

REVEILLE

A PUBLICATION FOR THE ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY COMMUNITY

SUMMER 2017

REVEILLE

Summer 2017

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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Longtime science teacher and cross country and track and field coach, Mike “Coach Nick” Nicholson

This Page
Drone shot taken by Natalia Gonzalez '19

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Skylar McDaniel '18 during a special tour of the U.S. Coast Guard St. Petersburg Station



First graders Jana Fackih (left) and Sereen Shamseddine learn about the life cycle of butterflies

A Note About North and South Campuses

Whether you graduated from the Pine Beach, NJ campus or the St. Petersburg, FL campus we are now one. We can all be truly proud of our school. As a symbol of our unity, the Board of Trustees voted that the reference to the class year will no longer include the “N” or “S”. As alumni, we are all part of the Legacy of Farragut.

Announcing the retirement of Michael “Coach Nick” Nicholson

Since Farragut opened its doors in St. Petersburg in 1945, many teachers have utilized their skills to virtually mold the character of the academy bit by bit through the years.

I think back over the years of men such as Earl Clark, Headmaster for over 30 years; Orié Banks, who for over 28 years was influential in shaping the education of the students in both the Upper and Lower School; Rhett Sanders, who taught Biology for over 30 years; Roy Wheeler '76, who has been at Farragut for over 30 years in various roles; and Headmaster Robert J. Fine, Jr., who has been at the academy for over 25 years.

But the man who really stands out is Michael Nicholson, known as “Coach Nick”, who has taught science at Farragut for over 39 years and had the greatest influence on the education, character, and positive lifestyle of his students and the school. This year, he has announced his retirement.

In 1978, during my role as Headmaster, I found myself in a difficult situation. The school year was starting and we

desperately needed a science teacher. Enter Mike Nicholson, whose graduation from college had not been far in the past. He stood before my desk in a newly purchased suit with the sales tag still hanging from the coat tail. Whether it was his great resume, interview, or new suit, I knew I could not let this fine young man out into the world alone. So I hired him!

Of course I also gave him extra duties as a dormitory supervisor, which immersed him into the boarding life of our cadets. They soon considered him an advisor, mentor, and problem solver.

I understand that his first classroom experience was not the best as he learned that saying “Hi, I’m Mike” is not the best way to introduce yourself in a military school where “sir” or “Lieutenant” is a little more proper.

His classroom was a previously unused building which soon

became a menagerie consisting of fish tanks, chicken coops, a boa constrictor, and a monkey. His free-range rooster unfortunately took a dislike to another faculty member and chased him around campus. Mike had the last word and sentenced the rooster to life inside a fenced compound.

Mike Nicholson took his Cross Country coaching duties seriously. With his quiet manner and mentoring abilities, he earned the admiration of his athletes, and his teams won events.

Among his achievements at Farragut, Mike is the only teacher who taught the same subject for all 39 years of his career. Congratulations Mike, you have made an indelible mark on Admiral Farragut Academy’s science program, athletic program, and the Residential Life program.



Richard G. Wheeler '87H
Lieutenant Colonel U.S. Army (Ret.)
Rear Admiral, AFA
Since 1972 former Teacher, Headmaster,
Superintendent, Chairman of the Board of
Trustees and lifetime member Board of Trustees.



*Coach Nick surrounded by students both past and present
at his retirement celebration in May*

THE NEW BUILDING CAMPAIGN for ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY

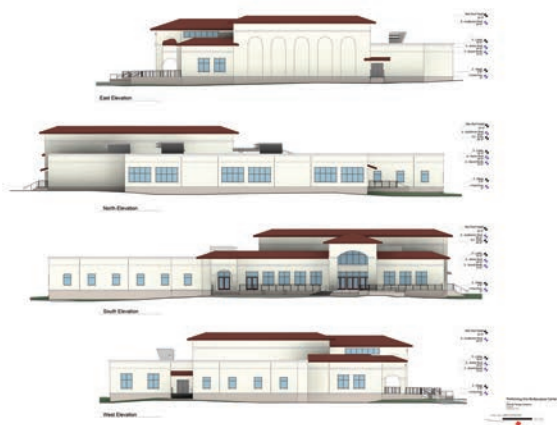
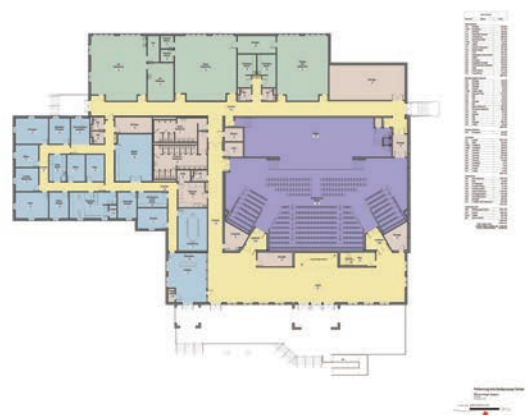
Project Update

It's full steam ahead on the New Building project.

- The builder has been selected: Gilbane, Inc. Gilbane, one of the largest privately held family-owned construction and real estate development firms in the industry. They will join our architect, John Poe, and our project manager, Bill DiMarino.
- The demolition of the existing building is complete.
- Estimated start of construction is late August with the completion date projected to be August 2018.
- New Building ribbon cutting is expected for the start of the 2018-19 school year.

Additional benefits beyond the New Building:

- Additional classroom space, additional office space, and room for increased dormitories will be created.
- Main car circle which will undergo a complete reconfiguration including significant widening of the driveway and moving the exit slightly north. (The car circle will remain drivable throughout the year as the work will be done in small sections.)
- Parking capacity will be drastically increased.
- Signage in and around campus will be updated for a new look and, more importantly, improved directional signs for visitors on campus.



Campaign Update

The fundraising effort in support of the project -- The New Building Campaign for Admiral Farragut Academy -- is moving ahead on all fronts. Commitments from parents, alumni, and friends continue to increase. We are grateful for the gifts we received in response to the article in the winter edition of Reville announcing the campaign. These gifts -- along with so many others -- reflect the excitement shared by all for this transformative change and much needed space on our beautiful campus.

As we go to print, the campaign has reached \$2.5 million toward the \$4.0 million goal (63% of goal). Mailings, signage, and campaign updates are promoting the importance of supporting the campaign and the benefits of the new building to the entire Farragut community. Volunteer committees representing student families and alumni are hard at work promoting the campaign and reaching out directly to prospective donors.

The Class of 1961 was our first class to come together with a class-wide commitment to the project. Volunteers Mike Kolchin (Pine Beach Campus) and Dave Arms (St. Petersburg Campus), are working with Development

Officer CAPT Tom McClelland, to raise a substantial class gift. Their leadership is greatly appreciated and they plan to challenge other classes to meet or exceed their total in both dollars and participation. Class donations will be recognized in a prominent display in the New Building.

Donor Highlight



Gary and Gail Damkoehler

There are many stories of wonderful generosity to tell. One donor was truly instrumental in kicking off The New Building Campaign. Board member Gary Damkoehler was the first board member to step up with a leadership commitment which helped to motivate others to rally and follow his lead. Gary and his wife Gail have been generous supporters of Admiral Farragut Academy for many years and are the proud grandparents of Alexa Smith '14, Kyle Damkoehler '16, and current cadet Kyle Smith '20.

The Damkoehlers are extremely pleased the education their grandchildren have had, and are receiving at Farragut.

"Education is the single most important thing to us. Gail and I have always been big contributors to further education. We feel strongly about supporting our own family and have contributed to all of our niece's and nephew's college education. So far we have supported seven of them through college, including one nephew who recently received his Ph.D. in organic chemistry. We could not be prouder!" - Gary Damkoehler

Regarding the New Building, Gary said, "The addition of this building is long past due for Farragut. We need to improve and update our facilities. I hope when we finish this round and this facility, we have our eyes on further facility updates particularly focusing on our beautiful bayside property."

Look for future campaign updates to bring you news of other gifts and reports of campaign progress. Together we are building the future of Admiral Farragut Academy!

More info

Email: swarden@farragut.org

Website: farragut.org/about/new-building-capital-campaign



Farragut Seniors TAKE FLIGHT

This year, three seniors earned their Private Pilot's Licenses through Farragut's Aviation Program.

By: Lauren Pruett

Matt Hajek '17

Matt Hajek carried on a family tradition by becoming the second Hajek sibling to earn his Private Pilot's License through Admiral Farragut Academy's Aviation Program.

"He's probably one of the most naturally gifted pilots that I've flown with," said Aviation Program Director, Rob Ewing. "It comes easy to him. He works very hard, he's very mature in the way that he does things, and it was easy in some senses for him. He's really a natural pilot."

Matt passed his Private Pilot written test last year, took Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University dual enrollment courses as a junior, and as a senior was in the Aviation Academy. On Friday, April 28, 2017 Matt took and passed his practical test at the Crystal River Airport with examiner Captain Tom Davis, flying a Cessna 172P with tail number N5258Z.

"I love flying," Matt says. "It's awesome that at age 17, I can take people up in a plane and fly them wherever they want. It's really cool."

Matt's older brother Michael Hajek IV '15 also received his Private Pilot's License his senior year. Michael currently attends The Citadel and is projected to graduate in 2019. Their dad, alumnus Michael Hajek III '80, is currently working on his Private Pilot's License as well.

Matt is attending Clemson University in the Fall and is majoring in Engineering. He wants to become an automotive or aeronautical engineer, but he isn't giving up flying any time soon.

"I'm going for my instrument rating next," Matt says, "and I might even go as far as my instructor license. It'd be nice to make money on the side teaching people to fly. I like to keep my options open."

Max Kostyashkin '17

In April, Max Kostyashkin became the second in the Class of 2017 to earn his Private Pilot's License.

"You have to respect the airplane," Max said. "You can't be overly confident and you have to be humble. You never know what will happen on a plane and

you have to be prepared."

Max was definitely prepared. He's been in Farragut's aviation program for five years, passed his Private Pilot written test last year, took Embry-Riddle dual enrollment courses as a junior, and as a senior was in the Aviation Academy.

Max loves flying. "I love the adrenaline and exhilarating feeling of being in the air," he said. "Before I started taking Aviation, my confidence was low and I never really believed in myself. Once my instructors told me they believed in me, I feel like something new came out of me. Not everyone can fly an airplane, and since I can do it, I feel like I can do almost anything."

"Max is an excellent pilot," Mr. Ewing said. "He's very safe and knowledgeable. He is a very dedicated student and worked extremely hard and never quit. He just kept pushing to get better and better each time and now he's very talented. I'd fly in the back seat with him any time and just enjoy the ride."

Max is attending George Washington University in the Fall. While he doesn't plan to



Matt Hajek '17



Max Kostyashkin '17



Sammy Wang '17

make flying his career, he'd love to continue with it as a hobby. "A very expensive hobby," he jokes. "I won't be able to fly much when I get to college in Washington, DC, but over the summer I want to try flying once a week at the airport by my house. It's definitely a cool thing to have on my list of achievements."

Sammy Wang '17

In May, Sammy Wang became the third and final member of the class of 2017 to earn his Private Pilot's License. It was an accomplishment that was four years in the making.

"I started flying my freshman year," Sammy said. "I'd always loved planes, and I really wanted to get my license. Unfortunately this was when I was only 14, meaning I had two years until I could even solo. After that, I had another year to wait until I was old enough to get my license. The hardest part was that I wasn't 17 until senior year, and it was hard to juggle ACT prep, school work, college applications, and flying at the same time. I went probably four months without flying, so it took a while to get back to the point where I was ready for the test."

It was a difficult endeavor at times for Sammy, but worth it in the end. "I think aviation makes you all around more aware of your setting, surroundings, and responsibilities," Sammy said, "as pretty much everything we do and around us is a factor in flight. It teaches you invaluable critical thinking and

decision making that can, and should, be used both in and out of the plane."

Sammy's most valuable tools in learning to fly were his Aviation instructors, Mr. Ewing and Jose Hercher. "Mr. Ewing helped keep me on track, focused, and understand what areas in my flying/thinking needed improving. Mr. Hercher's vast knowledge and experience helped me understand all the ground lessons and be much more prepared as far as the knowledge portions of the written and oral exams," Sammy said. "All around they make a great pair and were a vital key to getting my license."

"He has always impressed me with his understanding of technologically advanced aircraft," Mr. Ewing said. "He is a true pro with the Cessna 172 G1000 avionics package."

It's tough for Sammy to pick just one part of flying that he loves the most. "There's a lot of fun as far as creating the flight plan itself and seeing it materialize and come together in flight, as well as going somewhere or trying something new. But I've always been into motors and machines, and aviation is probably the most hands-on operating experience you can get."

Sammy is attending Indiana University/Kelley School of Business in the fall, and he plans to double major in Entrepreneurship and Business Management with a minor in Chinese.

Jason Chen ‘18 receives certificate of merit from the U.S. Coast Guard

By: Jessica Van Curen



Captain Holly Najarian, Sector Commander of the United States Coast Guard, presented student Jianxiao “Jason” Chen ‘18 with a certificate of merit from the USCG on Thursday, March 30.

Chen assisted the USCG by translating a de-briefing conference for the mother of Jie Lou, one of the young men who was caught in a rip current off of Pass-a-Grille and missing. During the search, the USCG was unable to find a Chinese translator and reached out to Admiral Farragut Academy during spring break. Chen, who stayed on campus during the break, was instrumental in

explaining and translating the process of the search, rescue, and transition of the recovery mission to Lou’s mother.

“As this was a most delicate task, Chen handled the situation with dignity and respect,” said Captain Najarian. “His presence and translation truly helped the family during this very difficult time.”

Farragut has received many accolades as to what an impressive, outstanding, yet humble cadet Jason is. He represented our school with pride. “This is a big honor for me and I’ve never received something like this before,”

said Chen who plans to study engineering or business at UCS or UCLA once he graduates. “I did the best I could to help the community.”

In addition to the certificate of merit, Chen also received a USCG tumbler and challenge coin. “The coin is only given when the person exemplifies one or more of the three tenets of my command philosophy: service, professionalism, and or teamwork,” explained Captain Najarian. “Jason was both providing a service to the Coast Guard and the community, as well as exuding professionalism in the face of an extremely stressful situation.”

Bianca DeSilva ‘21 is accepted into exciting summer science program at the University of Florida

By: Lauren Pruett



Bianca DeSilva ‘20 has been accepted into The University of Florida’s Science Quest Program’s Biological Sciences session this summer, which is offered to students entering 10th grade.

Each summer camp participant lives on campus for one-week and is provided a sneak peek into specific disciplines such as molecular sciences with emphasis on biomedical, forensic and environmental applications; investigating biological sciences such as Entomology, Microbiology, and Zoology, and more. They will

visit research laboratories and other facilities, perform multiple science experiments, and be able to attend lectures and demonstrations.

“I’m very excited,” Bianca said. “It seems like an awesome camp. It’s an opportunity to learn more about science, to meet other people, and to check out the professors at UF.”

Bianca wants to major in biology in college, and UF is at the top of her list. “It’s definitely the best public school in Florida. I’d love to go there.”

“I am incredibly proud of the work that Bianca put into her Biology Honors class,” said Upper School Science Department Chair and Science Instructor, Sari Deitch.

“She is interested in exploring her options in medical-related courses and opportunities as she would like to eventually pursue a career in radiology. I believe that Bianca will gain valuable experience in this program and her natural curiosity of the scientific world is a perfect match.”

Lower School celebrates Career Day

By: Jessica Van Curen

On Friday, March 10th the Lower School celebrated “Career Day” thanks to the coordination of Kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Reynolds. Parents and special guests included those in multiple career fields including an actor and

photographer, a chef, police and K9 officers, a dentist, an attorney, a pharmacist, Navy officers, Amazon online store owners, marine scientist, U.S. Marshall, a patent agent, and an optometrist. Students also dressed up as what they want

to be when they grow up which included nurses, teachers, architects, construction workers, professional athletes, business owners, managers, astronauts, dolphin trainers, marine scientists, dentists, and more!



“Career Day gives our students exposure to the different jobs people have in our community,” said Anita Fine, Head of Lower School. “Students also learn about careers they have never heard of and we hope that they realize the many opportunities available to them.”



Thank you to everyone who joined us!

- Tony LoRusso – Pinellas Sheriff K-9 Deputy (Parent)
- Mike Larrinaga – Attorney (Parent)
- Paul Liptak – Chef at The Club at Treasure Island (Guest)
- Dr. Jenny Fernandez – Dentist (Parent)
- Tiffany Miller – Patent Agent (Parent)
- Gretchen and James Renlund – Navy Officers and Amazon Business Owners (Parents)
- Dr. Paul Fisher – Optometrist (Parent)
- Officer Mike Marcus and CIS Mobile Command – Security (Guest)
- Dr. Majed Fackih – Pharmacist (Parent)
- Chris Cavalier – Photographer and Actor (Guest)
- Dr. Teresa Greely – Marine Scientist (Guest)
- Mike McClung – U.S. Marshall (Past Parent)



2nd graders Christian Weaver and Brielle Nestor try on Navy covers during Career Day.

EVENTS

around campus



Battalion Wars
Caleb Lemmons '20, Tyreek Montgomery '18, and Owen Li '17 celebrate the victory of Bravo Battalion at the final event in April.



**Admiral's Athletics Club
Poker Run Fundraiser**
Parents and friends enjoyed the 2nd Annual Poker Run to support Farragut athletics.



Daddy Daughter Dance
Kindergartener Olivia Love and her sister, Charlotte, pose with their dad, Christopher.



**Lower School
100th Day of School Celebration**
Lower School students form a 100 on the tennis court for the 100th day of school.



Fun Under The Sun
2nd grader Gabriel Rodriguez and his mom Yudelkis at the mother son event hosted by the Parents' Group.



Moms Hold The Key To Our Hearts
6th grader Jordan Thompson poses with her mom Cherylannda at the second annual event.



Parents' Group Annual Auction
In March, our Farragut parents joined together for a Night at the Masquerade to raise money for the Parents' Group.



Prom Night
Upper School students enjoyed a night of Enchantment Under The Sea, held at The Club at Treasure Island.



Model United Nations
7th graders Matthew Levin, Ben Crawford, and Tyler Turner attended the Model United Nations Conference in Tallahassee.

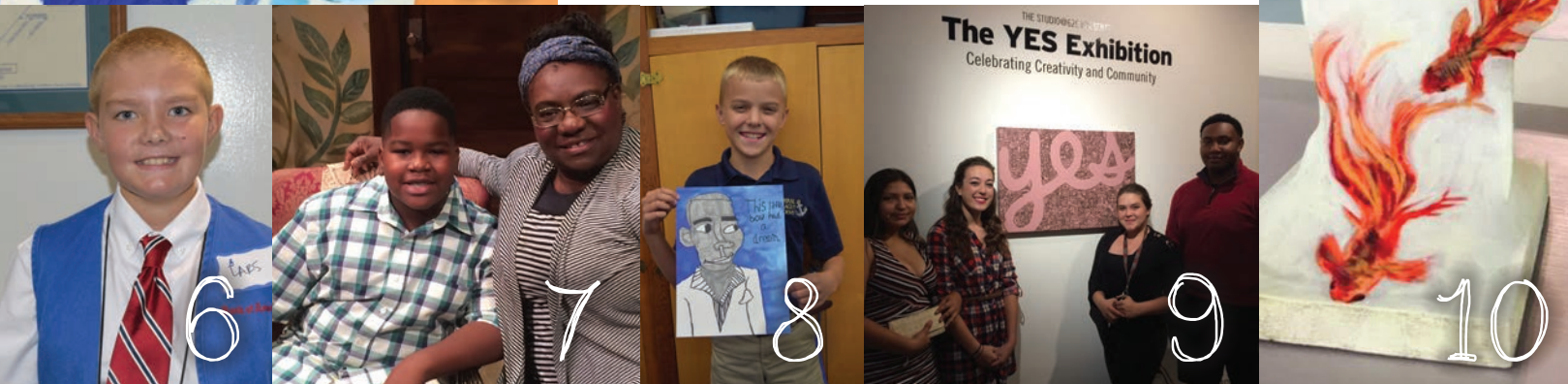
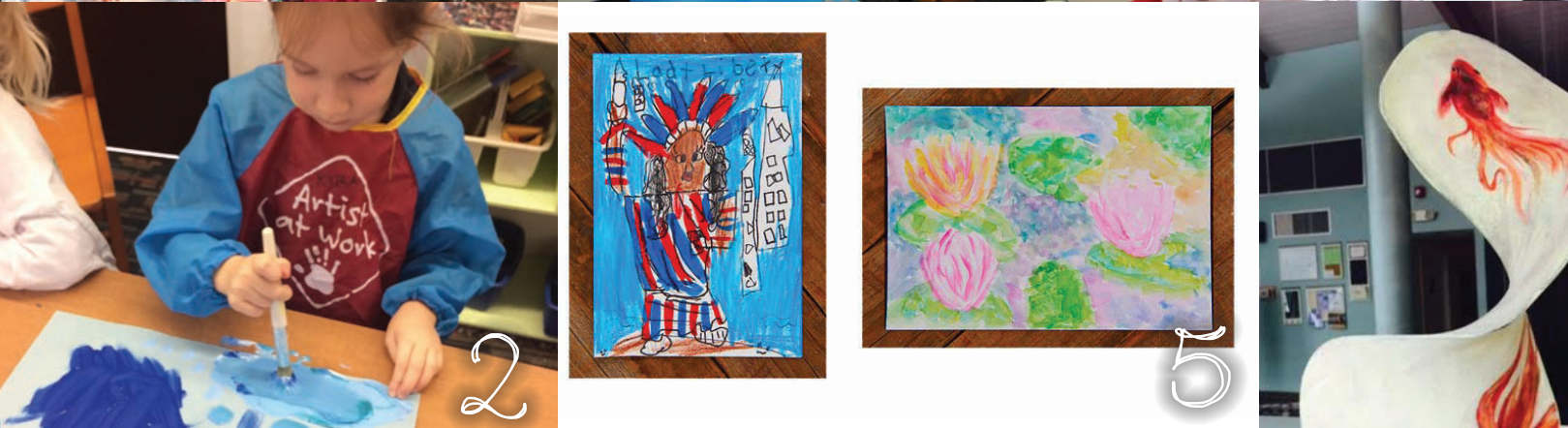


Reading Across America
Lower and Upper School students gathered on the football field to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday by reading together.



Pancakes with Pops
4th grader Zach and 1st grader Luka Vaughn pose with their dad Robert.

THE ARTS



1 6th graders Madison Hollingsworth and Jillian Aprile, and 4th grader Joey Culbertson perform on stage in *Alice in Wonderland Jr.*, a play put on by the Lower School Drama Club with actors from 3rd to 7th grade.

Read this story at bit.ly/2mofC7t

2 PreK student Kira Creadon paints in art class.

3 and 4 In May, Kindergarten and 1st grade both held Author's Teas, where the students read books that they had written and illustrated to an audience of parents and teachers.

5 1st grader Sereen Shamseddine and 4th grader Valentina Romano placed in the Nasco "Sketchables" Art Contest. Valentina placed 1st for grades 4-6 and won \$100, and Sereen placed 3rd for grades K-3 and won \$50.

Read this story at bit.ly/2rY6piq

6 During 5th grade's Language Arts class, Mrs. Fowler assigned the students to write a 15-line narrative poem on any topic. Lars Renlund, a 5th grader who is in his first year at Farragut, chose to write about Admiral Farragut Academy using the school website. Read the poem at bit.ly/2kxKeiW

7 7th grader, Elijah Dixon (pictured on set with fellow actor and senior Ashton Taylor's

cousin Fanni Green) performed in Joe Turner's "Come & Gone" at the American Stage. The play shines a light on America's newly freed men and women who are determined to take their rightful place in a new world.

Read this story at bit.ly/2kxCDRI

8 In April, 5th grader Braedon Miner was selected as one of 30 finalists in the 2016-2017 Empowering Students Through Creative Leadership Art Exhibition, which was sponsored by Crayola. He received \$200 worth of Crayola products and a plaque featuring a replica of his original artwork.

Read this story at bit.ly/2rriAJU

9 In January, four senior students performed their poetry at The Studio@620. Pictured from left to right are Alycia Mora, Drew Gerald, Gabby Spinelli, and Ashton Taylor. Florida Poet Laureate, Peter Meinke, also read his poetry that evening.

10 A sculpture created and painted by Doris Xu '17.

11 Seven Farragut seniors were this year's Scholastic Regional Writing Award winners. Pictured from left to right are Doris Xu, Maya Antes, Victoria Padovan, Drew Gerald, Naudia Williams, Trevor Bennati, Katie Barnett, and Ashton Taylor. These students received a letter and certificate

for their accomplishment in March. Drew's poetry piece "Michelangelo in Love" went on to compete nationally but did not place.

Read this story at bit.ly/2kxAvt2

12 On February 1, the Band students went to Ruth Eckerd Hall to see the Florida Orchestra perform the Young at Heart Coffee Concert.

13 Lower School's 2nd-3rd grade Language Arts teacher Cate Taylor has been working with her students to create books that she submits to Studenttreasures for publication. She was awarded a \$500 grant from Scholastic's Studenttreasures Publishing because of her partnership with them. This year, the 2nd and 3rd grade class wrote and illustrated Thanksgiving, a book to celebrate the holiday.

Read this story at bit.ly/2kxF5f

14 In March, the Drama Club presented "Farragut Propaganda" a collection of musical, funny, serious, and magical skits.

15 Kindergarten student Cassandra Bonilla sings the popular song "The Show" in the first ever Lower School Talent Show! Students shared talents ranging from singing, playing piano, dancing, performing magic, science experiments, gymnastics, and even hosting a cooking show!

Read this story at bit.ly/2rh8Hfo

Students and faculty visit Farragut’s dual diploma schools in China

By: Jessica Van Curen



L-R: Heather Ewing, Matt Hajek, Zach Fine, and Rob Ewing

For one week two faculty members, Rob Ewing, the Aviation Director, and Heather Ewing, the Upper School English teacher, along with senior students, Zach Fine and Matt Hajek, travelled to China with Justin Poupart, Admiral Farragut Academy’s Managing Director – China Region for the Dual Diploma Program.

See Dual Diploma Program description to the right.

It was the first time that students from Admiral Farragut Academy visited the dual diploma partner schools in China. “This was a great

opportunity to strengthen the relationship between our schools,” said Poupart who has been coordinating the program since 2015. “It gave students at our partner schools the opportunity to learn directly from our Florida teachers and students.”

The group visited partner schools in Tianjin called “AFA Tianjin”, considered Farragut’s flagship campus, and a school in Shanghai called “Shanghai New Epoch Bilingual School”. At each school, Mr. Ewing did a two-day aviation workshop while Mrs. Ewing did poetry workshops. Matt and Zach participated

as teaching assistants and in cultural exchange activities like calligraphy and Chinese chess.

“Being a teacher’s assistant was a lot of fun,” said Zach, who has taken Chinese since 6th grade and was in AP Chinese his senior year. “During our visit we got a lot of questions about teen and college life in America.”

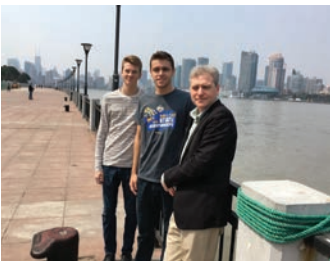
Matt, who completed Chinese IV and who earned his Private Pilot’s License through the Aviation program, helped explain the fundamentals of flight and made model airplanes with the students. “We spoke and explained everything in English,



and so did the teachers at the schools,” said Matt. “They said it’s how they immerse the students in the language. Some of the students had also already attended Summer@Farragut, so they are familiar with our campus.”

During their time in Tianjin, Matt and Zach each experienced a day in the life by staying at a Chinese student’s home and attending school with them. “Their parents didn’t speak any English so Robert (Zach’s student) and Tony (Matt’s student) had to help translate,” said Matt. “We enjoyed staying with them and we keep in touch using WeChat and playing chess online.”

While in Shanghai, they stayed in the school’s dormitories. “One whole floor was for dormitories and it was four beds per room; the rooms were really nice,” said Zach.



Although this was a first visit for Matt and Zach, this was a second for the Ewings who made the trip in 2015. “It was a good trip overall,” said Mr. Ewing. “We spent most of our time working with the students and it’s a fun experience. It was great for our students to join us because they were exposed to the similarities and differences of education in another country. Any type of travel gives you new perspective.”

While in China, the group also visited Jing An Temple in Shanghai and The Forbidden City in Beijing.

“Thanks to all four for donating their Spring Break time to visit our partner schools,” said Poupart. “They have left a lasting impression on both schools and have created great memories for not only the students in China, but for themselves too.”

International Dual Diploma Program

Partnering with Schools Worldwide



Students in other countries have the opportunity to earn their domestic high school graduation certificate and an Admiral Farragut Academy diploma. Participating students would then have a greater chance for gaining entry to American post-secondary institutions.

In partnering with top-quality independent schools, Farragut is able to work within an existing institution to foster innovative program development, offer modern education methodology training, develop student centered learning initiatives, and give local teachers in other countries the opportunity to work hand-in-hand with an established and historied American school.

Farragut is also able to leverage its existing facilities and resource in Florida to provide a destination for any school that is looking for a unique and exciting study abroad experience. From our summer boarding program to more customized encounters, Farragut has the resources to host, on-site, international groups of varying sizes.

- Current Partner Schools**
- AFA Tianjin (Flagship School)
 - New Epoch Bilingual School - Chongming Island, Shanghai
 - Changing Evergreen High School - Shanghai

Future plans for expanding the program includes schools in Far East countries, the Middle East, South America, and in North America.

AFA FACULTY

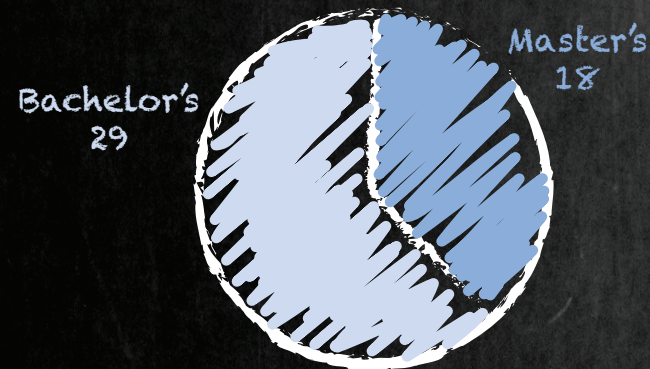
BY THE NUMBERS

We're proud of all of our teachers here at Farragut. No matter their background, gender, or how long they have been here, each one makes an everyday impact on our students, our school, and our legacy.

GENDER



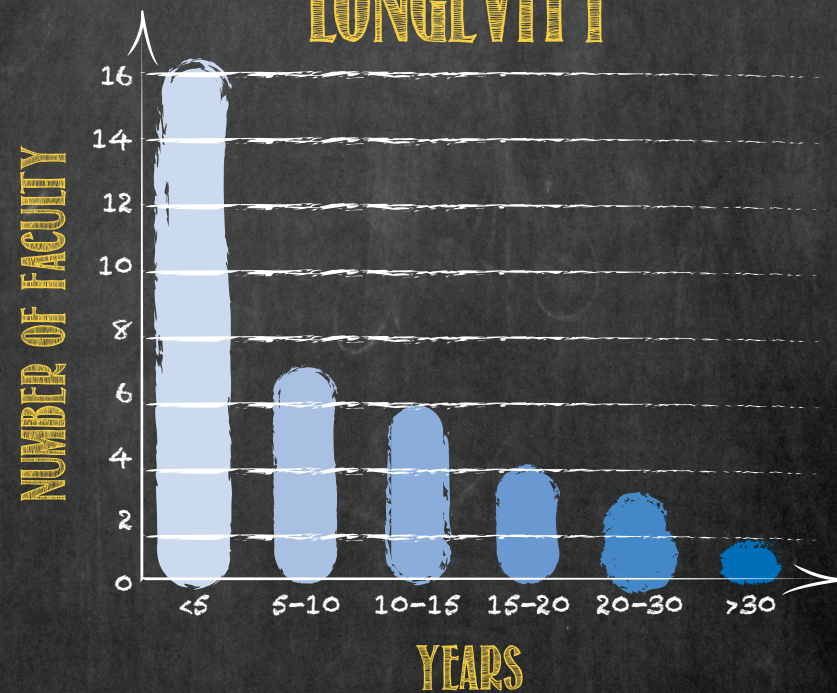
DEGREES ACHIEVED



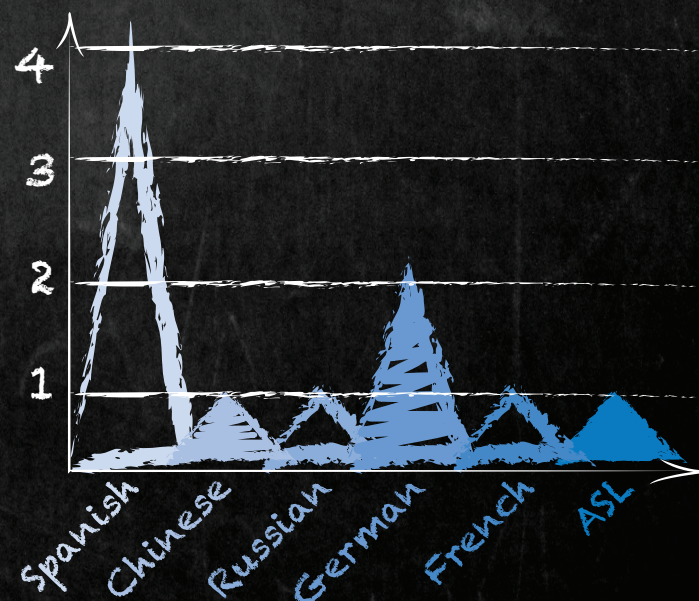
"I realize how fortunate I am to have been surrounded by teachers who will put aside time for you, also coach sports, run clubs, who care about what your values are, and who really get to know your family!"

- Veronica Yambrovich '09

LONGEVITY



LANGUAGES SPOKEN



Farragut Gives Back

Students at Admiral Farragut Academy give back to their community in many different ways.



Upper School students joined PreK, Kindergarten, and 1st and 6th graders to make Valentine's Day cards for veterans.



In January, 10 students from the service club cleaned our local beaches (Gulfport and Treasure Island). They filled 24 bags with debris and trash.



Lower School students collected \$1,800 of spare change and donated it to Olive Garden's Pasta For Pennies, a program benefiting The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's School & Youth campaign!



In February, the football team and the drill team participated in a game day event at Nina Harris Center for Exceptional Children. The armed and unarmed drill teams performed, the football team played a game of scrimmage, and they taught the Nina Harris students how to kick a football and run a touchdown. The whole event culminated in a big dance party.



In May, students from the Service Club donated toys, food, cleaning supplies and more to Pet Pal, the local no-kill shelter for dogs and cats.



On Earth Day, students, faculty/staff, family members and volunteers worked at The Clam Bayou Preserve to help clean the shoreline, nature trail and remove invasive tree trimmings. Collectively, they picked up 1,075 lbs of trash in 2 hours.

FARRAGUT BLUE JACKETS

WINTER AND SPRING HIGHLIGHTS



WRESTLING

The Wrestling Team had another strong showing this winter. Lead by seniors Haowen Li, Christopher Sexton, Dillon Ottinger, and Han Zhang, the team once again had several wrestlers succeed in the post-season. Li, Sexton, and Ottinger, along with freshmen Caleb Lemmons and Erik Sokolowski, all qualified for the Regional Championships. Lemmons

and Sexton also qualified for the State Championships in Kissimmee. Sexton will continue his wrestling career at Alderson Broaddus University in the fall.

LACROSSE

This was a building season for the lacrosse team. Since many of the previous players had graduated, most players for the

team were new to the game. Many of the new players caught on quickly and developed a love of the sport. Some standout players included sophomore Ty Ulevich, juniors James Sands and Chris Northup, and senior J.C. Scherer. While the record this season ended up being 0-9, Coach Parker Fox is optimistic about the upcoming season.

SOFTBALL

"Success is a Journey, not a Destination." This has been the mantra for the girls' softball team. They started the season playing really tough competition outside of their district. They experienced some tough losses but it helped shape their post season. The team advanced all the way to the Regional Finals for the third straight year, where they suffered a tough loss in extra innings to one of their toughest opponents, Moorehaven (4-5), at the Regional Final Competition.

SOCCER

The boys soccer team got off to a tough start this year, but came together and finished strong down the stretch, culminating in a close loss to Shorecrest in the quarterfinal round of the district championships. The team was led by six seniors: J.C. Scherer, Ivan Volkov, Cody Hoang, Dylan Daughtry, Emilio Saenz, and Trevor Bennati. They provided excellent leadership and were great role models for the younger players.

BASEBALL

This season was a learning, building, and developmental year for our baseball team. As the season progressed, they increased in their ability, effort and overall knowledge of the game. While the season ended in 0-18, they played well in the entire second half of the season. Zion Roland '20 and James Bossard '18 had increases in runs, batting average, and defensive plays. With commitment and continuous hard work, their program will be on the rise.

TRACK & FIELD

Track and field has had an outstanding year. At Regionals, the boys team came in 6th place overall, and the girls team came in second, breaking five new school records. Nine students qualified to go to States: Seniors Keyon Jenkins, Ashton Taylor, and Katie Barnett; Junior Winston Dessesow; Sophomores Alex Oi, Jazmine Alderman, Faith Nelms, and Sydni Bostic; and Freshman Jolie Caya. At States, the boys finished 16th overall and the girls finished 2nd, breaking another three school records.

BASKETBALL

The boys varsity basketball season was an exciting one. They started off the season with an undefeated record of 8-0 before losing their first game. They finished second in the conference, and were District Champion Runner-Up with an overall record of 18-4. Head Coach Julian Allen said that although they fell short of their goal of winning the championship, the players are brothers and the program is family, which is the team's greatest achievement. He is looking to build on this year moving forward.

TENNIS

The tennis team had a great start of the season, winning their opening day matches and continuing to excel throughout the season. The girls team ended the season 6 and 4. Maya Antes '17 and Bianca DeSilva '20 made it to the state finals. The boy's team ended the season 4 and 4, with Emilio Saenz '17, the season's MVP, going to the semifinals and only dropping out due to an injury. The team is looking forward to continuing their positive momentum next season.

COLLEGE SIGNINGS 2017

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!

- Chris Anderson (Football) - Virginia Military Institute
- Katie Barnett (Track & Field) - Princeton University
- Keyon Jenkins (Football) - Quincy University
- Breanna Lattimore (Soccer) - Broward College
- Emilio Saenz (Tennis) - Michigan Tech
- Harrison Wolliver (Football) - Malone University
- Jeremiah Zio (Football) - University of Central Florida

From the Office of the Commandant

By: Commandant Todd Wallingford

The Office of the Commandant encompasses Naval Science, Cadet Discipline, and Residential Life. Here's a glimpse of significant accomplishments during the 2016-2017 school year for our department and the entire corps of cadets.

Naval Science

The annual NJROTC Area 7 Manager's Inspection conducted by CDR Dirk P. Hebert (Ret) resulted in a rating of "outstanding". CDR Hebert noted that Farragut's parades have improved significantly over the last three years and that CDR Rick Schock and 1st SGT David Worthy have provided the critical leadership and direction needed to address this challenge.

Our exemplary Color Guard has been active in the community, and performed a number of high profile events, including the opening ceremony of the Tampa Bay Rays/Boston Red

Sox game in front of a sold-out crowd. They also performed at a fundraiser for the Navy Seal Foundation Tampa Bay Swim; Ribfest, a music festival in St. Petersburg; the Bay Pines Veterans Center Veteran's Day Parade, and the Tall Ship Lynx dedication ceremony.

Under the leadership of 1st SGT David Worthy, our Drill Team competed in every event and placed 2nd in the Pinellas County JROTC Field Meet, and won trophies in Exhibition Drill, Armed and Unarmed Drill, and Academics.

Over the summer, we were proud to host the Association of Military Colleges and Schools in the United States (AMCSUS) Commandant's Conference, 14-16 June. Over 25 Commandants from Military Colleges and Military College-Prep schools across the U.S. attended. And for the 18th year, we have been chosen to host the Area 7 NJROTC Leadership Academy

for 240 cadets from across the state of Florida this summer.

Residential Life

On the residential side, the current staff has over 100 years of collective residential life experience. For the upcoming year we plan to add a military TAC Officer to the staff to further support the efforts of Residential life and build a bridge with the Naval Science program. An Activities Director is also being added to the mix to make the most productive use of boarding cadet free time and to keep morale high.

It is an exciting time to be at Farragut. We are on the right track as we continue to improve and reinforce the traditions of Admiral Farragut Academy's proud history.

The unarmed drill team stands at attention as they watch the armed team perform at Nina Harris School for Exceptional Children.



2017 Residential Life Staff. L-R: Marc Spera, James Christopher, John Gavlick, Commandant Todd Wallingford, Pete Vaughn, Danette Locklear, and Kim York-Wallingford



CDR Herbert salutes the students at their parade during the NJROTC Area 07 Manager's Inspection



The color guard stands at attention at the dedication of the Tall Ship Lynx



Oh, what a *feeling*

Graduation 2017



Regimental Commander
Commander
Richard Dunleavy

University and planned major: Virginia Military Institute, Physics

Name a person outside school who has influenced you: My brother, he is extremely hard working and always likes to make the best of things.

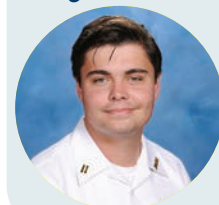
Name a teacher you would like to thank: Coach Nick, for being a past and current inspiration to me due to his passion for all things science and teaching.

Tell us how you've changed since your freshman year: The best way to put it would be that I'm not the same person, most of me has changed in ways for the better.

Give three words that best describe you: patient, ambitious, adaptable

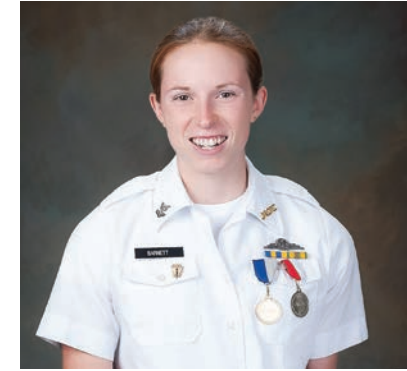
Tell us about the very best thing you learned in high school: Be patient. Do your best to stay focused. Stay involved, it makes things more exciting. Keep your friends close.

Meet the 2017-2018 Regimental Commander



George T. Hamilton

Visit bit.ly/2tNDnDf to read more.



Valedictorian
Petty Officer 2nd Class
Katherine Barnett

University and planned major: Princeton University, Environmental Engineering

Name a person outside of school who has influenced you: My grandmother, because she always believed in me. Her positive perspective inspires me to be more like her and to want to help others.

Name a teacher you would like to thank: My engineering teacher, Mr. Monroe, for all he has taught me and for inspiring me to pursue a career in engineering.

Tell us how you have changed since freshman year: Since freshman year I have developed a clear vision of what I want to do and what I want to achieve in my life.

Give three words that best describe you: strong-willed, tenacious, ambitious

Tell us about the very best thing you learned in high school: One important thing I have learned in high school is that anything can happen in life, but to be successful, one must be prepared.



Salutatorian
Lieutenant Commander
Zachary Fine

University and planned major: Duke University, Quantitative Economics and Navy ROTC

Name a person outside of school who has influenced you: My parents have been my biggest influence by far. They push me to do the best I can and support me whenever I struggle. They also taught me to be a good person along the way and never doubt myself.

Name a teacher you would like to thank: My second grade teacher, Mrs. Lynch. She laid the groundwork for my continued love of knowledge. I learned how to be a good student in her class and cannot thank her enough for this.

Tell us how you have changed since freshman year: The biggest change has been in my confidence. Gaining experience in leadership positions and learning more about a variety of subjects has given me confidence in everything I do.

Give three words that best describe you: driven, focused, leader

Tell us about the very best thing you learned in high school: Hard work pays off. I saw this everyday in everything I did. Whether it be a lesson I did not understand in the classroom or a talent level that I could not seem to reach in a sport, simply putting in the time to get better was worth it.

By the Numbers



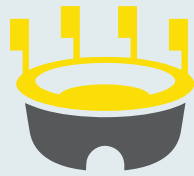
74
graduating seniors



100%
matriculation



\$5.4 million
in scholarships earned



7
will play a sport on a collegiate
team their freshman year

1 track & field 4 football 1 tennis 1 soccer



10
honor students



6,495
community service hours



5
earned the longevity award
(attended Farragut since PreK)



For more photos, visit smu.gs/2moAJXg



Keynote Speaker Michael Fisher '59

Mr. Michael Fisher attended Admiral Farragut Academy, Pine Beach campus, beginning in 10th grade and graduated in 1959. His younger brother, Richard, graduated from Farragut in 1967.

After graduating from Bryant College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and completing certificate programs in Financial Management from Stanford University and the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, Fisher began his extensive financial services career at Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company and Pacific Investment Management Company (commonly called PIMCO) where he managed start-up ventures. Next he

worked at Northern Trust Company.

Starting in 1980 and until 1995, Fisher was the Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer for the following companies: Chase Investors Management Company (1980-1986), Bankers Trust Company (1986-1993), and Equitable Life Insurance Company (1994-1995).

From 1995 to 1998, Fisher transitioned into the position of Managing Director and Head of Institutional Business at Strong Capital Management.

In 1999, he joined Barclays Global Investors as the Chief Executive Officer of the U.S. Defined Benefit Business and

Fisher had these words to say to our 2017 graduates:

"Upon entering Mobile Bay and seeing ships under his command in trouble and beginning to pull back against the confederates, David Glasgow Farragut gave the famous order, 'Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead'.

The world today is full of challenges, full of risks, and full of opportunities, but if you can keep in the back of your mind, 'damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead', and use common sense judgment and heartfelt principles of decision making, you're going to do great.

You're well-educated from a starting platform, you're going to great institutions of higher learning, and at Farragut you've had instilled in you a sense of integrity, honesty, and spirited work. Standing before you as someone who graduated many years ago, I want wish you the very best of luck, no matter what life brings you. I'm sure you'll be successful. Good luck."

later became the Managing Director until he retired in 2007. From 2002 to 2007 he also served at iShares and was responsible for working with various business channels in the development of new business.

Fisher has also served as Chairman of the Board at Bryant University, a member of the Advisory Board at Main Management, LLC, and Director of Grail Investment Corp. and World T.E.A.M. Sports.

Michael and his wife Karen currently live in Tucson, Arizona. They are the proud parents of Peter (42), Jamie (39), and Greg (36).

Farragut bids a *Fond Farewell* to long-time science teacher **Coach Nick**

Contributions from Lauren Pruett, Jessica Van Curen, and Sari Deitche

It's a famous story by now. It was 1978.

A 25-year-old Mike Nicholson, was fresh out of Hampden Sydney University with a Bachelor of Science degree. He was living in a house with several other graduates, and he was looking for a job teaching science. He looked through a booklet of local schools that were hiring and found the name Admiral Farragut Academy. "I thought, 'a military school? I don't think I can work there!'" Mike, known fondly today as Coach Nick, recalled.

He applied anyway, and was granted an interview with Headmaster Richard "Dick" Wheeler. This being his first interview out of college, he had to buy a brand new suit. "I could've sworn I'd removed all the tags," he explained, still brimming with energy 39 years later. "But when I got home, my roommate noticed a huge 'SEARS' tag hanging from my arm!"

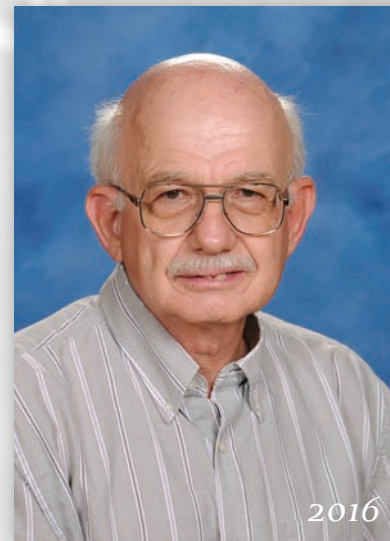
It was perhaps because of this youthful oversight, in addition



1978

to Mike's intelligence, honesty, and enthusiasm during the interview, that Mike was quickly hired as the Junior School science teacher. And though the divisions have shifted and changed over the years, Mike's position as science teacher has remained constant. Most recently, he taught the Lower School 4th-7th grade classes.

"I grew up here," Mike said. "I've watched so many kids grow up here. I've taught them and watched them graduate, and then years later I've taught their kids."



2016

"Coach Nick is an amazing teacher who is dedicated to his students and Farragut. He made science come to life."

- Will Main '05

Mike has not only taught and inspired kids with science, but he's done so on the track, soccer field, and basketball courts as well. He's coached cross country and Middle School track and field for most of his years at Farragut, and he coached Soccer from 1979 through the early 90's and was assistant coach for





Homecoming 1993-1994



Coach Nick with fellow Middle School faculty members during Homecoming 2008

basketball for several years. In 1991 and 1994 he helped bring two Florida State Championship titles to Farragut. This long history of coaching kids has earned him the ubiquitous nickname, "Coach Nick".

"My progress in running really parallels my progress in life. Without Coach Nick, I probably would never have continued running after sixth grade. He supplied me with the confidence and determination to press on."

- Michael Recca '11



Coach Nick coaching soccer with co-coach Math teacher Andrew Livaccari in 1982

Coach Nick's way of stimulating excitement in his students quickly made him a favorite teacher. So much so, in fact, that in 2001, he was selected to carry the Olympic Torch in Daytona Beach.

"I really wasn't expecting it!" said Coach Nick. "I was at my parents' house for the summer, and my mother came in with the phone, telling me it was the Olympic committee. I didn't believe her. When I finally answered, they told me that a student had written to them, telling them why I deserved to carry the torch. The letter had moved them so much that they not only selected me to carry the torch, but they selected the student who wrote the letter as well."

That day was not without its hitches. Being very soon after 9/11, security was so tight that instead of running with the torch, they had Coach Nick and the student in buses that drove them to the transfer point. Not only that, but somehow the film in the cameras was rendered unusable. "I don't have a single

picture to prove I did it," Coach Nick laments. "I did get to keep the torch, though. It's currently in the Farragut Museum."

Coach Nick has 39 years worth of stories, and he loves sharing them all. Some of his most famous contributions to the school are his ghost tours. "There have been nights when cadets couldn't sleep in their own dorms because of those stories," Coach Nick laughs.

"Simply a phenomenal teacher and mentor. Truly instilled a love of science in my boys. I will always be appreciative of that."

- Amy Breland-Fisher (Mother of Cedric, 4th grade; Garret, 6th; and Kenneth, 8th)

"They're all true of course," winked Coach Nick, "but one of the most true is one that happened a few years back. Two cadets came running to my room at 0600, completely terrified. The night before, around two in the morning, their door opened,



Mike Harris '87 submitted this picture of the Everglades trip during Spring 1987 with Coach Nick and ten fellow students.

and, they said, an old man in a brown robe came into their room, looked into each bunk, and left. The boys were so afraid, they couldn't leave their beds until it was light out. We searched the entire school and we even checked local nursing homes to see if there were any patients missing, but we came up with nothing. It wasn't a prank; I saw the true fear in their eyes, so I know they were telling the truth." True or not, they're great memories for students, faculty and staff alike.

"The first time I went on one of those tours," says Assistant Head of Lower and Upper School and also director of Summer@ Farragut, Jennifer Grabowski, who has worked with Coach Nick since 1996 and has known him since she was 16, "I was so scared that I made him walk me to my car. I feel silly about it now, but they were really scary!"

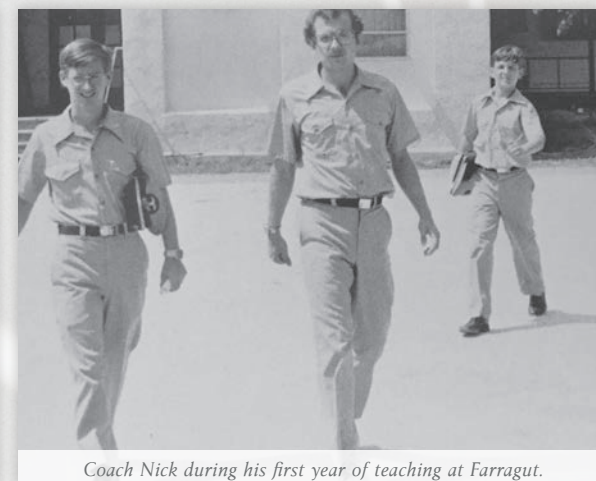
"I remember one day I walked into my classroom to find Coach Nick and a duck walking around the room," said Sari Deitche, Science Department Chair and Biology teacher who has

worked with Coach Nick since 2002. "As the duck was leaving me droppings, I asked Coach Nick what he was planning to do with the duck. Coach Nick replied that he had rescued the duck and thought maybe I could use it to help teach Life Science. So he was feeding it cat food in my classroom so that it would be comfortable with me. Fortunately for me, when Coach Nick walked out of the room, the duck followed closely behind. But I knew what Coach Nick meant. Use the resources around you and involve the students. I just choose to use fish, geckos, and skinks that remain in their cages."

"I loved it when we went to the waterfront with Coach Nick, and when he had his Nichol-spasms!"

- 6th grader Jillian Aprile, member of Coach Nick's first 4th grade class

Coach Nick is an inspiration to his colleagues as well as his students. "I have grown tremendously as a teacher thanks in part to Coach



Coach Nick during his first year of teaching at Farragut.



Coach Nick making his famous "Nickel Burgers"

Coach Nick is not just a teacher. He is a passionate teacher who is in love with teaching. He is a mentor to students and faculty. He does not just teach a concept. Instead he shows you the concept so that you as the learner will be involved and remember.

He may be retiring from Admiral Farragut Academy, but Coach Nick will always be a teacher. We will always learn from him and remember what he has showed us, shared with us, demonstrated for us, and simply taught us.

Coach Nick: Thank you for all that you have given to the students, faculty, and to the school. May you enjoy your retirement and visit us often.



Coach Nick with cross country student-athlete Kari Graham '96 in 1994



Coach Nick reading to a Lower School student at April 2017's Read Across America

The Man With Big Shoes To Fill



Ironically, Henry, shoe size 14, is stepping into Coach Nick's size 8.5 shoes at the same age Coach Nick joined Farragut.

The new Lower School science teacher, Henry Sadler, is a recent Eckerd College graduate with a B.S. in Marine Biology and a minor in Environmental Studies. He has a wide range of experience in teaching both in the classroom and out in the natural world, and strongly believes that science literacy leads to good citizenship. He is a SCUBA instructor, who has taught hundreds of students, and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

Henry has a deep love of nature and the ocean and loves to share his passions with all those around him. As a Marine Ecology teacher at the Island School in the Bahamas, he learned just how important it is to instill a passion for science in the minds of the next generation. In his free time, Henry spear fishes and fossil

dives. Over the past few years, he has found Megalodon teeth (giant extinct shark), Mammoth teeth, ancient gator and mammal bones, and much more.

Originally Henry is from England but moved to St. Petersburg, Florida when he was young. His family moved again to Vermont but he loved Florida so much that he came right back and hasn't left since.

Coach Nick is very excited about Henry taking over the Mills Science Center. "When Henry walked in, his eyes lit up," Coach Nick said. "He immediately started pointing out all the collections I had in the classroom. He even perked up when he heard Josephine, and said, 'is that a cockatoo I hear?!' and she immediately warmed to him. Which, as many know, Josephine doesn't always play nice!"

Henry, welcome to the Farragut family!

Letter from an Alumnus and Former Student

Chris Malfant '93, then Battalion Commander and now Duke University Graduate and Vice President at AIG, wrote us this letter to honor Coach Nick.

Mike Nicholson touched so many lives during his 40 years at Farragut that we could all fill up a book with stories of his unselfish sacrifice on behalf of the students he taught, coached, and mentored. His passionate teaching in the classroom (who can forget that killer diagram of the sun he drew every year), his decades in the dorm as a dorm father, and his coaching ability inspired all who knew him.

With age you gain perspective and can review the pivotal points in life. These are the experiences that go to the core of the person you have become. I wish we could print all the stories that might begin to help convey the depth of impact Mike has had on hundreds and hundreds of cadets over the years. However, I will share one story and hope that it encapsulates the kind of impact Mike had on me and on fellow Farragut cadets.

I had just moved to Florida in the summer of 1986. I was a young kid from Michigan, new to the school, and new to the concept of boarding. Announcements were made about tryouts for the cross country team. Cross country? What's that, I asked - not having any idea what was in store for me. I learned that all you needed to do was run three miles. That sounded long but I figured I would give it a whirl. We all gathered by the science center to run the "lollipop" in the neighborhood on the other side of 9th Avenue close to Park Street.

The terms of the tryout? "Everyone who finishes ahead of me makes the team," Coach Nick said, and so off we went. The kids were strung out in a long line snaking through the neighborhood - panting, running, jogging, and some walking. At the end of the run, there I was and there Coach Nick was, dogging it a little bit to make sure that everyone who tried out made the team. He never cut anyone at this tryout and was willing to work with anyone who wanted to show up and put in effort.

I made the team, and started running for Farragut. I didn't know then but my involvement with cross country and track would ultimately culminate in two state titles, a collegiate running career at Duke University, and being elected captain of my senior college team... all because Coach Nick decided to run a little slower that day.

"I think the way Mike treats others is a direct result of the fact that he has a heart of gold and spirit of a lion."

What a great gift to be able to affect so many people over the years. Many of us may have started out our lives wanting to change the world. Mike changed the world for the better, one student at a time. His example and dedication set him apart - and I am extremely grateful to be able to call him my teacher, coach, mentor, and friend.



Farragut Alumni, join
your classmates on the
cruise of a lifetime!

Jeff Behrens '73, owner of Fantasy Cruises in Alaska, has made a special offer for Farragut Alumni for an all-inclusive 9 day, 8 night Discovery Cruise from July 5-13, 2018 which includes tours, meals, cocktails, and airport pick up in Alaska.

On this exciting cruise, you will
have the chance to:

- Visit Alaska towns of Juneau, Petersburg, Tenekee Springs, Hoonah, and Sitka.
- Spend a day in Fords Terror and visit Dawes Glacier.
- Have a few days to kayak and walk the amazing woods of Alaska.

Details:

- Sets sail from Petersburg, AK on July 5, 2018 and returns to port in Sitka, AK on July 13, 2018.
- Trip cost is \$4,500pp/double occupancy (guests provide their own airfare).
- Initial booking costs \$1,000 per guest to hold your spot.
- Receive a discount of \$250 per guest if you book before August 31, 2017.
- Farragut will get the trip EXCLUSIVELY if we have 26 confirmed reservations by Sept. 30, 2017!
- The final payment is due by Feb 5, 2018.

Bonus!
\$750 per Farragut guest will be donated by Fantasy Cruises and Jeff Behrens '73 to the Admiral Farragut Academy Foundation.

For more information, contact jogden@farragut.org or visit smallalaskaship.com.

Daniel Salomon '11 finds his calling in Remotely Piloted Aircraft

By: Alison Lescarbeau



Daniel Salomon '11 came his freshman year as a 7-day boarding student. His father was serving in the Army overseas and his parents wanted him to reach his potential. Daniel arrived as a quiet teenager who lacked focus and confidence. "When I first came to Farragut, I struggled with finding my identity and fitting in with the right group of friends," Daniel recalls. "I often got frustrated and angry."

During that school year, the current Residential Life Director and varsity basketball coach, Sylvio Brutus (Class of '98), saw a great kid growing like a weed so he approached Daniel to play basketball, knowing it would help him get focused, involved, and build his self-confidence.

"Coach Brutus sat me down and said 'put in the effort and you can do great things,'" Daniel said. "He believed in me and helped me put in the grind." Coach Brutus became a mentor to Daniel.

"When I met Daniel I asked him if he wanted to be average or great," Coach Brutus added. "He said great."

"I told him that being great does not have an on or off switch. You have to be great both inside and outside the classroom. Being great is a way of life."

By Daniel's junior year, he had developed his focus, was a solid student, and was a standout 6'6" center on the basketball team. He had found a wonderful, supportive group

of friends. "I am still so close to my Farragut gang," Daniel said, "they are my brothers and sisters."

During Daniel's senior year, Coach Brutus told Daniel that the Air Force Academy Prep School wanted to look at him. "He said it would be a great opportunity to hone my academic and athletic skills and hopefully get into the Air Force Academy," said Daniel. "I hadn't thought about the Academy but I knew it was a great opportunity I couldn't refuse."

Daniel was offered a basketball scholarship and went on to play one year at the prep school and his freshman year at the Academy. During his freshman/sophomore year, Daniel's mother was diagnosed with cancer. In order to spend more time at home, Daniel started playing basketball at the club level. Thankfully, today his mother is alive and well.

When asked about his experience at the Air Force Academy, he responded, "The best thing was the camaraderie I developed with my classmates, because it was a challenge but we did it together. Coming from Farragut gave me a huge advantage, especially since I had already been a boarder and in the NJROTC. Because of my previous experience, I was given

a leadership position as Flight Chief and Guide On." Daniel was unsure about his Air Force specialty until the beginning of senior year when he learned about Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) and the opportunities available. Since Daniel's height had reached 6'8", he was too tall to fly the trainer, so this seemed like a great fit. He took a test similar to the pilot exam and had to meet the same medical qualifications.

After graduating from the Air Force Academy in 2016, Daniel entered RPA training at Randolph Air Force Base in North San Antonio. His training focused on using instruments and learning aircraft specifics. Approximately 67 of his classmates went into this program. He is now at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio waiting for his next phase of training in Alamogordo, New Mexico. "This is the wave of the future", Daniel said. "Everything I've seen leads me to believe we are moving to unmanned pilots. Unmanned pilots can be stateside while controlling aircraft over the Middle East. It costs millions of dollars to train pilots. Now the investment can be made without risking the pilot's life or risk becoming prisoners of war."

When asked about his future, Daniel responded, "My commitment is to serve six years and when that comes I'll reevaluate. There may be some cool opportunities in the civilian sector, government contractor, with intelligence agencies, or companies like FedEx and Amazon who are developing opportunities in this field. It is exciting cutting edge stuff."



Daniel with classmates in 2011



Daniel with grandfather General (Ret.) Lee Salomon and grandmother Shirley



Air Force Academy graduation



April Hensley 'o8 and Noah Silverberg '09 say “I Do” at Admiral Farragut Academy

Contributions from Lauren Pruett and Jeff Ogden '00

On December 17, 2016, Noah Silverberg and April Hensley said “I Do” in the Garden Theater at Admiral Farragut Academy. This event was the culmination of a relationship that had started for April and Noah on the first day of school in 2002, when Noah was starting 6th grade and April was starting 7th.

“Noah and I first met outside the lockers next to Coach Nick’s room,” April said. “We were introduced by our mutual friends Hayden Buttner ‘o8 and Julian Geffon ‘o8. Our friendship grew in computer class where we sat next to each other trying to figure out how to correctly make a Powerpoint presentation and the different functions of Excel.”

They became close friends and went to the 8th grade winter formal dance together. In high school, they became inseparable and fell in love. They ran track together, learned to sail for their QBH together, and even took their electives together. They were perspectives travel week partners, where they joined 15 of their classmates on a trip to Costa Rica. Upon graduating from Farragut in 2008, April attended the Florida State University nursing program and Noah followed soon after his own graduation in 2009.

“Living in Tallahassee was a great experience for us,” April said. “Although Florida State University is a large public university, we found the southern hospitality and closeness we shared with our college friends and classmates similar to the experience we found at Farragut.”

April and Noah decided to wait until completing their nursing degrees to get engaged. As promised, Noah proposed one day after graduation.

“During the wedding planning process, we toured multiple wedding venues but nothing quite felt right,” April said. “Over a glass of wine one night, we started talking about our love story and Farragut kept popping up.”

“Farragut was where we first met. Farragut was where we grew up together. Farragut had to be where we took the next big step in our lives.”

The ceremony in Farragut’s Garden Theater was everything they wanted. “It was a beautiful ceremony that we shared with our family and closest friends,” April said. “Farragut has played such a large role in our love story and it was the perfect ending to a beautiful beginning.”



April and Noah currently reside in St. Petersburg, Florida. April is a Registered Nurse at Tampa General Hospital and has plans to go back to school to become an Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner. Noah is a Registered Nurse at Morton Plant Hospital.



2017 AFA North Alumni Weekend

By: Rick Creange '77



The 2017 Farragut North Alumni Weekend was a resounding success. From the dedication of Slaby field at the former campus to the emotional tributes to Farragut veterans and Coach Slaby at the Saturday dinner, it was a great weekend. Please visit the reunion website to see a recap of the weekend, pictures, and the touching video tribute for Coach that was unveiled at the dinner. Also please take the reunion survey on the website. The Pine Beach Reunion Committee wants to hear from you whether you have attended a reunion in the past or not. Our goal is to keep the Northern spirit, brotherhood and traditions alive. We will be announcing the dates for next year very soon and hope to see everyone there.

For more photos, videos, and recaps of this year’s reunion, as well as more information about upcoming reunions, visit afapinebeachreunions.org



The 8th Annual Pine Beach Challenge Coin



This years challenge coin was minted in honor of “Coach” Stan Slaby and the recent dedication of the former Admiral Farragut Academy football field at Vista Point Park. Together with his wife Polly, they guided and mentored several generations of Farragut Men...often referred to as “Coaches Boys”... through the trials

and tribulations of their teenage years as they adjusted to life away from home. This coin also honors all Farragut Veterans who started their service on the banks of the Toms River and to those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of the freedom we all enjoy... NEVER FORGET.



Class Notes

1957

John Coyne and his wife Betsy will celebrate their 57th wedding anniversary in 2017. They are looking forward to attending the 60th class reunion this year. They have 4 children; Tommy, Kelli, Bobby and Susan. They enjoy keeping up with their 11 grandchildren. John and Betsy also take time each year to go the beach and every few years they take a Caribbean cruise. John graduated from the University of Miami in 1961. Upon retiring from the Ford Glass Division, he formed Coyne Sales LLC 25 years ago and 13 years ago his youngest son Bobby joined as a partner. 1

1962

Bill Masciangelo just returned from a 30 day trip to SE Asia and Vietnam 50 years after he was there as a Marine 2nd Lt. in the DMZ with the 3rd Bn 3d Marines. Bill retires from full time ministry from The Moyock United Methodist Church in Moyock this June. He and his wife plan to travel in their new travel trailer starting this fall. 2

1965

Rich Bower (Colonel, Chaplain, US Army retired and member of the IAEC) instructed an

“Introduction to Military Chaplaincy” course in San Salvador (28 Nov 16 - 10 Dec 16) at the request of the El Salvadoran Military. The course produced 34 Pastor Evangelico Military: 23 for the Military, 6 for the Police, and 2 for the Fire Service of El Salvador. 3

1967

Joe Knoll was featured in the Jacksonville newspaper *The Florida Times-Union*, highlighting his years of work with old friend and coworker at KBJ Architects, Larry Denny. It featured their buildings in downtown Jacksonville, including the iconic Independent Life building, now called the Wells Fargo Center. Read the article at bit.ly/2r963sf 4

1987

Mickey Signer qualified in Chattanooga, TN for Ironman Worlds. 5

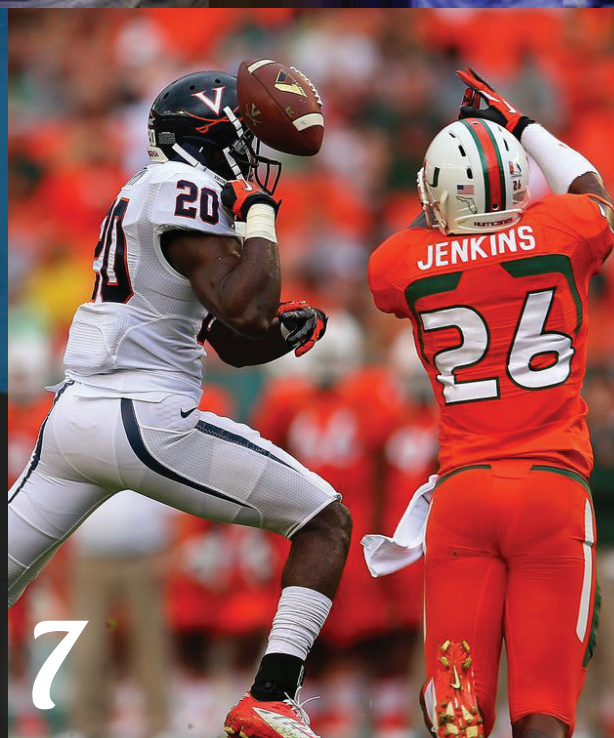
1988

Michael Sebasta has been selected for promotion to Captain in the Naval Reserve. “The roots for the promotion,” he said, “were laid at Farragut.” Michael is currently a urologist assigned to Expeditionary

Medical Facility Dallas and he is the officer in charge of the headquarters detachment at Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth. Michael lives in El Paso where he practices urology the other 28 days of the month and 50 weeks of the year. 6

2012

Rayshawn Jenkins was drafted 113th overall by the National Football League and was selected to play for the Los Angeles Chargers on April 29, 2017. Rayshawn graduated from the University of Miami in 2017 with a bachelor's in criminology. While at Miami he played defensive back for the Hurricanes football team. Although he was red shirted during his junior year, he made a strong return and started 12 out of 13 games his senior year and “served as one of Miami's top defensive play makers” according to hurricanesports.com. During Rayshawn's high school career at Farragut he was a three-star recruit by ESPN (rated the No. 40 safety), Rivals (rated the No. 27 safety) and Scout. He played multiple positions at Admiral Farragut Academy, including quarterback, wide receiver, running back, and defensive back. Rayshawn also participated in track and field and was named Farragut's





Athlete of the Year after winning state Class A title in 110-meter hurdles and placing second in 300-meter hurdles. Rayshawn chose Miami over Alabama, Florida State, and USF. [7](#)

Bolun “Jerry” Liu is currently a Commercial Multi-Engine Rated Pilot and will be graduating from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University with a B.S. degree in Aerospace and Occupational Safety and minors in Flight, Air Traffic Control and Dispatch. He visited Farragut’s Aviation class and had this to say: “The most important thing you can do in college is network. I joined the Eagles Flight Team at ERAU and it was the best thing I could’ve ever done to advance my career.” [8](#)

2013
Liam Shelton graduated with honors from Ball State University and the Army ROTC program and will start a career in the Army as 2nd Lieutenant. Originally a political science major, Shelton switched to a double major in journalism and telecommunications news. During his Ball State career, Liam worked on a documentary called “Unmasked: The stigma of meth” that examined the epidemic-sized meth problem in Muncie, IN. The documentary was featured on the Ball State website, magazine, in a radio series,

and on public television. He also worked in front of the camera and behind the scenes at NewsLink Indiana, a live television newscast from campus. He recently received orders to attend Army Armor School in Fort Benning, GA in January of 2018. [9](#)

2014
Matias Sejersen received a Medal of Merit Award from the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW). These awards go to outstanding ROTC cadets and include a medal, a ribbon bar, an engraved citation, and a presentation folder. The criteria was excellence in military skills, academics, and/or leadership. Matias has completed his junior year at Villanova University where he is studying civil engineering and is a member of the Dauntless Battalion, Bravo Company. [10](#)

Multiple Years
In March, longtime Residential Life employee Calvin Brown took a trip to the Cayman Islands. He was greeted by a group of his former students, pictured L-R Nike Broderick ‘14, Luigi Moxam ‘98, Justin Miller ‘97, Bill Baldwin ‘92, Robert Baruad ‘98 (with son), Calvin Brown, Sean Moyle ‘98. [11](#)

Keep in touch! Share your update at farragut.org/alumni/submit-an-update or email alumni@farragut.org

TAPS

a farewell to our friends

1944
Allyn C. Donaldson, Jr. passed away Nov. 20, 2011. Al graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy at Pine Beach, and went to serve his country as a radar man in the Navy. He served on several ships and boats, from a PT boat to a battleship. Upon discharge at the end of World War II, he received a degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. Following graduation he was employed by General Motors and retired as Sales Finance Manager for the Chevrolet Motor Division. After his 31 year career in the automobile business, he and his wife retired to their home in Santa Rosa Beach.

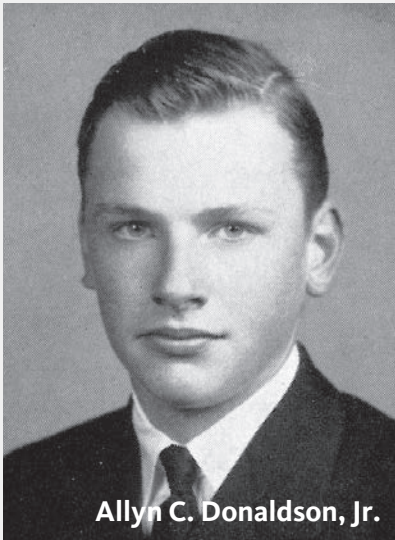
Al’s time in retirement was devoted to giving his time and financial assistance to many organizations. He became very involved in OWCC (now Northwest Florida State College) serving for a time as trustee and then a director of their foundation. He served as director from 1991 to 2008. In 1996, the Allyn C. Donaldson and Blanche S. Donaldson Scholarship Endowment was established. This scholarship

was to assist and support students as well as provide a computer classroom. On Jan. 14, 2009, the Allyn C. Donaldson Entrepreneurial Institute was dedicated on the South Walton Campus of Northwest Florida State College. The Sacred Heart Hospital of Emerald Coast was another organization that became a beneficiary of Al’s charitable giving, most recently having given a large donation to help construct a cancer facility. Al was also involved in fundraising for the Cultural Arts Association, The Coastal Branch Library and The Boy Scouts of America. He was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, a Mason and Shriner, member of the Sandestin Lions Club, and member and former Director of the Santa Rosa Golf and Beach Club.

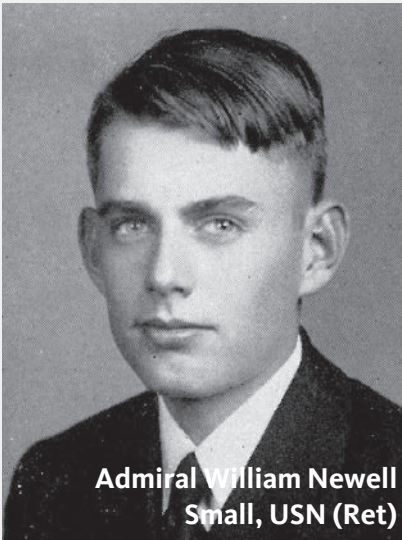
Admiral William Newell Small, USN (Ret) passed away on December 9, 2016. He attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Pine Beach until he was old enough to receive his appointment to the United States Naval Academy, where he graduated with the class of 1948.

Following flight school, his long and storied career included assignments at Naval War College, Oceana Naval Air Station as Commanding Officer of his beloved A-6A Intruder Squadrons VA-42 and VA-65, and doing several tours in Vietnam. He also served as Executive Officer of the USS Forrestal (CV-59) and Commanding Officer of the USS Independence (CV-62), Commander Carrier Division Three in the Pacific, and Commander Sixth Fleet in Gaeta, Italy.

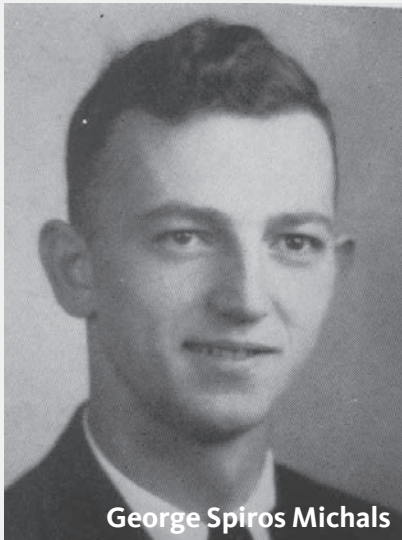
In 1981, Bill headed back to the Pentagon as the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. In 1983, he returned to Italy as Commander in Chief, NATO Allied Forces Southern Europe. During Bill’s career, he was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal w/1 star, Legion of Merit w/1 star, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal w/1 star, Presidential Unit Citation w/1 star, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/3 stars, Republic of Korea



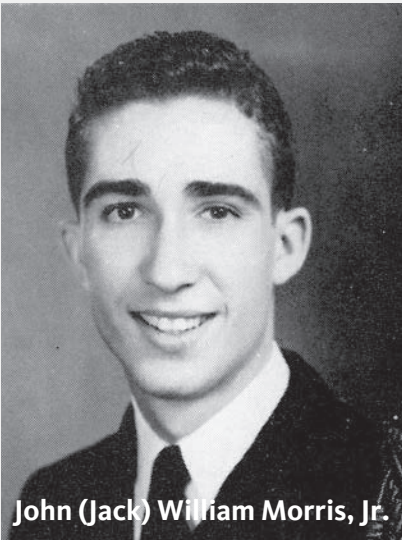
Allyn C. Donaldson, Jr.



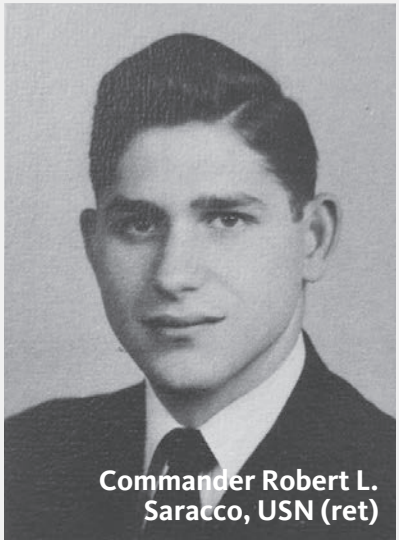
Admiral William Newell
Small, USN (Ret)



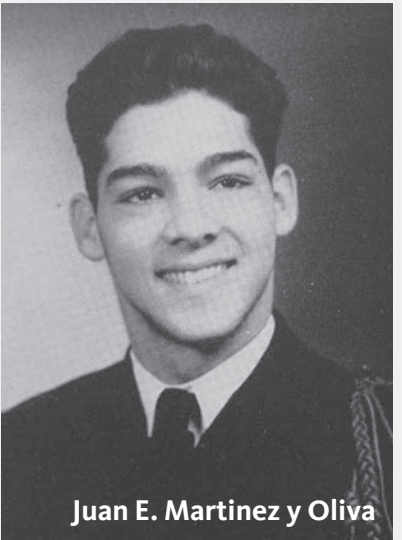
George Spiros Michals



John (Jack) William Morris, Jr.



Commander Robert L.
Saracco, USN (ret)



Juan E. Martinez y Oliva

Presidential Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation, and United Nations Service Medal. Bill retired in 1985, after forty years of service and moved back to Virginia Beach. He was actively involved in organizations such as the Naval Aviation History Museum and was inducted into the Arkansas Aviation Hall of Fame. He sponsored students to the Naval Academy and supported the Virginia Beach SPCA. As an art lover, he took an interest in the talents of notable local artists, including Ruth Laakso and Charles Kello.

1950

George Spiros Michals passed away on April 7, 2017. He attended Admiral Farragut Academy in Pine Beach. George attended Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania and George Washington University in Washington, DC. He joined the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and was stationed in Washington, DC before being transferred to Yokohama, Japan. He was honorably discharged in 1956.

George returned from the

war to Asbury Park, where he worked in various family businesses including Michals Restaurant until 1980. During the 1970s, the Michals Family built the Freehold Conva Center, a nursing home, where George served as Administrator. In 1990, he became Administrator of their second nursing home, Neptune ConvaCenter and Rehabilitation; he retired from that position in 1998. From 1998 through 2010, George was owner and managing partner of several businesses including Minor League sports teams and weekly newspapers.

George devoted his time, talents, and efforts to numerous philanthropic organizations. He served RWJBarnabas Monmouth Medical Center in Long Branch, New Jersey for many years. George was a member of the hospital's Board of Directors, as well as its Foundation. George was on the Board of the Asbury Park YMCA, the Asbury Park Chamber of Commerce, and the Chelsea House.

He was honored with the St. George Humanitarian and Philanthropic Award in 2008 for

his lifetime of faithful service, philanthropy, and leadership. George was twice awarded Congressional Recognition from the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey for Service to the Community.

1951

John "Jack" William Morris, Jr. passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2016. He, along with his twin brother, Bob, attended Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg, where his love of the sea, the US Navy and his belief in patriotic service to the United States was cemented. Upon graduation from Farragut, Jack and Bob enlisted in the US Navy to serve their country in the Korean Conflict. Jack achieved the rank of a First Class Petty Officer-Sonar and was honorably discharged at the completion of his military service.

Upon his discharge from the US Navy, Jack attended the Babson Institute of Business Administration in Massachusetts where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in business

administration. He was actively engaged in the academic, athletic and social life of Babson where he was recognized as the junior class president 1959; played on the varsity soccer and tennis teams; was a leader in the Vets and B Club and was ceremoniously elected by the student body as "The Mayor of Babson" aka 'His Honor Dassel T. Fissnair' for the Winter Carnival in 1959.

Jack pursued a career in the financial services industry in Charlotte, NC, San Francisco, CA and Honolulu, HI until mid-career when the 'siren song' of the sea called him back to enlist in the US Merchant Marine as a mariner. He traveled the world in service of the United States for over twenty-five years before retiring to St. Petersburg, FL.

Jack's favorite greeting and farewell to family and friends was "Aloha", which was reflective of his friendly and hospitable nature throughout his life.

1953

Commander Robert L. Saracco, USN (ret) passed away on February 10, 2017.

Bob spent a year at Admiral Farragut Academy in Pine Beach prior to admission to the U. S. Naval Academy class of 1957. After graduation Bob was commissioned an ensign, and served for 22 years. He began his career on a surface ship, and switched to the silent service. Bob went on to serve on USS BASHAW (SS 241) and USS MENHADEN (SS 337) with a tour in between at the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, CA where he earned a Degree in Electrical Engineering. He received a Master's Degree in Systems Management from the University of Southern California.

In 1966, Bob transitioned into engineering duty and was involved in construction, repair and overhaul of various types of naval ships. In Bob's final active duty assignment, he directed the ship overhaul and modernization programs for the U.S. Pacific Fleet. He began his civilian career in the same office where he worked for the remainder of his professional life.

Bob settled in Hawaii where he spent over 40 years in his beloved town of Kailua. There, Bob could be found on the golf

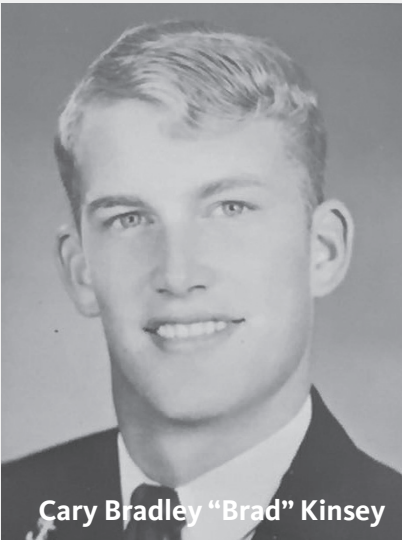
course, putting in his pristine yard or "throwing something on the grill". Bob was active with St. Anthony's Catholic Church. He participated regularly in local U.S.N.A. Alumni events and delivered Meals-on-Wheels. More than any other accomplishments, Bob was most proud of his 59 year marriage and their beautiful family.

Juan E. Martinez y Oliva passed away on October 4, 2016 with his family by his side. Born in Havana, Cuba, he attended Admiral Farragut Academy and graduated with the class of 1953. While at Farragut, he played football, basketball and baseball, his favorite sport of all. Since he lived in New York for many years before migrating to sunny Florida, he was a Yankee fan no matter where he lived. While in New York, he and his wife Ana operated their laundry business, which was in line with his independent and entrepreneurial spirit. According to his cousin, Andy, and confirmed by those who knew him, Juan was a rare individual who spoke his mind, loved America, and was faithful to his family and friends. He will be missed by all who knew him.

1968

Cary Bradley “Brad” Kinsey passed away on Jan. 8, 2014. He attended Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg, and spent almost all of his life in St. Augustine. He was a good man who lived a good life. Brad had wonderful friends and family whom he loved. He never forgot a kindness, and once Brad was your friend, he was always your friend, through thick or thin. He was passionate about the ocean and boats, especially wooden boats. It could be a shrimp boat, a sailboat or a putt-putt, just so long as it got him onto the water.

Brad was an excellent woodworker, crafting beautiful furniture, cabinets or whatever the customer wanted. He loved a challenge and figuring out how to work around problems. Some of his happiest moments over the past several years were being out on the links, golfing with his buddies.



Cary Bradley “Brad” Kinsey



Raymond Albert

2004

Raymond Albert passed away on May 16, 2017 with his family by his side. Ray graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy in St. Petersburg in 2004. He followed in his father’s footsteps as a printer and became the CEO of Albert Printing. Ray was a member of the Elks Lodge, 2519 and the American Legion (SAL) 158. He was a strong supporter of the Showtime Speedway and the Friends of the NRA.

Pay tribute to your Farragut friends.
Share your update at farragut.org/alumni/submit-an-update or email alumni@farragut.org



Michael S. Insel ‘65

Michael S. Insel of Naples, FL and Kinderhook, NY died on May 5, 2017 at 70 years old. Originally from New York, he graduated from Admiral Farragut Academy St. Petersburg

in 1965. He went on to get his undergraduate degree from Duke University and his law degree from New York University School of Law. Thereafter, and until his death, he pursued a long and distinguished career as a partner with Kelley Drye & Warren LLP.

In addition, Mike served on the Board of Directors of Kobrand Corporation and was President of French-American Vintners. It was also his great privilege to serve for 22 years on the Board of Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey from which he retired as Chairman in 2015.

Mike loved his work and pursued it with intelligence, honesty, integrity and skill. He was admired by his partners, colleagues, friends, and probably some foes. A dreamer

who pursued his dreams, a lifetime student of history, a lover of art, music, boating, astronomy, books, high performance cars, as well as some temperamental foreign sports cars, Mike was a tenacious enthusiast when presented with something that piqued his interest. Friends with whom he played golf, which he took up later in life, can attest to this.

Mike was an ardent supporter of Admiral Farragut Academy, it’s Foundation, and the future of the school. Years ago, Mike set up the Michael S. Insel 65’ Scholarship Fund within the Farragut Foundation to provide opportunities for academic, goal-oriented, and driven students to attend Farragut. His legacy will have a long lasting influence on generations to come.

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| 20- Gary H. Amsterdam ‘68 * and Donna Amsterdam | 52- Bjorn Nielsen ‘43 | 100- Jyri Palm ‘87 |
| | 54- Martin Ludwig ‘54 | |

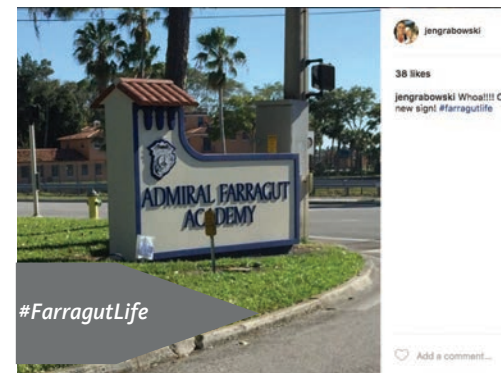
A Heritage Society membership indicates that Admiral Farragut Academy and/or the Foundation is included in the estate plans of a donor. Some donors will give through a simple bequest by way of their will, others will transfer the ownership of life insurance or a percentage of their IRA, while others 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. * indicates deceased.

Go Social!

Facebook



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Corrections

All corrections have been added to the digital copy of Reville Winter 2016 unless otherwise noted.

- CDR Jack Rodda, Director of Naval Science from 1976 to 1998, played an instrumental part in acquiring the F-11 Tiger, but his name was left out of the story. - Page 12

- Martin Ludwig '54 was left off of the list of Heritage Society members. - Page 54

Read it? Love it?

Tell us your thoughts on this edition of *Reville*. Share your stories and pictures with us for the next edition.

(We reserve the right to edit your letters for length and clarity.)

Admiral Farragut Academy

Reville Summer 2017

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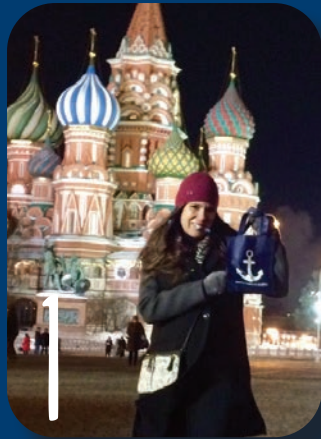
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As you travel, take a picture with spirit wear or with this Farragut anchor and post it on our Facebook page or email it to communications@farragut.org with your name and a brief caption.



www.farragut.org

DROPPING ANCHOR AROUND THE WORLD



1. Admissions Director Pamela Pardi visits Moscow, Russia for recruitment. 2. Alumni Director Jeff Ogden '00 meets with April Megan Pyle '00 at her competitive gymnastics gym in Bedford, Texas. 3. Maya Antes '17 on Seven Mile Beach in Grand Cayman over Spring Break. 4. Jeff Ogden '00 meets with Michael Laris '77 of Denton, Texas. 5. John Chugg '67 visits Colmar, France with wife, Diane. 6. Class Agents Doug Pearson '66 & Joe Noll '67 met for lunch in St. Augustine. 7. Third grader Nikita Johnson visits Alcatraz Island. 8. Mrs. Broderick, Calvin Brown, and Nike Broderick '14 outside The Lighthouse at Breakers Grand Cayman. 9. Kindergarten student Jacob Cuesta went on a snowmobile trip to Yellowstone National Park over Spring Break.



ADMIRAL FARRAGUT ACADEMY
#FLASHBACKFARRAGUT



The class of 2017 has been making us proud from the very beginning. In this photo, four students are inducted into the National Honor Society six years apart; the top photo in their 6th grade year and the bottom in their senior year.

Pictured from left to right: Daniella Greco, Zachary Fine, Matthew Hajek, and Max Kostyashkin



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501 Park Street North
Saint Petersburg, FL 33710

save
the
date

2017

OCT

27

Parents' Group
Golf Tournament
St. Petersburg, FL

NOV

3-4

Homecoming Weekend
St. Petersburg, FL
www.farragut.org/Homecoming

DEC

8-9

Army Navy Weekend
Philadelphia, PA
www.farragut.org/ArmyNavy

www.farragut.org