

# VIKING VOICE

A Magazine for Lyndon Institute alumni, parents, and friends.



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# VIKING VOICE

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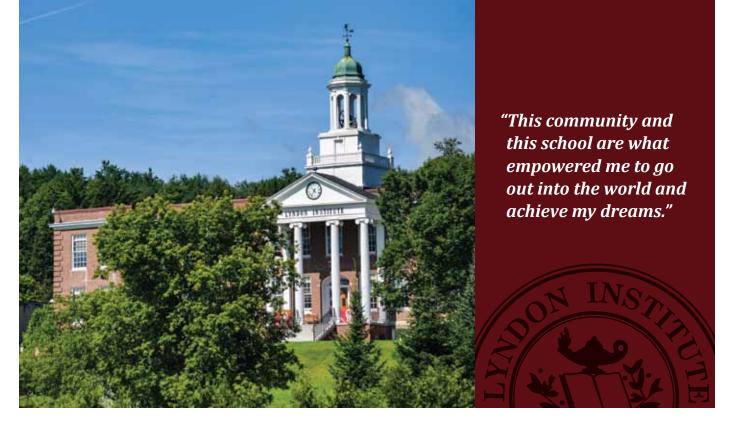
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Lyndon Institute Viking Voice is published twice a year by the Development Office. We welcome submissions for publication and letters in response to articles. Please send submissions to Director of Development, Melissa Hall, by email to Melissa.Hall@lyndoninstitute.org.



# Dear Alumni and Friends of Lyndon Institute,

**IN OUR MORE THAN 150 YEARS**, Lyndon Institute has produced thousands upon thousands of alumni, over 8,000 of whom are still living today. Our alumni are senior executives, successful business owners and entrepreneurs, world-class artists, award-winning authors, decorated military veterans, international sports champions, and trades and businesspeople from all walks of life.

Also among their number is a new head of school. In January, as I proudly accepted the position of LI's head of school (after serving as interim since July), I was reminded many times over of the power of strong communities and strong schools like ours. Many members of the community have approached me to share how important it is to them that my appointment acknowledges the value of an LI education as a precursor to going on to do wonderful things. While I am proud to be the first female head in our school's long history, I am equally proud to be one of only a few alumni selected for that role.

Looking back, I was fortunate to grow up in a community that values its children and works hard to ensure their success in their chosen path in life. From Powers Park to the Outing Club, Little League to Soccer League, Cobleigh Library, Burklyn Arts, and more, many opportunities are provided to the young people of this area. I would particularly like to thank the faculty and staff at LI for their dedication to the education of our young people. Their work cheering on our recent, and not-so-recent, graduates is what makes our alumni community the vibrant and successful group they are today.

This community and this school are what empowered me to go out into the world and achieve my dreams and I know that the same is true for countless alumni. Whether their dreams took them them far afield to raise a family, start a business, or build a career or kept them here in Vermont, I know that LI, played a very special role in helping to ensure that those dreams could come true, just like mine did.

Jwiladawn Perry '77

Head of School



## Twiladawn Perry Announced as Head of School



Head of School Twiladawn Perry

A 1977 GRADUATE of Lyndon Institute and East Lyndon native, Twiladawn (Wakefield) Perry was named the permanent head of school at LI in January, 2018 after serving as the interim head since July, 2017. Perry is Lyndon Institute's 20<sup>TH</sup> head and the first female headmaster in our 150-year history.

Prior to her time at LI, Perry worked at Concord School and

North Country Junior High School. She was employed as a special educator in both school systems. Perry has been employed by Lyndon Institute for 25 years. During that time she has worked as a special educator, director of special education, director of career and technical education, assistant head of curriculum and instruction, and most recently, as interim head of school.

"The Board is confident that Twila, who has served LI well in her role as interim head of school since last July, is the right leader for our school at this time. Moving forward, we believe that her deep knowledge of LI and her strong commitment to our community will help to ensure that LI experiences positive growth and ongoing success," stated James C. Gallagher, '63, the LI board of trustees president, upon her appointment. "We are thankful that Twila stepped in to serve as interim during a transitional time. Her leadership and background have been extremely valuable, and we look forward to working with her as she continues her work in support of our students and our school."



# LI Theater Company Presents The Importance of Being Earnest

OSCAR WILDE'S CLASSIC COMEDY OF MANNERS, The

Importance of Being Earnest, made an appearance on the LI Theater Company stage in March. The story unfolds in 1890s England, when two young bachelors take to bending the truth about their identities to add excitement to their lives. Jack Worthing invents a brother, Ernest, whom he uses as an excuse to leave his dull life in the country and visit the lovely Gwendolen in London. Algernon Moncrieff, Jack's close friend and confidant, assumes the name of Ernest in order to meet Jack's young and beautiful ward, Cecily, at the country manor. Things go awry when they come together in the country and their deceptions are discovered, threatening to spoil their romantic pursuits.

With artistic direction by Laura Wayne, Lyndon Institute's theater company director, this production featured Lyndon Institute's talented young actors and technicians who tackled the stylized comedy with extraordinary aptitude.



#### **Automated Wood Heat**

**DANIELS HALL AND PRESCOTT HOUSE** were outfitted with efficient, automated wood pellet boilers in the late fall 2017. The buildings include LI's math department and athletics and health offices. These are classrooms and offices that are visited by and supportive of every student at the school. The new boilers will displace roughly 2,500 gallons of fuel oil that had been utilized annually to heat these buildings prior to the installation.

Multiple public funding sources supported the installation. The school received a grant from USDA Rural Development's Community Facilities program as well

as incentives from state and local organizations like The Vermont Clean Energy Development Fund, Efficiency Vermont, and the Northern Forest Center's Modern Wood Heat program (the latter made possible by a grant from Northern Border Regional Commission). These organizations, like LI, recognize that heating with wood is a valuable way to strengthen the local economy while also cutting carbon emissions and retaining the wooded landscape.



Lyndon Institute students in advance of their impressive performance at the Granite State Certamen. Left front to back: Angela Kubicke, Joleil Whitney, Andre Cronmiller, Chris Vanderhoof, Julian Stahler, Aidan Maxwell. Right front to back: Stella Smith, Fred Blinkenberg, Abbie Ham, Jocelynn Tran, Tristan Miller, Grace Pearce

#### Students Find Success at the Granite State Certamen

LATIN STUDENTS COMPETED IN THE GRANITE STATE CERTAMEN hosted at Dover (NH) High School on Saturday, December 2, 2017. Remarkably, Lyndon's novice team was made up entirely of one student, Abigail (Abbie) Ham. Though competing against teams that included three or four students, Abbie scored several hundred points more than the second place team, earning a spot on stage in the auditorium in the final rounds. Her performance in the finals was no less impressive, though it did come with some drama as Abbie trailed in the competition going into the final three questions. Abbie swept the last three questions to pull away and win the event.

After the event, the Vikings traveled to Boston for dinner at Quincy Market and a showing of The Nutcracker at the Boston Opera House. Students stayed the night in Boston and visited the Boston Museum of Fine Arts before returning to Lyndonville.



Christoph Sauter

# National Merit® Scholarship Finalist

THE NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION (NMSC) named Lyndon Institute's Christoph Sauter a National Merit Finalist. The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955.

National Merit Finalists have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,500 National Merit Scholarships, worth more than \$32 million in total, that will be announced this spring. According to the organization, three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit \$2,500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by approximately 230 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, and, in addition, about 190 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,000 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

Sauter is currently enrolled at LI and is also attending the Vermont Academy of Science and Technology (VAST) at Vermont Tech. He will graduate this spring with both a Lyndon Institute diploma and a full year of college already completed.





The 2017 Lyndon Institute National Honor Society Inductees gather for a group portrait. Inducted this year include seniors Sam Blodgett, Alicia Brisson, Emily Colby, Andre Cronmiller, Nan Dong "Dexter", Kelsie Hagman, Cortnee Keefer, Michelle Keon, Mariah Kimball, Angela Kubicke, Abigail Mattoon, Xinmao Ou "Cheyenne", Jocelyn Pike, Cole Rentz, Delanie Ruggles, Nhu Gia Tran "Jocelynn", Connor Whitehead, Runwen Wu "Mill", Peiqi Yang "Melody", Xiaochen Yuan "Sean", and Jonathan Young and Juniors Devin Brown, Abigail Ham, Connor McClure, Kate O'Farrell, Jordan Patoine, Allison Sicard, Brittney Smith, and Colby Zaun.

## **National Honor Society Induction**

ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>, LI proudly welcomed students, families, and community members to a National Honor Society (NHS) ceremony hosted in their Alumni Auditorium to induct 29 new student-members.

Established in 1921, the National Honor Society recognizes outstanding high school students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

#### Latin Club

LYNDON INSTITUTE'S LATIN CLUB traveled to New Haven, Connecticut to compete in the Yale Invitational Certamen on Saturday, November 11<sup>TH</sup>. This is the third consecutive trip the Vikings have made to this national tournament. Certamen is a quiz-bowl style competition that focuses on Latin language, literature, Roman history, Classical mythology, and a variety of other topics related to the Ancient World.

This year, Lyndon was represented by four students to include Jocelynn Tran, Abigail Ham, Kien Le, and Tristan Miller. The LI team competed at the intermediate level even though Ham, Le, and Miller are only in their first year of Latin. This year's group went undefeated in all of their preliminary matches facing teams from schools around the region and country. Overall, the LI team finished  $10^{TH}$ .

After the certamen, the students were able to spend some time at The Yale University Art Gallery and the Connecticut Post Mall. On Sunday morning, they took a Metro-North Train into New York City, and visited Chinatown, Central Park, Grand Central Station, and The Metropolitan Museum of Art, where they enjoyed a tour of the Classical Collections.



## LI Theater Company Presents Sister Act: The Musical

#### THE LYNDON INSTITUTE THEATER COMPANY proudly

presented *Sister Act: The Musical* in early November, 2017. The performance, based on the hit 1992 film starring Whoopi Goldberg, follows nightclub performer, Delores Van Cartier, after she witnesses a crime and is forced to seek protection at a convent. A fish out of the water, Delores finds her place with the sisters of The Holy Order of the Little Sisters of Our Mother of Perpetual Faith. She unexpectedly wins their hearts when she breathes new life into the church using her nontraditional music methods to liven up the choir, much to the dismay of Mother Superior.

With artistic direction by Laura Wayne, musical direction by Susanne Norwood, and choreography by Rebecca McGregor, this production showcased the many talents of the dedicated student actors, vocalists, musicians, and crew members at Lyndon Institute. Assistant direction was provided by student Kelsie Hagman, additional choreography by student Niah Colby, and stage management by student Kathryn Newland.

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## Lyndon Institute Continues Its Global Influence on Education



Director of English for Speakers of Other Languages, Sandra Mings Lamar

#### LYNDON INSTITUTE'S

ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages)
Director, Sandra Mings
Lamar returned in late
October, 2017 from her fourth trip as a teacher trainer for the Rwandan
Ministry of Education.

Mings Lamar began working with the Ministry of Education as part of the Rwandan Teacher Education Program (RTEP.) The

program is an established partnership between the Rwandan Education Board (REB) and The University of Hartford to improve the teaching methodologies used by Rwandan teachers and implement the use of English as the official second language of the country. Prior to this program, French had been the official second language.

On her trip, Mings Lamar conducted a teacher training seminar and did teacher observations at various sites across Kigali and the Southern Provinces of Rwanda. At the seminar, sixty teacher leaders came together for a workshop led by Mings Lamar and Dr. Joe Olzacki of the College of Education/University of Hartford titled "Improving & Advancing English Speaking and Learning in the Classroom".

In addition to the workshop, Mings Lamar traveled with Dr. Olzaki and an English language specialist from the Rwandan Ministry of Education, Emeritha Muhongwanseko, to a number of schools throughout the Southern Provinces.

She again represented Lyndon Institute when she returned to Rwanda in December, 2017 to be a part of a fifth training. "I am most excited about this training because I will have two Rwandan teacher-leaders partner with me to lead the workshops," stated Mings Lamar. "This program is all about empowering these individuals to become experts in the field and in their country, and having them lead the workshops I have been conducting is a major step in that direction."





lifelong wellness and lifelong skills that will enable them to grow socially, emotionally, and cognitively too. They make connections and apply learning outside the dance classroom and gain an appreciation for not only themselves but for others and the world around them through the art of dance education."

LI Dance Teacher, Rebecca McGregor

## LI Dance Company Presents Annual Winter Dance Recital

WE WERE DELIGHTED TO HOST THE ANNUAL WINTER DANCE RECITAL on the Alumni Auditorium stage in late November, 2017. LI dance students performed choreographies that focused on traditional dance form such as ballet, modern, jazz, tap, as well as choreographies that showcased intentional work relating to self-advocacy, power, unity, resistance, and overcoming adversity.

Students in the LI dance program worked hard to learn the foundations of movement, terminology essential in the fundamental dance styles (ballet, modern, and jazz), and elements of dance (time, space, and energy). Their studies included work with professional artists, attending professional performances, the study of anatomy and physiology and the history of dance—all with the goal of ensuring that they become critical thinkers through the analysis of movement, critique, and reflection.

#### LI Celebrates the 15<sup>TH</sup> Year of the Vermont State Dance Festival

ONCE AGAIN, THE SATURDAY BEFORE THANKSGIVING, Lyndon Institute hosted the annual Vermont State Dance Festival (VSDF). The festival, which was launched in 2003 by Dance Teacher Rebecca McGregor, brought together student dancers and professionals from around Vermont and New England for the 15<sup>TH</sup> consecutive year. Dancers and teachers alike participated in four professionally-led workshops. Each workshop featured a variety of dance and movement styles and techniques. The event provided attendees with the opportunity to collaborate in a reflective process in preparation for an evening performance that was open to the public.

The mission of the VSDF is to introduce students to new dance styles and techniques that they may not routinely be exposed to in their high school dance programs while they also interact with and gain insight from experienced professionals. The festival also provides students with an opportunity to perform before a larger audience than they might typically enjoy and it gives dance educators the opportunity to discuss topics of interest, develop curriculum and instruction, share resources, and learn about changes and opportunities in dance education.

Answer: The first Alumni Newsletter was published in October 1946.



# Alumnus Amy (Aronoff) Blumkin to Address the Class of 2018

**THE CLASS OF 2018** and Head of School Twiladawn (Wakefield) Perry are pleased to announce Mrs. Amy (Aronoff) Blumkin as the Lyndon Institute 2018 Commencement speaker.

Blumkin, an LI alumnus of the class of 1978, is a visionary marketing professional who has worked for some of the most respected and well-known brands in the world, to include AT&T, American Express, Disney, and the Super Bowl. She currently serves as the vice president of brand and marketing at the Anti-Defamation League (ADL).

Prior to joining ADL, Blumkin was the chief marketing officer (CMO) at Lowenstein Sandler, a mid-sized law firm based in New Jersey, where she was responsible for all business-to-business marketing, branding, communications, and business development efforts on behalf of the firm. She also served as the CMO of the New York/New Jersey Super Bowl Host Committee. In this capacity, Blumkin was responsible for marketing for the first-ever outdoor, coldweather Super Bowl to be hosted in the nation.

Earlier in her career, Blumkin spent nearly ten years at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida working in theme park marketing and strategy and new theme park development, to include work related to the design and opening of Disney's highly acclaimed Animal Kingdom.

Born in Brooklyn, NY, Blumkin was raised in Vermont, and now lives in Short Hills, NJ with her husband, Mark. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Vermont and holds an MBA from the Harvard Business School.

During her time at Lyndon Institute, Blumkin was deeply engaged in a variety of programs and activities, including student council, band, and chorus. She was a member of the National Honor Society, co-editor of the Lyndon Institute Cynosure, active participant at both the Vermont Youth Conference and Girls State, and obtained a degree of honor from the National Forensics League.



(L to R): Yijie Tian "Teresa", Justin Tyler Joyal, and Laurel Elizabeth Goodwin

# 2018 Valedictorian and Co-Salutatorians

**HEAD OF SCHOOL** Twiladawn (Wakefield) Perry is pleased to announce the valedictorian and co-salutatorians for the Lyndon Institute Class of 2018.

The valedictorian of the graduating class at Lyndon Institute is the student who receives the highest weighted grade point average during their tenure at the school. The student to realize that accomplishment for the Class of 2018 is Justin Tyler Joyal. In his role as valedictorian, Justin will present the valedictory address during the school's commencement ceremonies in June.

In the fall, Justin will be attending the University of Western New England to study sports management. He is the son of Amy (Dolloff) '88 and Phil Joyal of Lyndonville, Vermont.

The salutatorian for the graduating class is the student who receives the second highest weighted grade point average during their tenure at the school. The students to realize this accomplishment for the Class of 2018 are Laurel Elizabeth Goodwin and Yijie Tian "Teresa". Laurel and Teresa will both present a commencement invocation address during the baccalaureate ceremonies in June.

Laurel is planning to attend Cairn University to study Youth and Family Ministry. It is her goal to work as part of intercultural missions. She is the daughter of Holly and Mark Goodwin of West Burke, Vermont.

Teresa has not yet finalized her college selection, but she will be studying education and psychology. She is the daughter of Xiaohua Tian and Mei Zong of Qingdao, China.

The LI community offers our most excited congratulations to these outstanding students on their many accomplishments.



This original article was written by Amy Ash Nixon and was titled "Dwight Davis: Back in His Beloved Hometown, East Burke."
It is being reprinted with permission from The Caledonian-Record.

It was first published on July 27, 2017.

**DWIGHT DAVIS CREDITS A DEVOTED TEACHER** he had at Lyndon Institute (LI) in the late 1940s, Al Forest, with shepherding him and looking out for him.

"Everybody in the National Guard, some of the upperclassmen, were heading out," in infantry companies being deployed, to the Korean War, said Davis, a member of the LI Class of '50. "Mr. Forest, my chemistry teacher and football coach, said to me, 'You're going to go, but you're not going to go now.' He hadn't said anything to me, but he had helped me get a 4-year scholarship to Norwich."

That Norwich training would lead Davis, former LI headmaster, to a 22-year active duty career in the United States Army, where he began rose through the ranks,

retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel from his final post at the Pentagon.

Davis, now 84, retired from LI in 1999, having served as head of school for 11 years. He was inducted into the Who's Who of Executives for the State of Vermont when he was headmaster.

During Davis's tenure leading LI, he helped the school to acquire additional land for Science/Forestry Studies and expanded athletic fields, as well as grew the international dormitory program, a critical component of the independent school today.

After retiring from LI, Davis served as the first-ever executive director of the Vermont Independent Schools'

Association (VISA), a post he held during the administration of Gov. Jim Douglas.

Davis worked with the Douglas administration to help build the high school program in state correctional institutions, allowing inmates to have the ability to obtain a high school diploma, today known as the Community High School (CHSVT) of Vermont.

Davis served as a member of the CHSVT board until 2011.

When he retired from the board, he was given a plaque thanking him for his service, and an announcement stated, "Dwight's military and educational administrative background was instrumental in assisting the school in navigating the requirements and expectations of the accreditation process. Never afraid to tackle a political issue head on, Dwight's support of the school, tenacity and love for CHSVT and its students have been unwavering."

When Davis turned 80, four years ago, he hung up his hat on his remaining volunteer board positions, including serving as a director of Union Bank, and spends time today at his camp in Kirby, where he enjoys target and skeet shooting.

He used to hunt, but doesn't hunt much these days, but enjoys fly fishing still. His daughter, Paula, said this week, "He can really cast a fly, as we were only allowed to fly fish, no worm dunking allowed! And he loves when the whole family gets together for old family movies of our world adventures," she said.

Paula and her two siblings grew up as globe-trotters with their folks during his Army career.

"We all have the travel bug - even the grand kids!" said Paula Gabrault, their daughter, who lives in Kirby.

The family travels to their folks' home these days, "Mom and dad both say they have put enough air miles on," said Gabrault.

In his role for VISA after retiring from LI , Davis advocated for independent schools in Vermont, and laid the groundwork for an organization that today lobbies to keep the state's private schools strong, fighting to maintain school choice rights and to preserve the autonomy of independent schools as the state this year has been overtures to try to exert more control over private schools being permitted to receive public education dollars.

These days, Davis and his wife Arlene enjoy the view from their enchanting stone home in East Burke, a home that reminds Arlene of their years in Europe, she said.

It was the home's location, plus its stone construction, that drew the couple, plus, Arlene added, "Dwight doesn't paint!"

The couple lived overseas for many years in Europe during Davis's military career and a later stint running the overseas

graduate degree program for Boston University, and they were home for a visit attending the big LI-St. Johnsbury Academy football game one year, when during half-time, they went to see the stone home and agreed to buy it.

The house had been mostly built by LI faculty, and was owned by a friend who asked them during the big game if they were interested in buying a house, recalled Davis.

The stones came from a highway project nearby in the 1970s, when the home was built, though it gives off the character of an antique English cottage; the lovely home has an adjoining diminutive stone building next door, which the Davises use for a guest cottage.

A sign coming up the drive warns to slow down because one of their dogs is blind.

Their home is on a rise, with a perfect view of Burke Mountain, and cannot be seen from the road, but a telling sign of who lives here is a single large black letter hanging to a wooden wall, a giant letter D.

Davis enjoys time at "his favorite place," where he and Arlene enjoy spoiling their two Jack Russell terriers, and visiting with family, including their three grown children, seven grand children and two great-grandchildren.

Davis is an avid reader, and has a stack of books on his coffee table that he's working through, including a recent one on Vietnam that features the time he served there, leading a combat regiment.

Davis had boots on the ground in Vietnam helping local forces to combat the enemy.

He helped to obtain supplies including helicopters and weapons for local forces that had been fighting without the needed tools, and the casualties were horrifying, he said.

"It was a disgrace," Davis said of the conditions the Vietnamese were trying to fight insurgents under, "We did what we should have done."

"How do we expect these people to do anything if we don't give them anything to help them?" Davis demanded in Vietnam. "I got helicopters instead of making them walk for 15 days, I got M16s. We had casualties, but probably five percent of what it was. We sent them into the jungle with no support. I said there is not another Vietnamese going in until we equip them."

At one point, the orders from Washington were to leave more than 120 people stranded in a bank building, when the enemy was advancing, and Davis refused, arranging instead for planes to rescue the people, he said. He still has photos of the Vietnamese officers he became close friends with, and remembers the people fondly.

He said, "I was telling the Admirals what to do and how to get it done."

After his year in Vietnam, Davis said, "I decided I was coming home, we'd done our duck."

"It was worthwhile," Davis said of his Army service, "I made a few places better than they were."

During Davis's command of a unit of a division of 20 soldiers in Vietnam, he lost just one American, he said, and the man had made a mistake that cost him his life.

Davis was in Washington, DC, a few years after his tour in Vietnam, during the evacuation of "all the Vietnamese that wanted to leave, we they got them all the way down to Saigon, and I happened to be in the Pentagon at that time, so I had that project ... to help 150,000 Vietnamese come from Vietnam to the United States. Each state had to commit to taking some, Vermont had 150, that came into Burlington. Most of them stayed, but some wanted to go back to France."

"France took the most, and other countries in Europe gave them a chance, too," said Davis.

## Early Days

**DAVIS WAS BORN IN ISLAND POND IN 1932 AND CAME TO EAST BURKE IN 1935**, marrying Arlene, a Lyndonville native who came from a railroad family, he said. "We ended up getting married and raising three kids," he said; the couple had met in high school. The couple have seven grandchildren, and have been married since 1953.

Davis recalled growing up during the World War II era in East Burke and helping to collect scrap metal people would set out for the war effort on his way to school each day.

Kids at school would be instructed on who in town, mostly older ladies, needed help with chores, and local school children would make some pocket change enough to buy ice cream at the local stores in the village.

He said the kids would check to see who was on duty at the three village stores, as some of the shopkeepers would give the kids a better deal, said Davis. "East Burke was the greatest place a kid could ever live in," said Davis.

The Davises were married in 1953, and Arlene gave birth to the couple's first child, Faye, here in Vermont, while he was on duty at Fort Knox in Kentucky. Dwight's parents drove his wife and baby to him on their trip south after they were able to travel, "And we've been traveling ever since," he said. Daughter Paula and son Michael would follow.

The couple would live in many states, and set up home in several countries during Davis's Army career. Moving around so often, the couple's children were in many

schools, but all three reflect on having grown up with international experiences as valuable opportunities, said Arlene. "It's not for everyone, but we have three very accomplished children," she said. "All three of us, we just thought it was a great adventure and we would not have had it any other way," said daughter Paula Gabrault of Kirby.

## Military Service Memories

# "WE'VE TRAVELED I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY THOUSANDS OF MILES," SAID DAVIS.

After Fort Knox, the family was moved to Germany, "Trying to chase the Russians out of Germany," recalled Davis.

They were stationed at a number of U.S. and overseas military bases through the years.

Davis was sent to Army language school in California, where he learned Arabic, and was sent to Saudi Arabia, at which time Arlene and the kids came home to Lyndonville.

The Davises were later sent to Naples, Italy to NATO headquarters, from where he was deployed to Vietnam.

After Vietnam, they were stationed first at Ft. Leavenworth then Ft. Leonard Wood, then onto the Pentagon, which Arlene refers to as "The castle in the sky, D.C."

Davis loathed being at the Pentagon.

"You can't take a combat soldier and put him behind a desk at the Pentagon," explained Arlene, saying her husband had early in his career been assigned to border patrol in Germany, then headed a combat unit in Vietnam.

Arlene said, "He didn't walk out, he ran!" from the Pentagon.

"When I came back from Vietnam, I was inside the puzzle palace, there were people there who had never been anywhere outside the beltway," said Davis.

When Davis retired from the Army, the couple came back to Vermont and from 1978-81, he was a guidance counselor and vocational director at LI; during that time, he earned his masters in education at Lyndon State College.

Davis had hoped to earn his doctoral degree in educational administration, and was checking out a program at Boston University (BU) when then university President John Silber offered him the job of operations director of BU's overseas masters programs in Europe.

They had ten days to decide, and seized the opportunity, which would see them travel all over Europe for the next eight years.

Arlene worked for BU, as well, recruiting undergraduates overseas for the campus in Boston.

The couple was based in Germany, "We had a lovely apartment in Heidelberg," said Arlene.

The BU program Davis ran was in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Defense, and many of the students enrolled in the masters programs worked at embassies, schools, or were employees of American companies.

After eight years working for BU overseas, the family came back to Vermont, and Davis was soon recruited to work at LI. He worked in fundraising and alumni relations for LI on his return, and was meeting with his alma mater's trustees, when one of the trustees asked him what he would do if he were the school's headmaster. He was first named interim headmaster, and within a few months, selected to lead the school in 1988.

# Heading LI

**DAVIS RECALLS TELLING THE TRUSTEES** he would make a lot of changes, for starters, saying he'd had a few years earlier on staff "... to see how it shouldn't work."

"The place was a dump, the dormitories were a disgrace, I wouldn't have gone to school there, and the kids were not getting what they should have," said Davis. "I judged that the Lyndon Institute standards should have been the way it was when I was there ... You learned something," he said.

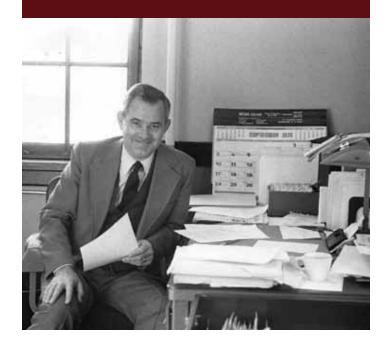
There were old guard faculty and staff there who helped Davis with ideas to straighten out problems at the school at the time, he said. "The kids were getting cheated, they weren't getting the treatment I got from Al Forest," said Davis. He was chosen as the Headmaster of The Year by the Vermont Independent Schools Association during his tenure.

The couple's experience with international students and overseas culture was helpful for the building up of LI's dorm program, which expanded under his lead.

"Following his time as Headmaster of LI, Mr. Davis served as both a Lyndon Institute Corporator and as President of the Lyndon Institute Alumni Association (LIAA) Board of Directors. Mr. Davis is a life member of LIAA," said Gloria Bruce, LI's spokeswoman, on Thursday. "Today, Mr. Davis can frequently be spotted on the campus of LI visiting with current LI employees and community members. He can be found at any of the 'big games' that are played on LI's home field, sitting in the box seats within Thompson Cottage. He remains a true friend of LI – he has a true Viking spirit."

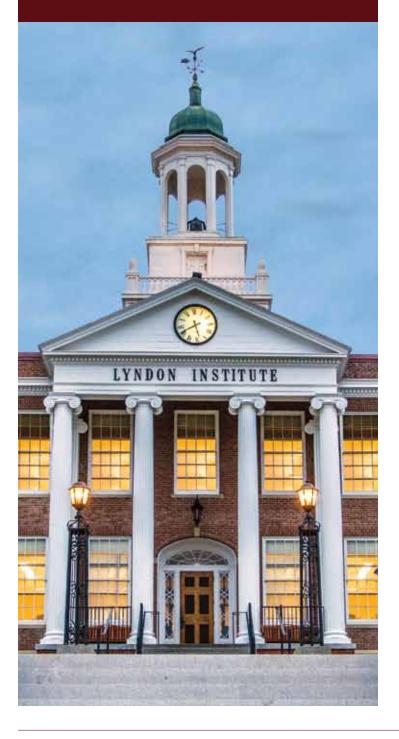


"Today, Mr. Davis can frequently be spotted on the campus of LI visiting with current LI employees and community members. He can be found at any of the 'big games' that are played on LI's home field, sitting in the box seats within Thompson Cottage. He remains a true friend of LI – he has a true Viking spirit."



"Much has changed since I first arrived as a nervous freshman in the fall of 1986, and who knows what the next 150 years will bring. But if I've learned anything, it's that there are too many people—students and parents, faculty and staff, alumni and trustees, ordinary people in the community—who love Lyndon Institute so deeply that it's impossible not to imagine it will continue to not only endure but thrive."

David Stahler Jr., '90



# An **Education** in Celebration

Looking Back on LI's 150<sup>TH</sup> Year Anniversary by David Stahler Jr., '90

# Click, click. Click, click, click.

THE SOUND FILLED THE AUDITORIUM on a cold January morning. It was the first day back from Christmas Break, the beginning of our third January Term (J-Term), the beginning of a new year. Moments earlier, students had been handed little bubblewrapped packages as they entered the auditorium for a welcome-back assembly. What most of them didn't know was that this wasn't just a welcome back, it was a kick-off to a very special period in our school's history. What they soon discovered was their little bubble-wrapped packages contained a pin—the newly designed logo honoring the school's sesquicentennial—150 years of life in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont.

What the students also discovered was that their pins had a magnetic backing. The little disk not only kept you from having to put a hole in your clothing, but it also made a delightful little clicking sound when pressed against the front-piece. The sound was contagious and clicks soon filled the air as everyone took their seats, followed by a wave of giggles and some degree of consternation from the adults. After twenty-four years of teaching, I knew it was just kids being kids. But in a lighthearted way, the sound was also an inauguration, a clarion call that 2017 would be a special year unlike any other.



Blown-up vintage photos of school life from bygone eras hung in the auditorium lobby. The images beautifully echoed the new calendars a generous alum had donated to the school to help celebrate its anniversary.

It wasn't just pins. Other elements set the tone. Over the Christmas break, the campus had been beautifully dressed. The new logo design—profiling the main building's distinguished front entrance and bell tower, and coupled with the slogan "150 Years of Reaching For the Stars," a clever twist on the school's Latin motto (per aspera ad astra)—hung from a variety of banners around campus. (Later in the spring, students in the art and graphic design classes would decorate the walls of the student center with four new murals, using different art styles to capture different periods of the school's history.) The old paintings out in the auditorium lobby—relics from my time as a student in the '80s—had been replaced with blown-up vintage photos of school life from bygone eras. The images beautifully echoed the new calendars a generous alum had donated to the school to help celebrate its anniversary. One of my favorite mementos of the sesquicentennial, the calendar presented a series of black and white photographs from previous eras paired with modern counterparts celebrating different aspects of school life, blending LI as it was then with LI as it is now, showing us that even as the school changes, its core essence endures.

# I-Term and the Making of an Artifact

SINCE THE J-TERM PROGRAM FIRST STARTED four years ago, one of the more popular classes has been taught by history teacher Kathy Smith in which students research past athletic teams and their various accomplishments. For the  $150^{\text{TH}}$ , Smith, with the help of math teacher Janet Dunphy-Brown and coach Roxanne Courser, put a new twist on the course—creating a time capsule to mark the anniversary, a collection of memories and mementos that would be christened during Homecoming weekend in October.

Students spent days at the school's alumni museum in Thompson Cottage, working with my classmate Heather Wheeler, exploring decades of school history, identifying the various legacies and milestones that made LI what it is today. Pictures of various artifacts selected by the students were compiled in a photo book, one of many documents added to the capsule. For the students, the experience of celebrating the anniversary and preparing something for the future became an important opportunity to learn about its past and discover first-hand what they were becoming a part of.

The capsule—a metal container roughly the size of a large shoe box—was built by students from LI's welding program, its cover engraved by another student in the school's CNC program. It is itself an artifact that represents in many ways what makes LI what it is-practical, comprehensive, created by students working across a variety of disciplines, an object both rugged and refined, modest in its simplicity, beautiful in its design.



# "A-Term" — An Adult Twist On a Young Program

**ONE OF THE NEXT EVENTS** highlighting the 150<sup>TH</sup> celebration came in April. Traveling the country and speaking with alumni over the last few years, Director of Development Melissa Hall discovered that there was tremendous interest in the school's new J-Term program. Setting aside a couple of weeks in early January to allow students to explore dozens of micro-courses focused on project-based learning was proving to be a success, and an interesting draw to alumni. Why not recreate the program on a smaller scale, one geared toward adult members of the LI community? And so "A-Term" was born. It was a way—as Gillian Sewake, co-chair of the 150<sup>TH</sup> Celebration Committee put it—"to create more opportunities for alumni to come back to campus and interact with each other." The committee created a variety of courses, taught by both alums and current and former faculty, that focused on everything from origami and yoga to bike maintenance and digital photography.

One course in particular, "Paint and Sip," was popular enough that it oversold its open slots. Taught by art teacher Barbara Follett, the course offered students an opportunity to sample both painting techniques and fine wine, putting the "adult" in "A"-Term. For Hall, who participated in the class and who was a student of Follett's back in the 90's, the experience gave her and other alums a chance to reconnect with their former art teacher and each other in a new, more relaxed setting. Another sold-out class, led by the owner of The Pizza Man restaurant in Lyndonville, taught the art of pizza making, coupled with a craft beer-tasting lesson.

The program brought both alums and members of the local community together and was so popular, the school ran it again this April. And so, in the process of celebrating a milestone in the school's history, a new tradition was born.





# Sesquicentennial Summer Fun

**SUMMER KICKED OFF DURING GRADUATION** with the annual Alumni Weekend festivities. To help celebrate the 150<sup>TH</sup> anniversary, the Alumni Association put a special twist on the All-Class Social—an evening event at the Burke Mountain Hotel and Conference Center open to all former LI students and loved ones that has become increasingly popular (and crowded!) since its inception several years ago—by inviting former faculty and staff to join the party.

Whenever I ask alums what made LI so special for them, the answer is almost always the same—the teachers. I can't argue with it. Burt Porter was a larger-than-life figure who inspired me to write and study literature. Dan Daley taught me not only math but what it meant to be a professional in the classroom. Jerry Tavares and Dave Dwyer, David Williams and Cisi Flynn, Bill Reinhardt and Rick Cameron and John Padden—the names go on and on. The fact that so many of the teachers who guided me and instructed me went on to become colleagues and friends when I returned to teach at LI in 1997 is one of the most gratifying aspects of my professional life. So it was a delight to see so many of them show up at the All Class Social—a little older, a little graver in some cases, but with smiles on their faces and memories to share with so many of their former students. It made me realize, during a year of taking stock, how much of LI's legacy is not about its buildings or programs, but about its people, particularly those who form bridges from one generation, one era, to the next.

The next day, I joined several other faculty and students to help give campus tours to returning alums. It became an opportunity to connect with so many who had come back to the school in part to help celebrate its anniversary and to show them just how far the school has come over the years in terms of its campus and programs. The end of a long school year had left me feeling a bit tapped, but seeing their interest and delight as we walked the wandering loop between upper and lower campus, through the art center, the field house, the new dormitories and student center, the dance studio, and through the halls and classrooms of the main building, rekindled of my pride at what LI has become since my own days as a student and my two decades as a teacher.

July saw another summer twist on the 150<sup>TH</sup> anniversary when Lyndonville's Chamber of Commerce and its local Rotary Club invited LI to take center stage in its annual Stars and Stripes Parade and even adopted the school's sesquicentennial as its theme. Students of all stripes marched with their banners, a float bore waving trustees, and faculty past and present past the cheering crowds, and a Ford Mustang convertible carried former track stars Bob Heath and Ron Dunphy to mark the 50<sup>TH</sup> anniversary of their state championship. The procession was led by Alumni Association president Tim Kirchoff, escorting two of LI's oldest living alums—Lois Cardwell '35 and Harriet Grant '37—in another convertible. The parade turned into not only a celebration of the school's anniversary but an expression of local pride and affection between the school and the town that gave it life and a home for 150 years.



#### FALL BROUGHT A NEW SCHOOL YEAR,

along with a new Homecoming weekend. 150 Viking shields formed a gauntlet for the football players taking the field amid the blast from a Viking horn to play the Academy in one of the oldest ongoing high school football rivalries in the country. The community dedicated its new time capsule, which will be stored in the school's vault for the discovery and delight of some distant, future generation.

The 150<sup>TH</sup> festivities culminated in November with another party at the Burke Mountain Hotel, this time a "Past, Present, and Future Ball" in which guests were invited to dress up in the style of a previous decade, a fitting way to end a year in which LI not only looked back but forward as well. 2017 saw the arrival of Twila Perry as its first female head of school. It was also a year in which the members of LI's community raised nearly \$700,000, including a gift of

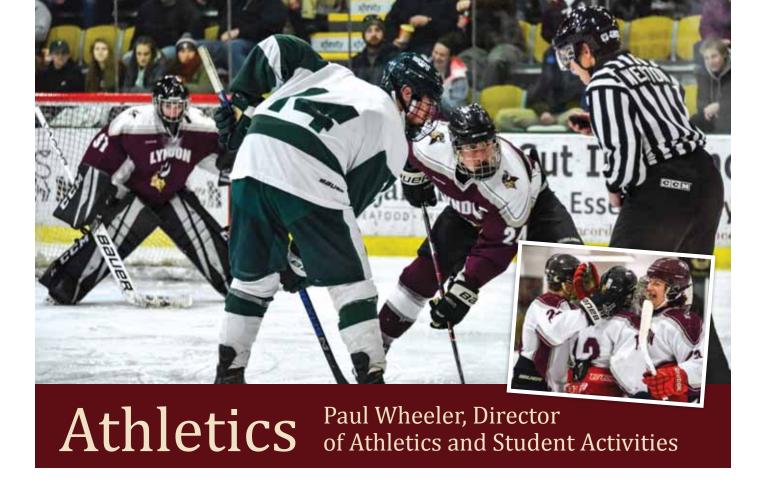
\$150,000 that was successfully matched by the generosity of so many others, an enormous boon to LI's financial stability as it moves forward to face new challenges in a changing world.

The year was a special one, made more special through the efforts of so many people. In particular, the school owes much to members of the 150<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Committee. Chaired by Melissa Hall '92 and Gillian Sewake, the committee included a mix of trustees and alums (David Beattie '61, Chip Devenger '67, Michael Flynn, Kathy Newland '67, and Chip Devenger), directors and administrators (Twila Perry '77, D Steen '89, Sterg Lazos, and Gloria Bruce), and support staff (Heather Wheeler '90, Javin Leonard, Heather Ranney, Katie Palmer, and Andrea Kane '88).

For my part, writing these retrospectives of the school through the past three issues of the Viking Voice has not only been my small way to help celebrate the school but has been an education in its own right. From talking to former history teacher Chris Raymond about the campus's founding and development, to sitting down with Bob Heath to talk about athletics, to my conversations with John Padden, Mike Flynn, Barb Follett, Merlyn Courser, and so many others who have helped answer my questions and steer me in the right direction, I've learned just how rich and special LI's history is. 2017 brought its own little anniversary for me, as well, as it marked my 20<sup>TH</sup> year teaching English at the school I loved attending so much as a student in the late '80s that I couldn't wait to return as an instructor. Much has changed since I first arrived as a nervous freshman in the fall of 1986, and who knows what the next 150 years will bring. But if I've learned anything, it's that there are too many people—students and parents, faculty and staff, alumni and trustees, ordinary people in the community—who love Lyndon Institute so deeply that it's impossible not to imagine it will continue to not only endure but thrive.

On behalf of the entire 150<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Committee, we would like to thank David Stahler, Jr. '90 for taking the time to research and author the series of 150<sup>TH</sup> anniversary Viking Voice feature stories. It has been a pleasure to read your offerings and reminisce regarding the histories that you shared. In the years to come, we are confident that these writings will offer a relevant reflection of our current time and place in the context of our sesquicentennial, becoming a part of history themselves. We are very grateful for your contributions and for helping us to celebrate 150 years of reaching for the stars!

Melissa Hall and Gillian Sewake, committee chairs



# As the 2017-18 winter sports season winds down, let's reflect on the amazing things our student-athletes have accomplished so far this year!

THE FALL SEASON WAS MOST DEFINITELY highlighted by our first ever field hockey state championship. With their 2-0 win over Stowe High School at UVM's Winder Field, our team dominated their opponent and proved they were the best team in their division in Vermont. While we were playing in our first ever championship game (we had played into the semi-finals four times), Stowe has been a regular participant in the final over the past 20 years. The team was led back into town by the Lyndonville Police Department. The streets were lined with fans who were shouting their support, cheering, clapping their hands, and honking their horns. It was quite a spectacle.

This winter season has been very successful. The Indoor Track teams both had strong showings in their state meet with the girls placing  $3^{\text{RD}}$  and the boys  $6^{\text{TH}}$  in Division II. Our cheerleaders won the Northern Vermont Athletic Conference Lake Division title and competed in the Vermont State Championships two weeks later. With girls and boys basketball both having stellar regular seasons (with multiple standing room only crowds) they entered the playoffs with promise. Moving to Division I this year proved to be a tough challenge. The girls (#10 seed) lost a close contest against #7 BFA-St. Albans in the first round. The boys earned the #6 seed and beat #11 Burr and Burton in the first round before losing to #3 Mt. Mansfield, a team

that eventually played in the Division I championship game. Girls hockey won eight games in the regular season, a huge improvement over last year's 0-19-1 record. They graduate only two seniors so their future looks bright. And boys hockey, wow! For the first time since 1993 when LI won a Division III hockey title, our boys played their way into the championship game. This time in Division II. A 4-0 loss to Woodstock in the championship can't diminish what this team accomplished. It was a fantastic season! And with all of those things going on, LI hosted the freestyle portion of the Nordic State Championship at Craftsbury Outdoor Center and also hosted the Alpine State Championships at Burke Mountain in March, LI's Ethan Mosedale was named to the Vermont Alpine All State Team based on his state meet performance. He, along with his Vermont teammates, then won the Eastern U.S. Championship.

Along with the successes in terms of wins and losses, it's important to know that our student-athletes are also giving something back to their community. Examples of their service include basketball team members helping with Saturday morning youth basketball (when they don't have a game themselves), the cross country and soccer teams working with the LTS youth programs in the fall, the baseball team running a clinic in the spring for youth in our area, and a number of football players assisting the Sunday youth flag football program.







LI seniors and girls varsity basketball players Emma Corey, Jade Berry, and Niah Colby, now hold the school record for the most number of games won during their high school career with 68 total wins.



"The Athletic Department philosophy bases success on much more than wins and losses. Our goal is to ensure that our student-athletes are better prepared for success in life because they participated in our program. I strongly believe that with the staff we have in place, the availability of facilities, and the commitment of our studentathletes, that success is definitely in their future."





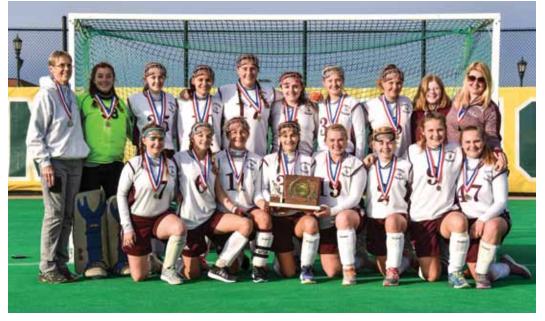


LI senior and boys varsity basketball player Jacky Lau scored his 1,000<sup>TH</sup> point in the third quarter of a 56-40 win over Lamoille Union High School.













# Division II Champions!















# Development

#### WHAT IS DEVELOPMENT?

**ALUMNI, TRUSTEES, CORPORATORS, FACULTY, STAFF, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS** of Lyndon Institute have a tremendous, positive impact on the life of the campus in many different ways. Their financial support through charitable gifts provides the margin of excellence that facilitates our service to our students and the community. The generosity of our donors has enabled LI to offer courses and experiences that would not be possible with tax dollars alone. The Development Office provides leadership for encouraging private support from alumni and friends, corporations, and foundations to advance the school.

The Independence Fund is the school's fundraising priority and it supports all aspects of our mission. Gifts to the Independence Fund provide Lyndon Institute with the resources to enrich our learning environment and to underwrite faculty professional development, curricular and program enhancements, special events and activities (including field trips, athletics, and arts programs), technology, and facilities.

There are several ways for you to be involved in supporting LI. Every gift to LI truly does matter, regardless of the size. The greater the percentage of our constituencies who support the school, the stronger our applications are for grant funding. If you have fond memories of your school or community and want to pay it forward to the next generation, please consider adding LI to your philanthropic priorities. Other ways to be involved include attending an athletic competition, following us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, becoming a member of the Booster Club, attending a regional reunion (these aren't only for alumni of the school), attending a play, dance, or musical performance – the list goes on and on but the point is that there is always something going on at LI and many ways for you to reconnect with your school.

# NEED MORE INFORMATION?

#### WE ARE HERE TO HELP.

Give us a call or an email – we would love to hear from you.

Melissa (Boulay) Hall '92 Director of Development 802-535-3773, melissa.hall@ lyndoninstitute.org

Katie Palmer,
Administrative
Assistant to Advancement
802-535-3777,
katie.palmer@
lyndoninstitute.org

Heather (Root) Wheeler '90 *Alumni Coordinator* 802-535-3772, heather.wheeler@lyndoninstitute.org



#### ONLINE SCHOOL STORE

THE LYNDON INSTITUTE SCHOOL STORE is the perfect place to visit to purchase the latest in Lyndon Institute and Viking apparel, gifts, and memorabilia. Located in Thompson Cottage, which also houses the Norma Gordon Austin Alumni Center and Museum, the store is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., during the school year. If you are unable to visit us at our on-campus school store, we invite you to shop for LI and Viking apparel and accessories by using our online store which can be accessed by visiting: www.rokkitwear.com/landing/lyndon-institute.



#### **SPRING ONLINE AUCTION**

FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR, our silent auction items will be available for bids online. Offering the auction online has enabled us to reach thousands of alumni and friends! We hope that you will take the opportunity to browse what we have available for bid and show your support.

The Spring 2018 Independence Fund Auction will be launched on Tuesday, May 1<sup>ST</sup> and will remain open for bidding through alumni weekend, culminating on Monday, June 4<sup>TH</sup>. All of our online auctions can be accessed by visiting www.biddingforgood.com/lyndoninstitute

Donations can be made by contacting Administrative Assistant to Advancement, Katie Palmer, at katie.palmer@ lyndoninstitute.org or 802-535-3777, or online at www. biddingforgood.com/lyndoninstitute - simply click on "DONATE NOW" on the lower-left side of the page and follow the directions.



Flags representing each branch of our armed services proudly fly outside Sanborn Hall.

#### HONORING OUR VETERANS

#### THE LYNDON INSTITUTE VETERANS MEMORIAL at

Sanborn Hall was dedicated on July 21, 2007. On its plagues are listed the names of the men and women from Lyndon Institute who have served their country in its military services. If you know of someone who should be listed but is not, or if you can add information about an individual (LI class, branch of service, or dates of services), please contact Administrative Assistant to Advancement, Katie Palmer, at katie.palmer@ lyndoninstitute.org or 802-535-3777. The memorial will be updated as deemed necessary.

#### SHOP AMAZON - SUPPORT LI

#### DID YOU KNOW YOU CAN SUPPORT LI STUDENTS.

programs, and facilities when you shop on Amazon? Lyndon Institute participates in the AmazonSmile program, where Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization selected by their customers – it is an easy way to support YOUR school. Visit smile.amazon.com and select Lyndon Institute as your organization of choice to support.

#### TRIVIA QUESTION

When was the first Alumni Newsletter published? The answer is hidden within this issue of the Viking Voice.

#### **Stay Connected** with LI



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"After long, wonderful careers at LI we realized how many great kids, great families, and great colleagues made for those great careers not to mention the many extracurricular experiences we enjoyed taking part in. LI was not just a school but a hub for so many people in the greater Lyndon area that helped maintain a true sense of community despite great diversity among the families it served. By including LI in our wills we hope to help continue the strong, independent, and exceptional school experience that so many have benefited from in the 150 years of its history."

Larissa and T. Michael Flynn

#### PLANNED GIVING

**THE SUPPORT OF ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS** of LI who remember the school with bequests and life income gifts is a significant factor in preserving LI's future.

Bequests, gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and lead trusts are examples of planned gifts. Making a planned gift can help you make a meaningful gift while attaining other important financial goals.

By making such gifts, not only do you contribute to LI, but you may also increase your income, enjoy a charitable deduction, and avoid taxes on your capital gains.

#### **Planned Giving Options Include:**

**Bequests** – the simplest way to include LI in an estate plan is to make a bequest to the school through a will, or to add a codicil to an existing will. You may designate a specific amount, a percentage, or a share of the residue.

Real Estate – make a gift of an asset no longer needed and generate an income tax deduction.

**Tangible Personal Property** – share a collection or other personal items.

**Retirement Funds** – IRAs or other employee benefit plans. All IRA owners age 70.5 and older are required to take a distribution. You can roll over that distribution directly to LI, up to \$100,000 and, in doing so, avoid realizing the distribution in your net income stream.

**Gift of Life Insurance** – paid up life insurance policies with LI as the owner and beneficiary support the school and allow the donor to claim a charitable deduction for the policy's cash surrender value.

Please contact Director of Development, Melissa Hall, for more information on making a planned gift at melissa.hall@lyndoninstitute.org or 802-535-3773.

# Letter from the LIAA President, Tim Kirchoff '96

Make sure to mark your calendars for Alumni Weekend! Activities start June 1<sup>ST</sup> this year. Please see the next pages for a full list of activities. We look forward to seeing all of you this spring!

LYNDON INSTITUTE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT

Timothy L. Kirchoff'96

VICE PRESIDENT

Paula (Graves) Gaskin '71

**TREASURER** 

Jeffrey T. O'Meara '04

CLERK OF THE CORPORATION Heather (Root) Wheeler '90

Lindsay (Jones) Carpenter '02 Candace E. Dane '74 Michael D. Matteis '89 Kathy (Bassett) Newland '67 Cheryl (Ronan) Noyes '63 Michel (Sanderson) Richards '71 Kathy (Jackson) Smith '93 Paul E. Wheeler '74

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Dwight A. Davis '50 Gertrude (Angell) Grant '49 Norman A. Legge '56 Shirley (Beane) Pierce '53 **GREETINGS ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,** As my first year as Alumni Association President concludes, I remember when I first joined the LIAA board. The president then was Bob Heath. I'd known Bob my whole life and his presence made the process of learning tasks and responsibilities much easier. Years later, I'm honored to fill this position he once so capably mastered. I speak for myself and the LIAA board when I say that we were all deeply saddened by his passing last fall and that his legacy will be felt for many generations.



Congratulations to Twiladawn (Wakefield) Perry on being named permanent of head of school.

As a former student athlete at LI, I'm always excited to watch students on the field. The field hockey team winning the first state championship in school history is a great accomplishment. Athletics continue to perform at a strong level and credit to LI for providing opportunities since many students enjoy challenging themselves mentally and physically as part of a well-rounded education. As I write this, the LI community is cheering on the successes of several of LI's winter sports teams looking to make deep runs into the playoffs. Win or lose, rest assured that the we will continue cheering for you.

Many alumni love to keep active well after graduation as evidenced by this year's Alumni Hockey game. This year was the  $50^{\text{TH}}$  anniversary of hockey at LI and the  $25^{\text{TH}}$  anniversary of LI's 1993 state championship team.

It was great to see a lot of faces I had not seen in a long time and I have to say, as the youngest member of that team, I can barely tell the difference from the championship photo from 25 years ago!

As the end of the year approaches, I want to make sure that students check out the opportunities for scholarships and financial assistance that the LIAA provides. We take pride in helping students through providing whatever assistance we can.

I would also like to thank the LIAA Board and Heather Wheeler for all their hard work and collaboration. The passion that the board members bring to the process is what makes our group a pleasure to lead.

Go Vikings!

Tim Kirchoff '96 LIAA President A large group of players and all three coaches from the 1993 team attended the game with a photo op at center ice between periods.





# Weeker

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST



#### 1:00 P.M. LI INDEPENDENCE FUND GOLF TOURNAMENT

Join alumni and friends at the St.
Johnsbury Country

Club. Contact Ryan Noyes, 603-494-1160, ryannoyes@hotmail.com

#### 5:00 P.M.

#### **DORM REUNION BARBEQUE**

Alumni dorm students and international students are invited to join present day boarding students on Matty Green. Past and present dorm parents are also invited!

#### 6:00 TO 11:00 P.M.

#### 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ALL CLASS SOCIAL

Join us at the Burke Mountain Hotel & Conference Center. Kick off the weekend with dancing to **Raized on Radio** and a cash bar. This year we are pleased to honor alumni dorm and international students.

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>

9:00 A.M.

# TIM SIMPSON & BOB HEATH MEMORIAL TWO MILE WALK/RUN

Walk or run two miles on the Bob Heath Track.

#### 10:00 A.M.

#### **GROUP TOURS OF THE LI CAMPUS**

Tours start at the Alumni Center and guides are available until 12:00 p.m. Please RSVP by contacting the Alumni Office by *May* 18<sup>TH</sup>.

#### 10:00 A.M.

#### YOGA WELLNESS EVENT

Amber (Bevilacqua) Gregory '93 & Jennifer (Raymond) Desrosiers '95 will team up to provide our alumni a wellness event that will include an all-levels yoga class, as well as a sampling of Jennifer's thoughtful menu, a foodscape crafted by *Laney & Lu Cafe*. On Matty Green (weather permitting) or in the Alumni Gymnasium – *by donation*. Please bring a yoga mat, water bottle, and wear comfortable clothes.

#### 10:00 A.M.

#### **VISIT THE ALUMNI CENTER**

Join us at The Norma Gordon Austin Alumni Center and Museum at Thompson Cottage.

#### 12:00 P.M.

#### SOCIAL HOUR BEFORE THE COOKOUT

Join us under the graduation tent, on Robert K. Lewis Field, for beverages and light appetizers.





#### 1:00 P.M.

#### **ALUMNI COOKOUT**

Food will be served at 1:00 p.m. RSVP by contacting the Alumni Office by *May 18*<sup>TH</sup>. **\$10** per person or **\$20** per family

#### **SUNDAY, JUNE 3RD**

8:00 TO 9:30 A.M.

# 18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ALUMNI BREAKFAST & ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING

LI Dining Hall in the Pierce Wing on Darling Campus. *The LIAA Annual Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m.* Please RSVP by contacting the Alumni Office by *May 18<sup>TH</sup>*. *\$7 per person* 

#### 10:00 A.M.

BACCALAUREATE - LI Alumni Auditorium

#### 11:00 A.M.

**2018 COMMENCEMENT -** Robert K. Lewis Field

#### FOR MORE

#### **INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

LI Alumni Office heather.wheeler@lyndoninstitute.org 802-535-3772







# January Term





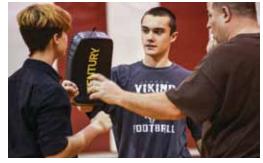














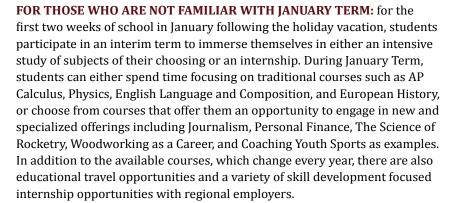
# January Exhibition Night







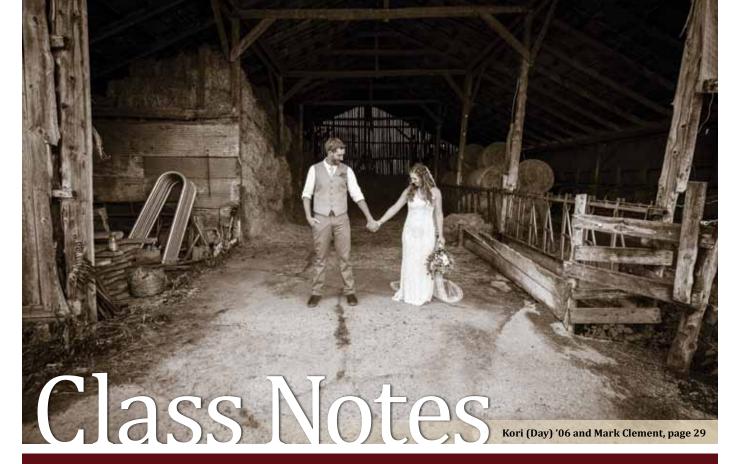












The Alumni Association invites all of our alumni to Reunion Weekend. The classes ending in 3's and 8's will be celebrating their reunions on June 1, 2018. Join Lyndon Institute Alumni on facebook for updates on the weekend activities.

#### 1945

A chance meeting at a local grocery store between Walt Cottrell and Elmer Brown was written about in an article in a local Vermont newspaper. Elmer joined the Marines after he graduated from LI. The Army had drafted him but the Marine Corps was always his first choice. Elmer was about to ship out when Japan surrendered in August of 1945. Elmer states, "I probably would not be here today if we had shipped out". Elmer only served one year before being discharged. He began attending the annual US Marine Corps Birthday Ball held each November at

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the Hanover Inn in New Hampshire. It is a fundraiser for the national nonprofit Semper Fi Fund. Elmer was hesitant to attend at first because he did not own the formal Marine uniform with gold buttons, brass buckle, red striping and dark blue trousers (dress blues) that many wore, but he decided to give it a try and the last couple of years he was recognized as the oldest Marine in attendance. With thousands of Americans being discharged at the same time, the end of World War II was chaotic. Elmer never recieved medals or his dress blues. Failure to receive his medals was likely a paperwork oversight. From a tip to Rusty Sachs (ball organizer) from Walt Cottrell, Elmer wore dress blues given to him prior to the event. Private first Class Elmer Brown also received a World War II Victory medal and another for Good Conduct. Elmer learned that rank no longer mattered, he said, "If you're a Marine, you're a Marine."

#### 1957

After 57 years, **Ed Buschmann** has fully retired from his business E. A. Buschmann Inc., a distributor of custom printed labels, pricing equipment, packing supplies, and equipment in Maine, Northern New Hampshire, and Vermont. His daughter, Jennifer, operated this business for 13 years until her passing in September 2017 at age 48 from cancer. Her long-time partner, Shawn Small, is now owner and operator of the business.

Ed will continue to be a Lyndon Institute honorary trustee, corporator, and member of the development committee and encourages everyone in the LI family to join him in donating to the Independence Fund. He will also continue to operate Dun Roamin' Tree Farms in Lewiston, Maine.

#### 1971

#### Michel "Mickey" (Sanderson)

Richards completed seminary in 2015, and has a master's in Pastoral Ministry. She is completing a sixthmonth internship at North Country Hospital in Newport, Vermont. Her focus will be on patient visitations and family services, with a special interest in staff-care ministry.

#### 1983

**Dawn (Smith) Dwyer & Kim (Gray) Gaboriault** send the following message: Calling all of the Class of 1983! It's our 35<sup>TH</sup> Reunion, can you believe it?

We hope you will make plans to join us Friday evening (June 1<sup>ST</sup>) at Burke Publick House before going to the All Class Social at the Burke Mountain Hotel & Conference Center. On Saturday, we'll meet at LI for the social hour before the cookout. Saturday evening, we'll continue the reminiscing at Mike's Tiki Bar in East Burke. In the case of inclement weather, we'll meet back at Burke Publick House. Sunday brings the Alumni Breakfast in the Dining Hall on campus. Join our Facebook page Lyndon Institute Class of 1983. We'll be posting the schedule of events there as well.

#### 1984

Jennifer (Murray) Sherburne is a local home care provider for special needs clients. She was chosen by the Green Mountain Support Services nonprofit agency for its annual Kevin O'Riordan Award, granted to an individual whose "superior dedication and service," is worthy of the honor. The agency, located in Morristown, Vermont, gives the annual award to either an employee or a home provider. Jennifer has provided 20 plus years of superior dedication and service to the clients and agencies she has served.

#### 1992



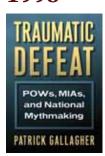
**Kristen (Stenson)** and David Harris announce the adoption of their son, Knox Harris on January 25, 2018. Knox was born on January 6, 2018.

#### 1994

**Ceilidh Greenwood and Brent Wilson '96** were united in marriage on October 7, 2017 in the Bahamas.

They recently started a boat tour business in Florida. Visit: www. captainpartyhard.com to learn more.

#### 1998



Patrick Gallagher recently wrote Traumatic Defeat: POWs, MIAs, and National Mythmaking which, as the first in-depth comparative study

of this phenomenon, reveals how myths conjured in the trauma of military defeat can distort and dominate national conversations on the history of warfare, aftermath, and loss. His book will be available online at Amazon.com on May 18, 2018.

Alumni Weekend
2018
For alumni who graduated in years ending in 3's & 8's
JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>-3<sup>RD</sup>

**Andrea (Stauffeneker) and John Gould '92** were united in marriage on December 30, 2017.

#### 1999



Jessica Aiken-Hall lives in New Hampshire with her three children, three dogs, and fiancé. A graduate of Springfield College, Jessica has a Masters in Mental Health Counseling. She is a Reiki Master, focusing her attention on healing. As a social worker, she uses her life experience to help others in their times of need. Jessica also recently became certified as an end-of-life doula. In her recently published book, The Monster That Ate My Mommy, Jessica takes the reader on her quest to find love and uncover the root of her suffering. In this courageous memoir, we learn the importance of love and belonging, and the price paid when it's out of reach. Following the release of her book, Jessica and her sister, Kim Grenier '07, were guests on Dr. Phil. Her book is available online at Amazon.com.

**Lauren (Godfrey)** and **Tim Chamberlin '03** announce the birth of their son, Cade Timothy Chamberlin on August 8, 2017. He joins sister, Launa.

#### **2000**

Michelle and **Ian Smith** announce the birth of their son, Toren Thomas Smith on January 19, 2018.



Senior Master Sergeant Jeff Norway (right) and his family with Chief Master Sergeant Retired David Lamphere (left)

# Alumni Profile

# Jeffrey Norway, Class of 1991

Senior Master Sergeant Jeffrey Norway has retired from the Air Force. From March 31, 1992 to March 31, 2018 he served in 35 countries and all but four of the 50 states. SMSGT Jeff Norway was the Readiness Superintendent, 621st Contingency Response Support Squadron, Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, New Jersey. He assisted with individual and equipment readiness for 553 Contingency Response Group personnel, along with over \$33.3 million dollars in expeditionary base opening and closing equipment. Additionally, he guided the daily operations and use of 1,000 weapons, 82 vehicles, and Area of Operations specific entry requirements. As a leader in America's 9-1-1 Force, Norway ensured personnel were prepared to deploy on short-notice to multiple environments and helped provide tactical and conventional support to United States Transportation Command Joint Task Force, Port Opening operations, as well as the mobility needs of other Combatant Commanders. He enlisted in the Air Force in March of 1992 and served in multiple Superintendent, Air Transportation, and Contingency Response units and staffs. Additionally, Norway served in a Joint Service assignment within the United States Central Command area of responsibility. Prior to his latest assignment, he was the Superintendent, 321<sup>ST</sup> Contingency Response Squadron as well as the Air Freight Superintendent, 305<sup>TH</sup> Aerial Port Squadron, where his leadership helped secure the USAF Large Terminal of the year, and twice Air Mobility Command's nominee as the National Defense Transportation Association Military unit of the Year. Additionally, the 305 APS was the USAF Verne Orr

Award recipient for 2015. His assignments included bases in Utah, North Carolina, New Jersey, and Qatar. Sergeant Norway has deployed to several locations in support of numerous operations and exercises.

Jeff wrote: "Leadership and training opportunities were priceless. My foundation was built in Vermont and, although I did not realize it at the time, Lyndon Institute. Go Vikings! I talk about our school all the time to anyone that will listen. Trust me, they are fascinated that there is no official public high school in our county. I had the opportunity to be guided by great leaders at LI, such as Dwight Davis, Bob Heath, Ron Pearl, Rick Cameron, John Padden, Eric Johnson, Jerry Tavares, Barry Aldrich, Bill Reinhardt, Dennis Sweet, Mr. and Mrs. Flynn, and Steve Berman – who steered me to the Air Force, so I am forever grateful for his guidance."

During his leave in March, Jeff was able to intern at Amazon Logistics. He has résumés there and Johnson & Johnson Logistics and Training Departments, as well Inner City Fund (ICF), a company started in 1969 by a Tuskegee Airman and a couple of other gentlemen in the Department of Defense. He hopes to do curriculum and instructional systems design for the development of online and 3D training simulations for the Department of Defense as a contractor for ICF. He wrote: "My heart is in learning and teaching. I was honored and lucky to serve in the most brilliant & lethal fighting force the world has ever known, and that hopefully will help keep the peace for all of us here. Aim High! Fly-Fight-Win! United States Air Force!"

#### 2001



Hailey Broderick and husband Ross Daly, of Somerville, Massachusetts, announce the adoption of their daughter, Sarang in October 2016. Hailey is currently working in public relations at Weber Shandwick.

Ashley and **Alan Legacy** announce the birth of their daughter, Nicole Marie Legacy on October 4, 2017. She joins brother, Brandon.

#### 2002



Rachel (LaCasse) and Roger Ford announce the birth of their son, Reagan Edward Ford on October 9, 2017.

#### 2003

Keri (Floeter) and Kevin Whitcomb '04 were united in marriage on June 3, 2017. The couple resides in Delaware.

#### 2004

**Cheryl Willey** and James Phillips announce the birth of their son, Oliver James Phillips on February 16, 2018.

#### 2005

Magen (Dwyer) and Jeremiah Bias '02 announce the birth of their son, Torin Darius Bias on January 25, 2018. He joins brothers, Grayson and Maverick.

Becky and Joe Floeter announce the birth of their daughter, Abilynn Marie Floeter on August 11, 2017. She joins brother, Benjamin.



Shauneen (Grout) and Kevin Melton were united in marriage on August 19, 2017. The couple resides in DC and both work in International Development. Shauneen is working on a USAID project that is strengthening medical supply chains in francophone Africa and Haiti.

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SAVE THE DATE!

Alumni Weekend For alumni who graduated in years ending in 3's & 8's IUNE 1ST-3RD

#### 2006



Shannon (Casey) and Michael Santostefano were united in marriage on September 16, 2017. They were chosen for a dream-wedding giveaway which more than 2,500 couples entered to win at Foxwoods Casino.

Kori (Day) and Mark Clement were united in marriage on July 15, 2017. Photo on page 26.



Mary (Mathias) and Zach Hibbs were united in marriage on August 19, 2017.

Amanda (Vance) and Jeff O'Meara '04 announce the birth of their son, Tate Patrick O'Meara on December 23, 2017. He joins brother, Winn.

# Alumni Profile

### Elizabeth Mahnker, Class of 2016

ON JANUARY 5, 2018, I auditioned at Fusion 802 in Burlington, VT for Burklyn Ballet Theater's (BBT) 2018 summer program hosted at Johnson State College. This audition reminded me a lot of the first audition I ever participated in when I was a sophomore at Lyndon Institute. That audition was held during the spring of 2014 for LI's Dance Company; it was one that would prepare me for many in the future. It taught me what an audition typically looked like, how to prepare both mentally and physically, and how to respond to criticisms that would come my way.

When a group of people attend an audition, the nerves in the room are always tense. People stretch and warm up in a way that practically says "Look at me, I can do this. Can you?" Whether it's intentional or something we do subconsciously, I'll never know. Nobody acts like they would in a typical class. If the instructor says something humorous, nine times out of ten the room will remain completely silent. The same goes for the teacher who asks, "Does anyone have any questions?" or "What does it mean to...?".

But this isn't how my first audition experience went, at least not exactly. I was pretty full of myself when I first auditioned, I definitely warmed up in the egotistical way, there were some students with nerves so tense they were about to snap, and a whole lot of fidgeting. But we were all used to the general atmosphere of the town house, and that helped us get through those first few minutes while we waited around for the audition to get started. The worst part of auditioning for a program is right before it starts, especially when you're at a studio you've never been to, surrounded by people you've never met, about to take instruction from an instructor with a teaching style unique to them. We were lucky, and it was the perfect environment to begin to understand the auditioning process.

When it finally started, we knew what Mrs. McGregor looked for in a dancer, we understood how she used the space, and we felt encouraged by our peers who we saw every day in class. Because we felt comfortable, we were able to treat our teacher like she was a person and not just someone who was telling us what steps to do and what counts. I remember looking her in the eye and saying "What? Can you do that again?" This was an important skill that I am so glad I had the chance to learn back then. When I auditioned for Burklyn Ballet, I knew there was nothing wrong with putting myself out there. Asking questions means that I am willing to admit that I might not know what I'm doing all

the time, it means that I want to do the combination right, and that I want to be able to depend on myself instead of the people around me, it means I can learn to be self-sufficient when given the right tools.

During my BBT audition, we

did a center combination which I felt absolutely stunning in, it made me remember this one fabulous leap from that first audition. It was fabulous, and for the split second that I was flying through the air I was the only person in the room. I wasn't thinking about how much better the girl across the room was at connecting to the music, I was thinking about myself and my body, and a smile lit up my face. That's the way it should always be; you should never have to compare yourself to the other people in the room, you should work your very hardest and give it your all, knowing that there was nothing else that you could give. You should prove to yourself that you deserve whatever it is that you are reaching for. I learned in that split second that if you are able to do something that makes you smile from the inside out, you have not wasted your time.

Sometimes, regardless of how hard you work however, you don't make the cut. It's okay to be sad about it, but it's also important that you take the constructive criticism that comes from failure. After I got done being sad about not getting into Dance Company for the 2014-2015 season, I looked at what I could improve on, wrote those things down, got back to work, tried again, and got in the next year. A year ago, I found myself auditioning at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee; I was surrounded by dancers who were what I dream of someday becoming. That day was hard - very hard - but like the time that I auditioned for Dance Company, I got back up afterwards and tried again. I didn't let my failures hold me back from traveling down another path. All things work together for good. One avenue was not meant to be, but another was.

I feel that my first audition in 2014 was good practice for the ones I have participated in since graduating from LI in 2016. These past experiences have given me the opportunity to send in my deposit to study for two weeks this summer with Burklyn Ballet Theatre. I am so excited to see what new things I can learn and how these new experiences will shape who I will become and what I will do in the future.



#### 2007



Monica (Aldrich) Chamberlain and family

Monica (Aldrich) and George Chamberlain announce the birth of their son, Jace George Chamberlain on February 3, 2018.

#### 2008

Brandi Before and Justin Machell announce the birth of their daughter, Madilynn Lucy Machell on November 3, 2017.



A 1998 football signed by the team donated by, waterboy Logan Macomber '08 has found a home in the Alumni Musuem

Special thanks to Logan Macomber for donating a 1998 football, signed by the entire team, to the Lyndon Institute Alumni Museum. Logan and classmate, Will Cobb, were the team's waterboys that year. They became great leaders for LI football in 2008.

#### 2009

Amanda Gochie announces the birth of her son, Korbin Leonard Gochie on October 24, 2017.

Nykea Williams and Jeremie Kerstetter announce the birth of their daughter, Jayden Lane Kerstetter on October 27, 2017.



Mr. & Mrs. Trucott with daughter, Raegan

Kate-lyn (Smith) and Robert Trucott announce the birth of their daughter, Raegan Marie Trucott on November 19, 2017.

#### 2012

Hannah Cornell graduated from the Physical Therapy Assistant program at River Valley Community College in Southern New Hampshire, and is now employed at Northern Physical Therapy (NPT) in Lyndonville. 10 years ago, Hannah first visited NPT as a patient and now has the opportunity to work with the very people who inspired her to work in the field of physical therapy.

#### 2013

Abigail Desrochers and Dallas Ball announce the birth of their son, Maverick Russell Ball on January 25, 2018.

#### 2014

Miranda (Martin) and Micah Bullock of Houston, Texas, were united in marriage on August 12, 2017.

U.S. Air Force Airman 1ST Class Matthew Valentine graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, San Antonio, Texas. He completed an intensive eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.



Mr. and Mrs. Logan Croft

Hannah (Potter) and Logan Croft were united in marriage on September 30, 2017. Logan is employed at Cota & Cota as a diesel mechanic.

#### 2015

Jack Brown won the Northeast-10 District Championship in the pole vault with a height of 16'3", which is his finest performance to date. He is currently attending Southern Connecticut State University.



Aaron Leonard

Aaron Leonard enlisted in the Army on September 15, 2017. Aaron is getting a two-year ROTC scholarship to Champlain College. He will start as an officer and plans to work with the Army Air National Guard unit at the **Burlington International Airport with** the medic-vac unit.

#### 2016

Tarivn Brooks and Lane Sanderson '15 announce the birth of their son, Karson Daniel Sanderson on October 19, 2017.

# In Memoriam

It is with sorrow that the Alumni Association records the deaths of the following alumni. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of these individuals. Alumni and friends desiring more complete information or a copy of an obituary can contact the alumni office at 802-535-3772.



Lillian (Hebert) Snelling '37, of Lyndonville on January 29, 2018.



Ruth (McCann) Nurenberg '44, of Lyndonville on February 28, 2018.



**Shirley** (Greenwood) Morgan '50, of Rockport, Massachusetts on February 23, 2018.



**Josephine** "JoJo" (Ball) Worth '39, of Newport, Vermont on January 9, 2018.



Loren "Squire" J. Bressor '46, of West Granby, Connecticut on October 28, 2017.



Patricia (Burrington) Farmer '51, of Port St. Lucie, Florida on January 12, 2018.



Leah (Cox) **Smith '41**, of Lyndonville on March 8, 2018.



**Beatrice** "Betty" (Rainey) Minot '46, of Bath, New Hampshire on March 14, 2018.



Fredrick W. Hodgdon, Sr. '51, of Granby, Vermont on November 8, 2017.



Virginia (Campbell) Downs'42, of Shelburne, Vermont on October 10, 2017.



Bernice (Jenness) Ball **'47**, of West Burke, Vermont on February 28, 2018.



Phyllis (Austin) Hall **'52**, of Avon Park, Florida on March 7, 2018.



Norman A. McClure '57, of Lyndonville on September 16, 2017.



Richard W. Davis '65, of St. Johnsbury, Vermont on January 7, 2018.



Timothy S. Lloyd '81, of Stanton, Virginia on August 30, 2017.



Richard A. Peters '57, of Groton, Vermont on March 23, 2018.



Joanne (Barrett) Gregoire '65, of Plattsburgh, New York on March 12, 2018.



Amy L. Ruggles '85, of Lyndonville on February 22, 2018.



John G.
Davis '58, of
Queensbury,
New York on
November 11,
2017.



Irving O. Emery '67, of Lyndonville on February 9, 2018.



Matthew W. Kvam '90, of East Burke, Vermont on January 13, 2018.



Paul L. Hazard '60, of Belfast, Maine on June 5, 2017.



Timothy A. Hodgdon '73, of Bridport, Vermont on December 28, 2016.



Carlene D.
Densmore '99,
of Lyndonville
on January 16,
2018.



Charles E. Brooks '64, of Lyndonville on November 12, 2017.



Christopher E. Chandler '77, of La Jolla, California on December 9, 2017.



Andrew L. Belanger '21, of Sutton, Vermont on February 18, 2018.

PHOTO UNAVAILABLE

**Diane (Allard) Dargie '75**, of St. Johnsbury, Vermont on January 28, 2018. **Mattie (Allen) Hale '89**, of Lyndonville on December 2, 2017.



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# Winter Carnival













