

July 2017

Main Line **EDUCATION** *guide*



Special supplement to

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AIM ACADEMY

Class of 2017 graduates at June 2 commencement

Faculty, students, families and friends gathered for AIM Academy's sixth Upper School commencement exercises on June 2 as the 15 members of the Class of 2017 received their diplomas. New York cinematographer and Long Island University media arts professor Larry Banks delivered the school's 6th commencement address focusing on the traits of compassion, passion and grit that he said will lead to successful futures.

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AIM Academy Senior speaker Molly Cassidy (Bryn Mawr) presents her speech during commencement.

he said will lead to successful futures.

"You have an awesome school," Banks, who like many AIM students, has dyslexia, told the audience gathered in the school's new 23,000 square-foot AIM Community Center (ACC). "For many of

us this is a tricky journey fraught with difficulty and change and there are many things we have to adapt to in order to [succeed]. Parents and teachers, it is your compassion and support that lets [these students] be here today."

Banks shared his struggles as a learner and his success in the film industry after finding his passion for photography and told the audience that compassion, passion and grit are the three skills needed to discover one's strengths.

"When you turn inside and find your passion, you get direction," Banks said. "Passion, compassion and grit. I see the great things you have done. You guys have incredible talents and I have seen the compassion of the teachers at AIM. Your teachers have fed you with compassion, they have determined to be sure you could get to this place. So now, with your grit and passion looking inside yourself, you'll move forward. Your dif-

ference will add to the world."

Nancy Blair, AIM Academy's associate director introduced the two senior speakers Andrew Rosenstein and Molly Cassidy. Both students shared their appreciation for the support provided by teachers during their years at AIM as they learned to become self-advocates and discover and capitalize on their strengths despite their learning differences.

After the presentation of diplomas, Blair and AIM Executive Director Pat Roberts presented three unique awards to students:

The Marvins Award – Kyle Petras; awarded upon graduation to an AIM senior who embodies the values of Respect, Citizenship, Leadership and Perseverance so exemplified by AIM founding board members Marvin N. Demchick and Marvin D. Alloy.

Lou Uchitel Spirit Award – Sam McCormick; awarded upon graduation to an AIM senior who em-

bodies the values of Inclusion, Friendship, School Spirit and Persistence so exemplified by AIM supporter Lou Uchitel.

Arts & Creativity Award – Kendall Hancock; awarded upon graduation to an AIM senior who excels in their craft and who plans to use their art as the platform for their success beyond AIM.

One hundred percent of AIM's senior class is college bound this fall pursuing studies from engineering to the fine arts. The group includes six varsity athletes, a U.S. Figure Skating Silver Level Senior Award winner, a film festival winner, an Eagle Scout and the co-founder of AIM's Eye to Eye mentoring program. AIM seniors, all of whom took dual-enrollment classes at Cabrini University during the school year, were accepted by more than 60 universities and colleges across the country and received almost \$4 million in Merit-Based Scholarship offers.

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At AIM Academy, young children with learning differences quickly become older children with learning eagerness. It's simple. Students who learn differently just need to be taught differently.

THE HAVERFORD SCHOOL

Newton's Notebook comprises math articles from faculty, students from all grade levels

By Susan Mitchell

For Main Line Media News

A math journal is a collection of articles about pure and applied mathematics. The articles are not necessarily original mathematics, but are meant to explore existing ideas or highlight interesting applications of mathematical concepts. The Haverford School's newly published Newton's Notebook comprises a collection of articles from faculty and students from Lower, Middle, and Upper School.

My vision was to include submissions from boys at all levels of their mathematical development, and to encourage the boys to explore both pure and applied mathematics. One of our goals in the math department is to help boys learn to communicate the language of mathematics clearly and concisely; Newton's Notebook provides a perfect platform for this.

One of my favorites quotes is "Vision without execution is hallucination" by Thomas Edison. So my first step toward making the journal a reality was to build a team of boys who I thought would enjoy this type of project. Under the leadership of Jose Martinez and Will McDevitt as editors, students were enthusiastic and creative about ideas that com-



Jose Martinez and Will McDevitt, who graduated in 2017, served as editors of the inaugural Newton's Notebook.

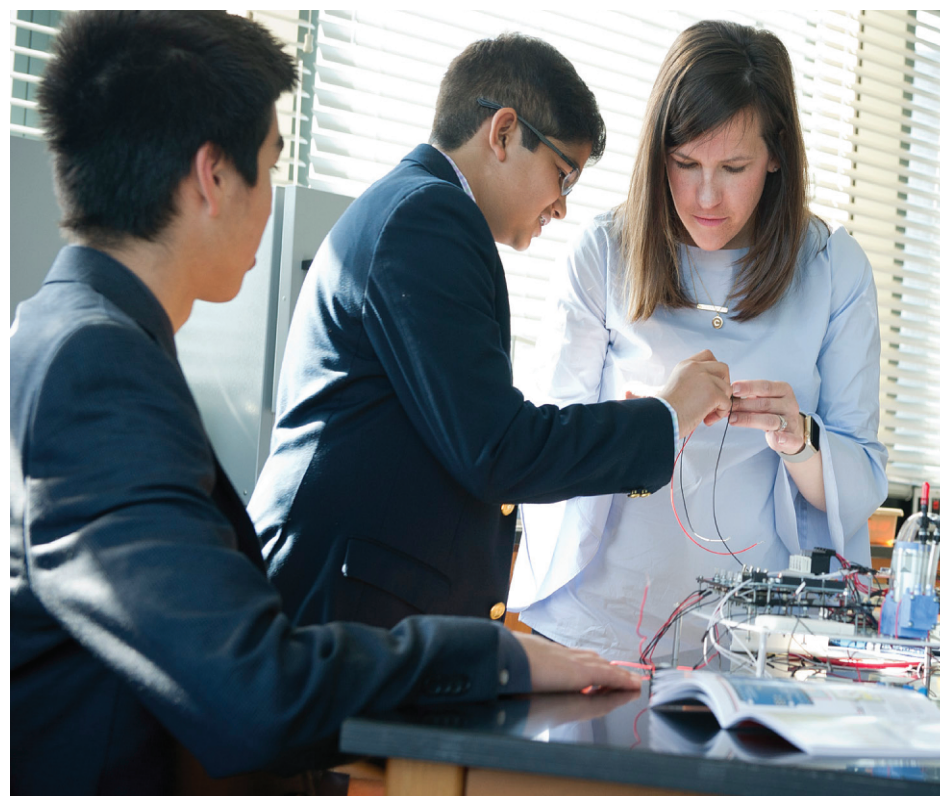
bined mathematics with their personal interests. Caleb Clothier authored an article about physics and finance, which will be featured in my former colleague's math journal in a school just outside Baltimore. Some articles explored pure mathematics, such as Mickey Fairorth's article on Fermat's Last Theorem, and Eusha Hasan's article exploring the cult-like civilization of the Pythagoreans.

The mission of Newton's Notebook is to enhance the interests, talents, and achievements

of all individuals in the mathematical sciences, and provide the opportunity to promote the work of those most passionate about the discipline. We hope that reading these articles will inspire others to explore the fascinating realm of mathematics.

For more information about Newton's Notebook, or to download a copy, visit haverford.org/blog.

Susan Mitchell is Mathematics Department Chair at The Haverford School.



THE HAVERFORD SCHOOL

Preparing Boys for Life

Look & Learns

Pre-k
Sept. 27

Kindergarten
Oct. 4

Middle School
Oct. 5

Open Houses

Middle & Upper School
Oct. 18

Lower School
Oct. 25

RSVP at haverford.org/events

Visit an upcoming admissions event to learn what sets The Haverford School apart. Our extraordinary educators are experts in teaching boys and will challenge your son to reach his full potential.

The Haverford School is a vibrant, private day school for boys in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, located in the heart of Philadelphia's historic Main Line.

DEVON PREP TRIP TO TENNESSEE

Students learn importance of serving those in need

Several Devon Prep upper school students recently traveled 12 hours to Tennessee where they spent their nights sleeping on a classroom floor, and their days painting, sanding, tearing down drywall, pulling up tile and cleaning. And all of them found the experience

quite rewarding.

The ten young men and two chaperons spent a week in Tennessee working for Habitat for Humanity of the

Greater Chattanooga Area, a locally organized and governed nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing organization that builds affordable homes in Chattanooga. They partner with volunteers and low income families to build houses that are sold at no profit and with no interest.

"I saw the service trip as an opportunity to help others not just in my local community but in an area that I had never been to before," said rising senior Matthew Ferrie of Downingtown. "It really helped me see that all over the country, and the world, millions of people are struggling."

After getting settled at St. Paul Episcopal Church where the group slept in sleeping bags in classrooms, they attended an orientation on what to expect during their week of service. Their first project took place in ReStore, Habitat for Humanity's thrift store that benefits the organization and the people that it serves. The boys spent a day organizing and sorting donations, cleaning up the stock yard, and landscaping.

The next project took place in the organization's warehouse where the students worked on different parts of a house being built in the area. They spent two days sanding and painting siding for the outside of the house and cabinetry for the inside. Working on this project gave many of the students a sense of satisfaction knowing that they were helping to complete a family's home.

"What made this trip special for me was the day we worked in the warehouse, fixing, sanding, and painting cabinets," said Rising Senior Justin Chambers of Glenmoore. "We were told the cabinets were going to a family that has never been able to afford a working or functional kitchen. It's that connection that made me feel the trip was very worthwhile."



Devon Prep students Bryan Donato of Chester Springs (left) and Luke Grycewicz of Phoenixville recently participated in the school's annual summer service trip in Tennessee working for Habitat for Humanity of the Greater Chattanooga Area.

Rising Junior Luke Grycewicz of Phoenixville couldn't agree more. "One of the most outstanding parts of our work in Chattanooga was when our supervisor told us the story of the family we were helping and how the people doing the construction could not complete the house without our help," he said.

Their final project included a full day working on Habitat for Humanity's revitalization program in the poverty stricken Glass Farm District of Chattanooga. They started demolition on an abandoned building that once was housed a thriving business. The goal was to renovate the space so that a new business could move in. They tore down walls, pulled up floor tiles, and in general demolished the space. By the end of the day the space was ready for the next phase of renovation.

"At the end of the day I wanted to be able to say that we as a team were able to accomplish

something that will allow other people to achieve more in their lives," Ferrie said. "The trip as a whole taught me invaluable lessons of accomplishment and selflessness. While we were working throughout the day you realized that there are many people who are not nearly as fortunate as we all are, and

that we should look to help others who are in true need."

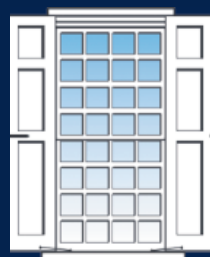
Although the main purpose was to do service, time was built into the trip for the group to explore the Chattanooga area, see some of the sights, go swimming and even take in a Chattanooga Lookouts minor league baseball game. Getting to know the area gave the boys a deeper understanding of the needs of those living there. It also provided an opportunity for the boys to bond with each other.

"I went on the service trip to help those who are less fortunate, get involved in community service, and bond with the other students," Chambers explained. "I learned that there are many people who are less fortunate and are in need of help, but also realized that there are many good and caring people in the world who are willing to help and give hope to those in need."

"It was both a tough and rewarding week," said Faculty Member and Chaperon Mr. Dylan Gavin. "The boys were exposed to people who were less fortunate than they are and they realized that even the smallest amount of help can go a long way."

Learn more about Devon Prep at the Fall Open House on Sunday, October 1 from 10 AM - 1 PM, 363 North Valley Forge Road in Devon. For more information call 610-688-7337 or visit devonprep.com.

Devon Prep is a private, catholic, college preparatory school for boys in grades six through 12 focused on the holistic education of young men for life. Located on a picturesque 20 acre campus in Devon, Chester County, Devon Prep enrolls nearly 300 students who hail from the five county Philadelphia area.



Media-Providence Friends School



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Fall Open Houses
October 20th • November 10th
Age 3 - Grade 8 • mpfs.org • Media, PA

SACRED HEART ACADEMY BRYN MAWR

Community input results in school's name change

Country Day School of the Sacred Heart is now Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr.

The name change comes after a community survey that involved parents, students, alumnae, faculty and staff. Through all of the comments and conversations, it was clear that Sacred Heart was how the school has been known and called for many years. The selection of Sacred Heart Academy made sense. Including the designation of Bryn Mawr in our name allows us to reinforce the positive aspect of our location in one of the most beautiful communities in the country.

Our school has been

educating girls for more than 150 years. The school has been dedicated to the mission of a Sacred Heart education since its founding in 1865, that commitment continues today. Sacred Heart Academy is a member of the Sacred Heart Network of Schools, a network that includes 24 Sacred Heart schools in the US and Canada.

During the 2017-2018 school year, Sacred Heart schools across the United States will celebrate 200 years of being in this country. In 1818, St. Rose Philippine Duchesne left France to establish Sacred Heart schools in North America. The

first school opened outside of Europe, the Academy of the Sacred Heart in St. Charles, Missouri, is still in operation today. St. Rose Philippine Rose Duchesne embodied fortitude, faith, courage and humility during her days; she continues to inspire all children of the Sacred Heart today.

The 9th Grade Scholarship Entrance Exam is on October 21, 2017. Register online. Upper School Open House is October 21; the All School Open House (kindergarten through 12th grade) is October 24. Learn more about a Sacred Heart education at www.SHABryn-mawr.org



Students show off the new logo and name - Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr.



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Middle School - October 29

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NDAPA.ORG/OPENHOUSE



FALL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 1, 2017

9 AM - Mass

10 AM - 1 PM - Open House

Early Decision High School Entrance Exam

Saturday, October 21

at 8:30 AM

High School & Middle School Scholarship/Entrance Exam

Saturday, November 4

at 8:30 AM

Sunday, December 3 at 8:30 AM

Middle School Scholarship/Entrance Exam

Sunday, February 11, 2018

at 8:30 AM



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FRIENDS' CENTRAL SCHOOL

Students have celestial experience at Green Bank Observatory

WYNNEWOOD » Twenty Friends' Central Upper School students and three science teachers spent the weekend of June 17-18 at Green Bank Observatory in the Shenandoah Mountains of West Virginia. The trip was the culmination of a yearlong study of astrophysics and astronomy that featured a visit from Barnard College professor Janna Levin, author and theoretical physicist. Green Bank Observatory is a premiere radio astronomy research site and home of the world's largest fully steerable tele-

scope, the Green Bank Telescope, a 100-foot, highly sensitive instrument that is responsible for a wide range of astronomical discoveries, including the detection of many new pulsars and the most massive neutron star ever observed.

Students had a full tour of the astronomy campus that included a visit to the main control room for the Green Bank Telescope. There, Dr. Frank Ghigo (a cousin of FCS Middle School Principal Alexa Quinn) described how the instrument is used and gave

some of the history of the facility and important research applications. Dr. Ghigo also described the need for shielding and protection from stray ambient radio frequency emissions that have become almost ubiquitous in our high-tech environment. Later, students were trained in small groups on a 40-foot radio telescope, learning how to steer and point the instrument and scan through a range of radio frequencies to look for ground-state hydrogen emissions from a characteristic 21 cm radio

wavelength that is emitted by hydrogen in space. After dinner, students met in the Drake lounge with Dr. Ron Maddalena, a GBT scientist and former research mentor to FCS science department's Debbie Skapik. Dr. Maddalena spoke to students about his own astronomy background and research interests, about the Drake equation that uses a variety of variables in an effort to estimate the number of communicative extraterrestrial civilizations that might exist in our galaxy, and about national funding for astronomy and basic science research.

Students stayed up all night on Saturday, rotating in small teams through the underground bunker beneath the 40-foot radio telescope to aim the dish at different parts of the sky



Friends' Central students Anna Volpp of Wynnewood, Josh Weinstein of Villanova, Hannah Benjet of Bryn Mawr, Lindsey Schweitzer of Philadelphia, Matt Berger of Penn Valley, and Kendrick Key of Philadelphia collect data on a 40-foot radio telescope during their trip to Green Bank Observatory in the Shenandoah Mountains of West Virginia.

at precise times in order to pick up signals from known radio sources. The teams were very successful in collecting some valuable data, and their hydrogen spectra were discussed and an-

alyzed in a group session on Sunday morning.

Among the objects the students observed over the many hours of the summer night were Saturn, a star-

CELESTIAL » PAGE 10

LAUNFAL SCHOOL

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FALL 2017 OPEN HOUSE DATES

GRADE 9 SCHOLARSHIP ENTRANCE EXAM

Saturday, October 21, 2017
8:45 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Register: www.SHAbrynmawr.org

OPEN HOUSE UPPER SCHOOL

Saturday, October 21, 2017
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE K-12

Tuesday, October 24, 2017
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

www.SHAbrynmawr.org

STRATFORD FRIENDS SCHOOL

Shine Bright program enriches students' learning through occupational therapy

NEWTOWN SQUARE » Stratford Friends School (SFS), the first Quaker school in America designed to serve unique learners, is making exciting changes to programming. Beginning Sept 2017, SFS launches the Shine Bright initiative for K-9 students. Unique in the Delaware Valley, Shine Bright integrates occupational therapy into existing academic, social/emotional, and speech programming across all environments. Students will learn and practice the skills they need throughout their everyday routine not just the therapy room.

Occupational therapy has been shown through research to be a key resource for success in educating children with language-based learning differences. As the only independent school in the region offering integrated OT, we enable students to learn and strengthen motor, social-emotional, and cognitive skills, and sensory processing. These skills are proven to support academic growth and achievement.

Stratford Friends School Head of School, Jill Dougherty, said, "The powerful difference is how our Occupational Therapist, Speech-Language Pathologist, and School Psychologist will work with our amazing classroom teachers to seamlessly implement the best practices in all aspects of the school day. We are growing our program to include what students need to celebrate their strengths, build self-esteem, and develop self-advocacy, as they become

strong independent learners.

Stratford Friends School has worked to foster each student's inner light with their strong academic, speech and language and social/emotional curriculum. This new integrated curriculum that includes occupational therapy will allow each student's inner light to Shine Bright.

For more information about Stratford Friends School and the Shine Bright program, visit at www.stratfordfriends.org.



Stratford Friends School has worked to foster each student's inner light with their strong academic, speech and language and social/emotional curriculum.

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Stratford Friends is a K-9 Quaker school that believes that every child can become an engaged learner. We specialize in providing a nurturing environment for children with ADHD, Dyslexia or other language based learning differences who have found it challenging to be successful in traditional school settings. Our core curriculum is designed to develop independent learners, boost self-esteem, and celebrate students' strengths!

Our research based programs feature:

- Elementary Student - Teacher Ratio: 6:1
- Middle School Student - Teacher Ratio: 10:1
- Multisensory Academic Program
- Orton - Gillingham Phonics Based Reading Program
- Daily Two Hour Literacy Block
- Saxon Math® and Making Math Real®
- Metacognition and Executive Function Supports
- Integrated Speech & Language Therapy
- Integrated Occupational Therapy
- One-to-One Student Technology Initiative

**Learn more at
www.stratfordfriends.org**



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ACADEMY OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR

Scholar programs recognizes academic excellence

STEM and Global Citizen programs offer unique learning experiences

High school students at the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur in Villanova have a new opportunity to deepen their academic experience through a new four-year Scholar Program.

Accepted students participate in a program of study involving curricular and co-curricular activities in one of two areas:

STEM Scholar of Excellence - Provides opportunities for students to demonstrate scholarship in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Students are required to take STEM Scholar approved courses, participate in external STEM competition or independent re-



search, attend STEM-related academic lectures and events, and complete a senior capstone project.

Global Citizen Scholar - Provides opportunities for students to develop global competencies by studying

Activity Velocity at Academy of Notre Dame. While challenging courses mark the Academy's academic rigor, Notre Dame is a caring, spiritual community, guided by the faith tradition of the Catholic Church, the service of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the school's Honor Code.

global themes and issues through approved elective courses, cross-cultural experiences, educational

and community-engagement, international travel, and participation in globally-focused domestic programs. Seniors present a global citizen portfolio for assessment.

Notre Dame's Academic Dean Kim Eife coordinates the STEM Scholar Program. "We are excited to welcome our first cohort of STEM Scholars from the Class of 2020. This program will provide additional academic opportunities to highly motivated students with a passion for science, technology, engineering, and math and a desire to delve deeper into these disciplines."

Students who success-

fully complete the Scholar Program will receive a designation on their official transcript and recognition at graduation.


"The Global Citizen Scholar Program at Notre Dame is a unique opportunity for high school students who feel strongly about developing the skills and perspective to grow into contributing global citizens. Only a small percentage of schools in the country offer this type of program," said Nora Moffat, Director of Notre Dame's Center for Global Leadership.

Since 1856, the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur has educated, empowered, and inspired young women for a lifetime of compassionate leadership and service. Beginning in the sixth grade, every aspect of a Notre Dame education builds the academic skills, personal abilities, and spiritual foundation needed to excel in college and beyond.


While challenging courses mark the Academy's academic rigor, Notre Dame is a caring, spiritual community, guided by the faith tradition of the Catholic Church, the service of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the school's Honor Code.

To learn more about a Notre Dame education, visit campus for personal tour or attend the Open House on Sunday, October 1 from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. To register, visit ndapa.org/openhouse or contact Admissions at 610.971.0498.

The Academy of Notre Dame de Namur will host an Open House for grades 6 through 12 on Sunday, October 1 from 10:30 am - 1:30 pm. To register, visit ndapa.org/openhouse,




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DELAWARE VALLEY FRIENDS SCHOOL

Students welcomed to new Lower School program

Last December, DVFS Head of School Kirk Smothers and Clerk of the Board of Trustees Curt Grogan announced that the school would expand to include a lower school program serving students in grades 3-5 beginning this fall. With the lower school program, DVFS becomes the only Friends school in the Philadelphia area dedicated solely to the education of students who learn differently from elementary through high school.

Reaching more students - earlier

The decision to expand to include a lower school is a response to research that supports the importance of early intervention in the long-term success of students with learning differ-

ences. According to the National Center for Learning Disabilities, approximately 1 in 20 school-aged children are identified with a learning disability (dyslexia, dyscalculia, dysgraphia) or an associate deficit or disorder (ADHD, executive functioning deficit, auditory or visual processing deficits, or nonverbal learning disability). As many as 15% of their peers struggle with such conditions but go undiagnosed. Years of educational research has led to a consensus among experts that the earlier a student's needs can be identified and addressed, the better off they will be in terms of their childhood development and in building skills for future academic success which continues into adult life. This is true whether

a student's challenges apply to reading, math, executive function or other difficulties.

Deeper and broader fulfillment of mission

The expansion into elementary school also enables the school to fulfill its mission to prepare students with learning differences for future work and study at a deeper and broader level.

According to Jason Seggern, DVFS Lower and Middle School Director, "I have seen first hand the incredible impact our program has on students and families in the middle and upper school. I am thrilled that we will be able to share our educational expertise with a new set of students and families in the lower school."

Christy Zawadzkas, who joins the team as the new Assistant Director of Lower School and Middle School

Counselor agrees that, "by helping students to gain a better understanding of themselves as learners and

inspiring them to take ownership of their learning, DVFS propels its students

FRIENDS » PAGE 11

Delaware Valley Friends School

Building brighter futures for students who learn differently

Lower School

GRADES 3-5

Building solid foundations at just the right time



Middle School

GRADES 6-8

Building character and skills for high school success

Upper School

GRADES 9-12

Preparing for bright futures beyond high school



ACADEMICS | CHARACTER | COMMUNITY

DVFS is the only area Quaker school dedicated to educating students with learning differences in elementary through high school.

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GRADES 3-12

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KIMBERTON WALDORF SCHOOL

Garden to table initiative launched with new heirloom garden

PHOENIXVILLE » Kimberton Waldorf School's Rosebud Garden Preschool has recently expanded their program to support families with extended hours and has launched a garden to table initiative with their new biodynamic heirloom garden.

The newly announced yearlong preschool program will allow working families the opportunity to enroll their children for extended weeks in the summer and during school breaks. "Parents will now be able to keep their children in the rhythm and routine of their days with a more consistent schedule," says Lisa Cordner, Director of Enrollment at Kimberton Waldorf School.

Waldorf early childhood teachers are dedicated to



Located on the campus of Rosebud Garden preschool, between the barn and pond, Farmhouse Manna Heirloom Garden is now overflowing with organically grown heirloom vegetables, herbs and flowers including prolific crops of strawberries, asparagus, kale, spinach, sweet potatoes, basil, tarragon, chamomile and sunflowers.

creating loving, warm and beautiful environments that remind us of home, and providing the children with the sense that they are protected and secure. Young children are comforted in knowing that their day will be predictable and rhythmical,

and their classrooms establish this through a gentle weaving of free, creative play and practical and artistic activities in which they readily engage.

In Rosebud Garden classrooms, they also nurture the development of the child's

soul through beauty, well-being and healthy food. Children are provided home cooked snacks and lunches that are wholesome, organic and nourishing. Rosebud's heirloom garden provides fresh fruits and vegetables; the chickens gift their eggs; butter is churned from cream provided by the cows across from the main campus. Great care is taken to include the children in food preparation, to create a beautiful table for meals and instill reverence through thankfulness as meals are shared together.

This year, Kimberton Waldorf parent Jason Knott has created a biodynamic heirloom garden on the grounds of the preschool program. Located on the campus of Rosebud Garden preschool, between the barn and pond, Farmhouse Manna Heirloom Garden is now overflowing with organically grown heirloom vegetables, herbs and flowers including prolific crops of strawberries, asparagus, kale, spinach, sweet potatoes, basil, tarragon, chamomile and sunflowers.

It has long been the dream

of early childhood teacher Chinyelu Kunz to have a garden where the children can have opportunities to participate in the seasonal life of a garden thus cultivating a gardening experience that is truly rich and alive!

"The beauty of food is that we can cultivate it right in our own backyard gardens and on our farms. With only a few seeds, we can grow bountiful crops. So whether we grow a garden or prepare a nourishing meal, we are inviting the experience of a more passionate, connected and richer life," says Kunz.

In honor of the Farmhouse Manna Heirloom Garden at Rosebud Garden, Kimberton Waldorf School will be holding a fundraising dinner to support the continued effort to nourish our children with healthy organic food and have our garden be a place of community and education for students and adults. To celebrate and honor the success of garden, we will serve an al fresco meal highlighting organic heirloom vegetables harvested from our garden and

an array of seasonal delights from the Farmhouse Manna cookbook on Saturday, Sept. 23.

For more information and reservations, please contact farmhouse-manna@gmail.com.

Kimberton Waldorf School is situated on 425-acres in Chester County. It was founded in 1941 by Alarik and Mabel Pew Myrin and is the second-oldest Waldorf School in North America.

Kimberton Waldorf School offers a developmentally-appropriate, experiential approach to education. We integrate the arts and academics for children from preschool through twelfth grade, seeking to inspire a lifelong love of learning in all students and to enable each to fully develop his or her unique capacities.

With over 1,000 Waldorf schools worldwide and more than 250 in the United States alone, Kimberton Waldorf School is part of one of the largest and fastest-growing independent school movements in the world.

To find out more, please visit www.kimberton.org.



SERVING OUR EARTH, CHANGING OUR WORLD

Founded in 2001, the **YMCA Earth Service Corps** at the **Upper Main Line YMCA** offers teens a hands-on experience in environmental education through service projects, field trips and high-adventure expeditions.

- **Wildlife Science and Habitat Restoration**
- **Sustainable Agriculture**
- **Animal Care**
- **Environmental Career Exploration**

For details, contact **TONY GEIGER**,
tgeiger@ymcagbw.org or 610-647-9622, x2013.

Financial assistance is available.

UPPER MAIN LINE YMCA 1416 Berwyn-Paoli Road • Berwyn, PA 19312 • www.ymcagbw.org
a branch of the YMCA of Greater Brandywine



Celestial

FROM PAGE 6

forming gas cloud called the Trifid nebula, a galaxy called Cygnus A, and a supermassive black hole at the center of our own Milky Way galaxy called Sagittarius A*. James Meyers, a rising senior and member of the Science Core Team, said that operating the 40-foot telescope with all of its dials and switches made him feel like he was on the set of a science movie, but even more importantly, made him feel like he was actually doing the work of a research scientist.

Kendrick Key '20 remarked, "I'll never forget the feeling of amazement I had when the pens on our detector went soaring off the page as the center of our galaxy passed through the gaze of the radio telescope."

Reflecting on the experience, Elizabeth Forsyth '20 said, "It was honestly one of the coolest things I've ever participated in. To be able to track celestial objects with a radio telescope in the middle of the night was awesome. Also, the fact that the site was basically in the middle of nowhere, surrounded by mountains. ... Everyone was so proud of the data we got. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience."

The visit to FCS by Dr. Janna Levin this spring was made possible by Friends' Central's Distinguished Lecture Series, which seeks to inspire the next generation of writers, educators, scientists, researchers, policy makers, and thinkers by bringing renowned scholars to campus for courses and a public lecture. A core group of Friends' Central students prepare for the lectures in advance and participate in special classes and workshops both on campus and at the lecturer's home institution as part of the Distinguished Visiting Humanist and Scientist Programs. The lectures are always free and open to the general public.



With the lower school program, DVFS becomes the only Friends school in the Philadelphia area dedicated solely to the education of students who learn differently from elementary through high school.

Friends

FROM PAGE 9

to succeed beyond their own expectations. DVFS teachers are highly committed to the academic, social, and emotional welfare of each student as they go through these formative years.”

“We believe in the power of educating students who learn differently under the guidance of Quaker principles and practice. Our students, who are often judged and misunderstood because of their academic difficulties in mainstream schools, are embraced as people of infinite inherent worth and able to meet

their full potential because of the environment and programs of Delaware Valley Friends School” adds Head of School Kirk Smothers.

For more information about Delaware Valley Friends School’s Lower School program, visit the website at www.dvfs.org/lowerschool.

VILLA MARIA LOWER SCHOOL

First school in USA to install Opening the Book library furniture

Villa Maria Academy Lower School held its Annual Fund program this year to fundraise for a new Learning Commons, a more modern library concept for students.

After months of research, Villa’s principal, Sister Susan Joseph, IHM, chose the Opening the Book Discovery Layout for the new design. The research-based furniture, designed by Opening the Book, a company in Europe, is the “first to be installed in a school in the United States,” said Jolie Conahan, Director of Sales and Marketing for Opening the Book, North America. The Discovery Layout “creates a dynamic experience and

draws everyone forward to explore the whole space,” and the “layouts offer smooth organic flows which entice people forward with a continuous sense of exploration and discovery.”

The open concept, comfy seating and small meeting spaces with white board top tables offer students more opportunities to discover, create and collaborate, encouraging them to reach out to their peers, and share knowledge. Building collaboration skills is an important part of a Villa Maria Academy education. Building collaboration skills leads to deeper learning and understanding of content and empowers and

enables students’ resilience. Thank you to Villa’s many donors who have made this new Learning Commons possible.

The blessing of the Learning Commons will take place after the opening of school in September.

Villa Maria Academy empowers young women through leadership and service in the IHM tradition. As a Catholic elementary school, Villa is committed to the moral and spiritual growth of each student. As an all-girls school, Villa Maria differentiates instruction to the specific needs of girls, while integrating the latest in instructional technology.

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November 1 > 9 - 11:00 am

December 5 > 9 - 11:00 am

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VISIT US THIS FALL

ADMISSION INFO SESSIONS: OCT. 4

Middle & Upper School • 8:30 am

Lower School • 9 am

COLUMBUS DAY OPEN HOUSE: OCT. 9

Lower School • 9-11 am

Middle & Upper School • 12:30-2 pm

Register online at friendscentral.org