

# REVEILLE

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY COMMUNITY

SUMMER 2016





# SUMMER

## PROGRAMS AND CAMPS

### ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

# BOARDING CAMP

summer@  
ADMIRAL  
FARRAGUT  
ACADEMY

Summer@Farragut is a unique six-week boarding experience for teens entering grades 8-12. They will attend college-prep classes and participate in fun activities while living in campus dormitories at Admiral Farragut Academy.

6 Week Session: July 2 - August 13, 2016

Two Week Sessions:  
Session 1: July 2 - 16, 2016  
Session 2: July 16 - 30, 2016  
Session 3: July 30 - August 13, 2016

## DAY CAMPS

**LITTLE  
EXPLORERS**

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
July 5 - July 29, 2016

**got  
STEM?**

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

July 11-15, 2016 - 3rd-5th Grade  
July 25-29, 2016 - 6th-8th Grade

**bricks  
4 kidz**

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
July 18-22, 2016

**SPORTS@FARRAGUT**



ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

1st - 6th Grade  
July 5 - July 8, 2016: Wrestling  
July 11 - July 15, 2016: Soccer  
July 18 - July 22, 2016: Basketball  
July 25 - July 29, 2016: Baseball

**WRITING  
CAMP**

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

4th - 8th Grade  
August 1-5, 2016

**little  
captains**

ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

PreK - 5th Grade  
Session 1: June 6-10, 2016  
Session 2: June 13-17, 2016  
Session 3: June 20-24, 2016  
Session 4: June 27 - July 1, 2016

Keep our summer camps in mind for planning your child's next summer experience!

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COVER PHOTO: From left to right: Joshua Fixler '19,  
Kyndal Olander '17, Chris Northup '18, and Richard  
Dunleavy '17. Photo by Sari Deitche.

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*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.*

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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.*) Please email [alumni@farragut.org](mailto:alumni@farragut.org)!

Write to Us  
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## a word from the Advancement Director

### The experience of a lifetime

Allow me to introduce the theme of this edition of *Reveille*, Men in the Military following last edition's theme of Women in the Military, from the perspective of my 12 years as a Farragut parent.

Our journey began 12 years ago when my husband, John, and I decided to make the move from Boston to St. Petersburg. Needing the perfect place for our children to attend school, we eventually discovered Farragut. During the open house at Farragut, we were extremely impressed with the academic choices offered. More so, we were awed by the way the cadets carried themselves. I will never forget my husband's words, "I want our children to be just like those young men and women (the tour guides)." They looked polished in their uniforms. They were polite and respectful. They exuded confidence. When they greeted us, they looked us in the eye and spoke to us with the type of maturity lacking in many teenagers. Most importantly, they were happy. Instantly, we were sold.

Little did I know that it would be the best decision we have ever made for our children, Julia, who graduated in 2013, and Jack, who graduated May 2016. I knew the military aspect would make a difference in their lives once they got to high school, because I attended boot camp immediately after my high school graduation at Lackland Air Force Base when I enlisted in the Air Force Reserves. The influence of my experiences during my 15 years in the military is truly what made me a strong and confident person.

The Farragut experience for each of my children was totally different. For Julia, the caring and accepting community was a key factor during those difficult middle school years for a smart, somewhat nerdy girl. More importantly, the leadership she developed through the NJROTC program was life changing. Julia had no desire to pursue a military career, yet she worked hard to achieve rank and position. She became one of the only female Executive Officers on the Battalion Staff and was a boarding student her senior year to fulfill those duties. Honestly, her college application process to her top choice, Elon University was a breeze because the resume she built and experiences she had at Farragut made her shine. She was the one of only 3 students to receive a coveted Leadership Fellowship Scholarship at Elon University. Her study skills and her time management skills have proven to be crucial in her college success. On my drive with Julia to Elon for her sophomore year, Julia said to me, "I know I complained about how tough my English teachers were at Farragut but I can tell you now that I would not have survived my freshman year at Elon without them. All I did was write paper after paper."

For my son, his experience was encapsulated by the structure that helped him successfully balance academics, participation in three sports, and involvement with the Scuba program. He became interested in Scuba his freshman year and has taken that to the top level, achieving all certifications offered as a diver. In wrestling, he went from being a fish out of water to being one of four athletes on the 2016 team to make it to the state finals. Because of the diligence in academics inspired through the Farragut community, he was able to secure an Army ROTC scholarship to Arizona



State University, where he will begin this fall. Through it all, Jack succeeded because of Farragut and thanks to amazing mentors here like Scott Davenport (Scuba), Calvin Brown (Residential Life and Wrestling), and Coach Ron Timpanaro (Wrestling). These are the people who drove Jack to be his best and mentor Jack, keeping him focused and driven. Their inspiration have been the key to Jack's success.

My children are just a snapshot of what our students at Farragut experience. We owe a great deal of their success to Farragut and the people who define Farragut. I did not have the opportunity to go to a military high school but I am so pleased that my children did. Although many Farragut cadets may choose not to pursue a military career, the important point is they all leave with the values we instill at Farragut: leadership, confidence, accountability, teamwork, integrity, self-discipline, perseverance, and well-being.

Farragut, however, has produced an impressive array of graduates who have gone on to serve our country well. In this edition of *Reveille*, you will read how Farragut helped shape the life of Chris Von Kruger, Class of 2000, who attended the United States Naval Academy and currently serves in the Navy Reserves while flying for Delta Airlines. You will also see a timeline of some of graduates who have served in different capacities for the Armed Forces.

The Class of 2016 is a prime example of Farragut's military tradition living on as four of our 76 graduates will be matriculating to one of the military academies or to college through the ROTC program.

They include: Jack Winters, a 7-day boarder from Montana, who will attend the Marine Maritime Academy at Kings Point, day student; 7-day boarder George Dyche who will attend the University of Florida on a Navy ROTC Scholarship and Jack Lescarbeau mentioned above.

So as my journey as a Farragut parent comes to a close (do not worry, I will still be here serving Farragut as the Advancement Director), my family and I would like to thank all of you for making this experience unforgettable.

Alison Lescarbeau  
Advancement Director and proud Farragut Parent





# Tall ship 'Lynx'

## sails into St. Petersburg

creates memories -- and a partnership -- that will last a lifetime

By: Chris Girandola

### Epic, adventurous, super fun.

Those were some of the descriptions by the fourth graders in Shannon LoRusso's STEM class when discussing the trip aboard the Tall Ship Lynx ship, an interpretation of a Baltimore privateer, Topsail schooner used during the War of 1812. The ship, which serves as a mobile museum, makes its home port in Fairhaven, Massachusetts, but was in St. Petersburg from February 17-21 mainly to begin a working relationship with Admiral Farragut Academy.

"It started several years ago when I took the color guard over to the yacht club and the crew gave them a demonstration," said CAPT Tom McClelland, who served as a naval aviator for over 30 years in the U.S. Navy, was a longtime naval science instructor at Farragut, and now serves as development officer. "I met Donald Peacock, who is the father of the captain of the ship, Alex, and who is now the chairman of the Lynx Educational Foundation. We talked about establishing a relationship and with the help of alumnus Ed DeSeta '67N, everything fell into place."

The ship docked in the Harborage Marina in St. Petersburg and the mobile museum hosted Lower School students throughout the day on February 17, boarders on February 18, and Upper School students on February 19 for dockside tours that included historical educational lessons of traditional sailing skills and seamanship. During the tour, the students were divided into six learning lessons on the Lynx, where they experienced what it was like to live on a ship back in the 1800s -- including an actual sailing expedition around Tampa Bay.



We asked some fourth graders from Mrs. LoRusso's class what they thought.

*"It was cool that we got to raise and work the sails," said Sophia, one of the fourth-graders from Mrs. LoRusso's class.*

*"I liked learning about how the ship was used in the war to gather supplies and as a blockade to the British Navy," said Will.*

*"When I told my mom what we did, she said we were pretty lucky and that she had never gotten to do anything like this in school when she was a kid," said Karolina.*

CAPT McClelland said the Lynx will visit annually during the spring and might make an additional trip during the fall.

"This will be something that will not only add to the prestige of the school but will give Farragut students an opportunity to learn outside the classroom in a unique way," McClelland said. "They were able to experience history first hand and talk quite a bit about naval science and Admiral Farragut and the War of 1812. Furthermore, we presented the Lynx with gifts -- pictures of Admiral Farragut Academy with commemorative coins that represent the two astronauts who graduated from Farragut and a larger coin of Farragut himself -- that the crew gave to the United States Naval Academy (in Annapolis, Maryland) and the Patriots Point Naval & Maritime Museum (in Charleston, South Carolina) when they visited their respective ports."



# From Montana to the Merchant Marines -- Jack Winters '16 makes his dream come true

By: Chris Girandola

Two years ago, Jack Winters '16 admits to being somewhat of a homebody, somewhat of a "skittish kid." "I kept to myself quite a bit," said Jack, whose given name is John. As a graduate of the Class of 2016 who will begin his appointment to the United States Merchant Marine Academy this fall, Jack is proud to say he is no longer the same.

"Initially, I didn't want to go away to a boarding school, especially one that was approximately 2,500 miles away from home," said Jack, who is originally from Florence, Montana. "I was kind of that kid who thought he knew everything and didn't need to grow up. When my parents suggested Farragut, though, I did the research online and thought it might be good for me."

His first year was spent indoctrinating himself with the culture of Farragut, learning the intricacies and appreciating the nuances of it, all while interacting with a roommate from England with a British accent and another roommate from Vietnam who spoke broken English.

"We were somewhat of a microcosm of what Farragut is all about, being from all different parts of the world," said Jack, whose roommates that first year were James Hales '15 and Tony Hoang '16. "James was great, though. He had been here for quite a while so he gave me tons of advice on how to get your uniform right, definitely showed me the ropes about the culture of Farragut and how to behave and how to work with others."

Jack knew Farragut was exactly where he needed -- and wanted -- to be. "I've always wanted to fly fighter jets, ever since my parents took me to see the Blue Angels perform when I was like 7-years-old," said Jack, who is currently working on his private pilot license. "When I saw online what type of place it was, I knew it would be a life-changer." Indeed, it has.



Jack and his parents Laurie and Patrick

"Meeting kids from all over the world, interacting with peers who have expectations to succeed, being a part of a regiment and watching the way cadet officers lead their peers, it gives you a perspective on life that helps mold you into a mature, responsible person," said Jack, who served as Administration Officer and an Adjutant Officer within the 2015-16 Regimental Command.

"This school has done great things for me. Before I could barely hold a 3.0 grade point average. Currently, I have a 3.8. This school has shaped who I am, a leader, someone who is confident about the future and has high expectations for myself. If you had told me my sophomore year that I would be living at a boarding school and holding leadership positions in the future, I would have called you crazy. Looking back, it shows how much I've grown, how so many changes can lead to good things. You can grow up and do big things here. It helps you grow up and face obstacles and realize you don't have to be scared to accomplish whatever you want in life."

# Richard Dunleavy '17 becomes Eagle Scout

By: Chris Girandola

When Richard Dunleavy '17 received his advancement to Eagle Scout by St. Petersburg Troop 340 in February, he achieved a feat that is completed by a little less than one percent of all Boy Scouts. In doing so, he showcased the giving spirit that is so pervasive throughout the Farragut community.

"I was inspired by the spartina nursery our Marine Science program has in association with Tampa Bay Watch, but I wanted to have a larger community involved," said Richard, who joined the Boy Scouts soon after completing the third grade. "There were a lot of long nights and a lot of coffee involved in this undertaking and I owe a lot of gratitude to so many different people."

His Eagle Scout project included working directly with the City of Madeira Beach council members. Throughout most of last year, he organized his troop and the community of Madeira Beach to insert a salt marsh nursery for spartina alterniflora at the Madeira Beach 9/11 Memorial, which sits on a portion of Causeway Park.

While Richard enlisted the assistance of everyone from the City of Madeira Beach, mayor and city council members to managers of the stores who donated supplies to his scout compatriots to a "whole slew of family members and friends," the Farragut student served as the primary project manager from start to finish -- which ended up lasting approximately one year, or 400 hours, to be exact.

"It took creativity, communication and cooperation between many different individuals to get this done," Richard said. "I searched for cities and contacted different ones that would be interested in taking the project. Madeira Beach was very enthusiastic with having that piece of the park renovated. I cleared the section of the park, right by the gazebo of the memorial, then leveled the land, putting the frame timbers in and securing them. Next, we punched our own well, constructing the pond itself. Then, we reshaped the landscaping, added some more mulching



throughout the park, inserted some weed killer tarps and finally, inserted some new benches and placed a new sign at the entrance explaining the purpose and benefit of the nursery." Richard sought out and received assistance from Lowe's Home Improvement, Home Depot, Larson & Son Landscape Supply, and Pentair, which included supplies and cash donations.

Because the project consumed much of his life over the past year, Richard admitted he was saddened that he was not able to participate in some of the activities he had grown fond of at Farragut, including wrestling, cross country and track. "I hope to get back into those sports for my senior year," said Richard, who often volunteers to feed the homeless and work at animal shelters.

While Richard still has one year left to finish at Farragut, he has his sights set on the United States Naval Academy. "My goal is to become a commissioned officer with an engineering degree and then become a Navy Seal," Richard said.

Richard has been chosen to be the Regimental Commander for the 2016-2017 school year.



# Sasha DeSilva '16, the word whisperer



L to R: Head of Upper School Tom McGlinn; English Teacher Heather Ewing; Sasha DeSilva; Headmaster Robert J. Fine, Jr.

As she moves on to the next chapter of her life, Class of 2016 valedictorian Sasha DeSilva '16 would like to be remembered not only for doing well in school, but also for her dedication, kindness, friendship and humility.

In the field of academics, Sasha distinguished herself as a National Merit Scholar and an AP Scholar with Honor, and has been an active participant in the Student Advisory Committee, Teen Science Cafe, the National Honor Society, and the Spanish National Honor Society. A co-founder of the school's poetry club, Sasha has won several regional and national short story awards including the National Scholastic Writing Gold Medal in 2015 for her novel, "When the Moon Isn't Watching", and a National Silver Award in the 2016 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for the poem, "Boxes".

She has played tennis since picking up the racket as a seven-year-old and has competed for the BlueJackets varsity team for four consecutive seasons. She also is capable of playing Moonlight Sonata by Beethoven on the piano, an instrument she mastered around the same time she began learning tennis.

Her reading list over the years has evolved from the "fun stuff like Junie B. Jones" to tackling the entire Harry Potter series (three times) to taking on some "light reading" of Kurt Vonnegut to

By: Chris Girandola

developing thoughts about oncology due to her discovery of the New York Times' best-selling book "The Emperor of All Maladies", a powerful history of cancer and its treatment that won the Pulitzer Prize. She is a fan of the medical television drama, House, and she also appreciates movies that "make you think," like the recent 2014 Oscar-winning film, Imitation Game.

But anyone who knows Sasha will tell you that she is more than simply the sum of her accomplishments. Rather than to just accumulate honors to build a resume, Sasha uses her compassion for life and her intellect to help others.

Her role as a volunteer at the Freedom Square Continuing Care Retirement Community in Seminole stemmed from growing up with a mother -- Dr. Swanthri DeSilva, a Rheumatologist and Allergist -- who would "bring home medical journals all the time and discuss the nature of medicine with me." Her charitable experiences have also taken her to Sri Lanka, the birthplace of her parents, to create and lead a community service project to assist local doctors and hospitals.

Sasha will attend Johns Hopkins University on an academic scholarship. "I've grown up with medicine in my life and I want to become an oncologist," said Sasha. "This is where my love of reading and medicine can merge. It's an interesting field and it's an area where you can keep learning about new developments. I like the idea of intellectual medicine and investigative medicine. It's so unknown. Nothing has ever been proven to be true. Being able to make changes that could affect the nature of medicine and ultimately the world is exciting to me."

"My favorite part about going to school at Farragut has been developing my passion for writing," said Sasha. "Of course, I have appreciated the discipline that this school instills but the knowledge I gained about writing and how incredible it is stems from taking English with Mrs. Heather Ewing for three years, in the eighth grade, the ninth grade and my senior year."

# Marine Science classes conduct interviews with local fishermen, thanks to grant

By: Chris Girandola

The eighth grade Marine Science class participated in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Federal "Fishermen of the Greater Tampa Bay" Oral History Grant for the fourth time in two years (held each semester) in March. Students conducted interviews with area fishermen and gathered information about what it has been like to fish the waters of Tampa Bay over the last few decades.

"It's a great opportunity for students to learn real world skills while also assisting NOAA in gathering information about history in the Tampa Bay region," said Christina Package-Ward, the Anthropologist of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. "They ask incredibly interesting questions and give a different perspective. Having this type of partnership with Admiral Farragut Academy is an important asset to NOAA."



Video recordings and interview transcripts are publicly available on the NOAA website.



# Kollyne Thomas joins legacy of celebrated authors with winning entries in the Scholastic Awards

By: Chris Girandola



for Young Artists & Writers (the Alliance), which has been running the competition since 1923, received a record-breaking 320,000 works of art and writing for adjudication at the regional level in 29 categories, which include interests like short story, drawing, poetry, photography, sculpture, humor, editorial cartoons, and video game design.

The Awards have highlighted the work of millions of students over the years, including renowned alumni who have gone on to become brilliant in their respective field like Andy Warhol, Truman Capote, Sylvia Plath, Stephen King, Richard Linklater, and Lena Dunham.

*"It's unbelievable to be part of an illustrious group like Truman Capote, Stephen King, and Lena Dunham," said Kollyne, who has been attending Farragut since PreK. "I didn't really know what to expect when I entered the poem so when I found out I had received the Gold, I was ecstatic."*

Kollyne Thomas '16 is constantly searching for the perfect connection of words. A voracious reader amongst a bevy of readers in her family, Kollyne's love for literature helped mold her into her current status as a meticulous writer. Since the time she could hold a pencil, Kollyne's evolution as a wordsmith has moved from the short story realm into the world of poetry.

Such devotion has led her down the path of "metaphors and similes that have helped shape" her life as a writer. Thus, her recent work entitled "Motel," a string of three poems written at different stages of her life about teen love, was recognized with a Gold Key in the 2016 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards.

Kollyne was one of four Gold Award recipients for poetry recognized in Florida in this year's competition, the regional division of a national program dedicated to honoring and exhibiting exceptional works by students in grades 7 through 12. The nonprofit Alliance

Kollyne, who helped start the poetry club three years ago with former Farragut student Sara Graves and fellow Scholastic Award winner Sasha DeSilva, said a large reason for her development as a writer stemmed from the fact her family "constantly has a book in their hands."

"I can hardly recall a moment in the past when my family wasn't reading a book," said Kollyne, whose three siblings graduated from Farragut. "It's interesting because now we all have our own little quirks. My oldest sister Kathryn '08 draws. Katryna '12 reads and then is incredible in the way she basically educates people simply through the conversations she has with them. My dad, Dr. Donald Thomas, and brother, Donald '11, are writers. I'm the poet. Mom, Peggy who is a nurse in Farragut's infirmary, is the matriarch who basically keeps us all in order."

Read Kollyne's three part poem, "Motel", at <http://bit.ly/iWhoPBW>

farragut today

the arts



1. Lower School students draw fish in art class.
2. Daniella Greco '17 sings the National Anthem at the Semi-Final Regional Girl's Softball game.
3. Lower School puts on a production of The Cat In The Hat for Family Day.
4. Lower School Drama Club performs Cinderella.
5. Admiral's Own Band students perform for Family Day.



Admiral's Athletics Club  
Poker Run Fundraiser



Parents' Group Annual Auction



Kindergarten dads dress the part for the  
"Anchors Aweigh" theme for 2016

My School Color Run



Parents' Group event and fundraiser



Family Day



Justin and Jared Ariza '20 with grandparents  
Nancy and Wayne Smith (AFA Alumnus '54N)

Moms Hold The Keys  
To Our Hearts



Cassandra Bonilla, PreK,  
and her mom July

PreK-5th Grade Daddy  
Daughter Dance



Ella Sokolowski, 7th grade,  
and her dad, Matt

Lower School students carry the flags for Family Day





L to R: Kenneth Fisher, Ben Bridges, Brandon McClellan, Ansley Fine, Gabe Lowe, Devyn Barrett, and Turiya Moka

# 7th graders attend Tallahassee Southern Model United Nations Conference

By: Chris Girandola

The 7th grade Model United Nations team attended the Tallahassee Southern Model United Nations (TSMUN) conference on Friday, February 11, 2016. Model UN provides the opportunity for students to debate the contemporary world issues on the United Nation's agenda. Students write speeches, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with allies and adversaries, resolve conflicts, and practice the conference rules of procedure within UN committees.

Students Devyn Barrett, Ben Bridges, Ansley Fine, Kenneth Fisher, Gabe Lowe, Brandon McClellan, and Turiya Moka represented the countries of Thailand, Vietnam, and Bolivia. Kenneth and Turiya won an award for their position paper representing Bolivia on combating human trafficking and the protection of human rights and freedoms while countering terrorism. The students did a fantastic job representing their countries and our school. Other trip highlights included a visit to the State Capitol where they observed the Senate in session, and to the Florida Supreme Court.



15 students qualified and 6 students (pictured) participated in Duke University's TIP program



Lego Robotics team the "Bluejacket Gamers" at the Championship Tournament



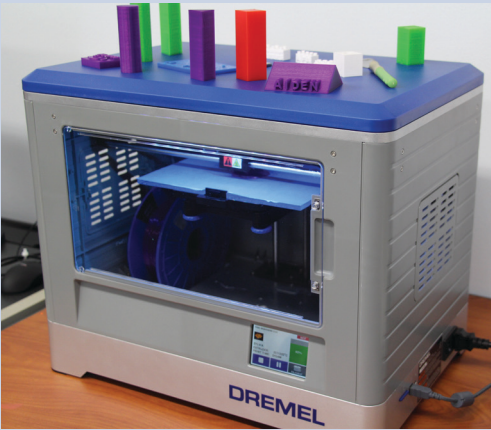
Lower School end of the year beach party at Ft. DeSoto



Deputy LoRusso and canine "Mars" visited 4th grade to talk about canines used in the police force and the science behind the training

## Lower School active learning environment takes another step forward

The Lower School STEM program added a MakerBot 3D printer this spring. The printer is similar to the one in use by the Upper School STEM program. "The printer has given the students greater opportunities to see their vision come to life," said Mrs. LoRusso, who is the Lower School STEM teacher and also the advisor for the Lego Robotics Club and the Makerspace Club. She has had her students design and create puzzle pieces, replica Legos, and even a plaque of gears that was one of the items placed in the time capsule box she keeps in her classroom. "Of course, it's fun but the more important element is how they can now see their engineering skills through a process. They're able to design something with a program and have it implemented through production. This gives them real-world skills at an earlier age than most and enhances their learning curve."



The students were able to use Autodesk Inventor and Tinkercad, two computer-aided design applications used to create 3D digital prototypes in the design, visualization and simulation of products. Tinkercad is used more so by hobbyists, teachers and kids to learn the basics of digital designing while Inventor is one of the primary software applications used by manufacturing industry professionals. In using Industry, Mrs. LoRusso says the students are immersing themselves in what professionals are currently doing in the workforce.



# BLUE JACKETS

## Winter & Spring Season Highlights

By: Chris Girandola

For nearly a week at the beginning of May, the BlueJackets softball team commandeered most of the headlines on the homepage of the HomeTeam website, the prep section of the Tampa Bay Times. Corynn Miner '16 was a major reason for it, due to her compiling 60 career wins and 953 strikeouts as Farragut's starting pitcher over a four-year career. More importantly, Corynn was the catalyst that helped springboard the BlueJackets into the Class 3A state semifinals for the first time in school history. While the BlueJackets suffered a 4-2 loss to Jacksonville University Christian on May 5, 2016 at Historic Dodgertown in Vero Beach, Florida, Corynn said the chance to represent Farragut in such a way will be a lasting memory for her and her teammates. *"It's humbling at times to see your name and photo in the news but it also makes you feel proud to represent Farragut in this way," said Corynn, who will compete at the University of Tampa beginning next year. "Farragut shaped me into the person I am today and to be able to help promote the school the way I have, and the way our team has, is special. Farragut is home and will always be home for me."*



BlueJackets head coach Linda Derk said the chance to see Corynn and the other two seniors -- Maiya Fudge (Bethune-Cookman) and Jhonelle Young (Oregon State) -- build a program that had waned in recent years into one of the premiere teams in the state is as rewarding as any other experience in her illustrious career -- a career that includes coaching stints in college and the professional ranks. "It's emotional. They are like family and will always have a special place in Farragut's heart."

### Softball

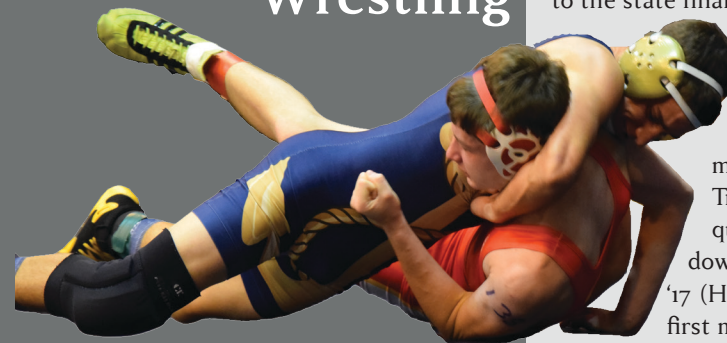
Last year, the BlueJackets claimed their first state title in track and field when the girls won the FHSAA Class A State Championship. This year, the boys, who finished fourth last year, duplicated the feat. Ironically, the girls took fourth at this year's state meet. The two titles encapsulate a foundation set by long-time Farragut head coach Phil Barnhill, who retired after the 2014-15 school year, and first-year coach Arron Prather, who used his Olympic experience to guide a championship run this season. *"Both coaches have played a huge role in my development as a track athlete here," said Alex Gray '16, who won the 100-meters final for the second straight year along with the 200 this season. "Coach Barnhill did a great job in helping us build a great program and Coach Prather has helped us hone in on our strengths."* Alex was also instrumental in helping the BlueJackets take third in the 4x100 relay (43.23) along with Alex Oi '19, Craig Watts JR '16 and O'Shon Allen '17 as well as a third-place finish in the 4x400 relay (Alex Oi, Alex Gray, Craig Watts, Zach Fine '17). Keyon Jenkins '17 and Sam Baker '18 took fourth and seventh, respectively, in shot put while Cameron Pesola '16 finished seventh in pole vault. The girls team turned in an impressive fourth place finish led by Katie Barnett '17 with a first in the triple jump and second in long jump, Jazmine Alderman '19, who placed second in the 200 and third in the 100 and Ashaunti Brown '16, who finished third in shot put and seventh in discus. The girls relay teams also fared well. The team of Sydni Bostick '19, Faith Nelms '19, Katie Barnett and Jazmine Alderman placed fourth in the 4x100 and third in the 4x400.



Photo credit to Tampa Bay Times

### Track & Field

### Wrestling



The BlueJackets had an impressive season with a school-record of four wrestlers making it to the state finals. At 126 pounds, Noah Farrelly '16 battled hard losing a one point decision in his first match before winning with a pin in the consolation bracket. Unfortunately, his journey at states came to an end with a tough 8-7 loss to a wrestler who would eventually make it to the final match. Jack Lescarbeau '16 (138 pounds), who battled through a sprained ankle for most of the postseason, suffered two hard fought losses by minor points. Trayvon Taylor '16 (152 pounds) began with a 16-4 win before a loss in the quarterfinals sent him deep into the consolation bracket where another down to the wire battle took place that ended in a 7-6 loss. Ashton Taylor '17 (Heavyweight) lost to one of the top-ranked wrestlers in the country in his first match and then suffered a 6-5 defeat to another top-ranked wrestler in the consolation bracket.

### Baseball



The BlueJackets won their first district tournament game since 2003 with a win over Imagine School. Michael Cooney '16 was named to the All-District Tournament team. The team's most valuable player for the year was Wyatt Pascual, a left-handed starting pitcher who won two games in six starts and 10 appearances. The sophomore finished the season with a 3.95 earned run average.

BlueJackets coach Tom Beck earned his 200th career win as a high school basketball coach during the 2015-16 campaign. Ashaunti Brown '16 was the standout player for the BlueJackets this season, scoring 15 points per game along with 12 rebounds per game. The BlueJackets finished the regular season in grand fashion when Ashaunti hit a shot at the buzzer to defeat Canterbury.

### Boys Basketball



Myles Beach '16 broke a school record held by Dalton Collins '15 (8) for most goals in a game with 11. Myles finished the season with 18 goals and two assists. Jake Escosa '18 contributed with 16 goals and a team-high eight assists. The BlueJackets won two games over the 2016 campaign but coach Adam Deisley is excited about next year's team due to the youth-infused roster. "We have several players who are up and coming that will be incredible to watch over the next few years," said Deisley.



### Girls Basketball

Cross Meehan '17, Andreas Fuller '18 and Jeremiah Zio '17 each finished the season averaging in double figures in points to help pace the BlueJackets to a 12-11 record. Cross led the team with 20 points a game while Andreas chipped in with 17 per game and Jeremiah compiled 11 per game. The team beat Saint Stephen's Episcopal in the first round of the district tournament but suffered a hard fought 47-38 defeat to eventual champion Calvary Christian.



### Lacrosse

## College Signings 2016

Several cadets signed letters of intent this past year to compete in their respective sport in college. Congratulations goes out to all of our student athletes!

L'Dre Barnes (football) -- Bethune Cookman University  
Hope Bledsoe (soccer) -- Johnson University  
Ashaunti Brown (track and field) -- Fort Valley State  
Noah Farrelly (wrestling) -- Tiffin University  
Maiya Fudge (softball) -- Bethune-Cookman University  
Alex Gray (football, track) -- Dodge City Community College

Corynn Miner (softball) -- University of Tampa  
James Morrison (football) -- New Mexico Military Institute  
De'Andre Oliver (football) -- Coffeyville Community College  
Craig Watts Jr. (football) -- University of South Florida  
Dorian Williams (football) -- Coffeyville Community College  
Anastasha Worlds (tennis) -- St. Petersburg College



# Farragut parents, Mike Vaughn and Sara Moola, give back to children of fallen warriors

By: Chris Girandola

When Mike Vaughn and his wife, Sara Moola, first met 13 years ago in Tampa, the two had already canvassed the globe in their respective careers – Mike as an Air Force Special Operations officer and Sara, first as a Peace Corps volunteer and then as an executive working with Geospatial Information Systems across U.S. Government and Commercial industries including U.S. Special Operations Command, United Nations, and the World Bank. Through their conversations and common passion, they both came to understand how much they each wanted to make a difference in the world.

“We both had traveled to many different parts of the world, and we knew we wanted to do something that had an enduring purpose,” said Mike, who retired from the Air Force in 2000 after 21 years of military service. “While we had different backgrounds in regard to how we interacted with the citizens of the world, we collectively quickly came to understand we had a common passion for how we could contribute together in a beneficial way.”

Thus, in 2003, the couple –whose children, Zachary, 9, and Luka, 6, attend Lower School at Farragut – started working together in the company Sara founded, Visual Awareness Technologies and Consulting (VATC), a private company that provides Integrated Training and Exercise solutions for the Department of Defense, Government Agencies, and the United States’ allies. Over time, the company grew from a small start-up in Tampa to a provider of global strategies and solutions with work in over 40 countries and several continents.



While the company developed, more and more personal relationships with families in the special forces community grew. As a result, Mike and Sara came to realize how they yearned to give back even more. “The children of those lost in service in the Special Operations receive scholarships for higher education, but we saw a gap in programs to develop their leadership and professional/career foundations,” said Sara, who has also served as an international business mentor to women from countries in Africa and other areas of strife through U.S. State Department and U.S. Embassy Education initiatives.

In response, Mike and Sara created the Special Operations Forces Warrior Outdoor Leadership for the Future (WOLF) in 2011. Recently, the couple, who visited Farragut in March to speak to the 3rd grade class about the Hoover Dam Project and Topography, was featured in the Northeast Journal for their charitable work in the community and beyond.

“We felt compelled to be there as leaders and to guide them towards their highest potential and greatest passion,” said Mike, who grew up in Tennessee and went into military service at 17-years-old. “The special operations community is relatively small in comparison to other elements of the military and, throughout my time as an officer and with the company, I have known dozens of people killed in action. Throughout VATC’s existence, we’ve had contact with every component of special operations, and have a few hundred retired SOF working with us, so across the company we have a connection with many families, and many who made the ultimate sacrifice for the nation.” In fact, approximately 85 percent of VATC’s employees have a background in special operations.

WOLF provides sons and daughters, in their teens or early twenties of fallen U.S. Special Operation Forces, the opportunity to attend a leadership program cost-free for one week each July in Park City, Utah. The select group of 12-15 individuals, who are selected based on very competitive criteria, are able to interact with leaders from different high-profile commercial corporations, professional athletes, Olympians, and current and former SOF attendees, while learning skills focusing on career development, team building and interpersonal communication.

To frame the learning, WOLF students participate in various outdoor activities directed and organized by SOF volunteers and Olympic athletes. “The outdoor activities are all designed to teach each individual confidence and leadership while developing team building skills that are taken into the classroom during mentoring sessions, resume development, and career development discussions,” said Mike.

“We’ve been fortunate to have an impressive group of people get involved,” said Sara. “It’s been invaluable for the students to learn real-life skills. More importantly, they have a support system moving forward and many of them come back to help as counselors when they get older.” The “graduates” of WOLF are both the Junior Counselors at the program, and are eligible for internships across corporations and government to provide real world experience and resume development. “Our goal is to have WOLF run by the graduates of WOLF to support the next generation”, said Sara.

Since enrolling their children at Farragut, Mike and Sara are excited about the opportunities that lay in front of them, both for their own children and the children who come through their program.

“We’ve been incredibly impressed with Farragut, from the way the Upper School cadets carry themselves, the type of curriculum offered in both the Upper and Lower Schools, and the military and discipline structure. There are a wide range of activities that are offered to stimulate a very diverse global perspective for growth and development of the students,” said Sara. “We immediately got a sense that this was a place that would make our children better people. And with the type of global community Farragut has, it embodies similar principles that we have as a couple in regard to appreciating and understanding the world, and being a citizen of the world and not just the community you live in. As we develop WOLF further, we see opportunities where Upper Class students of Farragut could assist in the planning and administration that supports growth and education for the WOLF students and the Farragut cadets.”



# DRONES

## LEAD THE WAY

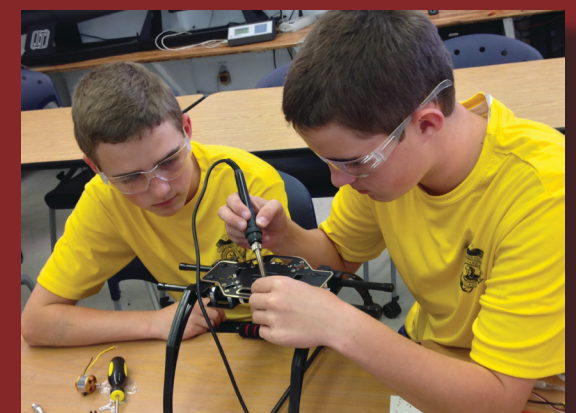
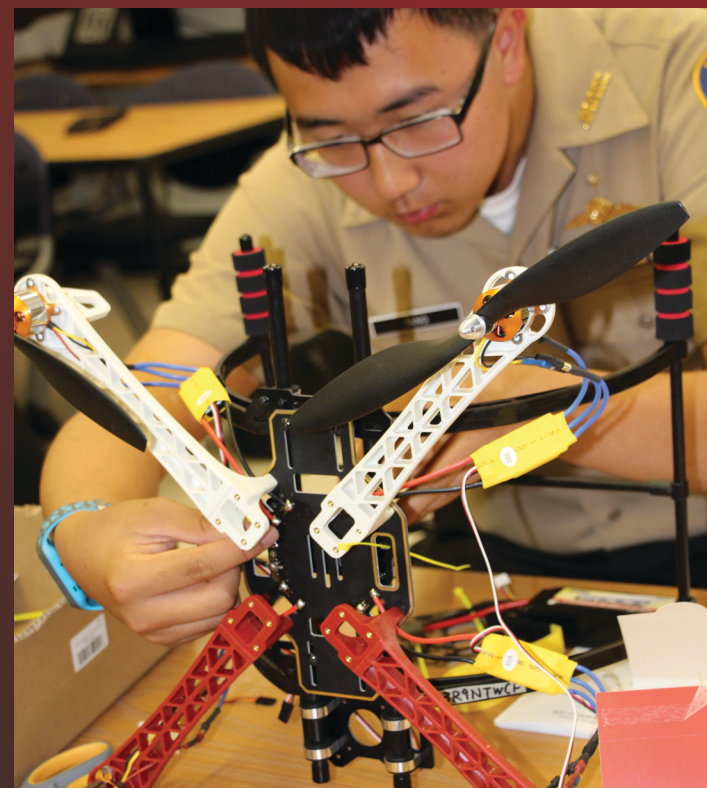
By: Chris Girandola

**W**ithin the confines of the Admiral Farragut Academy STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) lab, a group of students have been constructing drones from scratch as a part of “Drones, Lead the Way” project conceived by Upper School STEM director Rob Milliner, fully funded through the Rossignol Academic Chair in Science.

“What this project does is bridge all aspects of STEM into one project,” said Milliner, who was inspired to apply for the grant after reading the Drones for Schools program in an article written by Matthew Schroyer for Education & DIY Opinions. “For instance, the construction of the drone gives students insight into how all the electronics work, what their functions are, and how they all work together in a system. From that, they are able to see first hand how the flight computer, the motors, the transmitters, the antennae, all have a specific function and there’s a science behind each of them. The students not only learn how each part works but how they work together as a system and it helps their mind connect a lot of dots in a mathematical sense. They essentially assume the roles of engineers.”

Working in teams of two, the students are tasked with building, programming, and operating their own Unmanned Aeronautical Vehicle (UAV), using skills they don’t normally utilize in the classroom, like soldering and assembling electronics through prototyping by wiring a microcontroller to external LEDs.

In addition, the project puts students in situations that mirror the real world, so to speak. Milliner highlights how students will learn the various legal and ethical requirements involved with the operation of a drone.



In fact, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announced on December 21, 2015, a streamlined and user-friendly web-based aircraft registration process for “owners of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) weighing more than 0.55 pounds (250 grams) and less than 55 pounds (approx. 25 kilograms) including payloads such as on-board cameras.”

“As drone technology becomes more and more pervasive and accessible with the general public, laws are being applied through real examples,” said Milliner, who had his students participate in the registration process for each drone that is being used by Farragut. “This allows them to be involved in the process, much the same way a person in the real world does.”

Finally, the club has given students a different avenue for after school activities and has allowed them to feel connected with the school in much the same way athletics, the arts, music, and the drill team has.

“It’s given people with a certain skill set and interest a way to become fully engaged with after school activities,” said Kenny Stutts ‘16, who is the student director of the Drone Club. “In addition, we’re able to provide video footage and photography of the campus for the Advancement and Marketing Department. We’re able to record sporting events, parades, special activities, the drill team, and even graduation.”





Mrs. Rue recognized with teacher of the year award

By: Chris Girandola



Mrs. Yingping Rue, Farragut's Upper School Chinese teacher, was recognized with the "2015-16 Chinese Teacher of the Year" award by the Florida Chinese Teachers Association (FCTA).

"I'm extremely happy, not only for myself but for my students who were able to attend the FCTA Chinese Competition," said Mrs. Rue. "It's rewarding on a personal level because I am proud to be a teacher and I love to teach and to help students learn."

The FCTA, an affiliate of the Florida Foreign Language Teachers Association, is a nonpolitical, nonprofit educational and professional organization that organizes an annual Florida Statewide Chinese Competition for middle and high school Chinese learners. Its mission is to promote the study, teaching, and research of the Chinese language and culture on all educational levels and to enhance the quality of Chinese language teaching at all levels.

Mrs. Rue, who has taught at Farragut since arriving here in 2010 from her native town of Xi'an in the province of Shaanxi, China, said being at Farragut has helped her develop as a teacher in a way she wouldn't have done so back in her homeland.

"Farragut has given me the platform to teach with a certain openness that has not only helped me grow as a teacher but has given me the ability to connect with students and help them learn the language effectively," said Mrs. Rue, who graduated from Xi'an International Studies University with a B.A. degree in Chinese Language and Literature in 2004 before earning her master's in Teaching, Learning, and Assessment from National Louis University in Tampa.

Zachary Fine '17, who entered his first day of Mrs. Rue's Chinese class five years ago with a tad bit of trepidation, said he now is able to have fluid conversations with his Chinese peers at Farragut because of the excellent guidance and patience of a teacher like Mrs. Rue.

"I really didn't know what to think except I was anxiously excited about learning a new language, especially a language of a country that has such a global influence," said Zachary, who is now taking Mrs. Rue's Level 4 Chinese class. "Mrs. Rue has obviously been a big reason for me having been able to be so successful in it."

Mrs. Rue, who has traveled to Belize, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Sweden, and Switzerland, plans on taking several students from Farragut to China this summer to participate as student counselors at a camp in Shan Dong Province.

Amy Mozombite hired as reading specialist

By: Chris Girandola

At the beginning of the second semester for the 2015-16 academic calendar, Farragut introduced a new member to its staff with the hire of Amy Mozombite, a reading specialist for the Lower School. In doing so, Angie Koebel, the Director for Farragut's Academic Services, emphasized how the school not only meets the needs of students who may require additional help in a particular subject area but also demonstrates the academy's desire to be proactive.

"We're offering a service to a larger population of students who aren't necessarily diagnosed with learning differences, but who may need help to get back on track or improve in some areas of learning," said Koebel, who has been at Farragut since 2001. "We're giving the parents what they expect from a school like ours. As a result, we're giving students what they need to be successful."

This comes shortly after a 2014 study by the American Academy of Pediatrics, which revealed that reading daily to young people can help with language acquisition and literacy skills. The study also discovered that more than one in three American children start kindergarten without the skills they need to learn to read. Therefore, Farragut strives to be proactive by incorporating programs through the Center for Academic Success to bring all of its students up to a level that instills confidence.

"Reading is the fundamental basis for learning," said Koebel, who is also the director of standardized testing. "All students learn at different levels. For some, the problems arise from having dyslexia, others just have difficulty with reading, processing, or even how much exposure they had to reading. Whatever the case, it's difficult for the specific student when most of the students are reading at a certain level and that one student is behind. It ultimately affects his or her other classes. When we intervene then it helps alleviate the issue."

Ms. Mozombite, who holds a master's in education and a bachelor's in elementary education, comes to



Farragut with more than just a strong foundation for teaching the subject of reading -- she possesses a passion for it. "I read at least 26 books a year," said Mozombite, who taught in Bolivia and Peru for six years before coming back to the United States in 2014. True to her word, she puts memoirs at the top of her 'like' list and recently finished both "Scary Close" by Donald Miller and "The Art of Nonconformity" by Chris Guillebeau. She is also "constantly reading books about reading."

Mozombite, who home-schooled her three children while overseas, believes it is vital to constantly learn herself so she brings fresh material and new ideas to her craft. This type of approach fosters hope in students. She plans to inspire Farragut students to achieve even more than they thought possible.

"You want to cultivate reading and learning," said Mozombite. "As long as we can keep students confident that they can accomplish reading, and anything else in life, then they will keep at it and we will develop lifelong learners which is the end goal!"

PreK teacher, Marilyn Reynolds, featured in Extraordinary Woman section of Tampa Bay Parenting magazine

Prekindergarten teacher, Marilyn Reynolds, was featured in the April edition of Tampa Bay Parenting magazine as one of the Extraordinary Women of Tampa Bay. Marilyn puts "extraordinary" into the education of her students as well as the communication with her parents everyday. Farragut is so proud that Marilyn was featured, and honored to have her as part of our Lower School staff. Starting the 2016-17 school year, Marilyn will teach Kindergarten.







# ALUMNI *in the* MILITARY

The last issue of Reville listed a centerpiece on Farragut female graduates who have served or are serving in our Armed Forces. In this issue, we highlight the service of all of our graduates who met the call of duty since September 11, 2001. These patriots number approximately 150 men and women in all branches of service: Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. They represent over 15% of our graduates. Three of them are featured in articles in this edition. We salute all of them with this pictograph of platforms they are flying, driving or serving upon.

*CAPT Tom McClelland, U.S. Navy (Ret.)  
Development Officer*

**100**  
Total ROTC Scholarships

- 66 Navy ROTC
- 26 Army ROTC
- 5 Air Force ROTC
- 3 Navy ROTC (Marine Option)

**40** Total Academy Appointments

- 23 Naval Academy
- 8 Merchant Marine Academy
- 5 Coast Guard Academy
- 5 Air Force Academy

**7** Enlisted

- 3 Navy
- 2 Army
- 2 Marine Corps

**3** Officer Candidate School

- 2 Navy
- 1 Marine Corps





# A flight path of VARYING FORMATIONS

Quite the opportunist, Kris Von Krueger '00 has used sound judgment to circumnavigate his way to success

By: Chris Girandola

**“Well, I guess we better pull off a MacGyver,”** Kris Von Krueger '00 half-joked during the retelling of his most harrowing experiences as a naval aviator.

Von Krueger's jet had reached a stage where “gremlins had taken over the jet.” The U.S. Naval Academy alumnus had already endured eight hours of flying time from the Gulf of Oman over Pakistan to Afghanistan and back and several touch-and-go attempts on the carrier flight deck, not to mention “chewing through countless bags of Starbucks instant coffee with a sip of water here and there.”

“We were stuck in a dirty configuration,” recalled Von Krueger, who graduated from Farragut in 2000 with honors after having served as the 3rd Company Platoon Commander. “The tailhook wouldn't come down. The landing gear was stuck down. Things started to break on the jet. Lights started flickering on and off. The ability to inflight refuel had dissipated due to the circumstances and we didn't have enough gas to get anywhere else, so it was either figure out how to fix the situation or eject and lose the plane. Oh, and be in the sea in the middle of the night for quite a while.”

So, Von Krueger “pulled a MacGyver.” For the uninitiated, MacGyver was a 1980's television show featuring a character played by Richard Dean Anderson and “MacGyverisms” spawned from the main character's use of gimmicks and gadgetry to work his way out of seemingly every bit of trouble.

“We called back to the carrier and they went through the diagrams of the plane. We ended up pulling a series of circuit breakers to get the hook to release by removing all the hydraulic pressure from the hook. The guys on the F-18 flying next to us told us it had dropped so we knew we had a chance.”

Six passes later, the hook caught and the plane came to a grinding halt.

## FROM NAVY SEAL TO PILOT

Under Von Krueger's yearbook senior photo, his ambition states: “To graduate from the Naval Academy, become a Navy Seal, command the 1st mission to Mars, and run for President.”

Growing up in Pensacola, Florida, Von Krueger would often visit the base where his parents worked as air traffic controllers. Being around the Navy environment led him to research and find out about Farragut.

“My parents went right into the Navy straight out of high school,” Von Krueger says. “I had visions of being in the Navy, as a SEAL. They told me the best way to do that is to attend the Naval Academy. I immediately began researching ways to do so.”

As a sophomore in high school in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where his parents had moved to after Pensacola, his online research at the school library led him to the discovery of Farragut.

“As soon as I read about the history and the people who had gone there, I knew it was the place for me.”

Von Krueger attributes Farragut for helping lead him to the Naval Academy.

“Farragut was the biggest building block for me,” he says. “I don't know if I would be doing what I'm doing now if it hadn't been for Farragut. I participated in sports, in different leadership roles, in different clubs and activities. CAPT Tom McClelland was incredibly helpful in guiding me, as well. I seriously don't think I would have been able to go to the Naval Academy without his guidance. I truly am thankful.”

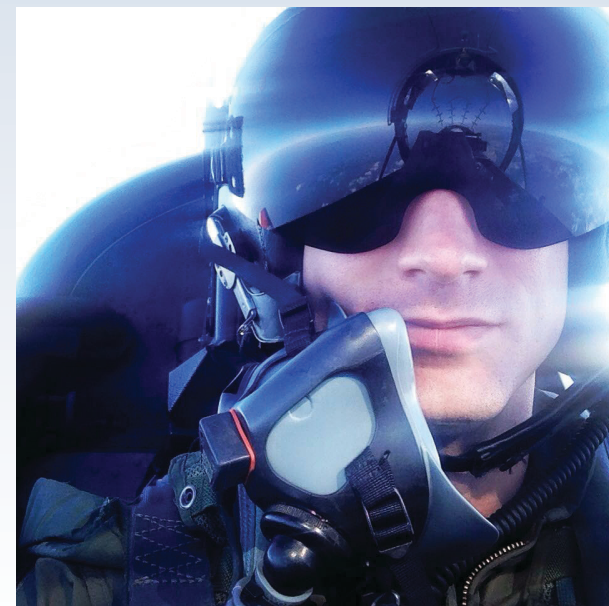
Von Krueger also took advantage of a dual enrollment program at nearby St. Petersburg College, enough so to put nearly one year of college

in the books before stepping onto the college campus in Annapolis, Maryland.

“I was basically taking sophomore classes during my plebe year,” said Von Krueger, who also became the sixth highest training brigade officer and the captain of the offshore sailing team.

Von Krueger also realized quickly that his path had veered towards flight.

“The more and more I excelled, the more I realized I wanted to fly,” he says.



## FLIGHT ALTERED

After graduating from the Naval Academy, Von Krueger, 35, went to Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where he attained a master of science in operations research and analysis in 2005. His primary flight training took place at Naval Air Station Whiting Field in Milton, Florida, not far from the base he grew up on in Pensacola.

For the next 10 years, he would make over 300 traps, the Naval aviator term for carrier assisted landings -- 100 of them at night.

“I had visions of being in the Navy for my entire life,” he says.

Until the burn out hit.

“I had gone from Mississippi to Washington, had been deployed 30 out of 40 months, had done carrier and combat operations, and I just reached a point where I knew it was time for a change,” said Von





Krueger, who had been working as an instructor on the McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing) T-45 Goshawk in Kingsville, Texas when he decided to make the change.

His recent marriage to Laurin Person, now Laurin Person-Von Krueger, in 2011 also played a role.

"I had to fly (Laurin) out to Malaysia, where I was stationed at the time, just to get married," said Von Krueger, who coincidentally met Laurin at a Starbucks in Seattle, Washington. "The time away from each other weighed heavy on me."

## PERFECT TIMING

When Von Krueger decided to make a career change, the airline industry happened to be in a recovery stage, so much so that Von Krueger fell into the perfect opportunity.

Delta, which had been on the brink of extinction with its 2005 bankruptcy, had managed to climb itself back into good health, due in part to its 2008 merger with Northwest Airlines. When Von Krueger embarked on his new career in December 2014, Delta had bought back \$2 billion worth of the shares it had lost and had boosted its dividend by 50 percent.

Better yet, a whole slew of pilots had begun to retire.

"I cut 15 years off my career progression on day one when I got hired," said Von Krueger, who is at seniority level number 12,000 now. "Guys at Delta explained to me how I was at the leading edge of the hiring and retiring. It was as perfect as perfect can get."

Von Krueger estimates he will close in on seniority level 5,000 within six years and closer to 3,000 in under a decade, which is more than a good thing considering Delta has perched itself back at the top of the industry with an industry-leading market capitalization of more than \$35 billion.

"It's amazing to think I will be at that level before I hit 45-years of age," said Von Krueger. "There are guys right now who are 62 who have barely reached that level. The opportunities for me at Delta are incredible. I got in at just the right time."

## THE AUCTIONEER

Besides making the most of his fortuitous timing, Von Krueger had to quickly get up to speed with two major differences when he began flying commercially.

For one, the 737 he would be flying was obviously

bigger and less responsive than the lighter jets he had been used to in the Navy.

"Of course, all the planes I had flown had that 'fun' component and could get up off the ground quicker and move through the air with ease," said Von Krueger, whose first flight took him from New York to Fort Walton Beach. "But I had flown the 737 simulator so many times that by the time I flew one for real, it was relatively seamless."

Surprisingly, though, the hardest part was becoming familiar with the commercial airport culture.

As opposed to military airports where there are typically one or two runways, John F. Kennedy Airport is immense, with six taxiways, labeled alpha through zulu.

"Everyone tells you what to expect but you're just blown away by it," Von Krueger says. "The sequencing on how to taxi is so fast, they're like an auctioneer. (zooming through the list in auctioneer style) Alpha, bravo, bravo, 25, pick up en route 30 from the left and follow zulu taxi 12 choke control, 125 niner 2 with your request from tower and take off. Plus, you're dealing with people with New York accents and the New York state of mind. They're brash and they're quick and they're not patient. It's also one of the busiest airports in the world so they don't really tolerate you asking them again for the sequence."

Von Krueger, who is Seattle-based, has since settled in rather nicely with his new path in life -- which often takes him to places like Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico, and Puerto Rico. He has continued serving in the Navy Reserves, working five to seven days a month as a flight instructor in Kingsville, Texas.

Von Krueger and his wife, who will use Von Krueger's G.I. Bill to get a doctorate in clinical psychology, plan on moving to Honolulu to make things even easier on the couple.

"Even though I live where I'm based, I'm still gone most of the month," said Von Krueger, who anticipates switching over to the A330 so he can fly to Tokyo and Paris for his regular routes -- allowing his wife to travel with him at times. "The move to Honolulu where there's a reserve squadron would allow me to be in Honolulu for 20 days out of the month."

Although Von Krueger never became a SEAL, he is happy with the way his life has evolved, even if that means he may or may not "command the 1st mission to Mars, and run for President."

"We'll see about that," he joked when asked about the other two ambitions on his list. "Right now, I'm perfectly happy with the way things are."

## alumni news

## happenings

# Louis Bobelis '12 travels to Thailand as part of a cultural leadership program

By: Chris Girandola

Since graduating from Farragut in 2012, Louis Bobelis has committed himself to carving a path laid with opportunities. This approach, first cultivated at Farragut over his six years of schooling, has blossomed even more during his time at the University of Tampa, where he earned a degree in finance this year.

"Farragut allowed me to build the type of foundation that has given me the confidence to pursue many different things since graduating," said Bobelis, who has plans to further his education at business school. "You really are able to tap into your strengths (at Farragut). The military aspect gives you a sense of decorum that you carry over into life in regard to how you treat people with respect and dignity. Plus, being at a school that has a global community gives you an idea of what people are like throughout the world."

Bobelis has been able to take this worldly approach to a higher level as an Army ROTC Cadet at the University of Tampa. In particular, the native of St. Petersburg travelled to Thailand during the summer of 2014 as a part of the Cadet Command's Cultural Understanding & Language Proficiency (CULP) program.

Recognizing the need for young leaders to develop more cultural awareness, the Army selects approximately 1,300 cadets from across the country to participate in the program. Slots are awarded on a competitive basis and take into account several factors, such as GPA, physical fitness, an essay, and other pertinent

selection criteria.

Bobelis went to Thailand as a part of a 15-cadet group spending 30 days interacting with cadets at the Chulachomklao Royal Military Academy (CRMA), which is the military academy of the Royal Thai Army.

"It was amazing to build relationships with people who are on a similar path as you," said Bobelis, who will serve as a reserve officer in Tampa. "They wanted to learn as much as they could from us just as much as we wanted to learn from them. It was an incredible cooperative effort."

In addition to serving as instructors at the academy, Bobelis and his group spent the weekends enjoying everything that Thailand has to offer, including walking a tiger, riding an elephant, and visiting a monkey temple.

"The culture of Thailand is remarkable, to say the least," Bobelis said. "More so, though, being immersed with future leaders from another part of the world was eye-opening. It really gives you a sense of purpose knowing you are building and improving global relationships."





# congratulations CLASS OF 2016

Sasha DeSilva '16 thanks Farragut for helping shape the Class of 2016's excellence at the school's 82nd commencement; Vince Scott '85 returns as former valedictorian to give commencement address



By: Chris Girandola



Sasha DeSilva  
Valedictorian

When Sasha DeSilva first arrived at Farragut, she admittedly was an introvert. Over time, though, Sasha shed her shyness and developed into another one of the outstanding graduates of Admiral Farragut Academy, graduating with honors as the 2016 Valedictorian. As she told the Class of 2016 and the others in attendance at Farragut's 82nd commencement last Saturday, she grew to understand the importance of the uniform and the merits of student leadership, thanks to the culture of Farragut.

"Farragut wouldn't allow us to slip under the radar as we would have in other schools. Teachers

## Merit scholar thrives at Farragut

encouraged us to explore our interests and pursue new ones. Older students would, more often than not, guide us in the right direction when we struggled with indecision."

Indeed, Sasha thrived. Like many valedictorians (and Farragut graduates) before her, her list of accomplishments – along with her peers – encapsulate the true essence of Farragut.

"Farragut and the people in it, whether you want to admit it or not, have transformed us into a class of artists, incredible athletes, licensed pilots, award-winning writers, slightly annoying math-enthusiasts, and the most skillful leaders I've ever had the privilege of meeting," she said.

In recognizing the greatness of her classmates and ultimately thanking a plethora of people towards the end of her speech, Sasha exhibited the type of generosity she displayed over her five years at Farragut.

She capped her final words as a Farragut student with the best possible advice for future alumni that would soon join the likes of astronauts, military leaders, real estate tycoons, athletic champions, and world-renowned chefs.

"I don't want to tell anyone how to live their lives, but if I had to give a piece of advice, it would be this. Helen Keller once wrote that 'Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.' Taking risks is the only way to live a successful and happy life. This sense of adventure may manifest in the smallest of ways but will always have the biggest impact. You can change career paths, or start your own club, or even just make conversation with a stranger during Freshman orientation. Have a little faith in yourself and rule your life not with fear, but with courage, compassion, and confidence."

Sasha will attend Johns Hopkins University.

## The Toolkit



Vince Scott '85  
Commencement Speaker

Over the course of Missouri-native Vince Scott's illustrious 21-year Naval career, the Battalion Commander and Valedictorian from the Class of 1985 took with him a graduation speech he had discovered as a student of Naval Science 101.

*"Never give up."*

That was the entire speech, written and delivered by one of the greatest leaders of all time, Winston Churchill, Vince revealed during his commencement address. Vince mentioned briefly Churchill's failures early in his career and he used this example to emphasize perseverance through hard times.

"'Never give up' is one of those pebbles I would like to recommend to you," Vince said. "Never give up. This one pebble can add a lot to your future. Will you get knocked down? Sure. We all do. Will it hurt? Yep. No doubt. Don't give up."

In closing, Vince advised graduates to put pearls of wisdom like perseverance and integrity in a metaphorical toolkit, using it when necessary.

"There is an old proverb that goes 'Sow a thought, reap an action; sow an action, reap a habit; sow a habit, reap a character; sow a character, reap a destiny.' Even those small pebbles you collect can add up."

## From anonymous to predominant



Brooke Liu  
Regimental Commander

Brooke Liu, the 2015-16 Regimental Commander, spoke eloquently about her journey at Farragut and reminded the future cadets "to plant the seed of highest hope." As she said, Brooke came from 7,294 miles away west of the United States and proudly realized many of her dreams. She spoke fondly of navigating her way from being "an anonymous cadet wandering on the grinder" to running the regiment. She described the elation of teachers like

Ms. Eleni Stone upon hearing the news of "a four on the AP exam" or Mr. Rob Ewing upon receiving a phone call that she had achieved private pilot certification. Most importantly, Brooke said she would take away from Farragut the type of leadership, confidence and determination that will leave an indelible mark on her life.

Brooke will attend Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne in Switzerland.

## C/O 2016 BY THE NUMBERS

- \$5,520,556 in scholarships earned
- 9,234 community service hours provided
- 2 will pursue aeronautical science degrees
- 1 earned the longevity award (Attended since PreK)
- 1 earned the National Merit Scholarship
- 17 will play a sport on a collegiate team their freshman year (8 football, 3 wrestling, 3 track, 2 softball, 1 tennis)
- \$745,000 in military scholarships earned

## Profiting from Farragut's military structure



Michael Cooney  
Salutatorian

For Michael Cooney, the Class of 2016 Salutatorian, Farragut may have been "right down the street" but it still presented the same type of conundrum as a new student coming from the other side of the world. "I still had no clue of what to expect because of its military aspect." Yet, Michael emphasized how the Class of 2016 resembled many other classes in

that the cadets profited from the military structure, becoming leaders who will carry those leadership traits forward in their respective lives. A large part of that foundation resulted from the support system he had throughout his time at Farragut.

Michael will attend the University of Florida.



# PINE BEACH

## 2016 Reunion Weekend Recap

By: Jeff Ogden



In the world of casino gaming, seven is the lucky number, so it only seems fitting that just a few miles north of Atlantic City during the last weekend in April, we hosted one of our most successful Pine Beach Reunions for the seventh straight year!

What made this weekend a success can only be told by the numbers. For starters, 90 alumni and friends gathered at the Lamp Post Inn on Friday evening, 14 golfers enjoyed the links at Sea Oaks Country Club, and 18 attendees had fun at Shooters Gun Range on Saturday. The weekend event culminated on Saturday evening at the Sea Oaks Country Club where 107 guests enjoyed a fabulous dinner and program. The group included large groups from classes that have either never attended or only attended in small numbers.



For the grand finale, our dinner guests enjoyed a remarkable speech delivered by CAPT Eugene Paluso II '85N, USN (Ret), Commandant of Cadets, The Citadel.

Speaking to a group that included classmates he had not seen since graduating in 1985, Paluso, a decorated officer in the U.S. Navy and a member of SEAL Team 3, highlighted the fact that while the north campus "may only have the flagpole, the football field and the supply building still standing, the heart and soul of the school lives on with the foundation that has helped carry us through the rest of our lives."

His message resonated from the shores of Pine Beach back to the waterfront of the St. Petersburg campus.

"It doesn't matter if it's Farragut North or Farragut South, the young men and young women who go to Farragut today are the exact same as we were. Some went for the academics, some went for the regimented style, some went because their family members had attended, some went for the discipline. Whatever the reason, we all came away with the same thing -- a great education, lifelong friendships, lifelong lessons and a foundation for life."

Paluso also mentioned how the Farragut way of life propelled him -- and fellow graduates, Jeff Smith and Paul Calcagno -- to a successful tenure at The Citadel that would ultimately lead to him taking on the arduous journey as a U.S. Navy SEAL.

"The Citadel is very regimented and coming from Farragut, we had a leg up on our classmates. Just like at Farragut, you realize the importance of a support network and I had it there with Jeff and Paul. Whether it was knowing how to shine our shoes, square our meals, how to march, we were able to succeed where others failed early on. It continued when I became a SEAL. It wasn't about myself. It was the same feeling you get going to Farragut."

In closing, he finished with a statement that could very well be repeated by every Farragut graduate.

"I realized this wasn't just about a reunion speech. This was an opportunity to say thank you to my family for pushing me on the bus to Toms River. It made me a better student, person, and man. Thank you!"

To view photos from our Pine Beach Reunion Weekend, please visit: [smu.gs/1qeJG45](http://smu.gs/1qeJG45)

For all 2016 attendees, we would really appreciate your feedback and input. Please take a moment to submit an online survey, please visit: [bit.ly/1X1Gpoi](http://bit.ly/1X1Gpoi).

## The Statistics:

- The most senior alumnus in attendance: Don Schreiber '46N (Even had a chance to take his first selfie with Terri Rekus '94N)
- Alumnus who traveled the furthest: Mike Harris '76N and his wife, Edda, joined us from Colorado Springs, Colorado.

### Attendees by Class:

- 1940s: 5
- 1950s: 17
- 1960s: 19
- 1970s: 34
- 1980s: 25
- 1990s: 14
- Class with the largest attendance: 16 from the Class of 1976





**Joe Ellinger '50N** holds public office in Arizona, as a Commissioner with the Human Rights Commission, and teaches in an experimental program at Tulane Law School. An award was established in Joe's name at Tulane Law School for excellence as a national litigator. He also creates and teaches Continuing Legal Education courses for the Arizona Supreme Court.

**\*Joe Eletto '64S**, who graduated with honors from Farragut and served in both the Army and the Navy, was awarded with the 2015 Citizen of the Year award from the Greater Riverview Chamber of Commerce for his work in the community that encompasses Riverview, Brandon, Apollo Beach and Ruskin. "I hold a lot of my success to my time at Farragut," said Eletto, who was voted Ambassador of the Year by the chamber in 2008, 2010 and 2012. "The discipline, hard work, and respect you learn there helps you as you move on through life. I have and will always be grateful to my mom for having made the decision to send me to Farragut." 1



**Dale Winke '84N (Non-Graduating)** is now working for the Union Pacific Railroad and lives in La Grande, Oregon.

**Michael Knapp '92N** just completed his 20 year anniversary working for NJT Railroad where he works as a Rail Traffic Controller. He is also the General Chairman for the union, the American Train Dispatchers Association.

**Marco Inclan '97** has been working for Prince Food Systems for a year as the Food Service Director for Igloo Products Corporation, the world's #1 cooler company. Marco has been married almost 4 years and they have a 2 year old son. He says he can't wait to attend the 29th year alumni reunion and hopes to see a lot of his classmates there.

**Howard Reich '67N** retired from the practice of law this past February, after eight years with The State Compensation Insurance Fund following his wife Kathleen's stroke. They have retired in Newport Beach, CA, and just can't get away from the water. He is looking forward to seeing everyone next year for the 50th reunion.

**\*Rick Clegg '75N** was recently featured in the Palm Beach Post for his venture using old shipping containers to create alternative housing. Clegg, an entrepreneur in Jupiter, Fla. who owns Jupiter Outdoor Center, spent \$3,000 apiece on three containers to build a house that he markets on Airbnb as an eco vacation retreat. 2

**\*Dr. Steven Hoffman '77N** received the 2015 PRIDE Award at Southeast Missouri State University, which recognizes a faculty member who has demonstrated excellence as a teacher with extraordinary level of scholarship, service and accomplishment.



**Elizabeth Metzger '06** ran the Disney Princess Half Marathon at Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom with some other Farragut alumni. Pictured left to right is Jennifer Kearns '04, Stephanie Noelle Andron '10, and Elizabeth Metzger '06. 3

**Chaz Dominguez '08** graduated from Loyola University in Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and is now attending DePaul University working towards a Master of Science in Computer, Network, and Information Security.

\* The complete story is located online at [www.farragut.org/alumni/news-class-notes](http://www.farragut.org/alumni/news-class-notes)

**\*Kelly Rubash '09** finished as the Second Runner-Up in the sixth annual Tampa Bay Woman of the Year fundraising event by the Westchase Foundation in Hillsborough County, Florida. The competition lasted over nine weeks during which 13 candidates raised funds for families in need, totaling a little over \$100,000 during that span. 4

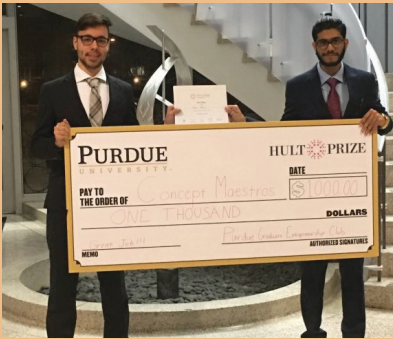
**Spencer Fletcher '09**, Battalion Commander for his graduating class, is now a Navy LTJG and training to fly P-8's, the Navy's version of the 737. 7

**\*Kamila Widulinski '11** and Northeastern University peer from the Class of 2016, Carly Krotowski, will take a journey across the country this summer to make a difference in the world. They will spend 10 weeks on the Bike & Build bicycle charity ride across America to support the affordable housing crisis in the United States.



## \*Max Jessen '15

is part of a three-person team at Purdue University recently selected as a global regional finalist for the 7th Annual Hult Prize, which inspires the brightest university students from around the globe to focus on solving one of the world's key social challenges. The prize carries with it \$1 million in startup capital to develop the winner's project as well as opportunities to work with business leaders from around the world. Jessen's team was one of the 300 selected from a record-breaking pool of over 25,000 applicants. The 2016 theme – selected by former President Bill Clinton – is Crowded Urban Spaces, which focuses on economic inclusion, more specifically, doubling the incomes of the residents who live in some of the toughest conditions in the world through improved mobility and increased connectivity to people, products, services and capital by 2022. Jessen, who is working on his finance major in the Krannert School of Management, came up with the idea for Project Annulus, a venture that would create mass-produced housing, drastically reducing the cost of construction. Harboring ideas from Henry Ford's industry changing format back in the early 20th century, Jessen has theorized that a similar approach could be translated in the housing sector.



**Logan Sloan '11** started his own company called Laid Back Outfitters, LLC located in Jacksonville, Florida. It was born after Logan and his friend Jacob Hofstra, who are fraternity brothers and avid outdoorsmen, grew tired of paying for outrageously priced brand name outdoor gear and recreational products. Learn more at [www.laidbackoutfitters.com](http://www.laidbackoutfitters.com). 6

**Patrick McNamara '15** pictured with Presidential candidate Marco Rubio. 5





# Coach Stan Slaby, Jr.

## The Legacy of a Farragut Legend and WW II Honoree

By: Alison Lescarbeau

In June, the Farragut community lost a great one when Stan Slaby, better known as "Coach," passed away due to natural causes. Several hundred people attended a memorial ceremony at The Chapel of the Air in Lakehurst, NJ, during which alumni spoke about Coach Slaby's influence over his 39 years at Farragut.

David Yoho '68 introduced them one-by-one adding stories and nuances about their relationship with Coach Slaby, who taught them more about life than just the technique and strategy of sport. The common theme centered on the respect, discipline, perseverance and sportsmanship taught by Slaby and reinforced by his beloved wife, Polly, who passed away in 2009.

"Each alumnus spanning the decades of Slaby's tenure have their own unique stories but they all share these lessons and values instilled by his legacy," Yoho said.

USAF Chaplain Hans Decker ministered Coach Slaby's funeral which was held on the 72nd anniversary of D-Day, a day in which Slaby had acted heroically to save a fellow soldier on the beaches of Omaha (Normandy). Decker began with Psalm 23, which is most known for the line, "The Lord is my Shepherd." Decker used the analogy of Coach to a Shepherd. He said, "A loving shepherd is invested in the lives of many, they are selfless and have a self-sacrificial mentality. Through all of the stories I have heard about Coach, he showed you and taught you respect and to give it your all. The staff of a shepherd is used to direct and correct their sheep and is infused with commitment and leadership, and it is a comfort to its flock. A good shepherd will lay down his life for his sheep. I can see how his leadership played a significant role in so many lives."

Headmaster Robert J. Fine, Jr. sent these statements:



*"A teacher (coach) affects eternity, he can never tell where his influence stops"*  
-- Henry Adams.

"Coach impacted the lives of hundreds. He taught lessons, he gave tough love and he, along with his wife, Polly, parented young men (and a few women) from Admiral Farragut Academy for close to 40 years. Although I never had the opportunity to work with Coach, I have talked to alumni for the past 27 years about Coach and his wife Polly. I have heard story after story about the Slaby's hospitality, kindness and care. I have heard stories about his strictness and then, in turn, their food stocked basement."

Fine continued, "Getting to know Coach over the years, one thing is for sure, he loved his boys! He took pride in all of your accomplishments. He took pride in watching all his boys grow up and become successful. He always shared a particular story for each alumnus. He remembered each and everyone of you all and loved you all."

The service's most touching moments, though, came when several alumni illustrated Coach Slaby's effect on them and the community.

Here are a few excerpts from their words:

Ron Rose '68 said, "Slaby was the first private school Coach to be participate in the North South All Star Team. He was the best Coach you could ever ask for. He and his wife Polly did not have much, but they had enough love for all of us boys."



Coach's "Boys": Farragut alumni in attendance at Coach Slaby's funeral in Lakehurst, NJ

Art Musicaro '73 said, "Their (Coach and Polly) house was a respite. Sure, we all did chores for him while we were there, just like we would if we lived at home with our parents. But they fed us, listened to us and taught us invaluable lessons. Lessons on how to dress, to push yourself, to be respectful. I didn't know many of you (who graduated during different times), but I got to know you because of Coach. He kept us together."

Art told a story about how he and his son, Christopher, traveled to all five Normandy beaches on a WWII tour. During that tour, they collected sand from each beach. About a month after he returned he visited with Coach. He brought him a commemorative coin and a few other treasures but then he presented him with a vial of the sand from Omaha beach where his unit invaded on D-Day. Musicaro said, "Coach cried and he cried. He never talked about his time there but that moment brought him back." In closing, he said, "You can go through life and you may never meet even one or two people like Coach. Farragut was our foundation and Coach was the concrete, the footer, the base."

Ken White '65 shared a letter he had written to Coach which included a note to him never sent, written the day after he passed. He said, "We all belong to a special union and Coach was our anchor. I never knew how important the lessons he taught were, but now I find myself in a situation I never thought I would be in, caring for my beloved wife who has alzheimer's and raising three grandsons. It is the lessons of digging deep and then digging even more that have gotten me through these times." He added words he wrote to Coach after this death, "You have always been there for your boys, know that we are ok and you can go be with Polly."

Adin "Tex" Brown, one of Coach's boys from 1960-1964, sent these words, "The man I am today proudly strives to express many of Coach's fine qualities. Both of my sons coach at the collegiate and professional level. Some of Coach's words that have stuck with me, work hard, pay attention, don't

Coach Slaby is pictured with Tom Cruise, Harry Carson, Donald Trump, Mike Tyson, and others.

give up, remember it then forget it. Coach was the master of relationships, he was organized, tough, consistent and caring. God bless you Coach."

David Lipsky '75 summarized Coach's life by discussing his service to his country, his relationship with his wife Polly, his undying dedication to his "Farragut Boys," and the immense impact he had on the students of Admiral Farragut Academy. He talked about his relationship with Coach which did not start off on a good note but due to Coach's determination to get him to participate in football they built a bond that has spanned decades. Lipsky said, "Each of us learned so much from Coach but most importantly; sportsmanship, always play hard and play fair, never use off color language, enjoy the game no matter the outcome, honesty and respect."

"Coach and Polly fed us well. There were always Charly's pretzels and chips, and always, always Fudgsicles! But more than that they cared about and for each of us." In closing, Lipsky said, "Farragut brought us together but Coach kept us together."

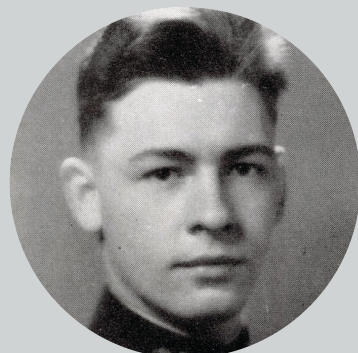
The final presenter was David Owens '76, who read a poem entitled "See It Through," by Edgar Albert Guest, which characterized Slaby's motto of 'never quit.' He elaborated on the lessons Coach taught his students. Most importantly, he said, "Everyone matters. He would tell me to go bring water to the guy mowing the football field because his job was so important. Coach was bigger than life and he made everyone around him feel they were the most important." Owens said, "If you laugh, think and cry all in one day then you've had a full day. Coach loved life and his days were always full." The service concluded with a prayer read by Owens.

We extend a special thank you to Coach's boys and especially Ron Rose, Rob Pfeifle and Bob Wyrick for the care they gave Coach in his last years.

**View the full official obituary at our website by visiting <http://bit.ly/28nHd4M>**





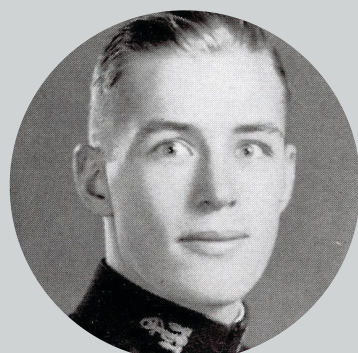


George Field Sharp '35N

George passed away February 25, 2016. He was born in PA on March 4, 1916. He graduated from Farragut North in 1935 and then went to the U.S. Naval Academy. George had an adventurous naval career having captained a division of submarines, a fleet oiler and a naval station. George's foreign duties included one year in Turkey training Turkey submariners, two years in Brazil as operations advisor for the U.S. Naval Mission, and three years in Santiago, Chile as U.S. Naval Officer. George had duty in Washington, D.C.; two years as aide to Deputy Chief of Naval Operations and three years on loan to the State Department for Latin American

Military Affairs. After 35 years of being a submariner, Captain George Sharp retired from the U.S. Navy.

In 1969, George moved to a small farm 50 miles north of Philadelphia. He worked as a sales manager for Eastern RotoCraft for 10 years. George married Helen Catherine Krause January 2, 1940. They had three daughters: Linda Sharp Hutchison of Pittsburgh, PA, Tina Sharp Rolig of Pagosa Springs, CO, and Catherine Sharp of Sacramento, CA. In April 2006, George's wife, Helen, died, and he re-married Mary Frances Zentko Gonzales in August of 2006.



Calvin B. Dunwoody '39N

Calvin passed away July 22, 2015. He was born in Newport, RI in 1921. Calvin attended Farragut North and graduated in 1939 before receiving his bachelor's degree from MIT in 1943 and master's degree from Yale in 1948. During World War II, Calvin received the British Empire Medal in 1944 for his exemplary tenure in the American Field Service. Calvin retired as Director of Planning and Development at the State of Rhode Island Dept.

of Environmental Management after 35 years of service in 1988. Calvin previously held the position of Chief of Forestry for the Department of Natural Resources. Calvin was an explorer, adventurer, world mountaineer, 50 State Highpointer, champion triathlete, yachtsman, pilot, lacrosse player, skier, swim coach, grandfather, dad, friend and mentor. Most importantly, he was loved, admired and respected by family and friends.



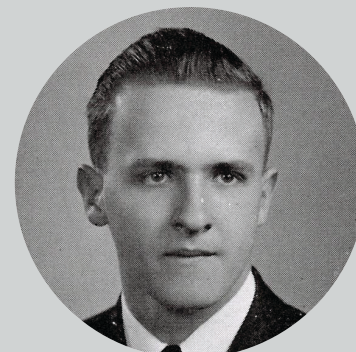
A.J. "Junior" Baltz, Jr. '46S

A.J. "Junior" Baltz Jr, 87 passed away August 9, 2015 surrounded by his family. Junior was born September 16, 1927 in Pocahontas, AR. He is survived by children: Donald (Suzy) Baltz of Cabot, Jeanette (Joe) Kemper of Little Rock, Joe (Diane) Baltz of Pocahontas, Cyndy (Larry) Busick of Pocahontas, Randolph (Sherry) Baltz of Little Rock, Leo (Abi) Baltz, Kyle (Karen) Baltz, and Jeremy (Lisa) Baltz all of

Pocahontas; 23 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren; 2 sisters Jane Baltz of Pocahontas and Pauline Marsh of Springfield, MO; and one brother Bernard Baltz of Pocahontas. He is preceded in death by his loving wife Patricia, parents, sons Ambrose J. Baltz III and John Andrew Baltz, two sisters Rosemary Baltz and Delores Baltz, and one brother Paul F. Baltz.

# TAPS

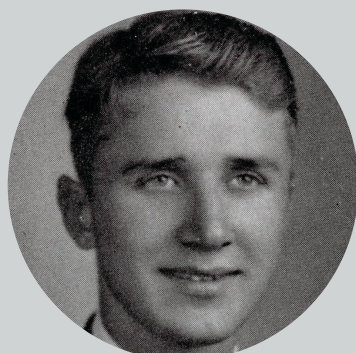
a farewell to our friends



Richard Brown Billings '47N

Dick, 86, passed away February 21, 2015, following open-heart surgery. Dick was born in Mexico City, son of an American attorney, on September 26, 1929. The family returned to the United States, settling in Scarsdale, N.Y., in 1939. Dick attended Farragut North and graduated in 1947. He then attended and graduated from Hampden Sydney College, where he was a member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity. Dick served in the U.S. Air Force from 1953 to 1957, retiring as a First Lieutenant. While in college, Dick met Billie Marie Wood, they were married in 1954. After the Air Force, Dick settled in Euclid, OH, where he worked for TRW Automotive. His three sons were born there. In 1967, the family

moved to Fort Lauderdale, where they remained until retirement in 1995, when Billie and Dick moved to Sun City Center, FL. Dick always put his family first. Dick was active as a Scout leader with his sons. He enjoyed woodworking, do-it-yourself projects and gardening. His first love, besides family, was model railroading. Dick is remembered as a kind and caring man, a loving husband, a devoted father. Dick will be deeply missed by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Billie Marie; sons Brad (Ramona), Jeff (Robin) and William "Bill" (Deanna); and grandsons Greg and Robert behind with many cherished memories.

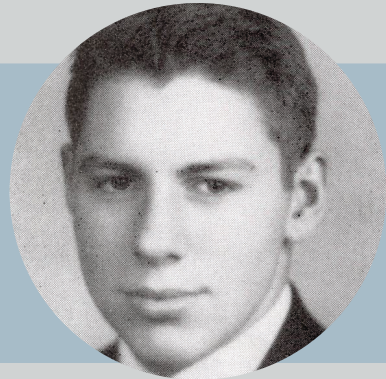


Gerald Francois Laughlin '48N

Gerry passed away October 5, 2013. He was born in France but grew up in Florida. Gerry graduated from Farragut North in 1948 and the U.S. Naval Academy in 1953. During those years, he served in the Vietnam War. Gerry had the pleasure of his family accompanying him on tours in Hawaii and the Philippines. Gerry had plenty of sea duty. Gerry's favorite, by far, was his years in the submarine service. After he retired, he briefly worked for a local contractor, before venturing out on his own. Gerry thoroughly enjoyed his 18 years and retired in 1976. The lure of the sea never left him; thus, as

long as there were fish to catch and affordable fuel in the tanks, at every opportunity, Gerry was at his beloved Grand Banks filling up two freezers with his catch! There were the daily morning meetings of the "Liars Club" at the Amphib Base Marina followed by long walks throughout the area, his favorite way to start the day. Gerry leaves behind his wife, Ducky, and sons, Walter and Larry, and his grandchildren. Gerry will be joining his eldest son and namesake, Gerry, who passed away in 2002. They will smile down on us as we smile up on them.



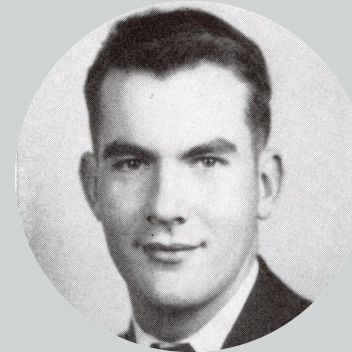


*Lt. Col. Stephen S. Eisenhower '50N*

Steve, of Winchester, VA, died Sunday, May 1, 2016 from congestive heart failure. He was 84 years old. Steve was born December 1, 1931 in Sheffield, PA. Steve was a rangy All-America guard athlete out of Sheffield High and Farragut North, where he graduated in 1950 in Pine Beach, NJ. In June of 1950 he went to the U.S. Naval Academy. While at the Naval Academy, Steve was an outstanding student athlete, and as a Navy football player he was first team All-America in 1952 and 1953. He was later elected to the Academic All-America Hall of Fame (1992) and the College Football Hall of Fame (1994). He graduated and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1954. He married Barbara Ritchie of Sheffield, PA in June 1954. His first assignment was Officer Basic School,

Quantico, VA before entering flight school in Pensacola, FL. He began his career as a fighter pilot with Marine Fighter Squadron 235 at Cherry Point, NC. He then served as Aide to Maj. Gen. Marion Dawson in Korea. He served at MCAS El Toro, CA before entering the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA. He returned to MCAS El Toro before deploying to Vietnam. Home from Vietnam, he served at Headquarters Marine Corps, Arlington, VA. While there he earned a master's degree in Statistics at George Washington University before retiring from the Marine Corps in 1975. He then served as a civilian consultant working with Naval Air until 1996. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the U.S. Naval Academy Foundation, the Naval Academy Alumni Association, the Shenandoah

Area Naval Academy Alumni Group, and the Retired Officers Association. Steve was a member of the North Star Lodge No. 241 in Warren, PA, an honorary member of Spurmont Lodge No. 98, Strasburg, VA, an honorary member of Winchester Hiram Lodge No. 21, and a member of the Shenandoah Valley No. 543 Chapter of the National Sojourners. Steve loved to play golf and bridge, and was a former member of the Winchester Country Club. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Winchester, VA. Steve is survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara Eisenhower, and their two children, Susan Eisenhower Kessell and her husband Frederick of Lake Wylie, SC and Gregory Stephen Eisenhower and his wife Elizabeth of Winchester along with two grandchildren.

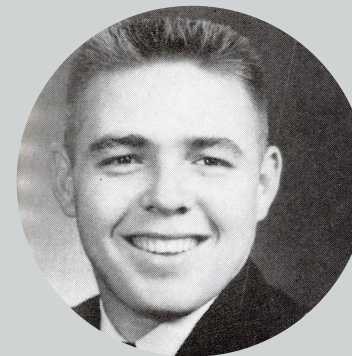


*William A. Conway '49N*

Will died peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2015, after a short stay in the Palliative Care and Hospice Unit at the Togus Veterans Affairs Medical Center

in Augusta, ME. Will was born in Boston, Mass. on June 27, 1928. Most of Will's young life was spent in Manchester, NH where he graduated from St. Joseph's High School for Boys. He also attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Toms River, NJ, and then University of New Hampshire, where he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. Will served in the U.S. Navy aboard the U.S.S. Adirondack during the Korean Conflict. In the summer of 1953, Will met his future bride, Kathleen "Kay" Johnston. Both were working at the Ravine House in Randolph, NH. Will and Kay were married in Old Town on June 25, 1955, and moved

to Waterville, where they have made their home for 60 years. Will retired in 1990 after 30 years with the U.S. Postal Service. He was a life member of the American Legion Bourque-Lanigan Post 5. Will was active in the American Postal Workers Union as well as a long-time volunteer at the old Seton Hospital. An avid sports fan, especially football and women's basketball, Will also enjoyed history, travel, camping, and spending time with his family. In addition to his wife, he is survived by daughters Janice Conway of Alexandria, VA, Martha (Bill) Cobb of Fairfield, and Margaret Conway of Bristol, RI.



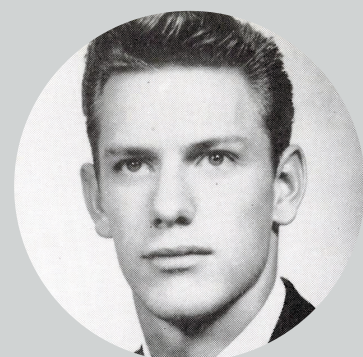
*Donald P. Blake, Lt. Colonel, USAF (Ret.) '52S*

Don, 82, passed away December 2015 at his home in CO. He was interred with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery, March 9, 2016. The service was attended by his surviving children; their children and grandchildren; as well as his fellow Florida National Guard member and AFA '53S grad, John "Jack" Emanuelson, Lt. Colonel, US Army (Ret.). Don attended Farragut South his freshman

and sophomore years, returned to Chicago due to the death of his father and grandmother and then completed his senior year of high school at Farragut. Don graduated from The Citadel in 1956 and was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force. Don also completed navigator training and was assigned to the Strategic Air Command. Don flew both prop and then jet air refueling tankers. Don was in the air during the Cuban missile crisis. Don also was the commander of a radar base in the U.S. when the Vietnam war escalated. Don was reassigned to jumbo cargo aircraft and was in the air the night the Tet Offensive began. His combat mission was resupplying ground forces with troops and materials. This was often under heavy enemy fire and included the marines under siege at Khe Sanh. He was proud that while

serving in Europe his aircraft was designated as the back-up for Air Force One when the President was in Europe. On his own time, he took civilian pilot training and earned a commercial pilot's license which he used for personal enjoyment and taking his family on vacations. Don retired after a combined 20 years of service in the Illinois National Guard, the Florida National Guard, and the Air Force. Don settled in WY, where for more than twenty years he was a financial planner and had his own tax accounting firm. Don received a special IRS designation of enrolled agent. He is survived by his last wife, Barbara, and her son Jody; Don's daughter, Deborah Spyker; his son, David, grandson David, Jr.; grandsons by his late son, Douglas and wife Nancy: Joshua and Shane, and their children; and his brother, Chuck, AFA '54S.

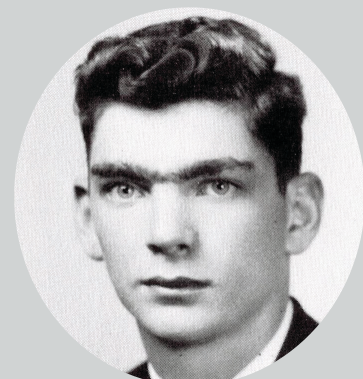




Donald Laughner '55S

Born in Pittsburgh, PA, Don graduated from Farragut South in 1955. Don retired as a Major after a 23-year career in the U.S. Marine Corps, with tours including both Vietnam and Japan. Don worked for 10 years as a district sales manager for General Electric before attending Bible College at Pinecrest in Salisbury Center, NY. Don served as a pastoral assistant at Middle Smithfield Presbyterian Church in East Stroudsburg, PA, before moving to Jacksonville, NC to serve as a home group leader and serve the

ministry to those incarcerated. During this time, Don completed his bachelor's degree in theology at Canada Christian College. Don returned to upstate NY, to join the staff at Pinecrest, serving as Bible teacher, men's counselor, and business manager. Don is survived by his wife of 58 years, Jean Murphy Laughner and three children -- Pamela Laughner Mann, David Laughner and Douglas Laughner; three grandchildren and two great grandchildren.



Capt. Douglas Glenn '60N

Doug, 74, passed away October 29, 2015, in the Philippines. After graduating from Farragut North in 1960, Douglas graduated from the Maine Maritime Academy in 1964. Doug came from a family with a nautical history which he detailed in a published history of "Last of the Boom Ships" -- "I have a seagoing heritage. My father and my grandfather went to sea, and my grandfather's ship was torpedoed off the coast of Greenland during WWII. My mother worked in the

Paymaster's Office of United States Lines in NYC. When family friends passed through, I heard stories from all over the world. The sea was ingrained in me and I had a wanderlust from a young age." After graduation, Doug immediately sailed for a couple of years with his Third Mates License on the (Victory Ship) S.S. Remsen Heights with American Export-Isbrandtsen Lines; Doug quickly advanced his license to that of Chief Mate. Doug continued with American Export Lines aboard various bulk cargo ships until he joined the NS Savannah in 1965, and continued on the Savannah in Third, Second, and Chief Mate billets. Doug also earned his Reactor Operator's License after studying in Furuseth Hall at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, NY. Doug continued on the Savannah until it was deactivated in

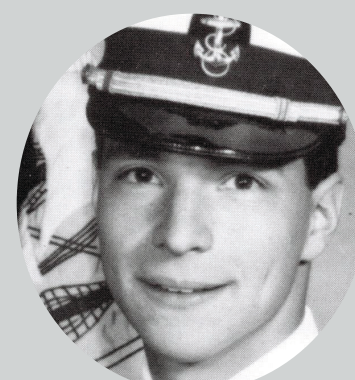
1972. From 1972 to 1978, Doug continued with American Export Lines until a Captain's position became available in 1978. Doug then skippered the diesel-powered research vessel, the RV Fay working in collaboration with the U.S. Navy, along with his brother, Alan, who was on board an unlicensed ER billet. Doug finished his 35-year career at sea with the Burma Oil and Energy Transportation Corp. and as captain aboard the Liquefied Natural Gas Aquarius ship. Doug had a beautiful estate built in Dauin which is located in the south Philippines. In his retirement, Doug split his time between the Florida Keys and the Philippines. Doug continued to travel the world as a civilian. To all who were blessed to know him: we lost a great friend, a terrific shipmate, talented and dedicated Mariner, and a wonderful mind. "Requiescat in Pace!"



Robert Minter "Randy" Suddeth Jr. '69S

Randy, 65, passed away at his home in Tallulah Falls, GA, on November 10, 2015. Randy was born on September 19, 1950. Randy spent much of his life in Summerville, SC and in various cities in FL before moving to GA. Randy was a graduate of Farragut South and a graduate of the University of South Carolina. He was in the Air Force and U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. Randy enjoyed volunteering at the Rabun County Senior Center teaching computers. An animal lover, he also volunteered at Rabun Paws for Life. Randy

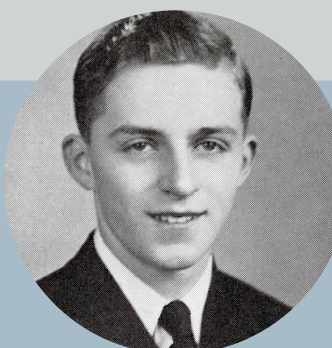
leaves behind his devoted wife, Jewel, a step-daughter, Dorinda Paige (Brian) of Smyrna, his mother, Mary Catherine Suddeth of Clayton, two brothers, Richard Suddeth and James Suddeth of Washington, D.C., and one sister, Lisa Buchanan, of Clayton. Randy had several nephews, nieces and cousins, and a host of friends who will miss his smiling face. Randy was a Christian by faith and enjoyed studying the Holy Land because of the time he was able to spend there. He often spoke about his vision of "life on the other side."



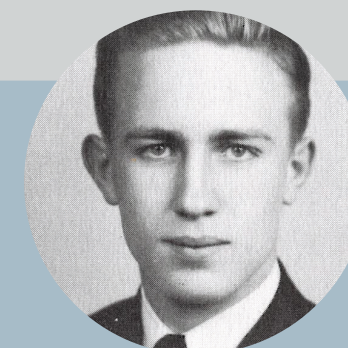
James Piegari '89N

James, 44, passed away March 31, 2015. Raised in Cranford and Westfield, NJ, James lived in Clark before moving to Hillside several years ago. Mr. Piegari was Naval Jr ROTC Honor Company Commander and a graduate of Farragut North in Pine Beach, NJ. James received a Criminal

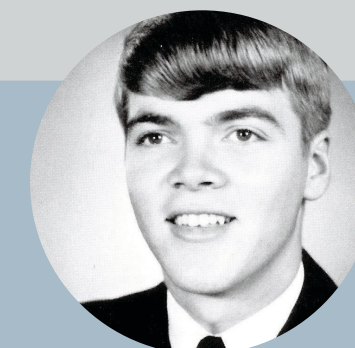
Justice Degree from Widener University. Since 1991 he had been Vice President of Sales for Dynamic Aire Sales Corp. in Rahway. He was an avid NASCAR fan and loved to drive the family's restored 1970 Mustang and also a member of the NRA.



Charles Hulse '46N



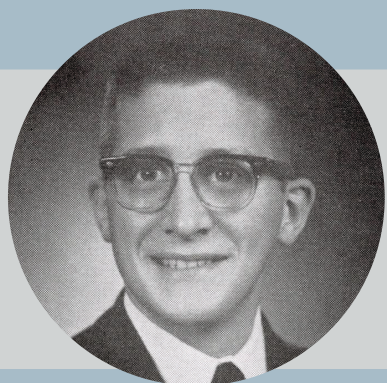
Theodore W. Erikson '53N



Robert T Wienges '70S

We received notice of passing for these alumni. If you have more information please e-mail [alumni@farragut.org](mailto:alumni@farragut.org)





Bill Siebel '64S

Bill, 69, passed away on Nov. 8, 2015 at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, due to a bout with esophageal cancer. Bill was the fourth generation in the Siebel family to head a Chicago beer-brewing school that produced thousands of alumni including people from the world-renowned beer baron families of Busch, Coors, Floyd, Pabst, and Stroh. Bill graduated from Farragut South in 1964 and the University of Miami shortly thereafter. He served in the Navy, rising to lieutenant, before returning to Chicago in 1971 to help run the Siebel Institute of Technology, which had been established in 1872 by his great-grandfather, John Ewald Siebel, an immigrant from Dusseldorf, Germany. Bill eventually became chairman and CEO of the school which helped produce impressive alumni like August Busch III of Anheuser-Busch, John Mallett of Bell's Brewery in Kalamazoo, and Greg Hall, a brewmaster at Goose Island Beer Company and son of Goose Island founder John Hall. Charlie Papazian, president and founder of Denver's Great American Beer Festival, described Bill as being a member of the "First Family" of beer educators. "The contributions that the Siebel Institute has made to brewing and to training craft brewers in its long history, are far too numerous to count," said Jim Koch, founder of Samuel Adams. "I'm a sixth-generation brewer

and my father graduated from Siebel in 1948 and my grandfather in 1908. The industry has lost a great one." Ken Stout, general manager of Goose Island Beer Company said, "Many of our employees are graduates of Siebel Institute, and the impact the school has made on the beer community is impressive. A great industry leader has been lost, and we'll miss him dearly." Bill grew up in Edgebrook, IL, and spent a good portion of his youth attending the Paradise Ranch near Colorado Springs, CO, where he became an accomplished horseback rider. Bill attended grade school at the old Bishop Quarter Military Academy in Oak Park, IL, before transferring to Farragut in the early sixties. During the summer months, Bill attended the Siebel Institute taking a variety of classes, that focused on yeast, malt, fermentation, biological science, quality control, engineering and packaging. Bill and his brother, Ron, ran the company until selling a majority of the shares in 2000 to Lallemand, a Canadian yeast company. Bill enjoyed the outdoors, canoeing, hiking and watching birds and animals. For their honeymoon, Bill and his wife, Barbara, canoed nine days on the U.S.-Canadian Boundary Waters. For 20 years, they canoed in Ely, MN, where he enjoyed spotting bear and moose. He also loved reading Dostoevsky and Tolstoy.

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RADM Mark Buzby USN (Ret) '75N  
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Frank Wendt '42N

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- 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
- 12- Alan Atwood '52N
- 13- Michael '80S and Karen Hajek
- 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 Amsterdam*
- 21- Jeff Ogden '00S
- 23- Benjamin H. Troemel '73S
- 24- Rob Hailey '76S
- 25- Tom McClelland
- 26- Donald Doornbos '63S
- 27- Carol M. Doornbos
- 28- Joe Sloan
- 29- *Phillip Hurt '38N*
- 30- Lona Hurt
- 39- Bailey Norton '39N
- 41- *John Gardella '41N*
- 43- *Stan Slaby*
- 44- Matt Sokolowski '92S
- 45- Don Baker '45N
- 46- *Stewart D. Woolley '44N*
- 47- Al Ferrante '64N
- 49- Pete Musser '44N
- 52- Bjorn Nielsen '43N
- 58- Rudy Kohler '58S
- 59- A.F. "Ron" Krantz '59N
- 61- Eric Engler '61N
- 63- Phil Pratt '63N
- 64- *Bill Siebel '64S*
- 65- Richard J. DeWitt '65S
- 67- Robert Matthies '67N
- 71- Robert Hudson '71S
- 73- Art Musicaro '73N
- 78- Mike Nicholson
- 79- Murray Fine '54N
- 80- Margaret Fine
- 81- George Goldstein M.D. '50N
- 82- Jake and Ingrid Jacobus
- 100- Jyri Palm '87S

*Italic indicates deceased*

HERITAGE SOCIETY

A Heritage Society membership indicates that Admiral Farragut Academy and/or the Foundation is included in the estate plans of a donor. Some donors will give through a simple bequest by way of their will, others will transfer the ownership of life insurance or a percentage of their IRA, while others will elect to use one of the many options available through various trust arrangements. The method is not as important as the decision to become a member.



farragut community

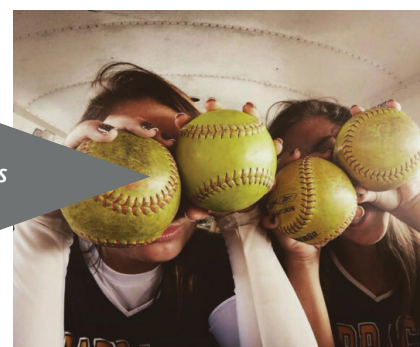
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As you travel, take a picture with spirit wear or with this Farragut anchor and post it on our Facebook page or email it to [marketing@farragut.org](mailto:marketing@farragut.org) with your name and a brief caption.



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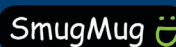
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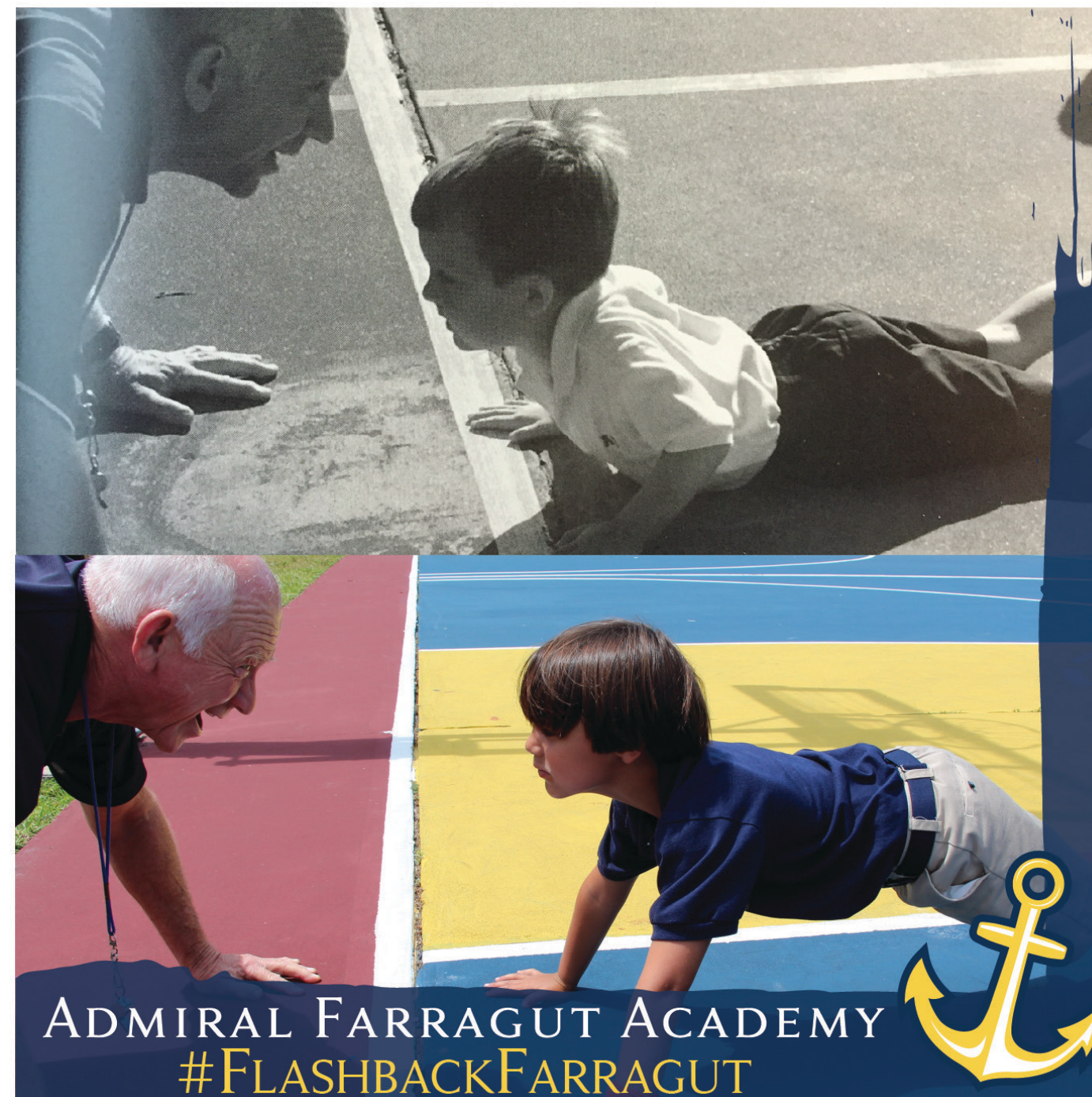




1. Enrollment Director Pamela Pardi poses with the Farragut Anchor at the Great Wall of China. | 2. Michael Cooney '16, Maya Cooney '20, Josh Fixler '19, Jack Klingel '20, and Maddy Landry '19, accompanied by Steve and Joy Edwards, pose with the statue in Farragut Square in Washington, DC. | 3. 4th and 5th grade explore the Castillo de San Marcos during their annual St. Augustine field trip. | 4. Students ski in Park City, Utah, accompanied by Rob Ewing, Jose Hercher, and Jim Christopher. | 5. Brooke Liu '16 and Jason Chen '18 biked from St. Petersburg to Miami over Spring Break. | 6. Upper school Spanish instructor Cesar Robalino took 5 students abroad to Italy over Spring Break. | 7. Dr. Glenn and Jane Mitchell '63N (Left) and CAPT Richard and Chris Creange '77N, USN (Ret) (Right) pose with the anchor at the annual Pine Beach Reunion. | 8. Roger K. Steinbach '56N holds the anchor in Trollstigen, Norway.

farragut community

#FlashbackFarragut



ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY  
#FLASHBACKFARRAGUT

Top: PE Teacher Bob Gibbons does push-ups with a Lower School student in 2000, the first year that a lower school was implemented.

Bottom: Chief Academic Officer Bob Gibbons does push-ups with Kindergarten student Luka Vaughn in 2016.





Advancement Office  
501 Park Street North  
Saint Petersburg, FL 33710

save  
the  
date 2016

OCT

21

Parents' Group  
Golf Tournament  
St. Petersburg, FL

OCT

28-29

Homecoming Weekend  
St. Petersburg, FL  
[www.farragut.org/HC2016](http://www.farragut.org/HC2016)

DEC

9-10

Army Navy Weekend  
Philadelphia, PA  
[www.farragut.org/AN2016](http://www.farragut.org/AN2016)

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