

SENIOR TRANSFORMATIONS

We thought it would be fun to look back on our seniors' most awkward years and see how far they've come! on **PAGE 6**.



UNEXPECTED BOOK SURPRISES

Mrs. Knipping's class had some surprise communications with famous authors! Read more on **PAGE 3**!



SENIOR CROSSWORD SEARCH

Can you conquer the senior crossword puzzle? Test your knowledge of the Class of 2021 on **PAGE 11**!

THE INLET

Vol. 9, No. 5

SHELTER ISLAND SCHOOL

JUNE 2021

VAL/SAL OF THE CLASS OF 2021 ANNOUNCED



BY CALEB WASILEWSKI

Congratulations to the valedictorian and salutatorian of the class of 2021! This year's valedictorian, Theodore Olinkiewicz, will be attending Rensselaer Polytechnic University in Troy, NY to study Engineering. Theo says, "It feels surreal being named valedictorian. It has been a lifelong goal of mine and I knew it would make my mom proud." As for how he made it happen, Theo explains, "It was all about making sure I got my work in on time or even early if possible. That was key for me." This year's salutatorian Jane Richards is headed to the University of New England where she will be studying Nursing and playing on the women's volleyball team. Jane shares, "It feels a little overwhelming to be named salutatorian because it was unexpected, but very exciting. It felt like, 'whoa, this is really happening?!'" Jane

also wanted to make sure to acknowledge her classmates for pushing her. She says, "I am very grateful for [fellow seniors] Nick and Theo, because they have been my competition forever." Unlike Theo, being at the top of her class was not a lifelong goal for Jane, but one she first thought about when she was entering high school. Her inspiration came from the speech the valedictorian gave the year Jane was in 9th grade. "When I was in 9th grade, Olivia Yeaman was the valedictorian and she said her biggest advice to underclassmen was to do your homework...it is the easiest 100% you can get." Jane then, "Followed that advice pretty religiously during high school and it ended up paying off." Both Theo and Jane are truly academic role models; our sincerest congratulations to them both!



PHOTO BY MRS. TREHARNE

CONGRATS BRANDON VELASQUEZ!



PHOTO BY MRS. TREHARNE
SENIOR BRANDON VELASQUEZ PREPARES TO SIGN HIS LETTER OF COMMITMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF HIS FULL-RIDE SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTEND THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND.



PHOTO BY DEVON TREHARNE
BRANDON VELASQUEZ IS ALL SMILES AS HE IS SURROUNDED BY HIS FELLOW SENIORS FOLLOWING HIS SIGNING CEREMONY TO ATTEND URI.

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IS SOFTBALL SEXIST?

BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

As we get closer to the end of the school year, closer to summer, and closer to returning to normal life before COVID, Shelter Island students have been enjoying getting outside and playing the school's spring sports. At Shelter Island, we offer spring track, baseball, and softball, track being offered for both boys and girls, while baseball and softball are (generally) separated by gender, softball being played by girls, while baseball is played by boys. The widely held belief, and what I had always thought, was that softball was the "separate but equal" equivalent of baseball for girls, but this year, while I played softball as well as watched the boys baseball games, I started to notice the differences between the two sports, leading me to wonder why these differences even exist in the first place, and question the need for the two different sports.

In other sports (basketball, volleyball, golf, running, etc.) there are generally no differences between the "boys' version" of the game and the "girls' version" except for the players themselves. Equipment might change size slightly relative to the size of the players, but the size of the court or field and the rules themselves are the same regardless of gender. Baseball and softball are a different story altogether. While the two sports are similar in theory, the discrepancies that separate baseball and softball show that softball is not the "girls' equivalent," but rather, a completely different sport. Softball is most easily recognized by the larger neon yellow ball, much smaller field, and the underhand pitch, but also has different safety equipment, bats, and regulations that go along with these changes. Every one of these differences seem to be geared towards making the game "easier":

a larger, more brightly colored ball is easier to see and hit, a smaller field means a shorter distance to run and throw, and the underhand pitch is meant to diminish the speed of the ball, making it easier to hit. Noticing these differences, I wondered about the origin of softball, and especially if it was invented for women as an alternative to baseball. Because if so, it seemed that the differences between the games were intended as sexist.

I learned that softball was originally invented by men in the 1880s as a safer, less competitive, and easier game than baseball that could be played indoors to practice or just have fun. So, all of the differences between softball and baseball really stem from softball's origins as a low-competition, low-risk sport, and not from a desire to make an "easier" game for women. Slowpitch softball (as opposed to fastpitch) started out as the more popular game, because the purpose of pitching didn't need to be fast and aggressive in order to get strikes or outs, but rather give the batter an easy opportunity to swing and get the ball in play. Fastpitch softball rose to popularity more recently, when there was a desire to make the game more competitive, and change how the game is played. In making the game more competitive, the differences that were originally in place in the game to make it less difficult, actually made it harder. The larger ball makes it more difficult to throw and hit longer distances, the shorter pitching distance means that the batter has less time to react, the underhand style of pitching makes it harder to pitch as fast as an overhand pitch, and the smaller field means base-runners have to be faster, making it more difficult to get on base. This more

competitive and challenging game is a departure from the original purpose of softball, and further separated it as a sport from baseball.

So, if it was invented by men, and is played by both men and women, why and when did softball become viewed as a "women's" sport, and surpass baseball as the sport for young girls? In the 1970's after the passing of Title IX, the law which prohibits sex-based discrimination in education (also extending to school sports programs), debates over the participation of girls in Little League baseball arose. Legal battles between Little League and the families of girls who wanted to play baseball ended in 1974, when it was ruled that Little League baseball had to admit girls into their programs. Because of this ruling, Little League softball was also created, specifically for girls, as a supposed equivalent to baseball. This marked the beginning of softball becoming a sport that women are expected to play rather than baseball, and the creation of the idea that the two sports are equal, when in reality, they should be considered separately.

While yes, because of Title IX girls can play baseball, it doesn't mean that they do. Here at Shelter Island, and like many other towns, co-ed Little League baseball is offered up until a certain age, when girls are expected to switch into playing softball, and the sports become divided. While no rules prohibit girls from playing baseball beyond this point, it can be difficult to stick with baseball when you are one of a few, or the only girl on the team, and because it is very rare to find a women's baseball team or a co-ed team that extends past elementary school, most girls make the switch over to softball, an entirely different sport than the one they had trained

to play.

Ultimately there is no reason why girls shouldn't play baseball. Besides the societal barriers that hinder our ability to continue playing baseball, there are no reasonable arguments to be made on the inability of women to run a longer distance, throw an overhand pitch, or use a smaller ball, and the only reason we don't play baseball is the lack of opportunities that are given to us to do so. The origins of softball make sense, as a game that started to practice the original game of baseball, but to continue perpetuating the idea that softball is the women's equivalent of baseball can no longer hold water in our society, and it should not continue to automatically replace baseball for young girls. Instead, we have to treat the sports as the two different sports that they are, and stop pushing girls out of baseball. If girl's baseball teams were offered, or if co-ed teams continued past elementary school, I'm sure that many girls would not make the choice to switch to softball. Additionally, as society's perception of gender continues to change, segregated sports may become a thing of the past, so why not start offering one sport, baseball, for all genders, as we do in other sports? Of course, it's difficult to change decades of sports culture overnight, but if we stop pressuring girls out of baseball and giving them the opportunity to choose for themselves, both sports could change forever. Softball itself is not sexist, but the way it has been adopted into our culture has ingrained sexism into the sport, turning it into something it wasn't intended to be, and diminishing opportunities for girls.

We would love to hear from you!
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DAY OF SILENCE MAKES AN IMPACT

BY EMMA MARTINEZ

The matter of LGBTQ+ individuals being discriminated against becomes more pressing every day. Luckily on Shelter Island, the environment surrounding LGBTQ+ students is accepting and loving, and we feel comfortable in our own skin and most importantly, included. But this is not the case for many of the LGBTQ+ youth around the globe, and Shelter Island School's Unity Club wanted to bring awareness to that.

On April 23rd, the Unity Club organized a Day of Silence, a day where students, both LGBTQ+ and heterosexual, wore rainbow masks in honor of the pride flag, and stayed silent from periods 1 through 5 in support of the LGBTQ+'s perseverance through hate and discrimination in which they often feel silenced. Approximately 50 students and many staff participated, and it made the few LGBTQ+ students on Shelter Island relieved and excited. "I was so surprised at how many people participated," says Caleb Wasilewski, a senior who identifies as

pansexual, "It made me so excited and I felt really supported." To see our heterosexual, cisgender peers see us, hear us, support us, and participate with us in an event like this made the LGBTQ+ students at Shelter Island, including myself, feel relieved. The teachers of Shelter Island are extremely supportive and inclusive, with many rooms decorated with pride flags and ally stickers, and I and the other LGBTQ+ students feel safe here. Mrs. Treharne, an English teacher and the advisor of Unity Club, says, "The Day of Silence is recognized across the country, and I thought it was really important to bring it to our school because I think it's deeply impactful to both students who identify as LGBTQ+ and also to those who don't." The students who were not LGBTQ+ and still participated, such as Franny Regan, a junior, were "inspired by Mrs. Treharne's story about the former LGBTQ+ student" who had confided in the teacher by thanking her for starting the club. The student had

shared that they were afraid to be out at school, and that if the club had existed when they were still in school, they would've felt safer and more supported. Dayla Reyes, also a junior, shared that she participated "to support the LGBTQ+ community and to spread awareness about the effects of bullying and harassment that happens towards the community."

The Unity Club will always be here to support the LGBTQ+ students of Shelter Island, and we can count on them for raising awareness and organizing events in support of them. As a senior at Shelter Island who identifies as pansexual, I hold much love in my heart for Mrs. Treharne and for all the students, both LGBTQ+ and non-LGBTQ+, who continue to speak out against the hate towards our community.



PHOTO BY MRS. DEVON TREHARNE
MS. NATALIE REGAN IS ALL SMILES UNDER HER RAINBOW MASK, WHILE WEARING A SUPER COLORFUL RAINBOW SWEATER IN SUPPORT OF THE "DAY OF SILENCE."



PHOTO BY MS. MICHELLE CORBETT
SOME OF THE "DAY OF SILENCE" PARTICIPANTS GATHER BEFORE HEADING BACK TO CLASSES.



PHOTO BY MRS. LYNNE COLLIGAN
STUDENTS GATHER OUTSIDE IN THEIR RAINBOW MASKS ON THE "DAY OF SILENCE" TO PREPARE TO BREAK THEIR SILENCE WITH A BIG SCREAM!

UNEXPECTED BOOK SURPRISES

BY DARIA KOLMOGOROVA

Mrs. Knipfing and her third graders read Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo to learn about characters a few weeks ago and her students absolutely fell in love with the book. Students followed Opal's journey in the novel and when it was done, they wrote a letter to author Kate DiCamillo. Students were shocked and thrilled to receive

a letter back. Inspired by the correspondence, two third grade girls, Amara Cajamarca Goodale and Harlie Becker, decided they would write their own letters to the author of their personal favorite book series, Pony Pals. Mrs. Knipfing and the girls were in for another shock when Pony Pals author Jeanne Betancourt not only replied to the girls, but

shared that she is extremely familiar with Shelter Island because she has a home in Orient on the North Fork! These were thrilling surprises for the third grade...and who knows? Maybe Ms. Betancourt can pay the third grade a visit sometime!

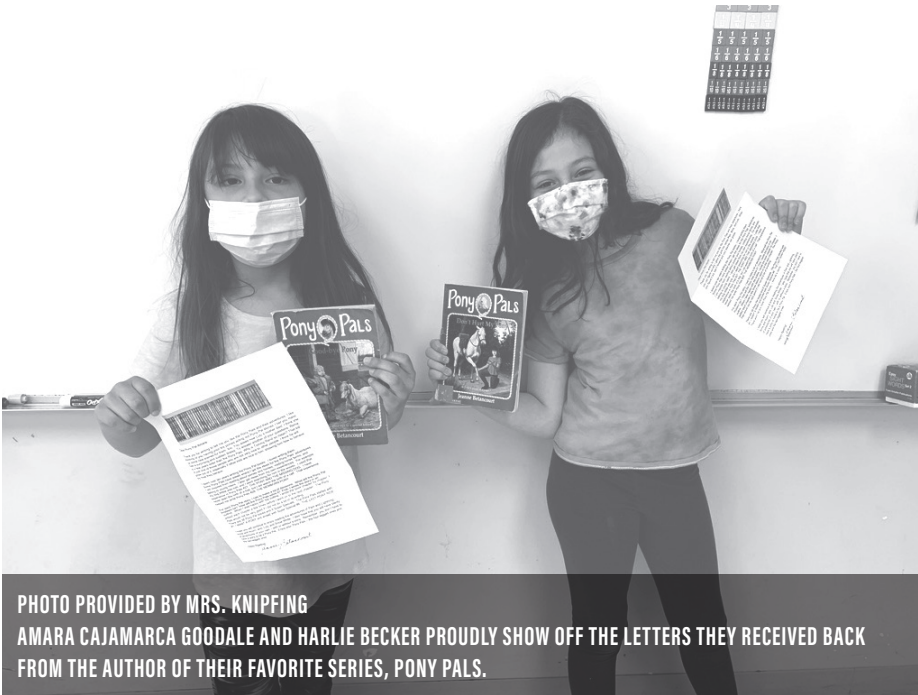


PHOTO PROVIDED BY MRS. KNIPFING
AMARA CAJAMARCA GOODALE AND HARLIE BECKER PROUDLY SHOW OFF THE LETTERS THEY RECEIVED BACK FROM THE AUTHOR OF THEIR FAVORITE SERIES, PONY PALS.

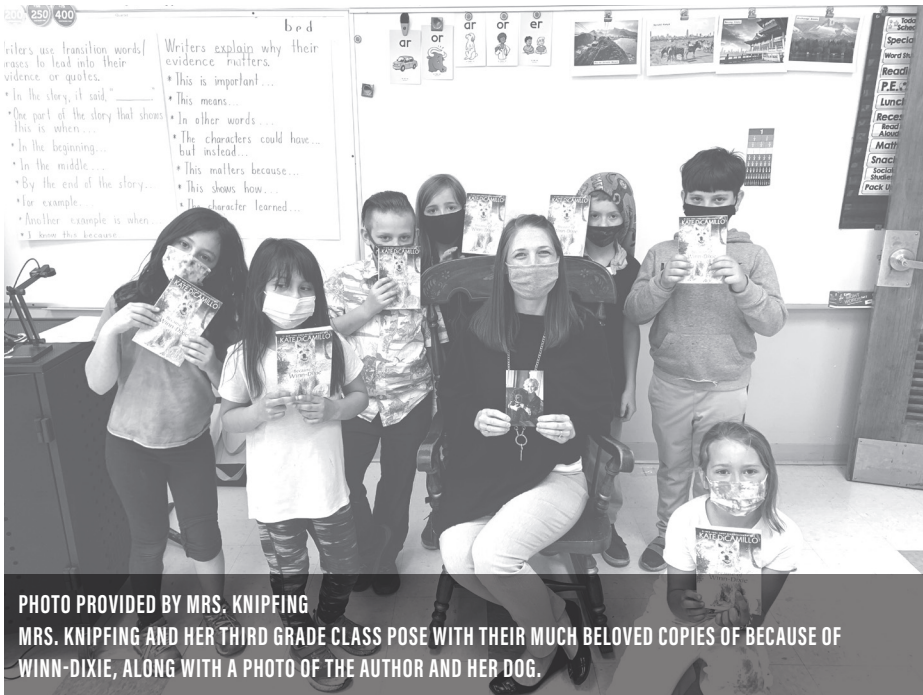


PHOTO PROVIDED BY MRS. KNIPFING
MRS. KNIPFING AND HER THIRD GRADE CLASS POSE WITH THEIR MUCH BELOVED COPIES OF BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE, ALONG WITH A PHOTO OF THE AUTHOR AND HER DOG.

PROM 2021 PREVIEW
BY MYLA DOUGHERTY

One of the events we all look forward to at the end of the year is the prom, a night to dance and have fun after a long school year, hosted by the junior class. The prom is open to all students in grades 9-12, and seniors will be allowed to bring dates from outside of our school with administrative permission. This year's prom will be held on the beautiful grounds of Sylvester Manor Farm, in the garden of the manor house, on June 18th. The prom will start at 6:00 pm, with time for pictures starting at 5:30, and will end at 10:00 pm. To go with the "Secret Garden" theme, the grounds will be decorated with greenery and flowers, and soft lighting to blend seamlessly with the natural beauty of the garden. There will be a variety of areas for students to explore and enjoy throughout the garden, including casual seating areas and tables. There will also be a number of ways to document the memorable night. The junior class made a commitment to create a prom that is as environmentally friendly as possible by cutting down on plastic use and having sustainable packaging

for food items. The juniors also wanted to support local businesses and use as many as possible, which will be reflected in the assortment of food. Food and refreshments will be served picnic-style to continue with the garden theme, and party-goers will be able to fill their picnic baskets with food and drinks from various local restaurants and vendors and then enjoy them wherever they want in the garden. The tent and dance floor will likely be where most of us spend the night, dancing to our favorite songs played by the DJ. At the end of the night, the royal court will be decided by vote, and be presented with flower crowns. Who knows, maybe you'll be crowned! We're all excited to enjoy ourselves after having to endure a school year filled with COVID restrictions, and a lack of the events and activities that we normally enjoy, so the junior class is hoping that their prom will be a fun way to relax. Purchase your tickets from Mrs. Catherine Brigham now, and join us in ending the school year with a bang and kicking off a great summer!



GRADUATION PLANS
BY JALILL CARTER

There have been many questions as to just what graduation will look like this year due to COVID restrictions. Since gathering restrictions have been eased, graduation is happening and we can gather to celebrate the

class of 2021! This year's ceremony will take place on June 26th at 10am, outside on school grounds (weather permitting). Graduates are limited to 10 guests per student, which is a lot of people in comparison to

larger districts. The class of 2021 has chosen juniors Franny Regan and Emmett Cummings as junior guards, a special distinction for the two students. This year's graduating class has had an unusual last year and a

half of school, that is doubtless, but they have persevered and made it to the end. Congratulations to the class of 2021, may you all find happiness and success in your future endeavors!



SURVIVING THE 2021 SENIOR ORAL COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS

BY EMMA MARTINEZ MAJDIŠOVÁ

This year's OCE's were a total success! The Class of 2021 has worked through many obstacles this year: an uncertain start to the school year, loads of work, and COVID-19. But with graduation only several weeks away, we recognize and respect their hard work and perseverance. The OCE is an Oral Comprehension Exam, during which each member of the senior class gives a 45 minute presentation in front of a faculty panel. The presentations are first centered around senior thesis papers, and then on reflections of each student's individual experiences on Shelter Island and in our school. Emma Teodoru, attending Salve Regina in the fall, says the OCE took her "about two weeks just creating the

basic slides, but adding all the little details to make it perfect took about a month.” She says that she presented about ten times in total to herself, and one night even “presented to Lydia Shepherd while [they] were working at the Tuck Shop.” Public speaking is not an easy feat, but the goal is that each student learns to overcome their nerves through the process. Jalill Carter, a senior currently debating between SUNY Cortland and SUNY Albany, shares that he “wasn’t very nervous for the presentation,” and says “the entire

time I felt relaxed.” However, some students didn’t feel this way. A soon-to-be Florida Southern University student, Tyler Gulluscio, remembers that his “nerves were terrible before [he] started, but he felt extremely comfortable after the third slide.” For some students, a little bit of humor made the nerves disappear. Brandon Velasquez, a future University of Rhode Island student, shares that “Around my 5th slide, I made my panel laugh, and I instantly felt more comfortable.” Some Shelter Island teachers share that the Class of 2021 has done better with their OCE’s than the many of senior classes before, and to that, we all congratulate

them! Jane Richards, heading to the University of New England, is grateful for the OCE experience. She shares, “it definitely showed me that practicing presentations make it much easier when the day actually comes to do it in front of others. At first, I struggled with how to structure my presentation, but the more I practiced, the more I shifted things and figured out what worked. I will keep this in mind when I encounter big projects or presentations in the future in college and I am so glad I learned it now.” Congratulations to the class of 2021! We are all very proud of you, of what you have accomplished, and we wish you luck in the next chapter of your lives!



GUESS THE SENIORS KEY

1. Emma Martinez
2. Grace Olinkiewicz
3. Aroldo Pantaleon-Castro
4. Zeb Mundy
5. Lydia Shepherd

6. Jason Green
7. Wyatt Congdon
8. Brandon Velasquez
9. Theo Olinkiewicz
10. Jane Richards

- 11.Emma Teodoru
- 12.Junior Gil
- 13.James Lupo
- 14.Jalil Carter
- 15.Daniel Schultheis

- 16. Matthew Strauss
- 17. Nick Mamisashvili
- 18. Caleb Wasilewski
- 19. Tyler Gulluscio
- 20. Bradley Batten

CROSSWORD KEY

1. Theo
2. James
3. Jane
4. Lydia

- Wyatt
- Jason
- Caleb
- Bradley

9. Brandon
10. Jalill
11. Matthew
12. Nick

13. Daniel
14. Aroldo
15. Emma M
16. Emma T

- 17. Tyler
- 18. Zeb
- 19. Grace
- 20. Junior

SENIORS

SENIOR TRANSFORMATIONS

By Franny Regan

We thought it would be fun to look back on our seniors' most awkward years and see how far they've come! Check us out in 2014 and 2021! (Students not in our district in 2014 have only their graduation photos included.)



SENIORS: WHAT'S NEXT?

BY MACKENZIE SPEECE

As graduation approaches, the Class of 2021 is figuring out their next steps. Some are college-bound, others are ready to work. Read on to find out where our seniors are headed.



PHOTO BY MRS. TREHARNE
SOME OF THE SENIORS POSE IN THEIR COLLEGE "MERCH" SHOWING OFF WHERE THEIR FUTURE PLANS WILL TAKE ROOT.

- **THEO OLINKIEWICZ (VALEDICTORIAN):** RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (RPI)
- **JANE RICHARDS (SALUTATORIAN):** STUDYING NURSING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND
- **GRACE OLINKIEWICZ:** STONY BROOK UNIVERSITY
- **EMMA MARTINEZ:** AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PARIS
- **JAMES LUPO:** SUFFOLK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- **CALEB WASILEWSKI:** TAKING A GAP YEAR
- **BRADLEY BATTEN:** STUDYING BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AT SUNY ALBANY
- **DANIEL SCHULTHEIS:** STUDYING BUSINESS AT NYIT
- **MATTHEW STRAUSS:** SUNY GENESEO
- **DOMINGO (JUNIOR) GIL:** SUNY ALBANY
- **LYDIA SHEPHERD:** EASTERN UNIVERSITY FOR NURSING
- **WYATT CONGDON:** NEW ENGLAND TECH
- **NICK MAMISASHVILI:** NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
- **EMMA TEODORU:** SALVE REGINA UNIVERSITY
- **JASON GREEN:** NORTHERN ARIZONA UNIVERSITY
- **AROLDO PANTALEON-CASTRO:** SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- **TYLER GULLUSCIO:** FLORIDA SOUTHERN COLLEGE
- **ZEB MUNDY:** UNDECIDED
- **JALILL CARTER:** UNDECIDED
- **BRANDON VELASQUEZ:** UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

SENIOR *Cars*

BY FRANNY REGAN

Does a person's car really match their personality? Check out what these seniors have been driving for the 2020/21 school year to see what you think!



SENIOR PICTURE RECREATIONS BY EMMA TEODORU

Before the class of 2021 gets ready to say their goodbyes and set out on their own paths, they decided to bring some old memories back to life by recreating old pictures. Here are a few of them:



TEACHERS SHARE THEIR MEMORIES OF THE CLASS OF 2021

BY SOPHIE CLARK

Over the course of their time at Shelter Island School, our seniors certainly made an impression on the teachers and staff. Here, some of our teachers share their favorite memories and funny stories about the seniors throughout their school careers.

MRS. WOODS (1ST GRADE TEACHER):

"I remember having the students of the 2021 graduating class in first grade and it seems like it was yesterday! The students of the graduating class stood out to me because of how well they got along with one another...granted it was first grade...but not all classes could I say that about. As a group, the students were caring, kind, and uplifting. They worked together so well and lended a hand to each other. They were truly a community, sharing their strengths and filling in gaps. It is such a tribute to the class of 2021 to be remembered as a cohesive group of individuals." "And, one more! When Zeb Mundy was in first grade he brought in his hamster to be one of our class pets. This hamster was unlike any one we had ever had...it was more like a Tasmanian Devil. Whenever someone tried to feed it, pet it, or fill up its water, it would run at us like a raging bull bearing his teeth!! It's nickname was Diablo! The students were so sweet and kind with our untrusting friend. I'd like to say that our gentle and caring ways changed it, but not so. Moral of the story...you might not always see the fruit of your labor, but continue on with doing the right thing!! Thank you, Zeb!"

MRS. SEARS (ENGLISH/SPECIAL EDUCATION):

"A great memory is when Zeb, Daniel, and Lydia had English 10 with me."

MRS. MAHONEY (SPECIAL EDUCATION/NHS ADVISOR):

"Who could forget sitting around the Cardboard Campout burn barrel, analyzing rap lyrics with Zeb? I certainly learned A LOT."

"During the 7th grade schooner trip, we had just hauled anchor in Greenport and set sail for Connecticut when Emma and Matthew decided they just might want to go home. Fortunately, Ian was the voice of reason, and we sailed on at full capacity. I loved being trapped at sea for days with this group!" And finally: "I remember when Aroldo was in Marine class for "A Day in the Life of the Peconic Estuary." Included in the trip was a visit to see my dog Irie, lunch on the porch, and signing the basement wall in Sharpie marker."

MR GULLUSCIO (ATHLETIC DIRECTOR):

"One of my favorite memories of this class was coaching them in T-Ball. They were so caring and thoughtful of each other. I'm thrilled that they never changed from being that way."

MRS. CORBETT (SPECIAL EDUCATION/SOCIAL STUDIES/SENIOR CLASS ADVISOR):

"I could write a book! So many great memories with these amazing students! The D.C. trip is a personal favorite, putting a prom together during the summer of Covid, too many fundraisers to count, class meetings, social studies breakfasts...the list goes on and on. It has been a gift and a joy to be their advisor and watch them grow into the outstanding young adults they have become. If you want a more specific story, how about when we washed an actual fire truck at our last car wash? Nearly the entire class was there and Tyler was using a leaf blower to dry cars!"

MS. REGAN (1ST GRADE):

"I have the best memory of Prom 2020 at Sylvester Manor, when as a parent, I tried to inconspicuously check out the beautiful setup. I parked and took a quick peek. Then, my car battery wound up dying and I was stranded in the fields of the manor until Wyatt Congdon (and Walter Richards) appeared and came to my rescue--happy and eager to help in their tuxes, they grabbed jumper cables and sent me on my way."

MRS. GULLUSCIO (SPECIAL EDUCATION):

"Remember when: Brandon V. got a playground rock stuck up his nose? Brandon P. tried to sell his dad's car during Mr. Cox's million dollar project? Gian, Jonathan, Sincere, Katie, Pacifica, Easton, Charlie, Brandon P., Victor, and Ashley used to be in the class? Dr. Emmett was your teacher for three years in a row?"

SENIORS SAY THANK YOU

BY JANE RICHARDS

After spending 13 wonderful years at Shelter Island School, the seniors are taking a moment to reflect on the gratitude they have for their amazing teachers and mentors.

MATTHEW STRAUSS: "I want to thank Miedema for being a mentor/coach and helping me grow, Toby Green for pushing me freshman year and making my athletic journey begin, and Senorita Leever for being chill. Jane, Emma, Wyatt, and Jason for always being fun and being some of my best friends and my family for always being there for me, loving me, and supporting all of my choices."

CALEB LAMBERT: "Thank you to Mrs. Colligan, Ms. Andrejack, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Brigham, Mrs. Lang, Mrs. Tuthill, and all of the amazing teachers who are helping me graduate. Thanks to Emma M. for being one of my new friends."

LYDIA SHEPHERD: "Thank you to all of the music teachers I've had for always being there to talk and make me love music. Thank you Mrs. Weir for helping me in whatever, wherever, and all the great conversations we had. Thank you to Miedema for always making me laugh and being a fun teacher. Thank you to Mrs. Sears for pushing me to do better and being like a big sister to me."

JANE RICHARDS: "Thank you to Cindy Belt and Ms. Mayo for being amazing and supportive coaches, thank you to Mrs. Treharne for letting me be your TA, and thank you to Mrs. Corbett for being a teacher, coach, and friend."

ZEB MUNDY: "Shout out to Mrs. Sears, Ms. Mayo, and Mrs. Colligan for the insane amount of help they've given me. Also shout out to Mr. Bocca, Mr. Brigham, and Mr. Williams for being the best at what they do."

EMMA MARTINEZ MADJSÔVÁ: "Shout out Mr. Bocca for listening to my poetry and keeping me grounded."

GRACE OLINKIEWICZ: "I want to give a huge shout out to Mr. Williams! He's pushed me to become the best scientist I can be. Love you, Mr. Williams."

AROLDO PANTALEON-CASTRO: "Thank you to Mr. Knipfing for helping my first year with English, Ms. Mahoney for being really nice to me, and Coach Becker for giving me clementines and candy during lunch."

JAMES LUPO: "I would like to say thanks to all the teachers that I had for helping me get through school."

BRANDON VELASQUEZ: "The entire staff here at SI has been extremely helpful in molding me into the person I am today. Some people who really have helped me throughout the years have been Mr. Miedema, who has not only taught me, but also coached me, he is a huge mentor to me and Mrs. Tuthill, who has been very helpful in the college application process because I had no clue what I was doing."

BRADLEY BATTEN: "I'd like to thank Bob Destefano for helping me become a golfer."

THEO OLINKIEWICZ: "Thank you to all the teachers and staff. A special thanks to Mr. Williams for helping me discover a love for science. To Mr. Brigham for all the donuts and bagels. To Mrs. Treharne for providing amazing books to read. Thank you!!"

TYLER GULLUSCIO: "Shout out to everyone, but especially Mr. Brennan and Mr. Miedema for helping me find my passion for history."

JASON GREEN: "I would like to thank my coach and father Toby Green for not giving up on my dreams, no matter how far fetched they were."

EMMA TEODORU: "I want to say a big thank you to every single teacher who has helped me throughout my high school career, more specifically I want to say thank you to Mr.Brigham and Mr.Williams for their constant patience and for always making sure I understood the material, it was greatly appreciated. I also want to say thank you to the class of 2021 for becoming not only a huge part of my life but for becoming a part of my family as well. I have made many lifelong memories here and it's all because of the people in this school."

NICHOLAS MAMISASHVILI: "Thank you to: Mr. Cox for encouraging me to learn computer science back in fifth grade, Mr. Brigham for being Pig Genus, Mr. Williams for encouraging me to explore science and not give up in molecular dynamics, and Mr. Miedema for being kind of okay, I guess."

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

BY VALERIA REYES

Everyone has awkward moments, here are some of our seniors' most memorable and embarrassing moments.

LYDIA SHEPHERD:

“The times I dropped Emma while cheerleading at the game and it messed up the whole thing. I felt so bad, but in the end I kept getting hit in the face by her body, so I got my karma.”

EMMA MARTINEZ:

“Once during softball, Lauren Gurney got super hurt and the way she cried sounded like laughter, so while everyone took a knee, I was innocently laughing out loud.”

GRACE OLINKIEWICZ:

“I sat on the brand new sink in the bathroom near the gym and broke it.”

BRADLEY BATTEN:

“The pink suitcase I brought to the D.C trip.”
Junior Gil: “When we had to jump over a tarp during the last night of the play, I kicked the tarp down, and we all hid under it.”

ZEB MUNDY:

“When I was the first student in years to not finish a science fair project.”

JAMES LUPO:

“I fell down the stairs in 9th grade.”

MATTHEW STAUSS:

“Freshman year, mid-game, I shot on the wrong hoop away at Pierson.”

BRANDON VELASQUEZ:

“One embarrassing moment here at Shelter Island was filming and acting in ‘The Dollar’ with Nick and Zeb.”

JASON GREEN:

“When Matt Strauss and I were late to a C.Y.O. game and we ran right through the court and he tripped and then I tripped over him right at the center court.”

JANE RICHARDS:

“At freshman prom, the straps of my dress broke and I had to tuck them in and hold my dress up all night!”

EMMA TEODORU:

“When I had a major voice crack in the middle of a cheer during a basketball game and someone from the stands mocked me.”

WYATT CONGDON:

“When I had an accident in Mr.Conrardy’s room and ran down the hallway dripping blood from my hand and running past the janitors while they watched me drip blood all the way down the hallway.”

THEO OLINKIEWICZ:

“This was not at the school, but when my class was on the schooner trip, we were anchored a couple miles off the coast of SI jumping off the boat. Someone said ‘Do a flip!’ I said ‘ok’ and jumped off the bow of the boat and attempted a flip. However, when I landed in the water, I landed right on my back. My back was red for the rest of the day.”

TYLER GULLUSCIO:

“The other day, when I was wrong about when everyone had to wear college gear, and managed to confuse the entire class chat.”

SENIOR CONFESSIONS

BY DARIA KOLMOGOROVA

Next year we won't see these students in the halls, so I asked the seniors to share their school confessions with me. Everyone has a secret worth sharing, let's see what they've been keeping a secret.

EMMA TEODORU

“Every year I received a volleyball sweatshirt, just like every other girl on the team did, however I was never actually on the team.”

JANE RICHARD

“In 6th grade, I got banned from going to the bathroom with Emma because we used to walk the halls or hangout in the bathrooms.”

BRADLEY BATTEN

“I haven't read a book since middle school.”

GRACE OLINKIEWICZ

“I sat on the BRAND new sink in the bathroom near the gym and broke it. Whoops.”

EMMA MARTINEZ

“She crushed hard on all of her teachers, mainly the females.”

BRANDON VELASQUEZ

“During open gym, my friends and I would sneak onto the school roof.”

One Last Trip

BY EMMA TEODORU &
JANE RICHARDS

WELCOME TO
Pennsylvania

Before the class of 2021 says their final goodbyes to Shelter Island High School, they will embark on their final journey together, their senior class trip. Due to the lingering COVID-19 restrictions, seniors were limited with where they were able to go. After a careful, thought out examination of all their possibilities, seniors will travel to

Henryville, Pennsylvania.

On June 13th, the senior class will head to Pennsylvania where they will all stay in one big house together. The house includes a large variety of fun activities to keep the class occupied, such as; a movie theatre, private pool/ basketball court, karaoke machine, a sauna and gold toilets, which is what

grabbed the kids attention in the first place. (How could anyone pass up a house with gold toilets?!) The itinerary for the first day of the trip includes touring the Lackawanna Coal Mine where seniors will descend three-hundred feet into the earth's surface to tour rock tunnels. Other planned activities include a white water rafting trip and a visit to the famous

Hershey Park where thrill rides abound. The senior trip will be full of adventure!

Though the seniors' options for this year's trip were limited, they are committed to make the best of it, since this will be the last time they will all travel together and make memories in a new place.

The Class of 2021 Gives Advice

BY AROLD PANTELON CASTRO

Before they leave the halls of Shelter Island School, we asked the seniors what advice they would give to kids just starting out in high school. Whether you are an incoming freshman or about to be a senior, their wise words are worth reading.

Aroldo Pantaleon

"Set up goals in something you want to accomplish and work hard until you make them come true."

Domingo Gil

"Don't let teachers scare you about the college process, it's actually much easier than one would think."

Grace Olinkiewicz

"If you work hard and set goals for yourself, you'll make the future you've dreamed of."

Emma Martinez

"Choose your friends carefully and keep up with school work no matter what."

Zeb Mundy

Just do your homework."

Jaliil Carter

"As long as you get your assignments done, you'll be just fine in the end."

Matthew Strauss

"Get involved in sports, after high school your access to sports becomes very limited and Shelter Island offers lots of options to join. Also, sports can spread friendships to off islands and other places."

Wyatt Congdon

"Do your homework."

Brandon Velasquez

"We here at SIHS really do have so many opportunities to do extracurricular things such as sports, clubs, and take interesting classes. Please take advantage of these because you won't find that anywhere else and it will help later when you are applying to college. Enjoy your time here, I know the school is small, but use it to your advantage."

Lydia Shepherd

Get involved in as much as possible so you can make memories with your friends and keep busy."

Daniel Schultheis

"Study Bio."

Theo Olinkiewicz

"Participate in class, it is one way that helps you stay focused in class and depending on the class, it might boost your grades."

Nick Mamisashvili

"Do your homework, it is an easy grade that helps you out a lot. Also, try new things out. If you find something you like, keep doing it. It can be really helpful to know what you like, especially when applying to college."

Jane Richards

"Just do your homework, it is the easiest 100 you can get"

Emma Teodoru

"Enjoy every moment of your high school career; although it may not seem like it right now, it goes by so fast. Make lots of memories and take lots of pictures, because before you know it, you'll be graduating and it will be all over."

Jason Green

"Stay on top of your work and your grades will be good."

James Lupo

"Do your homework."

Caleb Wasilewski

"I guess do your homework."

Bradley Batten:

"Don't ask people with licenses for a ride home after every practice."

Tyler Gulluscio

"Do as many clubs/sports as you can! You may not even start out passionate for it, but I promise at least one will leave a positive impact on your life! Also, start researching colleges! It's never too early, and staying ahead of the game takes loads off of senior year!"

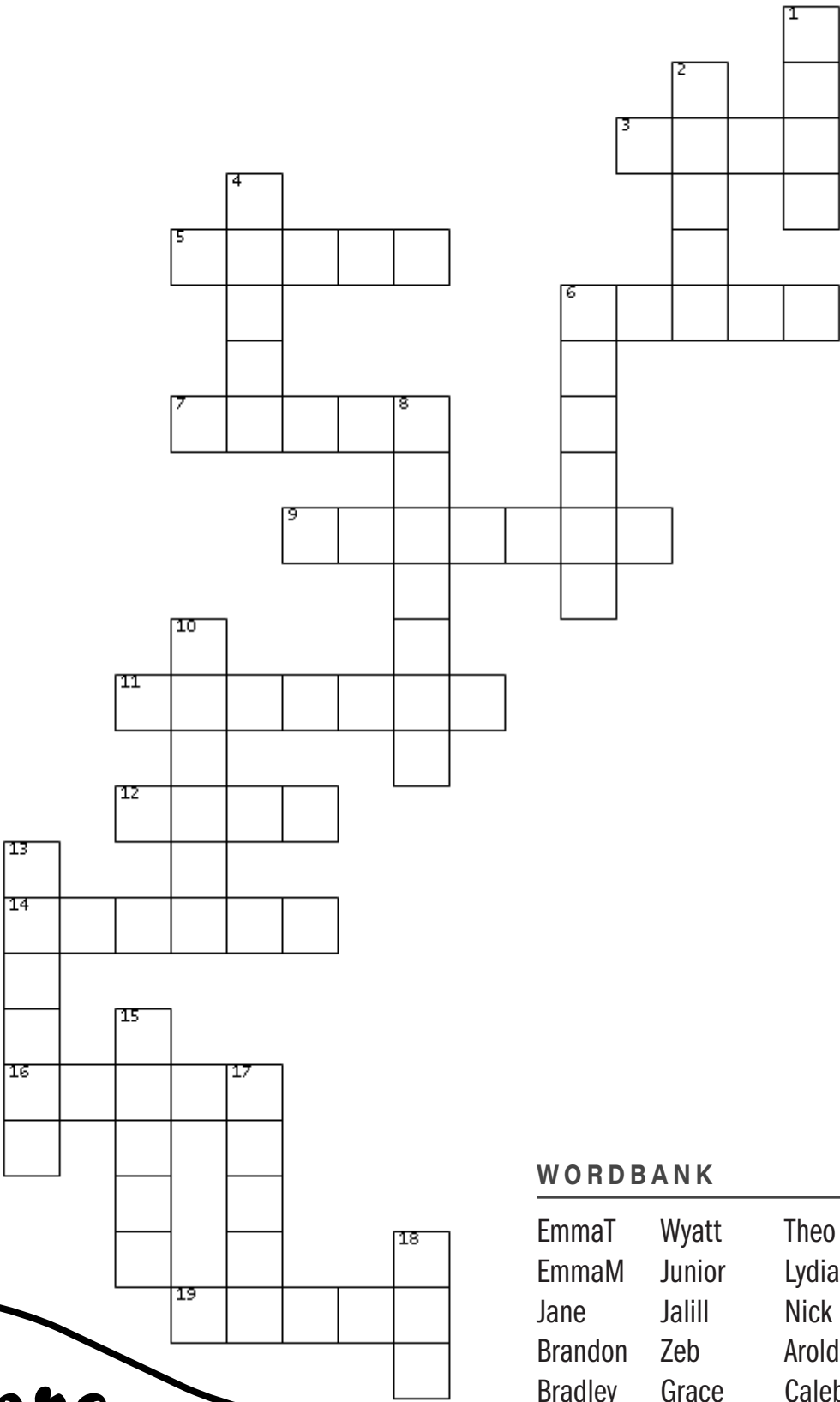
SENIOR CROSSWORD SEARCH

ACROSS:

- 3. She's committed
- 5. Bethany's boyfriend
- 6. Current Kal Lewis
- 7. Newest addition to the class of '21
- 9. College Tuition: \$0.00
- 11. Mini Miedema
- 12. He knows what the weather's like up there
- 14. Award winning artist
- 16. Best pool house
- 19. One of two

DOWN:

- 1. Two of two
- 2. Future Shark
- 4. The most senior senior
- 6. Former Whaler
- 8. Phat dubs
- 10. Mr. Brigham's sports confidante
- 13. Heir to the Maria's fortune
- 15. Paris bound
- 17. Hallway DJ
- 18. Shelter Island's fastest speed-walker



WORD BANK

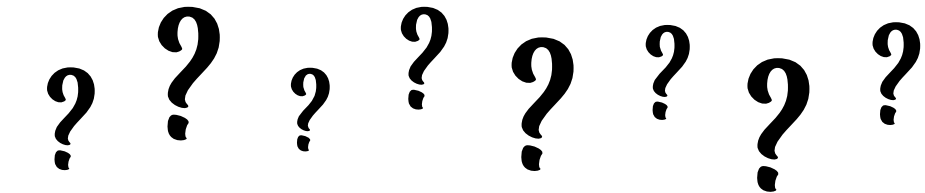
EmmaT	Wyatt	Theo	Matthew
EmmaM	Junior	Lydia	Jason
Jane	Jalill	Nick	Tyler
Brandon	Zeb	Aroldo	Daniel
Bradley	Grace	Caleb	James

Guess the Seniors

BY CALEB WASILEWSKI

Let's have some fun! See if you can guess the members of the Class of 2021 by the clues below!

- 1) This senior loves crystals, indie music, and plants.
- 2) This senior loves Marine bio, their dog Scooter, and is headed to Stony Brook.
- 3) This senior is headed to Suffolk CC, has a great memory, and loves grapes.
- 4) This senior loves flannels, has no filter, and loves yoohoo.
- 5) This senior likes the Amish Country, asks the most questions, and wants 5 children.
- 6) This senior had the biggest glow up, falls a lot, and has asthma.
- 7) This one is always snacking, is an avid car lover, and is the most laid back.
- 8) This senior is humble, a momma's boy/girl, and often wears black.
- 9) This one is smart, an ACE employee, and an animal lover.
- 10) This senior loves volleyball, is often quiet, and owns a horse.
- 11) This one is a baker, a cat lover, and the top of the pyramid.



- 12) This senior is stylish, goes by a nickname, and is so fast you can't catch them.
- 13) This senior is a South Ferry employee, soot boy, and has a truck with issues.
- 14) This senior is known by many to be the kindest person, ultra polite, and a basketball fanatic.
- 15) This one is a vegan, a seamster, and very determined.
- 16) This senior is LOUD, social, and extra.
- 17) This senior has the best hair, is a coder, and has a unique laugh.
- 18) This senior is a Minecraft player, likes Billie Eilish, and works at South Ferry.
- 19) This senior favors neon clothes, had braces for 5 years, and loves Disney.
- 20) This senior is a country music fan, an avid golfer, and a basketball player.

AROUND THE HALLS CLASS OF 2021!

BY EMMA TEODORU

JUNE 2021

