

A publication for the Admiral Farragut Academy community

Fall 2018



## REVEILLE Fall 2018

Reveille is designed to give all members of our community a quick glimpse of what Farragut is today, including highlights of students, alumni, faculty and staff, past and upcoming events, and other important initiatives.

#### Staff Contributors

Lauren Pruett Victoria Raymer Tony Sloan Jessica Van Curen Jeri Williar

#### Editors

Anita Fine Robert J. Fine, Jr. Jennifer Grabowski Jeff Ogden 'oo Victoria Raymer Tony Sloan Jessica Van Curen

#### Guest Contributors

Mike Harris '87S David Lipsky '75N Dr. Glenn Mitchell '63N CAPT Frank Porcellini USN (Ret) '80N Greg Ransone '81S Lanie Salebra Don Schreiber '46N Nicole Stott Christian M. Wagner '82N

#### Design

Lauren Pruett Jessica Van Curen

#### Photography

Admiral Farragut Academy Vernon Photography

#### Cover Photo

Troy Burke '86S presents his son, Dylan Burke '18, with his diploma

#### This Page

L-R: Emmett Senentz '20, Gianni DeFelice '19, George Hamilton '18, and Justin Vacher '21 prepare to go boating on Farragut's waterfront



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Diana Romanovskaya '19 poses for an underwater picture during a Scuba trip in March.



Greg '81S with his sons, 8th grader Will and 5th grader Greg Jr.

ating back to the mid 70s (1974 to be exact) through now, Admiral Farragut Academy has seen its fair share of changes and evolution. As a member of the St. Petersburg campus' first sixth grade class established during the 1974-75 school year, I feel this is especially true. One thing that has not changed is that Farragut continues educating and charting life courses for young men and women leaders. I find myself very fortunate to be rejoining the Farragut Family for a second time in a new capacity as a parent to two new members of the classes of 2023, my son Will, and 2026, my son Greg Jr.

In the past, Farragut did things a little differently and some traditions still hold true. We wore our Khaki "unis" every day and today the cadets wear the uniform prescribed by the Navy JROTC program, or "NSUs". Back then, the boarders had only two dedicated incoming phone lines to receive calls from your family, and today every cadet has a cell phone. Back then, every cadet had rifles for drill (the junior school had wooden mockups) and we had to remove the lacquer from our belt buckles to keep them shined, which no longer continues today. The only cadets that carry a rifle are members of the Armed Drill Team. I am happy to report that the more things have changed the more they've remained the same.

Alumni and students have a common understanding and bond, that our time spent at Farragut is unique and special. The late Senator and retired Navy CAPT, John McCain, reminds us, "Our shared values define us more than our differences. And acknowledging those shared values can see us through our challenges today if we have the wisdom to trust in them again."

Farragut is the place we trace the roots of who we are today and the place we built the confidence that allows us to meet life's challenges with a positive attitude to achieve the goal. It's a community where we began to forge our character, instilled with integrity and selfdiscipline, that is required for the course ahead. Now, years later as a parent, I've gained a firsthand account of how meaningful the commitment my parents made for me. They wanted me to have the best education to prepare me for the life ahead, and Farragut offered those opportunities for success.

Being a part of the Farragut journey again is inspiring, as the educational opportunities are unmatched to the time I was a cadet. It is exciting to see these students have the exposure to programs we could have never dreamed of when we were cadets, such as aviation, scuba, and drones. The legacy of strong core values is still instilled in today's cadets which makes me very proud.

This year I look forward to being on the sidelines cheering for the BlueJackets. It is an exciting time to witness my boys getting the opportunity to build themselves into the young men that we have always hoped our children would become. For me, continuing the Farragut Legacy is the truest example of coming full circle. Go BlueJackets!



## Farragut 2018-19 enrollment breaks school record at over 500 students



The 2018-19 academic year began with the largest starting student population in the Academy's history with a total of 506 students on opening day.

The Lower School started the school year with 168 students enrolled and the Upper School corps of cadets started with 338. The boarding student population of 155 includes students from 31 countries, including the Bahamas, Brazil, Canada, Cayman Islands, China, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Russia, St. Kitts & Nevis, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, France, and the United States. Those numbers are expected to increase slightly throughout the fall.

"We have been very deliberate in promoting the strength, depth, and quality of Farragut's academic and leadership programs," said Head of School, Robert J. Fine, Jr.

Farragut's Admissions Team has been working to expand the school's reach in target markets such as North America, South America, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, and the Caribbean, as well as in the local Tampa Bay market. With boarding school enrollment in a decline nationwide — Farragut is the exception.

"The Academy's growing reputation draws many parents and alumni who want their children to have the Farragut Experience. This year we have 30 students from legacy families!" said Victoria Raymer, Director of Alumni Giving and Engagement, and mom of three Farragut students.



## **New Performing Arts Multi-Purpose Center Rises**



Whether you've had an opportunity to view the physical changes on campus with your own eyes or not, we are excited to share with everyone in the Farragut Family the immense transformation underway.

The Admiral Farragut Academy Performing Arts Multi-Purpose Center construction is on schedule and on pace to transform the footprint of our campus and the lives of our students. When completed in April 2019, the new building will be approximately 26,000 square feet with specialty components such as performance rigging, lighting and curtains, telescoping seating and state-ofthe-art technology.

"As the massive structure takes shape, we are seeing that this facility is a game changer on campus. The impact it will have on our students will be transformative," said Headmaster Robert J. Fine, Jr.

Extensive work has been completed including the highly visible two-lane main loop road along with concrete curbs, parking lot striping, landscaping and irrigation. The new east parking lot is also taking shape. Structural steel at the lobby and plaza areas is almost complete and the roof framing is nearly done as well. The classroom areas are dried in. The business areas and the high roof will be next to be dried in. Window installation has begun since the waterproofing of the openings is completed. Ductwork is in progress throughout the interior along with the electrical, plumbing, and fire sprinkler system. Framing at the classroom and administrative areas is almost complete and framing is ongoing. Stucco will begin soon.

#### Capital Campaign Update

We are nearing completion of The New Building Campaign having raised 90% of the \$4 million goal. This extraordinary accomplishment would not have been possible without donors, large and small, coming together to contribute to this effort. "The New Building Capital Campaign has done a fantastic job of reminding alumni why Farragut is an amazing, unique and special place. The commitment Brenda and I made to the project is an investment in the Academy's mission and future," said Mike Kolchin '61N.

We still have considerable financial needs in order to complete the new building. The campaign continues and there are naming opportunities available. Don't miss this chance to make a difference for your alma mater and the generations of students that will benefit from this facility and its programs. For more information, contact Tony Sloan, Chief Development Officer, at 813-416-7202 or tsloan@farragut.org.

Video of the progress is available at bit.ly/20pAw1Q



## Farragut Around the Globe Where We've Been & Where We're Going

Prospective Families, Alumni Members, Past Parents -- All Farragut Family & Friends -- Let us know if you'd like to set up a time to meet while the Admissions Department, Alumni & Development Department, or other Farragut representatives are traveling! Email admissions@farragut.org to be connected.

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September 9, 2018 Dallas, TX



September 11, 2018 San Diego, CA

**September 21 - 26, 2018** Cancun, Queretaro, Mexico

**September 27 - 30, 2018** Sao Paolo, Brazil

October 10, 2018 Boulder, Colorado

**October 11, 12 & 18, 2018** Beijing, China

October 13, 2018 Chengdu, China

**October 15, 2018** Shanghai, China

#### **October 20, 2018** Toronto, Canada

October 20, 2018 Hong Kong, Hong Kong

October 23, 2018 Bangkok, Thailand

October 25, 2018 Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

October 27, 2018 Taipei, Taiwan

**October 28, 2018** Raleigh-Durham, NC

October 29, 2018 Tokyo, Japan

November 1 - 6, 2018 Berlin, Germany November 2 - 4, 2018 Saudi Arabia, ARAMCO

**November 3, 2018** Las Vegas, Nevada

November 10 & 11, 2018 Astana & Almaty, Kazakhstan

November 11 - 18, 2018 Grand Cayman; Montego Bay & Kingston, Jamaica; Nassau, Bahamas

November 13, 2018 Kiev, Ukraine

November 15, 2018 Kazan, Russia

November 17, 2018 Moscow, Russia

**April 23, 2019** Princeton, NJ

## **Attention all Farragut Alumni!**

Have you moved? Do you have a new mailing address, email address, or cell phone number? This important contact information helps you stay connected with your alma mater and ensures you receive Reveille magazine, news and updates, event invites, and more.

Admiral Farragut Academy is working with Publishing Concepts Inc. (PCI) who will be contacting all alumni to confirm or collect your contact information. Once complete, PCI will publish an Admiral Farragut Academy Alumni Directory and will be available to purchase in two different versions, digitally or as a hardbound book.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Victoria Raymer, Director of Alumni Giving and Engagement, at vraymer@farragut.org or 727-384-5500 ext 293.





# For the Burke family, the Farragut Experience is a family experience.



The Burke Family, from L-R: Cory '16, Troy '86S, Sabrina '21, Lisa, and Dylan '18

#### "To learn everything is impossible, but to learn the maximum is desirable." - Headmaster Captain Richard Wheeler (1976-1986)

The Burke Family resides in the Cayman Islands and are very proud of their generational legacy of Farragut graduates.

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#### THE FIRST GENERATION OF BURKES: Kent (Class of 1985S), Troy (Class of 1986S), and Craig (Class of 1996)

In the spring of 1971, Troy and Kent Burke found themselves moving from their family home in Jamaica to Grand Cayman Island in the British West Indies. Their parents believed the beautiful twenty-two-mile island surrounded by white sandy beaches and turquoise blue water would provide a safer environment and greater opportunities for their family. The Burkes soon found this accurate as they were able to start successful businesses.

While Troy loved life on the island and the opportunities it provided, his parents wanted more for him and his brothers. Troy recalls that news was often delayed two or three days and that popular television shows often arrived on the island via VHS. "My family wanted us to understand that Cayman was not the world and to explore and learn more than Cayman Island life," said Troy.

In 1981, the Burke family began to look at boarding schools in the United States as a means of increasing their sons exposure to the world and their educational opportunities. On the recommendation of an aunt and uncle who had recently moved to Clearwater, Florida, the Burke family discovered Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg and scheduled a visit. Troy recalls that upon arriving he quickly noticed how beautiful the school looked sitting across from Boca Ciega Bay with all the sailboating opportunities. Troy recalls his parents being impressed by the academic, extracurricular, and leadership opportunities Admiral Farragut Academy offered. The fact that there was family in the area made it clear that this was the school for them.



Kent started as a ninth grade international boarding student and Troy started as an eighth grader. Troy recalls the transition from the island to the Academy as "very smooth," something Farragut still prides itself on today. He excelled in the new environment and became the lower school student who never lost sight of his goal to become Battalion Commander his senior year, which he accomplished in 1985-86. Troy takes pride to this day for achieving this goal. He embraces the profound impact which set the foundation of leadership and discipline that has served him as a successful entrepreneur and servant leader throughout his life. Troy and Kent were both followed by their younger brother, Craig, in 1994.

Troy remembers his time at Farragut as full of adventure, from "enjoying weekend trips to Busch Gardens and Booker Creek, to camping in the Everglades." Living on campus, he developed close relationships with instructors such as the department head for math/ science, Captain Sanders, and dorm supervisor, Mike Nicholson, who had a large



impact on his life. "It was their passion to grow and mold the next generation to be the best young men (and now women) who will impact and serve their communities." Troy feels indebted to these individuals, who were not just teachers in the classroom, but teachers in life.

Since his time at Farragut, Troy has built successful businesses in the Cayman Islands. He returned to the island after earning a degree from Stetson University and began working in his father's commercial real estate and development business, Universal Equipment. Subsequently, he and his brothers joined together, along



with their parents, to form the Burke family business, Heritage Holdings, which continues to thrive. Troy and Lisa also own and manage four successful Subway restaurants with plans to open a fifth location at the Cayman Islands Owen Roberts International Airport. Additionally, a successful accounting business and photographic studio make up the rest of their business portfolio.

"My family was completely committed to giving my brothers and I an excellent academic opportunity, one that has proved to be more than an education, but a foundation for life," said Troy. "Farragut pushed me to





attend college and I don't believe I would have done so if not for the faculty and staff at Farragut."

"Attending Farragut allowed me to broaden my worldview and to understand issues affecting my business even today."

Troy said he will never forget a quote that Captain Orie T. Banks would often share and that left a deep impression on him, "Give a man a fish and feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and feed him for a lifetime."

#### THE SECOND GENERATION OF BURKES: Cory (Class of 2016), Dylan (Class of 2018), and Sabrina (Class of 2021)

It should come as no surprise that Troy and his wife, Lisa, a community leader and respected accountant with her own accounting firm, also wanted to ensure the best education for their children. Lisa worked with each one of their children, Cory, Dylan, and Sabrina to identify where the children excelled. As they progressed through elementary and middle school, Lisa and Troy decided they would have better opportunities by attending private school overseas.

Troy and Lisa explored their options for their oldest child, Cory, who was a rising junior at the time. One day, Cory asked his parents if he could go to boarding school in Canada, a suggestion Lisa and Troy quickly pushed back on - it was a bit further than they wanted to be from their child. Troy fondly recalls what happened next, "Cory said, 'Dad, I want to go to Admiral Farragut Academy where you graduated." Troy was elated, but told his son, "You cannot just spring this on us, we have to plan and see if the opportunity is available." He challenged Cory to complete all of the admissions paperwork if he really wanted to go. To Troy's pleasant surprise, Cory had the paperwork filled

out the very next day. "Cory showed the initiative that he really wanted this academic and leadership experience and to follow in my footsteps," said Troy. Sending a child to boarding school is an investment, and although the Burke family had to sacrifice purchasing a new home at the time, they knew it was the right decision because of the impact Farragut had on Troy and his brothers.

Corv started at the Academy during his junior year and like his father found Farragut to be a welcoming place full of activity. During his time at Farragut, Cory took advantage of all that was offered and excelled in drill, earned his Master Diver scuba certification, played on the tennis team, honed his sailing skills, and was a member of the color guard. As a result of his hard work and dedication, Cory graduated in 2016 with honors and a scholarship to attend Stetson University. He was subsequently offered a scholarship to attend the University of Tampa where he is currently working on his undergraduate degree in Entrepreneurship. Recently, Cory, along with several other Farragut alumni, served as camp counselors with a former





Farragut science and diving instructor, Mr. Davenport.

Throughout his two years at Farragut, Cory would return home every holiday break and share with his siblings stories of his weekend trips, adventures on the bay, his favorite faculty and staff mentors, and the hands-on learning he was experiencing. In 2016, Dylan (Class of 2018) followed Cory to Admiral Farragut for his junior year. Initially, Dylan recalls being in his brother's shadow, but states, "I quickly became my own individual." Dylan immersed himself into life at Farragut and became a Regimental Officer, served on the drill team, became a member of both the National Honors Society and Spanish National Honors Society, and earned his Master Diver Scuba Certification.

Dylan graduated this past May with honors, received several scholarship opportunities, and enrolled at Eckerd College this fall to study Environmental Studies with a minor in Business Management. Dylan was encouraged by Mr. Sadler to attend because he also went to Eckerd and the college's science program is highly regarded. (Henry Sadler replaced Mike Nicholson after his retirement in 2018).



As their boys progressed through high school life at Farragut, Lisa and Troy wanted their daughter, Sabrina, to receive the Farragut Experience as well. Desiring their daughter to have a full four years at Farragut and as many opportunities as possible, Sabrina started as a freshman in the fall of 2017 and will graduate in 2021. Sabrina's own transition, like her father and brothers before her, was smooth, aided by the fact she had older brother, Dylan, to help her adapt to boarding school life. Sabrina quickly came into her own, excelling in extracurricular and academic activities, volunteering in the community, being part of the drill team and "making lifelong friends from all over the world."

#### IT'S ABOUT HONOR, TRADITION, AND LEGACY FOR THE BURKE FAMILY

For Kent '85, Troy '86, Craig '96, Cory '16, Dylan '18, and Sabrina '21, Farragut has become more than an education, but a home away from home and an extended family. Troy still remains in contact with lifelong friends made at Farragut, including his roommate, Stuart Brown (also class of 1986). Stuart and Troy remained roommates throughout college and continue to get together with their families as much as they can. The Burkes fondly recall instructors who devoted their lives to theirs such as Mike Nicholson, who taught Troy, Cory, and Dylan about science and life, and Henry Sadler who continues the tradition today.



Although not an alumna herself, Lisa feels a special connection to Farragut and the lifelong lesson of working hard and setting family goals that Farragut embraces. Lisa shared, "It's amazing when you are at a family event and see multiple generations of Farragut alumni including my husband, brothersin-law, and my children, coming together to talk and share their Farragut experiences."

#### "It's amazing how one school can have such a lasting legacy and impact so many generations."

The Burkes want their children to find their passion and to make a difference wherever they feel called – on the island, in the States, or beyond. Troy and Lisa are thrilled to watch how the Farragut Experience of education, leadership, lifelong friendships and connections across the globe will influence the lives of Cory, Dylan, and Sabrina as they get older.



## Events Around Campus



100th Day of School (L-R) 1st graders Brandon Oh, David Vaughn, Claire Lynch, and Cassie Bonilla raise their torches high at the Winter Olympics themed event in January.



6th grader Logan Martin is questioned by Officer Josh Stone during Officer Stone's Career Day demonstration in February.



Mother-Son Glow Party 3rd grader Dylan Harper was ready to GLOW with his mom, Mirna, in March.



NOAA Fisheries Farragut hosted the @noaafisheries Oral History Event and Day at the Bay. They interviewed two fishermen (Capt Bill Tucker and Capt Van Hubbard) about the history of fishing in Tampa Bay.



Moms Hold the Keys to Our Heart The Rano sisters (L-R: Alyssa '20, 6th grader Codi, and 2nd grader Braylee) pose with their mom Denia.



#### Gator Model UN

Mr. Panuthos and Mrs. Reilly took 9 students to the Model UN Conference in January. They were involved in committees covering various important topics from Drugs and Crime to Human Rights.



**Battalion Wars Finale** 

Gabriella Hernandez '21 plays cornhole during the finale of Battalion Wars, a campus-wide game day featuring chess tournaments, pizza eating contests, and much more. The 2017-18 battalion winners were the Bravo Battalion.



8th graders Lily Mozombite and Kalynn Miner confront each other in the Upper School Drama Department's self-written play.



Salt Marsh Planting Vladimir Poliak '20 shows 3rd graders Logan Kip and Isaac Mariscal how to replant the seedlings at the fun and messy annual event.



Read Across America Jenna Willard '20 reads to 4th grader Camora Jenkins and 2nd grader Leila Bakken at the event, which takes place on Dr. Seuss' birthday.



Daddy-Daughter Dance 6th grader Amelia Kirtland poses with her sweetheart, dad Peter, at the event in February.



JSA Trip Six of our Upper School students attended Junior State of America (JSA) with math instructor Mr. Joshua Moore.





The Wrestling team had an outstanding year, placing 2nd place at the District Championships with 7 individual district medalists, and 2 state qualifiers. Caleb Lemmons '20 placed 4th in the men's state championship. We also had the first women's state championship medalist in school history, Angela LoRusso '19 who placed 6th. First-year wrestler Guillaume Chevrier '19 also performed very well but lost two highly competitive matches, losing to an eventual medalist. The team succeeded in the classroom as well with 11 wrestlers on the Headmaster's Honor Roll or higher.



The Lacrosse team had their first winning season in the program's short history. The Blue Jackets came into the season as an underdog, ranking outside the top 200 in the state of Florida, however, they opened the season with two wins. The Blue Jackets also regained the Military Cup from Sarasota Military Academy. The Blue Jackets moved into the top 25 in the state and ended the season with an overall record of 11-4-1.



This season, the Tennis team was able to host practice on campus thanks to the resurfacing of the courts. This helped increase team participation to 17 players, which was the highest participation rate to date.



The Boys Basketball team finished the season 18-8, placing them 2nd in their division. They also traveled out of state for games and put on a great showing against a nationally recognized program. They are continuing to take strides to become recognized as one of the best programs in the area.

## 2017-2018 WINTER AND SPRING ATHLETICS HIGHLIGHTS



Overall the team had a great year, a lot of fun, and showed growth as individuals, teammates, and competitors. While the record did not reflect success, the production on the field became more and more apparent as the year moved along. With our returning seven underclassmen and four seniors for next year, the future looks bright.



The Boys and Girls Varsity Soccer teams both had outstanding seasons this year. The girls team started and finished strong, ending the season with a 7-1-2 record, their first winning record in several years. Sydni Bostick led the team in scoring and was the team MVP. The boys team improved with each game, finishing with a 5-1-7 record and 4 straight wins to end the season. Victor Cruz played outstanding in the goal to help spark the turnaround. This year both the boys and girls showed a commitment to becoming better soccer players and a desire to make the program more competitive.



The Boys and Girls Track team had a great year. The girls came in first in the Mustang Invitational and came in second at the Warrior Invitational, St. Petersburg Championship, and Districts. The boys came in fourth at the St Petersburg Championship and at Districts. 97% of the girls and many of the boys qualified to go to the State Championship for the first time. The girls set two new school records and most of the athletes broke personal records. We are proud of all the accomplishments the team made this year.



#### Football

Sam Baker-University of Toledo Zion Roland-University of South Florida Khalan Tolson-University of Illinois John Waller-University of South Florida

#### Lacrosse

Liam Carney-Missouri Valley

#### Basketball

Andreas Fuller-University of Central Florida











## SOFTBALL TEAM WINS FIRST CLASS 3A STATE SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP IN FARRAGUT HISTORY

"One of the worst-best feelings in life is getting doused with Gatorade," Softball Coach Linda Derk said with a laugh. "You know you're getting doused because you're a champion, but wow it's a sticky, gross feeling. It's so worth it though. I wouldn't change it for the world."

Champion is just the right word for the softball team, who knocked out Orlando's Cornerstone Charter Academy to win the first Class 3A state softball championship in Farragut history.

"Everything was a record," Coach Derk said. "First time winning states, player of the year (Krystina Hartley '21), pitcher of the year (Brielle Benefield '20)."

This is a win that the softball team has been building up to for some time, with five straight playoff appearances, including four straight trips to the region final and two state semifinal berths. Leading up to the historical finish the team qualified for postseason for the fifth straight year; were District 5 Class 3A champions for the third straight year; became Regional Champions; and ranked in the top five in State Academics, with a team average GPA of 3.4. The team's

accomplishments are made all the more impressive by how young the team is. Not only were there no seniors on the team this year, but many of the student athletes were as young as 6th grade.

"Every position was important," Coach Derk said. "From the everyday starters to the 6th graders, who set up the field for practice daily, practiced hard, and helped manage the dugout. Every single player was essential to the team."

"There was just a sense of calm with this team," Coach Derk continued. "We were so prepared and this team showed so much grit and determination you wouldn't even know how young they are."

"When we got to semifinals the first time we were more in awe." outfielder Alyssa Rano '20 said. "This time we were more hungry. We wanted it and it showed." Alyssa started in 8th grade on second base, and this year her sister, 6th grader Codi Rano, joined her. The Rano sisters are just one of several sets of siblings who are on the team, including the Hernandezes (Gabriella '21 and Alexis '20), the Brunos (Gabriela '24 and Sophia '22), and the Deitches (Sylvia '21 and Sophia '24). Kalynn Miner '22, sister of softball alum



Corynn Miner '16 (who over a 4 year career as starting pitcher compiled an impressive 60 career wins and 953 strikeouts) is also on the team.

"It's a family affair," Coach Derk said. "Something that I think helped the players this year was committing to livestream each game on Facebook, so families all over the world could watch their daughters play. We have a village of support. I think that's really important because it does take our mental awareness, preparation and our pride to another level when you can share this all over the place with a live stream."

The team has no plans of slowing down.

"Once the girls have that taste of success and that feeling of the Farragut community lifting them up and congratulating them, they're going to be hungry for more," she says. "We had a team GPA of 3.4, and we did some major community service projects, including the Stand Down for Homeless Veterans



Event held at the C.W. Bill Young V.A. Medical Center and the Nina Harris Exceptional Student Education Center, so it's not just about the championship medal, it's about being a championship team all the way around. That's most important to me and I think our kids do get it. When you have young women who commit to the process of working hard and practicing hard, anything can happen."

#### 2018 SOFTBALL AWARDS

#### Miracle Sports All State Awards Class 3A

Brielle Benefield '20 - Pitcher Krystina Hartley '21 - Infield Haley Saylor '20 - Outfield Alyssa Rano '20 - Outfield Pitcher Of The Year - Brielle Benefield '20 Player Of The Year - Krystina Hartley '21 Coach Of The Year - Linda Derk

#### Florida Dairy Farmers Award Class 3A

Coach Of The Year - Linda Derk

## Faca All State Academic Awards Class 3A

Brielle Benefield '20 Krystina Hartley '21 Shyann Laporte '20 Alyssa Rano '20

#### Faca All State Athletic Awards 3A

Brielle Benefield '20 Melissa Diaz '20 Katya Fe '19 Krystina Hartley '21 Alexis Hernandez '20 Shyann Laporte '20 Alyssa Rano '20 Haley Saylor '20

## FINDING THE RIGHT MATCH

An Interview with Jeri Williar, Director of College Placement and Counseling at Admiral Farragut Academy. Williar earned her bachelor's in Sociology from Eastern Illinois University and her master's in Counselor Education from the University of North Florida. She has over thirty years of experience in college admissions, college registration, high school college placement, and guidance counseling. Here Williar explains how she helps each student be prepared for the next step and choose the college or university that's right for the individual. "Everyone has a path to follow," explains Jeri Williar, the Director of College Placement and Counseling at Farragut. "It doesn't matter so much as to how you get there, ultimately it's about finding the right match and that you are happy. Everything else will follow."

#### Explaining the College Application Process Early

Every college or university is unique with its deadlines and application requirements and Fall is the most intense time for seniors. The process can be extremely overwhelming, but if they are prepared throughout high school it can ease the process. I think parents of students of all ages should have an idea of how the system works because college admissions has changed so much over the years. There are more and more people applying so there is more competition and there are more expectations, but choosing a college is also about setting realistic expectations for each student's abilities and achievements.

## Showing a Steady Course Progression

College admission is based on the student's selection of courses, the rigor of those courses, and the student's progression. For example, if a freshman student takes two or three honors courses and does well, then the following year the student needs to continue to build on that foundation and take three or four honors courses and maybe an AP course. Once that student becomes a junior, he or she should add a couple more AP courses and maybe a Dual Enrollment course, and so on until graduation. This is much more important than all A's in lower level courses and reaching a coveted 4.0 or higher.

#### Having an Attitude for Success

I believe that a student's longevity at a school, loyalty to the culture, or desire to be involved are all important factors that set a student up for success. Students with these mentalities and personal connections become happier and therefore are more invested in everything they do. They become invested both inside and outside of the classroom with their teachers. their coaches, and their peers, which in turn means they take on more leadership roles, their grades improve, and they gain the confidence to take a more rigorous course load. It's just as important you choose the right fit for your student in high school, as it is choosing a college.

#### Improving Test Scores and Being Realistic

The other part of it is test scores. At Farragut, our students begin to take the PSAT in 8th grade to prepare them for the SAT their junior and senior year. Sometimes students will do really well in the classroom, but their test scores aren't strong. This is when it's even more important to help them find the right fit. There are so many good schools in the United States (according to a study featured in the Washington Post there are around 5,300 colleges and universities), and there's a good fit for everyone. It's just about looking at all the aspects of what the student wants in a school, where they want to be, and what they want to major in which can help them narrow down the right fit.

#### Choosing the Type of College/ University

Each student needs to take into account what type of school they are interested in. An ivy league school, a state school, and a service academy are all looking for different things that set the student apart. Today, an ivy league school is also looking for students who are finding their niche and then doing well in that niche. For example they are joining a few clubs, growing within those clubs, and





eventually gaining a leadership role. It's not about being involved in anything and everything.

### Thinking Quantitative and Qualitative

When you look at college admissions, you must be aware of the quantitative and qualitative parts. The quantitative part is the numbers part. Colleges publish their average GPA and their admitted student's average test scores. I encourage families to look at this data and be realistic about it. This is always the first thing we look at with students at Farragut when they're choosing a school. We compare these expectations and where the student is at numerically. Sometimes they're right there, sometimes they're below it. Sometimes if we're lucky they're above it. If they're below it, it helps them understand the difficulty level of them getting accepted and that maybe this school isn't the right fit. The qualitative part is the student's extracurricular activities, sports, college essay, and recommendations. If you're close to reaching the quantitatives, then the qualitatives could be the tipping

point that gets a student in. For example, a student applying to the University of Florida would need an average GPA of 4.3 and test scores somewhere in the 1200s. So a student with a 3.8 and an 1100 on the SAT, is probably in the second or third percentile. That doesn't mean the student won't get in; they'll still have a fighting chance because UF will look at that qualitative part.

#### **Finding the Right Fit**

To me, the most important part of college guidance and counseling is for each student to find the right match. I refuse to rank schools. I encourage each student to self explore; who they are as people, if they want a big or small environment, if they want to live in a specific geographical area, if they want to play a specific sport, or earn a specific degree. I have each student at Farragut find five to six schools that meet their profile and then I have the student to rank them as 1.) a match, 2.) a reach, or 3.) a solid choice school. I ask them to stop and think about all the factors that would make that next step a positive experience.

#### International Baccalaureate (IB) or Advanced Placement (AP)?

Often times I am asked, "what type of program should I find for my child? Should they be in an IB program? Should they be in an AP program? Should they be in a Dual Enrollment program? What should I do?" And I respond that it's an individual decision and you have to look at your child. For example, parents have heard of and frequently inquire about the IB program. It is a prestigious program but I tell parents there is a place for it and there are students that belong in that program. See, with IB you have





to be good at every academic area to do well and you can't pick and choose your subject areas. A lot of students will apply to IB programs at high schools, but the first two years are pre-IB, not IB. I always tell parents to ask the high school about how many students are accepted as freshmen and how many students stay in the program as juniors. There's usually a large difference in the numbers because in the first two years the students start to realize, "okay, I'm strong in math and science, but I'm not strong in English so I am struggling in the program" or vice versa. You have to be strong in all areas to be competitive in regard to earning the IB Diploma.

What Farragut is doing is offering the AP Capstone Diploma, which is in essence similar, yet different. You get to pick and choose what AP courses you want to take so if the student's strength isn't in math, then the student can take AP Psychology or AP History. It gives students the ability to pick the courses that they are strong in. Anytime parents are looking at these types of courses, they have to look at their student and they have to make sure that the student is ready for the courses they are enrolled in. The worst thing that can happen is that you've put your student in courses that they're not ready for and they don't do well, and it ultimately hurts the student's self-esteem, their transcript, and their course progression. I guide all of our students to think about themselves and what they like. When students enjoy the coursework they will often succeed.

## What's Your Advice for a Farragut Family?

Farragut has great teachers and we have a wide variety of course selections at the Honors, AP, and Dual Enrollment level, and we are continuously adding more. The classes are small and students are getting personal attention, which means they have every opportunity to thrive in the classroom. A small school also means that students can play a sport, who may have not been able to get on the team at a larger school. Athletic confidence and being part of a team helps with the college process as well as with self esteem and building character. That collaborative team environment is what colleges are looking for because college is

all about collaborative learning. I think that all helps. There are also a lot of different clubs and activities they can get involved with. The boarders that live in the residence halls, they're even one step further ahead because they've learned how to live in a dorm, manage their time, and be independent. That's one of the hardest things for a freshman in college.

### What Do You Think Sets Farragut Apart?

The entire school has a strong sense of community and family support. It starts in the Lower School and continues to the Upper School. The one thing that sets Farragut apart the most is that it's a melting pot of cultures. Half of the high school is comprised of students from other countries and that is a gift to our domestic students, because when they go out to that next step, they're already one step ahead. They're used to listening to the opinions of students from different places and different viewpoints and different cultures, and that is valuable within a classroom. I also believe that it helps them get acclimated to college because they may get a roommate from another country and they'll already be used to having friends from other places. It makes them more aware of who they are, what the world is about, and helps them understand that the world is full of different types of people. Farragut students are open minded. They're at a higher level of maturity because of this multicultural experience.





In the 2017-2018 school year, Admiral Farragut Academy saw a total of 5 Aviation Academy students earn their solo flight endorsements.



Yuchen "Jack" Wang '18

7-day boarder from Shanghai, China

Aviation Goals: "I plan to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering or Mathematics. I am attending UC Davis in the fall. I would love to work for Boeing some day and become a commercial pilot or an aerospace engineer. Regardless, I definitely want to keep flying."



Diana Romanovskaya '19

7-day boarder from Moscow, Russia

Aviation Goals: "I want to become a commercial pilot in the United States. In Russia, women are not allowed to be commercial pilots. Women are only allowed to be a pilot for the military so that would be something really special."



James Sands '18

7-day boarder from Nassau, Bahamas

Aviation Goals: "In the fall, I will be attending SUNY Maritime with my career goal of becoming a merchant marine, but I'm going to keep flying too. I want to get my private pilot's license and my seaplane rating so I can fly seaplanes back home."



Nella Filipkova '19 Day student from Prague, Czech Republic Aviation Goals: "I think I'd like to go to Embry-Riddle and get all of my endorsements to become a

commercial pilot."



Jose Lynch '18 5-day boarder from Lakewood Ranch, FL

Aviation Goals: "I'm going to Georgia Tech in the fall with a major in Civil Engineering. I'm going to get my private pilot's license, though. I'm definitely going to keep flying."



## **Boarding Life Update**

Boarding life at Farragut is always transforming, and the 2017-2018 school year was no exception. Residential life had a great year with 143 boarders and 8 Residential Life Instructors.

The year brought many activities for our boarders, including intramurals everyday after school from 4-5 p.m., with activities such as basketball, jogging, or taking advantage of the waterfront. They also enjoyed weekend trips to places such as Busch Gardens, Universal Studios, or Disney World. Other fun on-campus events included a waterfront party to celebrate the beginning of Spring Break and end-of-year Slip & Slide waterfront party complete with food and games. The boarders also got a chance to earn some community service hours when Admiral Farragut Academy hosted a care package party with boarding student volunteers and over 50 volunteers from around the community for Molly's Adopt a Sailor Program.

"We had a great year," said Commandant Todd Wallingford who directs the Commandant Office and oversees Residential Life, Naval Science, discipline, operations, and the health and welfare of the corps of cadets. "I'm very proud of everything we've accomplished this year. We would like to say a special thank you to the Salebra family, parents of Lower School student Max Salebra, who donated a McDonalds dinner to the boarders, and KFC, who donated dinner courtesy of the family of

Regimental Commander George Hamilton '18. We would also like to thank all of our faculty, staff, administrators, parents, and volunteers that supported Res Life."

#### What's Next?

The department has transitioned all of the "Residential Life Instructors" to be "TAC (Teach-Advise-Counsel) Mentors." Over the summer, members attended education and training with TABS (The Association of Boarding Schools). During the 2018-19 school year, retired US Navy Chief Master-at-Arms (Expeditionary Warfare Specialist) R. Dan S. Kuhl, pronounced "Keel", joined Admiral Farragut Academy as a TAC Mentor. Residential Life is still looking to fill the female military TAC Mentor position. These individuals will be in full uniform and will help develop more military leadership and uniformity in the dorms. Residential Life also hired new employee, Jim Ceccarelli, who is assisting students with academic, college planning, and personal issues.

Meanwhile, the boarders are having more on-campus weekend activities with Weekend TAC Mentors, Mike Morris, Jen Perez and Carlos Javier. "They both create energy and excitement with the kids," said Commandant Wallingford. "They are scheduling more activities at the waterfront such as bonfires, picnics, sailing, and sand volleyball tournaments."







#### VALEDICTORIAN Cadet PO2 Ruiqi "Ashley" Liu

GPA: 4.32

COLLEGE: University of Illinois, Champaign, Ill.

MAJOR: Engineering

AWARDS: The Headmaster's Award

PARTING THOUGHTS: Living at a boarding school since 8th grade in a foreign country has given me the independence and the confidence to be excited to start the next phase of my life. It has also given me the tools to strive for success in my future.



#### SALUTATORIAN Cadet PO3 Ryan Green

GPA: 4.24

COLLEGE: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach

MAJOR: Computer science and/or programming

AWARDS: The Headmaster's Award, Reserve Army Scholar Athlete, The Mr. and Mrs Frank Wendt Distinguished Musician Award, The Admiral Farragut Academy Foreign Language Award

PARTING THOUGHTS:

The time at this school has most definitely left an impact on us and who we are. It has molded me into the person I am. This school is one of a kind and offers opportunities that are not offered anywhere else.



#### REGIMENTAL COMMANDER Cadet CDR George Hamilton

COLLEGE: The Catholic University, Washington, D.C.

MAJOR: Classical Civilization

AWARDS: The Clearwater Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars ROTC Award, The Pinellas County School's Male Cadet of the Year

PARTING THOUGHTS: I am looking at a class that has future business leaders, servicemen, artists, basketball stars and Olympians. I'm looking at a class that is more advanced than any other time in history. The world is ours!

## CONTINUING THE FARRAGUT LEGACY

The Farragut legacy was well represented in this year's graduation class of 2018. A total of 10 Farragut legacy families presented diplomas to their sons, sisters, brothers and cousins. Congratulations to all and welcome to the Alumni Community.



Dylan Burke and his father, Troy Burke, Battalion Commander and class of 1986S



Ethan Lipsky and his father, David Lipsky '75N



Clayton Scott and his sister, Ensign Taylor Scott '12, USN



Aly Collins and her brother, Dalton Collins '15, US Air Force Academy Cadet



Sam Baker and his brother, Delroy Baker '14



Linda Delgado Liben and her sister, Ana Delgado Libien '17



Konrad Hart and his brother, Battalion Commander Hans Hart '13



Carrington Hazley and her cousin, Tommy Lampley 'o4



Jack Prior and his brother, Jake Prior '16



James Sands and his brother, Gary Sands '08

## SMALL DECISIONS Commencement Speaker Mike Harris '87S



**36** years ago, I made a decision that would change me forever.

I had no grand plan, I didn't know what I wanted to be when I grew up, but I had a decision to make: Would I attend a school in my hometown in the state of Michigan, or move here to Florida and attend Admiral Farragut Academy?

The decision basically came down to a trade-off between two things I didn't like: Long, cold winters – or a really short haircut.

Now, to put this decision into historical perspective, this was the 1980s: the era of feathered hair and mullets so that really was a tough call...Nonetheless, I made the decision AGAINST cold winters and FOR the haircut and walked into Farragut Hall as an 8th grade boarding cadet. Five years later I walked across this stage a rather different person. Each of you has made a similar decision to come here, hopefully based on more important considerations than cold weather or haircuts, but your decision has already set your life on a different path.

The Greek philosopher Heraclitis said, "You can never step into the same river twice. Everything changes and nothing stands still." He was right. Every small decision you make impacts your life – it will never be quite the same. But don't be scared by that – be emboldened. Because there is always another decision to make, to build upon the last one, and continue on your journey.

On my five-year journey here at Farragut, I learned the importance of character. Of integrity. Of diversity of opinion, perspective, and background.

Before Farragut, what was the most exotic, foreign, far-away land I'd ever been to?

Canada. Specifically, Niagara Falls in Ontario.

Then I came here ... and had friends and roommates from Barbados, Costa Rica, Jamaica, Ecuador, Saudi Arabia, Portugal and many other countries. One year my roommate was a kid from Trinidad & Tobago - a beautiful island of Indian, African, and European ancestry, just off the coast of Venezuela. I visited his home over spring break my senior year and truly opened my eyes to the world. With that one trip, I fell in love with travel, with international cultures and cuisine, and with new languages and landscapes.

The Buccaneer Yearbook of about 30 years ago says that I planned to attend Duke University and study medicine or law. Well.... I didn't go to Duke. Didn't study medicine. And I didn't study law. Clearly, I had no idea what I wanted to do – but looking back, I can honestly say that it didn't really matter. I ended up pursuing a career in international business after studying economics at Vanderbilt University. I've since traveled to over 30 countries and every continent but Antarctica – all because of an interest I didn't know I even had when I made the decision to get a short haircut and come to Farragut.

Which is my main advice to you this morning.

#### Never underestimate the power of many small decisions compounded over time.

For me, the decision to attend Farragut led to an opportunity and decision to visit a new country, which in turn opened up a world of travel and led me down a career and life path which has enabled me to do what I truly love.

Now, if you are one of those fortunate people who has a clear passion – You know precisely where you want to go and how you want to get there – That's awesome. Pursue that passion. Be committed to it, but don't be rigid – Alter your course if needed, perhaps, and keep that destination in mind.

But if you're like me and you don't necessarily HAVE that destination in mind – Maybe you just have the vaguest idea of where you want to go - don't stress about it. Rely on the character and experiences you developed here to make those small, iterative decisions - the right ones - day after day after day. Those small decisions when added together can even overcome something that might at first seem to be impossible. It's not enough to merely observe and enjoy, just to be a passive bystander in this world. I urge you – I challenge you – to actively ENGAGE in the world around you. Make decisions to stand up for others, to stand up for people you may never even meet – simply because you KNOW it's the right thing to do.

At every opportunity, stand up for what YOU believe in, for what YOU respect, and demonstrate the honor and integrity you've developed here at AFA.

Mike Harris came to Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg as an 8th grade boarding cadet and graduated as Battalion Commander, Valedictorian, and Class President five *vears later. He received scholarships* to attend Vanderbilt University and studied Economics and Political Science there, graduating summa cum laude in 1991. Today, Mike is the Senior Vice President leading the IT Leaders and Technical Professionals group at Gartner, supporting over 500 global analysts, 40,000 clients and 2 billion dollars in revenues. He travels extensively, helping clients transform their organizations through technology and digital business. Recently, he has been the keynote speaker at Gartner Symposia in Goa, India; Tokyo, Japan; and Sao Paulo, Brazil. His first speech, however, was delivered at Farragut's graduation ceremony in 1987 - and he was too nervous to remember any of it.

*Mr. Harris' speech has been edited to fit in this edition of Reveille.* 





## Nicole Stott, Astronaut and AFA Parent, Speaks of Her Experience in Space and How We Must Respect Our Planet and Each Other



he Admiral Farragut Academy International Dual Diploma program gives students in other countries the opportunity to earn a certificate of completion from Admiral Farragut Academy although they are unable to attend classes in Florida. Having launched the program in 2014, June 2018 was their largest graduating class with a total of 47 students; most of whom will be matriculating this fall to New York University, Virginia Tech, and Rutgers to name a few. This year, we were very fortunate to have Farragut parent and NASA astronaut. Nicole Stott prepare a speech for the graduates in China. Her speech was recorded on video and played at the graduation ceremony which was attended by over 100 guests, including Board Chair, Christian Wagner '82N; Vice President, Brian Chatterley; and China Director, Justin Poupart. Nicole will be the guest speaker for the Alumni Homecoming dinner on October 27th.

Looking out on our Earth from The International Space Station, I was in awe, I was humbled – it was a life changing, spiritual, and overwhelming impressive experience.

It's very surreal to be in space, floating in front of the window of your spaceship, and looking down on our planet.

Orbiting the Earth at 5 miles a second, it's wonderful to see the sun rising and setting 16 times a day, to see the Earth spinning below me; to witness the reality of our home as a planet, and to recognize the undeniable interconnectivity of everyone and everything that inhabits our Spaceship Earth. At the same time, I was humbled by experiencing the view of our small, beautifully colorful and glowing planet in the endless blackness of space that surrounds us. Our Earth might feel big when you stand here on it, but from the vantage point of space it can seem so tiny amongst the grander scheme of the universe. The reality though is that tiny does not mean insignificant.

This feeling of humility and awe, inspires wonder and total respect, and it led to the most important lesson I learned from looking down on our little blue planet. From up in space, you are witness to our undeniable reality.

That reality can be summed up by 3 simple, yet profound things --- we live on a planet, we are all Earthlings, and the only border that matters is the



thin blue line of our atmosphere that blankets us all. We all need to acknowledge and accept responsibility for this reality that we all share in common.

This is the message I wish to bring to all of the students of Admiral Farragut Academy --. We must respect each other, our planet, and all of the plants and animals we share it with.

This year, 2018, marks 18 years of continuous human presence in space — for as long as you all have been alive; crews, composed of astronauts from 16 partner countries have been cooperating, living, and working peacefully and successfully together in space. And not just in space . . . but thousands of people from the different space programs around the world have labored purposefully together right here on Earth in support of the common space station mission and the crews orbiting above. The space station is by far the most complex international partnership that has ever been undertaken by humans in pursuit of a common goal of greater good. And all of that work together in space has been for the benefit of all of us here on Earth.

In space we have managed to build a mechanical environment that mimics what our own "Spaceship Earth" does for us naturally. More importantly, we have demonstrated how planetary partnerships and long-term thinking can result in mutually beneficial success for all involved.

We know that we have challenges ahead of us that will determine the future of humanity. Examples like the successful and beautiful planetary partnership we have with the International Space Station, and the acceptance that we're all in this together – show us that if we all work together, we can overcome any challenge.

Humanity needs leaders. We look to you, Farragut students and graduates, to be those LEADERS! We want to see Farragut graduates as government leaders, industry leaders, commercial leaders, society's leaders – as the leaders of humanity in every area of our world.

Farragut graduates should be aiming to not just succeed, but they should be aiming to succeed and lead others to success. The world needs leaders, not just to lead us into Space, the Moon and maybe even Mars, but to lead us here on Earth to a better tomorrow for all.

Your next steps are planned. You have university to attend. degrees to earn, and more homework to do and life lessons to learn for the next 4,6 or even 10 years... but after that? What's your goal? What's your plan? What problems are you looking to solve? Just think.. If every graduate set out to solve just ONE problem ... Imagine the future that would put in place for us all --- the problems of today would be replaced by ones that are not focused on just our survival, but on how we all thrive together both on and off our planet.

I ask you to leave here today as Earthlings – as a member of the crew of Spaceship Earth. "What Kind of World do YOU Want?" History starts now with You -- Class of 2018. Congratulations!

## Ļ

View the video at bit.ly/NicoleStottAFA

## Alumni & Development Events



Luigi Moxam '98 hosted an alumni summer soirée at his restaurant, Cayman Cabana, in Grand Cayman in July. There was a great showing of classes ranging from '73 - '18.



Alumni gathered in June at the Trenton Thunder Baseball game for an unofficial reunion spearheaded by Bruce Sarte '91N. There was a great showing of classes ranging from '46 - '98.



Film legend and Farragut parent George Hamilton joined us for a red carpet event thanking top donors, such as Julie and Tom Walrond (pictured).



Bruce Sarte '91N organized a second baseball outing for alumni at the Richmond Squirrels game in XX, and had another great turnout of classes ranging from '67-'92.

## A Century of Living Boldly: Meet Two of Our Oldest Alumni



Clockwise from left: Allen "Bottle" Breed '39, CAPT Frank Porcellini USN (Ret) '80N, David Lipsky '75N, and John "Budge" Blake '38

#### A common blessing says, "May you live in interesting times." Certainly in one way or another we have all have lived in those times. Some just seem to take more intriguing turns than others.

John "Budge" Blake '38 entered Admiral Farragut Academy in September 1935, two years after the school opened. Hailing from a hard working farming family from Freehold, NJ, he was assigned to 3rd Company upon joining the Corps of Cadets. He remained in the "Thundering Third" throughout his tenure at the school.

Allen "Bottle" Breed '39 also entered Admiral Farragut Academy in September of 1935. He hailed from Boston and was a typical New Englander. He lived in Farragut Hall and was in Second Company.

Recently, Budge and Bottle spent the day together reminiscing about their years at the Academy. Joined by fellow alums David Lipsky '75N and CAPT Frank Porcellini USN (Ret) '80N. they wholeheartedly agreed that those were good years indeed. Although at the time, the two cadets complained about the food and compulsory. long hours of drill, and the two hours of mandatory study each evening, it was balanced by the comradery of small class sizes and a highly dedicated faculty and staff. Budge and Bottle had considerable fun and mischief, often playing pranks on fellow classmates.

It was a unique time in our nation's history. The country was emerging from the Great Depression and although they didn't realize it at the time, on the verge of entering a second world war. The times were special, still innocent and full of hope for the future. These men were part of what has been labeled "The Greatest Generation".

The two longtime alums fondly recalled some of their favorite times and teachers: Mr. C.H. Lewis, LT F.X. Carmody (Ex Coast Guard), LT H.D. Hill, and LT C.G. Wadbrook. LT Wadbrook was a Marine who coached the Rifle Team. LT Lahn, Commandant of Cadets, was called the "Wolf" by the cadets. He was a hard taskmaster while at the Academy as Commandant.



Admiral Robison gave the cadets many fatherly lectures. There seemed to be a special bond between the Admiral and the cadets. Budge commented that, "He was a wonderful man and seemed to have a genuine affection and respect for each cadet." The corps of cadets spoke with reverence whenever they mentioned Admiral Robison. "You could hear it in his voice and see it in his eyes," Bottle said. The Admiral seemed to go out of his way to give commendations.

During their first year, a memorable incident occurred involving a fire alarm at 0300. The alarm in question brought the entire Corps of Cadets, including officers and resident staff, out onto the parade grounds. All hands were certain that this must have been a real fire as no one could believe that a drill would be scheduled for that ungodly hour. Alas, it was indeed a false alarm and the bleary eyed cadets returned to their beds none the worse for the interruption of their slumbers. In spite of an exhaustive investigation, the Commandant of Cadets. the "Wolf", was unable to determine who the perpetrator of the false alarm was. The 1938 yearbook speculated that the

blame was to fall on Cadets Bill Colepaugh and Randy Harris. Budge admitted, "It was a dumb thing to do," as he reflected on the incident. It seems that pranks were a timeless tradition at Farragut. Each and every student can certainly relate to at least one incident of a cadet led prank during their time at the Academy.

Speaking of Cadet Colepaugh, during the war he defected to Germany and was actually involved in a Nazi plot to attempt to land himself and a Nazi Saboteur (Erich Gimpel) on the Maine Coast near Bar Harbor. After landing in Maine, Colepaugh used the name of a former roommate at Farragut, H.H. Williams. Colepaugh lost his nerve or interest in the whole treasonous endeavor and contacted former classmate, Edmond Francis Mulcahy. Colepaugh asked his old friend for help in turning himself in. All in all, a rather infamous claim to fame. The entire affair is documented in Robert A. Miller's book, A True Story of an American Nazi Spy: William Curtis Colepaugh.

They both fondly remember Elmer Crock '37, who was in the Band. Budge stated he was the best at blowing taps at night. One of their favorite stories is of the Ward brothers. The Ward brothers hailed from Ridgefield Park, NJ. William Ward was in the Class of 1938 and returned for a PG year in the fall of 1938. James Ward was in the Class of 1939. Budge's mom told him of a story where she was outside Admiral Robison's office. Mrs. Ward was visiting the Admiral with her two sons --the Admiral often did social visits with parents. Mrs. Ward was a bit impulsive and when addressing the Admiral, she said, "Mr. Farragut." The Admiral responded to her by saying, "Now Mrs. Ward, do you think I look half as dead as Admiral Farragut?" Both Ward brothers were quite embarrassed.



Budge (Second from left in front row) on Farragut's football team

Budge's father wanted him to attend the United States Naval Academy, but Budge was nearsighted. He decided to leave Farragut in the second semester of 1939 to see if his eyesight would improve. He took a year off and worked on the family farm. Poor eyesight would keep Budge out of the Naval Academy, so he turned to the Army and received a commission in the Army Air Corps during WWII. He was assigned to the Strategic Air Depot in England. After leaving the Army Air Corps as 1st Lt in 1946, he went to California to marry his girlfriend, Merilyn Morshead. They raised three children and adopted a nephew after Merilyn's sister died. Budge now lives alone and is cared for by his caretaker, Vanessa.

Bottle remembers that he was on watch in Farragut Hall when Bill Masciangelo arrived at the Academy for the first time. Bottle was assigned to take Bill to the uniform shop, run by Al Bertie. He decided to show Bill around campus before taking him for his uniforms. He caught hell for taking so long. Later in the year, the Second Company would move into the partially finished brand new Dupont Hall. Half was finished before the 1935-36 school year was over. The other half would be finished in the fall of 1936. The Battalion Commander that year was Cy



Radford, the General's son. Bottle had the same roommate the last two years, Leo Corboy '40. Leo would later become a Marine Aviator during WWII.

Bottle recalls that one morning before reveille, LT Wadbrook had the band assemble outside the room of the "Wolf" in Dupont Hall. He had them play "Who's Afraid Of The Big Bad Wolf?" When the "Wolf" opened his door, he viewed LT Wadbrook busting out laughing. So the cadets were not the only ones to play practical jokes.

During his senior year, Bottle was CPO for Second Company. The night before the Little Army-Navy game in 1938, some cadets decided to hide the pet mascot, at that time a goat, under Farragut Hall. They added to the prank by making the corps of cadets think the kids from Toms River High stole the goat. The cadets wanted to go and rescue the goat. Rumors spread fast and before you know it the corps was marching into Toms River to retrieve the goat. The football team was left out of this endeavor so they would not get into trouble before the game. They even let the air out of the car of the duty officer and hid the Farragut service truck. They made their away along Riverside Drive and were about a mile from the high school when LT



Carmody caught up with them, told them of the prank, and persuaded them to return to the Academy. The Football team would go on to defeat LaSalle Military 15-0 in the 5th game of the Little Army-Navy Series.

Bottle joined the Navy in July of 1940 and was assigned as a yeoman on the destroyer USS Overton (DD-239) sailing between the US East Coast and Iceland. He was later transferred to the cruiser USS Ouincy (CA-39). He was on the USS Quincy when it was sunk at the Battle of Savo Island during the Battle for Guadalcanal. He escaped the sinking vessel and was in the water overnight before being rescued. Bottle later attended Worcester Polytechnic Institute after his discharge from the Navy. After college he worked for General Electric including stints on the Naval Nuclear Reactors Program headed by Admiral Rickover. He was married to his wife, Becky, for 64 years before she passed away. They had three children and three grandchildren. He currently lives with his son and daughter-in-law.

Thanks to our dear brothers for the reminiscence.



Portions of this article were reprinted from the April 2018 Special Edition Capstan -- a publication by the Admiral Farragut Academy North Association. Thanks to David Lipsky '75N and CAPT Frank Porcellini USN (Ret) '80N for their contributions to this story and for Frank's tireless efforts to stay in touch with The Greatest Generation alumni from the 1930s and 40s.

## Don Schreiber '46N Reflects On His Time At Farragut

In September 1944 I entered Admiral Farragut Academy in Pine Beach, NJ, as a Junior. Looking back, I am still amazed that Farragut was just over a decade old. The campus was complete with 2 dormitories, 2 gyms, a library, modern sickbay, classrooms, football stadium, track, tennis courts, waterfront, and lots of boats. There were also administrative offices, the mess hall, uniform and tailor shop, barbershop, snack shop, and much more.

At that time, Farragut was an all male boarding school and no day students. There were a few 7th and 8th graders, but mostly high school and postgraduate students. The student body numbered 325. I came from a large public high school that had 25 or more students in each classroom. At Farragut, we had maybe 10 per classroom. With wonderful inspiring teachers, how could you not love to learn? We started each day with marching, drills, and parades. We even had a parade every Sunday. If your grades were good, you were allowed to study for two hours in your room at your desk, but door open and no radio. If not, you attended supervised study hall. My grades were good!

After Labor Day, Pine Beach, NJ became desolate when seasonal residents returned to their main homes. At that time, there were virtually no year-round residents. Farragut was practically the only inhabited place in the borough. The main attraction was attending the community movie theatre in Toms River on Saturday afternoons after inspection. It was the only time, if you had no restrictions, when permission was granted to leave the grounds.

Athletics were a large part of my Farragut experience. I was on the track team and we practiced every day during the week. We traveled to Bordentown Military. the Hill School in Pottstown, PA, and overnight to New York Military Academy, which are all special memories. Intercompany sports competition was fierce. I was captain of the 1945 1st company touch football championship team. We were black and blue all over, but had a great time. There was always sports to watch, participate in and cheer for. I had roommates on varsity football, basketball and baseball teams.

Summers were spent on Long Beach Island at my grandparents where I sailed on Barnegat Bay. Farragut gave me the opportunity to spend even more



time on the water. Toms River is excellent for sailing and the school had several different classes of boats to choose from, even Star class. I never saw the sub chaser the Navy reactivated during WWII, but I was there when the USS Osberg (DE 538) Ship arrived, which may have been the largest ship to ever come up the river. Wow!

I received a fine education at Farragut and graduated in May 1946. I was accepted and earned my degree from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, but it was at Farragut where I made lifetime friends. I have added even more during my years with the Alumni Association, Board of Trustees, and at homecomings in NJ and St. Petersburg. I treasure those relationships more than anything. I am proud to be a Farragut alumnus.



Don Schrieber '46N hosted a dinner at his country club outside of Philadelphia with Bill Garwood '49N and his wife Carol, Garrett Gummer '72N and his wife Mary Ellen, and Victoria Raymer, Director of Alumni Engagement and Giving.
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# CLASS NOTES

Note: Graduation years prior to 1945 and after 1994 do not have a "N" or "S" following them. Northern campus 1933-1994 • Southern campus 1945-present



Victor Riche, the son of 41 Edward Riche, visited campus this semester. Victor planned a special trip to get together with his childhood friends from New Jersey and they met in St. Petersburg so he could donate his father's Trident yearbook back to Farragut. Victor shared that his father Edward had an active life following graduation in 1941. Edward was stationed in the Philippines on a PT Boat during WWII. He resided in New Jersey for two decades before spending his final years in North Carolina. After the war, he worked as a salesman for the Overhead Door Company covering Manhattan. Edward enjoyed hobbies including winning contests in the Toastmasters, serving as editor of a community paper, teaching calligraphy, and volunteering in the local animal shelter. He also found time to build complex model sail ships, which Victor will be donating to Farragut to display in the museum. Victor remembers his father's advice, "the most important words are words of kindness - use them often."

**45N Ralph Lee Smith** was an accomplished cadet at Farragut, who received a medal for the Highest General Proficiency in the class and one for the editorship of the Capstan. Ralph graduated from Swarthmore College with a major in English Literature and earned a M.Ed. from the University of Virginia. He has been a writer, folk singer, and folk music historian.





**44 Pete Musser** met with Victoria Raymer and Jeff Ogden at his corporate office while they were visiting in the Philadelphia area. Pete is an entrepreneur and venture capitalist who invested and helped to start Comcast Cable and QVC.

#### 53N Robert Maddox

currently resides in Marlboro, NJ, but his activities can take him to any corner of the globe. He retired as an airline pilot for US Airways in 1995 but still maintains an active role in aviation. His hobbies include aviation, military, airline and civil, antique and old military restorations. He still flies the C-54 (DC-4). He is very active in marksmanship programs with various youth groups, and in maintaining marksmanship facilities in the NJ area for all ages that are interested.

**53N Edward Anderson** joined the Naval reserve in his last year at Farragut (Lakehurst NAS and spent a year in ZPG 751). After graduation the Korean War was on and although he had 3 scholarships, he opted for the Naval Academy. Laws at the time counted his enlisted and academy time as full service and he retired in 1990 as a Navy Captain with 38 years of active duty. He spent the first 28 years on active flight duty in various aircraft, but mostly in antisubmarine, surveillance / intelligence categories. The last 10 years were in his subspecialty, Financial Management (comptroller). He has 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 5 great grandchildren and has lived the last 32 years in Chesapeake, Virginia where he retired with his wife, Gloria. He spent 18 years completing the genealogy work his father started and followed the paternal/maternal lines to the 1500's. He enjoys power boating on a tributary of the Elizabeth River off of his backyard. He and his wife have enjoyed travel in much of Europe and recently in Virginia.



**55N c. F. 'Paco' Jordan** and his wife, Kay, live in Colorado Springs, CO, where they are actively involved in several global ministries. Paco was the founder of C. F. Jordan Construction.



**6 1N Ben Barton** and his wife, Betty, live in Dallas, TX, where he is senior partner of the Richman and Barton Law Office.



59S Dr. Fred Nelson has never settled down at the age of 77 and is still practicing and teaching academic medicine today. He trained in Orthopedics in the Navy 1967-72 and left as a Commander in 1975. Dr. Nelson did a 2-year post doc research fellowship in 1992 and has been in academic medicine since. In addition. Dr. Nelson and his wife, Colleen, are raising their 6 year old grandson. Dr. Nelson ended his recent visit to campus by stating, "I want to be a cadet again. Is there an age limit?"



**54N Martin Ludwig** had a wonderful time vacationing in Mystic Seaport, CT. Martin and his wife, Camille, enjoyed many museums in the area. They were most impressed by the Rear Admiral David Farragut artifacts they found on display. Martin's pride for his alma mater, Admiral Farragut Academy, was revived during this fantastic trip.



Keep in touch! Share your personal victories and other big news with us. Visit farragut.org/alumni/ submit-an-update or contact Director of Alumni Giving and Engagement Victoria Raymer at 727-384-5500 ext 293 or vraymer@farragut.org



63N Dr. Glenn Mitchell is currently a Professor of Healthcare Informatics at Harrisburg University. He credits Farragut for his lifelong love of learning, and is looking forward to his 55th Reunion this October.



66S Mark Epstein and Cornell 'Corky' Newcombe

along with their wives, Terri Epstein and Linda Newcombe, met up for dinner in Castle Rock, Colorado. The Newcombes reside in Colorado Springs and the Epsteins in Englewood. Both are working with fellow classmates to publish a book about the Admiral Farragut Academy Class of 1966 South.



**71S** Robert Hudson, pictured here with Tony Sloan, is living in Dallas, TX, and is the owner of several Subway restaurant franchises among other business ventures. He is one of the originators of the Mark Saunders Memorial Fund. The Fund supports Farragut's baseball program.



85N Paul Wang, 92S Chris Shaw, and

12 Tanupat Dunnvatanachit, each took time to catch up with Jeff Ogden 'oo, Farragut's Director of Strategic Initiatives, during his recent admissions trip in Southeast Asia.



**7**3N Dr. Louis Cona met with Victoria Raymer during a visit to the Grand Cayman island. Luis is the President of Medical Association in Grand Cayman, and specializes in regenerative cell therapy and integrated medicine. Dr. Cona treats patients from all around the world.



**O2** Dr. Chas Allen came back to campus for Career Day to teach the lower school students about becoming a veterinarian. The students really enjoyed learning about his practice. Dr. Allen engaged the kids with games and prize giveaways for understanding pet care. Dr. Allen has always wanted to own his own practice, as he enjoys the personal relationships he has built with his clients and their furry loved ones. Dr. Allen is the owner of the Animal Hospital of Treasure Island with Dr. Forkner. Keep up the great work, Dr. Allen, by taking care of our furry family members.



**OO Jeff Ogden** wed Dr. Kiersten McLeod-Ogden on June 16, 2018 in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The couple spent their honeymoon island hopping around Croatia.



05 shawn Solomon currently works for the Veterans Administration. He is working with the AFA Naval Science department on how to bring more events for cadets to participate.



Piotr Widulinski wrote to us: "Thanks to Farragut I have the best daughters a father could dream of.

#### 08 Natalia Widulinski and

**1 I** Kamila Widulinski both graduated as Valedictorians. My daughters still run marathons and scuba dive. They are sailors, excellent navigators and much more. Natalia, the elder one, is a Dive Master and after completing a degree

14 Saran Polchan is studying theater at Penn State. Saran is already planning on earning his MA after he graduates from Penn State. Currently Saran is directing his first play "This Is Our Youth". He spends all his free time honing his play writing skills and is working on his own screenplay about his passion for cooking, family and tradition.

in Marine Biology serves as Lieutenant in the US NAVY. She completed an eight-month tour as an officer on the Destroyer DDG 69 "Milius" in the Persian Gulf then served on LPD 23 "Anchorage" and currently works as First Lieutenant for the Admiral for the West Coast. After getting married to a naval officer she will pursue a Masters in Oceanography. Kamila just completed a degree in Architecture at Boston Northeastern University. She is getting her Architect's license in California and is getting ready to start her master's degree program. I cannot imagine raising my daughters so well without the extensive help from the Academy, the wonderful and knowledgeable instructors, and the Academy Command."





**16 Andrew Cevasco** ran into one of his favorite teachers, Mrs. Ewing.



18 Ethan Lipsky is attending USMMA Kings Point. On August 22nd at Citi Field when the New York Mets took on the San Francisco Giants, he was a part of the Color Guard for the National Anthem, which was televised. He has also joined the wrestling team. Ethan attributes his regimental success to his time at Farragut.

## CAMPUS VISITS & MEMORIES



#### 49S George Michel

visited while he was in town in April. George shared his words of wisdom on business, all things Farragut, and how to be successful in this life. He gave the development team a word of advice, to "always move forward!" and reminded the team that Farragut sets your compass for life.



**78N craig Schmitt** visited and enjoyed seeing all the growth on the campus. He shared fond memories of former Headmaster, Orie T. Banks. Craig is a successful international business owner and travels all over the world. Craig looks forward to attending Homecoming 2018.



**59S Fernando Seelig** visited after 59 years. He shared many funny stories, the most memorable being when he went off campus to capture a sneak peek of Marilyn Monroe, who was staying on Redington Beach. Fernando stated it was worth every moment of receiving a class A offense on the grinder to get a glimpse of the famous movie star. Fernando looks forward to attending Homecoming 2018.



**67S Paul Greaves** visited with his daughter and granddaughter. Paul is still very close with his Farragut roommates and they still get together after all these years.



80S Michael Simms visited with his daughter Olivia, who recently started at the University of Alabama.



**72S Maj. General Amatakul** visited with his daughter and her family. He wants his granddaughter to attend Farragut when she is in the eighth grade.



**98** Aquiles La Grave visited campus over the summer with his wife, Megan. Aquiles attended Farragut 1994-96 and was quite the track athlete. Today he is Founder and CEO of Brandzooka, an international video advertising platform headquartered in Boulder, CO.



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Celebrating Reunions for classes ending in '3 and '8.

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- பூ Friday, October 26
  - The Farragut Experience
  - Tailgate Party and Homecoming Football Game

#### 🗘 🗴 Saturday, October 27

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(Limited space available and reservations required.)

- Open Reception for All Classes
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ar

Dile for our guests

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**37** Richard "Dick" Webbe

passed away April 19, 2015 at the age of 97. In 1937 while at Farragut, Dick and a fellow cadet went AWOL to watch the arrival of the German Graf Zeppelin Hindenburg at nearby Lakehurst, NJ and found themselves pulling survivors to safety after the catastrophic explosion and fire. Dick enlisted in the US Navy the day after Pearl Harbor and served admirably during WWII earning his wings as a Naval Aviator. After the war, Dick married his wife Peggy in 1943. They had two children and stayed happily married until her death in 2001. They resided in Florida where he represented many national manufacturers as a salesman and founded several companies. Dick introduced affordable stainless steel sinks in Florida, which he considered his greatest business achievement.



Following a 25-year hiatus from flying, Dick earned his instrument rating and owned and flew Beech F-35 and A-36 Bonanzas, and a Cessna P-210N. Not content with riding in the sky, Dick's hobby in the 1960's and 70's was sports car racing. He held an SCCA national competition license and raced and won at many tracks in the southeast, including Daytona. Dick's was a life well lived. 45N Rev Peter Cooke,

"Padre", 91, of Lakewood passed away peacefully on Wednesday, November 22, 2017, at CentraState Medical Center, Freehold Township. Rev. Cooke was raised in Sea Girt, New Jersey, where he married and raised a family before moving to Brielle and finally retiring to Lakewood in 2004. He graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy in 1945 as Third Company Commander and participated in many sports and activities. After graduating he entered service with the United States Marine Corps during the final months of World War II. He was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps for appointment as a Midshipman in the United States Naval Academy. His education continued at Drew University and Monmouth College, and he graduated with

a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Padre's secular life began at El Dorado Public Relations Inc. where he was an account executive for 5 years. He then began an 18 year career with Seamless Hospital Products Co. where he held the position of Senior Regional Sales Manager. He was offered the promotion to Vice President, but declined to pursue his calling in the Priesthood. He then attended Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained an Episcopal Priest in 1969. He was curate at St. Uriel the Archangel in Sea Girt and his clerical life began. Soon, he felt a calling to serve those in the Brick area. With the blessing of the Bishop, he began a mission and built from the ground up a new Episcopal Church, The Church of St. Raphael the Archangel in Brick, NJ. This church proceeded from mission church to parish church faster than any other church in the history of the Diocese. Recognizing his ability to revitalize and strengthen parishes, Padre was placed where his abilities were needed most. He became interim Rector at St. John's Church in Sewaren, St. Mark's Church in Carteret, St. John's Church in Elizabeth, Christ Church in South Amboy, and St. Mark's Church in Keansburg, where he served each until well established. He then served at St. Michael the Archangel in Wall until his retirement in 1996. Not long after retirement, he became aware that the Church of the Holy Trinity in Spring Lake was struggling, and decided to come out of retirement to help rebuild not only the congregation, but the church itself, as it was in desperate need of refurbishment. The efforts were successful, the church was restored, and still serves the community of Spring Lake during summer season. He was given the title of Vicar Emeritus.

During his clerical career he also proudly served as Chaplain to the Sea Girt Fire Co. No. 1, the Middletown Police Department, the New Jersey State Policemen's Benevolent Association - Local 50, and the Monmouth County Police Chiefs Association, where he served for over 40 years and was given the honor of Emeritus status. He was also a Legionnaire with NJ Post 1000, Trenton, former brother of Wall-Spring Lake Lodge F&AM #73, and a charter member of Elks Club 2534 in Manasquan.

## 45N COL William E.

**Simons** passed away on June 9, 2018 at the age of 90. Bill was a resident of the Knollwood military retirement home in Washington. A 1950 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he served as an Air Force officer for 22 years, retiring in 1972 with the rank of colonel. He continued to do military research work for both the RAND and BDM corporations for many years thereafter. Amongst his various accomplishments, Bill earned a PHD in education, taught history at the Air Force Academy, and wrote three of the original Pentagon Papers, as a well as a book about education in the service academies. He will be interred with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery.

#### 46N Thomas Lewis of

Limerick, PA, formerly of Berwyn, PA, passed away peacefully on January 4, 2018. Tom was a 1946 graduate of Admiral Farragut Academy where he served in the color Guard. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 1952. Tom proudly served in the United States Navy in World War II and the Korean War. He was a successful stockbroker for over 50 years.



## 45N Judge Jack

Mackston, of Long Beach, NY,



Tom loved sailing on the Chesapeake, restoring antique cars and boats and was the founder and member of several antique automobile and boating clubs. He was an avid reader and collector of jokes, one of his greatest joys was making people laugh.

### 47N John Wisotzkey

died Thursday, May 31, 2018, at Country Meadows of York-West. Born September 10, 1929 in York, a son of the late John U. and Isabella (Morrison) Wisotzkey, John was quite proud of his time at Admiral Farragut Academy. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Lehigh University. Mr. Wisotzkey was currently Chairman Emeritus of The Maple Press Company. He was a member of Advent Lutheran Church, and the Country Club of York. As a private pilot, he participated in many Angel Flights, providing free air travel

for children and adults with serious medical conditions. John was also a prolific musician and an active supporter of the York Symphony Orchestra.

#### 47N Stephen Collins

Wright, 89, of Moneta, passed away on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at his residence.

Stephen was a member of Trinity Ecumenical Parrish. He was a graduate of Admiral Farragut Academy North, Class of 1947, and Hampden-Sydney College, Class of 1951. He served his country in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War, and at time of discharge attained the rank of Major. Stephen retired as an Aerospace Engineer from the Grumman Aircraft Corporation. He enjoyed reading, studying history and making airplane models.

### 49N Daniel Feliz

**Chlebowski**, 86, of Escondido, CA, passed peacefully on February 11, 2018, surrounded by the love of his family.

Dan was a cadet at Admiral Farragut Academy. After graduating from Farragut, he continued his naval reserve duty and then enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp. He served in the Korean War and was honorably discharged in January 1954.

Dan received his BS in Mechanical Engineering from Fairleigh Dickinson University and worked the majority of his career as an Aerospace Engineer. He proudly worked on Apollo Space projects that included switches and rocker arms for the LEM along with other government programs. While living in Pine Brook, Dan enjoyed gardening and joining in with neighborhood block parties. He took his family on vacations to the shore but also made a point to the include vacations and outings to historical areas on the east coast. Dan was a history buff and especially enjoyed all the history of Gettysburg. Dan became involved in coaching Softball and Soccer when his children joined the sports. Once retired, Dan served on various HOA positions, ran golf tournaments at Escondido Country Club, and served on CARES with his church community. He enjoyed helping others and the many friendships gained in the process. His love of life and laughter will be remembered by all who knew him.

### 49N Dominic "Nick"

Cusano, 86, of West Chester passed away peacefully Monday, November 20, 2017. As a young boy he attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Toms River, New Jersey. A proud student, athlete and battalion commander he spoke highly of his time there and continued to support the Academy after graduation. Nick spent his entire career with Scott Paper Company, managing manufacturing plants in Oconto Falls, WI, and facilities in Winslow, the Northeast and Skowhegan, ME. He retired from his career as VP of Human Resources in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Those who knew Nick will understand his passion for History, Golf, Art, and his Family. He was always ready with Big Hugs and, "Who wants to ride along?" when going anywhere. He will be missed dearly and remembered and admired for his genuine drive, shared with all who met him.

### 50N Major General Peter

**Ogders**, USAF (ret) lost his battle with cancer at his home on January 20th, 2018. "Peet" graduated from the New Jersey campus of Admiral Farragut Academy in 1950, then entered the U.S. Naval Academy to graduate with an engineering degree in the class of 1955. He accepted a commission in the U.S Air Force and after flight training, received his wings and began flying transport missions around the globe. He was assigned to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base where he met and married Carol Knupp of Dayton. They moved to Edwards AFB, California, where he attended test pilot school. Upon completion, he was assigned to contractor facilities in Texas where he performed test pilot duties on highly modified USAF aircraft. It was here that his son. Brett, was born in Greenville and his daughter, Laura, was born in Ft. Worth. He then attended SMU where he was awarded a Masters degree from the Institute of Technology and was off to fly combat missions in Vietnam. He flew an RB57 out of Saigon during 1967-68 and for his service was awarded three Distinguished Flying Crosses, nine Air Medals and The Bronze Star. He returned to Dayton where he was part of the A-10 program, Deputy Director of the F-15 program, then Program Director of the B-1. He attended Air War College in Alabama then took over as Commander of the 4950th Test Wing at Wright-Pat where he was promoted to Brigadier General. As a General Officer he commanded the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards AFB where he directed the B-1 to combat readiness and hosted the early space shuttle landings.

"Peet" retired from active duty as a Major General in 1987. He then joined the Northrop Corp. Aircraft Division as Manager of Test and Evaluation where he later retired in 2000. He was an active member and former Flight Captain of the Order of Dadelians, served as the president of the Dayton chapter of the Military Officers Association of America and held the rank of Fellow in the Society of Experimental Test Pilots. He also served on the boards of the Air Force Institute of Technology and the Flight Test Historical Foundation. He will be sorely missed by all. "Peet" was a great man and a true American hero. He found his final resting place at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

**52S** Daniel Lunin died July 7. He was 82. He was known as "Captain Dan" and the "Eye in the Sky" for delivering his daily traffic reports from the two-seat plane he flew over Tampa Bay's clogged interstates. He was also a skilled, talented and passionate engineer who helped build the infrastructure for several local radio and TV stations, and in so doing became a bay area broadcasting legend.

Mr. Lunin grew up in St. Petersburg. He was fascinated by electronics. At the age of 8, he built his first kit radio, and at age 15 it was a TV set. He developed a reputation as a "radio station groupie."

After Mr. Lunin graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy, he turned down a scholarship to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and instead attended St. Petersburg Junior College (now St. Petersburg College.) Then Mr. Lunin attended the University of Florida, became an announcer



on the campus radio station and later chief engineer at the local Gainesville radio station. There, he married his wife, Pauline, in 1955 and they had a daughter before he moved his new family back to St. Petersburg. He went to work for WTSP, which signed onto the TV airwaves in 1965 as WLCY-TV. He later got his pilot's license and became "Captain Dan," reporting on traffic conditions from the small airplane he flew out of Albert Whitted Airport. Mr. Lunin would go on to help shape WFTS-Ch. 28 in Tampa and WMOR-Ch. 32 in Lakeland, and later became an engineer for a video production studio. Mr. Lunin continued to enjoy tinkering with technology in his later years. He was also determined to remain active. When forced to use a walker, he fought the department of motor vehicles to keep his driver's license and allow him to drive with an extended gear shift.

He was also a longtime volunteer for American Stage and always tried to stay active in the community. He tried to help anyone he could, even at times stopping on the side of the road when he saw someone who needed money. Mr. Lunin's only request was that those he helped pay it forward, his son said, adding: "The only charge was the next time someone needs help, you stop and help them."

Information taken from article "Epilogue: 'Captain Dan' Lunin, a broadcasting 'genius' in Tampa Bay" featured in the Tampa Bay Times.

#### 53N Hans Croeber's loving heart finally gave out May

10ving heart finally gave out May 16th and he has now joined his beautiful wife, Susan, for their first reunion waltz in heaven. He taught us all how to live with love, beauty, and truth up to the day he died. Hans graduated from the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland in 1957. He proudly and faithfully served his country in the Navy as a supply officer for 21 years. Upon retirement from the Navy in 1978, the family moved to Montrose where he taught Navy Junior ROTC at Montrose High School for 18 years.

### 53N Frank Harrisson

passed away June 17, 2016 after a long battle with COPD, CMT and heart problems. Frank was in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and volunteered with the Coast Guard. He was also instrumental in setting up a program for the fire departments to work with the Coast Guard on shipboard fires. He authored two books: "Shipboard Fire" and "Fire and Water".

**62N** Richard Weldon of Westfield, NJ, and Mantoloking,

NJ, passed away on Thursday, July 12, 2018, at his residence in Mantoloking. As a young boy, Richard attended Admiral Farragut Academy, and throughout his early life he could be found getting into all sorts of shenanigans with his friends, creating lasting stories he would tell later in life. As a young adult, he enrolled in Rollins College, and from there his interests flourished. For the rest of his life he would nurture a love for cars, auto racing, and would collect antique vehicles well into his later years. He also cherished his time at the Westfield YMCA. where he made long-lasting, committed friendships with a group of men with whom he played basketball. And anyone who knew and loved Richard would know he was a patriot devoted to the love of his country, taking care to always fly an American flag at his residences. In his family life, he was a venerated father to his two children and an adored grandfather to his four grandchildren, who brought him the most pleasure in his life. His loyalty extended not only to his family, but also carried over into every facet of his work, for the most important people to him besides his family were his employees at Weldon Materials. Interacting with everyone and getting to know each of his workers on a personal level. visiting them at the quarries, and fostering a culture of appreciation, filled his life with purpose and meaning. At the end of his life they were the people he missed the most. His love was not only for those who walked on two legs, he loved his furry four-legged friends with all his heart as well. His cherished golden retrievers, Comfort, Amber, and Cindy, gave him his daily doses of joy and happiness,

truly defining the adage of man's best friend. Richard's entire life rotated between Westfield and Mantoloking, and while to some his lifestyle may have seemed repetitive, to him it meant that he was able to focus all of his energy on those who meant the most to him. When in Westfield, he loved going to his grandchildren's sporting events, relished in having his work routine, and enjoyed the spacious field he had to play with his dogs. When at the Shore, he delighted in having a cigar and a glass of scotch overlooking Barnegat Bay with his friends and family, listening to Frank Sinatra, and watching old westerns with his children and grandchildren when the day was done. Richard truly lived a wonderful life in service to so many, and just as he always reminisced about memories regarding his loved ones, those who loved him will continue to do the same when thinking of him.

68N Peter Viele, 66, rode his last wave on August 21, 2016. Born to John and Pam Viele in Key West, Florida, Pete spent his childhood between Key West, New London and Virginia Beach following his Father's career as a Navy submarine Commander. Pete attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Toms River, New Jersey, and Hampden-Sydney College, finishing his degree at Old Dominion University. He obtained several accreditations at Virginia Commonwealth University and William & Mary for professional fundraising. Pete started his career as a Norfolk Juvenile Probation Officer. He developed and implemented the Wilderness Challenge Program for youth that were facing juvenile detention, a program that is still in place

today. He went on to become a successful fundraiser for nonprofit organizations that served youth at risk, developmentallychallenged adults, and the ADA. Pete's most compassionate and all time largest success was being headhunted to the USS Arizona Memorial Museum in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, raising \$52 million to rebuild the Museum and Visitors Center. His passion was to commemorate, honor and never forget the Pearl Harbor survivors and soldiers that lost their lives in December of 1941.

**68S** James Chugg passed away on February 10, 2018 with his family by his side.

Jim graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy, St Petersburg in 1968. He proudly served in the United States Air Force and was a 1992 graduate of Nassau College. He applied his degree and life experiences to a rewarding career in Human Resources. Jim was employed as Senior Vice President of Human Resources at Advantage Bank until his retirement in 2014.

Jim was fiercely loyal to family and friends. He served on several community boards in his hometown of Cambridge, OH. He was an avid volunteer for local organizations and was a faithful member of his Church, First Presbyterian. Jim loved music and would play his old vinyls for anyone who would listen. He enjoyed golf and traveling with his wife, Deb. His children, Elizabeth and Justin and grandson, William, were a great joy to him.

Throughout his life, Jim simply wanted to "do good". He was larger than life and left us too soon.



## 70N Edward J. Bartle

passed away on Thursday, February 15, 2018 after a long illness at the age of 66.

### 71S Charles "Chip" Melber,

passed away peacefully on August 25th, 2018, at home at 64. Born in NYC, the family moved to South Florida where Chip pursued a career in residential and commercial construction. Later, Chip successfully led his own home inspection company. He will be missed and remembered as a fun-loving man of generous heart, charisma and charm to all who had the privilege of knowing him.

### 78S scott Carl died

peacefully at his home in St. Petersburg following a long illness. Scott attended Shorecrest Preparatory School and Admiral Farragut Academy, later graduating from Center Academy. He lived in St. Petersburg his entire life and was an avid surfer, Bob Marley fan, and a devoted follower of the Pittsburgh Steelers, a love he inherited from his father, Donnie, who predeceased Scott. The last years of his life were enriched by a caring father-son relationship with his mother's partner, Charles Morachnik. He will be remembered by friends and family for the sweetness of his personality.

#### **Former Educators**

#### **1960S N** Vladimir Bakum, Foreign Language Teacher AFA North, loving

husband, father, and grandfather passed away at age 92 in Springfield, MA, on July 10, 2018 from complications associated with congestive heart failure. In 1925, Vladimir or 'Wolodymyr' Bakum was born in Luxembourg to Ukrainian refugee parents who had recently moved to France seeking work. For the next fifteen years, Vladimir grew up in a rapidly industrializing France, where his parents worked in various factories. The family remained deeply connected with vibrant Ukrainian communities which sprang up around French factory towns. In late 1940, after Hitler's Armies occupied Luxembourg and France, Vladimir's family, like many others, were shipped to Germany to work in factories. For the next five years, the family lived in wartorn Germany, balancing factory work, education, and family life while trying to survive Allied air raids both day and night. Fortunately, ad-hoc Ukrainian communities again provided much needed structure and support. After the end of war, the family spent several years



Submit obituaries for TAPS to alumni@farragut.org

as war refugees, ending up in Displaced Person camps with millions of others. During this time, Vladimir was fortunate to complete his undergraduate degree at the University of Munich. Soon thereafter, thanks to the sponsorship of the United Ukrainian-American Relief Committee (UUARC), the family emigrated to the United States.

Vladimir's love affair with teaching foreign languages started in the early 1960s when he became a high school teacher at Admiral Farragut Academy in New Jersey. He would go on to teach and mentor for well over forty years. Vladimir's past life experiences enabled him to be fluent or at least conversant in nearly a dozen languages, so teaching languages was an absolute passion for him. After the birth of his first son in 1963 with his wife, Oksana, his young family moved to New Paltz, NY, where Vladimir began a long and distinguished career as a Foreign Language Professor and eventually Department Head as well as Professor Emeritus at SUNY New Paltz. The family soon had their second son and moved several times in the Hudson Valley, settling in Highland, NY. A sabbatical in 1972 allowed the entire family to move to France for fourteen months while Vladimir taught in Paris and other locations. Before and after retirement in 1998, Professor Bakum and wife Oksana took hundreds of students to France as part of numerous programs abroad. Well into his so called 'retirement', Vladimir continued to teach

language 'immersion programs' that he helped to create at SUNY New Paltz. He also traveled to his beloved Ukraine numerous times to teach both French and English. The number of lives he touched as a teacher and mentor is too many to count.

Vladimir, like so many in 'the greatest generation', epitomized the ideals and values of the 'American Dream'. He loved his Ukrainian and European heritage as much as his adopted country, America. In addition to being a devoted husband, father, and teacher, Vladimir, like his wife Oksana, was a true philanthropist, donating considerable money, time and effort to over twentyfive different organizations and charities. The Bakums were leading contributors to the Children of Chernobyl organization, formed to help children affected by the 1986 nuclear disaster in Ukraine. They also actively supported organizations such as Wounded Warrior Project and multiple organizations supporting the treatment of wounded Ukrainian soldiers and civilians injured by recent Russian aggression.

Finally, Vladimir was a faithful and devout Christian who practiced in and supported the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. His faith and love of music was on full display as he sang in and directed church and local choirs for numerous decades.

#### **1976-1998** CDR John "Jack" Rodda (USN, ret.), Director of Naval Science, AFA

South, 89, of St. Petersburg, died Feb. 15, 2018. He was a 1952 graduate of UCLA with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and a 1979 Graduate of USF with a Master's Degree in Education Administration with further studies at USF. He was a Navy veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars retiring as Commander after 21 years of service. He was the Director of Naval Science at Admiral Farragut Academy for 22 years; retiring in 1998. He was a Life member of the Disabled American Veterans, was an avid Bridge player and enjoyed walking and working out at Gold's Gym. Jack also enjoyed traveling around the USA. He was a member of the Allendale United Methodist Church.

#### **Friends of Farragut**

Harold Blakemore, age 91, of North Wildwood, NJ passed away on July 1, 2018. Harold was the father of Hal Blakemore, who attended Admiral Farragut Academy in '72 -'73. He served his country during World War II as a Navy Communications Operator. He sailed on the USS Sampson, USS Alden and the USS Jouett. He spent the next 30 working for Bell Telephone and raising a family in Delaware County, PA. Upon retirement, Harold moved to Clearwater Beach Florida and then back to the Jersey shore; where he was born.

## Admiral Farragut Academy School Annual Report

## A message from the Board of Trustees

Dear Alumni, Parents, and Friends,

Thank you for your contributions supporting Admiral Farragut Academy in the 2017-18 fiscal year.

With each passing year, the Academy develops more opportunities for donors to engage and connect with the school. One way is by participating annually in the Farragut Fund. Increasing donor participation remains one of the Academy's top priorities. We are grateful for your commitment and support. We are continuing to make

physical and academic improvements on campus. The New Building Capital Campaign will be completed in early 2019. Our highly anticipated multipurpose performing arts facility is a significant addition to our ever changing school grounds. In September, a state of the art flight simulator was also installed. This fabulous addition to our aviation program was made entirely possible by donors like you.

This 2018-19 academic year we have added sections to the

record number of students on campus. The 2019 graduating class will be the largest in Admiral Farragut Academy history.

Lower School and now have a

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Admiral Farragut Academy, we thank you for all of your volunteer time, talent and financial support.



Sincerely, Christian M. Wagner '82N *Chairman, Admiral Farragut Academy Board of Trustees* 



# **Donor Highlight**

An Interview with the Salebra Family

ark and Lanie Salebra, parents of 2nd grader Max (Class of 2029), are a great example of a family who has embraced the Farragut Experience. Their company, Salebra Family Restaurants. owns six McDonald's franchise locations and they are active in giving back not only to Farragut, but the community as well. We sat down with Max's Mom, Lanie, to talk about his experience as a student, their experience as parents, and their experiences giving back.

#### How long have you been at **Farragut?**

Max has been attending Farragut since PreK. The summer prior, we enrolled Max in the Little Captains Summer Camp to occupy him for a week or so while we were vacationing in Florida from Delaware. At that time, we had no intentions of enrolling him in school, just summer fun. Luckily, we had a unique opportunity to move to St. Petersburg full time. We'd had such an amazing summer experience that we decided to give the school a try. And here we are today, four years later, proud Farragut parents with one fulfilled, happy kid.

#### What attracted you to **Farragut?**

We are from the Northeast and the campus always caught our eve because it reminded us of the independent schools back home. It has that small, collegelike campus feel, is beautifully



historic, and looks very different than the other schools in the area. Plus, who can resist the intrigue of our waterfront.

The Little Captains summer camp, led by Kindergarten teacher Marilyn Reynolds, certainly sealed the deal. We took the official school tour and were very impressed by what Farragut had to offer. It was obvious that Max would receive a top-notch college-prep education with personalized and individual attention. Combining that with sailing, scuba certifications, and possible flight training made Farragut a win/ win for us.

Another important attribute that appealed to us was the diversity of the student body. The Academy represents so many different cultural backgrounds and countries. Private schooling can be such an insulated bubble. and the cultural diversity at

Farragut presents an opportunity to expand our son's complete experience.

Lastly, we were looking for a "forever school". Farragut can take Max from PreK through graduation. No need to start this search again for middle or upper school. His experience would be seamless and it was important for us to have that option.

Basically, Farragut checked off every item on our education wish list.

#### What has Max become fond of at Farragut, inside and outside of class?

Well, if you ask Max he would say the Mess Hall and lunch. He says the food is the best he's ever had, and can't wait to be old enough to go to the salad bar. Taco day is his favorite.

Max loves his friends, small class size, and teachers. He is an active kid and likes to participate in the many after school programs Farragut has to offer. He plays tennis, takes guitar lessons with music instructor, Gabe Whitney, and joined the Little Jackets Sports program, just to name a few. Max plays Lacrosse and loves going to the upper school games. He even had the opportunity to participate in the Farragut Summer Lacrosse Camp led by Ty Thompson, who is a professional Lacrosse player.

Aftercare is even a hit. He likes staying after school each day so he can continue to play with his friends, and he says they have the best snacks. We've even started using after care as a reward.

## What do you tell others about Farragut?

First, we tell others that Farragut is a top-rated college preparatory day and boarding school with an outstanding Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps leadership program. The other thing is that it really isn't your father's military school any longer. You don't have to have a military background or military aspirations to attend. You would be surprised how many people don't know this. In fact, Farragut is about teaching our children important core values such as respect, responsibility, integrity, and patriotism. We have a wonderful STEAM program. It's the total experience -- The Farragut Experience. We always throw in that our kid gets to go to school on Boca Ciega Bay with an average 361 days of sunshine each year. What's not to love?!?

#### How has your involvement increased over the years? What motivates you to stay involved?

At first, our involvement was simple and sporadic. We attended a few meetings, went to the school fundraising events to meet other parents, and volunteered when we could in the classroom. Everyone was so warm, welcoming and approachable. We quickly got on board by joining the Parents' Group. This organization offers a wealth of opportunity to get involved at every level. We have also chaired the One Million for Farragut Fundraising Effort, hosted a fun Glow Party for the Lower School, sponsored a variety of school events, held a McDonald's dinner for our boarding students, donated to the Capital Campaign for a new performing arts and multipurpose center, and donated a new and improved water fountain and bottle filling station at the Lower School. This year, Mark is looking forward to participating in the Admiral's Athletics Club. Nothing is more motivating than having a direct impact on your child's educational experience.

#### In your opinion, what is the most important work that Farragut does?

Farragut is constantly improving the academic experience for our kids. We really love that Farragut is investing in infrastructure to help better facilitate the academic experience. The new performing arts and multipurpose building will bring an increased awareness and programs including music and the arts to our children. We are involved in a fundraising effort to raise funds that will provide



Lanie and Max at the Mother Son Glow Party



Mark and Max at Family Day during Max's first year of PreK

seed money to improve our waterfront --The One Million for Farragut Effort. We envision a state-of-the-art multi-purpose marine biology building, a possible crew program, improved sailing facilities, and competitive swimming pool. These are all endeavors we are hoping we can help bring to life and that students will benefit from.

## Of what contribution or achievement are you most proud?

We are excited to be a part of a cultural shift we see in Farragut that's taking place right now. A shift toward much needed strategic capital investments and an increased emphasis on family involvement. Family engagement is growing and essential for the health of the school. We love being a part of this.

#### Do you have an anecdote about Farragut or personal experience that really moved you?

The first time Max came home from PreK, he called us sir and ma'am. It was so sweet and natural. He continues to show this level of respect to not just us, but others as well. In fact, Max received the Respect Character Trait Award this year in first grade. A proud moment for sure.

#### What would you say to encourage other families to be more involved and giving?

Involvement isn't just measured by financial contributions, although giving to the school has an immediate and lasting impact. Also important is helping change our culture by attending meetings, events, and volunteering your time. We need families to understand that they have a strong voice and an opportunity to influence their kids' overall experience at the school. Hopefully, the things we can accomplish will have an impact on our kids from PreK to graduation.

# What do you hope the organization will achieve in the near future? In the long term?

We hope Farragut continues to grow and keeps modernizing and improving facilities while retaining its historic campus atmosphere.

## In what other ways is your family philanthropic? Is that a family core value?

Our family has always believed in giving back to our community. As owners of McDonald's restaurants, it's been a large part of our history and heritage. It is ingrained in us! We are big supporters of the Ronald McDonald House Charities and the local Ronald McDonald Houses. Last year. Max even played Santa's Little Elf and distributed presents to families staying at the local Ronald McDonald House. He has helped prepare meals for families, donated his own toys, and even set up a lemonade stand in our neighborhood with proceeds benefiting the Ronald McDonald House. Max always jumps at the chance to participate in collecting books, supplies, and food for local causes. We have been involved in so many programs and events over the years and hope we do a good job of teaching Max the value of giving back and the impact he can have on people's lives.





Max on his first day of PreK in 2015



The new water fountain and bottle filling station



Lanie with a group of boarding cadets at the Boarding McDonald's Dinner



## The Parents' Group Enhancing Our School



During the previous school year, the Parents' Group (PG) raised \$96,000 through fundraiser events including the Golf Tournament and the Annual Auction.

In the past year the PG has funded the installation of Elkav® ezH2O<sup>®</sup> filtered-water fountains and bottle refill stations, a security camera at the Lower School car circle, assistance with the pool refurbishment, sunscreen dispensers throughout campus, sun shades at the Lower School playground, the digital marquee at the Lower School, and welcome goody bags for Boarding Life. Upcoming projects that have funds reserved include Lower and Upper School STEM enhancements, Upper School classroom enhancements, and a new fence and gate on Country Club Blvd.

Throughout the year the PG also funds, plans, and hosts events such as the Lower

School's Daddy Daughter Dance and Mother Son Event, the Parent Welcome Back to School Social, and Faculty and Staff Appreciation Day.

"I am so grateful for all of the amazing parents, executive board members, and staff who have made the past two years phenomenally successful in the Parents' Group," said Denise Colangelo. "We set out to improve communication with our Facebook page and email recaps to reach parents who wanted to be involved but couldn't attend the monthly meetings. This gave parents the opportunity to give feedback, suggestions, and volunteer their time or resources. I am immensely proud of all the improvements that we have embarked on. Without the dedication and support from our parent and staff volunteers. none of this would have been possible."

We thank our past board members and volunteers and are pleased to introduce and welcome the incoming board.

"We are so fortunate to have the experience and dedication of our board and past president continuing on for another year," said incoming president Marjorie Deskovich. "I am very excited to incorporate innovative ideas to continue to build a network that will encourage parents to get to know and support one another and continue to raise funds that will be used to enhance AFA's quality educational and recreational programs. I look forward to working with AFA Families, Staff, and the Admiral's Athletic Club in the upcoming year. Please contact us with any ideas, suggestions, or questions. It is going to be a fantastic AFA year!"

If you would like to get involved with the PG, please email parentsgroup@farragut2.org.



2017-18 Executive Board President: Denise Colangelo Vice President: Saskia Etter Treasurer: July Bonilla Secretary: Samantha Lewis



2018-19 Executive Board President: Marjorie Deskovich Vice President: Vickie Cuesta Treasurer: July Bonilla Secretary: Samantha Lewis Upper School Liason: Cathy Middleton Lower School Liason: Cathy Larrinaga Outgoing President: Denise Colangelo

## **Admiral's Athletics Club**

Supporting Our Sports



The Admiral's Athletics Club (AAC) raised \$155,000 through gate admission fees, concession sales, banner sales, and by hosting a wine raffle and Poker Run.

"We had three great years and I could not be more thankful for the volunteers and executive board members." said Ion Covington, who was president of the AAC from 2015-2018. "None of this would be possible without the efforts of our parents and volunteers who collected gate admission and worked the concession stands. Special thanks to parent volunteer and AFA athletics staff member, Mary Rice, for beginning this initiative and making sure every event was staffed with volunteers. We have over 80 on-campus events every year and we have seen a tremendous increase in volunteerism and parent participation. That parent involvement is the key to generating revenue that

provides our student-athletes with the equipment and facilities they deserve."

The AAC finished the 2017-18 school year with a remaining \$13,000 budget for the incoming board. Over the past three years the AAC spent \$142,000 towards items needed in the concession stands such as supplies, fryers, warmers and more: athletic needs such as a utility vehicle for field prep, gym resurfacing, new clay and crushed brick at both the baseball and softball fields, air conditioning for the wrestling room and field house storage, a new practice field with irrigation, a cross cable machine for the weight room, the lacrosse team's uniforms and equipment.

We thank our past board members and volunteers and are pleased to introduce and welcome the incoming board.

"We would like to extend our appreciation to Jon, Pete,

Chris, and Lisa for their past service and extraordinary accomplishments," said current AAC President Patti Magenheimer. "We are looking forward to working together with the AFA staff, students, families, Parents' Group and our local community in the upcoming year. We have large shoes to fill, but we will work very hard to maximize student participation in AFA athletics and enhance school spirit through increased attendance to all home events. It is also a top priority to help provide our teams with the athletic equipment that they need to be successful. We welcome any support, ideas, and suggestions that can help us take AFA athletics to an even higher level. Please feel free to reach out to any of us. Thank you for your support."

If you would like to get involved with the AAC, please email AAC@farragut.org.



2018-19 Executive Board President: Patti Magenheimer Vice President: Jeff Ulevich Treasurer: Katie Everlove-Stone Secretary: Derek Raymer

## Honor Roll of Donors

### THE BLUE JACKET CLUB

The ongoing commitment of our donors to the values and ideals upon which Admiral Farragut Academy is based reflects the enduring importance of the Academy in their lives. It is a wonderful testament to their desire to show appreciation to the school that has done so much for them, and for so many others. Farragut would not be what it is today without the generosity of those who share their resources with us. Giving to one's alma mater stands at the beautiful crossroads between paying the school back for the benefits it has imparted to oneself, but then also paying the school forward for the benefits one's gift will impart to others. The donors listed here are the Academy's most generous. Their total lifetime giving to the school exceeds \$100,000.00. We are grateful for their exceptional generosity.



The Wheel of Honor just off the Quarterdeck at the main entrance to Farragut Hall bears the names of our Blue Jacket Club Members

Edward Cannon
E. K. Cleveland
Gary and Gail Damkoehler
Edward DeSeta'67N and Wanda
Robert and Anita Fine
Michael Fisher'59N and Karen
Harold Gaines
Martin and Kennedy Garcia
Bernadette Hart
Janet Huntley

Michael Insel'65S and Rachel
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### **THE FARRAGUT FUND**

#### **Admiral's Circle**

recognizes and honors donors of \$10,000 or more to the Farragut Fund.

Christian Wagner . . . . . . '82N

#### **Headmaster's Circle**

recognizes and honors donors of \$5,000 to \$9,999 to the Farragut Fund.

Robert and Anita Fine

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LeCompte Family Fund

Kent and Jennifer Preston

## **Q & A**

#### **Commandant's Circle**

recognizes and honors donors of \$1,000 to \$4,999 to the Farragut Fund.

Andy Aldi
Ben Barton
Michael Harris'87S and Kimya
Bernadette Hart
Robert Matthies
Thomas Miller
Donald Schreiber'46N
Sylvia Smith
Don and Elaine Lucadano Wallace
Michael Williams

#### **Blue & Gold Circle**

Recognizes and honors gifts up to \$999 to the Farragut Fund. Gerald Aldi Denise Ambrefe

- Karen Bacon
- Karina Bahnsen
- Dustin Barnes

Heather Baxter-Ewing



#### WHAT IS THE FARRAGUT FUND?

The Farragut Fund supports the operating budget of the School, especially Farragut's strategic priorities of student financial aid, faculty and staff salaries, and programs.

## WHY IS THE FARRAGUT FUND IMPORTANT?

Gifts to the Farragut Fund provide flexible resources to support the school's priorities, including financial aid funds, so Farragut remains affordable for qualified students. It's important so all of our students get to 'choose' which college they attend. It's important because Farragut does what other schools cannot do – offers scuba, flight training, sailing, robotics, engineering, and drone certification --programs that other schools only dream of – and it is only because of you and your generosity that Farragut can offer all of this to each of our students.

#### WHAT IS CONSIDERED A FARRAGUT FUND GIFT?

Ideal Farragut Fund gifts are unrestricted, immediate-use cash gifts. Restricted gifts within the school's standard areas of budgeted expense (financial aid, faculty development, etc.) also count as Farragut Fund.

#### WHAT IS AN UNBUDGETED RESTRICTED GIFT?

An unbudgeted restricted gift is an unanticipated donation for a program/item/service that was not part of the approved budget and is counted as Farragut Fund. James Becker Diane Belvedere Al Bennati Ana Benavides Katrina Bennett Paul Bornstein Barbara Ann Bower Dianne Ribeirinha-Braga John Buggle and Lisa Brian Chatterley Thomas Chirichella Victor Christopher Clarie Law Offices, P.A. Mike and Kristan Coad David and Julie Collins Dennis Collins John and Vickie Cuesta Joseph and Pam Doran Linda Covey Fred and Patricia Croft John Cuesta Scott and Sari Deitche Suzanne Hughley-Douglass Michael and Jan Erwin **Robert Ewing** Jose Ferrer Rafael Ferrer Cammie Fine and Brett Schlifstein Carrie Forrester Valeri Fowler Garland Frost Destry Fudge Andreas Fuller



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recognizes and honors donors to the multi-purpose performing arts building. Admiral Farragut Academy Foundation Anthony Angerome ..... '84N Anonymous Karen Bacon Dustin Barnes Ben and Betty Barton . . . . '61S Heather Baxter-Ewing Al Bennati Barbara Ann Bower Christopher Convers . . . . '87S Linda Covey Gerald Creadon and Victoria Olchanskaia



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recognizes and honors donors to the One Million For Farragut effort raising funds from parents for the new multi-purpose performing arts building and seed funds for waterfront development.

Juan and Jill Gallego Chris and Heather Mariscal Mike Vaughn and Sara Moola Kent and Jennifer Preston Derek and Victoria Raymer Tony and Tonya Sloan Tom and Julie Walrond

#### 2018 SENIOR CLASS GIFTS

recognizes and honors those graduating Seniors who gave to their class fund.

Joey Ambrefe '18

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recognizes and honors donors who have given to support Parents' Group projects and the Annual Auction and Golf Tournament.

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recognizes and honors donors who have given to support Admiral Farragut Academy athletics.

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#### **GIFTS-IN-KIND**

## **Gift Planning** For A Better Admiral Farragut Academy

If you or your child has had the opportunity to attend Admiral Farragut Academy, you understand what a unique and special place it truly is. The beautiful campus, dedicated faculty, superior education, remarkable student life and most importantly, the positive impact resulting from the experience creates a lifelong appreciation for the school and all that it embodies. And now, you've reached a point in life where you are inspired to help safegard the future success of the school, its students, and faculty. That's why we are excited to announce a new Planned Giving Program with Sagicor Life Insurance Company.

- A planned gift can help ensure that your donation will have the greatest impact for Farragut by leveraging the power of life insurance to significantly increase the amount provided to the school.
- Your gift can qualify for a federal income tax charitable deduction on your taxes along with the confidence that Farragut will be funded decades into the future.
- Planned giving requires more time than a simple cash donation, however, the benefits to the school can be so much greater.



To learn more about Admiral Farragut Academy's Planned Giving Program and the options available to increase your legacy, contact Tony Sloan, Chief Development Officer, at (813) 416-7202 or tsloan@farragut.org. Then contact your insurance professional for specific product information.

DISCLOSURE: POLICIES ISSUED BY SAGICOR LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY, SCOTTSDALE, AZ. POLICIES HAVE LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS, ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN ALL STATES, AND ISSUANCE IS NOT GUARANTEED. EXAMPLES SHOWN ARE FOR ILLUSTRATION PURPOSES ONLY. SAGICOR DOES NOT PROVIDE LEGAL OR TAX ADVICE. FOR ADVICE REGARDING YOUR SPECIFIC SITUATION, CONTACT YOUR LEGAL, TAX, OR ESTATE PLANNING ADVISOR.



OMNIA

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## The Heritage Society

Honor the Past, Invest in the Future

#### Invest In The Future Of Admiral Farragut Academy

By designating Admiral Farragut Academy in your will or living trust, you can help ensure that the school will fulfill its mission to provide students with an excellent, academically challenging education with a strong emphasis on leadership development. This meaningful act can result in a large and lasting gift. Choose to direct your gift to an area of the school that reflects your experience and your values: financial assistance, athletics, arts, science, leadership development, capital needs just to name a few.



#### There Are Many Ways In Which You Can Make Your Commitment

- Charitable Bequest
- Retirement Plans
- Insurance Policies
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Retained Life Estate

A bequest is one of the easiest planned gifts that you can make as a donor to ensure that your legacy lives on. A GIFT THAT COSTS YOU NOTHING DURING YOUR LIFETIME.

#### We Recognize Your Gift And Thank You Today

The Heritage Society provides recognition to donors who have included Farragut in their estate plan. All you need to do is tell the school that your plan is in place, share the documentation and confirm that you have no objection to being publicly listed in our Heritage Society honor roll. I support Admiral Farragut Academy because I, like most alumni, remember the great experiences we had there as students. Over time, we have come to recognize what a factor Farragut has been in the shaping of our lives. Now, we wish to enable Farragut to fulfill its role for future generations. The Academy has critical needs. Expanding knowledge and developing leaders brings the need for expanded faculty. Attracting talented students, regardless of financial status, through scholarship programs provides broad leadership potential. Updated facilities complete the needs for continued greatness. Please join me in supporting Farragut.

Dr. Glenn Mitchell, '63N



For information or questions regarding giving, contact Chief Development Officer Tony Sloan at tsloan@farragut.org or (813) 416-7202.

## Heritage Society Members

1-Frank Wendt '42N 2-George J. Michel, Jr '49S 3-Kay Harper 4-Richard G. Wheeler 5-Robert J. Fine, Jr. 6-Joseph "Chris" Slusher '86S 7-Ed DeSeta '67N 8-Don Schreiber '46N 9-Christian Wagner '82N 10-James S. Wood '45N 11-Tony and Tonya Sloan 12-Alan Atwood '52N 13-Michael Hajek '80S and Karen 14-Dr. Glenn Mitchell, M.D., M.P.H. 15-Karen Bacon, AFA 16-CDR Robert R. Kurz '63N 17-J. Val Smith '47N and Sylvia 18-Howard Sakolsky '47S 19-Laurence Upham '53S 20-Gary H. Amsterdam '68N and Donna 21-Jeff Ogden 'oo 22-Derek and Victoria Raymer 23-Benjamin H. Troemel '73S 24-Rob Hailey '76S 25-Tom McClelland 26-Donald Doornbos '63S and Carol 27-Thomas Miller '73N and Kari 28-Joe Sloan 29-Phillip Hurt '38N and Lona 39-Bailey Norton '39N 40-Randy Kressler '60N 41- John Gardella '41N

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Italics indicates deceased.





## Leadership

#### Foundation Board of Trustees

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#### **Honorary Directors**

Don Schreiber '46N Frank Wendt '42

#### **Lifetime Directors**

George J. Michel, Jr. '49S Richard Wheeler Claudia Sokolowski Robert Klingel



#### Save the Date for this Parents' Group event

## Michael Israel Saturday, April 6, 2019



#### Artwork at left is located in West Lounge of Farragut Hall and was donated by Robert and Marjorie Deskovich.

About the Artist: Michael Israel is a world renowned artist. His performances are best described as Cirque du Soleil meets Picasso. A leader of the new art renaissance, flamboyant rock star and charismatic. He has performed at Presidential galas, the Olympic Medal Ceremony in Salt Lake City and has sold a portrait of Warren Buffet for \$100,000 at the Berkshire Hathaway Shareholders meeting. His paintings hang in many celebrities' homes and he also has several works in the White House.

## Admiral Farragut Academy

As you travel, take a picture with spirit wear or with this Farragut anchor and post it on our Facebook page or email it to *communications@farragut.org* with your name and a brief caption.



www.farragut.org

# DROPPING ANCHOR AROUND THE WORLD















1) 6th graders Hans and Lars Renlund went to opening day of the Blue Angels 2018 Flying Season in Pensacola, FL, during spring break. They showed off their Farragut Pride with two US Navy Blue Angels pilots: #1 Plane, Flight Leader and Commanding Officer, CDR Eric Doyle, and #2 Plane, Right Wing, LT Damon Kroes.

**2)** A group of boarding students spent their Spring Break right on a Carnival cruise to the West Caribbean with Chinese teacher Mrs. Rue and Residential staff Mrs. Locklear and Mr. Becker.

**3)** PreK student Oleg Tchentsov shows off the anchor as he visits NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Cocoa Beach, FL over Spring Break. **4)** Jessica Van Curen, Director of Marketing and Communication at Farragut, celebrated her 8-year anniversary by completing the 8-mile loop hike at Little Wild Horse Canyon in Utah this past April.

**5)** Science teacher Mrs. Deitche visited Cuba with her husband Scott and daughters, Farragut students Sylvia '21 and Sophia '24, while representing the school, with mom and dad in their Farragut shirts and daughters in their Softball State Championship shirts.

**6)** John Hodges '85N poses with the Stanley Cup during the Stanley Cup Parade in Washington, D.C.

**7)** 7th grader Madison Hollingsworth, 1st grader Olivia Love, and kindergarten student Charlotte Love show off the anchor at the Trevi Fountain in Rome, Italy.



## **Farragut supporting Farragut!** Business Directory for the Farragut Community

We've received many requests for advertising or business listing opportunities, and here's your chance for community-wide exposure! In the next edition and all future editions of Reveille, we will have a business directory section to support businesses owned by parents, alumni, board members, faculty/staff, and friends of Farragut.

### **Listing Benefits**

On average, 5,500 magazines are printed and mailed or given to parents, alumni, prospective families, board members, educational consultants, student agents, campus visitors, and more. With the print and online listing option, you will reach even more potential customers with an average of 112,000 new website visitors annually.

### **Listing Includes:**

- Individual's Name (optional)
- 🖞 Business Name
- 🕹 Website
- 🖞 🛛 Phone Number

### Cost:

\$75 for print and online or \$50 for print only

## Purchase the listing online at www.farragut.org/business-directory-listing

### Read it? Love it?

Tell us your thoughts on this edition of *Reveille*. Share your stories and pictures with us for the next edition. (*We reserve the right to edit your letters for length and clarity.*)

#### Admiral Farragut Academy

*Reveille Fall 2018* 501 Park St N, St. Petersburg, FL 33710 alumni@farragut.org (727) 384-5500

#### WE'RE ALWAYS UPDATING!



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Want an easy way to give back to Farragut? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. Just visit **smile.amazon.com** and choose Admiral Farragut Academy as your charitable organization!



Admiral Farragut Academy is blessed to have so many student who embody the charitable spirit, both current and past. Farragut requires its students to earn 80 community service hours, but many earn far more than that. We are pleased to note that the Class of 2018 earned more than 6,000 community service hours! Left image: Key Club members Patrick Terry '03 and Megan Duffey '01 help spread mulch on the Lower Division playground.

Right image: 7th grader Ryan Almstadt and 6th grader Sophia Deitche pick up trash during the Earth Day Cleanup at Clam Bayou.

