

The Monocacy

MONOCLE

Keeping an Eye on Local News

A Biweekly Newspaper

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The PES annual Clap Out, sending its grads to JPMS, had a new form using vehicles to ride around Whalen Commons. See some others in Family Album on page 2.



We are pleased to introduce the PHS 2020 graduating seniors. See their pictures starting on page 13.



A cavalcade of seniors gave tribute to our graduates. Check them out on page 22.



This legend recently retired. A few people had things to say about him. The scoop is on page 24.

PHS 2020 Graduates: Falcons Flying High

By Rande Davis

This issue of the *Monocacy Monocle* is dedicated to the 280 graduating seniors of Poolesville High School which forever will be identified as the COVID-19 class of 2020. It is hard to imagine any class achieving more while missing out on so much of the full high school experience. This is a class that is ranked academically number one in the State of Maryland

and number ninety nationally. While achieving this remarkable accomplishment, they lost out on so much of the traditional senior year experience from an entire season of sports to proms, club events, and now, at the end, even the traditional cap and gown graduation.

To honor their tenacity and dedication under trying circumstances, the *Monocle* is pleased to have taken the bold step of printing the photo of each of these

highly-deserving individuals. If there was one benefit to the online graduation —unlike in the past when the number of tickets for attendees was always restricted—this ceremony was open to all.

The administration and staff proved to be up to the challenge of a virtual graduation by providing a meaningful

Continued on page 12.



This park poster display of PHS grads provided a path to contemplate our departing seniors and their future.

Photo by Martin Radigan.

Poolesville Teachers Navigate New World of Online Learning

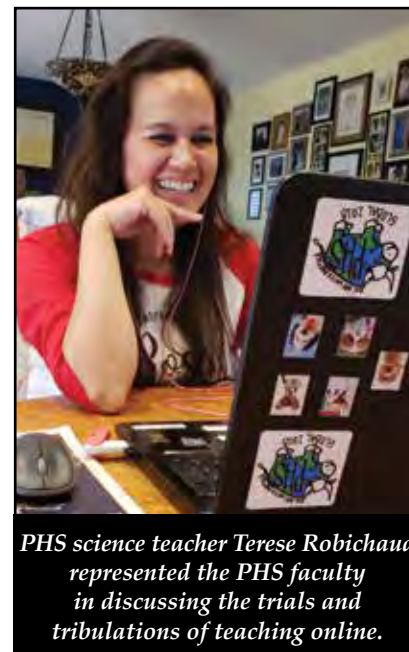
By Andrew Sojka

For the past two months, Poolesville High School students and staff had to navigate the world of online learning while the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the United States as well as the rest of the world. With Montgomery County Public Schools canceling school for the remainder of the school year, teachers had to find new ways to stay in contact with and provide instruction to students.

According to a survey of over two hundred students conducted in late March of this year by the DMV Student Alliance for Immigration Advocacy, a student-led advocacy organization in Montgomery County, over one fifth of MCPS students from twenty-six out of twenty-seven high schools in MCPS reported struggling with turning in their assignments;

furthermore, almost forty-seven percent of students did not feel they had a strong understanding of the material they were being taught online.

Students were not the only ones struggling while school was out. Teachers had to deal with social isolation, new and confusing work schedules, and balancing home and work demands, just like their students. "One of the joys of teaching is the daily interaction I have with my students. This was taken away from me with distance learning and impacted me the most," said PHS science teacher Terese Robichaud. "Not only am I a teacher, I am a mother of two in MCPS schools, and my husband is also an MCPS teacher. Our great family challenge



PHS science teacher Terese Robichaud represented the PHS faculty in discussing the trials and tribulations of teaching online.

Continued on page 9.

Family Album



The annual Poolesville Elementary School Clap Out Ceremony— COVID-19-style!



Town Government

Town Commissioners Hold Public Hearings on Zoning Text Amendments

By Link Hoewing

At their June 15 meeting, the commissioners of the Town of Poolesville held public hearings on ordinances that would enact two zoning text amendments (ZTAs), proposed changes to the zoning laws for the town. Zoning laws stipulate how and for what purpose various properties in town can be used.

The first ordinance prohibits the operation of any commercial business for a full twenty-four hours each day with exemptions for such things as ATMs and emergency medical clinics. The second sets requirements for the siting, location, and configuration of gas stations in town. For example, it would not allow the location of a gas station any closer than 650 feet from any public or private school.

Town Manager Seth Rivard pointed out that the Planning Commission had considered the ordinances in February and had unanimously approved them for submission to the commissioners for their consideration. Also the proposed ordinances had been on the agenda for the commissioners on March 16, but the meeting was cancelled due to the pandemic.

Commission President Kerri Cook noted that some fifty public comments had been received from citizens about the ordinances, the overwhelming majority of which supported their approval. Four witnesses signed up to speak at the commissioners' meeting, including Jay Donegan, the owner of the property directly across from Poolesville Elementary School, represented by Stacy Siber and Mike Goeche.

Donegan's firm had come up with an initial concept plan some months ago to locate a 7-11 convenience store and filling station on his property which fronts on the corner of Wootton Avenue and Fisher Avenue. His representatives offered comments on the proposed ordinances in the context of his initial plans for the property.

Stacy Siber said that Donegan had brought such stores as Tractor Supply and CVS to Poolesville. She said that the town's proposed ordinances are "arbitrary" and "preemptory" given the proposal Donegan had offered for a 7-11. She said specifically that the ZTAs are "unnecessary, unfair, and illegal."

With regard to her first point, she explained that filling stations, under the current zoning ordinances, can only be approved with the granting of a "special exception" by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA). The BZA can only grant such an exception if the use in question is found to be "compatible" with nearby properties. She further commented that the proposed 7-11 would not be "your father's" store, and that it would be designed to meet both the needs of residents and the town. Finally, she said that the "town has expressed an interest in some facility like an ice rink on the property" and said Donegan would work with the town on ideas like this.

Siber next said that the proposed ordinances are "unfair because it is already challenging for a competitor to locate a brick and mortar store" in any town. During the pandemic, stores like 7-11 are considered "essential," and the proposed ordinance would prohibit the store from serving citizens on a twenty-four-hour basis. She also said that Donegan had tried to get other stores to locate on his property—like Trader Joe's—but had no luck.

Finally, Siber said that the proposed ordinances are "illegal because they specifically target Donegan and put obstacles in the way that are impossible to meet." She also pointed out that the Liberty gas station is located only about 600 feet from the high school.

Siber concluded by saying that Donegan had never had an "adversarial relationship with the town" and wanted to work with it to develop a project that is satisfactory to the town and its residents.

Caroline Taylor, the President of the Montgomery Countryside Alliance, spoke next. She said that the ordinance "applies broadly" and while there may be a catalyst for the ordinances—the nearby elementary school—there is "nothing illegal about them." She said the ordinances are necessary "to protect the welfare and safety of your residents."

Local resident Dennis Conley spoke next. He is not in favor of the ZTAs and brought up a court decision involving the City of Los Angeles, in which the court determined that once a property owner proposes some use of his or her land, a

Continued on page 25.



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Rande(m) Thoughts

The PHS Class of 2020: A Toast to a One of a Kind

By Rande Davis

Having one's senior year disrupted to the degree to which the 2020 Poolesville High School graduation class has may be considered a once-in-a-generation event. This class joins a small group of unique graduation classes. They join the class of 1917 (we entered World War I in April), 1930 (Black Tuesday Stock Market crash was October 1929), 1943 (the attack on Pearl Harbor was December 7, 1942), and to a lesser degree the class of 1968 (assassinations of RFK and Martin Luther King, Jr., and riots and massive civil unrest) in emerging onto the stage of life at a peak of uncertain and difficult times. Just a few months earlier, their prospects were so completely different. Career, education, and employment opportunities were greater than at any time in recent memory. Then the invisible enemy permeated our lives.

I personally know something about experiencing a senior year of lost traditions, of lost fraternity, jovial enthusiasm, and social isolation. I moved to a new town and school after my junior year. For me, my senior was not so much a launching pad as it was a holding pattern until college began. Fifty years later, when the golden reunion came around, I skipped my last school to join instead my classmates of twelve years, to join in the renewal of old friendships in celebrations of things I never got to experience.

This year's class, though, is a class like no other in a sad way, but it is also a class like no other in more positive ways as well. On the downer side was the loss of important athletic events that build school camaraderie and help many get college scholarships. The loss of social dynamics ranged from the mundane to the exceptional, from the silly lunch and breake-time frivolity to the senior prom. The students experienced the transition of

connections gained from a classroom surrounded by thirty other people to an isolation-booth-like, Hollywood Squares ambience, and they experienced the loss of spring musicals and many other club traditions. Their virtual year was, for them, their reality.

Despite all the challenges, this class achieved. This class is the class that academically is ranked first in Maryland. It is this class that is the most diverse in our small town's history. It is this class that is recognized at the presidential level, reported on by major newspapers, winners in forensic contests, a finalist team in It's Academic, successful in the Debate and Mock Trial, and so much more.

On the positive side, no other class had a graduation that everyone could attend, no tickets-to-the-graduation shortage this year. What other class ever had each student cheered by a crowd in a vehicular parade as if a returning hero in a ticker-tape parade (then again, what other class did not know what a ticker-tape was?)? What other class had their pictures posted in the town square so others could walk among them in contemplation of their smiles, their gift of life to us, and their future? Hey, lest we forget, what other class had an entire edition of the Monocacy Monocle devoted to them?! We are thrilled to have published this collector's edition, the issue we anticipate will be fully on display at their fiftieth high school reunion.

It is this class we honor and celebrate, and it is this class we toast:

May the unique challenges you have faced and have overcome lead you to a challenging life of confident reward and success;

May your ability to weather life's unexpected disruptions give you the knowledge of your strength when facing all of life's storms;

May your youthful joy, zest for life, and robust hopefulness fill your life's sails with all the tailwinds of energy you will ever desire;

And may you look back at your senior year of great challenge, social uniqueness, and great friendships to a life of great expectations and even greater love and happiness, always and all ways.

Local News

Poolesville Day 2020 Canceled: Grand Marshal Legacy Continues

By Link Hoewing

The Poolesville Day Committee has continued to work and plan through the coronavirus pandemic, but it soon became clear that a number of factors would preclude us from once again celebrating the day together as we have for the past twenty-seven years. County Executive Elrich has only moved to Stage 1 with limited openings for businesses. Stage 3, when large, public gatherings would be allowed, appears to be months away, and there is no "clear date" for its implementation.

Further, the sponsors of a number of large public activities and events have announced they will not be going forward this year. The Fourth of July fireworks sponsored by UMCVFD have been cancelled. Our own Town of Poolesville has prudently cancelled its summer camps and Friday on the Commons activities. The Montgomery County Agricultural Fair just announced

that it will not be making a decision until the first week in July, a luxury that we do not have. Even major sports leagues, like baseball and football, have announced reduced schedules with no audiences. There is even a question of whether Montgomery County Public Schools will open for its fall sessions.

This uncertainty not only gives us pause due to potential safety concerns but also because many activities and services that make up Poolesville Day—like signing up bands to play and getting food vendors to commit—require months of advance planning and commitments.

Given all of this uncertainty and our desire to ensure that we can hold an event that is safe and as robust in its vendors and activities as we can make it, we have sorrowfully concluded we must cancel this year's event.

We would still like to continue the legacy of Poolesville Day by nominating a Grand Marshal, the traditional head of our parade and a person who represents the best of our town. You can go to the Poolesville Day website (www.poolesville.com) and submit your nomination. All submissions have to be in by July 31.

As a side note, the annual Odd Fellows Summer picnic usually scheduled for the end of June has also been canceled.

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Fun Fact...



Graduates tossing their caps in the air actually originated during a Naval Academy ceremony in 1912. When students of the academy graduated, they were no longer commissioned to wear their caps. Hence, throwing them in the air symbolized completion. Other institutions later adopted this as a celebratory expression for graduates, continuing to be tradition for both high school and college ceremonies.

Tidbits

Vogel Awarded Girl Scout's Highest Award

Charlotte Vogel, a junior at Poolesville High School, was awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award in March for her project, "The Buzz on Bees: How You Can Save Pollinators in Your Own Backyard." Charlotte's project addressed the issue of habitat destruction contributing to the decline of the bee population, as well as the struggling pollinator health due to problems such as water accessibility. Charlotte noticed that a major contributor to the suffering pollinator population was the lack of diverse habitats that centered around being bee-friendly — created without the use of pesticides and home to a number of different native wildflowers. Charlotte, a member of Troop 4300 in Poolesville, worked with her project advisor Tina Thieme-Brown to receive advice on planting the garden and interacting with the community, determining how to start the garden, what plants were best, and other steps she could take. For the first half of her project, Charlotte planted a wildflower garden in Campbell Park in Poolesville to provide a critical habitat for these pollinators and to improve the overall quality of the land. Having gained approval to plant from Poolesville's Parks and Streets Board, Charlotte prepared the ground and added mulch and leafgro. About a month later, Charlotte planted thirty native flowers, composed of fifteen types of pollinator-assisting perennials, including bee balm, great blue lobelia, bergamot, and milkweed (great ones to plant in your own garden!). Charlotte received donations from Colony Supply, Dave Ashley Signs, and Poolesville Hardware, and additionally petitioned for a grant from the Town of Poolesville. Charlotte also worked with landscaper, Garth Seely, who gave advice on starting the garden, and from the president of the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, Lauren Greenberger, who came to the garden to help plant in the most efficient manner.



Charlotte Vogel, Girl Scout Gold Star recipient.

Charlotte presented at a number of events in her community to spread the word on bees. Charlotte ran information booths at several local events, including the Barnesville Harvest Festival and events sponsored by the Rustic Roads and the Sugarloaf Citizens' Association, to provide information on steps we can be taking to mitigate the effects of climate change on bees. The Girl Scout Gold Award represents the highest achievement in Girl Scouting and is equal to the rank of Eagle Scout in Boy Scouts.

Wee Baby Miss Poolesville

In May 2020, Kennedy Kileen Rice competed in the East Coast USA pageant and won first place in her division. Kennedy was awarded the Wee Baby Miss Poolesville Maryland title. She was born on October 15, 2019 and lives in Poolesville with her Mom (Lindsay), Dad (Glenn), and big



Wee Baby Miss Poolesville Kennedy Kileen Rice.

For community involvement, Charlotte worked to educate the public on how they can be instrumental in saving our vital pollinators. She engaged all ages of the community by creating bee water bowls with elementary school-aged students, working in the garden with high school students, and addressing groups of adults on what they can do for the pollinators, such as buying local honey or refraining from the use of pesticides in their backyards.

Continued on page 28.

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Local News

Vandals Pull Down Confederate Statue at White's Ferry

By Rande Davis

In the early morning hours of June 15, vandals pulled down the historical Civil War Confederate statue at White's Ferry. The statue was originally placed at the courthouse in Rockville in 1913. After vandalism occurred in 2015, the county decided to remove the statue and sought a suitable location for its transfer.

The county approached White's Ferry ownership as a privately-owned site with historical relevance to the Civil War, requesting that it be transferred there. Wishing to accommodate the county, the transfer to White's Ferry was allowed. The statue was constructed to recognize Cavalry soldiers who fought for the South in the Civil War.



The persons who tore this monument down in Silver Spring took credit for tearing down the Confederate statue at White's Ferry.

A public sentiment on Facebook about the statue peaked in recent days in relation to the entire Black Lives Matter discussion and local demonstration. Rather than meet with ownership which could have very well been accommodating, unknown persons chose to remove the statue of their own accord. A few days later, the Confederate statue outside of Grace Church in Silver Spring was pulled down and a note left stating the perpetrator had also pulled down the statue at White's Ferry.

Herb Brown of White's Ferry reported that they had no intention for the display to be offensive to elements of the public when they had acquiesced to the county wishes only for historical reasons, but based on current developments, they will not be putting the statue back on its pedestal. Additionally, White's Ferry is removing the ferry boat sign naming the barge after Confederate Gen. Jubal A. Early.

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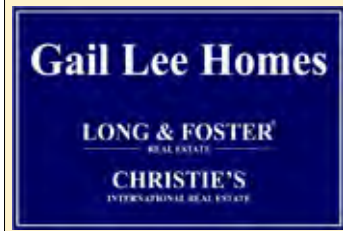
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Continued from page 1.

Poolesville Teachers Navigate New World of Online Learning

was figuring out the best way to balance our four different school schedules five days a week. Creating a family schedule and routine is what saved us.”

Not only were teachers affected by issues they faced, but they also frequently dealt with issues presented by their students as well. With some students not connecting with teachers frequently, or in some cases, at all, teachers’ work lives were affected as they dealt with a constant stream of work.

“I know that students struggled initially with figuring out the details of individual class mechanics,” said PHS social studies teacher Andrew Ward. “I also know that many students have struggled emotionally with the lack of connection and some of the fear that has come with dealing with the pandemic and what they see about it in the news. Learning in class, every day, with a teacher on hand is a lot different than what we’ve been doing, so I know that there are also a lot of students who greatly prefer or need to have more direct interaction with their teachers to feel comfortable with the materials that they’re learning about.

“There are also a lot of families across the county who need support getting the technology up and running for full distance learning, and many who rely on schools for support in getting their meals each day. Those last two were major logistical hurdles that the county had to figure out, and they did so pretty quickly under the circumstances.”

Problems with students connecting were not limited to PHS. According to the digital footprint data of individual students collected by the county, as of mid-April, almost 9,400 students at the elementary school level and over 4,800 students at the high school level remained completely disconnected from teachers throughout the period of online school. The county is looking into several solutions, with one in particular being a summer school that would invite select students who receive “incomplete” for certain classes to improve their grades over the break. The county is currently collecting data from community stakeholders and parents to decide on an approach moving forward.

According to some teachers, online learning wasn’t all bad. “I love the digital platform that we have as a means of sharing assignments with my students and then collecting their work and grading it for them, but I greatly prefer doing that while also meeting with them face-to-face,” said Ward.

The increased need for digital platforms has led to the county making important improvements to its online learning software, such as myMCPS classroom. As an added benefit, paper usage is down, and the usual wear and tear on school buildings and facilities is not occurring. For many teachers, though, these benefits do not offset the negatives of digital learning.

“An advantage to online instruction is that it provides another layer to the learning process that does not require a lot of paper usage; however, the downside is that you lose that personal connection with teaching content to students and are unable to use a variety of methods for maximum learning.”

For teachers like Robichaud, who incorporate hands-on activities and group projects into their everyday routine, the pandemic limits their ability to have meaningful connections with students. This can be frustrating, as it can alter the dynamics of the classroom. “It’s very impersonal. I am a teacher who feeds off the energy of my students, many of them tease me for my animated lectures with the waving of my hands. Talking to them with earbuds and staring at a screen takes away that passion that I have when I am trying to engage them within our virtual classroom.”

As the county decides how to approach the upcoming school year, both students and staff face the possibility of school being partially online. If this proves to be the case, teachers will have to find more ways to incorporate their personalized teaching methods into the online environment.

“If online instruction becomes necessary for the upcoming school year, I would like to try to create more engaging and meaningful times together in our Zoom meetings,” said Robichaud.

“I would try to be more creative in a way so that learning can transition smoothly between face-to-face learning and distance learning over the course of the school year.”

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Local News

Poolesville March for Justice

By Rande Davis

On Friday, June 12, the national Black Lives Matter movement came to Poolesville through Poolesville March for Justice, a demonstration and march to protest the death of George Floyd at the hands of a Minneapolis policeman.

Congregating in the parking lot of St. Peter's Church, a large crowd of hundreds of supporters listened to speakers share their perspective of personal racial discrimination toward them by residents of Poolesville both past and present. Pastor Chuck Copeland of Hosanna Worship Center, a largely African American congregation that shares space at the Poolesville Baptist Church but was originally based at the Warren Historic site on Martinsburg Road in Dickerson, led the demonstration.

The peaceful group of participants walked from St. Peter's Church down Wootton Avenue to Fisher Avenue and on to Whalen Commons. The group stopped at Whalen Commons to observe eight and half minutes of silence in remembrance of George Floyd, who was held down by a knee to the neck by the officer for that amount of time until he succumbed to the chokehold. As they reflected on the cruel death, they read the names of other African Americans reportedly killed by police elsewhere throughout the country.

Much of the enthusiasm and organization of the event was reported to be credited to local high school students and other adults, many of whom were local residents while also including still others from elsewhere. There was no single group being credited with the responsibility of the activism. The loosely organized group's mission statement was: "Throughout this demonstration, we aim to center the voices of marginalized peoples in this town. During our march, we will prioritize black voices, and their issues will be centered. We will address police brutality and racially charged violence specifically."

Pastor Copeland began the event for justice, speaking of his personal roots in the area as he lives on the land of his forefather, purchased in 1868 in Dickerson. He spoke of a great-grandfather born in 1812, the same year the "Star-Spangled Banner" was written. He shared how proud this ancestor would have been had they been able to witness the evening's activities. Pastor Copeland wished for expanded conversations of love that bring about better understanding; difficult conversations he already has had with fellow church members and neighbors that have brought forth healing. Stating the hope through knowledge that there are more people who want to do right than wrong in this country, he called for all people to figure out how to go beyond the problems of the past, making this great American experiment a real spirit in Poolesville.

Will Jawanda, Montgomery County Councilmember (at-large), spoke on the need for our community to act and stand up to take action to disentangle us from systemic racism. He told of a new bill that was recently introduced to restrict the use of chokeholds.

Kisha Reid emphasized the teaching of equity, equality, empathy, empowerment, humanism, and advocacy through intentional modeling. She quoted Margaret J. Wheatley, "No power for change is greater than a community discovering what it cares about."

Dr. Jason Jordan-Griffith, pastor at Union Memorial United Methodist Church in Baltimore and a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. beloved community scholar, sang a moving rendition of the black anthem, "Lift Every Voice."

Poolesville resident and school counselor Ed Harris spoke passionately through personal experience of a challenging time with police during a routine traffic stop. Despite full controlled and deliberate cooperation, the officer still pointed a pistol to his head. He spoke of his regret of having to discuss this with his son, outlining the "proper rules of behavior" during such moments, but he closed on a positive note that Poolesville, despite its past, is "still a beautiful place to live."

Continued on page 11.



Remembrance

George Gray

George "Ashley" Gray, 48, of Venice, Florida, passed on May 27, 2020 as a result of a motorcycle accident near Woodsboro, Maryland.

Born on June 7, 1971 in Washington, D.C., he was the son of Mason W. Gray IV and the late Hannah Tyson Lee Sharp Gray.

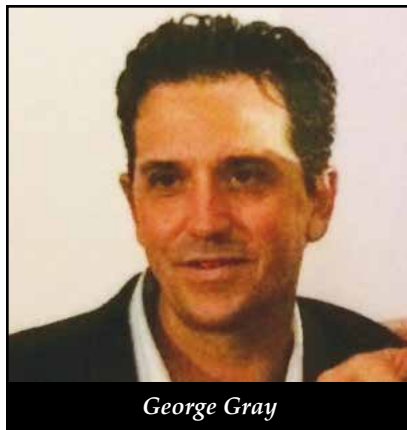
Ashley was a talented artist and sculptor. He created beautiful birds carved from wood and then he would paint them with precision and style which gave them the lifelike quality of realism. The birds he created seemed as though they could just fly off.

His talent, coupled with an effervescent personality, made him a star to behold and a bright light which illuminated and buoyed the spirits of all who knew him. Ashley always said of his many artistic creations, "It is not my work, it is God's work. I am the lucky one because he does it through my hands."

Ashley was driven, hardworking, honest, and honorable. He had a good, loving heart and will be missed deeply. Like his bird creations appeared to have the ability to fly, his spirit has flown to its heavenly perch.

Along with this father, Ashley leaves behind his thirteen-year-old son, Tyson Maddox Gray; mother to his son, Tracy Cavalier; two brothers, Mason W. Gray V (wife Jackie) of Frederick and Charlton Benjamin Gray (wife Susie) of Fairfield, Pennsylvania; his uncle, George T. Sharp, Jr. (wife Joan) of New Mexico; uncle and aunts, James "Jake" and Letitia Jacobsen of Buckeystown and Jane Gray Peters and husband Jim of Georgetown, Delaware, Elizabeth Dean Gray Wroth and husband Ted of Pawley's Island, South Carolina; and numerous nieces and nephews.

In lieu of flowers, the family has set up a savings account for Ashley's son, Tyson, that will be maintained by Woodsboro Bank. Contributions may be mailed to Mason W. Gray, IV, 11 Rosewood Ct, Unit 207, Woodsboro, MD 21798. Mason will be acting as custodian of the account. Make check payable to Mason W. Gray, IV.



George Gray

Continued from page 10.

Poolesville March for Justice

Besides Pastor Copeland, other key speakers were former Poolesville High School graduate Michelle Moraa, currently a University of Maryland junior studying government and politics, former PHS student Zak Etheridge, Shareef Hamm, Roshawna Marshall, and Clarksburg High School alumnus Pierre Kingbo.

Zak Etheridge spoke of our need as a community to improve dialogue about racial issues and how he chose to return to Poolesville in education to help uplift the local African American students.



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Continued from page 1.

PHS 2020 Graduates: Falcons Flying High

ceremony filled with inspiration. While short in physical presence, it was strong in keeping as much tradition, pomp, and circumstance as possible—even during the vehicle-cavalcade after the graduation ceremony, presenting each new graduate poking out of a sunroof or riding in a truck bed. They even had the playing of “Pomp and Circumstance” by the Upper Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Department’s ambulance that led the parade. As proud parents and neighbors cheered along the parade route, each student waved, smiled, and appeared as appreciative of the support as they were for their difficult year coming to a nostalgic close.

Principal Mark Carothers, in his first year of administration leadership at PHS, told the students, “This class will forever be my first graduating class as principal of PHS, and you will always have a special place in my heart.”

Calling on the theme that PHS Falcons fly high, he said, “Throughout our year together, it is you that helped me have a great year. It is you that taught me about Poolesville and what it truly means to ‘Falcons fly high,’ as you demonstrated in every situation I have seen this year.

“This graduation class will be credited with starting new traditions such that will trigger memories in years to come. Things like the senior storm, senior sunrise, chalked parking spaces, and senior friendsgiving may be of little importance to the general public, but these will be a part of the 2020 class memory for life.”

Mr. Carothers elaborated on the remarkable contributions of this graduating class.

“Your class also flies high in the areas of advocacy, equity, and inclusivity. Even before the first day of classes, I learned about Ethan’s community advocacy as part of the Fair Access Committee and Grace’s passion for restorative justice. The QSU senior leaders had the best-looking and well-planned booth at the ninth-grade parent night. Pallavi, Justin, Amulya, and Maxwell worked hard to get the Asian Students’ Association up and running and created beautiful decorations and murals for Diwali and the Lunar New Year. Your class also revived the dormant Muslim Student Association. Islah was the lone senior representative in the Study Circles process, designed to make PHS welcoming to all beliefs, cultures, and experiences. Matthew led the efforts to make PHS a certified ‘No Place for Hate’ school. Your senior SGA leadership revised the homecoming process to be more inclusive and equitable and respecting of all beliefs. Kendall and the rest of the student ILT representatives, along with the Girl Up organization, fought for feminine hygiene products to be in the female restrooms to provide more access and equality. You fly high through your advocacy and passion for a welcoming, equitable environment for all students, and that was displayed all year.

“You, of course, fly high through all of your collective and individual accomplishments. As a class, you have accumulated 44,174 total SSL hours. To put this in perspective, that is approximately 1,840 days’ (or five years’) worth of service. 106 graduating Falcons earned over 240 hours, earning you the Certificate of Meritorious Service. That is more than a third of the class! Our top two students, Lena and Amulya, were only separated by 10 hours, with 1148 and 1138, respectively. Many of you were recognized on a national level for your achievements this year. Maria was recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a United States Presidential Scholar. Lizzie and Grace were recognized by the New York Times for review articles they submitted. Jeffery, Sami, and Jacob competed nationally as part of the History Bowl and History Bee Teams. Additionally, Jeffery was also awarded a \$40,000 scholarship from the College Board, which, as I’m told, may support his pizza intake. Congratulations to Fabrizio, Safi, and Micah, who have earned an Associate’s Degree as well as a high school diploma through the MC Early College Program. Ishita, Sadhana, and Medha were one of two all-female Cyber Teams in the nation and competed in the 2019 NYU National Finals. Locally, Medha also captained our successful Forensics Team and qualified for the finals. Our It’s Academic Team made it to the semifinals and the finals of the Montgomery Academic Beltway League. Our seniors led the Debate Team to a fourth-place finish in MCPS, with several members of the team competing in the finals. Our journalism seniors led the production of multimedia components, such as podcasts and videos, to our Poolesville Pulse. I had the pleasure of watching our Mock Trial Team make it to the Final Four in MCPS, as well. Our full chorus and orchestra earned “excellent” ratings at the MCPS festivals. Even recently, we were able to honor Andres at the Distinguished Hispanic Scholars Ceremony. It may have been an abbreviated senior year, but you showed how to fly high in every competition and every hour of service.”

Carothers closed with, “No matter where we are, this is your graduation. your day. No, this is not the ‘real’ thing. This is not even meant to pretend that it’s the real thing, but your experiences are real. Your friendships are real. Your achievements are real, and the path that brought you to this day, no matter how winding or treacherous, is real. I haven’t had the opportunity, in not enough time, to share a moment with every one of you, but I share these stories, so you know that every one of you has impacted me, our communities, our future generations, and our staff. Every conversation, action, or event has an impact on so many people. On July 11, when I was given the honor of being your principal, I did not imagine the impact you and your class would have on this year. You have taught me about Poolesville and how to lead our student body. You have shown me excellence in everything you do. I love you. I am proud of you. Congratulations, Class of 2020, and continue to fly high, Falcons.”

Class president Frank Willard, noted Bob Marley when he invoked the class quote motto, “You never know how strong you are until being strong is your only choice.” He closed with his belief that the class will “come out better than before.”

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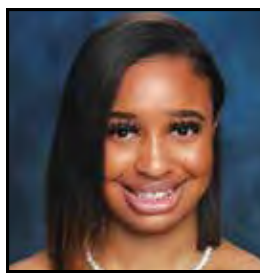


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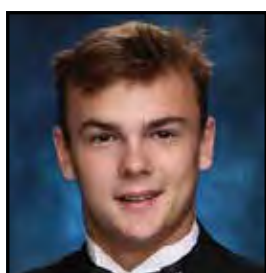
Amol Agrawal



Hisham Ahmad



Sydney Allentuck



Samuel Allgood



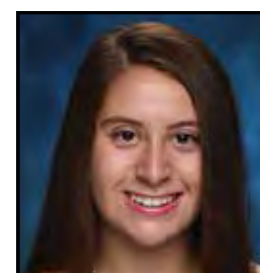
Sofia Allison



Rohan Aluka



Aziza Amani



Remy Anderson



Joseph Arida



June Barash



David Barkdoll



Meera Barochia



Juan Barron



William Batres



Pallavi Battina



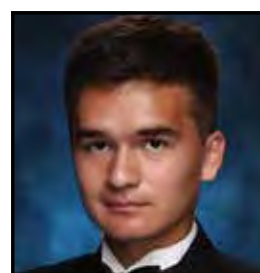
Rachael Behrend



Derrick Berko



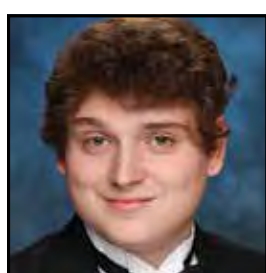
Kyra Bertolini



Bradford Blair



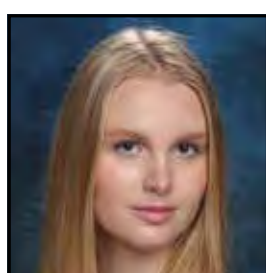
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Shaun Bolten



Moshelle Borjigin



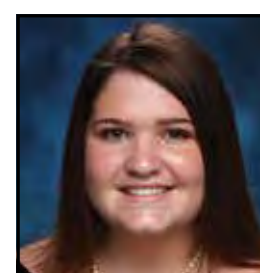
Solomyia Brannman



Owen Brill



Luka Brizhik



Madeline Brode



Olivia Burdick



Kyle Burns



Daniel Cahill



Jacob Carin



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Fernando Carranza



Grace Carter



Ishita Chatterjee



Daniel Chen



Robert Chen



Shirley Chen



Catherine Cherfan



Bakhtawar Choudhry



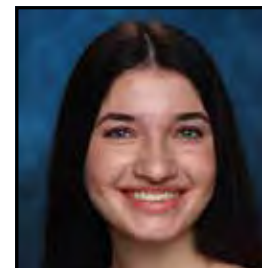
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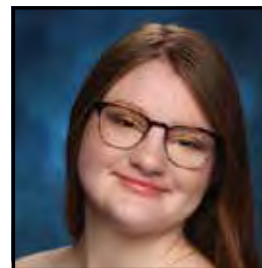
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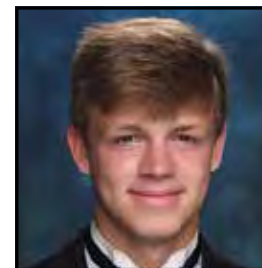
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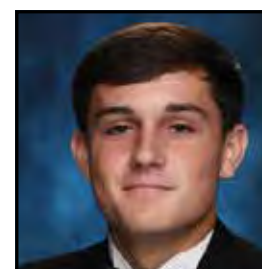
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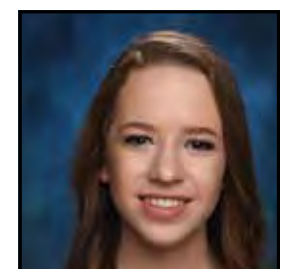
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Zachary Fedders



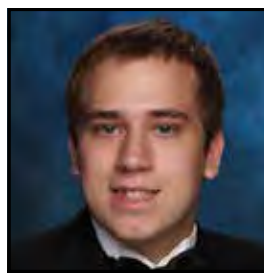
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Nicholas Ferguson



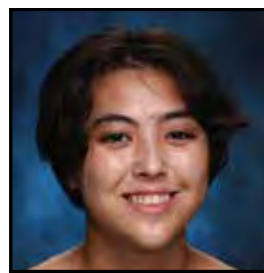
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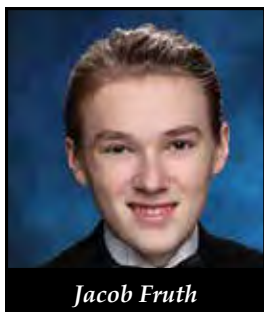
Maxwell Fisher



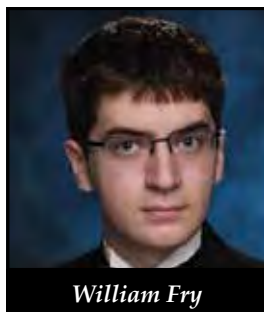
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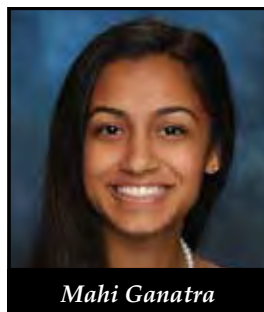
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Jacob Fruth



William Fry



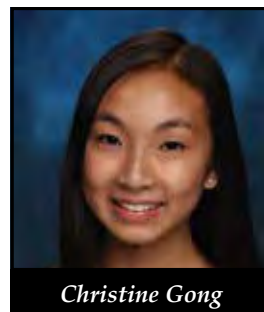
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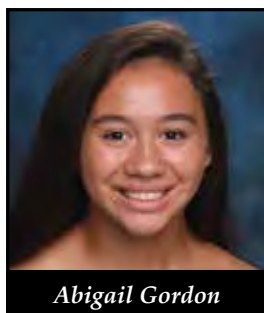
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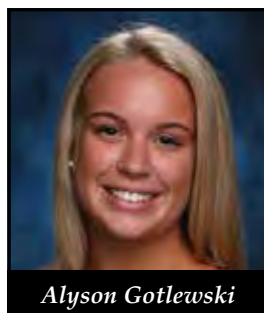
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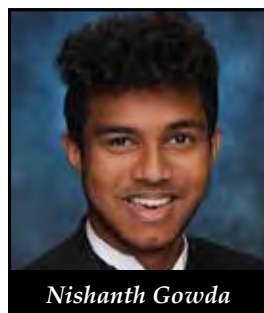
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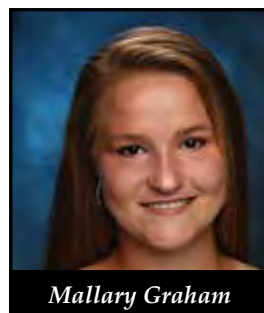
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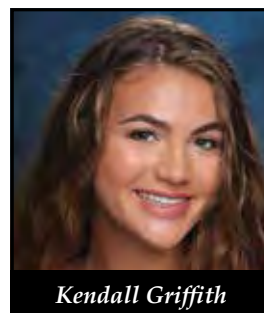
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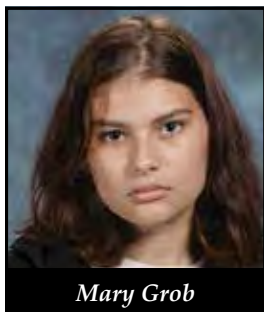
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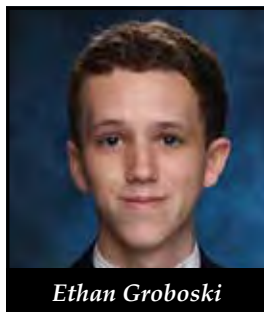
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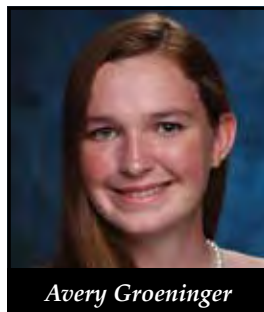
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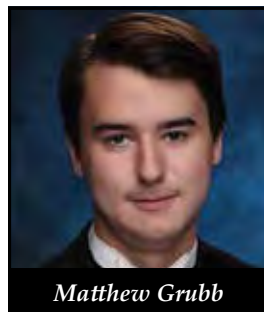
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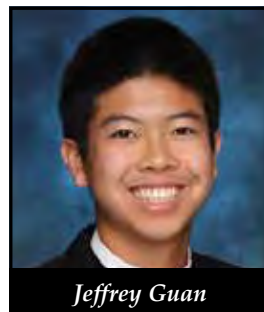
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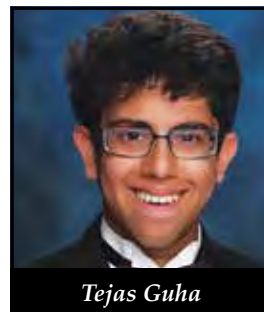
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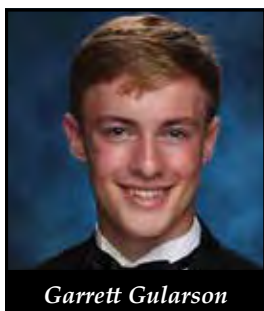
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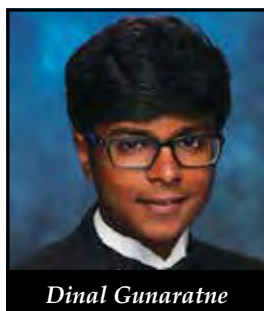
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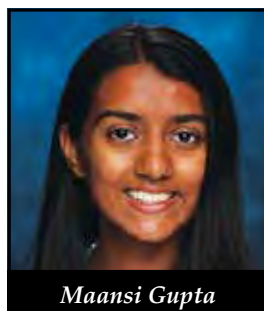
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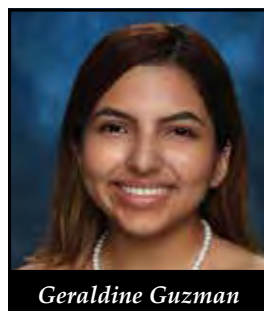
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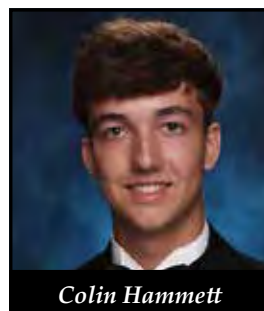
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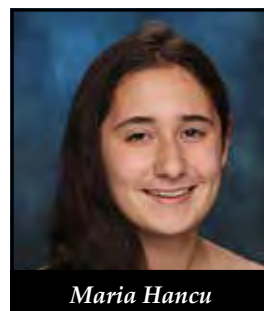
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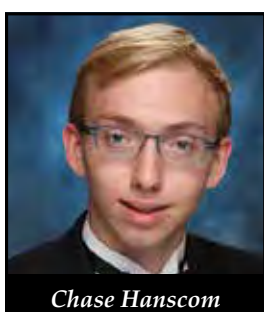
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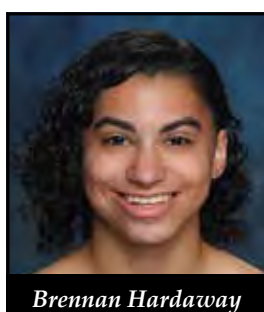
Colin Hammett



Maria Hancu



Chase Hanscom



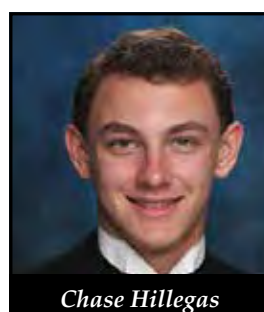
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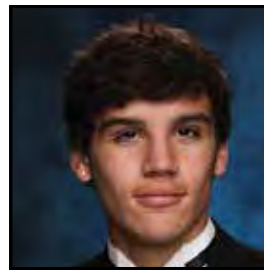
Mary Hobbs



Mandy Hsu



Justin Hui



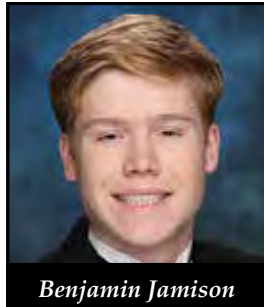
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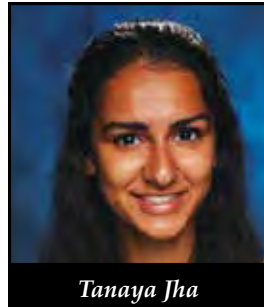
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Benjamin Jamison



Eleanor Jensen



Tanaya Jha



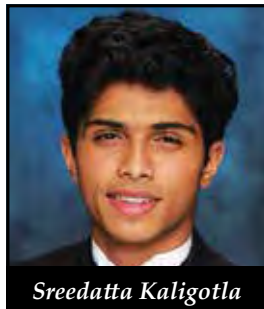
Andrew Johnson



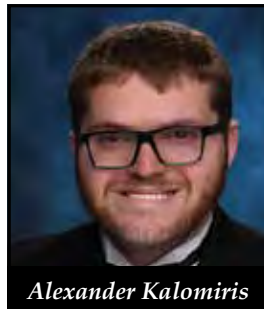
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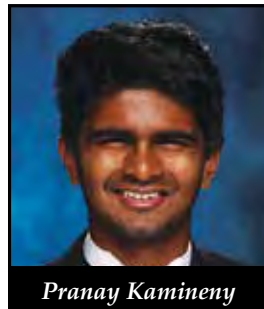
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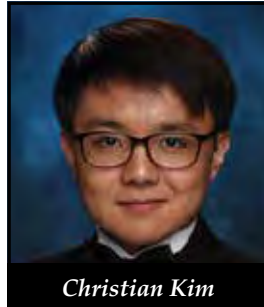
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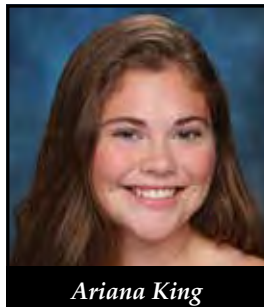
Hannah S. Kim



Katherine Kim



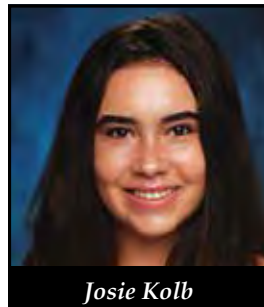
Minsu Kim



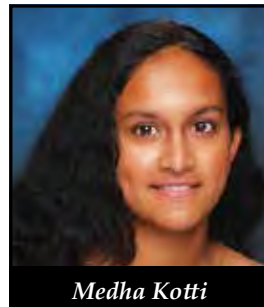
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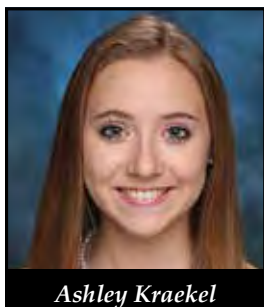
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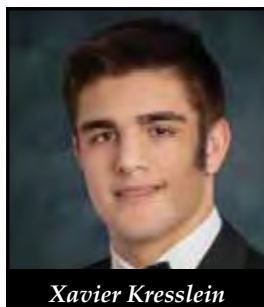
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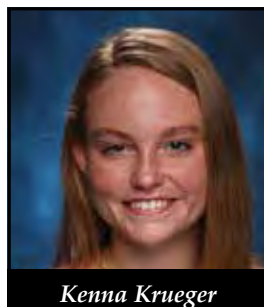
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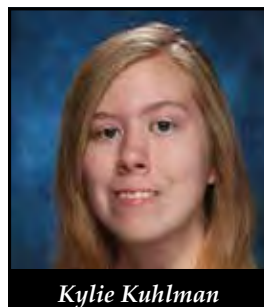
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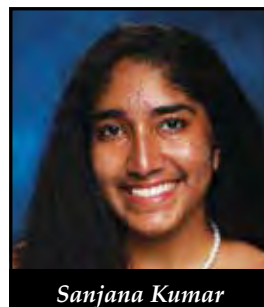
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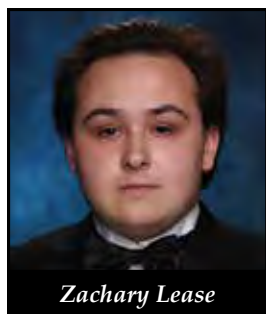
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Sanjana Kumar



Maria Lanasa



Zachary Lease



Phillip Lee



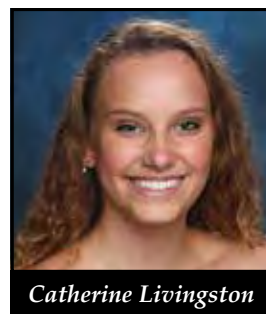
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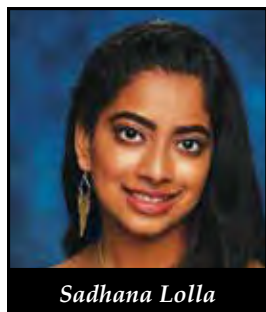
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Lindsey Lightcap



Catherine Livingston



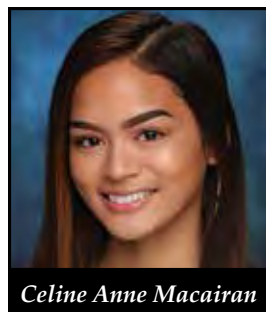
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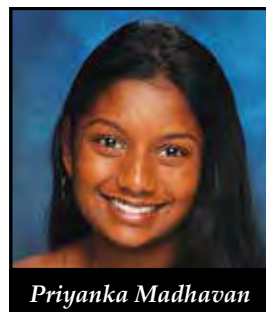
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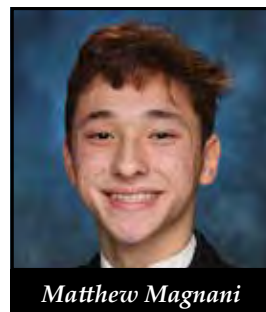
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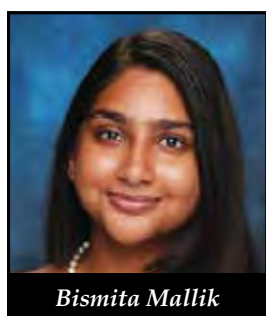
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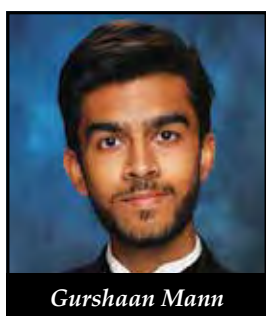
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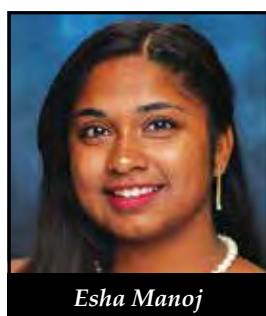
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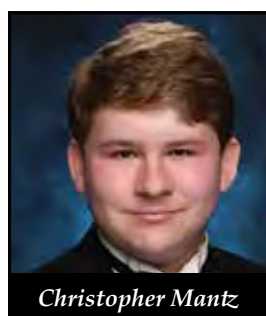
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Gurshaan Mann



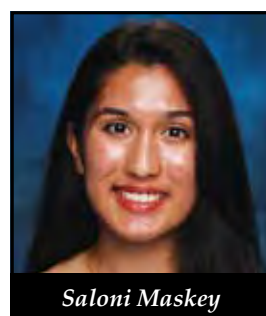
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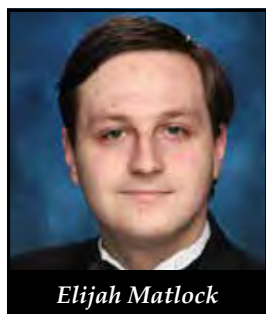
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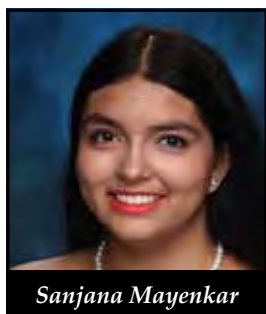
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Saloni Maskey



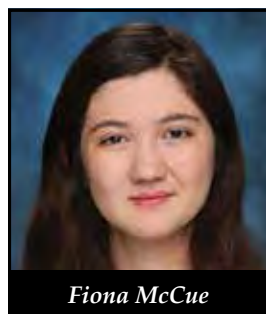
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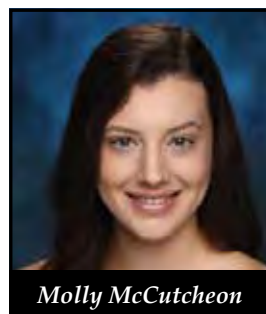
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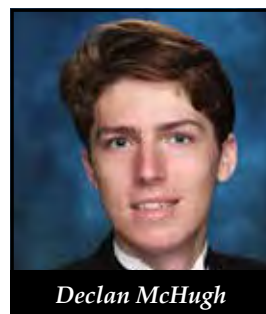
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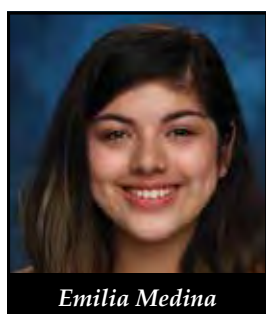
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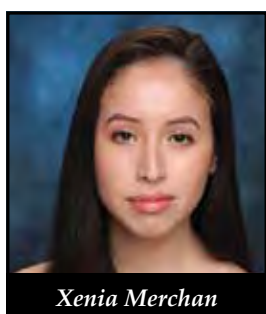
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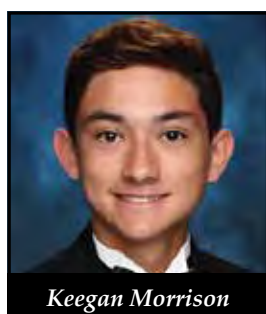
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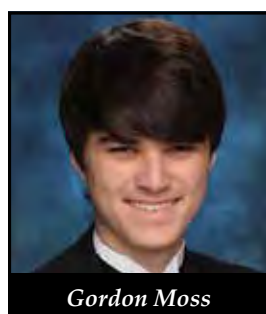
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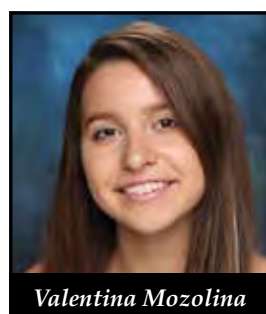
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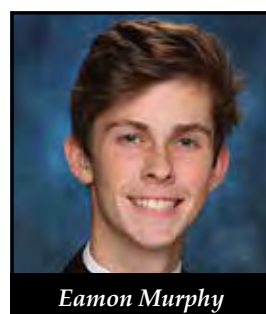
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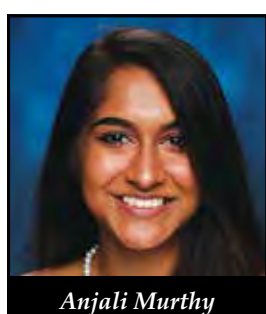
Gordon Moss



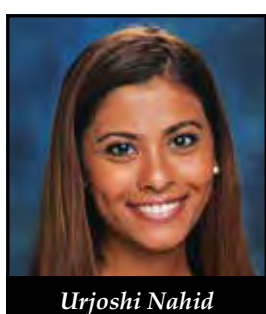
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Eamon Murphy



Anjali Murthy



Urjoshi Nahid



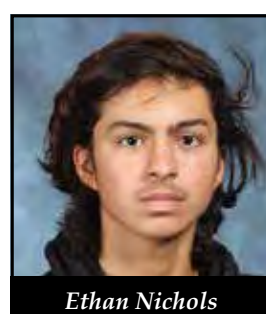
Shabarish Nair



Helena Narisu



Megan Nee



Ethan Nichols



Hina Nishida



Clare Ntumsi



Aiden Oberman



Olisaneme Okonkwo



Aidan Olcott



Rachel Onderko



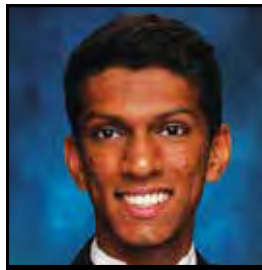
Zachary Onderko



Isabella Oprandi



Ashley Pacheco



Surya Padmanabhan



Matthew Palatnik



Roshini Parameswaran



Emma Parker



Anthony Pechenov



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Elizabeth Perelshteyn



Wasif Pervez



Elizabeth Phelps



Krishna Ponnappalli



Andrew Poore



Kaeli Potts



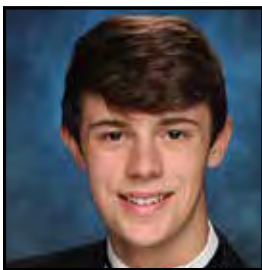
Preethi Prakash



Miriam Pustylnik



Amulya Puttaraju



Alexander Quigley



Mariam Rahman



Holly Raines



Tharakai Ramaswamy



Suraj Ratnam



Ria Rawool



Jordan Rendzio



Astrid Rentel



Madison Repass



Safiullah Rifai



Heather Robinson



Jacob Roe



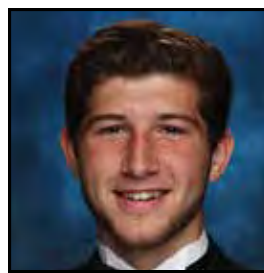
Logan Rohde



Maya Rosenbaum



Jack Rosenberg



Cole Roy



Lydia Ruan



Aidan Ryan



Skyler Sabas



Anna Sapcariu



Colin Savage



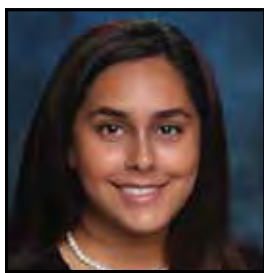
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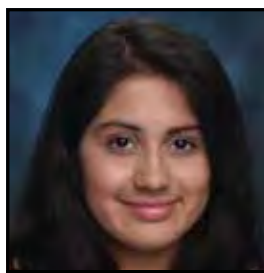
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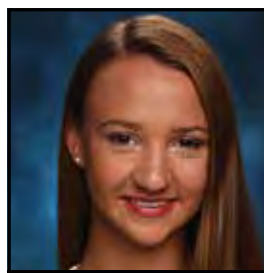
Bryanna Sellers



Imaan Shanavas



Shreya Shete



Alaina Shields



Charlie Shou



Udai Singh



Emily Singleton



Jason Sladic



Malik Smith



Micah Smith



Rowan Smith



Kenny Song



Connor Sorrell



Anya Speck-McMorris



Adhvayith Sriram



Lillian Staples



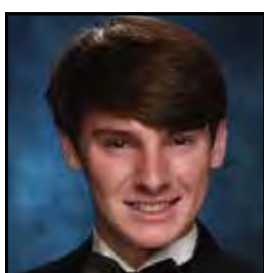
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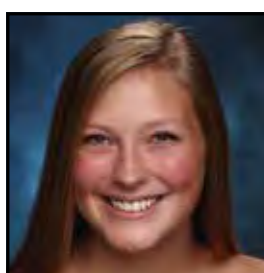
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Madeline Stempler



Thomas Stoughton



Jenna Stroud



Aditya Sudhakar



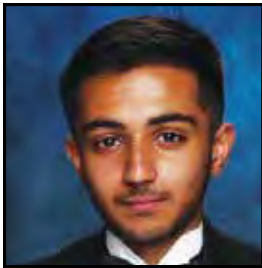
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Kelsey Szafranski



Steven Tan



Abdurrahman Tauqeer



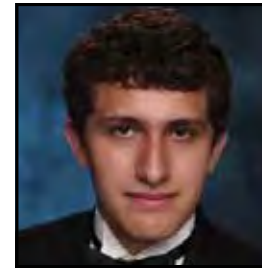
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Ethan Tievy



Rachel Tievy



Kasra Torshizi



Avi Trost



Lucas Trythall



Daniel Tuan



Megha Tummalapalli



Ethan Turner



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Bhavya Vakkalanka



Andrew Victory



Jessica Volkle



Alison Wang



Angie Wang



Isaac Wang



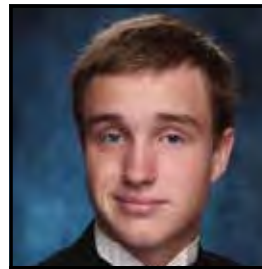
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Lila Weir



Mollie Wheeler



Joshua Widenhofer



Frank Willard



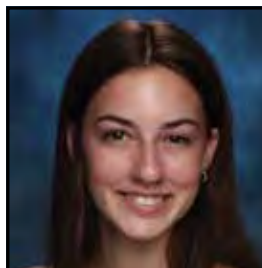
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William Xu



Tejasa Yaddula



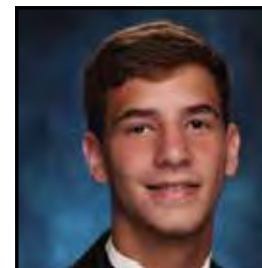
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Maxwell Yan



Joyce Yu



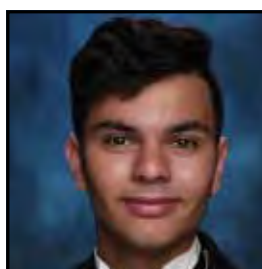
Nicholas Zehnle



Jacob Zeranski



Andrew Zhong



Noah Zolt

*Best wishes for
your next adventure!*



If we accidentally left you out of the photos or misspelled your name, let us know and we'll correct it in the next issue of the *Monocle*.

<p>Brown University -Katherine Kim -Avi Trost -Ethan Groboski</p> <p>Cabrini University -Owen Brill</p> <p>Carnegie Mellon -Christian Kim</p> <p>Christopher Newport University -Samuel Allgood</p> <p>Colorado University, Boulder -Aidan Olcott -Thomas Stoughton -Tess Insalaco -Andrew Victory</p> <p>Columbia University -Preethi Prakash</p> <p>Cornell University -Daniel Tuan -Jacob Kiviat -Amulya Puttaraju</p> <p>Duke University -Frank Willard</p> <p>East Carolina University -Kyra Bertolini</p> <p>East Connecticut University -Ariana King</p> <p>Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University -Rowan Smith</p> <p>Emory University -William Xu -Moshelle Borjigin</p> <p>Ferrum College -Jalen Inman</p> <p>Florida Institute of Technology -Matthew Grubb</p> <p>Florida International University -Kaeli Potts</p> <p>Fordham University -Alison Wang</p> <p>Furman University -Molly McCutcheon</p> <p>Gap Year -Joseph Helfert -Chase Hillegas -Alaina Shields</p> <p>George Washington University -Kelly Christensen -Nishanth Gowda -Ashley Kraekel -Abdurrahman Tauqeer</p> <p>Georgetown University -Kendall Griffith</p> <p>Georgia Institute of Technology -Elias Izmirlan -Garrett Gularson -Colin Hemingway -Minsu Kim -Miriam Pustylnik</p> <p>Geltsburg College -Jacob Roe</p> <p>Grinnell College -Ashley Pacheco</p> <p>Harvard University -Olisaneme Okonkwo</p> <p>Hawaii Pacific University -Jacob Kasten</p> <p>Hood College -Remy Anderson -Derrick Berko -Kylie Kuhlman -Makayla Lemarr -Elijah Matlock -Ashlynn Stearns</p>	<p>Indiana University of Pennsylvania -Rachel Onderko</p> <p>Kenyon College -Hannah Fedorov</p> <p>McDaniel College -Jacob Carlin -Zachary Fedders</p> <p>Maryland Institute College of Art -March Kaplan</p> <p>Michigan State University -Cole Taylor</p> <p>Massachusetts Institute of Technology -Sadhana Lolla</p> <p>Montgomery College -Sydney Allentuck -William Batres -Bakhtawar Choudhry -Jessica Conyers -Holly Cross -Isabelle Ehrentraut -Lena Elamin -William Ennis -Mallary Graham -Chase Hanscom -Marry Hobbs -Andrew Johnson -Celine Anne Macairan -Aidan Ryan -Colin Savage -Malik Smith -Lillian Staples -Colin Staszewski -Ian Vaillancourt -Megan Yadron</p> <p>Mount St. Mary's University -Sofia Allison -Yasmeen Elkoshairi -Katerina Scott</p> <p>New York University -Rohan Aluka -Andres Martinez -Maxwell Yan -Meera Barochia -Jeffrey Guan</p> <p>North Carolina State University -Zachary Onderko -Jenna Stroud</p> <p>Northeastern University -Emilia Medina</p> <p>Northwestern University -Matthew Palatnik</p> <p>Ohio State University -Adam Eisenhardt -Elizabeth Perelshteyn</p> <p>Pennsylvania State University -Caroline Field -Madeleine Johnston -Alyson Gotlewski -Shirley Chen</p> <p>Purdue University -Rachael Behrend</p> <p>Quinnipiac University -Aidan Oberman</p> <p>Rice University -Maria Hancu</p> <p>Rochester Institute of Technology -Alexander Kalomiris -Luka Brizhik</p> <p>Salisbury University -Connor Dorsey -Samuel Bodmer -Madison Folk -Logan Rohde -Connor Sorrell -Jacob Zeranski -Kenna Krueger</p> <p>Sarah Lawrence College -Grace Carter</p>	<p>Seattle Pacific University -Eleanor Jensen</p> <p>Shepherd University -Maya Rosenbaum</p> <p>Stevens Institute of Technology -Anya Speck-McMorris</p> <p>Stevenson University -Bryanna Sellers</p> <p>Syracuse University -Alexander Leff -Sophia Durmowicz -Heather Robinson</p> <p>The College of William and Mary -Nicholas Zehnle</p> <p>Thomas Jefferson University -Medha Kotti</p> <p>Tokyo University -Hina Nishida</p> <p>Towson University -Colin Hammett -Keegan Morrison -Madeline Stempler -Kelsey Szafranski</p> <p>University of Alabama -Brianna Hobbs -Samantha Kellogg</p> <p>University of California, Berkeley -Charlie Shou -Mahi Ganatra</p> <p>University of Delaware -Olivia Burdick -Madison Repass</p> <p>University of Denver -Shreya Surendra</p> <p>University of Maryland, Baltimore County -Macawan Luu -Bismita Mallik -Krishna Ponnappalli -Lucas Trythall</p> <p>University of North Carolina, Wilmington -Kelsey Szafranski</p> <p>University of Florida -Zachary Goldstein</p> <p>University of Georgia -Lauren Penn</p> <p>University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign -Dinal Gunaratne</p> <p>University of Indiana -Pallavi Battina</p> <p>University of Kentucky -Joisie Kolb</p> <p>University of Maryland -Islah Abdulmalek -Aaron Aben -Aneesh Acharya -Hisham Ahmad -Joseph Arida -June Barash -Bradford Blair -Solomiya Brannman -Madeline Brode -Ishita Chatterjee -Daniel Chen -Robert Chen -Catherine Cherfan -Caroline Dorr -Rithik Endlur -Aileen Foley -Jacob Fruth -Neil Gosh -Avery Groeninger -Tejas Guha -Maansi Gupta</p>	<p>University of Maryland (Continued) -Brennan Hardaway -Mandy Hsu -Tanaya Jha -Rakshan Joshi -Sreedatta Kaligotia -Pranay Bhargav Kaminery -Akshay Kandakumar -Hannah S. Kim -Benjamin Kovich -Sanjana Kumar -Maria Lanasa -Michelle Lu -Gurshaan Mann -Esha Manoj -Christopher Mantz -Sanjana Mayenkar -Fiona McCue -Declan McHugh -Xenia Merchan -Gordon Moss -Anjali Murthy -Urjoshi Nahid -Megan nee -Clare Ntumsi -Surya Padmanabhan -Anthony Pechenov -Wasif Pervez -Andrew Poore -Mariam Rahman -Suraj Ratnam -Ria Rawool -Lydia Ruan -Shreya Shete -Udai Singh -Jason Sladic -Staven Tan -Ethan Tievy -Rachel Tievy -Kasra Torshizi -Megha Tummalapalli -Bhavya Vakkalanka -Isaac Wang -James Wang -Joshua Widenhofer -Tejasa Yaddula -Joyce Yu -Andrew Zhong -Alexander Quigley</p> <p>University of Massachusetts, Amherst -Tharakai Ramaswamy</p> <p>University of Massachusetts, Boston -Cole Roy</p> <p>University of Michigan -Priyanka Madhavan -Jack Rosenberg</p> <p>University of Michigan, Dearborn -Lila Weir</p> <p>University of New Hampshire -Mary Deffinbaugh</p> <p>University of Pittsburgh -Kobey Davenport -Sabrina Edwards -Christine Gong -Justin Hui -Saloni Maskey -Hallie Maytin -Anna Sapcariu -Imaan Shanavas</p> <p>University of South Carolina -Lindsey Lightcap -Catherine Livingston -Eamon Murphy -Emily Singleton -Jessica Volkie -Phillip Lee</p> <p>University of Tennessee -Aditya Sudhakar</p> <p>University of Texas at Austin -Adhvayith Sriram</p> <p>University of Tokyo -Helena Narisu</p>	<p>University of Toronto -Astrid Rentel</p> <p>University of Vermont -Ethan Turner</p> <p>University of Virginia -Julianna Hitchcock</p> <p>US Merchant Marine Academy -Jordan Rendzio -Maxwell Fisher</p> <p>Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University -Ann Dahlman -Joseph Esser -Xavier Kresslein -Angie Wang</p> <p>Wake Forest University -Geraldine Guzman</p> <p>Washington University in St. Louis -Matthew Magnani</p> <p>Wellesley College -Elizabeth Phelps</p> <p>West Virginia University -Holly Raines -Brennan Wittwer</p> <p>Westminster College -Emma Parker</p> <p>Worldwide -Zachary Lease -Justin Fisher -James Savage</p> <p>Still Considering Options -Amani Abbey -Amol Agrawal -Aziza Amani -David Barkdoll -Juan Barron -Shaun Bolten -Kyle Burns -Cameron Carney -Fernando Carranza -Bradley Christ -Mikayla Claiborne -Ajda Connell -Nicholas Ferguson -William (Owen) Fry -Mary Grob -Shabarish Nair -Ethan Nichols -Safiullah Rifal -Skyler Sabas</p>
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**CONGRATULATIONS,
POOLESVILLE
FALCONS!**

**03
02
31
14**

STUDENTS
Traveling Internationally

STUDENTS
Attending Military Academies

NUMBER OF
States Represented

STUDENTS
Playing Varsity Sports





Tribute

Fred Swick: Tributes to a Coach, Friend, and More

By Jeff Stuart

By the time the recently-retired Fred Swick accepted the Athletic Director position at Poolesville High School in 2006, he was already the winningest boys' basketball coach at Poolesville and the winningest girls' basketball coach. He had similar success coaching baseball for thirteen years. He also coached football for ten years and softball for four years, and he taught five classes a day for thirty-two years.

"My first head coaching job was as the boys' varsity basketball head coach at Einstein from 1979 to 1983," said Swick. "I tried to improve as a coach by reading and watching current coaching videos. I tried to coach as if I were coaching my own kids, teaching them to be prepared each day, whether it was practice or game or in life, to do their job. My favorite memories were the relationships I had with the kids even after they graduated. There is nothing I'd redo. I was out of coaching three years as the AD from 2006 to 2009."

There was more. Fred returned to coaching in 2010. In the last five years, the girls' basketball team went 20-4 in 2015, 21-4 in 2016, 27-0 in 2017, 19-5 in 2018, and 20-5 in 2019. Of course, the undefeated 2017 season brought Poolesville its first Girls' State Basketball Championship. Fred was named the Montgomery County Sentinel Coach of the Year.

"First, I would like to congratulate Coach Swick on his retirement from coaching," said current PHS Athletic Director Gina Grubb. "There are so many wonderful things I could say about Fred as a coach, person, and most of all someone I can call a great friend. He has positively impacted so many young people through his years of coaching. He has worked with all levels of abilities and has been able to get the most out of each of his players. He always looked to grow as a coach and make necessary changes in his style of play for his teams to be successful. He was a leader, mentor, and a positive role model for each and every player that went through his program. He is a legend in the Poolesville community and will be deeply missed on the sidelines. I know he is going to enjoy watching his grandchildren grow in the activities they love, and we hope to see him at PHS watching and cheering on our teams."

"Swick is someone I looked up to even before he was my coach," said Erin Green, a big part of the championship season. "He's been a figurehead at Poolesville for so many years, and I am so honored that I got to be a part of the state championship team and undefeated season my senior year. Since playing in college, I have used a lot of what he has taught me and applied it to my game at the collegiate level. I am so grateful for everything that he has done for the basketball program and the community as a whole! We will miss him dearly, but the legacy he leaves will be remembered forever."

"Coach Swick was a great coach through my four years at PHS on and off the court," said Kelliann Lee, another prominent member of that title team. "He pushed me to become a better player and leader for the team. I liked that he was always focused on us playing our best no matter who we were playing and what their or our standings were. He never let any distractions affect us playing basketball. Coach Swick has continued to be my coach and friend after graduation. He is a genuinely goodhearted guy, and I think the whole Poolesville community is thankful for Coach Swick."

Fred went to Richard Montgomery High School where he played basketball from 1967 to 1969. He was voted Second Team All-County in 1969. He attended Montgomery College from 1969 to 1971. He was named to the First Team All-State Junior College Team at MC in 1971. He graduated from Frostburg State, where he also played basketball, in 1974.

Here are a few random items from his basketball career. On January 2, 1972, Fred, a 6'3" guard scored twenty-two points for Frostburg on a Czechoslovakian basketball tour in a 76-74 loss to Spartlake Roudnice. On February 17, 1971, Swick scored twenty-one as Montgomery Junior College trounced Essex Community College, 96-72.

At Richard Montgomery and at Frostburg, he played with Jim Rigglesman, the former manager for the Washington Nationals. "My long-term relationship and friendship with Fred go back to Broome Junior High School," said Rigglesman. "He was a year ahead of me in school. We were teammates in high school and in

Continued on page 30.



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Continued from page 3.

Town Commissioners Hold Public Hearings on Zoning Text Amendments

regulating jurisdiction cannot propose a new use for that land. He added that the town should take note of that precedent.

Finally, Tom Kettler, whose firm Kettler-Forlines has long built houses in Poolesville, said that the ordinances were “spot-zoning proposals” which would “take a property and write rules to fit it.” He asked about specific aspects of the proposal, such as why it covers only properties that are “more than 1.5 acres.” He also said that the BZA has a process already in place for special exception proposals like the Donegan plan.

It was mentioned again during the discussion period that around fifty comments were submitted by citizens, the vast bulk of which supported the ordinances and/or opposed the Donegan plan. Commissioner Martin Radigan said that the advice the commission had been given is that the proposed ordinances are legal. Commissioner Valaree Dickerson said she is not in favor of a 7-11 “that close to the elementary school,” but she is also worried that the town may get involved in a lawsuit. Commissioner Jim Brown asked, “Why the rush to adopt the proposal” and asked whether the public had seen the letter submitted by Jay Donegan questioning the need for the ordinances and their legality.

The commissioners decided to hold an executive session to obtain further advice from legal counsel about the ordinances.

In the public announcements segment of the meeting, Commission President Kerri Cook remarked upon numerous activities in the Poolesville area related to the protests in the wake of the murder of George Floyd. The commission adopted a proclamation on the issue that reads as follows:

“We, the Commissioners of the Town of Poolesville, along with our fellow residents, stand against all forms of bigotry, discrimination, and hate. We condemn, in the strongest terms, institutional, structural, and individual racism. In alignment with our stated goal of striving to create a safe and welcoming community, the Commissioners unequivocally value human rights, peace, respect, inclusivity, and equity, and recognize that we derive strength from diversity. We know that we cannot change the past, but we can learn from it, work together, and make the future better.”




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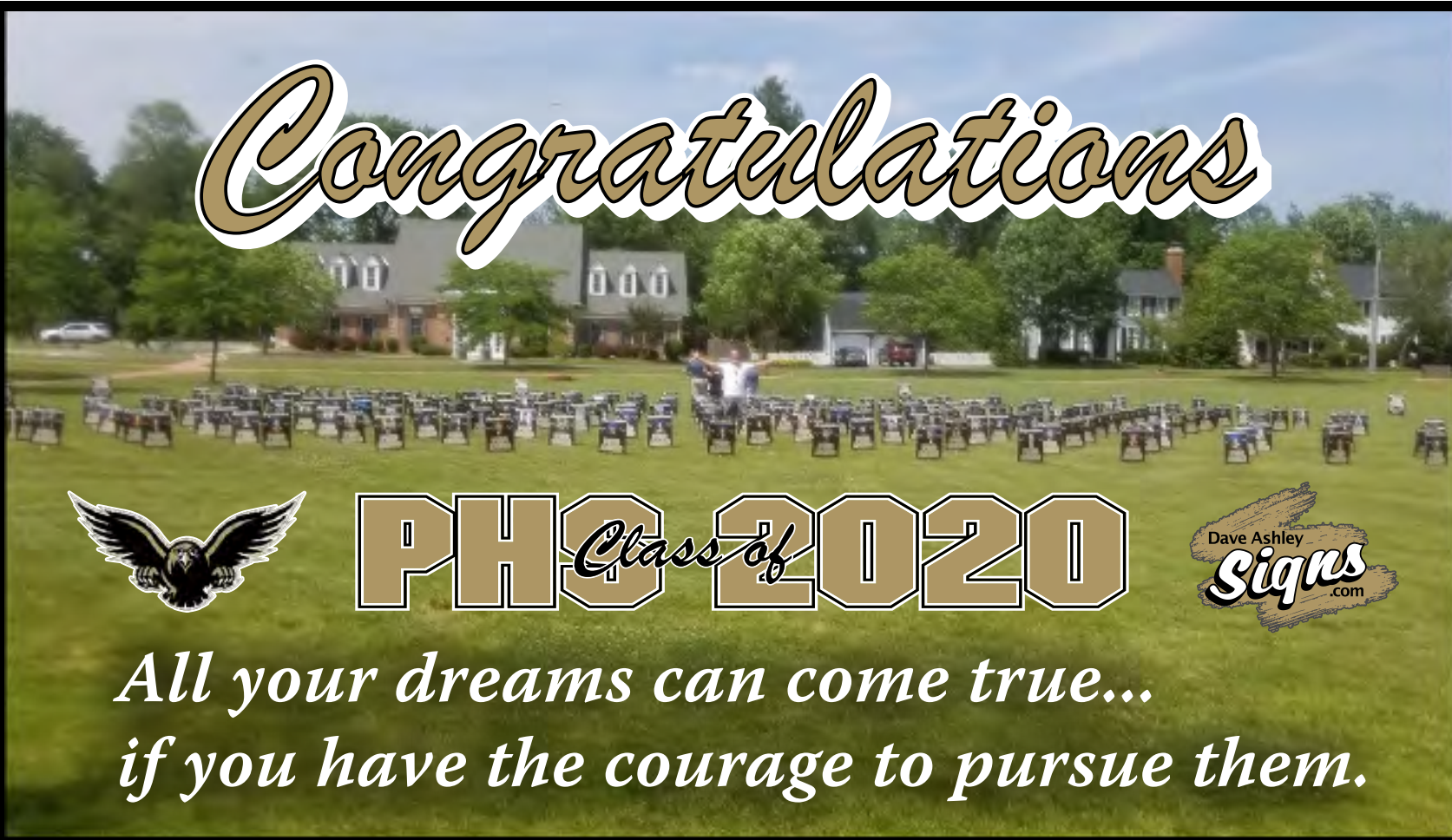
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Remembrance

Winsome S. Brown

Winsome S. Brown, a homemaker and community volunteer, passed away on June 3 at home in Dickerson at the age of 97.

The former Winsome Sylvia Drage was born in Bozeat, England. She was the daughter of Cyril Neal Drage and Phyllis Scouse.

In 1946, she married R. Edwin Brown whom she met in England when he was stationed nearby at the Poddington Air Base during World War II.

During WWII, Winsome was a veteran of the British Land Army and a long-time member of the Daughters of the British Empire. Mrs. Brown was also a founding member and past president of both the Historical Medley Society and the Monocacy Garden Club. She was a longtime member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church and on numerous church committees, including the Altar Guild, the Flower Guild, the Vestry, and as a Sunday School teacher. "She did the tasks and chores that needed to be done, not for the recognition, but for helping others," said her son, Herbert Brown.

An inveterate world traveler, she had visited all seven continents, including trips to Russia, China, and South America. Besides her many travels, she was an avid gardener and knitter.

Winsome was preceded in death by her husband, Ed Brown, of 73 years; sisters, Kathleen Elderton and Alison Botterill; and two brothers, Malcolm and Ian Drage.

She is survived by three sons, Malcolm Brown and companion, Carolyn Benson of Charleston, South Carolina, Herbert Brown and wife, Joyce, of Dickerson, and Neal Brown and wife, Colleen, of Dickerson; one daughter, Phyllis Brown and husband Paul Swensen of Towson; one brother, Graham Drage of Bozeat, England; ten grandchildren; and thirteen great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to St. Peter's Episcopal Church, PO Box 387, Poolesville, MD 20837.



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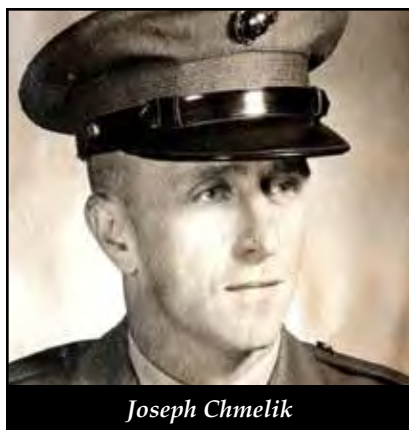


Remembrance

Joseph Chmelik

A great man died Memorial Day weekend on the Catholic Church's Feast of the Ascension of Jesus Christ.

Joe will be fondly remembered not as a celebrity entertainer although he could spin wonderful stories, or a noted politician although he could illuminate current issues with common sense, but as a loving husband, exemplary father, enthusiastic home-schooling grandfather, wholehearted



Joseph Chmelik

Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus, commendable golfer, zealous lifelong learner, proud marine, and dedicated patriot.

Joe Chmelik, 89, lived his life with a strong Catholic faith, alongside his wife, Pat, of 62 years, rearing, directing, educating, and loving his close-knit family.

Born in Oak Park, Illinois, on June 28, 1930 to Arthur Francis and Belle Chmelik, Joe was one of three children in a home of faith and hard work and love during the Great Depression.

A 1955 U.S. Naval Academy graduate with a major in Electrical Engineering, Joe served twenty years as a marine, including two tours of Vietnam as an infantry officer. As a captain with the 3rd Marine Division, he was awarded the Bronze Star with Valor. At great personal risk, he participated in numerous reconnaissance patrols to gather intelligence information on hostile forces confronting his unit which minimized casualties in the assigned mission. Once stateside and while on active duty, he earned an MBA (Accounting) from the University of Chicago and an MPA (Computer Sciences) from American University. Later, he served for eighteen years at the Smithsonian Institution and retired in 1993 as the business manager.

Survivors include: wife, Patricia Ann; daughter, Rosemarie (Gregory) Kinney; and sons, William (Lee Ann), James (Colleen), Joseph (Julie, deceased), Thomas (JillJoyce), Edward (Kelly), Anthony (Rebecca); thirty-seven grandchildren; and thirty-five great-grandchildren.

A Mass of Christian burial was held on June 6, 2020 at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Barnesville.

Continued from page 5.

Tidbits

brother, Jackson. Everywhere she goes somebody stops and comments on her bright blue eyes and contagious smile. Kennedy is also following in her mother's footsteps who was crowned Baby America in 1988. Her grandmother, Jeanne Glover, was also a pageant queen. ECUSA is one of the most prestigious in the country. They provide their contestants with unique opportunities to get involved with their community, print modeling jobs, runways, acting, new coverage, and much more. Due to COVID-19, they created a virtual city pageant where contestants sent in a headshot and a thirty-second video modeling formalwear. In September, Kennedy will be traveling to New Jersey to represent Poolesville as she competes for the National Title!

Romeo the Cat Is Still Missing

He was last seen at his home in Brightwell Crossing (18014 Bliss Drive) on May 17, 2020.

He is mostly white with orange ears, an orange-and-white-striped tail and some orange on his back. He has blue eyes and a slight head tilt to the left. Please call/text with any information at 301-922-3301. A \$1000.00 reward is being offered for his safe return.

Fun Fact...

June is National Accordion Awareness Month, as well as Candy, Dairy, and Papaya Month.



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Remembrance

Eleanor Ferguson Mackintosh

Eleanor Ferguson Mackintosh, of Adamstown, passed away on June 1, 2020 at her winter home in Vero Beach, Florida at the age of 93.

The former Eleanor Kyles Ferguson was born in Statesville, North Carolina on September 21, 1926. She was the eldest daughter of Thomas Wiley Ferguson and Edith Rebecca Kyles.

Ellie was raised with her three sisters on a farm in the rural village of Ferguson, located in western North Carolina, which to this day has remained in the Ferguson family since the late 1700s. She was educated in Wilkes County Public Schools, and later attended the women's college of the University of North Carolina and Flora MacDonald College in Red Springs, North Carolina. After World War II, she left the farm to find employment in Washington, D.C., where she met U.S. Navy veteran Earl M. Mackintosh, Jr. at a social event. They were married in Lenoir, North Carolina on December 4, 1948.

The Mackintoshes settled in Bethesda, where they raised six children. After purchasing a farm in southern Frederick County in 1959, Earl and Ellie chose to make Loch Moy Farm their permanent home in 1972. They later found comfort in a winter home in Vero Beach, Florida.

Mrs. Mackintosh was always on the go. There were always projects, with none left unfinished. She was very artistically talented, and those skills were displayed in her gardening, flower arranging, antique furniture refinishing, and needle pointing to name a few. She was very involved in a number of clubs where her talents could be utilized. She was a skillful and determined tennis player. For a period of time, she owned and operated a boutique shop called the Little Red Apple in Vero Beach.

Earl and Ellie loved to travel. They literally cruised the world. When the children were still in school, they purchased a twenty-seven-foot motorhome. Often, for weeks at a time, they packed up all the kids and an occasional family friend or two and drove throughout the U.S., visiting national parks and every state capital in the lower forty-eight. Earl would start every trip playing his favorite eight-track tape of Petula Clark singing "Downtown!" Ellie and all passengers would sing along with Earl in terrible off-key sounds!

Over the years, Ellie was active with the Florence Crittenton Services of Greater Washington, a nonprofit which provides a helping hand to unwed mothers and their children. She was a member of the Order of the Good Samaritan associated with Frederick Health. Socially, she was a member of Four Seasons Garden Club, The Questers 1944 Chapter #10, and Columbia County Club, each in Montgomery County, as well as Johns Island Club in Vero Beach, Florida. Ellie was the original penultimate volunteer and course decorator for the Maryland Horse Trials at Loch Moy Farm from its inception. She was a longtime member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville. She cherished the many devoted friends she had in Frederick County.

Eleanor was preceded in death by her husband, Earl in 1998; sisters, Elizabeth "Betty" Underwood in 1986 and Edith Marie "Effie" Carter in 2014.

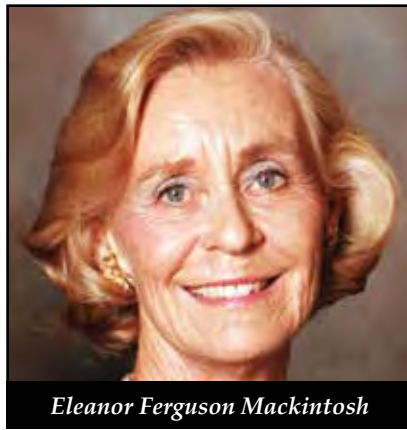
She is survived by her six children, Earl, III "Rocky" (Nancy), Carolyn (Robert "Bob" Martin), Thomas "Tom" (Dale), Andrew "Andy" (Nancie), Stephen "Buzz" (Melissa), and James "Jim" and his companion Vicki Gates, all of Adamstown. She is also survived by her sister Carolina "Tina" Finley of North Wilkesboro, North Carolina, and her sister-in-law Doris Mackintosh Russell of Castine, Maine.

Ellie deeply loved all of her twenty grandchildren and sixteen great-grandchildren. She was also very excited that numbers seventeen and eighteen are soon to arrive next month.

During the last decade of her life, she suffered from Parkinson's disease and was lovingly cared for by Novlette Whyte of Fort Pierce, Florida, who was always dutifully by her side no matter where she traveled.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made in her name to Frederick Health, Development Office, 400 West 7th Street, Frederick, MD 21701.

Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at www.staufferfuneralhome.com.



Eleanor Ferguson Mackintosh

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Continued from page 24.

Fred Swick: Tributes to a Coach, Friend, and More

college. Fred had all the attributes you look for in a man, and an athlete and a teammate, a coach and a leader. He was just a total class act. He was calm, very humble, very quiet, very unassuming. He was kind of a fun guy. He had a quick subtle wit. He would come up with funny things to say that would keep us loose. We called him a 'quiet assassin' on the basketball court. He didn't demand the ball, but we wanted to get the ball to him because he was our best shooter."

"When you say the name Fred Swick, the first thing that comes to mind is G.O.A.T, short for Greatest of All Time," said Town of Poolesville Commissioner Jim Brown. "Fred will go down as one of the best coaches in Montgomery County history, if not all of Maryland. His coaching job during his Poolesville varsity girls' recent run to the state championship was pure Fred—steady hand on the throttle when needed while always out-coaching his opponent and getting maximum Smart Effort from his own team.

"The fifteen years Fred and I have run the Falcon Basketball Camp together have been some of the best weeks of our lives. Every year, the staff (including Fred's daughter Kelly and my main man Ted Gardiner) can't wait to catch up, talk hoops, and hang out with our Poolesville kids all week. It seems like half the camp, coaches and players, are somehow related to the Swicks! Thanks to Fred, it's truly a family affair, and that translates to a great camp experience for our kids. I'm super happy to be a part of his family, and I can't wait to see Fred's wry grin and crooked finger at our next Falcon Basketball Camp! Love him like a brother."

"Fred has completed his career as he began it," said former Poolesville Athletic director Ed Ross. "He was always the standard of steadiness and professionalism as an excellent teacher-coach. He was loved by his players and well respected by their parents."

"Coach was very dedicated to his student-athlete," said Amy Poffenbarger, the coach of the Middletown High School girls' basketball team that had a memorable playoff game with Poolesville in that 2017 season. "When it came to basketball, he always had his girls prepared to play. I knew at the end of the season I would receive an email from coach, he is very generous with his time and knowledge. His emails are always very complimentary of our season and wishing us the best of luck for the next year. I know if I ever have a question or need advice, he is just a phone call away or an email. He was a blessing to our sport but mostly a blessing to his student-athletes. God Bless and thank you, Coach!"

"Swick has always been my favorite coach to play for," said former player Whitney Carmack. "He knew how to bring out the best in every player, and he always pushed me in finding my potential in basketball, but more importantly he showed me how to be a leader for my team and my community."

"I have had the honor and privilege of coaching with Fred Swick for the past ten years," said new girls' basketball coach Katie Hackey. "I have learned so much from him, not only about basketball, but the importance of relationships with our players, parents, coaches, and the community. Coach Swick has touched so many lives in his time here at Poolesville with his expertise and knowledge of the game, his work ethic and, last but not least, his personality. He will be missed by the entire Poolesville community and me. He has left big shoes to fill, and I will strive to do my best to make him and the program proud."

"It was a pleasure to not only have had Coach Swick as a mentor but to have been able to play for him for four years," said former player and current assistant coach Kelsey Carnahan. "He has made a huge impact on girls' basketball in the Poolesville Community. Coach Hackey and I will have big shoes to fill, but we are excited and eager for the opportunity,"

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Celebrating 31 Years of Service

To the Poolesville High School Graduates of 2020

By Peter H. Eeg, BSc, DVM, CVLF

No one knows when their unique moment in time will come. Many go through life never fully knowing if they even had that crystalline moment that gave them a choice of two roads to travel. That is not the case for the Poolesville High School Class of 2020.

The tiniest of creatures, a virus, unleashed a conflagration of events that coalesced to create one of the most unique and crystalline moments in modern recorded time. The accepted normal was erased. Lives were changed, shifted, and perspectives altered in a way that has not been seen since 1918, the Great Wars, and 9/11.

Now you stand before the two great roads. One leads to the cage of regret: What if? Why me? Unfair! No way forward. The other leads to a rocket which can propel you to achieve beyond anything anyone has done before.

If you choose the cage there is no shame. You will accept who and what you are and will live your life safe from future storms.

If you choose the rocket, strap in. You will be the creator of your New Normal. You will cast off any doubt that 2020 failed you. Instead, you will rally yourself, your friends, your family, and your peers to be the expansive positive future you can envision. Seek to exponentially increase your passion with knowledge for the sake of knowledge. Look to harness science, art, and religion to propel you upward to your greatest of positive vistas. Set the path for you to become a leader that will give others a rallying point, a builder of ideas, a focal point of hope to lift all spirits and minds. Embrace the environment as a part of you, an extension of who you are not a thing to be ignored. Study it, nurture it, and seek to understand how you relate to every creature in its mosaic. Create new business models that minimize waste and maximize productivity and renewability. Become the explosion of technology and computer A.I. that will speed our way to planetary stability and universal expansion to the stars. Be your future. Do not be carried away by it.

We wish you all the best, all the joy, all the success and all the splendor your life can hold. Now seize this crystalline moment in time and ride it like a rocket to your place in the future.

Peace,

Peter H. Eeg, DVM and the members of the Poolesville Veterinary Clinic.

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