74 rocks his varsity jacket during Reunion Weekend.

(in my judge voice) could convince this humble country lawyer to leave Virginia. We also spoke with a mutual roommate, **Andy Blank**, who missed the weekend because of a friend’s wedding in Mauritius. The fact that the friend was 2011 Tour de France champion, Cadel Evans, made getting jilted a little easier. Stories of Andy flaunting “new boy rules” in general and “new boy rules” in particular, always chill the spine, but warm the heart.

John Hill couldn’t make it back from San Francisco, where he retired after 33 years as the curator of the SF Museum of Aviation (Google John Hill — Pan Am at War). The picture John sent in his new boy dink was almost as hilarious as Mo rocking his dink under the tent. John remembers meeting his roommate Henry (Peddie), whose first words were, “Do you surf?” Well, Henry, get this, John is now a surf fanatic!

Glen found **Robert Krout** (eighth and ninth grade) through Googling his name and ukulele tutorials. He’s retired from SMU Texas and does musical therapy. **Bill Stuart** is on Bainbridge Island, Wash., and couldn’t make the trek. Glen and I couldn’t coax **Larry Schulman** to make the trek from Flemington, N.J. (really, Larry?). We’ll try again next year. The closest I got to **Gregg Schaeberle** in Newport Beach, Calif., was on Facebook, where, aside from my bride, I’ve only friended a few of you (Facebook is an occupational hazard).

Glen almost connected with **Roberta Rand Marshall** through DMB Pacific Ventures, but no luck. I was able to get in touch with **Jon Fox** and **Bill Welychko**, who couldn’t return because of family health concerns. **Ted Brain** is still a geologist in



Members of the Class of '74 return for their 5th Reunion in 1979.

Midland, Texas, but had a family trip to Disney World. **Monica Nesbit** was on an incredible golf trip; hopefully, she will take Art’s place in our foursome. **Ken Deon**, who shares a KPMG mentee with **Scott Zifferer**, was on a bike trip in Colorado, and **Nick Hano** was doing something cool ... because, well, he is.

We tried to track down **Tom Gerber**, who is hiding somewhere in Connecticut. Glen found 3,000 listings for **Tom Davis** — not enough time to get a lead.

Debbie and I spent a balmy July day with Scott Zifferer and Jodi in Baltimore. Scott’s diverse and successful career is hard to describe. Suffice it to say that he has several patents for things that only Janice and Valerie might understand. More importantly, he works with his sons in his latest venture and has a talented wife who keeps it all together. Although Jodi is the award-winning deep-sea angler, clearly Scott made the lucky catch.

Sadly, we lost a cast member, **Craig Avedesian** (kochfuneralhome.com). It was a bittersweet privilege to read his name at the memorial service. I would have preferred hearing his laugh. Craig spent one memorable year with us. His family was gracious to our class and to me. Let’s not miss another curtain call.

On that note, here is Glen’s epilogue. “I was surprised with the generosity of time from the recipients of my possible spam



From left: Sue Koffler '74, Debbie Marton '75, Marton’s mother, and Abby Notterman '73 at a family wedding last summer.

attacks. Once I convinced them I was genuinely interested in getting together for our reunion, most opened up for an hour of catching up and shared experiences. Some agreed outright, some had previous engagements and others needed the star power of someone of actual significance. In any case, I hope I sparked good memories for all of them. Peddie was a huge part in my development and journey through life. It prepared me for the challenges of what I could make of my future. I am grateful and honored to have shared time with such great friends! Hopefully, there are many more successful reunions ahead!”

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Well, some months ago was the last Reunion Weekend held before our 50th! I, at one point around the time, running into Peddie staff’s own **John Lucs '90** (whom I’ve known since he was an eighth grader), I discussed my mobility issue, as I presented some unorthodox, potential methods of conquering the campus “terrain” due to my unusual and very specific needs. I thought of borrowing a pushcart on campus, but feared being overlooked by you all and being mistaken for a member of the Peddie dining hall staff! I plan on being present in '25, one way or another! Among joyous reverie shared with classmates, the annual event has been so special in my life, as well as occasionally producing a landmark in joys discovered there that I have strived to adopt in life. Our 40th was one of the biggest revelations of what makes me tick, and I currently “make it happen” most evenings during the week. By the way, in the course of getting an early start on locating our class members on the internet for eventually reaching out to join the 2025 festivities in June, I inadvertently came across some photos of some of your offspring. Some look more like you than you did! Probably impractical for

many of you, but it would be such fun if those with sons or daughters brought one along to Reunion Weekend for some “chip off the old block” reviews. At least bring pictures of your “pride and joys!”

Immediately after the last Chronicle came out, **Debbie Marton** was motivated to touch base with me, sending me a photo that I particularly loved of her, celebrating her mother’s 95th birthday at a luncheon (Debbie referred to her mother as the Energizer Bunny), photographed by our own **Denise Giacomozzi**. One thing led to another, and I was then furnished with a more special photo at a recent family wedding, with not only Debbie and her mom, but with her cousins, **Sue Koffler '74** and **Abby Notterman '73!** Through the Drama Club, I became very fond of Abby during Holcombe’s 1973 production of “The Man Who Came to Dinner,” as well as enjoying Sue the following year in the spring show, “Our Town.” I have to force myself not to take time here going into fondly memorable stories, some philosophical, about a couple of these three cousins’ parents, one going back as far as kindergarten! I’ll save them for Reunion Weekend 2025. Speaking of Holcombe, after a year of watching the election political stage, I am sometimes desperate to scream out just how much Harry’s speech/debate classes at Peddie did for me in life, professionally and otherwise. In one fashion or another, I have “lived” behind a podium ever since.

Mary Stella, with whom I’m in regular contact, wrote me the following for this issue. “Since retiring from Dolphin Research Center at the end of 2022, I’ve had a lot of fun trying new things and staying open to possibilities and opportunities. I’ve been learning to play steel drums and am in a local band. Steel ‘pans’ produce such a joyful sound, and I’m so happy to keep learning and playing. “I’ve also become more involved in our local community theater. In the past year, I’ve been in the cast for some murder mystery dinners, as well as our production of Agatha Christie’s iconic play, “The Mousetrap.” I can’t help but think of drama class and

school plays at Peddie, and how lucky I was to learn from the amazing Harry Holcombe!

“Last fall, I also trained and got certified as a tour director, then led a student group a few months ago in Williamsburg, Va., and Washington, D.C. I felt like I went back to school as I worked to learn more about the various monuments, memorials and other places of interest. I was also prepared to deliver interesting, engaging commentary to the group as we trekked miles per day around our nation’s capital! I’m continuing to explore tour director opportunities as a part-time retirement gig. In the interest of time and space, I won’t go into other activities. Suffice it to say that I haven’t been bored! I hope everyone is planning to get to Peddie for our 50th Reunion. Mark the calendars for June 6–7, 2025!”

Renee Brissette also corresponded, including the following that I share here: “This past June, I went with my sister **Janice Brissette '74** to her 50th Peddie Reunion. Honestly, I was hesitant to go, since I did not know many in her class so well, but it turned out that I had a great time. Everyone was friendly and happy to reminisce about Peddie. There were plenty of activities throughout the weekend, a 50th Class Reunion dinner and music by the Peddie Lake until the wee hours. I especially enjoyed the campus tour given by Head of School Peter Quinn, where I learned facts I didn’t know about Peddie’s past, the present and the future directions.”

I am reminded that **Cathy Kozinski Quinn** and I touched base late last year, and other than finding out she has a new granddaughter (joining her grandson), she was pleasantly status quo, with nothing notable to report! We mainly discussed Cranbury and our former classmates from that era, plus shared sadness over the October 2023 death of Tom Ingegneri P’84, a Cranbury resident name some of you from the Peddie area may know, as he and his wife owned the Cranbury Inn for decades until 2022, and the town’s village market beforehand from at least the early 1980s.

What have I been doing? After a long gap of a former weekend tradition, I’ve spent the mid-year eating virtually nothing but some form of Filipino food, fatter the better, for my late-night dinners (which is also breakfast and lunch combined, as you may remember). After being sick in January/February like I haven’t been for so long since my first winter after graduating from Peddie, I decided to impress the doctors and eat a whole bunch of fruit, lentils and white rice, with not much else. This backfired and caused a B12 deficiency, with all the common hoopla from the doctor’s office. I challenged my favorite doctor and won, then migrated to a lot of fatty meats, with some tripe, all high in B12 — again, ready to cater to the medical community. This caused a, for once, slightly elevated cholesterol level. More excitable feedback, this time from the peanut gallery at the so-called primary doctor’s office. I may, vainly, frequent the dental office, but I don’t see a doctor often, so I guess some doting is in order from them when I do “drop by” for annual tests. I’ve been smoking, some decades all too much, since a month after starting our junior year at Peddie. It’s a wonder I’m breathing! **Peter Meyer '72** ran into me this past summer and suggested, with my almost lifelong, consistent connection with Peddie, that I apply to fill what he heard was the recently vacant alumni director position. Laughingly, I started and quickly ended that topic with a reply stating details of New Jersey’s 2006 Smoke-Free Air Act, which includes all primary and secondary school grounds, statewide. The fact I don’t get up until noon is yet another factor. While glad he is getting a deserved rest from years of devoted “time served,” I was personally very saddened that Brian Davidson left the position, retiring after so many years.

That’s it for this issue of the Chronicle. My two tortoises say, “Hello.” Our 50th Reunion is just around the corner. Ala Viva!

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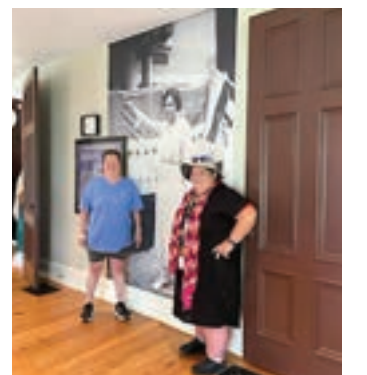
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77

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From **Jeff Intravotola**: “**John Ochs** passed away on January 17, 2024. Following his graduation from Peddie, he attended the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and graduated in 1981. John served in the Coast Guard for 20 years, serving on four Coast Guard Cutters, commanding two of them. John then had a 21-year career with APM Terminals, an AP Moller Maersk company that operates the Port of Los Angeles. He retired as chief labor relations officer. Lisa and I were able to visit John and his wife, Joyce, and family on a number of occasions in Huntington Beach and La Quinta, Calif. He was always the same guy that he was at Peddie. I had the honor of speaking at his Celebration of Life ceremony on March 2. It was held on the USS Iowa and was attended by over 300 people. I spoke about John’s Peddie days and hopefully conveyed what a great person he was. John will be deeply missed, but never forgotten.



Clair Walton '76 and Lori Bainbridge '77 met up in Mount Laurel, N.J., recently to visit the Alice Paul Institute.

CLASS NOTES

"I have more sad news: **Fred Bull** passed away on March 24, 2024. He came to Peddie, where his mom and Mr. Von were house parents, and his brother Steve ran the canteen. Fred was a member of the men's lacrosse team, with many of his fondest memories stemming from his days at Peddie. After graduating from Peddie, Fred went on to attend Gettysburg College, majoring in English. While at Gettysburg, he played lacrosse and was named an All-American. Upon graduating from Gettysburg in 1981, Fred planted roots in nearby Chambersburg, Pa., where he resided until his death. He earned an MBA from Frostburg State University and received a teaching certificate from Wilson College. A dedicated father, he coached soccer and Little League for all three children and was there for any and all after-school homework help. He is remembered for the way he approached life with such grace, humility and love. His kindness and generosity provided light to those in dark places. We will miss him dearly. He is survived by siblings Robert and Laura Bull, partner Tammy Byers; his children Tyler, Zachary and Allison; daughters-in-law Kristina and Alex; and grandchildren Coralie, Kennadie and Theodore.

Stu Kerr '73 noted that he and a group of Peddie alumni, including **José Santacana '78, Gary Niels '71, Mike Niederberger, Jeff Intravatola, Dennis Wells, Mark Hutchinson '73** and **Mike Roller**, attended a memorial service on June 29 in Chambersburg, Pa., for Fred. "It was clear that Fred was a pillar of the community and a great family man. It was great to meet or reconnect with the Peddie gang.



Class of '77 alumni gather for breakfast following Fred Bull's memorial service last summer. From left: Mike Roller, Dennis Wells, Jeff Intravatola and Mike Niederberger.

The '77 crew presented a portrait of Fred, created by another '77 classmate, to the family.

Jeff added: "On a personal note, I will miss both of these great men, as well as Mitch and Dave, who we lost in 2023. All four have had a profound influence in my life, stemming from our small but mighty class at Peddie. Our love, thoughts and prayers go out to their families, friends and all of the lives they touched and made better."

Clair Walton '76 and her compadre met me in Mount Laurel, N.J., to visit the Alice Paul Institute (celebrating women getting their right to vote in 1920) for Women's Equality Day. This was a great chance to catch up on life and share Peddie stories. We also talked about strong women who were role models, like her mom, who was Mr. Von's secretary.

78

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Fifty years ago this September, most of us first set foot on campus as students. Some joined earlier, starting as "eighth graders," while others became part of our class in the following years. Although it feels like just yesterday, in four short years, we'll reach the milestone of becoming the "Old Guard."

Looking back on those early days, I have fond memories: frosh/soph football with Mr. McClellan, donning a jacket and tie for dinner, and Mr. Dubois maintaining order during chapel. I can still recall picking up mail in Wilson Hall, and **Bart Rogers '75** insisting I recite Ala Viva on the steps of Avery Hall in front of senior girls. Then there was the unforgettable sight of Harry Holcombe at our first assembly — his bold plaid sport coat and commanding voice urging us to get involved in the theater program. I remember the taste of a hand-mixed Coca-Cola at the corner pharmacy, the bagel shop, Aljohn's Pizza, and the sounds of WPLJ, WMMR and WYSP on the radio.

Thanks to everyone who sent in notes and pictures.

You shared some remarkable memories, including two classmates who started with us as eighth graders and another who made a life-changing discovery about her family — thanks to her perseverance and a little help from DNA.

Maggie Selecky Worsdale: "**Jane (Kozinski) Herndon** and I just returned from a fantastic weekend/wedding of my brother James Selecky in Denver, Colo. One of our Peddie stories shared was the summer of 1975 when Jane and I went to Princeton to lunch, shop and see Jaws. We have for the past 49 years, swapped Jaws memorabilia as well as quotes. "And it wasn't Jack the Ripper! It was a shark." Will plan a trip this fall down to Orange Beach, Ala., for a long weekend visit with Jane who is working as the executive director of the South Alabama Land Trust. With my company, Traveling Literary Theater, Martha Washington, whom I portray in living history, will be making the rounds nationally in 2025-2026 as our nation celebrates 250 years. Don't know if anything can beat the bicentennial celebration in 1976. Yes, 50 years ago and you can say ... I remember when."

Nina Hovnanian: "It's been 51 years since I joined the eighth grade. 51 years! OMG those numbers are really up there! Recently, it occurred to me that we graduated 33 years after the close of WWII. 1991 was 33 years ago. That, to me, does NOT seem too long ago. I remember 1991 like it was last month! I imagine that most 60 year olds felt the same way about WWII ... Heck, we graduated 46 years ago! I



Jane Kozinski Herndon '78 (left) and Elizabeth Selecky '78 (right) attend the wedding of Selecky's brother, James, in Denver.

digress. I guess what I'm saying is, time flies; but memories, like our years at Peddie, remain fresh and vibrant and cherished!

"I am still in Armenia, working towards its development and perseverance in this crazy world, still pondering the outcomes of upcoming U.S. elections, and what that will mean for my kids, for the U.S., for the world, and yes, for Armenia. I've been really busy running my dad's business here and working to build Armenia up: promoting its arts, strengthening its civil society, improving its educational, health and human services, all the while doubling down on preserving its ancient cultural heritage. I guess when it comes to Armenia, I'm essentially building out and realizing the dreams of my parents and grandparents ... So much of what I do is rooted in all that I've learned growing up in N.J. I am always reminded of how lucky I am to be an American, how lucky I am to have gone to Peddie!

"My girls are now both 21, studying at uni, excited, yet fretting about what lies ahead. I tell them not to worry, to keep their eyes focused on their goals. (Wow, I realize I sound like Mr. Von, forever the quintessential cheerleader and COACH!)

"In parting, I encourage you all to come visit me in Armenia. It is a beautiful, wonderful, delicious and fascinating place. We can hang out in my garden



Peter Glynos '78 (left) and his family visited Europe earlier this year, including a stop at the Trevi Fountain in Rome.

and make a toast to Peddie's Class of '78 drinking Armenia's great wines. Cheers, and Ala Viva!"

Lisa Ranft Mavrogianis: "Moved to Delaware beaches and loving this time of year. Flash Peddie memory: 'My hands are up.' Enjoying sharing wisdom in technology, now navigating AI, with no retirement anytime soon."

Peter Glynos: "I always enjoy reading the Chronicle and catching up on all the updates. Unfortunately, I always seem to be out of town during our reunions, but it would be great to see everyone after all these years.

"I have some fond memories: From my 8th grade days at Rosenberger's house on the 3rd floor. Being the last class during our sophomore year to room in Wilson Hall during the first semester and then being the first to stay in Kerr Dorm.

"Does anyone remember that last meal at Wilson Hall when the lights went out? And who could forget junior year — remember what was hanging from the flagpole? Just to name a few.

"I recently came across my old Peddie jacket and patch while cleaning out my parents' house. It's amazing how those memories stick with you for a lifetime.

"I have spoken a few times to my junior year roommate, **Paul Miao**, who still lives in Taiwan. He speaks to **Don Shang**, who lives in Hong Kong.

"I've attached a photo from our family trip to Europe this year. That's me in the grey, along



From left: Kurt Bilderback '78 and Joe Buda '78 attend the wedding of Bilderback's son, Max.

with my wife, Cindy, my son, Nick (a senior at Florida Gulf Coast University), and my daughter, who's in her second year at the University of Alabama. We've had the chance to experience a few SEC football games down in Tuscaloosa, which have been unforgettable.

"Since selling my retail business a few years ago, I've been working in product development and have patented a few items, including wine glasses, swing sets, trampoline protectors and one closet product. Hope to catch up with you all soon!"

Joe Maressa: "Some exciting things to report., My daughter, Josie, is getting married at El Chorro in Scottsdale this November. Josie continues to practice law in Arizona and her fiancé is a lawyer as well. My son, Joey, graduated from Saint Joseph's University, magna cum laude, this year with a B.S. in finance and has landed a nice position at TD Bank as a portfolio analyst. Linda and I were married 35 years in June of this year. How lucky is she!!! Lol. I am still working 50 hours a week, but we are starting to travel a bit. No retirement in sight. I was saddened to hear we lost some of our classmates recently. As I said at our 45th reunion cocktail party, now is the time to keep in touch and go out of our way to see one another. In that vein, I am looking forward to traveling to North Jersey in early October to pay our old friend and classmate **Billy Introcaso** a visit. Best regards to all the 78ers!"

Jessica Huff: "I just finished my personal true crime story, and it's a doozy. I just started sending it out this week (TV, literary, documentary etc.), but if anyone knows anyone who wants to work on a true crime story better than 'three identical strangers,' let me know. "1918 — My father's twin was stolen at birth from a Brooklyn, N.Y., hospital. Now, over 100 years later, with advances in DNA and genealogical research, I have finally proven that my grandmother had triplets. Two were stolen, given to brothers, and raised as cousins. The third was my father. "2014 — A near fatal car crash leaves me with a traumatic brain injury, spinal fusion surgery, (C3, the vertebrae most likely to cause



Former classmates Joe Maressa '78, Bill Introcaso '78 and Tracy Wellington '78 reunite in October.

Rick Gerweck: "Classmates, I continue to work and thrive in central Florida and maintain a home here. There are so many exciting parks and attractions here in Orlando. The neighborhood where I live has volunteer cleanup opportunities, and so every month we join forces to clean and improve the environment. It is very rewarding to see a community come together and show its pride by cleaning and landscaping alongside the roads."

Bob Ballou: "We have moved! After 40 wonderful years in Rhode Island, Sherri and I have permanently moved to what had been our summer/weekend home on Mountain Lake in Warren County, New Jersey. We are renovating our lake house and expect to be done and moved in by Halloween. We miss R.I., but we love it out here in the boonies of northwest N.J. — very quiet and peaceful, with lots of natural beauty and wildlife, and a deep glacial lake abutting our front yard. Sherri still works full-time from home, but I am recently retired and looking forward to the freedom that awaits, once our house is finished. In August, I spent an afternoon with **Craig Clayton, Tracy Wellington, Matt Deiner** and **Jose Santacana**. I stay in touch with them, as well as **Kurt Bilderback, Joe Buda** and **Richard Rose**. We all feel so fortunate to remain close friends almost exactly 50 years after first meeting as kids at Peddie."

Jessica Huff: "I just finished my personal true crime story, and it's a doozy. I just started sending it out this week (TV, literary, documentary etc.), but if anyone knows anyone who wants to work on a true crime story better than 'three identical strangers,' let me know. "1918 — My father's twin was stolen at birth from a Brooklyn, N.Y., hospital. Now, over 100 years later, with advances in DNA and genealogical research, I have finally proven that my grandmother had triplets. Two were stolen, given to brothers, and raised as cousins. The third was my father. "2014 — A near fatal car crash leaves me with a traumatic brain injury, spinal fusion surgery, (C3, the vertebrae most likely to cause

death or paralysis, etc.) I joined ancestry.com to help my brain, and I immediately hit a brick wall. "I learn there have been NO NYC VITAL RECORDS available for decades. "2020 — The tipping point comes with the release of the NYC Vital Records (finally!), through RTR.com (reclaimtherecords.com). They have sued NYS under the FIA (Freedom of Info Act) and won access to the real records. "FINALLY, and most importantly, I am a chromosomal segmentation match (I share an heir) with multiple members of the family tree where my dad's triplets were placed. The family knows about me, even though they wish they didn't. "I am making this story known for my father and my grandfather, and for all the other thousands of parents who were unknowingly involved in the baby switching/stealing process. If they want to know what happened, they can figure it out. If not, they don't have to!"

By the time you read this, it will almost be 2025. I hope you have a wonderful holiday season and a happy new year!

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To submit news or if you are interested in serving as class secretary, email editor@peddie.org.

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Hello friends! Hoping everyone is healthy and happy and starting to get excited about our 45th Reunion! Mind blowing, I know. The dates are June 6-7, 2025, so start to factor them into your summer plans!

Jeff Barth says, "I was picking up my daughter at the end of her freshman year at UMass Amherst. **John Zbehlik** drove down from New Hampshire to meet me the night before for dinner, drinks and memories of good times. Really great to catch up. He and I were doubles partners on Peddie's 1979

CLASS NOTES

tennis team. We won one match all season, but no one had more fun and laughter on the court than us. Forty-five years later, his spirit is the same. Love you, Z! (Sorry, Coach McClellan. I never returned the team jersey after the season.)”

Mark Young writes, “Last year, we sold our home in La Cañada, Calif., and rented for a year. During that time, Kelly and I found our forever home (hopefully) in Carlsbad, overlooking LaCosta Resort. We also moved my mother-in-law from Glendale to the Carlsbad area so she can be closer to us. She just turned 102 years old. Last week, we closed on the sale of her house in Glendale. I finally decided to call it a career by retiring from Glendale Water and Power after 35 years as the general manager. It was a great ride, but now I am looking to restart my woodworking and getting better at golf. Still don’t know what to do with all of my spare time, but will be looking for volunteer work with the veterans in this



From left: Mark Boillotat '80, Michele Boillotat, Stephanie Thier and Dan Kremens '80 at the wedding of Kremens's and Thier's daughter in Rhode Island in August.



The Fiber Bee group gathered in Seattle in June. Front row from left: Ellie Kuhlthau Molloy '81, Beth Lichtman Leiss '80 and Suzy Wojciechowicz Caldwell '80. Back row: Megan Thompson Hand '80, Maryjean Spatt Mucciarone '80 and Michelle Bodin-Hettinger '80.

area. Now is the time to give back to my fellow vets if I can. Can't wait for the reunion next year.”

Joe Tricomi: “News, eh? Good and bad. Two grandkids (4 and 2), Dad passed in May, splitting time between Florida and Tennessee. Had time with Dad for many years; we were very close. Grandkids are in Georgia; we sometimes see them transiting between places. Still working. Getting together with **Bill Gaillard** in October. Hope all's well with you and yours.”

In June, hosted by **Megan Thompson Hand** and **Suzy Wojciechowicz Caldwell**, **Maryjean Spatt Mucciarone**, **Beth Lichtman Leiss**, **Ellie Kuhlthau Molloy** and I spent an amazing week in Seattle. Knitting was the underlying theme, but we saw the sights, ate and drank like queens, and laughed a lot!

81

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Among the new inductees to the Mercer County Soccer Hall of Fame is **Jim Turp**, who becomes the third member of his family to



Former Peddie tennis doubles partners John Zbehlik '80 (left) and Jeff Barth '80 reunited for dinner and drinks in Massachusetts in May while Barth was picking up his daughter at UMass Amherst.

join the Hall, following his father and uncle.

Jim was a three-year starting goalkeeper at Peddie and later attended St. Bonaventure University, setting a single-season goalkeeper record of 12 wins in 1982 — a record that still stands.

Well, Class of '81 has quite the crew for class secretaries. We've taken the team approach as of late, with **John Thalheimer**, **David Corson** and **Lesley Ranft**. We heard from a couple of classmates earlier in the year, and now are able to share their comments. We had a big-splash response from classmates in the last issue. We have had a few classmates chime in, and we have a special announcement.

Michael Baylin's legacy lives on within the Gratitude Garden, in front of the Peddie Arts Center. There is now a special seating area within the garden to offer a one-of-a-kind space for reflection and bountiful friendships that Michael was so honored to share with us. Thanks to **Charlie Burton** for making this gift possible. As he states, “Michael quickly realized how much more he loved Peddie after he left Peddie. He made lifelong friends and was a great friend to many. I miss Michael, as I know many of you do, too. Hopefully, this garden will remain for many generations. We'll do a big dedication at the next reunion! The recognition of Michael at Peddie lives on in the hearts, minds and souls of all of us.”

So, until reunion, let's hear from a few friends about how Peddie touched their lives!

Gordon Elkins states, “I often think about my Peddie years and have such fond memories. My only regret is I should have spent more time studying. I am the father of three girls and am happily married to Michele, an architect. I have lived in New York City, Atlanta, Minneapolis and San Antonio, Texas. Will be heading back to the East Coast in several years. Those three years at Peddie have led to wonderful memories and some good friendships.” Gordon J. Elkins is a partner at Elkins Partnership.

It was also great that David heard from **Ann Drobner**. She shares, “I'm in San Francisco, my

kids are teenagers (I had my babies later in life), I did some extensive traveling, and now I'm starting an online fashion jewelry biz (I had a retail store for 10 years in jewelry). If anyone's in SF, let's hook up!”

Just a few thoughts from some special friends at The Peddie School. Let's make this reunion a big one for the Class of '81 with a great dedication at the Gratitude Garden! Stay in touch! Hope to see everyone in June! Let's do it!

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A very cool story from **Billy Barr**, “In 2008, I went to Haiti to help build a new office for a health clinic. While in Haiti, I met an exceptional teenager named Junior Bernard, who was our group's interpreter. Soon after, my wife, Claudia, and I arranged to have Junior live with us in New Jersey while he was getting his education. Now, 16 years later, Junior is one of our family, and he has recently published a book about his journey escaping Haiti's crushing poverty and building a new life in the U.S. Junior's book, 'Persist, Persist, Persist. The Haitian Boy, the American and the Hidden Lesson' is an extremely engaging memoir. His indefatigable spirit in the face of adversity, like the 2010 earthquake, should be especially inspiring to Peddie alumni.”

Gus Skopas also sent a note: “Living in Royal Palm Beach, Fla., with my wife, Kate, and my two youngest kids (Gianni, 12, and Geno, 8). My older son (Peter, 33) lives in Delray Beach, Fla., and my other son (Nikolas, 31) lives in Deerfield Beach, Fla. I retired three years ago after selling Shrimp King Restaurant and Seafood Market. I've been remodeling and selling homes that I acquired before COVID, so I've been busy during my retirement. One house left to sell in New Jersey! Taking some time off before I build four lots I have in Florida. Florida rocks!”

Our class squirrel whisperer **Corey Seeman** (no joke, there's a newspaper article) didn't submit anything for these Class Notes as

he is “too traumatized with all of us turning 60.” He kind of hinted at attempting to write something up for the next Chronicle. We'll see ...

Larry Anker's daughter, **Josie '15**, got married on May 18 in Atlanta. “She is finishing her Ph.D. in psychology from UGA while living in Madison, Wis., with her new husband, Jordan Baker, as he completes his vascular surgery residency.”

And lastly, **Kirsten Astor** chimed in about her recent Herculean accomplishment. “For this past Lent, I gave up my third and fourth daily martinis. It was rough in the beginning, but I made it through the week and celebrated hard on that Friday. Go me!”

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This spring, Randie and I had dinner with **Robin Landsman**

and her husband, Randy, at their apartment in New York City. A fun time was had by all! Robin and Randy are great cooks and hosts! They are getting ready to downsize to a smaller apartment in the city, because they want to get a place in Colorado so they can spend more time where their kids now live. So, if anyone is looking for a chic downtown loft in New York or needs a dinner invite in Colorado, let Robin know. My Randie and I are hoping to get another invite.

And the reunions continue: **David DeSocio** and **Garrett Smith** attended a 45th grammar school reunion of the Bay Head Elementary School in Bay Head, N.J. These guys have been friends and neighbors since kindergarten. How great that the friendship continued on through the Peddie years, and remains today. Garrett's daughter Sienna just graduated from Syracuse University, so he is very excited to be done with tuition.

David is now a resident of Connecticut in a new home, along with his partner, Chris. He still spends a few days a week in New York City, at the office, and fundraising for Broadway Cares. If you ever want a behind-the-scenes tour of A&E television and movie studios, he is a big cheese there; give him a call.

Dave Reitman was busy traveling this summer and made a stop in Washington, D.C. While there, he got to see **Ann Kuhlthau Caspari** teaching a class, inspiring young minds at the Air and Space Museum.

I attended the first day of this year's Peddie reunion, where I got to catch up with **Erik Hanson**. Erik was at Peddie in support of **P.J. Horgan '84**, who was being inducted into the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame. Congratulations P.J. By the way, just like us the previous year, this was the Class of '84's 40th Reunion. Erik informed me that he is on the Pro-Amateur Senior Golf Tour, living in the Pacific Northwest and Married to a Movie Star Wife. Erik is also living completely off the grid, with no Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. So, good luck verifying any of these facts.

I also got to play golf with Class of '84's **Jon Eckert**, **Jeff Enslin** and **Don Eytel**. We had a great time and the Peddie golf course is looking better than ever. Jon Eckert has retired and is building a home in Florida, Jeff Enslin moved to Philadelphia because that is where his favorite sports teams are and Don Eytel is splitting time between Naples, Fla., and Portland, Ore.

Richard Lietz heard from **Mark Neft**, who shared a great update. “I got married to my best friend of the past eight years, and our family now has a nine-year-old son. I moved to Aiken, S.C., and finally, I am enjoying life at a much slower pace down here.”

Thank you, Mark ... and congratulations!

And, as for Rick, he reports that he purchased a home in Chesterfield, Va., and took on a new position within IBM. He says, “My grandkids are 7 and 9, and I am looking forward to taking them to the National Mall in Washington, D.C., this fall to see the many exhibitions. (Maybe I will run into Ann giving one of her presentations!) I was fortunate to be able to attend the Peddie retirement celebrations for Tim Corica and Brian Davidson. Peddie was very blessed to have a teacher like Tim and Brian's many years of work in the Alumni and Development Department.”

As always, please feel free to share any updates with me or David via email, text or phone. In addition, our newest Chronicle partner, Rick, is managing submissions on Facebook. Thanks, Rick, for volunteering to keep our class more connected. Please let us know of any news, big and small.

WHAT LESSONS FROM PEDDIE DO YOU STILL CARRY WITH YOU?

Your experiences at Peddie shaped who you are — now share how they continue to inspire you. Visit giftplanning.peddie.org/mylegacy to tell your story and learn how you can honor your Peddie experience and make a difference for future generations.



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GIFTPLANNING.PEDDIE.ORG/MYLEGACY



84

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It was great to see so many folks at our 40th Reunion. Congrats to **P.J. Horgan** are twofold — one for being elected to the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame and the second for being able to jog all the way from Atlantic City to the chapel steps in time to make our picture!

Thanks to **Laura George, Jackie Shoback, Missy Raffo, John Jones, Rich Rebb, Monty Gallant, Eric Stamborg, Jeff Szur, Bill Volckening, Tom Sabga, Jon Eckert, Don Eytel, Gina Rothman Banks, Gina Hepp Ancalmo, Karen Barnes, Jeff Enslin, Mitch Mackler, Craig Ross, Michael Schlessinger, Dawn Tischbein** and **Patti Wendling** for making it back to Peddie for the festivities. Also, my apologies if I left someone out (or if I included someone who didn't make it!) My memory is fading fast!

Vincent Brown checked in via Facebook. He has what looks like the start of his life story on substack.com. Vince, we miss you and hope you make it back for our next reunion!

Seriously, it was wonderful to see everyone. I look forward to our reunions every time because of our group. By the time you read this, our granddaughter Louise might be walking!

My best and hugs to all!



Morgan Rolontz '83 (right) and wife, **Randie**, dine with classmate **Robin Landsman '83** (second from left) and husband, **Randy**, at the Landsman's New York City apartment last spring.

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Visit your classmates on our Peddie Class of '85 Facebook page and share your stories. You can always reach out to me directly anytime!

Carissa Tortajada Carisse recently took a job with the DNV (a Norwegian company) as a clinical supervisor. She flies all over the U.S. and territories weekly to survey hospitals for compliance. She said that she may be at a hospital near you someday soon!

In the late winter, I was visiting my sister **Allison Martinelli '88** in Colorado, and we met **Leslie Kulthau Maniotes** in Arvada for lunch. At the time, Leslie's daughter Lily was choosing from the colleges she had been accepted to and is now off for her freshman year. The summer flew by! I wanted to include a photo, but we agreed my selfie skills are lacking.

In June, I met up with **Greg Rabinowitz** and **Greg Smith** when they came to Chicago with a friend of theirs to attend a few Cubs games. I met them out in Old Town and caught up on old times. Greg Smith is still in Dallas, working as senior legal counsel for AT&T, and Greg Rabinowitz is running his recycling business in Tampa, Fla. After dinner and a few drinks, all I remember is the conversation turning to what our first concerts were and who we still want to see before it's too late. I did learn who Ghost is!

So great to hear from **Courtney Coyle**, who told me: "I am still practicing law in California, mainly helping California's Indian tribes protect their burial grounds and sacred places. My dad, who some in our class knew, passed two years ago, which may be the case for others in our year. It has provoked a level of introspection and self-assessment for what to do with the time we have left.

Our daughter, Lexi, is a junior at USC; you may see her on TV at the big football and basketball games, as she is the blonde Song Girl dancing on the sidelines. Our son, Max, is a sophomore in high school and is thinking of applying to the military academies, so if anyone has any recent experience in that department, let me know. If you find yourself in the San Diego area, please do reach out!"

Jaleh Amouzegar Acito let me know that their son, Kamran, is in his junior year at Duke and daughter, Layla, is in grad school in New York City. In September, **Jaleh** and **Chris Acito**, **Greg Smith** and **Beth Posner Hess** met up in North Carolina to watch one of Kamran's soccer games at Duke. He's been a starting defender and is now team captain!

Jaleh and **Chris** also recently saw **Jon Ellinghaus** at one of his gigs in New York. Jon's (Miles East's) new album "Between Lightning and Thunder" dropped in June, so make sure you have a listen on your favorite streaming platform. It's continuing to earn rave reviews!



David DeSocio '83 and **Garrett Smith '83** at their 45th grammar school reunion in Bay Head, N.J., last summer.

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Jason Myers writes: "I am getting everything in motion for the big relocation to Thailand, and am very excited to be making this move. I'll be starting in Bangkok and plan to try out many regions before settling. I expect to be there sometime in November (depending on when the California house sells), so if anyone is planning a trip to this magical country, please get in touch. I will be happy to give the same level of hospitality that **Mike Barless** affords to visitors of Phoenix!"

Amy Hollander writes: "My graphic novel is going to be published this fall! It is called 'Low Bridge, Everybody Down: the Life and Times of Jimmy Brown.' It's a project I was hired to do for the National Canal Museum in Easton, Pa., about the true life story of a Black canal boat captain named Jimmy Brown, who started on the canal when he was 10 years old in 1910 and worked his way up to captain by 1915. I wrote the story, script and dialogue bubbles, and I'm working with an amazing



Peddie Class of 1985 classmates met up in Chicago last June. From left: **Greg Rabinowitz**, **Laura Martinelli** and **Greg Smith**.

artist named **Will Rosado** for the illustrations. I will keep you posted on the publishing release date."

Marisa (Coppola) Procopio writes: "I'm a props designer in local and regional theater and recently won a 2024 NJACT Perry Award for my work in 'Evil Dead' (Outstanding Properties in a Musical), which was staged at the Count Basie Center for the Arts in Red Bank, N.J. Second nom, first win. I was a visiting artist for Peddie's Drama Department between 2015 and 2023, and the best news is that I've had the chance to work several times with **Cristian Rodriguez '18**.

We close 'Rent' tomorrow at the Basie, with the wildly talented **Cristian** as **Roger**."

Michael Barless writes: "This summer, eight members of the Class of 1987 (**Sloane Simpson Belitz**, **Diana Heppe**, **Suzanne King Garrod**, **Mary Becker**, **Marcea Huemer Hummel**, **Risa Sackman**, **Josh Pasher** and I) met in Miami for a three-day cruise on Royal Caribbean. Seeing how this is the year we turn 55, and we're still a few years away from our 40th Reunion, we looked at this as a good opportunity to get together. The cruise stopped at **Coco Cay** and then in **Nassau** before returning to **Miami**. Our trip to **Nassau** included a visit to **Matt Hulsizer** and his wife's home on **Paradise Island**. It was a wonderful day. Everyone had a great time getting together, and it was super fun to share those Peddie memories."

Peter Wanat writes: "After exiting from the start-up world

last year and taking some great time off to hang and enjoy with the family, I have joined AGBO as the president of Interactive/Games. Sooo happy to get out of the VC world and back into making video games again! Even better to get to do it with film, TV and game makers who are some of my all-time favorite creatives. I have been getting some other video game-minded Peddie alumni together here in Los Angeles for a few meet-ups. **Vincent Tong '92** (who is at **Pokemon Go Dev Niantic**) and I formed a **Peddie Video Game Makers** LinkedIn group, and we would love to add more alumni and current students to join us! I did get crushed by both **Josh Pasher** and **Phil Cappalonga '88** this year in fantasy baseball. It's nice to give those guys a tour on the top of the standings."

Marcea Hummel writes: "What a fun way to celebrate turning 55, with a three-day cruise to **Nassau** out of **Miami**! I'd say one of the highlights of the trip was visiting **Zeke** in **Nassau**, who proudly hoisted his **Peddie** flag so we could find our way to his home. **Matt** and his wife, **Jenny**, who kindly took sincere interest in meeting each of **Matt's** high school friends, graciously hosted all of us among his friends. It was great to spend time together to talk about the good ol' **Peddie** days and rekindle special friendships that I will forever hold close!"

Josh Pasher writes: "Our summer included two fun vacations. The first was a three-day cruise with fellow Class of '87



Members of the Class of 1987 took a three-day cruise this summer, which included a stop in **Nassau, Bahamas**, where they visited classmate **Matt Hulsizer's** home. From left: **Sloane Simpson Belitz**, **Diana Heppe**, **Suzanne King Garrod**, **Michael Barless**, **Mary Becker**, **Matt Hulsizer**, **Marcea Huemer Hummel**, **Risa Sackman** and **Josh Pasher**.

classmates. **Michael's** girlfriend, **Kelly**, their good friend **Jenna** and my wife, **Alex**, also took part. The cruise was very relaxing for all of us, and the amount of laughing and reminiscing about **Peddie** during breakfast and dinner were a lot of fun. The true highlight of the trip was the afternoon spent in **Nassau** with fellow classmate **Matt Hulsizer** and his wife, **Jenny**, at their property. We spent the afternoon there with **Matt**, **Jenny**, the Class of '87 group, friends of **Matt's** from **Amherst** and some of **Jenny's** friends from her hometown of **Brookfield, Wis.** **Alex** and I have gotten together since with one of the Wisconsin couples who live a few minutes from us. Our second trip was to the **Outer Banks** in **North Carolina**. **Alex** and I, along with our youngest son, **Grayson**, joined my older brother, **Brett '82**, his girlfriend, **Kristen**, and six others, and rented a house for a week. The weather and beach were fantastic. The highlight was driving along the beach and seeing the wild horses roaming free."

Karen Newman writes: "Lee and I are still loving life in **Fort Myers, Fla.** Looking forward to hosting my family for Thanksgiving this year in **Fort Myers**. We finally convinced my parents to be snowbirds in **Fort Myers** this season. Looking forward to having the extended family together. Please let me know if your travels bring you down this way."

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From **Oliver Mitchell**: "I'm a grandfather of now two amazing kids, **Lielle** (girl, 9 months old) and **Ariel** (boy, 2.5 years old). My moniker is 'Saba Sababa' (Hebrew for 'Cool Grandpa'). In my professional life, I continue to invest in amazing startups that are changing the world for the better. I will also start my second year teaching my MBA

course, 'Entrepreneurship and the Management of Change' at **YU Syms School of Business**, as well as publishing my first book, 'A Startup Field Guide in the Age of Robots and AI' with **CRC Press**."

From **Cyndi Shattuck**: "I live in **Kingston, N.J.** (right next to **Princeton**), with my twins, **Daphne** and **James**, and my husband, **Fitz**. I can't believe my kids are almost 11 years old now. Yes, I know most of you have children that are college-aged! I just needed a few extra years to get used to the idea of settling down and having a roommate again. Living in **New York City** definitely delays adulting!"

"We moved here from **Manhattan** in 2014 and **Fitz** learned to drive a car (native **New Yorker**). I moved my studio from **New York** to **Princeton** as well. We both are still in and out of the city all month for work, and I have a lot of clients there. I own my own business that specializes in creating professional museum quality archives for private clients and businesses. I assist my clients with donations to institutions, connect them to auction houses and appraisers when needed, design books from archives and create archival quality digital collections.

"I also handle restoration and conservation of photographs, documents and books. After leaving **WSJ.com** in 2004, I became a full-time professional photographer. But, my main business since 2020 has been working with archives and book collections. If you want to check out my work, my websites are **cyndishattuck.com** and **archive-my-memories.com!**

"I have a terrific studio in **Princeton Shopping Center**, which is actually much larger than any apartment I had during 20 years of living in **Manhattan!** "A few years ago, I bumped into **Mandy Nicol**, who was living about two blocks from us in **Kingston**. We met up with my family for the local firehouse pancake breakfast (so small-town, I know) and it turns out that we were about two degrees of separation away from old friends in **New York**. Our mutual friends had actually dated! I still visit with 'Aunt Royce' (**Royce Epstein '87**)

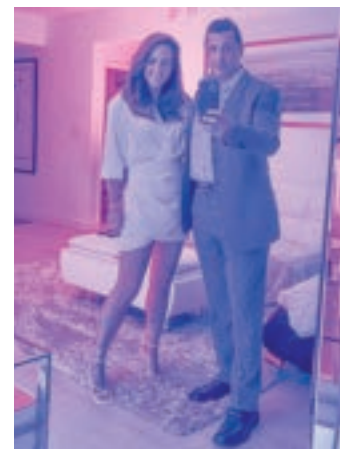
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on a regular basis, and last August, we were all in Philly, celebrating her wedding to 'Uncle Matt.' I also got to catch up with **Seth Epstein '88** at the wedding. My children danced the night away with Royce at her celebration.

"My dear Peddie friend, **Jon Selikoff '88**, passed away in 2017 from ALS. I still miss him every single day. Sam, his son, is heading to Penn State for his freshman year. We just saw Sam and his mom, Lauren, last weekend! My parents were cleaning out their house a bit and found old copies of The Peddie News with Jon and I listed together on the masthead. After college, I ended up in the news business for 10 years, and Jon ended up as an artist and print graphic designer, too. Both careers were probably sparked by our days at Peddie working with Mr. Van Dusen on the newspaper.

"I am still in touch with Katy Graham, my amazing art teacher from Peddie, and her daughter, Sara Graham Rabstenek. I owe them both a long phone call and visit. I photographed Sara's wedding many moons ago when we were in Manhattan together. Taking care of twins took over my life the first few years. I literally didn't sleep for about five years! I'm trying to catch up again with everyone and get more sleep.

"Kingston is a Peddie magnet. My neighbor works at Peddie and loves it there, too. I have also seen **Kassia Switlik Bukowsky '88** here and there and photographed her daughter for her high school graduation. I



Carl Risoldi '89 and his wife, Shelia.

am also overdue for a visit with **Heidi Hoving Kollar '89**.

"My husband and I miss the city and go back frequently, but we love living in Princeton/Kingston, and I don't think we will move back."

From **Jonathan Greene**: "I was last at Peddie a couple of years ago, when our 1989 basketball team was inducted into the Peddie Sports Hall of Fame, and I got to reconnect with about one-third of the team. After living in several other states, I have been back in New Jersey for more than 10 years and now live in Mendham. I am an empty nester, but my kids (son, 23, and daughter, 21) are close by, which is amazing. After a career as a trial lawyer in Florida, I went into the mainstream art and museum world for six years before teaching at the university level for three years. After that, I moved my side hustle to full-time and went back to my roots and continued what my father taught me about real estate. I have been investing for more than 30 years in multiple states, have an on-market real estate team in New Jersey that goes from Jersey City to Princeton and beyond, and also host one of the fastest-growing real estate investing podcasts in the world, 'Zen and the Art of Real Estate Investing.' We will be close to 200 episodes by the time this comes out. On an investing trip to Asheville, N.C., this summer, I met up with my BFF from high school, **Beth Flowers**, and we talked all things Peddie. I'd love to hear from anyone from the old days who I am not in touch with. I am easy to find on social.

"Something most people don't know is that I was sent to Peddie in 1988 because my mother was sick again. She passed away when I was 20, and my father passed



Jackie Jaffee '89 and her family live in Portland, Ore.

away when I was 33. I mention it because I didn't appreciate Peddie for the gift it was when I was in high school. But what they gave me by sending me there was a further ability to be independent. I am still thankful that they made that decision. This past year, I did two transactions with a much younger alumnus, **Drew Johnson '06**, and got to know his whole family, which was amazing. I hope everyone is living their best life and staying healthy."

From **Greg Dalin**: "The reunion was an extremely small showing; hopefully in five years, we can get a bigger turnout. It was great catching up with **Bonnie Roffman** and **Alex Golden** at the Saturday barbecue. **Pia Clemente** was back in New Jersey over the summer, and I was able to convince her and her beautiful family to come over and hang by the pool for an afternoon. Hope you are all doing well. It's hard to believe we are creeping up on our mid-50s."

From **Jackie Jaffe**: "Nothing other than typical life happening here in Portland, Ore.

My husband and I live with our 13-year-old daughter, have two adult children (daughter, 31, son, 34), and our older daughter's two grandbabies (3 and 5), who all live 30 minutes away in a rural town outside of Portland. I've been back to teaching elementary after being a principal a decade ago. Just moved my 86-year-old mom out from New York City, juggling the position of straddling parenting a teen and looking after my aging mom, like many of us, I'm sure."

From **Lisa Locke**: "We've been on the college tour this summer for our oldest. One fun takeaway: Animal science schools often have the added bonus of homemade ice cream on campus from their dairies (UConn and University of Wisconsin aren't just known for basketball!)."

In other news, I had an exciting opportunity to contribute a short piece to the recently published "Trans Anthology Project (Boylan and Kirby, 2024)." For those on a gender journey with a family member or who simply want to understand better, I

found it an extremely valuable resource and wanted to share.

That is all for now. Hope you are having a good fall so far!

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From **Scott Smithgall**: "This past year, I left my previous position of 20 years as an ER physician and medical director in a trauma center and transitioned to UChicago AdventHealth Emergency Rooms in the western suburbs of Chicago. Becoming an independent contractor has freed up some time and allowed me to start writing and recording music in my home studio. I released 'Broken Pieces,' my first album of electronic music in 20 years, this past spring on Spotify and iTunes, and am already working on new material for the next album. Lots of appreciation for all of the support from Peddie friends who listened and responded! An Ala Viva goes out to Steve Risberg from the math department, who was my faculty advisor for my senior year independent study project when I released my first album (on cassette)!"

From **Karri Rakow Taix**: "Greetings from Park City, Utah! My husband, Mike, and I traded California living for the mountain life in Park City back in 2017, and we've been loving it ever since, with our three kids and a whole menagerie of dogs, cats and horses! It's hard to believe my own kids are now the age I was when I started at Peddie. My 16-year-old son is a junior and already looking at colleges (his options are way out of my league). My 14-year-old daughter just began her freshman year and my youngest daughter is in seventh grade. They all put me to shame on the slopes, but we still love skiing together at Deer Valley, practically in our backyard. My girls and I are also very involved with the National Charity League. Are there any other NCL moms in the alumni group?"

"After over 20 years in the legal field and then in recruiting and HR,

I decided to pursue a new passion: jewelry design. I started KT Fine Jewelry in 2022, and it's been an incredible journey so far. By day, I'm the head of recruitment for Discovery Land Company, and in my free time (when I'm not juggling life with three teenagers), I'm hosting trunk shows and pop-ups across the country, from California to Miami, and everywhere in between. Feel free to check out my work on Instagram @kt.finejewelry. My next big show is in Fort Worth, Texas, October 9-13, for Christmas in Cowtown.

"We had a great visit from **Harry Fulton** and his family in March, catching up on and off the mountain. Before that, one of their sons visited with a crew of his Naval Academy buddies. I try to keep up with some of the circa 1988 Avery girls, and hope to see more Peddie friends as I travel the country for my new venture! Last winter, I also had a chance to see **Janine Devine '88**. Loved seeing her after many years. Funny, my mom and an old coworker of hers are friends in Vegas. Yes, my parents retired to Vegas after many years as old-time New Yorkers.

"Hope to hear from some Peddie friends soon! Seems like many friends over the years end up here during ski season, so I would love to see you too."

From **Darin Morgan**: "I keep in touch a lot with **Chris Picerno** and **Lance Rucks** mostly. A few years ago, my son and I went to an Eagles vs. Panthers game in Charlotte; we stayed with Chris and tailgated and went to the game with Lance. Kids are 17 and 14. Boy and girl. Senior and



Dan Rapka '90 and Josh Henriquez '90 visited with Head of School Peter Quinn during a recent trip to Peddie.

freshman. Been legal recruiting for 17 years (headhunting) after I stopped being an NFL agent when my kids were born. Just took a trip to Croatia ... amazing place. Highly recommend. Kids are both potential small college athletes. My son broke a sprint record last year in his junior year and is getting recruited, and my daughter is already being contacted for basketball in college, but unsure if either will pursue because they both want big schools."

From **Lily Chu**: "Life has been super busy. We still live in Vienna, Va., a suburb of Washington, D.C. I am a partner with Fairfax Radiological Consultants. Specifically, I specialize in breast imaging and procedures. My family and I love to travel. Our most recent trip this past winter was to New Zealand. We've been to four continents so far. Our next big trips will be to Belize and a safari to South Africa and Zimbabwe. I still keep in touch with **Melanie (Berk) Rice**, **Mary (Dawes) Ylagan**, **Julie (Veremey) Zurolo** and **Toni Zachos Kaplan** (I'm not sure if she changed her name). During quarantine, we were able to have a nice group chat with **Josh Henriquez**, **Stu Greif**, **Brian Rosen**, maybe **Dan Rapka** and **Jim Thomas**? It was so long ago! The ladies are all doing well. Julie and her husband, Dan, teach at Miss Porter's School in Connecticut. She is a dean there. They have two daughters. Toni's daughter is a freshman at Hofstra University. Mary's son, Daniel, is doing great in baseball and is a junior in high school, I believe. Melanie lives down in Florida.



Doug Hofferberger '90 married Beth Elsner in St. Lucia on November 11, 2022.

Last time we spoke, Brian Rosen lives in the next town over, Oakton, Va. Josh is still in Panama. His son went to Peddie, and I'm sure has probably graduated from college by now! **Ariel Rad** is a plastic surgeon down here. He and his wife, a dermatologist, have a great practice in Washington, D.C. Sometimes we have mutual patients, so it's fun to see his name as a referring physician."

From **Doug Hofferberger**: "I have not written any Class Notes for quite a while, so lots to report. On 11/11/22, I married my soulmate, Beth Elsner, in a private ceremony in St. Lucia. We have five children in our blended family. Olivia graduated with a master's degree from Colorado College in 2023 and is a kindergarten teacher in the East Village. Chase graduated from Georgia, with a master's degree in new media in 2023 and is in digital marketing. Charlotte graduated from Bucknell in 2024 and is working in Washington, D.C., for a political consulting firm. Wynne is in her sophomore year at ODU, and Henry just started his freshman year at Elon University. Beth and I live full time in Virginia Beach, Va., but also have a small place in Baltimore; I travel there a week a month, working with my family, and Beth has family in York, Pa., which is very nearby. I have been running our family office for 30 years and serving on the board of our family holding company for the last 25 years. We sold our last operating business, a nearly 100-year-old refrigerated warehousing/logistics business, to Lineage Logistics, which went public in June. I also recently



BJ Bedford '90 participates in the Tour de Fat, the largest costume bike ride in the world.

completed serving as chair for a \$15M capital campaign to raise money for Squashwise, a nonprofit I co-founded 15 years ago, which provides tutoring, mentoring and wraparound services to Baltimore Youth and uses the sport of squash to engage those students. We purchased a historic Greyhound Bus building and are underway in renovating it with six squash courts, a full gym, classrooms, offices and community space. Last spring, I caught a Miami Heat basketball game in Miami and was able to catch up with my old Masters roommate, **Dave Mayfield**, who is doing great and is busy with two boys who are active in sports. I speak to **Will Finnerty** often, who is writing a letter of recommendation to support my daughter Charlotte's graduate application to the Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. I also keep in touch with **Mary Deery**, **Peter McClellan**, **John Kennedy**, **Chuck Simpers**, Lance Rucks and **Paige and Brad Daggett**, who I see every year for my annual weekend stay with them when I play a doubles squash tournament at Merion Cricket Club. I'm playing in the U.S. Nationals Squash Doubles Tournament, which is being held in Baltimore in March of 2025, in the 50-year-old age division. I have been a six-time U.S. National Finalist in various age divisions and recently represented the U.S. in the Can-Am Cup, a Ryder Cup of Squash featuring the two best teams in 13 age divisions from the United States and Canada."

From **Josh Henriquez**: "Just a brief update: I recently made a



Ziyah Esbenshade '90 and her partner, Sam Williamson, enjoy spending time out west at their place in Idaho.

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career shift to focus on managing the real estate portfolio of our business here in Panama. I'm no longer overseeing the KFC and Dairy Queen franchises. On the family front, two of my boys have graduated from college, and my youngest is heading into his sophomore year. I was in New York City last week, so Dan Rapka and I took a trip down memory lane at Peddie and had a great conversation with PQ. Of course, we couldn't leave without grabbing some Anthony's wings for old times' sake! Looking forward to seeing everyone next year for our 30th Reunion!"

From **Mark Winrow**: "My beautiful mother passed away in mid-May. It was and still has been a period filled with grief, sorrow, ups and downs. She never had a huge passion to travel, but lived through the photos I would text back to her from my travels. I made a commitment to spread her ashes throughout the world. Since her passing, I have brought her with me to Paris, Panama, Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, Istanbul, Croatia, Slovenia, Finland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. By the end of the year, I will take her (ashes) with me to Jordan and Peru. On the job front, I am approaching seven years as the vice president of North and South America for Giambattista Valli USA (giambattistavalli.com). As I write this email, I am preparing for another Paris Fashion Week and the whirlwind of events, shows



Dan Fleckner '91 (left) attends the Ohio State Fair.

and hard work, which will for sure exhaust me. If any of you are ever in Paris during a women's fashion week, please let me know, and let's meet up. Otherwise, I am over 25+ years in New York City. My love/hate relationship with this city remains. My exit plan is to manifest retirement in five years. I want to move to Europe and consult in the fashion industry. Best wishes to all of my friends and IN HOC to any Sigma Chi brothers out there."

From **John Lucs**: "I am in my 30th year at Peddie, working as the technical director for the theater and new music hall that opened two years ago.

"I keep in touch with **BJ Bedford** and had a text back and forth with her, so wanted to include her update. She is doing well in Colorado and is currently building a house. She also attends the Tour de Fat every year, the largest costume bike ride in the world, sponsored by New Belgium Brewery! You will see the photo on her bike dressed as Marilyn Monroe! She keeps in touch with **Nelson Diebel** and recently talked with **Greg Switlick**."

From **Niambi Daniels Harris**: "It has been pretty busy. Being the Sandwich Generation is pretty



Joe Zamoski '91 posts about his hole-in-one at Pete Dye Golf Club in West Virginia.

challenging. Still married, LOL. The baby, Khloe, who is now 11, started Morristown Beard School this year. Our oldest, Kennedy, is living in Miami and our son is living in Maryland (applying to law school). Work is work and planning for retirement, LOL. I stay in touch with Trish (**Tricia Robles '89**), **Udo (Eni) Lovick '87**, and every once in a while, I talk to Pete McClellan (I guess that is Mr. McClellan now, LOL).

"Last year was pretty exciting with the family. We traveled to Hawaii, took an Alaskan cruise, went to Brazil, Italy, Kenya and the beautiful safari, and went to Germany and London. We are keeping it local this year. Hope to see you in June! Many blessings, Niambi."

From **Ziyah Esbenshade**: Ziyah is living in Larchmont, N.Y., with her two daughters, Parker and Cams.

"This summer, the three of us went out west for a road trip down the coast of California. Loved spending two straight weeks with my favorite people in the world. It was magical.

"On the professional front, I recently joined Trivium Point Advisory as a senior wealth



Hong Kong residents Pat Ting '91 (right) and his wife, Annie, visited campus this summer to pick up their daughter Paige from the Peddie Summer Academy.



Paul Ozzello '91 with Elisapie, an award-winning singer-songwriter, actor, director, producer and activist. Ozzello's landscape is featured on Canada Post's Indigenous Leaders Stamps.

partner, with a special focus on female executives. I truly believe that the years I spent at Peddie — friends I made from all over the country; Kate Higgins, who took me to my first concert; and the nurturing environment that challenged me to step into myself — gave me the skills and confidence to become the woman I am today.

"I feel very fortunate to stay in touch with many of you from the Class of 1990, and hope to see you at the next reunion!"

From **Michele Conklin Williams** and **Tom Williams**: "Tom and I are in St. Petersburg, Florida, and have been married 20 years. We have a brewery in St. Pete called St. Pete Brewing Company and have hosted several Peddie alumni events! If ever in St. Pete, please stop by and see us! Tom has been an entrepreneur for over 30 years with his equipment finance business, eLease (elease.com) and keg leasing business, Keg Connect. **Mark Williams '92** has worked with Tom for 21 years. My career has been in the food industry with sales, marketing and new product development. I have recently been with Taylor Farms for about 13 years as VP of sales. About two years ago, I decided to dial back



Peddie Class of 1992 alumni Jason Getzel, Stoffle Probasco and Denise Nadeau got together over the 4th of July weekend in New Jersey.



my career and started a consulting business, Bloom Strategic, which I have really enjoyed. Our daughter, Maddie, is a freshman at Florida State University in the Honors Program in the College of Medicine. She is a Tri Delt and on the club beach volleyball team. Our son, Tommy, is a junior in high school. He started at IMG Academy for lacrosse this year. He is the co-founder of Florida Lacrosse Exchange, a non-profit that collects used lacrosse gear to get in the hands of kids who otherwise could not afford to play. Tom and I spend time in Steamboat, Colo., and Avalon, N.J., to escape the Florida heat! I was fortunate to connect with **Doug Hoffberger** when I was in Baltimore for my son Tommy's lacrosse games this summer. We also stay in contact with **Cush Hobin**, Tricia (Robles) Evert '89 and **Alison (McCullion) Barklage '89**. **Tristan Rizzi '89** and **Christian Weber '88** live in St. Petersburg, so we see them often!"

91

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Jon Siegel
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Dan Fleckner, who "may or may not have been" the Peddie Falcon, familiarly went back to work in Worthington, Ohio, as the costume shipping manager for The Mascot Organization. Although he's not allowed to share specific accounts, he asks you to think of him the next time you see Clifford the Big Red Dog. Here he is "working hard" at the 2024 Ohio State Fair.

Scott Gill: "My son Frost has started his second year at Peddie, where he has Pete McClellan '90 as a teacher. Frost is on the varsity rowing team. It's been enjoyable being on campus more, and I even brought our therapy dog, Fluffernutter, to meet with some Peddie students. After 22 years at Rutgers Preparatory School, I left to focus on growing my business as a mental performance coach and psychotherapist. You can find more information at scottgill.org.

I still keep in touch with **Scott Walker**, who is teaching in Maine, and **Brad Straus** who continues running the training room at Blair."

Gerilyn (Smith) Suschke realizes we're in the second half of our century and is starting to look forward to the 2091 Reunion Weekend.

Joe Zamoski, though a hard man to reach, finally got a hole-in-one at Pete Dye Club in West Virginia. Not sure he's still speaking to his twin brother, **Jason**, but hoping I get a few lessons from them soon.

Photographer **Paul Ozzello's** landscape was just featured on Canada Post's Indigenous Leaders Stamps and as the first cover backdrop. Canada just had a huge celebration of all the subjects featured on the stamps. Paul has been featured in galleries all over Europe and Canada and it's worth checking out his work at paulozzello.com.

As for me, **Jon Siegel**, I am still coaching swimming, Head Age Group Coach at Cougar Aquatic Team based in Montclair, N.J., and I just joined the staff at Montclair State University as an assistant coach. Additionally, I am finally becoming active with my year-old LLC, called DesmoSwim, which is offering aquatic and competitive aquatic consulting and technical swimming products, as well as volunteer board development.



From left: Peddie Board of Trustees Vice Chair Roger Durling '82 and Trustee Stephanie Warren '95 attend the Peddie World Tour in San Francisco in September, which was hosted by Warren and her husband, John.

My puppy, Cora, just turned 1, and Desmo will be 14 by the time this comes out. Started hustling in case Desmo makes it to college.

92

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93

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94

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From left: Joshua Lipsey, John Rosina '98, Brian Davidson, Jon Besler '98 and Ed Rosina '98 surprise Davidson with shirts featuring his likeness during the Reunion Weekend golf tournament last spring.

95

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96

Kris A. Frazier
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97

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Rodger Colbert went into the New Jersey Hall of Fame for lacrosse in July.

Conor Quinn continues to build his brand, Wilde Irish Gin. He recently completed a Series A financing round and has expanded into California, Nevada, Colorado, Washington, Arizona, Maryland and Washington, D.C.

98

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Chavon Sutton '99

Congratulations to Chavon Sutton '99 on being named one of the most influential women in institutional investing by Pensions & Investments. Sutton, who has over 15 years of experience in finance, is currently the senior investment director, sustainable & impact investing research, at Cambridge Associates.

After earning an economics degree at the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from New York University, Sutton worked as a credit analyst before finding her passion in investment management, where she helps drive financial solutions with positive social and environmental impact.

In addition to her role at Cambridge Associates, Sutton serves on The Peddie School Board of Trustees and is an advisory chair for the We Soar alumnae network.

99

Steph Harvilla
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Kevin Shane
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Huge congratulations to trustee **Chavon Sutton** for being named an influential woman in institutional investing!

00

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Marisa Seng (Haralson)
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01

To submit news or if you are interested in serving as class secretary, email editor@peddie.org.



Oli Wolf '01 met up with former Peddie faculty Dacque Tirado at Georgetown Prep in Maryland last spring.

02

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Stephanie Rosman Smilowitz
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03

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Bernadette M. Sarlo
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Bernie Sarlo and her husband welcomed a baby girl this summer. Both parents and big sister are in love with their new bundle.

04

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05

Joe Clark
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My wife, Michelle, and I welcomed baby Joseph in April.

06

To submit news or if you are interested in serving as class secretary, email editor@peddie.org.

07

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Ashley Peskoe
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Jennifer January Therrien was selected for the 28th Class of Mansfield Fellows and was deployed to Japan in July 2024. She is currently a foreign affairs officer in the U.S. Department of State in the Bureau of Global Health Security and Diplomacy, Office of Infectious Disease and Outbreak Response. Starting as a Presidential Management Fellow (PMF) at the CDC and next as a biosecurity analyst at the DOD (Dept. of Defense), she then joined her current position at the State Department, where she engages in



Kristie Carroll '06 (right), her husband, Matt, and their family attended the Peddie Summer Baseball Series at Fenway Park in June, where they saw the Red Sox win against the Blue Jays with a ninth-inning walk-off.

the intersection between infectious disease science and global health policy. She worked on COVID response teams at both the DOD and State, moving on to support international negotiations to improve global health security responses in advance of future pandemics. While in Japan, the Fellows work with their counterparts in Japan's ministries, agencies, and non-governmental organizations and deepen their understanding of Japan's government and policy-making process. The contacts the Fellows make in the Japanese government and in the business, professional and academic communities will contribute to their work on Japan and Asia-related programs and policies when they return to federal government service and bolster relationships in security, resiliency, trade and diplomacy. In addition, at CNAS (Center for a New American Security), she is a Next Gen National Security Fellow. Jennifer holds a Master of Science in foreign service, specializing in science, technology and international affairs from Georgetown University, and completed an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree in science and society studies at Brown University. She studies Spanish and Japanese languages and enjoys theater and martial arts in her spare time.

08

Zara Stasi
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Zara Fina Stasi, with her husband, Andy, and children Theo (3) and Lila (1), moved from Brooklyn, N.Y., to Richmond, Va., in June 2024. Though she will always love New York City, she is excited to explore, ride her bike everywhere and go in the river as much as possible. And she is excited to be back in New York for work as a tourist. Moving a family and a business to a new state is complicated, so she is happy to feel a bit more settled these days as fall approaches and is looking forward to the holidays with family and friends up and down the East Coast. She is also excited to see who from Peddie is down in Richmond. Shoot her an email and say hi if that's you! She happily ran into **Mark Stanton** a few weeks after moving, and is looking forward to catching up and having a playdate with the kiddos soon. Mark and his wife, Naida, welcomed a baby girl, Cobi, in July 2024. Cobi joins her big brother, Javi (3). They live in Richmond.

Lauren Landau Einhorn lives in Denver and works in development at Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum. She and her husband, Ben, welcomed their first child, Theadora, in January 2024.

Brooke Maria Eriksen welcomed twins, Ingvid Saga and Aksel Stetson, born in Norway in January 2024. They join big sister, Synnøve Snø, who was born in March 2022.

Emily Hynick welcomed William Brendan Fitzpatrick in July 2024. Big sister, Sloan,



Zara Fina Stasi '08 and her son, Theo, hang out at the James River in Richmond, Va.

is over the moon in love with her little brother.

Lauren Sokol is coming up on four years living in Denver with her pup, River. She loves being outdoors and catching live music whenever she can (spoiled by Red Rocks!). She is currently working for a fully remote, digital media agency and has had the chance to stay close to sports with some sports team clients (NBA teams and NWSL team). She travels home to New Jersey often to visit with her four-year-old nephew and two-year-old niece, who are both adorable! She hopes everyone from '08 is happy, healthy and enjoying life! Ala Viva!

09

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Alex Gensemer
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Jackie Wang is the captain of Washington, D.C.'s Women's Professional Ultimate Frisbee Team, DC Shadow. DC Shadow qualified for the Premiere Ultimate League over the weekend and is currently eyeing its first Premiere Ultimate League Title.

Jarrid Tingle was featured alongside iconic business leaders like Oprah Winfrey in U.S. News & World Report's August article, "Where 10 Famous Black Business Leaders Went to College." As managing partner of Harlem Capital, a venture capital firm,



Brooke Eriksen '08 shared this photo of her children, Synnøve Snø, Ingvid Saga and Aksel Stetson.

Jarrid has played a pivotal role in raising \$174 million for seed-stage companies led by women and people of color. He graduated cum laude with a bachelor's in economics from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and earned his MBA from Harvard Business School.

10

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11

Oliver Johnston
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12

Gabryella Pulsinelli
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The Class of 2012 has been up to a lot the past couple of months, from marriage to babies to running nonprofits.

Kelsi Smith got the opportunity to work in Paris for a month at the Olympics. She went to the women's beach volleyball bronze match and the gold medal match for men's basketball between the USA and France. She then traveled to Slovenia and Bulgaria to visit fellow Falcon **Sarah Hogoboom**.

Blaise Mborgorba founded Tomorrow Education four years ago on the belief that a quality education should be available to all



Kelsi Smith '12 worked at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris.

children, no matter where they live. Tomorrow Education's mission is to improve schools' learning environment in Cameroon, where Blaise is originally from, by renovating classrooms and providing desks, school supplies and scholarships to students. If you want to help support the mission, reach out to Blaise or visit tomooroweducation.org.

Nicole Powell married her husband, Ryan Collins, on May 10, 2024, and fellow alumni, including **Jessie Powell '15, Lauren Gorajek, Meg Mannix, Kerrie (Kortmann) McClure and Brad Ryder '15**, were in attendance to help celebrate. They were surrounded by friends and family.

Two new Falcons have been welcomed into the world: **Taylor (Pennell) Noonan** and husband, Charlie, welcomed their son Beau Thomas Noonan in July. **Allison Quiggle** and her husband, James McMullen, welcomed their son James William McMullen IV on March 1, 2024.

Gabby Pulsinelli was recently hired as a lecturer for The Humean Ecology Department at Rutgers University.

13

Emily Herman
emilyherman26@gmail.com

Alex Kennelley
alexanderkennelley@gmail.com



Chris Leach '12 and Mark Boillotat '80 met at the Peddie World Tour stop in Dallas and recently got together for their rescued Rhodesian Ridgebacks to have a playdate.



Max Greyserman '13 finished second at the Wyndham Championship in August. (ESPN.com)

Max Greyserman '13: A Rising Star on the PGA Tour

FORMER PEDDIE GOLFER SHINES WITH STUNNING NEAR-VICTORIES IN HIS ROOKIE SEASON

Max Greyserman '13 has made a remarkable entrance onto the PGA Tour as a rookie. After earning his 2024 PGA Tour card with a top-10 finish on the Korn Ferry Tour, Greyserman swiftly distinguished himself as a rising star in professional golf.

This summer, Greyserman demonstrated his resilience and skill with two remarkable runner-up finishes, narrowly missing out on victories at the 3M Open and the Wyndham Championship. At the 3M Open, he finished just one stroke behind the winner. His performance at the Wyndham Championship was equally impressive, as he held a four-shot lead with five holes to play, only to be overtaken after a few challenging moments. Greyserman's performance earned him a spot in the FedExCup Playoffs and solidified his place on the PGA Tour for the 2025 season.

Reflecting on his time at Peddie, Greyserman expressed his deep gratitude, previously telling the Chronicle that he credited the school with teaching him valuable life skills that have helped him in his professional career. "This school taught me how to grow up, do things on my own, and manage my time efficiently," he said. Greyserman shares the school record for the lowest MAPL par score, a 66, with his former roommate and teammate, Kyle Sterbinsky '15.

14

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15

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16

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Persis Rao

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17

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Andrea Patella

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Micah Patt got married in June 2024. She is working as a professor of musical theater voice at Western Carolina University and is directing and intimacy coordinating regionally in Atlanta. **Sarah Zylka** started her Ph.D. in neuroscience at Boston University last year.

18

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19

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Alan Wang

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20

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Dennis Zhang

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Dennis Zhang graduated from Columbia College this past spring and was awarded a Fulbright research scholarship to Denmark. While abroad, he will conduct biology research on gene editing and lead outreach programs on the science and ethics of these technologies.

21

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22

Tyler Frojmovich
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Hans Huang

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23

Caleb Solidum
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Mike Yan

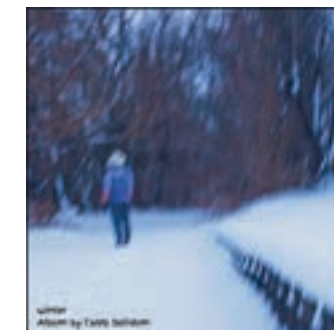
mikeyan0926@gmail.com

From **Matthew Yang**: "Applying for internships is such a pain but playing video games and frisbee is a great escape from reality."

From **Caleb Solidum**: "Earlier this year, I released my debut album, 'Winter'! I wrote in many different places, either in practice rooms, on subway trains or just lying on my dorm floor. **Chiwoo Ahn** also makes an appearance on one of the tracks."



From left: Luis Martinez '17 and Michael Li '23, both students at UC Berkeley, attend the Peddie World Tour in San Francisco in September.



The official album cover for "Winter," Caleb Solidum's '23 debut album.

24

NEW Anthony Morales
anthonyfelipe91011@gmail.com



SAVE THE DATE FOR ALUMNI WEEKEND: JUNE 6-7, 2025

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF CELEBRATION, CONNECTION AND FUN!

WHETHER YOU'RE COMMEMORATING A MILESTONE REUNION OR RECONNECTING WITH THE PEDDIE COMMUNITY, ALL ALUMNI ARE WELCOME.

THIS YEAR, WE'LL ALSO HONOR HEAD OF SCHOOL PETER QUINN IN HIS FINAL YEAR OF LEADERSHIP.

ALL ARE WELCOME!
REGISTRATION OPENS MARCH 2025.
STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS.

MARRIAGES



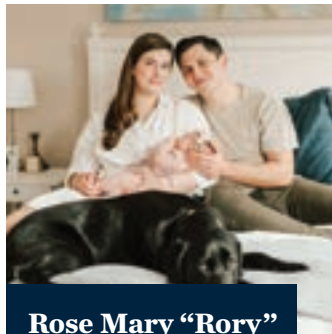
Nicole Powell '12
to Ryan Collins
May 10, 2024



Micah Patt '17
to Derrick Bass
June 23, 2024

Rachel Gankiewicz '13
to Alex Valentino '13
August, 2023

NEW ADDITIONS



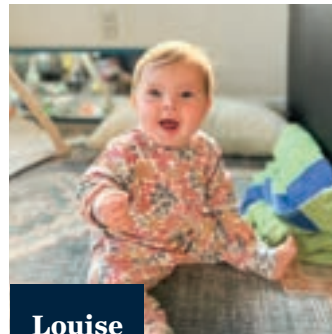
Rose Mary "Rory"

Kate Lobben '11
March 2, 2024



Daniel

Tyler Cabot '09
May 2024



Louise

Halley Gartner '10
February 3, 2024



**William
Brendan**

Emily Hynick '08
July 2024



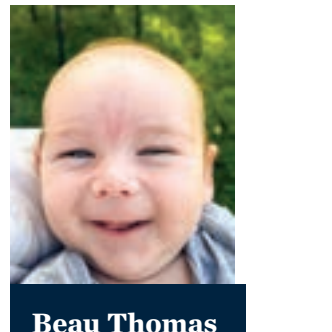
Theadora

Lauren Landau Einhorn '08
January 2024



Joey

Joe Clark '05
April 2024



Beau Thomas

**Taylor (Pennell)
Noonan '12**
July 2024



James William

Allison Quiggle '12
March 1, 2024

In Memoriam

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| William S. Cadmus '41 | Herbert W. Glaser '55 |
| J. Richard Henke '43 | Donald V. Skistimas '55 |
| Jack K. Berner '45 | Edward F. Thomas '55 |
| James E. Braunworth '45 | Frederick S. Fox '56 P'86 |
| Howard H. Kavookjian '46 | Richard C. Leitz '56 P'83 |
| C. James MacNaughton '47 | Stephen B. Clark '58 |
| Franklin C. Nelson '48 | Harvey J. Honig '59 |
| George E. Pratchett '48 | C. Garret Probasco '59 |
| David H. Hunter '49 | Thomas F. Shuman '60 |
| John D. Plunkett '49 | John W. Stoker '62 |
| Marshall E. Roarick '49 | Charles J. Tydlacka '62 |
| James L. Cameron '50 | Robert L. Walter '63 |
| Joseph S. Goldbloom '50 | Brian N. Siegel '64 |
| Charles C. McCrea '50 | Neil E. Vicino '67 |
| Richard F. Plechner '50 | William C. Watterson '67 |
| S. David Brandt '51 | Richard J. Cureton '69 |
| Charles A. Eisenfelder '51 P'80 | Philip J. Kellogg '71 |
| William R. Garton '51 | William C. Means '71 |
| Robert S. Lawton '51 | Pamela S. Green '76 |
| Ernst H. Below '52 | Robert A. Swern '76 |
| Sanford Z. Hampton '52 | Fred S. Bull '77 |
| William A. Gaffrey '53 | John G. Fonss '80 |
| Roy W. Fairchild '54 | Samuel R. Pattison '85 |
| John P. Nolan '54 | Timothy C. Koze '88 |
| Robert H. Bassin '55 | Nina Wey Carrico '99 |

EMPLOYEE NOTES

Marilyn Anker (Arts) was honored by Anchor House (Ride for Runaways) with a five-year award for “dedication and commitment in aiding runaways, homeless and abused youths.” The Ride for Runaways is a 500-mile bike ride. This summer, **Mark Andrew ’85** and his wife, **Kate Riley Andrew ’84**, volunteered to help keep all the cyclists safe.

Jennifer Castillo (Language) had her research article, “Rime of the Emergent Teachers: Supporting Collaborative Literary Learning through Roleplaying Games,” published by the National Council of Teachers of English in October. Castillo also had poems featured in “An Anthology of Queer and Trans Black Writers of Latin American Descent” (University of Arizona Press) last year.

Craig Wallace Dale P’24 (Arts) led a session on “Teaching Photography with an Eye on Media Literacy” at the National Association of Media Literacy Educators (NAMLE) annual convention in July. “Media, digital and visual literacies are the subject of the post-graduate work I’m doing through the University of Rhode Island, Feinstein College of Education. A very special thanks to the donors who make professional development possible for my colleagues and me,” said Dale.

Mark Cirnigliaro (Arts) celebrated the 30th anniversary of Virginia Tech’s A Capella group, Juxtaposition, which

he founded his freshman year, during their spring concert. “They asked me to speak, and the weekend was full of camaraderie and brotherhood,” he said. Juxtaposition has been a finalist in international competitions and performed at the White House.

Karolina Fraczkowska (Science) participated in the June Jersey Shore ALS United Ride in memory of her husband and former Peddie employee, Thomas Phelan. “The whole Phelan family rode: Sophia ’21, Emma ’24 and Zachary ’28. We raised over \$3,300 to help find a cure for this awful disease,” she said.

Mark Gartner ’84 (Math) spent his sabbatical training for the USATF NJ Masters Track & Field Championships at Kean University in June. He competed in the javelin, shot put and discus for the 55–59 age group. “I had career-best throws in the shot put and discus, and I was close to

a career-best in the javelin. I won all three events, but throwing career bests at a championship meet is more important to me than the medals (although the medals are kind of nice!),” he said.

Marisa Green (Arts) was a finalist in the American Prize competition for opera conductors and received a “Special Judges’ Citation: Upholding a Tradition of Excellence in the Performance of Gilbert & Sullivan” for her NYC production last spring.

Nathalie Letourneau (Language) presented at the College Board’s Advanced Placement Annual Conference in Las Vegas in July. The theme of the workshop was “Engaging with complex text while creating community in the World Language Classroom.”

David Martin (Language) was honored with the 2024 Jane G. Clayton Award for his contributions to Monmouth



Karolina Fraczkowska P’21 ’24 ’28 and family participated in the Jersey Shore ALS United Ride in Wildwood, N.J., in June in memory of her husband, Thomas Phelan.



Mark Gartner ’84 shows off his medals from the USATF NJ Masters Track & Field Championships last spring.



Virginia Tech alumnus Mark Cirnigliaro speaks at the Juxtaposition spring concert last April.



The original Juxtaposition A Cappella group in 1994. Mark Cirnigliaro is pictured top left.



Marilyn Anker (left) was recognized by Anchor House for five years of dedication and commitment.

Director of Choral Music Marisa Green was a finalist in the American Prize competition for opera conductors.

County history, including his 25+ year volunteer service at Monmouth Battlefield State Park and his research on Molly Pitcher and the Battle of Monmouth.

Peter Park ’07 (Admission) earned his M.S.Ed. in Education Entrepreneurship from PennGSE after a year-long intensive. “My research focused on the impact of non-tuition fees in the enrollment experience of students/families within independent schools,” said Park. He and his wife, Allison, welcomed their second son, Jace, on Labor Day. “Grayson is a very proud older brother, and Allison and I are thrilled to now be a family of four.”

Mark Sawula (Math) spoke as a panelist on “Discovery Project Based Learning” at the National

Workshop on Data Science Education at the University of California in June. “I discussed student projects from the data science course I teach as part of the EXP program. I was one of only a few participants at the conference who were high school teachers. The majority were college professors. Thanks so much to the Anne Seltzer Fellowship for supporting me,” he said. Sawula also attended a weeklong machine learning workshop at Princeton University to analyze fish morphology.

Mike Volkmar, MS, CSCS, PES (Athletics) has a new book, “The High School Athlete: Baseball: The Complete Fitness Program for Development and Conditioning,” coming out on Amazon on November 26.



Peter Park ’07 and wife, Allison, and son Grayson welcomed son Jace in September.



Peter Park ’07 earned his M.S.Ed. in Education Entrepreneurship from PennGSE last spring.

THE PEDDIE FUND | P

“Peddie is the best thing that has ever happened to me, and I wouldn’t be here if not for you.”

— Samantha ’27

Your gift to The Peddie Fund will give more students like Samantha access to the full Peddie experience. Increased participation, recurring gifts of every size and stretch commitments at every gift level from all members of the Peddie community are essential for us to fuel our dreams for Peddie and shape what’s possible for students during their most formative years.



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[PEDDIE.ORG/GIVE](https://peddie.org/give)



Congratulations Class of 2024!

MATRICULATION LIST

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|--|
| Amherst College | Georgia Institute of Technology (2) | Sciences Po Paris | University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2) |
| Arizona State University | Grinnell College | Skidmore College (2) | University of Iowa |
| Assumption University | Harvard University | Stanford University | University of Miami (2) |
| Barnard College (4) | Haverford College | Syracuse University (2) | University of Michigan (7) |
| Bates College | Howard University (2) | The College of New Jersey | University of Mississippi |
| Bentley University | Ithaca College | The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art | University of New Hampshire |
| Boston College (2) | James Madison University | The New School | University of Notre Dame |
| Bowdoin College | Johns Hopkins University (2) | Tufts University (2) | University of Pennsylvania (2) |
| Brandeis University | Kean University | Tulane University | University of Pittsburgh |
| Brown University (2) | Lafayette College (3) | United States Military Academy at West Point | University of Rochester (2) |
| Bryant University | Lehigh University | United States Naval Academy (2) | University of South Carolina |
| Bryn Mawr College | Manhattan College | University of California (Berkeley) | University of Southern California (2) |
| Carleton College | Montclair State University | University of California (Davis) (2) | University of Tampa (2) |
| Case Western Reserve University (2) | New York University (8) | University of California (Los Angeles) | University of Toronto |
| Colby College | Northeastern University (6) | University of California (San Diego) (3) | University of Virginia |
| College of Charleston | Northwestern University | University of Chicago | University of Wisconsin (Madison) (2) |
| Columbia University | Oberlin College (2) | University of Edinburgh | Vanderbilt University |
| Cornell University | Parsons School of Design at The New School | University of Florida | Washington University at St. Louis |
| Drexel University | Pitzer College | University of Georgia | Wellesley College |
| Duke University | Princeton University (2) | | Western University |
| Elon University | Purdue University (3) | | Williams College |
| Emory University (2) | Rice University (2) | | Yale University |
| Fairleigh Dickinson University | Rutgers University (6) | | |
| Franklin & Marshall College | Rutgers University (Newark) | | |
| Georgetown University | | | |

MANNINO'S, DINER DAYS AND BAGEL BLISS:

YOUR FAVORITE OFF-CAMPUS SPOTS



Peddie Welcomes Two Alumni to Board of Trustees

Dr. Ashish B. Patel '95



demonstrated leadership during his time at Peddie and throughout his medical career. While at Peddie, he co-founded the school's chapter of Operation Smile, an initiative that raised funds to provide life-changing surgeries for children. He was also active on the yearbook staff, Outing Club, and soccer and tennis teams.

After graduating from Peddie, Dr. Patel earned his B.S. from Emory University, his M.D. from Thomas Jefferson University, and completed his residency in radiation oncology at the University of Maryland. He also holds an MBA from the University of Chicago. Currently, he serves as vice

chair of quality and safety and associate professor of radiation oncology at Emory University.

Dr. Patel is an active Peddie donor and has hosted several alumni events. "I am forever indebted to Peddie," said Patel. "I feel honored to serve Peddie as a trustee and give back just a little to a school that has given me so much."

Heather McCarthy Drstvensenk '97



made an immediate impact at Peddie after transferring as a junior, emerging as a standout athlete and leader. She led the Varsity Field Hockey team as its top scorer and MVP while excelling on the Varsity Softball team.

After earning her degree from Wesleyan University, Drstvensenk pursued fashion marketing at Parsons School of Design, building a successful retail career with leadership roles at Saks Fifth Avenue, Vineyard Vines and Spanx.

Drstvensenk's connection to Peddie remains strong, both personally and professionally. She met her husband,

Kurt '97, at Peddie, and together, they continue to support the Peddie community through event hosting and various school initiatives.

Reflecting on her appointment, Drstvensenk shared, "I have continued to stay connected to Peddie because it is a place that has always stayed true to its core values and put its students first. I learned so many important lessons at Peddie that have contributed to the person I am today."

FINAL BITE

When we asked alumni and students to share their go-to spots beyond campus, the flood of responses made one thing clear: Mannino’s reigns supreme. From its famous slices to the much-loved pasta pie, it’s a place that holds a special spot in many hearts. But Mannino’s isn’t the only cherished spot – Hightstown Diner, local bagel shops and the now-closed Slowdown Cafe have all left their mark.

TacoRito was the highest quality, most delicious Mexican food I have ever bought. I miss it whenever I go out to eat.
— *Joseph Forbes ’24*

The Classic, The Legend, MANNINO’S!
— *Kylie Wriede ’27*

Mannino’s and the Slowdown Cafe. Mannino’s pasta pizza was the best.
— *Allie Rich ’06*

1. AlJon’s. 2. The old soda shoppe at the corner of Stockton and Main. 3. Famiglia
— *Robert Zakon ’86*

I love the pasta pizza at Mannino’s.
— *Kohana Brown ’25*

Only one that I remember is the Hightstown Diner.
— *Charles Briggs ’71*

Anthony’s. Best wings in the country.
— *Chris Ransom ’06*

Mannino’s! A buffalo chicken slice and a pasta slice on a Friday or Saturday night would hit the spot.
— *Cal Rohde ’12*

Burgers at the Hightstown Diner.
— *Dave Ennis ’58*

The Bagel Shop on Mercer Street, a short walk from campus. Any bagel with cream cheese. AlJon’s pizza, hands down.
— *Ray Monasterski ’77*

I loved the Slowdown Cafe, where I used to get dirty chai lattes and warm cinnamon buns. If live music was playing, that was even better!
— *Lauren Einhorn ’08*

Famiglia’s pizza.
— *Megan McCarthy Cannan ’95*

Pizza from AlJon’s.
— *Paul Rossos MD ’72*

Mannino’s pizza. Not because it was any good; it was just a chance to get off campus and throw 5 bucks down like a boss.
— *Jonathan Besler ’98*

Hightstown Diner. Egg custard/rice pudding.
— *Bob Dunne ’71*

1000% Mannino’s! Their pasta pizza was our favorite, and my family, to this day, will sometimes drive through Hightstown just to stop there.
— *Lauren Smedley ’09*

Black coffee at Hightstown Diner.
— *John Wall ’51*

In my day, the Hightstown Diner was the only place I went to when we could go off campus to eat. I’d get a cheeseburger platter.
— *Sharon Evans ’63*

Breakfast at the Hightstown Diner on Sundays. If memory serves me correctly, we were required to go to church (in my case, temple). On the way back, we always stopped at the Diner, which was the culinary peak of the week.
— *Roy Grossman ’70*

The ice cream shop in town. Half pints of hand-packed mint chocolate chip helped everything, especially when you weren’t chosen for peer leadership or when all you had at Family Style Dinner was rice.
— *Kathryn Riley Andrew ’84*

AlJon’s pizza (any kind without green peppers) and The Bagel Shop (sesame bagel w/butter and cream cheese).
— *Lori Bainbridge ’77*

Pasta pizza from Mannino’s. It always seemed twice as big as any other slice you could pick, disproportionately heavier and richer. Not for the faint of heart.
— *Gabriel Spadaccini ’13*

Is there any answer other than Mannino’s?
— *Caitlin McCorkle ’07*

Mannino’s buffalo chicken pizza or pasta pizza.
— *Charis Chien ’27*

Mannino’s broccoli pizza.
— *Olivia Lu ’27*

Mannino’s and Anthony’s.
— *Sarah Letter ’02*

Mannino’s! Pasta slice and BBQ chicken slice.
— *Aakarsh Mamawala ’25*

Mannino’s, sharing a bacon pizza with Mark Getchis ’02.
— *Brian Chaszar ’02*

Mannino’s pasta pizza.
— *Bridgette McKnight ’10*

Mannino’s pasta pizza.
— *Charlotte Jones ’27*

Mannino’s.
— *Matt Pustay ’02*

Hightstown Diner. Probably just a hamburger.
— *John Lord ’71*

Slowdown for smoothies and paninis.
— *Jennifer (Prostoff) Braciak ’11*

Hot Bagels. Everything bagel with cream cheese.
— *Sophie Liz Wang ’27*

Was it called the Hightstown Luncheonette? Can’t remember what we ate; I remember hanging out there. Of course, a slice from Famiglia was always popular, too!
— *Amy Elkes-Simon ’95*

Anthony’s! I miss their buffalo wings and the buffalo chicken sandwich.
— *Peter Cao ’05*

Mine, truthfully, was the dumplings from Holy Wong.
— *Kevin Sanderson ’92*

We always had to go to 7-Eleven to get Slurpees.
— *Megan Hill Grewal ’97*

Mannino’s. My friends and I would make it a regular tradition to order a big calzone at Mannino’s after exams.
— *Christine Lee ’08*

Matcha latte from Little Key Coffee.
— *Anjali Sudarshan ’25*

Mannino’s! I still stop in from time to time to grab a buffalo chicken slice (or full pie!) when passing through on the Turnpike. There’s no other slice like it!
— *Alexander Dacey ’03*

The Bagel Shop. Everything toasted with butter.
— *Jennifer Orlick ’81*

Hightstown Diner.
— *Jennifer Miksis-Olds ’92*

Vanilla latte and croissant from Little Key Coffee.
— *Leena Mirchandani ’25*

Mannino’s penne vodka pizza or buffalo chicken pizza, Slowdown Cafe’s Oreo milkshakes, and the “sky high” French toast at Americana Diner. Yum!
— *Morgan Fagioli ’09*

Loved Holy Wong dumplings and pizza at Famiglia.
— *Jon Siegel ’91*

Hot Bagels: hot plain bagel with ham and cheese. Also, Dunkin’: hashbrowns and Strawberry Coolatta.
— *Chloe Yang ’27*

Morgan’s Island Grill. BBQ jerk chicken with all of the sides.
— *Nicholas Massenburg-Abraham ’17*

Thomas Sweet in Princeton.
— *Lisa Gonnella ’86*

Weekly post-Family Style Dinner trip to the ice cream place (where Morgan’s Island Grill is currently located). I have a picture of that location in my classroom.
— *Mark Gartner ’84*

Once a month, it was time for a toasted egg bagel and butter at the off-campus bagel store. I remember those days remarkably with poignant lucidity.
— *Richard Gerweck ’78*

Hot Bagels. Bacon, egg and cheese on toasted plain.
— *Nate Lougy ’27*

Mannino’s and Slowdown Cafe (hot chocolate milkshakes were the best).
— *Katherine (Ridgeway) Lobben ’11*

Morgan’s Island Grill. I am a local and live about 15 minutes away from Peddie. Whenever I come home from college, my first stop is always Morgan’s. It gives me an opportunity to have their delicious jerk chicken and reminisce about some of my days at Peddie!
— *Mason Shipp ’21*

As an end-of-season celebration, we went as a team to I believe it was the Nassau Inn in Princeton for their famous buffet. It was wonderful.
— *Ted Brooks ’64*

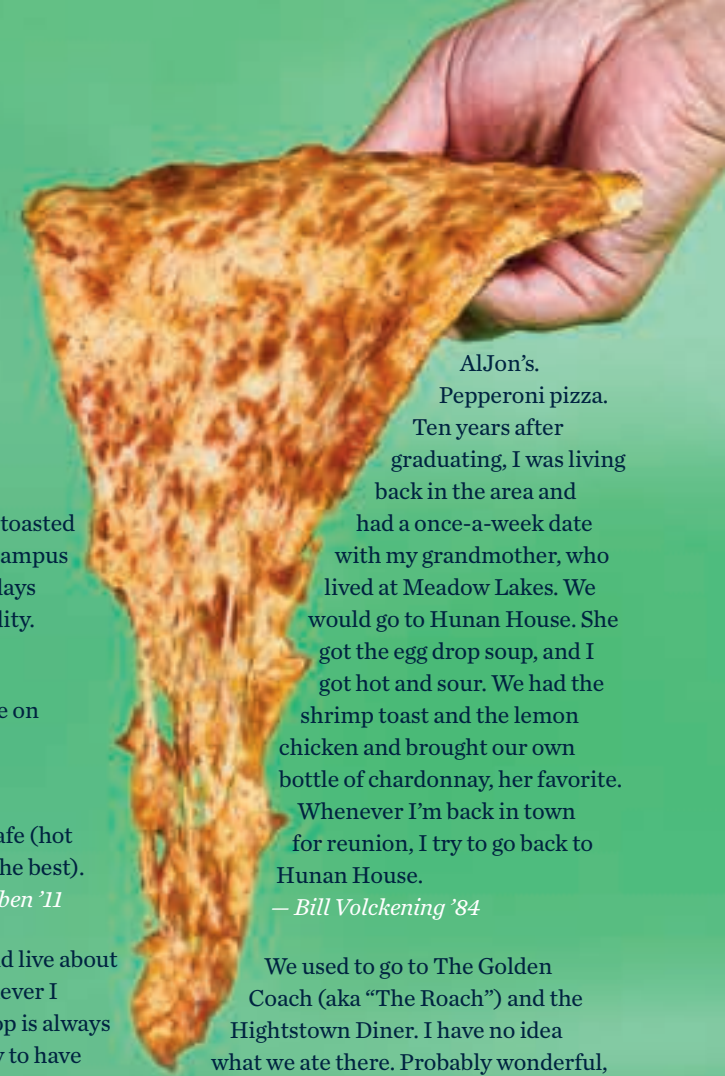
Roach coach, bagel store, Mom’s Peppermill.
— *Curtis Catlin ’81*

Davidsons Market and AlJon’s.
— *Randi Caplan ’78*

Famiglia’s pizza slices, of course.
— *Lauren (Laurie) King ’88*

The Chinese food place on Main Street and the Luncheonette.
— *Beth Strum ’94*

The pizza place. We were allowed into town on Fridays. It was the first place to eat downtown. It was very good pizza.
— *Robbie Lobban ’74*



AlJon’s. Pepperoni pizza. Ten years after graduating, I was living back in the area and had a once-a-week date with my grandmother, who lived at Meadow Lakes. We would go to Hunan House. She got the egg drop soup, and I got hot and sour. We had the shrimp toast and the lemon chicken and brought our own bottle of chardonnay, her favorite. Whenever I’m back in town for reunion, I try to go back to Hunan House.
— *Bill Volckening ’84*

We used to go to The Golden Coach (aka “The Roach”) and the Hightstown Diner. I have no idea what we ate there. Probably wonderful, greasy diner breakfasts, french fries and strawberry tarts. I recently saw Roger Durling ’82 on campus, and he reminded me that a few of us started The Suave and Debonair Club, which consisted of writing silly and purposely overly precious reviews of local eateries simply for our own amusement and love of language as much as the food.
— *Dana Mayer ’81*

The deli that closed my junior year [Bryne Deli Cafe]. They had the best sandwiches.
— *Olivia Dewar ’24*

Hot Bagels. Bacon, egg and cheese on toasted plain.
— *Nate Lougy ’27*

Mannino’s Pizza and Holy Wong Chinese. Mannino’s has a dynamite buffalo chicken pizza, and Holy Wong’s General Tso’s chicken never disappointed.
— *Bryce Hillman ’07*

The Diner.
— *David Mintzer ’71*

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