

WALSINGHAM ACADEMY

Fall 2023
vol. 15 no.1



MARK YOUR CALENDARS



October

6th Walsingham Academy Annual Golf Tournament

November

28th Giving Tuesday

30th Lower School Christmas Concert

December

1st Christmas Lighting on the Green

7th Upper School Christmas Concert

January

26th Open House

28th–February 2nd
Catholic Schools Week

February

2nd Spirit Night

March

9th 52nd Annual Dinner & Auction

22–23rd "Grease" Spring Musical production

24th Easter Egg Hunt on the Green

April

19th Upper School Spring Concert

26th Grandparents Day for Grades K-3

27th Shred-A-Thon

May

3rd Upper School May Crowning

10th Lower School May Crowning

17th Lower School Spring Concert

June

1st Walsingham Academy's 77th
Commencement Exercises

Excellence Magazine has gone virtual!

As a Mercy School, care for the Earth is one of our critical concerns and values. Starting this year, Excellence Magazine has gone virtual and has been emailed to everyone. We have only printed a small number of magazines for those who would like a hard copy. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list for a hard copy of the Excellence Magazine, please email advancement@walsingham.org.

**Thank you
for helping us
make a better
future for
the planet!**

*Please note that all events are subject to change or cancel.
Be sure to check www.walsingham.org for event details.*

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On the Cover: Spirit Night is a night that our community looks forward to every year. It's a night when Walsingham Academy spirit comes alive! Signs decorated by students adorn the hallways and cover the walls of Chismer Gym, where each of our basketball teams compete to roaring fans. Sponsored by the Athletic Booster Club, guests enjoy a barbeque dinner, facepainting, and more. All are welcome for this exciting night that caps off Catholic Schools Week!

Excellence at WALSINGHAM ACADEMY

Walsingham Academy is a sponsored ministry of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and is a member of Mercy Education.



PLAN FOR A BETTER FUTURE TODAY

By including Walsingham Academy in your will or estate plan now, you can create a better future for generations of students to come. Gifts can be designated where the need is greatest or for a specific endowment or program. Either way, you will be supporting the tradition of quality, faith-based education that's grounded in the values of compassion and service.

To learn more about a gift in your will or estate plan, contact Lindsey Torres in the Office of Advancement at (757) 345-2105 or advancement@walsingham.org.



From the Pen of Sister Mary Jeanne...

Dear Family and Friends,

As another school year begins, I extend sincere thanks to each of you for your continued support of the Academy's commitment to excellence. It means the world to us.

As you are aware, I have served as Interim Director of the Lower School since January. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to work more closely with Lower School students, families, and faculty. The search for new school administrators is never easy, and I thank both the Search Committee and our search firm for their commitment to finding the best possible fit for our Mercy community.

I am delighted to share that Mr. Mark Kirk has filled the position of Lower School Director. During his 30 years in education, Mr. Kirk served with two area school divisions in Newport News and York County. This has included 13 years as an Elementary School Principal. He effectively led a variety of different schools during this time: Title I, non-Title I, magnet schools, and buildings with extensive Pre-Kindergarten and Special Education populations. This has provided Mr. Kirk with a wide range of diverse, quality experiences and has resulted in a proven record of academic success and growth for students. The mission of Walsingham deeply resonates with Mr. Kirk and his faith, experiences, and consistent achievements will effectively support the vision for the Academy. We warmly welcome Mr. Kirk to Walsingham.

Our nation's education system is in disarray. More than ever, we cling to our faith, traditions, and commitment to excellence in educating our students. Thank you for your faithful support of Walsingham. Please know that each of you holds a place in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,



Sister Mary Jeanne Oesterle
President



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INSIGHT FROM THE CAMPUS MINISTER

A Long, Loving Look at the Real

by Steve Delaney

We live near York River State Park, and I go there almost every day. I know all the trails, and could probably run them with my eyes closed (ok – not really!) But recently, I had my eyes opened to the miracle of that beautiful place. I was walking with my wife, Allison, around the pond when we heard a flood of noise coming from the woods ahead of us. It sounded like a flock of giant angry crows, but more awkward and intense. We rounded the corner on the trail and saw a tall pine tree filled with nesting blue herons. Dozens of heron chicks were standing in big shaggy nests waiting for their parents to return with food, and each time a heron flew into a nest, every baby heron in the tree would erupt in cries.

We stood and watched for an hour, counting at least five nests, each with three or four young. It was amazing. Then Allison came back the next day with our boys. And each time I went running over the following week, I stopped to watch the elegant blue herons fly in and out of their nests high up over the forest floor. I watched them feed their chicks and then soar back out over the still waters of the York River to fish again. Each time I saw them, I felt I had been given this lovely gift of a glimpse of the beauty of this world, of new life coming into being before my eyes. And I was lucky just to be there, just to get to see it.

There is a brilliant book by Jenny Odell called *How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy*. Odell is an artist and teacher, and in her book she reflects on how our human world has been constructed to demand shallow attention and distraction from us. It is literally how much of our economy functions—our distraction is worth a lot of money to advertisers. But early in the book, Odell writes beautifully about how she learned about attention from bird watching:

Observing birds requires you literally to do nothing. Bird-watching is the opposite of looking something up online. You can't really look for birds; you can't make a bird come out and identify itself to you. The most you can do is walk quietly and wait until you hear something, and then stand motionless under a tree, using your animal senses to figure out where and what it is.

What I find lovely in her description is the do nothing part. There is a sense that what the work of bird-watching is the waiting. It is the commitment to paying attention. There is a story about Simone Weil, a French philosopher who died in 1943. Weil was a brilliant young thinker and writer who, in her late twenties, began to have intense religious experiences of Christ. As she learned to pray, she would say the "Our Father" very slowly to herself. She tried to say each word slowly and with full presence. If she found her mind drifting off, she would return to the beginning and start again.

Now, I have tried this myself, and I have never ONCE completed it. I might get to heaven or even hallowed, and that's about it. More usually its Father, and then back again to the start. I am aware that I am as distracted and anxious as anyone. But I am so curious about that practice—the

work of attention—because attention opens up the world for us. I find myself longing for that experience, even though it is difficult and tiring, even though whenever I practice it, I immediately find how incapable I am of real attention!

One of the best definitions of prayer I have ever heard comes from a short article by the Jesuit theologian Walter Burghardt. He writes about "contemplation" – the Christian prayer that is really a practice of attentive presence. He says this kind of prayer is best understood as a "long, loving look at the real." This can be a really helpful structure to think about how to pray. Burghardt says: "Each word is crucial: real... look... long... loving." We pay attention to our real world, the community around us. We take the time and we look with love – and if we do, we will encounter God.

How we returned to see the beautiful blue herons over those weeks was a kind of prayer. For me, this is also a powerful way to think about an academic year at Walsingham. I tell my friends who are not teachers that the sacred gift of the school year is that we have nine months to pay real attention to the beauty of God's children. We have the chance to see God's love come into being in the lives of our young people. Sometimes it erupts into clear, visible glory—we see a child's artwork, or some dynamic academic growth, or success in sports, or on stage. More often, it is in the daily attention and practice of learning, love, friendship, and forgiveness. There are the spiritual practices of a community that is looking for the presence of God. It is not easy, and often we fail, but that is all part of the work, the long and loving work we get to do together.



Walsingham Academy Theatre
presents



March 22–23, 2024
Grease

OKLAHOMA INSPIRES

Cast, Crew, and Crowd

by Matt Gerschefske



The spring musical this year, Oklahoma, was a huge hit! The large crowds were awed by multiple incredible dance scenes that included the entire cast of almost 40 students. All of them danced on stage in unison; it was quite a sight to behold. The cast members ranged from third through twelfth grade and that is what makes Walsingham Theatre unique according to Jeff Nicoloff, the director of the show. "The range of age we incorporate in our theatre program is something different from other programs, and we feel it adds to the quality of the production. It also allows the younger students to be inspired and mentored by the older cast members," he said humbly after the shows concluded. Many other cast members had similar interpretations of their sustained success. Emma Shellman, a junior who has been in many productions, had this to say, "This show was unique because there were a lot more characters. I could see the growth and development and how much the younger ones learned." For Josh Powell, a sophomore student, and a crew and cast member, it was an opportunity to push himself out of his comfort zone. He said, "I enjoy the technical side of things and was taught by an older student about all the crew's responsibilities when I was younger. Being a part of

the cast for the first time was really fulfilling and exciting!"

Oklahoma was an absolutely fantastic show and according to Mr. Nicoloff, it was the most successful show yet for Walsingham Theatre. Each of the three performances had over 1,000 in attendance. Each audience was engaged with many moments of laughter and loud applause. There were over 1000 people in total who were thoroughly entertained by numbers such as "Oh What a Beautiful Morning" and "Kansas City."

James Wang, an eighth grader who played the character Will Parker said, "It was fun having a group of friends that you could rely on and share your interest." For Velina Morales, a Walsingham seventh grader, this musical was particularly "high-spirited and really upbeat." She also added, "I loved the Dream Sequence because each part was different. It was so fun to do completely different things in one sequence."

From the youngest cast member's perspective, when asked what he learned from his older cast members, Weston VandeSand, a third grader mentioned, "They taught me how to act and socialize in an ensemble and that is such a big deal." He named Maks Sekula and Noah Rodriguez as the two who encouraged and taught him the most as mentors for this performance. VandeSand added that he would "definitely" be in more shows after this experience and that "it really made me happy and put a smile on my face."

Having the exposure and opportunity to be involved in theatre at such a young age is essential to developing new talent, and it would seem to be a substantial piece of Walsingham Theatre's tradition of success. Having passionate and caring mentors to inspire and teach the next generation of talented actors, dancers, and singers is what keeps producing extraordinary shows for Walsingham Theatre, like Oklahoma.



SPOTLIGHT ON Tehinnah Kitcher

by Matt Gerschefske



Our Graduating Class of 2023 had no shortage of talent and one of those recent graduates has a unique and inspiring story on how she landed at Walsingham Academy. Tehinnah was born in Philadelphia, but she and her family had been living in Ukraine for years until the war started. Her parents, Albert and Beatrice, are missionaries and worked in ministry at an orphanage in Ukraine where Tehinnah volunteered often. She and her family frequently volunteered at senior living establishments as well. When the war in Ukraine began, her family moved to Germany to pursue similar missionary work as her dad is a pastor. They all decided the best move for Tehinnah would be to move back to the United States to finish her schooling and senior year in English. They have family friends in Williamsburg and know some Walsingham families so the decision was easy for them. For Tehinnah, the transition to Walsingham was easy. "I love the community and the teachers are so kind, Mrs. Broderick for example, she will really work with you when you need it, and that kind of care and having great teachers really helped me transition quickly," she said.

The experiences overseas with her family and her faith have had a profound effect on her life and shaped who she is today. She reflected on her time spent in ministry and watching her parents, "my parents ministry called me to help. It inspired me to think of others first and use my skills to help them. Working with them in ministry taught me the values of service, community, education, faith, and just the importance of living a life listening to God." Doing just that, listening and praying, is what led her to choose her college. "Lots of prayers let me to Davidson College," she said. Tehinnah is super excited to start her college experience at Davidson and plans to major in Political Science with potential plans of Law School following. The skills and gifts she possesses have touched many lives.

RETIRING FACULTY Mr. C. Anthony Green

Thank you

Mr. C. Anthony Green for
11 outstanding years here
at Walsingham Academy as a
math teacher and track coach!



SENIOR HIGHLIGHT—Q&A WITH Mary Catherine “Kate” Digges



Mary Catherine “Kate” Digges attended Walsingham Academy for fifteen years, starting in Early Learners as a three-year-old, making her one of eleven “lifers” from the Class of 2023. During her time at Walsingham, Kate participated in three varsity sports: cross country, where she won the Most Improved Award in 2021; track and field; and swim. Outside athletics, Kate was a member of the National Honor Society, a Walsingham Ambassador,

and worked part-time as a lifeguard. She was part of the Mercy Ministry Club, where she was the treasurer her junior year and vice president her senior year. As a club, they worked to connect to our community through outreach events and fundraisers. Kate particularly enjoyed working with the Williamsburg House of Mercy to run food drives and raising money for a local family of refugees from Afghanistan. During her summer, she was a teen volunteer at both Riverside and Bon Secours hospitals. As part of the annual Bon Secours College of Nursing Global Outreach Auction, Kate helped raise money for medical supplies for mission trips to Haiti for nursing students.

This fall, Kate is attending the University of Mississippi. Here, she will be enrolled in the honors college, majoring in psychology, specializing in neuroscience on the pre-med track. After college she plans to attend medical school with a goal of becoming a medical physician.

Q. What will you miss most about Walsingham?

A. I will miss most the close community of friends I have made at Walsingham. I have such fond memories because of them, and being at Walsingham allowed me to make these amazing friendships.

Q. What has been your favorite memory of your time at Walsingham Academy?

A. My favorite memory of my time at Walsingham Academy was my freshman year trip to Disney with the cross-country team. I had such an amazing time bonding with the

team through the cross country meet at ESPN and exploring the Disney parks together.

Q. Do you have a mentor at Walsingham Academy? Who inspires you or who has been a positive influence in your life?

A. There were so many mentors I had at Walsingham that truly made my high school experience so amazing. Dr. Brause taught me so much about chemistry and was an incredible mentor for me. She inspired me to keep working in and out of the classroom to solve chemistry problems and work on labs. I became a proud woman in STEM thanks to her and my entire AP chemistry class during my junior year. Her relentless dedication to teaching and science through working with me during and after school to improve my labs and reports made such a difference in my work. Mrs. Roche inspired me to think outside of the box through creative projects and class discussions. She taught me how to think more in depth about the literature I read and the lessons that connect to our world today.

Q. If you could give underclassmen one piece of advice what would that be? And why?

A. I would advise the underclassmen to step out of their comfort zones and try something new whether that be a new sport, club, musical; the worst that could happen is you do not like it. There are so many opportunities in high school, and I ended up trying and loving so many sports and clubs because friends encouraged me to expand my horizons.

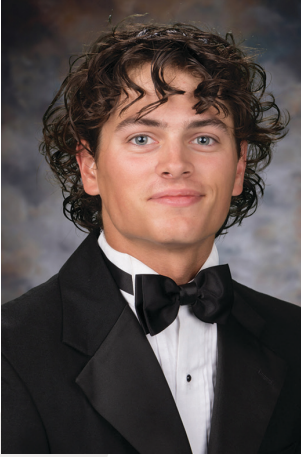
Q. Do you have a favorite quote? Why does this quote resonate with you?

A: My favorite quote is “Life is like a game of chess. You cannot change what you have already done but you look at the position you’re in and go from there”—Unknown.

The quote resonates with me because it reminds me to not focus on the circumstances or the past but to focus on the now and future. The quote is a reminder to be adaptable to changes and stay determined, which applied to me throughout high school.



STUDENT HIGHLIGHT—Q&A WITH Ryan Terrell



Ever since he began his Walsingham journey just two short years ago, Ryan Terrell has been a bright light in our community both in and out of the classroom. While at Walsingham, Ryan played on the varsity baseball team, where he received All TCIS honors, First Team All State for two years, tied the school record for most doubles, was a top pitcher and hitter, and contributed to the team's victories at the State Championships two years in a row. Ryan was the team captain

his senior year. He says, "I think that being in a position to set the standard for what we want as a team has helped show me how to be a successful leader and how to bring a team together for a common goal".

This fall, Ryan is attending Christopher Newport University. There, he plans to major in finance and complete their five-year MBA program. After college, his goal is to work as a financial advisor specializing in personal finance and retirement strategy.

Q. What will you miss most about Walsingham?

A. The community. Walsingham was one of the most welcoming environments I have ever experienced. My two years here were some of the best times of my life. The friends and mentors that I have been with are some that I will carry throughout my life.

Q. What has been your favorite memory of your time at Walsingham Academy?

A. My favorite memory from Walsingham was the Open Mic Night we hosted, we spent weeks stressing and planning for this event. Another memorable experience was being a part of Trojan Media which, like Open Mic Night, gave me an opportunity to perform. Putting myself out there in front

of a lot of people was one of the scariest things I have experienced, but once I did it, it was one of the most fulfilling things I have done.

Q. Do you have a mentor at Walsingham Academy? Who inspires you or who has been a positive influence in your life?

A. Mr. Delaney. I formally met him my first year, but having him as a teacher for theology and Trojan Media during my senior year gave me an opportunity to get to know him better. He is such an integral part of who I am now. He has guided me not just as a teacher, but as a friend, and his support and genuine care for my well-being are inspiring.

Q. If you could give underclassmen one piece of advice what would that be? And why?

A. Step out of your comfort zone, talk to people you haven't before, try a new instrument or sport. This is the time to try new things. You may think something is interesting, but you say it's too challenging or make up an excuse to not do it. I think it's important to throw yourself off the deep end sometimes; you may surprise yourself with what you are capable of.

Q. Do you have a favorite quote? Why does this quote resonate with you?

A: A quote I like a lot is, "if it doesn't challenge you, it won't change you", by Fred DeVito. I like this quote because I believe that the way to grow is through challenge. I try to throw myself into things that are new to me or that are out of my comfort zone because I know that no matter what the outcome is, I will know more about myself after it than I did before.

*Pictured below:
In the Upper School, several Seniors
presented a beautiful, live version
of The Stations of the Cross. It was a
powerful reminder of our salvation in
Christ during Holy Week.*



GRADUATION

The Class of 2023



42 graduates...

Awarded more than
\$4.2 million in Merit Based
Scholarships & Awards.



Received 159 College & University Acceptances



Scarlett Sullivan
Valedictorian



Mary Blinn
Salutatorian

Nicholas Alves - *Old Dominion University*
Anne Barry - *William & Mary*
Mary Blinn - *University of Miami*
Brendan Bouchard - *Florida Institute of Technology*
Keith Cardenas - *Regent University*
Trey Christman - *William & Mary*
Christopher Clemens - *University of Georgia*
Mary Catherine Digges - *University of Mississippi*
Beatrice Ehrhardt - *University of Glasgow*
Wilson Estep - *Virginia Peninsula Community College*
Jake Falcone - *Virginia Military Institute*
Adriana Fiorello - *James Madison University*
Ethan Hayes - *Emory & Henry College*
Brooke Kelley - *Hollins University*
Anna Kerr - *University of Florida*
Tehinnah Kitcher - *Davidson College*
Elizabeth Knight - *Franklin and Marshall College*

Michael Laccheo - *William & Mary*
Sean Li - *University of Tennessee in Knoxville*
Miga Liu - *School of Visual Arts*
Joseph Masiak - *University of North Carolina Wilmington*
Austin Mowry - *Insulation Installer, Workforce*
Wes Newman - *Welding, Workforce*
McKenzie O'Connell - *Tidewater Community College*
Virginia Olson - *James Madison University*
Megan Pruitt - *William & Mary*
Clara Riggs - *University of Kentucky*
Kennedy Saumier - *College of Charleston*
Charles Scherger - *East Carolina University*
Morgan Schott - *Enlisting into the United States Navy*
Parker Shonka - *Montana State University*
Justin Smith - *Virginia Tech*
James Strawn - *Virginia Tech*
Taylor Stryker - *University of Glasgow*
Scarlett Sullivan - *University of Virginia*
Ryan Terrell - *Christopher Newport University*
Jacob Thibeault - *Enlisting into the United States Coast Guard*
Roland Tilk - *American University*
Rachel Toth - *Virginia Peninsula Community College*
Sophia Venne - *High Point University*
Paul Williams - *Purdue University*
Harrison Zima - *Virginia Tech*

GRADUATION The Class of 2023



We bid a fond farewell to our 'lifers!'



Top (from left to right): Ethan Hayes; Brendan Bouchard; Paul Williams; Parker Shonka

Middle (from left to right): Christopher Clemens; Mary Catherine Digges; Austin Mowry

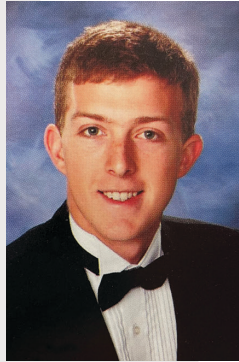
Bottom (from left to right): McKenzie O'Connell; Anne Barry; Beatrice Ehrhardt; Adriana Fiorello

These members of the Class of 2023 have attended the Academy since pre-kindergarten or kindergarten. These students have experienced all that Walsingham has to offer over the course of their time with us. Lifers hold a special place in the hearts of our faculty, staff, and community, and we take great pride in their growth and development at Walsingham.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT – CLASS OF 2014

Q & A with Billy Barnes

Billy Barnes '14 attended Walsingham Academy from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Coming from a "basketball family," it was no surprise that Billy joined the team in 6th grade. During his Trojan basketball career, he was a 1,000-point scorer and named to the All-TCIS and All-State teams both his junior and senior year. In 2014, Billy received the Eloise Jacobs award and the Catherine McAuley Service Award, which is awarded to students who have distinguished themselves by living the virtue of charity that was ever-present in Sisters of Mercy foundress Catherine McAuley's life and work.



After graduating from Walsingham, Billy attended The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. He graduated in 2018 summa cum laude with a degree in International Economics and Finance. He began his career with a technology startup in Northern Virginia and ultimately became the Director of Sales for the company. Subsequently, he moved back to Williamsburg and transitioned into the wealth management industry, where these days you will find him as a Financial Advisor for the Barnes Investment Consulting Group of Wells Fargo Advisors. Billy says, "I have always been interested in a career working with people and believe strongly in the principle that 'Business is a force for good'. In my role now, I get to put that principle into action by helping businesses and families achieve favorable financial outcomes that help them build wealth, support loved ones, and serve their communities through business and philanthropy."

Billy has remained an active member of the Walsingham community sponsoring fundraising event, like the Annual Golf Tournament and serving as the assistant coach for the boys' basketball team during the '21-'22 season, which coincided with his father's 29th and final year as the head coach. Billy says, "It was a special opportunity to be able to coach with him before he retired, and I really enjoyed getting to know the players."

Q. Tell us about a favorite Walsingham memory.

A. So many good ones from which to choose ... back-to-back appearances in the state final four, Senior Night with my teammates, scoring 1,000 points the same week that my sister Ashley reached this milestone on the girls' team, the Jimmy Buffet concert with friends, and enjoying all the Walsingham traditions.

Q. During your years as a student at Walsingham Academy, did you have a teacher or mentor who was particularly inspiring to you?

A. Again it is hard to name just one... Mr. Delaney and Mr. Fitzpatrick were incredible role models. Mr. Zanca and Mrs. Hylton were great teachers and made class something to look forward to. All of my basketball coaches - my dad, Coach Dwyer, Coach Lowenhaupt, and Coach McCary, - are great mentors to me still today.

Q. What lessons from your time as a student at Walsingham Academy do you still carry with you in your career?

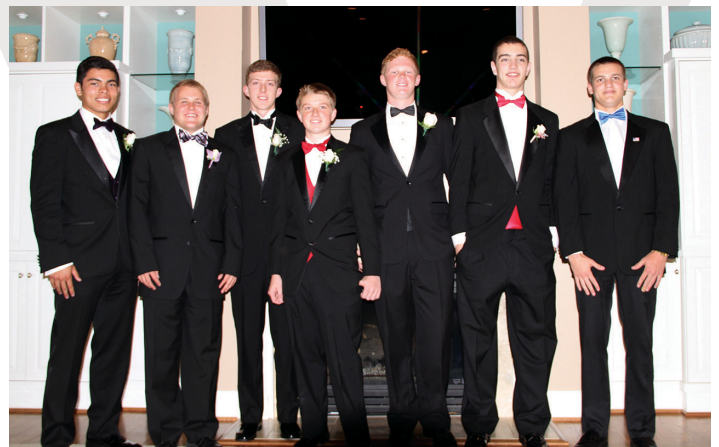
A. The idea of living life with a strong emphasis on service to others is something that sticks with me from my time at Walsingham. It seems to me that the most fulfilling and fruitful careers tend to be rooted in a mission to serve others, so I carry that idea with me and keep it front and center in my own career.

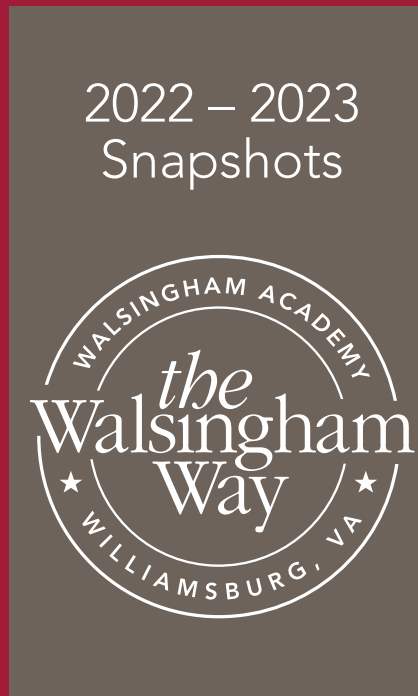
Q. If you could give current Walsingham Academy students a piece of advice, what would it be?

A. I think one of the biggest factors on your happiness going through high school, college, and beyond is your attitude and outlook. Things are never going to be perfect, but if you adopt the approach that you are going to make the best out of any situation, I believe you will find that problems that seem big become small and things that seem boring become fun. All you had to do was change the way you look at them.

Q. Is there anything else that you would like to share with our Walsingham Academy community?

A. I want to say thank you to all the parents, coaches, teachers, friends, and families that helped to form the Walsingham community. So many people together played a role in creating a great environment for my classmates and me. I hope to pay them tribute by doing as they did and always standing by to help any current students and families navigating the trials and tribulations of high school and college. As a member of the WA community, if my experiences can help your family in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me at billybarnes2511@gmail.com or 757-897-0188.







On March 9, 2024, Walsingham Academy will hold its 52nd Annual Dinner and Auction at The Williamsburg Lodge. The evening will consist of a cocktail hour, seated dinner, silent and live auction, and dancing from one of Williamsburg's premier bands, Good Shot Judy. This year's event will provide funds to upgrade our Lower School Cafeteria with new tables, chairs, paint, lights, and more.

Tickets are on sale now at www.walsingham.org/auction.

Support the event by sponsoring the event, donating an item to be auctioned off, or making a cash donation. Walsingham Academy values and celebrates our partnerships with the broader community, we hope you'll join other community members in supporting our mission.

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities and for general questions, please contact the Events Office at (757) 259-1408 or auction@walsingham.org.



Join us for one of Walsingham's best nights of the year!



2022-2023

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THANK YOU Excellence in Action



During the 2022-2023 fiscal year, \$682,837 was received in philanthropic contributions. This includes the Annual Fund for Excellence (\$307,909), Sister Mary Jeanne Oesterle Endowment for Student Excellence, Walsingham Academy Endowment Fund, Athletic Booster Club memberships, Annual Golf Tournament, 51st Dinner & Auction, Shred-a-Thon sponsorships, drama sponsorships, and other restricted projects and purposes. Additionally, several gifts-in-kind were received.

Support received each year from friends like you allows us to continue providing an exceptional and enriching academic experience from Early Learners – 12th grade. Your gifts underscore your belief in our mission and commitment to our *Distinguished Catholic, Christ-Centered Community For Academic Excellence*.

Those listed in the pages that follow have raised their hands for Walsingham Academy and are helping shape the leaders of tomorrow. My colleagues join me in extending our sincerest thanks.

Blessings,

Lindsey R. Torres

Lindsey R. Torres
Director of Advancement

IN 2022-2023...

48.39% of current parents gave to the Annual Fund for Excellence.

64.52% of current parents gave to any fundraising effort.

15.53% of donations to any effort were from alumni.

18.60% of donations to any effort were from first-time donors.


DONOR APPRECIATION RECEPTION

Annual donors of \$2,500 and above, 1947 Legacy Society members, and members of the Board of Trustees enjoyed an appreciation reception on December 11, 2022.

The reception was held at the Robert Nicolson House in Colonial Williamsburg. This home was featured on the Green Spring Garden Club's Christmas Homes Tour.



WALSINGHAM ACADEMY'S



ANNUAL FUND FOR EXCELLENCE

Walsingham Academy thanks the following donors for their gifts supporting the Annual Fund for Excellence made between July 1, 2022, and June 30, 2023. Every gift is a blessing, and we offer our sincerest gratitude to all who champion the Academy, its mission, and future.

"I give to Walsingham because I want to ensure that current and future students have the same opportunities that I did to experience the benefits of a comprehensive and rewarding education. The Walsingham Way is unparalleled in helping students succeed in college and life"

—Grayson Moore
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"Walsingham has blessed our grandchildren with a community built on faith, academic excellence, and love. We enjoy supporting the Walsingham community that has given so much to our family."

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"I can see clearly how the Walsingham experience benefited my children. A superior education with a focus on the whole child, all with the foundation of Mercy values and service. I believe in the mission. I give back to ensure that this treasure, Walsingham Academy, continues to grow and thrive for years to come."

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. If a name has been misspelled or omitted, we appreciate your assistance by reporting it to the Office of Advancement at advancement@walsingham.org or (757) 345-2105.



Friends who make a non-contingent gift to Walsingham Academy in their will or trust or include the Academy as a beneficiary of a retirement account or some other beneficiary arrangement, and have documented that gift with the Academy, are invited to become members of the 1947 Legacy Society.

The Society is named after the year of the Academy's founding, and the emblem prominently features the Mercy Shield. Both are intended to invoke the school's rich heritage and roots as a school founded and run by the Sisters of Mercy. Members of the 1947 Legacy Society have made an extraordinary commitment to Walsingham's mission and students for generations to come.

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If you are interested in learning more about gift planning options, please contact Lindsey Torres in the Office of Advancement at advancement@walsingham.org or (757) 345-2105.

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The following Named Endowment Funds were established to benefit students, faculty, and programs year after year. Established with a minimum of \$25,000, the principal of each fund is invested and held in perpetuity with earnings income providing annual support. These gifts ensure the future of Walsingham Academy and our students. For information on establishing an endowment, please contact Lindsey Torres, Director of Advancement, at (757) 345-2105 or advancement@walsingham.org.

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"Why do I give? Because I believe. I came to the Walsingham family last decade, knowing about but not really "knowing" Walsingham. What I have come to understand is that Walsingham is special. I believe in the mission, which is about a first-rate academic experience but also about preparing young people for the world around them. I believe in the people. The teachers and coaches and administrators do what they do for much more than just a job. It's a calling for them. For the parents I've met, they've seen that something special. And they're all in. And for the students. Well, they're our future. And they have so much to offer. I believe in them. That's why I give."

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WALSINGHAM ACADEMY'S 51ST ANNUAL DINNER AND AUCTION

Raises an Impressive \$185,000!



On March 18, 2023, Walsingham Academy held its 51st Annual Dinner and Auction at the Williamsburg Lodge. The evening's theme was an Evening in Paris and featured music and dancing from Good Shot Judy. Thanks to the generous support from our sponsors, donors, and guests, a total of \$185,000 was raised!

"My thanks to all who gave endless hours to make our auction a true "Evening in Paris" without leaving Williamsburg," said Sister Mary Jeanne with a grateful smile. "It was an elegant event for all of us who enjoyed every minute of it. We want to sincerely thank the many volunteers for their dedication and love of Walsingham. Also, a big thank you to Kaitlin Sorrentino for her leadership in creating such a tremendous event."

The funds will be used to purchase two new buses for the Academy and beautify the Upper School Chapel. We are deeply grateful for everyone who made a monetary and/or auction item donation, as well as for our dedicated Parent Board volunteers.

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2022-2023 ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB Members

What a tremendous year it has been! Four state championships, 8 seniors committing to continue their athletic careers in college, and so many great memories! While not every team's season ended in a championship, every effort was made to facilitate a fun, positive learning experience for all student-athletes. It takes all of us to ensure continued and consistent success for the athletics program.

One group that I would like to specifically recognize is our Booster Club Members. This year, 122 families joined the Booster Club, helping us to raise over \$50,000 for athletics. These funds are above and beyond the over \$230,000 the school budgeted for athletics this year. As you all know, sports are not inexpensive, and the additional funds contributed by Booster families have had a tremendous impact. The following are some of the things that Booster Club members have provided for our student-athletes over the past two years:

- Resurfacing/repainting of Chismer floor
- Renovation of Chismer locker rooms
- Refurbishing of the baseball infield
- "Under the Lights" games for field hockey, baseball, and soccer
- New girls' basketball uniforms
- HUDL game film management system for field hockey and basketball
- Timers for cross country, swim, and track and field meets
- Tennis court repair
- Soccer, golf, and volleyball equipment
- All the awards and banners for the teams
- Part of the supplement that allows for our trainer, Jared Howell

As you can see, Booster Club membership funds have had a tremendous impact in helping us do more, faster. Our hope is to raise even more money in 2023-24 to help put our student-athletes in the best possible position to succeed.

TROJAN \$1,000 AND UP

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Remember to be a Member!

The Booster Club is committed to supporting the Athletics program and promoting spirit among the greater Walsingham community. For more information about Booster Club membership or to make a contribution online, please visit www.walsingham.org/boosterclub

WALSINGHAM ALUMNI: WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have a cool job, experience, or want to update us on your current endeavors? We would like to feature you on our social media! This past February, we featured Olivia LeJeune from the Class of 2020 on our Facebook page. When asked about her Walsingham experience and to update us on where she is today, this is what she had to say: "The community and relationships that I have built throughout my time at Walsingham have been what I have cherished the most about my experience. Faculty, teachers, and friends were always there when you needed it, and they always strived to help you become the best version of yourself. I am studying Biomedical Engineering at the University of Tennessee, and I hope to pursue a career in the area of Sports Medicine. Getting involved in a more niche group in athletics and engineering has allowed me to surround myself with a community of people that also share these interests. Similar to Walsingham, being surrounded by this type of environment of passionate and driven people inspires me to keep pursuing my interests."



Contact alumni@walsingham.org if you are interested in being a featured alum!

2022 WALSINGHAM ACADEMY Golf Tournament

THANK YOU, GOLFERS AND SPONSORS! 2022 GOLF TOURNAMENT RAISED \$14,000!

On Friday, October 7, 2022, the Walsingham Academy Athletic Booster Club held their Annual Golf Tournament at Williamsburg National Golf Club. Thanks to the generous support from our sponsors and players, \$14,000 was raised! Providing an on-site athletic trainer, student-athlete recognition programs, and athletic uniforms and equipment are just a few ways these funds will be used.

"Thanks to all who supported our athletes through our annual golf tournament," Athletic Director Neil Bailey said. "I am so grateful for all who sponsored and joined us to play. It was a great day, and we appreciate everyone who helped make it one of our most successful events ever."

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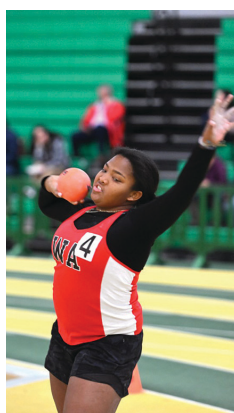
ATHLETICS UPDATE

This was a monumental year for Trojan Athletics! Our student-athletes worked harder than ever to earn some impressive accolades and show their Trojan pride on the court, on the field, in the pool, and on the course. Our student-athletes perseverance and grit are second to none and is highlighted in their impressive seasons.



FALL 2022

Our fall sports really started off a great year in athletics! Both the Varsity Boys' Cross Country Team and the Varsity Boys' Soccer team were crowned state champions for the first time! Our Boys' Cross Country had a very impressive season. Head Coach Rich Higgins rejoined the program this year. Led by senior and TCIS Player of the Year, Jake Falcone '23, the team competed in the TCIS well, often in back and forth runs with Peninsula Catholic. For the girls' Shea Mansidor '27 was named 1st Team All-TCIS! However, at the end of the season, in the biggest State Meet yet, our Boys' Cross Country team placed many top finishers which gave them the title of State Champions! Jake Falcone '23, Brody Cox '25, Parker Shonka '23, Nick Primich '25, Andrew Robinson '25, and Brendan Bouchard '23 were all named All-State! This is a first for Walsingham Boys' Cross Country. Varsity Girls' Cross Country was small in numbers but continued to compete throughout the season.



Similarly, our Varsity Boys' Soccer team persevered through a competitive season. Led by Head Coach Brendan Cook, the team finished the season 12-9-1. Highlights included a close win over Nansemond-Suffolk, a second-chance win against Banner Christian, and of course the thrilling State Championship game win over Wakefield, 3-2! Ethan Hayes '23 was named VISAA DIII Player of the Year and was elected 1st Team All-TCIS! Cooper Bailey '24 and Keith Cardenas '23 were named 1st Team All-State and 2nd Team All-TCIS. Will Patterson '24 was named 2nd Team All-State and Coach Brendan Cook was the State Coach of the Year!

Varsity Field Hockey continued their success from previous years and finished the season 14-6-1 under Head Coach Emily Mauk. Highlights from the season included starting the season off with a Mercy Rule win over Covenant and a 3-2 win over Jamestown the day before school started, beating rival HRA twice, and winning against all Williamsburg public schools including a tight game versus Lafayette in the Under the Lights Game at William and Mary. The Trojans made it to the State final four games again this year and will look to make it to the finals this upcoming fall. Noelle Kokolis '24 was named 1st Team All-State and 1st Team All-TCIS and Beatrice Ehrhardt '23 and Hailey Diggs '24 were named 1st Team All-State and 2nd Team All-TCIS. Kokolis, Ehrhardt, and Diggs were also named to the 2022 NFHCA High School National Academic Squad.

The Varsity Girls' Tennis team had another good year under Head Coach Erik Wright! Highlights included a 9-0 win over Peninsula Catholic, close 5-4 wins over Norfolk Christian and Catholic, and a 6-3 win over Steward. Jordan Thomas '24 won topflight singles at the TCIS Championship and was named 1st Team All-TCIS! Thomas and Isabella Kennedy '24 were also named 2nd Team All-TCIS in doubles. Varsity Volleyball continued the Walsingham tradition of sportsmanship this season. A rather young team, led by lone senior Kennedy Saumier '23, the team bonded and gained a great amount of knowledge from Coach Sara Dowell.

Our fall sports teams continue to expand. Most of our JJV and JV teams were at maximum capacity. Without a doubt, these teams continued the Walsingham tradition of excellence while striving to learn fundamentals and compete. JV Boys' Soccer had a good season and many of the talented players will move up to the varsity team this upcoming year in hopes to defend the state title. For the first year in a long time, we had a JV Field Hockey team. This team was mostly 7th graders who proved that they can compete at a higher level with a huge win over St. Catherine's. JV Girls' Tennis added a major win over Nansemond-Suffolk Academy. JJV Boys' Soccer, JJV Field Hockey, and JJV Volleyball all kept large teams of 5th through 7th graders who often competed against teams of all 8th graders. These Trojans learned the fundamentals of their sports and will dominate when it is their turn to compete at the varsity level.

ATHLETICS UPDATE

WINTER 2022-2023

The State Championships kept coming in the Winter for the Trojans when the Varsity Girls' Basketball team earned the title for the first time since 2008! The Varsity Girls' Basketball team had 11 girls, six of whom were eighth graders. They finished the season 15-10 with impressive wins over Norfolk Academy and Cape Henry. Keira Kilkenny '27 was named State Player of the Year and voted on the 1st Team All-TCIS as well as led the TCIS in scoring and added the records for points and steals in a game. Noelle Kokolis '24 was named 1st Team All-State and 2nd Team All-TCIS. Head Coach Emily Mauk was named Coach of the Year.

The Varsity Boys' Basketball team finished 16-15 and made it to the state quarterfinals. This was the first season without longtime Head Coach Billy Barnes as Athletic Director Neil Bailey stepped in for a season to coach the team after Barnes' retirement. Their season was highlighted with Paul Williams '23 scoring over 1,000 points in his career and included close wins over Nansemond-Suffolk Academy and Christchurch. Newcomer Bryce Watlington '24 was the TCIS leading scorer and was named 1st Team All-State and 1st Team All TCIS. Williams was named 2nd Team All-TCIS.

Varsity Swimming had an outstanding year. Joined by many talented swimmers from the eighth grade class, the swim team had 19 student-athletes qualify for the state meet. The swim team is applauded for their willpower to wake up early in the morning and get their swim in before the school day begins. The Trojans hosted two meets this year at the 757 Aquatic Center. The team is full of potential and definitely one you want to keep your eye on next winter.

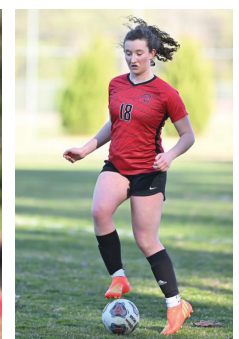
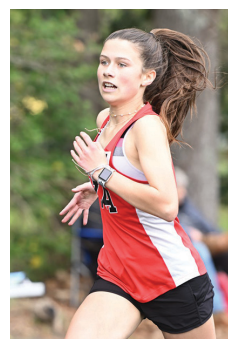
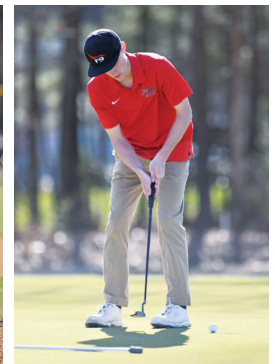
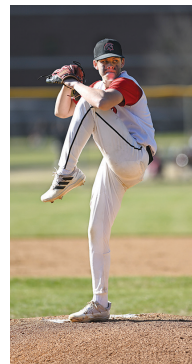
Trojan JV and JJV basketball teams kept the same hard work mentality of our varsity teams. The JV basketball team was led by Head Coach Bill Gerry and the team really progressed through the season. JJV boys' and girls' basketball worked on fundamentals and their basketball knowledge throughout the season to improve every step of the way. The JJV basketball teams were the highlight of Lower School Spirit Night where both teams walked away with a win!

SPRING 2023

Varsity Baseball had another successful season under Head Coach Ian Heisel. The team won their 5th straight state championship and finished the season 22-10. The season began with injuries to two of their starters, but other teammates stepped up and the Trojans continue to be dominant. The Trojans made it to the semifinals of the TCIS tournament. Luke Harlow '24 and Brody Schultz '24 were named 1st Team All-TCIS and Joey Masiak '23, Ryan Terrell '23, and Will Wyles '24 were named 2nd Team All-TCIS. In the state tournament, Coach Ian Heisel was named Coach of the year and Luke Harlow '24 was named Player of the Year. Joey Masiak '23, Brody Schultz '24, Sean Sousa '24, and Will Wyles '24 were named 1st Team All-State. Trey Christman '23, Daniel Guntherberg '25, and Davis Neighbor '24 were named 2nd Team All-State!

Varsity Golf keeps gaining in popularity. Head Coach Chris Smurthwaite kept two teams this year, an A team and a B team. This season included great wins over Summit, Christchurch, and Norfolk Christian. The team was led by seven seniors! Varsity girls' soccer had a promising year. They found their groove right after Spring Break with wins over Nansemond-Suffolk Academy, Peninsula Catholic, and Catholic High School. The end of their season was plagued by injuries. Shea Mansisor '27 was named 1st Team All-TCIS and Hailey Diggs '24 was named 2nd Team All-TCIS. A group of very promising underclassmen are moving up next year as they will be 8th graders. The JJV Girls' Soccer team had a fantastic season this year. Not only did the team learn fundamentals of soccer, but they were extremely competitive against other teams!

Varsity Track and Field had another good season. Walsingham hosted a great meet with a dozen teams in attendance as well as a smaller JV meet later in the spring. The Boys' team was awarded the Sportsmanship Award at the TCIS Championship meet. Many athletes qualified for the state meet. Jeylah Hamrick '24 was awarded Athlete of the Meet at the State Meet.



ATHLETIC ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Q & A with Corey Brown



Transferring to Walsingham Academy during the middle of high school, Corey Brown, Class of 2012, was an outstanding student-athlete and leader on and off the court. He was the co-editor of the yearbook staff his senior year, a chorus member for one year, ran track for three years and was the team captain, and played on the varsity basketball team for four years, his true passion. Corey was the team captain for three years, won First Team All TCIS, First Team All-State for three straight years, and was the Daily Press All Area First Team Member in 2011. BA true Trojan legend, Corey still

holds the records in all time rebounds, assists, and steals.

Corey went on to play basketball at Randolph College in Lynchburg, VA. During his college career, he was part of the school's first-ever DIV. III NCAA tournament team and ranked in the top 25 nationally. In 2016, he was named to the All ODAC Tournament team. By the end of his college career, he was the school leader in charges and tied for most games played. Corey graduated from Randolph College in 2016 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology.

Corey now resides in Wilmington, NC where he has been working in higher education for six years. This is his first year working as a CAP (College Accelerated Program) Liaison for Pender County. Here, Corey guides a cohort of high school students through a fast-track dual enrollment program to help them attain their associates degree by the time they graduate high school. Corey says, "I enjoy giving back to youth and helping them discover more options when it comes to their futures. Allowing students to connect and use me as an outlet to explore their education and career goals in incredibly fulfilling."

This past February, Corey was inducted in the Walsingham Academy Athletic Hall of Fame for his achievements in basketball. These days, you might see Corey at a Walsingham sporting event when in town for a visit or wearing "some fresh Trojan gear to rep around town". On June 22, 2023, Corey married Jessica Sanabria with their daughter by their side! Congratulations, Jessica and Corey!



Q. What was one thing that Walsingham prepared you for with college and sports at the college level?

A. Walsingham was huge in me getting out of my comfort zone. I transferred from a public school in the middle of high school. I was forced to adjust to a new environment, which helped me in the long run because I didn't fear the change of environment going to college. Learning to be proactive inside and outside the classroom was also a useful tool I learned very quickly. With basketball, I was also coming into a completely new style of play and higher level of competition. Playing for a coach, who pushed me toward the level I was trying to reach was a huge plus.

Q. While here at Walsingham Academy, did you have a teacher or mentor who was particularly inspiring to you?

A. I had a few people who inspired me to be better. My coach, Billy Barnes had the biggest impact on me as we got to build a relationship for four years. I learned a lot from him on and off the court. Mrs. Eanes was my English teacher for one year, and not only was she an excellent teacher of the subject, she was also a life teacher. She continually pushed me to be the best I could be and cared about my growth as a student and person. Mr. Delaney was always really positive, and I really appreciated his ability to communicate with not only me, but so many of us. He was pivotal in volunteer work opportunities that were eye-opening opportunities.

Q. How did your experience as a student-athlete influence who you are today?

A. My athletic career at Walsingham taught me a lot about getting outside of my comfort zone, and also about what effect a leader can have. My roles changed a few times while a member of athletics, so I had to adjust depending on what was being asked of me. That taught me to look at the importance of my role in relation to the bigger picture. But also to understand that roles can change and/or be added to on the fly and you just have to adjust as best as you can moving forward.

Q. What is the best piece of advice you can share with a Walsingham Academy student-athlete?

A. First, I would say have fun with your experience. The years will fly by, and you can't get them back. The days you don't quite feel like doing as much or going to practice are the hardest, but truly these are the days to cherish the most. These are the days that tend to make us forget how much we will miss it. Make the most of your time. To this day, I still cherish my athletic high school career.

Q. Is there anything else that you would like to share with our Walsingham Academy community?

A. Before I graduated, I told someone that I wish I would have transferred to Walsingham a little sooner. I had a lot of fun growing as a person, student, and athlete. I met lot of people that made a difference in my experience, and I have always appreciated that. There were so many people I met along the way and lasting relationships I will never forget. For the people and time at Walsingham, I am forever grateful. Walsingham will always be home.

ATHLETIC RECORDS Broken This Year!



Varsity Girls Basketball

Keira Kilkenny '27 broke the school record for scoring most points in a single game with 43 points and with most steals in a single game with 17 steals.

Varsity Boys Basketball

Paul Williams '23 broke the school records with 72 blocked shots in a single season and 144 blocked shots during his career here at Walsingham!

Varsity Baseball

Luke Harlow '24 broke the school records with 39 hits in a single season, 47 runs in a single season, 32 stolen bases in a single season, and tied for doubles in a single season with 13.

Ryan Terrell '23 tied for doubles in a single season with 13.

Wilson Estep '23 had 4 career saves.



PAUL WILLIAMS Scores His 1,000-Career Point!

Paul Williams '23 was in his 6th year playing for the varsity basketball team and was the captain for this year's team. On Tuesday, January 17, 2023 the Trojans hosted Nansemond-Suffolk Academy. Paul was on a roll from the beginning of the game, making much needed layups and foul shots. Shortly after halftime, Paul scored his 1,000 point of his career at Walsingham! He finished the game as the leading scorer with 21 points! This time added 14 rebounds for a double-double and three blocks! The game came down to the last few seconds, but the Trojans pulled away victorious 49-45!

Paul has been a key figure in Walsingham basketball his entire career. Hitting the 1,000 point milestone is a monumental accomplishment and everyone is so beyond proud of him!



TROJAN BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM WINS First Ever State Championship!

Our Walsingham cross country teams traveled to Woodberry Forest to compete in the VISAA cross country championships. What a trip it was! Our boys won our first ever VISAA XC Championship and had 6 runners earn ALL-State honors! Walsingham scored 47 points while Veritas was 2nd with 82, Stonebridge 3rd with 84 and Tandem Friends came in 4th place with 110 points. "They ran their hearts out," said Coach Rich Higgins. "We expected it to be very close, but on one of the toughest courses and when it mattered most, they all really stepped up today. It was truly a team effort today; every runner probably had their best effort of the year today. I am so proud of every one of them."

Jake Falcone '23 (4th place), Brody Cox '25 (5th place), Parker Shonka '23 (10th place), Nick Primich '25 (11th place), Andrew Robinson '25 (17th place), and Brendan Bouchard '23 (19th



place) earned All-State Honors. Jake Falcone '23, who placed 4th, had this to say about the experience, "It was our goal at the beginning of the season to win (the State Championship). The whole team returned from last year and we knew we would be competitive in every meet. Coach Higgins returned as our head coach, and he was a big reason

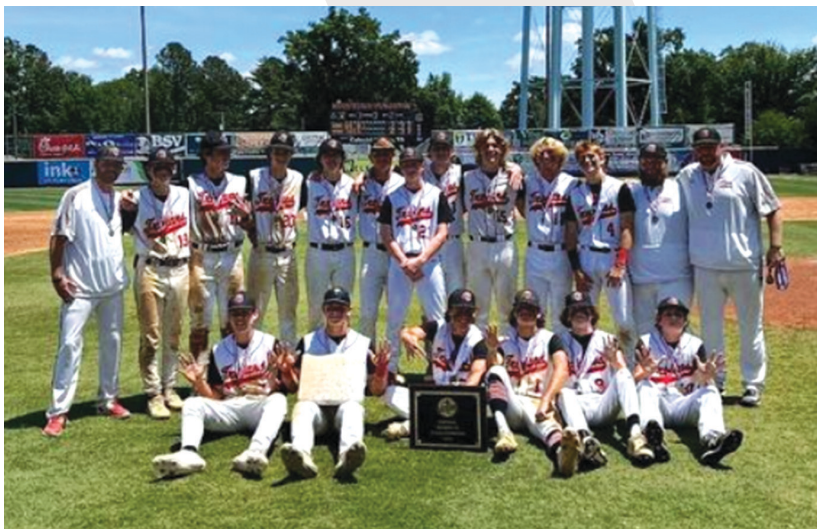
we won the VISAA State Championship for the first time in Walsingham history."

Coach Higgins also commented on the girls race, "Shea Mansisor '27 also earned All-State honors with a 3rd place finish! I was also extremely proud of Shea, what an accomplishment."

Most athletes don't get to call themselves "State Champions," but for this clutch group of twelve Trojans, they now forever have the honor of making just that exact claim.

TROJAN BASEBALL TEAM WINS 5TH CONSECUTIVE State Championship!

In mid May, the Trojan Baseball team captured the state title again! The accomplishment marks the fifth year in a row the Trojans have won the state title. The 12-2 victory over Brunswick Academy took place at Shepard Stadium in Colonial Heights. "This whole group has been resilient all year," said Trojans coach Ian Heisel. The Trojans have had to overcome several injuries throughout the year, making this championship run all the more impressive.



The Trojans (22-10) got an excellent effort from their junior starting pitcher, Davis Neighbor '24. Coach Heisel said after the game, "Davis Neighbor was phenomenal on the mound today." Neighbor struck out six and only allowed one run. Ayden Evans '24 also had a strong performance with his bat, clearing the bases with a three run double in the fourth inning.

Congratulations to our five-time defending champions! Go Trojans!!

BOYS SOCCER

First Ever State Champions!

Walsingham Academy just won another first ever State Championship! Just days after the boys cross country team claimed its first ever championship, the boys soccer team carried on this historic streak by winning their first ever State Title on November 14, 2022. The Trojans defeated Wakefield 3-2 at City Field in Richmond. When asked what it feels like to be a State Champ, senior Ethan Hayes '23 replied with a big smile, "it feels really awesome to be the first class to do it."



"I am so proud of our young men for fulfilling our standards and getting it done. Seniors Ethan Hayes '23, Keith Cardenas '23, Roland Tilk '23 as well as juniors Will Patterson '24 and Cooper Bailey '24 set a very high bar for themselves and they would not let each other down. The process driven, positive culture that they have helped create within Walsingham soccer is a testament to those boys' character

and the scoreboard took care of itself."

After a scoreless first half, Wakefield opened the scoring five minutes into the second half with an incredible chip shoot. Ethan Hayes '23 countered with a goal just a few minutes later converting on an assist from Will Patterson '24 to tie the game. With 20 minutes remaining Keith Cardenas '23 was fouled in the box and Hayes converted the penalty kick to give the Trojans a 2-1 lead. Will Patterson '24 scored the decisive goal for the Trojans with five minutes remaining off an assist from Danny Vantran '25. Wakefield scored late to make the final score 3-2.

Head Coach, Brendan Cook "has experience as a player and coach winning championships, and he knows how to push us", said Hayes. Coach Cook commented after the game,

Athletic Director, Neil Bailey, reflected after the second (first ever) State Championship in just a matter of days, "It really was a great fall for Trojan Athletics. Our field hockey team also made it to the state semifinals and had an incredible year. Our championships speak to the environment at Walsingham which allows student-athletes to push themselves to be the best version of themselves, not just on the fields, but in all aspects of their life. I am especially proud of our seniors for their leadership in these championship runs."

Who knows, will this magical momentum continue? Certainly, the belief will be there, and just maybe more dreams being fulfilled of championship crowning to come. Either way, something special has transpired during this fall of firsts.

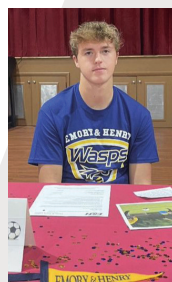
CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE TROJANS WHO ARE COMPETING AT THE NEXT LEVEL!



Mary Blinn
Rowing
University
of Miami



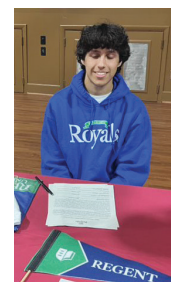
Trey Christman
Baseball
College of
William and Mary



Ethan Hayes
Soccer
Emory and
Henry



Nick Alves
Soccer
Old Dominion
University



Keith Cardenas
Soccer
Regent
University



Wilson Estep
Baseball
Virginia Peninsula
Community College

GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM

Crowned State Champs!

Walsingham Academy celebrated another championship in early March. This time the girls' basketball team brought home the hardware. This is the third state championship of the 2022-2023 school year! The win on March 4 over Roanoke Catholic was the first state championship for girls' basketball since 2008. In this championship game, the girls were ready from the jump and came out strong with their full-court press. The Lady Trojans led 23-16 at halftime, but they had to hold off a momentous run by the Lady Celtics in the fourth quarter. Walsingham held on in the end with clutch free throws and the poise and composure they have shown all season. The final score was 45-41, with Keira Kilkenny '27 leading the team with 18 points and 7 rebounds. Noelle Kokolis '24, emerging as the team's calm and confident leader, also had a big game with 15 points and 3 steals. Head coach Emily Mauk commented after the win, "We figured out early in the season that we could compete with the best of the best in Division III. These girls showed time and time again that they were determined to win the whole thing. I am most impressed with how they kept their composure the



entire game and had the determination to get it done. They wanted this win for their teammates and their school."

The win marked the first girls' basketball championship since before most of the girls on this team were born. Six of the eleven players on this championship team are only eighth graders! What an awesome accomplishment for this special group of talent, and it certainly has their future looking bright and full of promise. Speaking of bright, a star

all year for the Lady Trojans, Keira Kilkenny '27 said of the win, "It was very cool to win a state championship. Especially since most of us are 8th graders. We have been playing together since kindergarten and we all mesh really well so it was great to have this large accomplishment with my friends." Noelle Kokolis '24 added, "I'm so proud of my team for winning the first state championship since 2008! Even with the young team that we have, it just shows the maturity and composure we all have shown on the court this whole season."

This team and their year together is an inspiration making Walsingham Academy proud of their state champs! Go Trojans!



2022 – 2023
Snapshots



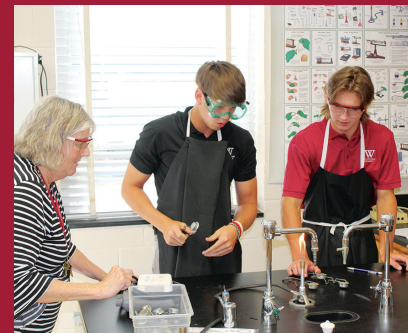
ATHLETIC Hall of Fame

Walsingham Academy was pleased to welcome back members and their families from the Classes of 2008 – 2012 during Spirit Night for their introduction to the Athletics Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame is organized as a way of maintaining the rich heritage and tradition of athletic programs at Walsingham Academy. It serves as a means of recognizing, preserving, and

honoring the athletes, coaches, and individuals who made significant contributions to the athletic programs. Many individuals have been influential in the tradition of excellence and have had exemplary accomplishments on the athletic fields. The Hall of Fame honors the contributions and accomplishments of these individuals who are worthy of recognition as examples for others to emulate. It was a great night celebrating our alumni and giving our current students examples to look up to and strive to be like!

Athletic Hall of Fame 2023 Class:

- Emerson Burkey – Class of 2008
- Kristin Davenport – Class of 2008
- Andrew Setian – Class of 2008
- Chris Schulz – Class of 2008
- Olivia Twiddy – Class of 2008
- Connor McGregor – Class of 2010
- Cameron Setian – Class of 2010
- Corey Brown – Class of 2012
- Dylan Cheely – Class of 2012
- Mitch Owens – Class of 2012
- Emily Smith – Class of 2012



CLASS OF 1972 ★ 50TH REUNION



CLASS OF 1980-1983 ★ 40TH REUNION



CLASS NOTES

Submissions were submitted into the Alumni Office between August 2022 – July 2023.

Have an update for the Class Notes section? Contact your class correspondent or the Alumni Office at alumni@walsingham.org.

'57



Deirdre Westgate writes: Our class of '57 dwindled early on until we only had 3 graduates present for the June 5, 1957, ceremony. But in the 1950's, the entire high school seemed to function as a whole, numbering about 40 students. At our age, survivors merit mention simply by still being alive! We all remember each other with great affection. So, here's news of some of those who preceded and followed my class:

I hear regularly from **Peggy Campioli Dement '58** who lives in Tucson, and who forwarded news of her two older sisters: **Genevieve Campioli Kemp '53** and **Betty Campioli Lovewell '55** who turned 85 this year. Peggy wonders how we all managed to be 80 years old! **Kathleen Williams Lemmers '53** writes from North Carolina to us all regularly via emails. **Tommy Guthrie '55** writes frequently from Annapolis, MD, and plays golf actively, weather permitting. **Carole Farthing '66** is still working and living in Silver Spring, MD.

My daughter Madeleine Peyroux finally got back on the road after a two-year covid break, which inspired me to attend her Careless Love show in the London Palladium in September, and to organize a big Swedish/Danish cousin reunion in Copenhagen in February. Family members came over from Indiana, Paris, and Sweden.

Any Old Timers should remember to let me know if a trip to Paris is being planned Deirdre.westgate@hotmail.com.

'59

Jeffrey Hutson writes: 65 years after graduating, I have retired. I leave behind a rewarding career as a lawyer and arbitrator/mediator. I am grateful for the head start Walsingham gave me.

'65

Giles Ryan recently walked across the Basque Country in France and Spain. Along the way, Giles wrote some of his thoughts on the country as he was passing through.

Here is a writing of his recent experience titled *Again, the Kingdom of Navarre*:

I walked this way ten years ago but could not go the way I wished, the higher road, Napoleon's Pass, because it was still blocked by snow that late April day and the only way open was the Valcarlos path, Charlemagne's way across the Pyrenees, the safe way, and I had not come in search of safety. In that moment it was a disappointment and this has rankled, unreasonably, all these years but now I mean to make it right.

In those following years, I walked to Santiago twice again but started at different places, not in Saint Jean Pied de Port, the ancient town which marks the last stop in France before the path continues on the other side of the Pyrenees and across into Spain. This small town is lovely, picturesque and somewhat remote, inland from the Biscay coast, in the foothills of the mountains. Many thousands of people come here each year and most, I believe, stay but one night, then leave the next morning early and on foot and heading decidedly uphill, hoping to make good time over the mountains and on to Roncevalles, walking eight or nine hours, depending on their pace and stride and perhaps depending on their age. I may be the oldest this day, but I like to think I won't be the last arriving there.

But a morning start means arriving the day before, so the restaurants and cafés do a brisk trade in the evening, and the air is filled with a sense of anticipation and, perhaps for some, a measure of unease for the challenge ahead. It is, after all, a notable thing to cross over a mountain range on foot, and no less remarkable for having done so before. But setting aside any apprehension and distracting myself with more interesting thoughts, I consider that I'm not only crossing a mountain range, I'm also crossing from one country to another, from France into Spain, and even more notable, I'm crossing the Basque Country, a nation manqué, a land which, long ago, contained another dominion, the Kingdom of Navarre, a dominion lost in time.

History speaks of many kingdoms, empires and principalities, but most disappeared long ago and only a few of these linger today in some vestigial form in Spain, Britain, Denmark, the Netherlands, Japan and a few others. These are quaint aberrations, for the most part harmless, which cannot always be said of today's royal persons, whose antics sometimes make us wonder why they stubbornly hang on.

When some ancient kingdoms passed into myth they took with them the beliefs

and customs linked to their kingships. Kings, in the common imagination, were almost mystical creatures, and even just a few hundred years ago, within the well documented past, there was the persistent belief that the touch of a royal hand could cure an illness. As a little boy in 1712, Samuel Johnson was touched by Queen Anne and this, he said, cured his severe case of scrofula. He certainly believed this and for the rest of his life was a firm Tory and devout Church of England man. And he always wore around his neck the small gold coin English monarchs customarily gave to persons they touched and cured; (we can see Johnson's coin today at the British Museum.) Similarly, the kings of France, right up to the last one, King Louis XVI, performed the same ritual touch to cure illness, and the King would also touch the abdomens of pregnant Frenchwomen to ensure the mother's health and safe birth of her child, and the most experienced French midwives firmly held this belief. Who could doubt it?

These stray thoughts cross my mind as I cross these hills — real enough terrain, nothing mystical here underfoot — on my way across the Kingdom of Navarre. Today, most people know little about it, but up to the seventeenth century it was, as we now say, a thing. There were kings in this land between France and Spain, straddling the Pyrenees, and there were queens and princes, too. And now and then there might be a princess who could be married off to the king's advantage, for, as the world knows, dynastic politics did not allow for romantic notions.

Which brings us to Princess Berengaria of Navarre — a mellifluous name, a name from a fairy tale! — but her tale ended badly. She married King Richard the Lionheart in 1191, but the groom, it seems, was not inclined to the company of women. We cannot say this with certainty, and historians of different persuasions dispute the point, but Richard's *coeur de lion* may have beat more ardently for other men. As a matter of known record, his union with Berengaria produced no children nor any record of a pregnancy. They had their time together, and she accompanied her new husband part of the way on his voyage to Crusade in the Holy Land, perhaps an unusual honeymoon, but she never conceived a child, thus the idea held by some historians that the union was never consummated. Wounded in battle in 1199, he died in his mother's arms, not his wife's, which may tell us something. Queen Berengaria left no trace in the Plantagenet blood line and she was the only Queen of England who never set foot in her realm.

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'67

But another prince from her native land began the Bourbon lineage of France. King Henri III of Navarre joined his kingdom to the other when he became King Henri IV of France in 1589. His queen's three brothers had died in quick succession, leaving their throne vacant, and the Salic law demanded that only the closest male heir could inherit, an opportunity which Henri seized. Some warfare ensued, to be sure, but he made good his claim. It's a curious thing that one of the greatest kings of France began as a foreigner, and any gloire claimed by his successors had to recognize its debt to the Pyrenees mountains I cross this week.

Another monarch of sorts preceded me here, and this mountain pass still bears his name. Napoleon came this way and he was in a hurry, anxious to recover the failing campaign of French troops under the command of one of his less fortunate marshals. As the world knows, this did not end well. Napoleon's trumped-up imperium would have lasted far longer if he had kept his armies at home and spared them the disgrace — to say nothing of the slaughter — they met in Spain, and later in Russia. But it takes no philosopher-king to reach this conclusion: would have, could have, should have.

Well, it's extraordinary how one's thoughts can wander far afield as one's footsteps wander across another country. But I'm brought back to the present by the astonishing beauty of the scene before me, the rising road, the cloud-draped valleys promising rain and the promise kept. And then, the peak draws nearer and nearer still, until I am there, at the place I wished to reach ten years ago and finally reach today.

There's much to be said for goals not yet met and striving to meet them while we can. I very much dislike the expression "bucket list" not least because it's a cliché built on another before it, but also because it sets limits. Who can deny that a bucket has a bottom and indeed may have a leak where dreams may seep away? I prefer my wishes and undone deeds unlisted, in infinite numbers and, with each one done, I imagine the next.

'66

Cyndia Zodda and **Pam Fives Myers** reconnect over lunch in Naples, FL.



Janis Craig Cieply writes: After having moved from Syracuse, NY (Go Orange!) and now living in Gainesville, GA for 8 years, I am still working on becoming a Southerner... "Bless Your Heart" ... Forty years of Nursing, spattered with Real Estate and Mortgages, Estate Sales and now currently working in the Simulation Lab as a "Patient" work life has had many twists and turns. I have enjoyed each opportunity. Our daughter, Andrea, and her husband, Nick, have 2 young boys... ages 5 and 2 ½. It is not possible to speak of the joy that our grandchildren have brought us. There is a special grandchild place in your heart that you never knew you had, and it brings you more joy than you ever thought possible. We live in a 55+ active adult community which has given us a community of like-minded Seniors. Socialization and physical activity keep you alive and connected. My husband, Gerry, and I are truly blessed. I would love to hear from my classmates, Jancieply16@gmail.com!

Eleana Watson Ikeda writes: I still live in Cuernavaca Morelos, Mexico, and I consider myself a long residence of this capital city of Morelos State. I've made friends after my divorce but I'm a single person and have not found a partner. My mother died quite a while ago here, but I am ok. I attend mostly a writing class, in English, and work on my autobiography with the group I study with whom by background foreign but each of them has lived in Mexico a long time since say early 20's of their lives. So, they are almost like Mexicans even if not completely, some were married before to Mexicans and speak Spanish bilingually. I haven't completed yet my autobiography. They also work on their memoirs. My cousin comes to visit me about once a year from New York City, from Brooklyn, and we went this year to Acapulco Beach-side. Acapulco has gone down and I felt it was too noisy and crowded. Maybe we'll try somewhere else, the mountains, next time. So, this is about it. My health is good, a little diabetic, but I take care of myself with medicines. Please would you know if Deirdre Rainey and Janet Tuthill still live in Williamsburg, Virginia. I am willing to hear from classmates if anyone needs information about hotels, etc., also bus lines in Mexico. I've been here a long time so I can give certain kinds of information.

LuAnn Witty Klein writes: My son and wife just welcomed their 3rd child today (June 9). They have 2 girls and newborn

boy. That makes my baker's dozen Grandchildren. (5 boys 8 girls). I now play more pickleball than tennis, doubles only! I still play cards and Mahjong weekly. I also sing in the choir when I can. I'm basically a homebody at my Great Falls home of 35 years or my lake cottage of 20 years. Life is good.

Dennis McNelis writes: Our son Connor was just elevated to recruiting coordinator for the Arkansas State women's basketball team. My wife Joye, Head Women's Basketball Coach at Southern Mississippi, won the regular season championship in her first year in the Sun Belt Conference. I'm still working as a counselor at Oak Grove High School. I work for Joye part time. I have no desire to work for her full time!

William "Buddy" Mann writes: During the past twelve months the Mann Household saw moments of joy, sadness, and time to travel. In May 2022, family and friends gathered in Williamsburg to celebrate my mom's 98th birthday. It was quite an occasion with folks coming from near and far to congratulate her and wish her the best. Unfortunately, the remaining time we had with mom was very brief as she passed away the following July. Mom's health had been failing over the past several years, and while we were all saddened by her loss, we knew that she was in a far better place and took this moment to celebrate what a blessing she had been in all our lives. In late September, Liz and I went up to Pennsylvania to tour our grandson Alex's campus at Susquehanna University. We were very impressed with the facilities we saw, and the grounds were beautiful with the leaves on the trees beginning to turn in the early days of autumn. We were in PA again in November to celebrate Thanksgiving with our two oldest daughters, Heather and Valerie, and their families. In December, Liz had knee replacement surgery on her left leg which went very well. This was important because we were making plans to travel in March 2023 with our daughter Valerie to visit her oldest son Nolan, who is a Marine Security Guard currently assigned to the embassy in Madrid, Spain. We had an absolutely fabulous time, with Nolan as our tour guide, exploring the cities of Madrid, Toledo, and Barcelona. However, upon our return, we had done so much walking that Liz had to follow up with her orthopedic surgeon and had to undergo knee replacement surgery on her right leg in early May. Fortunately, that surgery also went very well with Liz again making a speedy recovery. We're looking forward to doing some more travelling later this year but for the time being I'll be staying busy serving on the Christopher Newport

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University's Alumni Society's Board of Directors while the two of us will be working on some home projects and our summer garden.

Robert Ryczak writes: The past 12 months continued to pose great challenges and change for us. We moved into our "forever home" in May, after 2 long years in a rental, surrounded by boxes. We have a lot of unpacking and settling in ahead of us now. We've put together a nice health care team for our senior years. We had planned for Sonia's Mom to live with us in her final years, but she unexpectedly passed away in February. She had continued her slow decline into dementia and was living in a memory care unit when she had a terrible fall. Dealing with her Mom's passing, and all the death and funeral tasks have weighed very heavily on Sonia. We enjoyed yet another family summer beach reunion at the Outer Banks. We celebrated with new family members, and missed those who could not come. We continue to make new friends in the Auburn-Opelika area. I enjoy a weekly Catholic men's group, and we both are enjoying a group of elder parishioners (The Prime Timers) in social activities. We enjoy spending time with our daughter and her Yorkipoo who live in Birmingham, two hours away. Her Christmas gift to us was a day at Epcot. She arranged for a motorized scooter for me (double knee replacement), as well as passes to avoid the lines at the most popular attractions. She made me wear a RR engineer's hat with Goofy ears the entire day; got lots of crowd attention. It was a very special day. We continue to see God's hand in our relocation adventure, and we praise and thank Him every day. Email is: rsr6@verizon.net

Scott Whitehead writes: After a four-year hiatus, courtesy of Covid, Kathy and I finally were able to take a vacation to Europe in May, this time with dear friends from our Tallahassee days. We spent several days in Athens, Greece doing all the mandatory tours of the Acropolis, Parthenon, a "Hidden Gems" food tour, the Acropolis museum, and a day cruise to Hydra, Poros, and Aegina. Our next stop was Crete, staying in a lovely hotel in Chania adjacent to the old Venetian Port. A day trip by car through Crete's mountainous White Mountains with twisting turning roads was challenging but allowed us to see the "real" Crete. Our trip concluded with a visit to Old Town Rethymno, a pottery village, a visit to the Heraklion Archaeological Museum and tour of the Minoan civilization's Knossos Palace. Our trip marked 50 years to the month of my last visit to Crete while in the Marine Corps although this

time under much better circumstances! In June we attended a surprise 70th birthday for my brother **Joel Whitehead '71** in Mandeville, LA. Our sons **Doug Whitehead '98**, **Patrick Whitehead '00**, and **Sterling Whitehead '03** their wives and five grandchildren continue to bring us much joy.

'69



In October of 2022, **Lynn Sikora**, **Christine Clarke**, and **Karen Timmy Buppert Schultz** stopped by Walsingham Academy for a tour!

'72

Louise Oliver Brooks writes the following:

OMG...there are no words to convey the joy of our 50th reunion in October of 2022. It was a wonderful, wonderful weekend of reuniting and reconnecting with our classmates. Some of us there were "regulars" at our every 5-year reunions (since 1982!) and some were first timers—woo hoo!! Friday was the big reveal for most of us—glancing at the door to see who would be the first to identify each classmate. We were really stumped, thinking we were having a senior moment, when someone was at the wrong event and we couldn't figure out who they were.

Saturday brought us together around the flagpole where **Father Rusty** and **Pastor Rob** lead us in a memorial service remembering our 8 departed classmates. One of them, **Lee Brown**, had passed away just one month prior to our reunion. Levity returned as we menaced the hallowed halls of the upper school—noting first, of course, the pink hue that we ALL could still detect on the walls of the infamous "smoke bomb" classroom. **Robbie Lorigan** was still looking for any remaining fudgesicles and donuts in the former (now repurposed) all purpose room. **Mark Anderson's** records still stand on the Athletic Hall of Fame wall. Take that, you younguns! Sadly, we couldn't coax Mark in to a dunking contest as he

was back in Texas recovering from a hip replacement. A few too many dunks, right?



Saturday evening found some of us enjoying the chariot (bus) ride to Newport News for a spectacular event at the Chohany's restaurant, the rest of us found our own way. The food and drink were worthy of a gourmet magazine spread. We are always grateful to the Chohany brothers for their generosity and talent in providing us with delicious food throughout our reunion journey. (Did I say we've been doing this faithfully every 5 years since 1982? I'm saying it again!!) **Sheila Bacon** worked long and hard on the trivia game that was a huge hit. **John Chohany** received an honorary lifetime First Honors pin since he earned so many in high school and then we danced and talked and hugged the night away. **Gordon Eide** and **Walter Rowe** had really learned some moves over the years.



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Sunday brought more surprises when we gathered at, again, the Chohany's restaurant in Williamsburg... **Susie Shields Trench** made a special appearance, her first at a reunion event. It was like she'd been at all of them. We also had a showing of some spouses and honorary classmates: Anne Quinn, **Sallie Short Culbreth's** daughter, **Ann Mackay '73**, Helen's sister and Dougie Winthrop, my seester. Anne made a wonderful video of our weekend—such talent—and Sallie created a "yearbook" of our class with then and now pictures. If you would like a hard copy, you can get it on Amazon for \$7. Search "Walsingham Academy Class of 1972: 50th Anniversary Class Reunion".

If you don't get the book, here are the attendees (apologies if I omit anyone... you get a full on half page write up next time.) **Rusty Smith, Jane Lewis Oliver, Mall Sears Fraser-Seay, Andy Hord, John Chohany, Mark Riley, Stuart Andrews, Robbie Lorigan, Nancy Kennedy Byrd, Rob Amsler, Sallie Short Culbreth, Laura Townsend, Sheila Bacon, Denise Dahl, Carol Cottingham White, Lynn Smith Rosenbloom, Jane Scherer Haake, Helen Mackay Lopez, Susan Hughes Lindstrom, Lindsay Powell, Barbara Dorman Bower, Gayle Seward Boothe, Mike Theis, Helen Potts Comet, Julianna Holmes Grammo, Gordon Eide, Susan Anthony, Frank Villa, Walter Rowe, Rosie Lamb, Charlee Gordon Tramonte, Clair McNelis Folkes, Helen Mackay Lopez** and me!



I have not done near enough justice to the weekend. As weary as we were, the weariest muscles were our smile muscles and our heart muscle from all the tugging on it. I was the tag along to the "A-team" who worked for way more than a year planning every detail of the weekend. Did you know **Sheila Bacon** used to plan corporate events in her previous life? Do you think we made MAXIMUM use of her talents? You betcha we did!! My fellow A-teamers were **John Chohany, Robbie Lorigan, Nancy Kennedy Byrd, Sheila Bacon** and me. I have truly missed our hilarious and heartwarming Zoom and conference calls, all lined up by Sheila.

We asked to hear everyone's favorite moments of the reunion. **Laura Townsend** wrote first with a disclaimer that hers cannot be put in print without risk of civil prosecution. Hmmmm, I must have missed that moment—but not surprising. After thinking longer, she said that seeing **Susie Shields Trench, Julianna Holmes Grammo, Sallie Short Culbreth** were definite highlights. And apparently **Sandy Scherberger Griffith** became self-designated parking lot patrol to reserve a much-desired parking space for **Jane Scherer Haake**. Oh the talents we have! **Robert Amsler** had many favorite moments...reconnecting with **Stuart Andrews** who apparently lives quite close to him. He was honored to lead us in our memorial service for our departed and lastly, the wine glasses which keep our reunion memories alive. **Julianna Holmes Grammo** loved Friday night, seeing everyone, hearing the life stories and experiencing the compassion in our hearts. We ARE the coolest class, she says.

As hard as it was to imagine, life after the reunion has carried on. And people have managed to return to their life after. Here are some updates:

Laura Townsend was the first to send in her update which includes frequent gatherings on DOG Street with **Jane Scherer Haake** and **Sandy Scherberger Griffith** as well as Dougie Winthrop (my seester) and **Rob Lorigan** and his better half, Kim (who was celebrating with us at the reunion!). Laura had a fun experience being featured by archivists at CW for all the years that she and CW have been entwined. Laura lived in the Historic District and her father was the Bookmaker. Laura was so moved to be given the chance to tour her childhood home in the Historic District. Very cool story... all the homes on DOG Street were cloaked in secrecy for us outsiders.

Sheila Bacon will soon be famous, I'm telling you. While staying out of the heat in Texas, (this is written in early July), she's been cranking up her crooning—and strumming her guitar. Did you know she was in a band when her family was stationed in Japan? We all remember her singing at one of our early reunions. She's only gotten better. Sheila promises VIP tickets for us all when her USA tour launches.

Jane Scherer Haake is living the life! She has been tutoring her students via Zoom which let her spend 2 months in Florida! Wondering if she needs a teacher's assistant...? When she's not tutoring, she spends time in Williamsburg with her mom

and catching up with **Laura Townsend** and **Sandy Scherberger Griffith**.

Linda Wallace Fosdick was most disappointed to miss our reunion. She and **Bill Fosdick '71** have been traveling quite a bit in this year, their celebration year of 50 years of marriage. WA can claim full responsibility for that union! She "married the right boy". (Insider's joke) Trips every month and a cross country trek for 2+ months.

Julianna Holmes Grammo has an empty nest, but it doesn't sound like she spends much time there. She's made several trips to...Fayetteville, NC where I live! We haven't been able to get together yet... She is visiting her daughter and family including a special grandson. She also has gone up the coast to visit her son and growing family in upstate NY. Another trip took Julianna and 3 friends on a bus trip to Cincinnati. I think she was over bus travel at the end!

Charlee Gordon Tramonte wants to claim the title of the oldest classmate. I won't argue with her, will you? She is turning 70 and is very happy to be living her life in Texas making many trips with friends. She describes several Sight and Sound performances (Queen Ester and David) that are amazing.

Sallie Short Culbreth has not stopped since the reunion. She is the executive director of a Christian ministries and clinic, a nonprofit, which sounds all consuming. She's also enjoying (you said that, right Sallie?) raising preschoolers and leading a beautiful but complicated organization. Sallie has given us a great motto for our class' use... Stay groovy!!

Susan Hughes Lindstrom has pulled up anchor from Charleston, SC with a heavy heart - missing fresh seafood at her back door. However, they have moved to Roanoke and are close to all of their children and grandchildren as well as where they can enjoy hunting and fishing on the Jackson River. They've just finished renovating an old house with mountain views. By the time you read this, they will be settled in and enjoying mountain life where they started their family many years ago.

And then, there's **Rob Lorigan** who remains on my once per week or more communications list. First and foremost, he profusely thanks **John Chohany** for being Mr. Uber Hospitality for our reunion. As Rob contemplates retirement in the near future, his role model remains John C. for his many talents...math, Latin, pyrotechnics as well as his burger flipping

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and cooking up those fries. We are ALL looking forward to our 55th and staying at John's new home on the James. I'm not sure Stephanie knows anything about this...yet.

Rob has been traveling all over for work as he wraps up his career this fall. He and Kim go coast to coast visiting their kids...well, mostly their grandkids are the focus, right? Rob also expresses his loss over the passing of Mrs. Chohany. She was a "bonus mom" who took care of him on good days and bad. Bless her heart, she raised John AND Rob. I can't imagine!

As for me, life is good and full here in NC. Lots of fun volunteering and getting back into theater—my first career, did you know that? Not acting (goodness no) but costuming. If anyone needs help or advice, in addition to my 40 years as a physical therapist, I have now proudly survived time on the other side as a patient. I'm the proud owner of a new knee and shoulder, six months apart. I put off the knee surgery till after the reunion in case I blew it out partying too hard. So hit me with your questions! It IS worth it!!!

Lastly, Rob and I have totally enjoyed the 5 decades of serving as class correspondents, lie creators, keepers of secrets, maintainers of communications... etc, etc. That being said, it might be time to turn over the baton to others. It's a fun job—where else do you get to make up stuff about others and put it in print. Maybe, if we have to keep going, we might start thinking about making some money off of bribes to keep your secrets. We wouldn't want that, would we? Let us know!!!

Despite my initial thoughts that we might have to relinquish the top spot for the most class notes category of the alumni magazine, I think not. Thank you for continuing to share your world with us.

Meanwhile, to all our truly special and beloved classmates, stay groovy till next time!

'73

The Class of 1973 is planning their 50th reunion from Walsingham Academy the weekend of September 30, 2023. For more information, please contact Michael McDevitt at mcdevitt@coylelynch.com.

'74

The Class of 1974 is planning their 50th reunion in the spring of 2024. For more

information, please contact Nancy Barnes at barnesdn@verizon.net.

'78

The Class of 1978 will be having a reunion on November 4, 2023 from 5:00 – 8:00pm on the patio at Second Street Restaurant here in Williamsburg, VA. For more information, please contact Gina Clayton at ginaclayton160@gmail.com.

Back in February 2023, **Chuck DeMeglio** was the Athlete of the Month in the National Senior Games Association. The article discusses his achievement of DeMeglio finishing his equivalent swim of around the world. Here is the link to the article, <https://nsga.com/around-the-world-in-wavy-ways-athlete-of-the-month-february-2023/>!

'80

The Class of 1980 participated in a multi-class 40th Reunion in April at Kingsmill Resort with the classes of '81, '82, and '83, as our 40th graduation anniversary occurred during Covid in 2020. Eleven classmates were able to attend: **Colleen Kearns Killilea, Betsy Brons Snyder, Bernie Ngo, Clint Bowes, Chris Henderson, Larry Gunter, Mike Edwards, Robin Phillips, Shaun May, Vanessa Griffith Kerrigan, and Martha Ryczak Whiteley.**

Classmate news:

Clint Bowes retired from Ernst and Young and lives in the west end of Richmond with his wife. He stays fit through his daily 5-mile walks.

Chris DeVincentis, M.D. is an internist in Culpeper, VA and has affiliations with multiple area hospitals.

Faye Dillman-Rogerson is a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker in Williamsburg

Robert "Bobby" Dothard is a motivational speaker and personal fitness trainer, and now has his own private training company called "Fit Family" in Marietta, GA.

Jim Dowd is a Benedictine monk in the Episcopal Church and is "Monk in Residence" for the Archdiocese of Nebraska and "Prior" of Incarnation Monastery in Omaha.

Mike Edwards has been working as a consultant at Kemper Consulting for the past 17 years.

Larry Gunter and his wife live in the

northern Virginia area and Larry works at Quantico.

Chris Henderson is a SVP at the commercial real estate company CBRE.

Vanessa Griffith Kerrigan and her husband live in North Barrington, IL and have a second home in South Glastonbury, CT. They have two children, Patrick and Katie, who have both graduated college and are working and living on their own. Vanessa enjoys golf and traveling with her husband in her spare time.

Colleen Kearns Killilea lives in Williamsburg and retired in 2021 from her job of 18 years as a district court judge for the 9th Judicial District of Virginia.

Anne Digges Kinney and her husband Jay have a farm in Charles City where they raise grass-fed beef, sheep and goats. They have 2 children—**Edward Kinney '17** lives in Johns Island, SC, works for Boeing, and enjoys hunting and fishing, and **Clare Kinney '19** is at the Medical University of SC (MUSC) earning her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Shaun May is a Senior Account Executive with Brotman-Winter-Fried in Gaithersburg, MD, a company that specializes in public and media relations, special event management, promotion, and social media.

Maria Maglieri McKneely and her husband live in Chesapeake, VA. Their daughter, Bridget, graduated Summa Cum Laude from Shenandoah University (SU) in May with a degree in Exercise Science and minors in Physiology and Psychology. She will begin grad school at SU in August for her Doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Bernie Ngo and his wife live in Kingsmill. He retired from the banking industry in which he worked for many years. His dear mother, who worked in the main office of Walsingham's Upper School for many years including the Class of 80's high school years, passed away a year ago in May 2022.

Robin Phillips retired from the US Army and is now County Commissioner for the Arts in Williamsburg.

Betsy Brons Snyder lives in northern Virginia. The Class of '80 sends our sincere condolences to Betsy as she lost her dear husband to cancer in July 2022. She has 5 children and many grandchildren in the area who keep her busy and lend support.

Martha Ryczak Whiteley is the Accountant

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for Chesapeake Coffee Roasters in Crofton, MD and lives in Bowie, MD with her husband, Eric. Their 4 children have all graduated college and are successful in their chosen careers, including Civil Engineer, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Landscape Architect, and Fire Protection Engineer. Martha's first grandchild was born on June 28, 2023 to daughter, Rachel. Martha and Eric are going on a land & sea tour (cruise) to Alaska in August 2023.

The Class of '80 respectfully remembers those classmates whom we have lost over recent years: **Arthur K. Johnson** (rip 2023), **Thomas Kmetz** (rip 2021), **Chris Moyles** (rip 2018), and **Paul Thomas** (rip 2011). Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

'84

Beth Battaglia Emanuel writes: Greg and I celebrated 30 years of marriage in January of 2023. We have been blessed with three great kids and a lifetime of memories associated with Greg's AF service. We enjoy traveling and never stopped international travel even during COVID.

'86

Liz Tornberg Lassiter writes: Hello from Charlotte, NC. WA friends, I can't believe it's been 37 years since we had our HS graduation. Our big 40th is just 3 short years away! Hope we can get together. I have lived in CLT for 22 years. Previously, lived in Richmond, VA and worked at the Federal Reserve Bank. Moved to CLT for my husband's job. We have 3 daughters. A rising senior at UNC Chapel Hill and rising seniors (twins) in high school. Planning to spend time this summer in Cape May, NJ with family. Hope everyone has a safe and happy summer. Let me know if anyone comes to Charlotte. Remember "you got a friend" there!

'90

Kimberly McReynolds Merton writes: My family and I live in the Greenville, SC



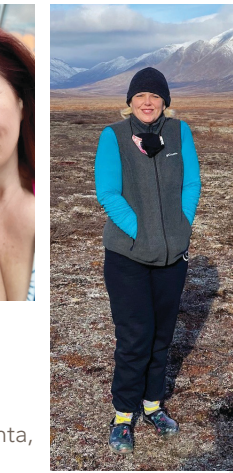
area. After a couple of years of traveling doing Imaging in Nome, AK and Atlanta, GA, I'm back home working full-time as a Cat Scan/mammographer. Jason works with Michelin IT. My son, Charley, 16, is my rising senior, he just recently received Eagle rank on his 16th birthday.

Michelle Batten was appointed Chief Marketing Officer for CutTime, a tech company helping fine arts educators to focus on what matters most—teaching. Learning lots about the world of marching band, concert and jazz bands, color guard, dance, theater, and choir! Racking up lots of miles and memories from visits to 30 countries and 36 states.

Terrance Stewart currently resides in Greensboro, NC and has been married to his wife Yvonne for 24 years and has



2 kids, Spencer, 18 and Thomas, 12. He is currently the UNC Greensboro Head Men's Golf Coach and he just recently took his team and donors to Ireland for 9 days for 6 rounds of golf and touring.



'93

Georgia Yaugo Pinto earned her CIPS (Certified International Property Specialist) designation in June 2023. She's a full-time realtor with Local Real Estate in beautiful Naples, FL. Please reach out to her anytime regarding real estate needs in Florida. Her contact information is Georgia@livelocalre.com.

'96

After 15 years in private practice, **Lindsay Fisher Thompson** recently accepted an in-house role as Vice President and Legal Counsel at B.F. Saul Company. Headquartered in Bethesda, MD, the B.F. Saul Company and its affiliates own, develop and manage a portfolio of shopping centers, apartments, office buildings and hotels throughout the east coast.

'00

Mary Britton and her family were recently featured in the Virginia Gazette as they lost their home due to the Maui fire that took place in August. Here is the link to the article, <https://www.dailypress.com/2023/08/29/williamsburg-native-looks-on-the-bright-side-after-losing-home-in-maui-fire/>. Please pray for her and her family as they rebuild.

'01



Jill Squires Thomson and her husband, Carl Thomson, welcomed their second child, Elle, on April 12th 2023. They are still living in Los Angeles.

'02

Laura Hartmann-Villalta writes: As many of you know, last year we had our 20th reunion — thank you again to those who attended. This year, as many of us turn 40, is an excellent moment to take stock and connect with classmates. If you celebrate with others from our class or otherwise, please let me know!

Sadly, I report that this year our class lost **Matthew Poteate**, who passed away on May 23, 2023, in Richmond, VA.

CLASS NOTES

While still located in Washington, DC, I started a new job teaching at Johns Hopkins University, and so am becoming very familiar with I-95. Please reach out if you're ever in the DC — or Baltimore! — area.

'03

Sterling Whitehead's son Ethan will turn 3 years old very soon. Sterling recently obtained his MD from the Yale School of Medicine. He is now a licensed proctologist in New York state.



Gwendolyn Brantley and her husband, Nick Fitzpatrick, welcomed their second child, Nicholas "Kevin" Fitzpatrick, JR on February 12, 2023.

'05



In January 2023, some members of the Class of 2005 had a mini reunion at Old City Barbeque here in Williamsburg, VA. Alumni who joined that night were **Mack Simms**, **Francis Bermisa**, **Christa Samaha**, **Brian Twiddy**, and **Vernon Geddy**

'08

Caroline Wilke is now the Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach for The Covenant School in Charlottesville, VA, and was elected BRC and VISSA D2 State "Coach of the Year" in the 2021-2022 season. On March 20, 2022, Caroline got engaged to

Zeke Cox in Vail, CO. The wedding will be in July 2023 in Charlottesville, VA!



Gabrielle Gero Rose was recently recognized as a Top 10 Under 40 award recipient at the annual One Coast Awards. The One Coast Awards were developed to recognize community leaders and strong, up-and-coming young business leaders along the Mississippi Gulf Coast.



'12



Kelly Carr married Joseph Yusician on October 1, 2022, alongside bridesmaids **Casey Carr '11** and **Emily-Anne Rigal Walker '12**. Emily-Anne's daughter, Eleanor, was the beautiful flower girl. Kelly and Joseph reside in Alexandria, VA."



Corey Brown married Jessica Sanabria on June 22, 2023, with their daughter by their side!

'13



Isobel Bishop Rowland is currently a registered dietitian working in a nursing home managing tube feedings and malnutrition in the elderly population.

CLASS NOTES



She got married in October 2021. She and her husband welcomed their baby boy, Kenneth, in October 2022.

Ian Hawkes practices commercial litigation at Weil, Gotshal & Manges in Washington, D.C. He and his fiancé purchased a house together in Fairfax, VA last year.

Chad Hartman recently purchased a house in Chicago, IL. He and his girlfriend, Charlotte, are traveling together in Europe this summer.



Mackenzie Karnes Duncan practices commercial real estate law at Troutman Pepper in Charlotte, NC. She got married at Bruton Parish Church last April.

Sydney DeBlass writes: My boyfriend and I moved from Colorado to the north woods of Wisconsin about 2.5 years ago. Covid changed our thoughts on life and how short it is and we wanted a life style change. Last September we purchased our first home together in the north woods. I work for the local hospital remotely.

We still do a lot of skiing in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in the winter and go to a lot of Packers games (Go Pack Go!) and in the summer months we spend a lot of time on the boat wake boarding, water skiing, and fishing with some Spotted Cow in hand. Still got two cats, no kids.

Gabrielle Granger writes: I got married 2 years ago and last summer my husband, David, and I moved back to Williamsburg with our dog and 2 cats. I quit teaching and have been working as a historical interpreter at Jamestown Settlement and a storyteller at Colonial Williamsburg. This upcoming fall, I will be starting graduate school at William and Mary to pursue a master's degree in history and a graduate certificate in public history from the National Institute for American History and Democracy housed at the university. I have also been awarded a graduate apprenticeship for my time at William and Mary where I will be working on The Lemon Project.

'15

Alex Bolton and his wife Grace had their son James on July 30, 2022. They, along with their dog Sierra, have moved to a new, larger home in Gloucester, VA. He still works for NIWC Atlantic as a Project Lead and Engineer. He and his wife are expecting their second child in December 2023!

Will Hester graduated from Christopher Newport University in 2020 with an Economics major and Spanish minor. He married his wife Lydia in November 2021 after meeting her at CNU. He now works as a realtor in Williamsburg and surrounding areas, working with Howard Hanna Real Estate services.

Jenna Hamra started going to school at UMBC in June for Physical Therapy. She is lucky enough to continue working at the company she's been with for a couple of years, MicroHealth LLC. She and her boyfriend adopted two kitties, Meo and Theo, as well as (adopted) lots of plants so they have slowly started creating an indoor garden.

'20

Jamie Papazis published a book of poetry titled *The Letters We Write* that you can purchase on Amazon, was one of 60 people invited to a Vogue event, and made the president's list (4.0) every semester.

Ethan Ricker is interning at Morgan Stanley in operations this summer in New York City.

Emily Zielinski directed two plays this year at The King's College in New York City— "The Brother's Grimm Spectaculathon" and Agatha Christie's "And Then There Were None." She will be attending NYU this summer through their Visiting Student Summer Program.

'21

On February 3, **Joshua Mardis** passed away. He was a bright spirit and full of personality. Mrs. Baker, our Upper School Director, had this to say about Josh: "Joshua Mardis was a cherished member of the Walsingham Class of 2021. His teachers and classmates are truly heartbroken over this loss. We are a very close-knit community bound together by our faith and the promise of Eternal Life through Jesus Christ our Lord. We will continue to hold one another and the entire Mardis family in our prayers until the day we see Josh again."

CLASS NOTES

Elizabeth Barry is a rising junior, Elementary Education, at Clemson University. Active in her sorority, Alpha Chi Omega, she currently serves as Vice President of Risk Management. This summer, Elizabeth is working at Walsingham's Summer Daze camp with her 2021 classmates **Lincoln Lubsen** and **Jaiden Smith**.

Dominick Yacono is interning at Honda of America Mfg. in Marysville, OH as a Data Analyst for Summer 2023. With his internship, Dominick is employing the skills he's learned as an economics and data science student at The Ohio State University. At Honda, Dominick works to analyze, sort, and query through large databases to deliver statistical reports to upper management. Dominick's analysis will ensure Honda is maintaining sustainable relationships with its part suppliers as the company manufactures new cars, including upcoming Civic, Accord, and CR-V models!

Jocelyn Covaney is a Mathematics major, with double minors in biology and chemistry, on a pre-veterinary medicine track at Sewanee: The University of the South. This summer, she is interning at Harpeth Valley Animal Hospital in Nashville, TN. Jocelyn will be working as a veterinary technician, while also shadowing surgeries and learning the ins-and-outs of disease pathology and case management. She is seeing patients with cases ranging from basic infections, spays and neuters, and ACL repairs. She hopes that this internship will give her insight into small animal practice and prepare her for a life in veterinary medicine.

Jaiden Smith, a rising junior at Christopher Newport University, is President of the club volleyball team and an executive member of the sports medicine club. She joins **Elizabeth Barry** and **Lincoln Lubsen** working at Summer Daze this summer.

Katie Haines is still at UVA majoring in Biology and Archeology with a minor in Drama. She is spending the summer of 2023 conducting research, first at UVAs Mountain Lake Biological Research Station in the Blue Ridge mountains and then at an Archeological Field School in Galway, Ireland. She has found a home in the Drama Department and was named in April as a UVA Miller Arts Scholar in drama. She is active in UVA's Shakespeare on the Lawn club (performed in two productions) and has participated in two main stage Drama productions. Katie has just been cast in a lead role in the fall drama production with UVA Drama.

Maggie Weber is at William and Mary where she will be continuing her

premedical studies as a Psychology Major and a Chemistry Minor. This summer, she is currently working full time at the Dermatology Center of Williamsburg, where she has been given the opportunity to gain experience in the medical field and learn from amazing physicians.

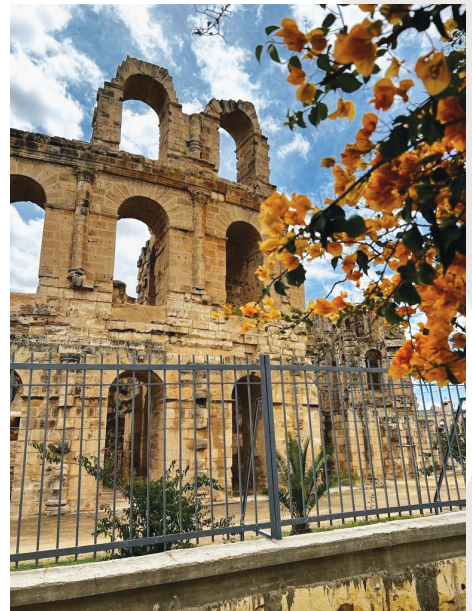
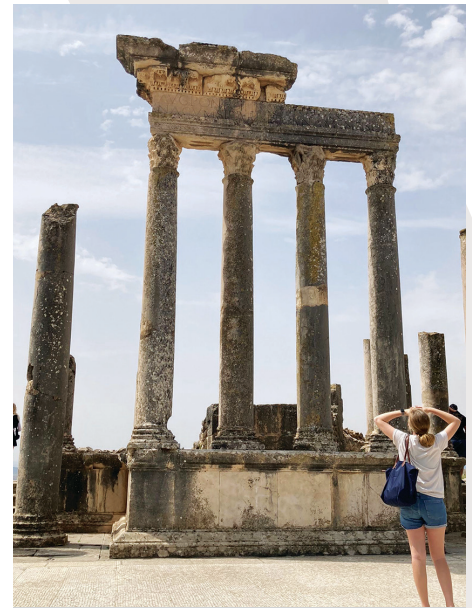
David Carter writes: After Walsingham I have been attending university and traveling. Currently, I am in Denmark learning Danish and spending time with my family. This past year, I was also in Rome, Poland, Egypt, and Jordan. The latter two places I was there to learn Arabic, which is my major in university. I hope to continue traveling throughout college and also learn as much as I can. As a cadet in Army ROTC, I am also taking steps to prepare for my career after college in the US Army. Overall, I have done much these two years after Walsingham and I hope to do lots more interesting things and travel more if I am able!

'22



Becky Villeda writes: I go to Randolph-Macon College. The transition into college was honestly one of the hardest parts for me, but I felt prepared academically thanks to Walsingham. I am on the women's tennis team and last season we finished with 16 wins and 3 losses, which is one of our best seasons yet! I enjoy college and I wish everyone good luck on their future endeavors.

Katherine Anna "KA" had a great first year at Rollins College. This May, she got to study abroad in Tunisia with the Global Languages and Cultures Department. There, she got to explore many archaeological sites including that of the Roman city of Dougga (picture 1) and the second largest Roman amphitheatre, El Jem (picture 2). She also learned much French and Tunisian Arabic and hopes to continue to study both in the fall!



Alumni!

Moved recently?
Update your contact
information today!



Remembering Alumni, Friends, and Family

- The family of **James Gerald VanAusdall Jr. '53**
- The family of **Michael Richard Kipps '61**, who was the father of **Mary Anne Kipps Cummins '85**.
- **Buddy Mann '67** on the passing of his mother.
- **Robert Ryczak '67** on the passing of his mother-in-law
- **Lynn Smith Rosenbaum '72** on the passing of her husband, James Rosenbaum.
- **John Chohany '72** and Mickey Chohany on the passing of their mother and **Olivia Chohany '14** and **Hailey Chohany '10** on the passing of their grandmother, Doris Chohany.
- **Louis "Ben" Hunt '76, Robert Hunt '79, Anne Hunt Granger '81, and Amy Hunt Shaifer '82** on the passing of their father Louis Hunt Jr.
- The family of **Arthur K. Johnson Jr. '80**
- **Betsy Brons Snyder '80** on the passing of her husband, Glenn Snyder.
- **Colleen Kearns Killilea '80 and Annette Kearns Couch '81** on the passing of their mother and **Bridget Killilea '15 and Marianne Couch '19** on the passing of their grandmother, Patricia Kearns.
- **Jessa Huckaby Carter '99 and Lauren Huckaby Jones '02** on the passing of their father, Frank W. Huckaby.
- The family of **Matthew E. Poteate '02**, who was the son of **Mary Webb Johnston '76**.
- The family of **Josh Mardis '21**
- The family of Sister Natalie Marie Lariccia
- The family of Rev. Monsignor Joseph Patrick Lehman III
- The family of Sister Jean Burns, RSM

CLASS CORRESPONDENTS

Have an update for the Class Notes section? Contact your class correspondent or Kaitlin Sorrentino at alumni@walsingham.org.

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Would you like to get in touch with your classmates every year?
Interested in being a Class Correspondent?
Contact the Alumni Office at
alumni@walsingham.org to learn more.



REMEMBERING Sister Natalie Marie Lariccia

A member of the Walsingham Community and a Sister of Mercy for 74 years, Sister Natalie Marie Lariccia, passed away on October 4, 2022, in Merion Station, PA. She was 91 years old. Sister Natalie Marie taught in the Upper School from 1970-1983. She was a beloved French teacher and oversaw the Key Club.

REMEMBERING Sister Jean Burns, RSM



Sister Jean Burns, RSM passed away on April 28, 2023, at the age of 93. She had a keen sense of humor, a kind and patient nature, and a love of the seashore.

Sister Jean Burns came to Walsingham in September 1953 and left in August 1955. During this time, she taught 7th and 8th grade math, high school science, religion, and English, and was a 4th grade homeroom teacher. Later in Sister Jean's career, she returned to Walsingham, serving as the Upper School Library assistant from 2001 until 2005. In her Walsingham retirement years, Sister Jean was a beloved parish volunteer at St. Bede Catholic Church until July 2012.

Sister Jean made connections wherever she went. She loved living in the community and enjoyed playing cards in retirement. She kept a table outside her room at McAuley Convent in

Merion, PA, where she welcomed others to join her in a game of cards.

This past September, we celebrated Sister Jean's 75th jubilee, recognizing her service to the Sisters of Mercy, Walsingham Academy, and our community. Sister Jean lived, taught, and served in several capacities during her years at Walsingham. A brick in the walkway on the green was installed and dedicated in her honor.

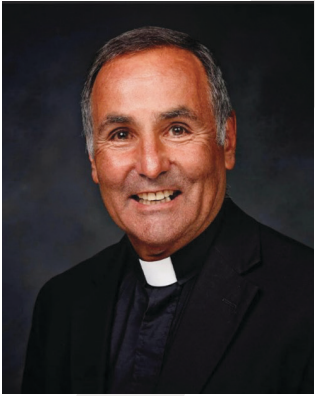


LEAVE YOUR MARK ON THE ACADEMY

When you purchase an inscribed brick for the walkway on the green in honor or memory of a loved one, or a handprint wall tile in the Lower School, you'll be leaving a lasting impression at Walsingham Academy and supporting the *Annual Fund for Excellence*.

For more information about purchasing a brick or handprint wall tile, as well as other naming opportunities, visit www.walsingham.org/support/leave-your-mark or contact the Advancement Office at (757) 345-2105 or advancement@walsingham.org.

REMEMBERING Father Joe Lehman



Our Walsingham family mourned the loss of Monsignor Joseph P. Lehman, who sadly passed away on December 13 at the age of 68. Father Joe, as he was known around here at Walsingham, served as our Chaplain at our Lower School. Not only was he a chaplain and was the leader in our Masses, Father Joe would always take his time visiting the classrooms, talking with the children, and you would also see him every now and then playing kickball on the green with a gym class. He was a blessing to our entire community and brought love and compassion to all he encountered. Thank you, Father Joe!

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Saturday, April 27, 2024 • 8-11 a.m.

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- ★ Plastic grocery bag recycling on site.
- ★ Proceeds benefit the Annual Fund for Excellence—supporting academics, technology upgrades, fine arts, athletics, & more! Donations are appreciated.
- ★ Visit www.walsingham.org/shred-a-thon for more info.

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