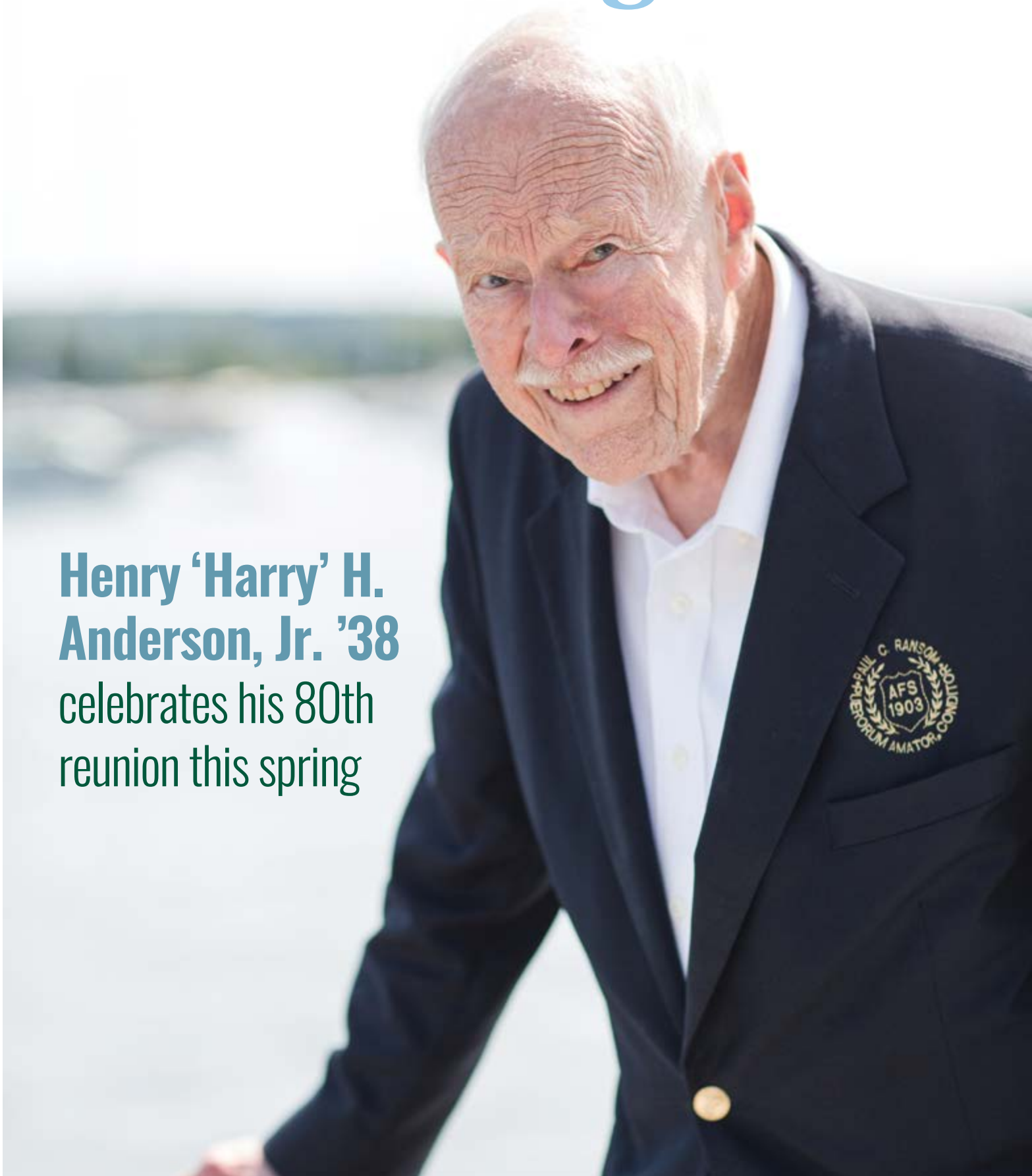


SPRING 2018

Ransom Everglades LOG

**Henry 'Harry' H.
Anderson, Jr. '38**
celebrates his 80th
reunion this spring



Head of School Penny Townsend invites you to attend

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2018



Celebrating the Classes of 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993 and 1998.

All alumni and guests are welcome. Families are encouraged to attend Saturday activities. Parents of alumni, too!

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

11:30 a.m. - 50-Year Reunion Luncheon for Ransom Class of 1968

Special guests include Dan Leslie Bowden and Mike Stokes
Ransom Campus, Pagoda

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Tour, Tapas and Jazz for Everglades Alumnae honoring the Class of 1968

Special performance by jazz musician Michelle Faber '68
Everglades Campus, Swenson Hall foyer and the Dell

6 - 9 p.m. - STEM Center Groundbreaking, Alumni Spring Reception and Dinner

Honoring all reunion classes, Doc Crabtree, Trustee Emeritus Henry H. Anderson, Jr. '38 and the 2018 Head of School Award recipient. All alumni (ages 21 and above)
Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center Deck and Anderson Gymnasium

Join your reunion Facebook page:

Everglades School for Girls
Ransom-Everglades Class of 1978
Ransom Everglades Class of 1988
Ransom Everglades Class of 1993
Ransom Everglades Class of 1998

For hotel and rental car information visit:

RansomEverglades.org/AreaHotels

For more information contact the Alumni Office:

www.RansomEverglades.org/REunions

Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88
vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org | 305 460 8826

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

9 a.m. - Alumni Regatta

Ransom Campus, Anderson Waterfront
Monkey van de Kreeke '88 (mvandekreeke@aol.com)

10 a.m. - Alumni Soccer Game

Everglades Campus, Stamps Field
David Villano '79 (dvillano@yahoo.com) or
James Beverley '62 (jamescbeverley@bellsouth.net)

10:30 a.m. - Alumni Water Polo

Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center
Eric Lefebvre (elefebvre@ransomeverglades.org)

10:30 a.m. - Alumni Volleyball

Ransom Campus, Anderson Gymnasium
Penny Matthews (pmatthews@ransomeverglades.org)

10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Children's Crafts and Activities

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Organized pool activities for children -
underwritten by the Alumni Board
12 - 2 p.m. Crafts and games
Adult supervision required
Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center

11:30 a.m. - Guided Student Tours of Ransom Campus

Meet promptly in the Breezeway

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch

Ransom Campus, Dining Hall and Quad

1 - 3 p.m. - Classes with RE Master Teachers

Jean Duty, Doc Crabtree and Jose Rodriguez
Ransom Campus

7 p.m. - Individual Reunion Parties

Class of 1968 Joint 50-year Reunion
Class of 1988 30-Year Reunion
Class of 1993 25-Year Reunion
Class of 1998 20-Year Reunion

8 p.m. - Class of 1978 40-Year Reunion

Table of Contents



4

Ransom Everglades Log Spring 2018

Link to the photo galleries: <https://ransomevergladesschool.smugmug.com>

FEATURES

Henry 'Harry' H. Anderson, Jr. '38 4

Approaching his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades

Bringing Science, Sports and Students to Life 14

Robert 'Doc' Crabtree elevated teaching and coaching for 36 years

Supporting RE: An Investment in Miami – and Beyond 22

A well-known alumnus joins forces with a new parent to help *REinvent Excellence*

REinvention Starts Now 28

Sir Ken Robinson helps RE launch *REinventing Excellence*

La Brisa Approved 30

Miami City Commission lauds RE for its plan for the new property

The Balm after the Storm 38

RE community joins in campus cleanup after Hurricane Irma



14



38

DEPARTMENTS

From the Pagoda 2

From the Everglades Campus 33

Student News 34

On Campus 36

Sports 40

Alumni Events 43

Class Notes 46

Faculty and Staff 62

In Loving Memory 63

From the Archives 68

Why I Give 69

The Ransom Everglades Log

aims to connect, inform and engage readers in the life of Ransom Everglades School. It is published by the Ransom Everglades Office of Communications.

Executive Editor: Amy Shipley
Associate Editor / Photography Director: Suzanne Kores
Art & Design: Kim Foster
Contributing Editors: Greg Pollard, Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88
Contributing Writers: Penny Townsend, Gustavo Palacios
Photographers: Jenny Abreu, Erick Ceballos, Carl Kafka, Suzanne Kores, Amma Rhea

Contact Us:
Ransom Everglades School
Office of Communications
3575 Main Highway, Coconut Grove, FL 33133
T: 305 460 8212
E: REnews@ransomeverglades.org
To change your address or remove yourself from our mailing list, please send an email to REnews@ransomeverglades.org.
W: www.ransomeverglades.org/page/Publications-Archives

A values-added education



Ransom Everglades' long history is preserved in the grainy photos, weathered tomes and faded letters that populate the school's extensive archives. Despite the age of those materials and the inevitable decay they face, the stories they convey remain vivid and alive, and the values they memorialize continue to guide our students and faculty. Those enduring values provide the real value added – or, more precisely, *values added* – of a Ransom Everglades education.

Our school was built on values handed down by founder Paul Ransom, who firmly believed that no one could be an adequate individual or citizen unless he or she was well read, well informed and determined to make the world better. He was conscious of the part that the discipline of learning played in the development of character, and he was convinced that good manners, thoughtfulness, generosity, decency and courage were some of the permanent values necessary to maintain an intelligent, just and free society.

As we march forward with the *REinventing Excellence* capital campaign that we launched last fall, we hold tightly to our history and the values passed down to us, and recognize and celebrate the people who advanced and preserved them. Schools may be constructed from bricks and cement blocks, but they are built around people, and we feature a few of the finest in this edition of the *Ransom Everglades Log*.

Harry Anderson '38 will soon celebrate his 80th reunion, a breathtaking milestone that captures the remarkable length of his connection to RE, but doesn't begin to illustrate the depth of his engagement with our school that continues to this day. Harry's contributions to Ransom Everglades over seven decades are so extensive we couldn't possibly catalog them, but we tried to capture the magnitude of his influence in a story that begins on page six. As former RE board chair **Eric Buermann '69** told us: "Whenever the school needs him, he is there."

We also celebrate the career of Robert "Doc" Crabtree, who is finishing the last of 36 stellar years in the classroom at Ransom Everglades. Doc, best known for his biology and anatomy/physiology classes and leadership of the girls' cross country team, brings the passion and work ethic of the most respected educators. He excites students with his enthusiasm



and creativity, and shows his deep commitment by arriving early and staying late. His influence led dozens of alumni into careers in medicine or the sciences, and his encouragement pushed others onto collegiate athletics teams. Many of them reached out to us to share their appreciation for Doc. See that story on page 14.

When you build your school around talented people, you do more than educate students. You become a force for good in the local and even global community. One of our most esteemed alums, **Jeffrey Miller '79**, and RE parent Constance Fernandez P'22, together elaborate on that message in a story that begins on page 22. Co-chairs of the *REinventing Excellence* campaign, they explain why they believe an investment in Ransom Everglades represents an investment in Miami.

We had quite a fall. A month before we kicked off our campaign, we weathered Hurricane Irma, who proved a decidedly disagreeable guest, leaving the Upper School with a flooded athletics field, wayward sailboats and all manner of debris. She knocked down trees, lifted tiles off of our rooftops – and ignited a spirit of resilience that was nothing short of inspiring. Students and faculty alike helped us clean up. See our story and photos on page 38.

Finally, the esteemed Sir Kenneth Robinson, the renowned education innovator, helped us launch *REinventing Excellence* in October. He captured the essence of our \$75 million campaign, reminding us that remaining excellent requires constant attention and reinvention. Construction will begin next summer on a new Stem Center, but the scope of our reinvention extends beyond buildings and blueprints.

We will enhance our educational spaces so we can continue to attract faculty members like Doc Crabtree. We will enrich our curriculum and integrate new technologies so that we raise the bar for academic excellence and innovation, and cement our stature as one of the top independent schools in the nation.

We are excited about what the future holds. Yet no matter how many buildings we refurbish, how nimbly we adapt to future challenges, how frequently we reinvent, or how fast we grow, some things will never change.

We will always strive to provide a values-added education.

Penny Townsend
Head of School

Our school was built on values handed down by founder Paul Ransom, who firmly believed that no one could be an adequate individual or citizen unless he or she was well read, well informed and determined to make the world better.

We'd love to hear from you! If you have comments about stories in this magazine, please submit your Letter to the Editor to REnews@ransomeverglades.org.

Hurricane Irma

September 10, 2017

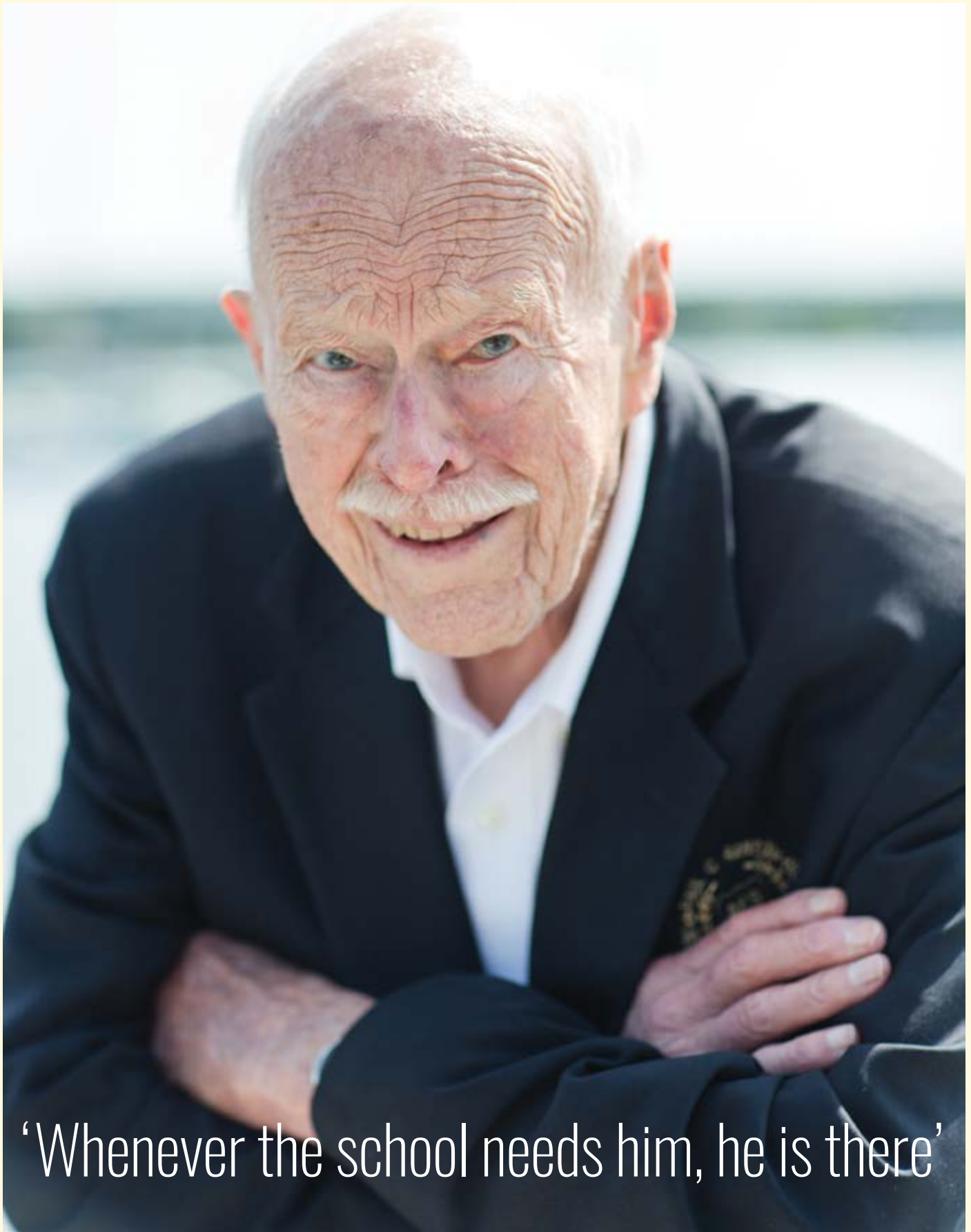


Hurricane Irma tore up the Robert E. Walker Field and left debris – and boats – in her wake. But the RE community came together to clean up. See story page 38

Photograph by Carl Kafka

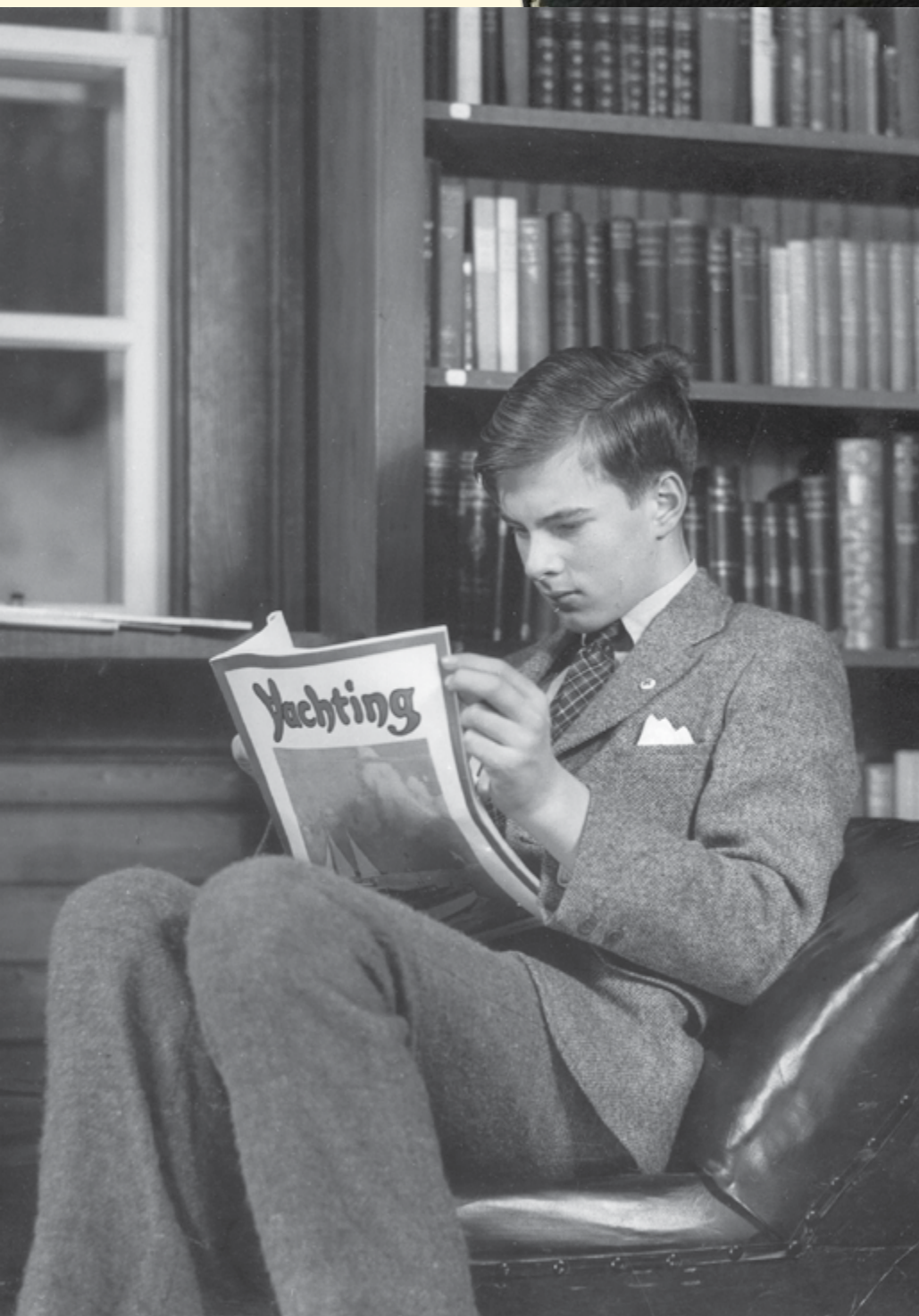
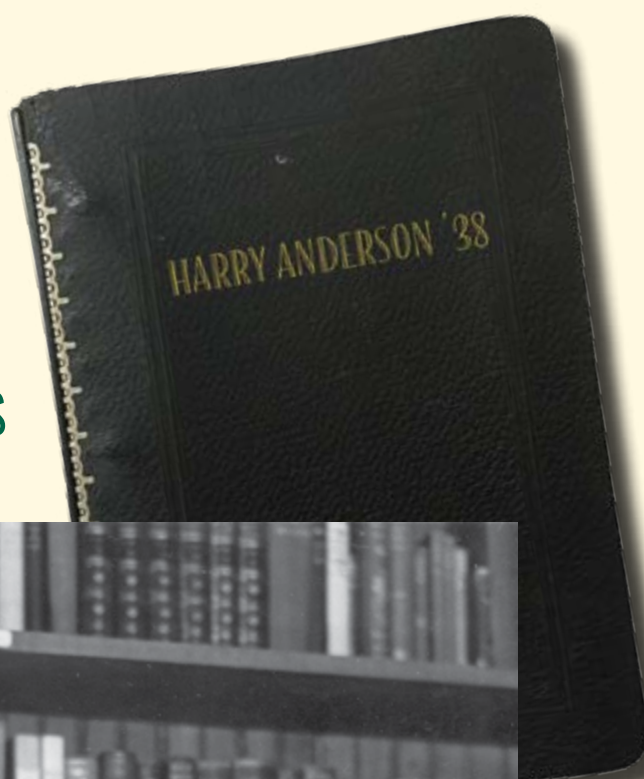


Henry 'Harry' H. Anderson, Jr. '38



'Whenever the school needs him, he is there'

approaches his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades



It would be difficult to find a person more deeply connected with the long history of his alma mater than **Henry “Harry” H. Anderson, Jr. ’38**, who will celebrate his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades School this spring.

The son of an alumnus, Anderson paddled a canoe to attend an interview with Alice Ransom, the wife of the school’s founder, in 1930. Eighty-seven years later, in the summer of 2017, he dined with current Head of School Penny Townsend. In the decades between, Anderson established himself as one of the school’s most influential caretakers.

Known internationally as a legend in competitive amateur sailing, Anderson can lay claim to many titles at Ransom Everglades: Model of the school’s mission. Defender of its history. Protector of its tradition. Governor of its legacy. Longtime steward of the sailing program. Trustee Emeritus.

As a student, he shared classrooms and after-school adventures with best-selling author **Sloan Wilson ’38** and painting great **Emilio Sanchez ’34**. In the late ’40s, he served on the board of trustees with **Henry Timken ’26** and **C.T. Ludington ’15**, who like Anderson are memorialized on Upper School buildings. In the ’50s, he was named the first chair of the Alumni Association and helped execute the school’s first formalized capital campaign.

In 1970, he helped save the Pagoda from demolition. In the 1980s, he offered the first – and largest – individual gift to allow the school to construct the gymnasium that bears his name and the Dan Leslie Bowden Library. In the 2000s, he gave the sailing program a fleet of new boats.

Anderson, who was born on June 2, 1921, and now resides in Mystic, Conn., helped the school through nearly every tumultuous period in its long history, in many cases driving decisions informed by the school’s mission and traditions – and



which have served to preserve both. “The creed of yesteryear will enable the school to maintain its tradition of excellence through whatever crises may lie ahead,” Anderson wrote in a letter included in a book celebrating Ransom Everglades’ 75th anniversary in 1978.

It was that creed that guided Anderson as he helped lead the school through near-bankruptcy after World War II. That creed pushed him to travel to the Adirondack campus before it was closed to personally dig up the old photos that now highlight the school’s extensive archives. And it helped him steer his fellow board members through the turbulent ’60s and ’70s that saw the sailing program and Pagoda threatened.

“He doesn’t brag as some people might. He doesn’t toot his own horn. His agenda is not Harry Anderson,” said **Eric Buermann ’69**, a former president of the RE Board of Trustees. “He approaches everything in a very quiet manner. He does things in a very gentlemanly reserved, behind-the-scenes way.

“I think that is why Harry is very respected and beloved. It’s not the Harry Anderson show. It’s about his deep love for the school. Whenever the school needs him, he is there.”

Schoolboy days at the Adirondack-Florida School

Anderson hailed from a family of means and stature. He took pride in being a second cousin, five times removed, of Aaron Burr. Arthur Curtiss James, a great yachtsman and railroad speculator who was one of the world’s wealthiest men in the 1920s, was another cousin. Anderson’s great-grandfather married into the family of John D. Rockefeller’s brother William, claiming a stake in the Standard Oil fortune.

Born in Manhattan, Anderson grew up in Roslyn, N.Y. His father, **Henry Hill Anderson ’11**, a Yale graduate, second-generation sailor and third-generation lawyer, attended Ransom Everglades – then called the Adirondack-Florida School – as did Harry’s two brothers.

As a student at the migratory school with its summer campus near Saranac Lake, N.Y. and winter campus in Coconut Grove, Fla., Harry Anderson thrived. In his last year, he received the school’s most coveted academic prize: the Medal for Scholarship. “I knew I couldn’t compete with him so I decided to make my own path,” said his brother **David Anderson ’41**. “He was a highly disciplined, bright student – he modeled himself after my father.”

Harry Anderson served as an editor of the *Hickory Log* magazine. Having learned to sail from his father, he helped the sailing team to its first ever appearance in an interscholastic championship. His conduct and grades were always sufficient to earn him weekend cruises on the school’s schooner. “There was much more freedom at the AFS than at comparable schools,” said Anderson, “since groups of students could wander off campus many miles on fishing or hunting trips, canoe and camp overnight, cruise to the Keys or sail over to Key Biscayne and trek to the ocean side for skinny-dipping.”

He still recalls the details of the overnight sailing excursions, when he and his classmates would drop anchor on their way to the Keys.

“We’d chase whip rays and harpoon them,” he said. “They give quite a surface fight... You had to learn teamwork. You learned a lot of skills.”

Anderson remembers classes of a half-dozen students or fewer, demanding lessons and heavy discipline. His Latin teacher Paul Abbott captured the rigor of the curriculum at that time. “If you stumbled in your delivery,” Anderson said, “he’d throw an eraser at you. Or a piece of chalk.”



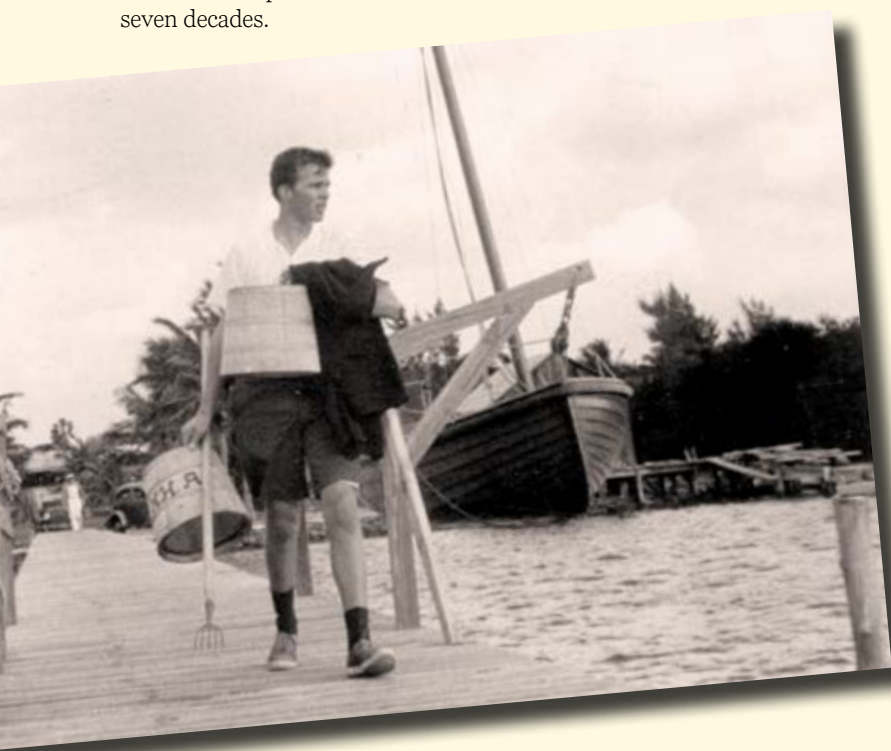
Harry Anderson '38 during his years at the Adirondack-Florida School. In center of photo at left. In far right of photo at right. Photos from archives.



The advanced curriculum allowed Anderson and a number of his comrades to leave the Adirondack-Florida School after their junior year. Following a year at Andover, he won acceptance to Yale. Today, Anderson speaks with deep pride about the top-tier education he received at the Adirondack-Florida School, and the school's focus on creating service-minded leaders even back then.

"No question you got a good education," Anderson said. "When JFK made that statement about do more for your country than you do for yourself, he was stealing Ransom's words. He didn't invent that."

Anderson's passion for his school drove him for the next seven decades.



"He approaches everything in a very quiet manner. He does things in a very gentlemanly reserved, behind-the-scenes way. I think that is why Harry is very respected and beloved. It's not the Harry Anderson show. It's about his deep love for the school. Whenever the school needs him, he is there."

—Eric Buermann '69



Serving as a young alumnus

Anderson, who had served as a U.S. Army captain during World War II, got a call from **C.T.**

Ludington '15 soon after the war had ended.

The chair of RE's board, Ludington asked Anderson to join him on the board as secretary.

On the one hand, it was a remarkable gesture and enviable opportunity. A Yale graduate, Anderson had just entered Columbia Law School. In his early 20s, he lacked the impressive credentials of the high-powered board members who assembled for meetings at the Yale Club in New York City. The school's trustees at that time included Ludington, the co-founder of Ludington Airlines (later to become Eastern Airlines); Henry Timken, the head of Timken Roller Bearing Company; Joseph Roebling, the son of the engineer who built the Brooklyn Bridge; and **Lithgow Osborne '10**, the former Commissioner of Conservation in New York.

On the other hand, the Adirondack-Florida School was on the verge of bankruptcy. It had closed in December 1942 because of the war, and remained shuttered until the fall of 1947. The heirs of Alice Ransom had put the Florida campus up for sale.

The school's future was in doubt, and the work ahead seemed enormous. Yet Anderson told Ludington, yes. He joined the board in 1946, and never left.

“It will be most rewarding to witness Ransom-Everglades students searching these documents for clues to the values that have sustained the school and its graduates in later life.”

– **Harry Anderson '38**

The next few years flew by. Anderson helped his fellow trustees raise \$150,000 so the school could re-start. He helped bring on David Pierre Guyot (Pete) Cameron as headmaster. He was there when the school finally reopened after the war – with a first class of nine boys – including Ludington's son **Townsend (“Towny”) Ludington '53**.

And he was there in 1949, with the post-war growth at a crawl and funds increasingly tight, as the board met to discuss what to do to stop the financial bleeding. The topic on the table: closing one of the school's two campuses – either the one in the Adirondacks, or the winter campus in Coconut Grove.

“It got very expensive to run two campuses on one set of incomes,” Anderson recalled. “That was the debate that went on and on and on and on. It was debated by the undergraduates and by the faculty and by the alumni.”

The board met with University of Miami President Bowman Foster Ashe. “His advice,” Anderson said, “was that there were plenty of high-ranking secondary schools in New England. We needed one down south.”

Anderson and the rest of the trustees voted to close the Adirondack campus that May.

Financial stability would soon return, and the Ransom School was born.

Taking care of the school's history

Anderson wanted to ensure the school's history did not get bulldozed or misplaced in the transition to a single campus in Florida. He traveled by train to the Adirondack campus before it closed to collect any archival material he could find. “I identified everything we should save one day,” he said. “I took the night train up, then spent the day doing that, then took the night train back to New York.”

Anderson had a sense, even then, of the importance of that trip. He rescued books, photos and many other remnants of history that populate the school's archives to this day.

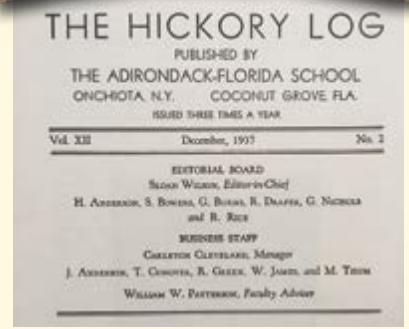
“It will be most rewarding to witness Ransom-Everglades students,” he wrote years later, “searching these documents for clues to the values that have sustained the school and its graduates in later life.”

The Ransom School underwent a massive revival over the next two decades



Harry Anderson '38 and then Head of School Jerry Zank at the dedication of the Henry H. Anderson '38 Gymnasium in 1991.

A glimpse at the archives at Ransom Everglades, which contain many documents preserved by **Harry Anderson '38** – including some of the earliest editions of this magazine. Photographs by Suzanne Kores



under the leadership of Cameron, regaining its footing as an elite academic institution. Meanwhile, the turbulent '60s and '70s took their toll on some of the school's traditions. In some cases, the outcome was positive: In 1975-76, the Ransom-Everglades School opened to male and female students after the merger of the Ransom School and Everglades School for Girls.

Saving the Pagoda

The Pagoda, at the center of the school's life since its start in 1903, literally reflected the free-wheeling times and political unrest; students painted its interior with psychedelic colors and stars on the ceiling. The building housed the student newspaper on its second floor and served largely as a student lounge. Many parents – some of whom were board members – wanted it torn down.

“The parents had no interest in history or sentimental feelings for the history of the school,” recalled Buermann. “If you

had said ‘Paul Ransom’ they wouldn't have known who that was. To them, the Pagoda was just an old ramshackle building that blocked the view to the bay and had termites and had to be maintained. They thought it was an eyesore.”

Anderson and fellow trustee Gaines Wilson saw it as a piece of history even more valuable than the items Anderson had boxed up and saved from the Adirondack campus, and they were inspired by student activist **Giulio Blanc '73**. The trio helped recruit other members of the board. Their message was impassioned. Those who interacted with him found Anderson soft-spoken, sharp and persuasive.

“He had this twinkle in his eye,” said **William Middleton Munroe '53**. “He would sit and be talking to you very quietly



“Sailing was really a distant stepchild to the sports that parents were interested in.... But Harry grew up as a winter student on the bay, so he always had that attachment and viewed the bay as a tremendous resource for the school.”

—Eric Buermann '69



and all of the sudden he'd come up with this brilliant thing.”

With Anderson's support behind it, the Pagoda survived. The board refused to demolish it.

Three years later, in 1973, the Pagoda was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A passion for sailing

Anderson quietly supported RE's sailing program through the decades as he gained fame in the world of competitive amateur sailing. He served as executive director of the North American Yacht Racing Union (now US Sailing); race committee chair for the America's Cup; chair of the American Sail Training Association; a vice president of the International Sailing Federation (now World Sailing); and commodore at various yacht clubs. He spent 50 years on the advisory board for the Naval Academy and has been a heavy supporter of Yale's sailing program.

“He evolved into being the grandfather of amateur sailing organization,” said **Thomas Otto III '54**. “A lot of his ventures were just because he wanted to. He put a lot of his time and organizational capability, as well as his financial support, behind amateur sailing to carry it forward as a sport, to support it and its history.”

As amateur sailing grew internationally, RE's sailing program saw a dip in interest as parents pushed for more traditional, bigger sports: football, soccer, tennis, etc. “By the time the '70s rolled around, sailing was really de-emphasized,” Buermann said. “Sailing was really a distant stepchild to the sports that parents were interested in.... But Harry grew up as a winter student on the bay, so he always had that attachment and viewed the bay as a tremendous resource for the school.”

Anderson supported the program with his presence, votes, financial resources



and pure persistence. He purchased boats for the school. He helped bring the interscholastic championships to the campus. He mentored RE's coaches and top sailors.

"I pushed very hard for it," Anderson said. "It's very important. It's a good experience for the youngsters. We'd be throwing away the opportunity to use the bay as a campus if we didn't do that."

Anderson's generosity extended beyond the school's sailing program. Former trustee Peter Bermont, who co-led the late 1980s capital campaign that funded the school's first gymnasium/student activities center, said his first plea for support went to Harry Anderson. "We went to Harry, and Harry never said no," Bermont said. "He was as generous as he could be."

The school honored Anderson, whose financial gifts to the school exceeded \$500,000, by unveiling the Henry H. Anderson '38 Gymnasium and the Harry Anderson '38 Watersports Center.

"We owe him a huge debt of gratitude for seven remarkable decades of service and devotion."

– Head of School Penny Townsend

"He has a very sincere interest in the school – not just sailing," Otto said. "He has the wherewithal and the brains to do things, and he follows his curiosity and his passions. He makes valuable contributions. He brings energy, insight and a spirit of adventure – with a lot of IQ behind it. "He was – and is – highly respected."

Even as Anderson's trips to Coconut Grove have become less frequent in recent years, he has stayed connected. He frequently emails Penny Townsend with notes and pieces of advice. Last summer, the head of school traveled to Mystic to have lunch with Anderson; they were joined by C.T. Ludington's grandson **Nick Bell '82**, and son Towny, a former professor of English and Comparative Literature

at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Anderson dressed up in his finest commodore attire for the engagement, then regaled his guests with stories about Ransom Everglades.

"I feel honored to have known and spent time with Harry Anderson," Penny Townsend said. "He has been an invaluable custodian of our values and ethos. He represents the very best of Ransom Everglades School, and has shaped our history more than anyone besides [founders] Paul Ransom and Marie Swenson.

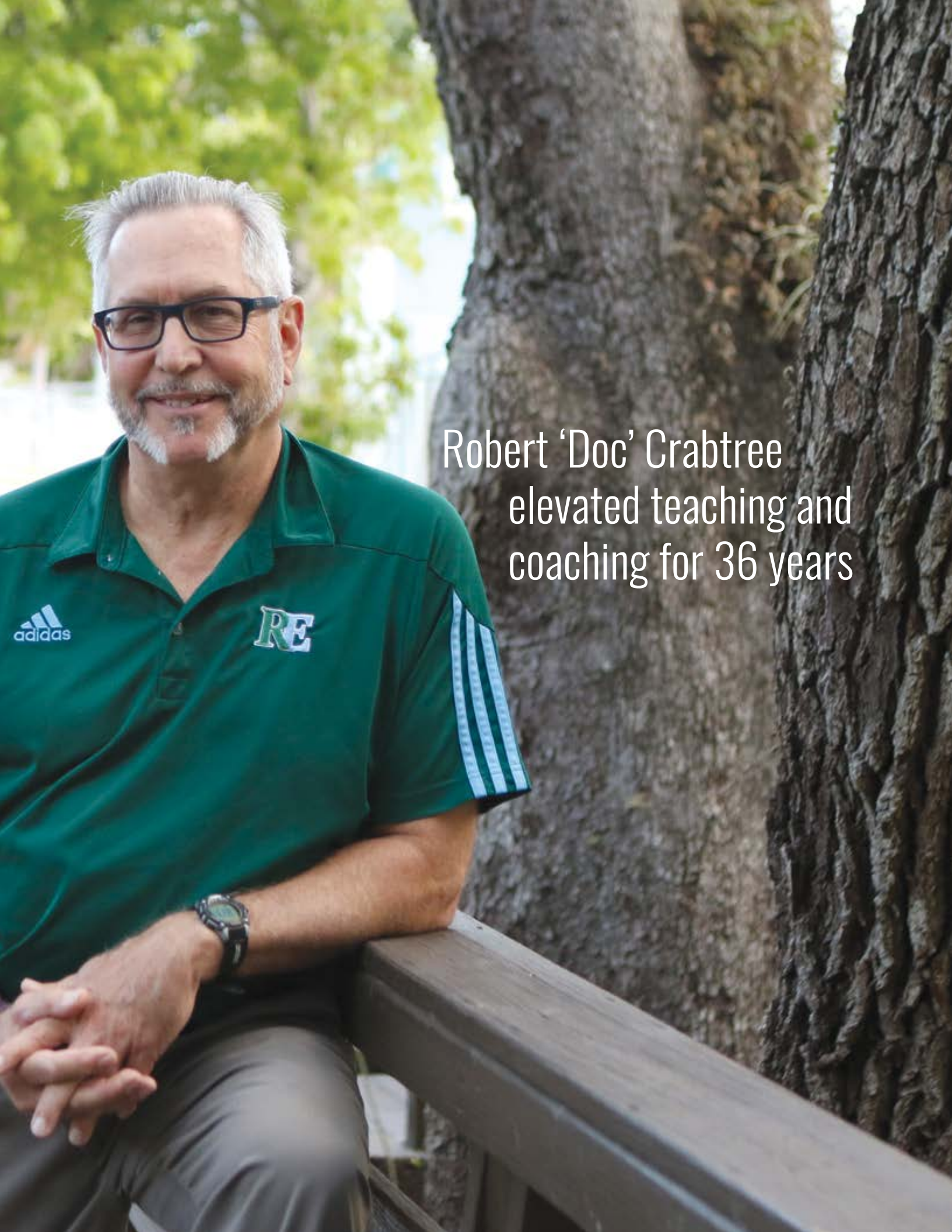
"We owe him a huge debt of gratitude for seven remarkable decades of service and devotion."

Early this spring Harry Anderson's fishing companions were astounded by his "Gay Nineties" fishing costume: ragged sneakers, dirt-stained, once-white ducks, a remarkable Harvard red jacket with black stripes, buttoned awry, and the whole surprising rig topped by a white cloth cap of the J. D. Rockefeller type and sporting a bent fishing license. It is little wonder that the fish were scared of him and that he returned without so much as a strike.

A photograph of a person in a green shirt standing on a wooden deck with a railing, looking out over a green landscape. The person is partially visible on the right side of the frame. The deck is made of light-colored wood and has a dark brown railing. In the background, there are green trees and a white building. The overall scene is bright and outdoors.

BRINGING SCIENCE, SPORTS AND STUDENTS

to Life



Robert 'Doc' Crabtree
elevated teaching and
coaching for 36 years

adidas

RE

Whether it was competing alongside his anatomy classes in local triathlons to better understand the human body, frightening biology students with grisly details of deadly diseases, or ruining the appetites of entire classes by explaining the composition of a mouthful of chicken wings, Ransom Everglades teacher and coach Robert “Doc” Crabtree brought science so vividly to life that his students can’t shake the memory of his classes even years later.

Now at Stanford, **John Mistele ’17** recalls lessons from Crabtree’s ninth-grade biology class that were so mesmerizing or hair-raising they compelled him to break his customary silence at the dinner table when his parents asked him the dreaded question: What did you learn today?

“I would spill whatever awesome biology arcana Doc had woven into the routine lecture on plant cell anatomy or DNA structure,” Mistele said. I would say, “Have you heard of Rosalind Franklin?’ or ‘Doc told us about this terrifying virus in West Africa,’ or ‘Vitamin C is a scam!’ It was all so exciting!”

After 36 years of exciting students and exemplifying an all-in approach to teaching at Ransom Everglades, Crabtree will retire from the classroom at the end of this school year. He plans to continue assisting with RE’s athletics teams; he has been a girls’ cross country coach for more than three decades and coached track and field for 20 years. Last fall, his cross country team qualified for the state championship meet for the 40th straight year.

Ransom Everglades is “a special place, a special group of students, a special faculty,” he said. “If I couldn’t be at the

forefront of science or athletics myself, I’d like to think I contributed by pushing others to that level. The kids are so talented. They’ve taken me a lot farther than I’ve taken them.”

In class, Crabtree has never used prepared notes. As a coach, he has never stood quietly on the sidelines. His classes have always been lively and interactive. And his training sessions have always included pieces of wisdom and encouragement and ... Crabtree himself. He has toiled with his teams, either by running with them or, as the years went on, tailing them on a bicycle. “Nothing good comes easy,” he has told thousands of students. “Nothing easy shows how good you are.”

Countless former students went on to become physicians, scientists, researchers, collegiate athletes or lifelong runners.

“His influence on me with regard to science was greater than he probably knows,” said **Vicky Bedell ’05**, an obstetrician-gynecologist who shares a practice with her mother and sisters in Kendall. “Doc Crabtree was truly one of the greatest teachers I ever had.... His enthusiasm during the AP Biology

“Doc never read from notes, he never used a presentation, he always lectured in a casual yet extremely engaging manner. Somehow he made complex anatomy lessons feel like he was telling a gripping story... I was constantly smiling in his class, as he would keep the classroom environment so fun while simultaneously so insightful.”

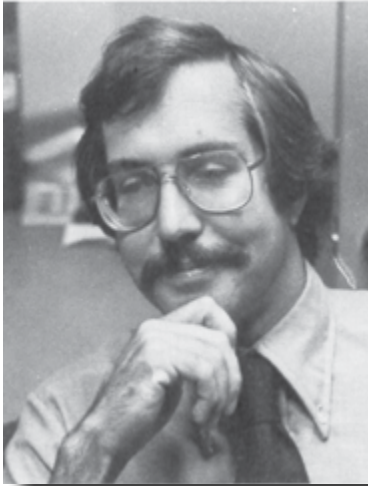
Isabella Morcos ’13

Publicity assistant at Sony Pictures Entertainment

“Doc Crabtree nurtured my love for both science and running. His mentorship during my senior AP Biology class put me on the path to pursue a career in medicine as an OB/GYN ... I will forever hear his voice in my head motivating me during the long haul, ‘This is a running sport, ladies.’ Thanks for everything Doc; I hope to continue making you proud!”

Isabelle McKay ’05

Fourth-year medical student at Tulane School of Medicine



and Anatomy and Physiology classes I took was infectious, and without a doubt helped forge my career in medicine.”

“He has changed so many kids’ lives for the better – including mine,” said **Franchesca Burgos ’14**, who is on the women’s cross country team at Tufts and majoring in cognitive and brain sciences. “I am eternally grateful and feel incredibly blessed to have been Doc’s athlete, student and advisee.”

Where it all began

Crabtree’s personal journey lends insight into his professional one. As a student in junior high in Wooster, Ohio, Crabtree wanted to make the track team so desperately, he spent four months training on a tiny oval (1/10th of a mile) in the basement of a local YMCA. He aspired to run the 800, a half-mile race.

But the young Crabtree was a frail child who had asthma. He exhausted himself on the day of tryouts. He entered competitions for several events before the 800, then found himself too tired to perform well in that event.

He failed to make the team, but salvaged the day: He asked the track coach if he could serve as the team’s manager. That small request ignited what would become a defining Doc pursuit: helping others do their best. If he couldn’t always cross the finish line himself, he could share his passion and knowledge to help others excel.

In high school, he competed on the swim team and ran recreationally. He walked on to the Ohio State track and field team, then joined the team at Wooster College after he transferred as a junior. He was ineligible to compete because of transfer rules, but grew to love running.

“I was never a star runner,” he said. “I ran a 52.3 [seconds in the 400 meters] indoor my senior year. I was decent, but I was never a star. I was a good practice athlete. I loved being part of a team, and the physical challenge.”

His interest in science also grew at that time. Because he had been in advanced math since eighth grade, he fulfilled his math requirement early in high school, which gave him the freedom to take physics and a second year of biology at the same time – while putting off calculus until college. Crabtree

“Doc has instilled a sense of tradition and *sisu* [a Finnish term that loosely translates to ‘resilience’] into each team. Doc does more than coach girls to succeed in meets. He expects his girls to have the guts, inner strength, to have *sisu* in their academic, athletic and personal lives. Doc is a perfect example of practicing what he preaches. His ‘100 percent in’ attitude as a coach, a teacher and a mentor is contagious to all those around him. I feel blessed to have been one of his athletes and excited to have been his assistant coach for 10 years and able to be part of the Ransom Everglades girls’ cross country tradition.”

Tracy Friedlander Ley ’02

Third-grade teacher at St. Louis Covenant School in Miami



found math courses such as calculus hopelessly theoretical, but the sciences seemed relevant, engaging and useful.

He earned his BA in biology at The College of Wooster. He claimed an MS in zoology at Ohio University, then went on to Clark University in Worcester, Mass., earning his PhD in biology. From there, he traveled to the University of Miami for post-doctoral research in neurobiology. It was around that time that he developed an interest in road racing. He watched a marathon for the first time, and witnessed the finish of well-known wheelchair athlete George Murray. Murray's ability to overcome the challenge of his wheelchair inspired Crabtree, who started running 10-kilometer races, then marathons (he would eventually complete six; his best marathon time was three hours, 31 minutes).

His passion for running fit perfectly with his love for the sciences. He learned in his youth that his body could fail him; as a young researcher, he sought to understand the limits of the human body and mind. At the University of Miami, a National Institute of Health (NIH) fellowship funded his research in neurobiology. He also served as a visiting professor and helped coach the school's cross country team.

He began to imagine a career teaching at a university, yet it became clear the University of Miami didn't have a fulltime professorship to offer him. He was offered a job at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa. His wife Sharon, a Miami native who was in the geology department at UM, balked at moving to a colder climate, so Crabtree began rethinking his career plan.

A fellow faculty member who was acquainted with Barbara Lester, the chair of the science department at Ransom Everglades, suggested he reach out to her. Crabtree hadn't given any thought to teaching at a private high school but, at that point, needed a job. So he secured an interview.

On to Ransom Everglades

Crabtree showed up in a suit to interview with Lester, who was immediately impressed with his dress and enthusiasm for his doctoral research. She believed he would make a great addition to RE's science department, and advocated for his hiring.

When Crabtree arrived to Ransom Everglades for his first day on the job, he was feeling pretty good about himself and his credentials.

"Doc's class changed my interests... He made science understandable, and he was the kind of teacher that always wanted the best for you ... I am now a medical student and have to thank Doc for inspiring my love for medicine."

Nicolette Roque '12

Master's program at Johns Hopkins
Bloomberg School of Public Health

"The confidence that Doc helped instill in me led me to the Duke track team, where I competed in the heptathlon. I am so grateful ... He coached me with humor, gentleness and patience, and I will always be thankful for his influence in my life."

Jenny Stadler Krueger '93

Founder and executive director of RISE UP!,
a ministry that teaches character in elementary schools

“He was my teacher at the Upper School in the infamous Anatomy B class, which was one of my favorite classes of all time because of his passion for the subject and his desire to teach it. He was a teacher that truly cared for his students and enjoyed watching them learn. He has helped mold me into the man I am today.”

Thomas Willis '04
Coach, Calendar/Facilities Manager and
Director of Summer Programming at Ransom Everglades

“I was a five-year post-doc with a PhD now teaching high school,” Crabtree said. “I was a young hotshot who thought he knew everything.”

Yet instead of earning the respected title of “Dr. Crabtree” among his new colleagues, he found himself referred to around campus as “one of Barbara’s Boys,” a nickname coined by the maintenance staff as Lester, at that time, led an all-male department. And Dan Leslie Bowden, the legendary teacher who was then the English department chair, quickly put Crabtree in his place after listening to the young professor speak a bit too forcefully at a faculty meeting.

“Some individuals who haven’t been here very long,” Bowden commented icily, “despite knowing a lot, need to take more time to understand our culture.”

Lester, who was sitting next to Crabtree, patted his hand. “I looked at Barbara Lester and said: ‘I’ve just been torched by Dan Bowden!’”

Bowden proceeded to send Crabtree several articles on teaching, one explaining how to be authentic in the classroom,

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY UNDER DOC CRABTREE

32

consecutive years qualifying for state
championship meet

194-9

record in dual meets

2

state championships

20

top-5 finishes at state

23

district championships
(17 consecutive)



SCIENCE CLUB



Science Club 1983: Mr. Zach Chasan, **Steve Needell '83**, **Julie Zahniser '85**, **Margaret Chang '83**, **Gordon Wood '83**, **Asako Toyoda '85**, **Catherine Malinin '83**, **Michelle Carey '85**, **Gary Goldbloom '83**, **Stacey Tenen '85**, **Marc Sanders '84**, **Andrea Wang '84**, **Yvette Sands '85**, **Paul Wigoda '85**, **Andre Williams '85** and Dr. Robert Crabtree

the other discussing how to help students overachieve. Other faculty members advised Crabtree never to underestimate the school's student body.

"One of the things they told me was don't try to snowball the students," he said. "The students know more than you do, and they know about a lot of subjects that you don't. If you don't know, say you don't know — and let's try to find out."

Crabtree began teaching chemistry, AP Biology and Anatomy and Physiology. He couldn't stand the idea of lecturing from notes, so he did not. He preferred to throw out ideas, get feedback and let students test things out in the laboratory.

"The kids here are bright, motivated, intelligent and disciplined," Crabtree said. "They were as good, or better, than the college students I had been teaching."

Said Lester: "His lab was the showcase. He had all sorts of models and students' projects on display. In his teaching, he was able to give them lots of examples and anecdotes that helped them understand the material. He was excellent."

From his first day on the job, it did not occur to Crabtree to leave campus after the final bell. He found his way to the pool deck after school and offered to do the timing at swim meets. It wasn't long before he landed the head coaching position for track and field. A year later, he took over the girls' cross country team.

It was a job he never relinquished.

His runners fondly recall Saturday training sessions at the former Parrot Jungle in South Miami; grueling hill climbs on the Rickenbacker Causeway; and long van rides enlivened by old tunes from John Mellencamp and Meatloaf. They remember endless streams of encouragement.

As the years went by, Doc had the privilege of coaching his daughter, **Nicole Crabtree '04**, in track and field, and cheering on his other daughter, **Robyn Crabtree '09**, who played water polo and swam. Over the years, his girls' cross country teams won 23 district titles and two state championships. In dual meets, the team sported an incredible 194-9 record, and his athletes won first-team All-Dade recognition 27 times. To mark certain milestone victories, Crabtree shaved the milestone number into the side of his head.

"Doc Crabtree never let me quit. Even when I actually did quit the track team my senior year, he didn't accept the resignation. And it is a memory and lesson I have carried with me for many years. He also taught me the opening lines of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and that there is no better way to celebrate a victory at the state championships in Gainesville than a burger at Steak 'n Shake. Thanks Doc for always being such a positive influence in my life."

Patricia Tortolani '97

Editor in chief of Ocean Drive magazine

“Doc is inspiring, authentic, disciplined, compelling, motivating, and a superb role model for those students who aspire to become teachers.”

Marc D. Sanders '84
Associate Vice President
at Stanford University



He expresses gratitude to various faculty members from RE: He describes former colleagues Mike Stokes, Geoff Pietsch and Owen Paris as “legends.” Teacher Karen Thompson served as his assistant for 15 years; **Tracy Friedlander Ley '02** came after; and **Caroline Lutzky '09** has assumed the head-coaching reins. Former strength coach Brian Biagioli was a guiding force.

Though Crabtree spent most of his career coaching female athletes, he never considered adapting his methods. As an Ohio native, he had been influenced by the legendary football coach Woody Hayes; that was the coaching style he knew. “I don’t coach girls any different than I coach boys,” he said. “I coach athletes.” **Nicole Medina-Hospital '02**, a writing instructor at the University of Miami and Artist in Residence at the Deering Estate, called her former coach and AP Biology teacher a “true feminist.”

As a teacher and coach, Crabtree started with students and ended up with fans.

“Doc showed overt pride in coaching women,” Medina-Hospital said. “It was great for us... My adventures, my victories and the lessons I learned with Doc are priceless. He will always play the role of hero in my heart.”



“Our dad has impacted so many people’s lives in such a positive way, as an educator, coach and mentor. We often hear from those he has influenced and inspired over the years, and we are so lucky to have him as a role model. He continues to set the example in our lives and now sets the example for his granddaughter. Ransom Everglades has always been our second home, but we know retirement will bring new challenges and opportunities for him to change and inspire the community. We know this next chapter is going to be great!”

Nicole Crabtree '04 and Robyn Crabtree '09

To see more alumni reflections on Doc Crabtree, follow this link:
www.ransomeverglades.org/re-log/2018/doc-crabtree



Supporting RE: An investment in Miami – and beyond

A well-known alumnus joins forces with a new parent to help *REinvent Excellence*

Jeffrey Miller '79 and Constance Fernandez represent the old and new at Ransom Everglades. Miller and members of his family have served the school for decades through volunteerism, philanthropy and their constant and cheerful presence on RE's campuses. Fernandez, a Michigan native, belongs to one of the school's newer families. She and her husband have provided critical support to countless organizations and causes in Miami, but it wasn't until their youngest son **Cristofer Fernandez '22** joined the RE community as a sixth grader that they began to realize the remarkable return offered by an investment in Ransom Everglades School.

Miller, a longtime trustee and former chair, persuaded Fernandez, a fellow trustee, to join him as a co-chair for the *REinventing Excellence* campaign that was launched last fall. They have since worked together to generate enthusiasm for the \$75 million campaign, which is designed to elevate all of RE's programs and bring about a significant makeover of the Upper School campus. Despite their different backgrounds, both share the belief that Ransom Everglades is much more than a school; it is a force for good that drives the entire Miami community.

This winter, they agreed to share insights into their favorite common cause. They met at the La Brisa property the school acquired in June 2016.

“Our students and faculty and administration made us a No. 1 school. We owe it to them to give them the classrooms and facilities they have earned and deserve. We absolutely should build that around them.”

– Constance



Jeffrey: I have a long history with Ransom Everglades, and the Ransom School before that. I went to high school here, Class of '79. My brother (**Stuart Miller '75**) and sister (**Leslie Miller Saointz '77**) went here. Both of my children have gone to Ransom Everglades; one (**Anthony Miller '15**) graduated, one (**Lenny Miller '21**) is in ninth grade. Nine nieces and nephews have attended, and I've served on the board for 10 years or so, and I've also chaired the board. So my involvement has been pretty consistent over the years. I see Ransom Everglades as an integral part of my own life, and a pillar of the community. It's not only a great high school and middle school, but it's really a community builder.

Constance: I didn't volunteer for this, I was recruited by Jeff – but happily. It's an honor. As I listen to Jeff describe his long connection to Ransom Everglades, it occurs to me that I'm a good complement. My family doesn't have the legacy that his does here at this institution – of course, that is my hope in the future for our family. We are a new family here. I was born and raised in Michigan. After earning my MBA from the University of Michigan, I moved to Atlanta to open several restaurants and clothing stores. From there, I moved to Fort Lauderdale and then Miami, where

“ We are adding seven acres of land, but there is not going to be a push to add another 1,000 kids here. We like our size. We like the intimacy of our classrooms.”

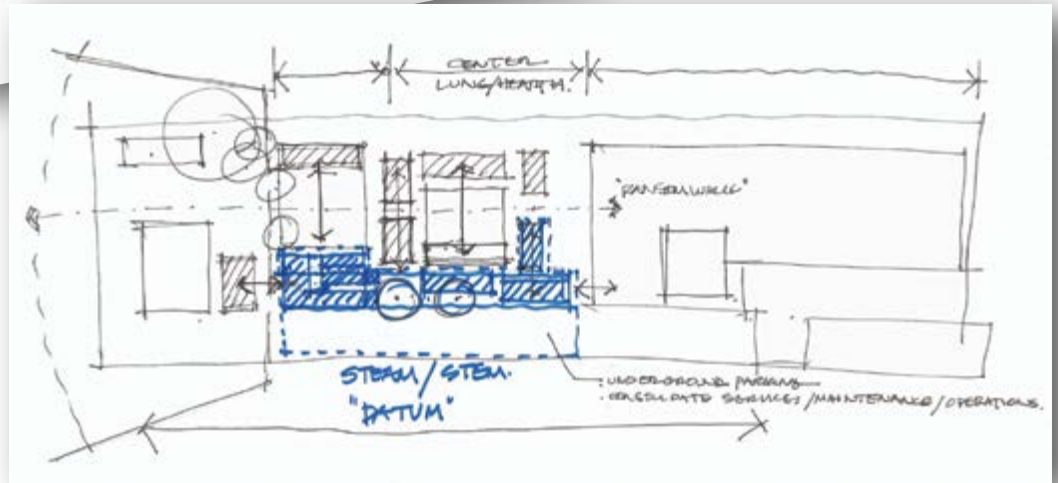
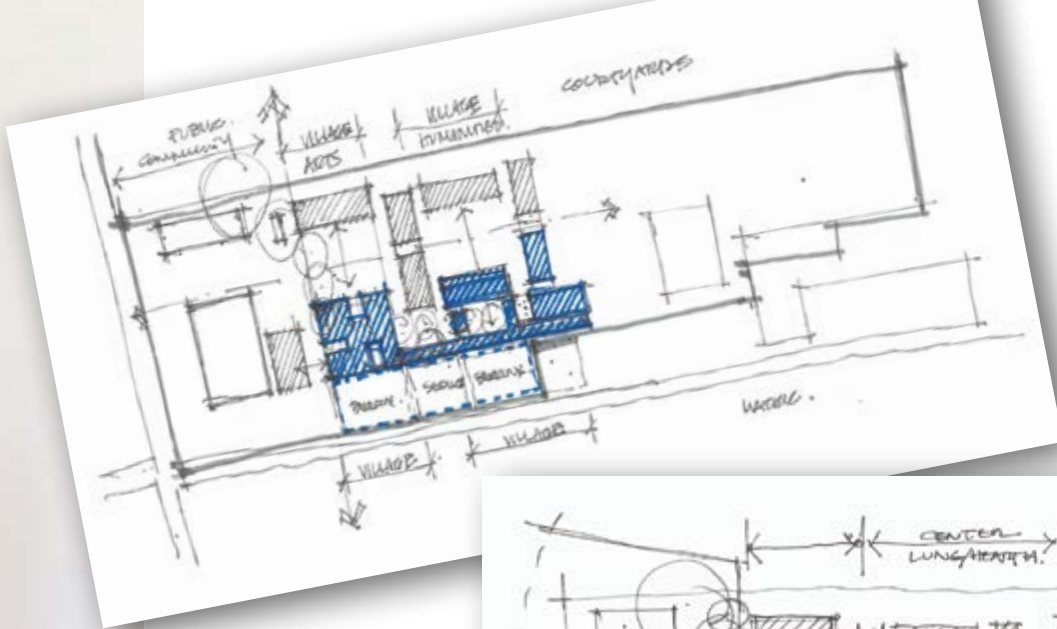
– Jeffrey

I worked as a marketing director at a healthcare company. That's how I met my husband, Mike, who also was in the healthcare industry. That was 18 years ago. This is a school I wish I could have attended, and I'm very happy to provide this opportunity for our youngest son, Cristofer. This was the school of choice. It is a perfect fit for Cristofer, and I feel that Cristofer adds to the Ransom Everglades community. Our family supports many philanthropic and worthy causes here in

Miami, but this particular investment is very special to me. What better place for me to spend the next five years, as my son finishes his schooling here, and at a pivotal time for Ransom Everglades? What a great institution this has been for the past 100 years. To have the opportunity to contribute to a major transformation – one that will reverberate throughout the city of Miami – is inspiring.

Jeffrey: I was involved during the last capital campaign, which provided new fields and facilities to the Middle School. I've been involved in upgrades to the athletic buildings and the construction of the Ansin Aquatic Center on the Ransom Campus. This particular revitalization – which we are calling *REinventing Excellence* – is especially exciting because it's going to expand the Upper School campus with the inclusion of the La Brisa property. It will also be transformative for the Upper School academic buildings – which is long overdue. We haven't had a new academic building on the Ransom Campus for over 40 years.

Constance: *REinventing Excellence* is about more than just buildings – I want to emphasize that – but it will bring new buildings, and I am very excited about that. Why? For me, the attraction to Ransom



Everglades wasn't that it was a beautiful facility, or had these gorgeous new buildings. It was the core of the school, and what was inside. The academics. The seriousness of it. The faculty. The curriculum. That's what brought my family to Ransom Everglades. We don't like to talk about rankings, yet I can't help but mention that Ransom Everglades has been ranked the No. 1 school in Florida for years. It's hard to stay No. 1. You have to be ahead of the curve to stay No. 1. I feel our students and faculty and administration made us a No. 1 school. We owe it to them to give them the classrooms and facilities they have earned and deserve. We absolutely should build that around them. Imagine where that will take us? We already have what it takes to be No. 1. The physical enhancements will elevate our academic program. They will enhance our curriculum. Great facilities will help us keep and attract the best and brightest teachers. The entire institution will benefit. We will lift the level of excellence in every facet.

Jeffrey: We are starting by building a STEM Center – a science, technology engineering and math building. We expect to start construction this summer. The STEM Center has been designed in such

a way as to make it flexible so that as our world changes and as education changes, the facility is adaptable enough in design to incorporate those changes in that building. So regardless of what is happening 10 years from now, this building will be able to adjust to that. It's really exciting that we're undertaking something with the understanding that we're trying to look forward and not build just for our needs today.

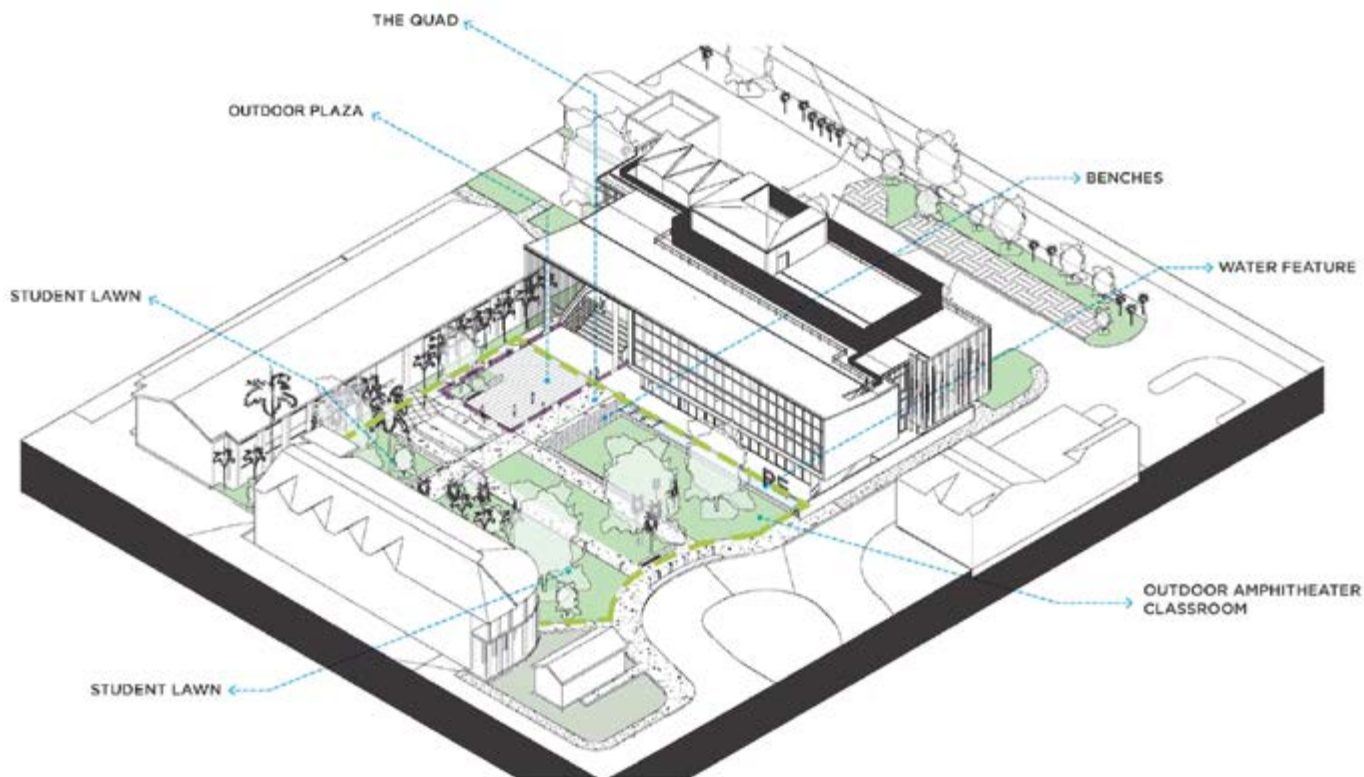
“ We need to keep raising the bar for education as our city raises the bar in so many other ways.”

– Constance

During this campaign, Ransom Everglades is not going to change in terms of substantially growing in numbers. We're going to remain about the same size. That's a remarkable thing. We are adding seven acres of land, but there is not going to be a big push to have another 1,000 kids here. We like our size. We like the intimacy of our classrooms. We like the community atmosphere that develops in each class. And we want to add more green space. We want our students to enjoy an expansive property that feels like a college campus.

Constance: We're paying forward. This will benefit many of our current students, but it's primarily a gift for our next generation. There is no question this is a critical time: we will need to be educating this next generation for careers we don't even know about yet. They need to be well-rounded. We need to prepare the whole child intellectually, socially, athletically. They must be well-rounded to best handle what they are going experience, what has yet to be seen. It's scary, but it's also exciting.

Jeffrey: Education is the key to every aspect of a community being strong and vibrant. Education, whether it be in public schools, charter schools, magnet



schools, private schools, universities and colleges, is key to the quality of community and how we grow our community. A community builds, and builds well, based on its education, and its level and quality of education. Ransom Everglades plays a major part in education throughout our entire community. It's not only educating our kids, it's reaching out to the community, it's helping inner-city kids, it's creating collaborative partnerships with universities and other pieces around our overall community.

We have in our budget every year \$5 million in financial aid that goes out to balance our student body. The board is consistently raising that budget so we bring people from all walks of life and all financial places into Ransom Everglades. That's really a goal and something the board is tuned into and wants to make sure happens. We've seen it happen. The Ransom Everglades community has changed and evolved over the years. I have been directly involved with RE for over 40 years. Our board chair, **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, may have been the first, or one of the first, Cuban-American families at Ransom. Today, Ransom Everglades is over 50 percent Latin American and, really, what has evolved is diversity, diversity on every front. It really is a microcosm

of what Miami-Dade County is as a whole. We represent all facets of life whether it be cultural, religious, lifestyle. It's something that we embrace.

Constance: When I was at the University of Michigan's business school, all of my friends were from out of the country, international students. I did not have one friend from the United States of America. That really opened my world at a pivotal

time in my life. It added to my learning experience, and it also showed me that the world was bigger than I had previously understood. I had friends from Indonesia, the Philippines, Hong Kong. International exposure is built in to Ransom Everglades, because of its location in the heart of such a diverse city.

Jeffrey: South Florida has obviously increased in diversity, but it's also changed in other ways. It's interesting, when I graduated and went to college, many of my fellow students and fellow classmates went off to college and never came back to Miami. There wasn't tremendous opportunity down here. Right now, Miami is an emerging scene of business. Miami has always been a real estate mecca, but there is so much more now to Miami, whether it be around technology, whether it be around the medical community.

Constance: As more and more companies relocate to Miami or start businesses here, they come with families and children who are concerned about education. I speak from experience; we were one of those families! As Miami continues to grow in sophistication and culture – we've seen the rise of the Pérez Art Museum Miami, the Frost Museum of Science, and the Institute of Contemporary Art – our

“This is an investment in Miami. We believe this transformation will reach far beyond the gates of Ransom Everglades School and into the City of Miami.”
– Constance



school must continue to grow with it. We need to keep raising the bar for education as our city raises the bar in so many other ways.

Jeffrey: The other element of that is there is so much business happening around Miami, students graduating from RE are going off to college and finding opportunities to come back to Miami. They don't have to go off to San Francisco or New York or Boston; there's opportunity here in South Florida. That's an exciting part of Ransom Everglades: we are building future leaders, leaders who might come back and share their talents and the benefits of a Ransom Everglades education with this community. We already have an incredible alumni community. Obviously, if people are here in the local community we can re-engage them in Ransom Everglades life.

Constance: Many alumni – like Jeff – serve Ransom Everglades as board members or in other roles. Our board members are an amazing group: alumni, community leaders, past and current families. We have 100-percent participation from our board in the *REinventing Excellence* campaign. The board alone has raised more than 50 percent of the school's campaign goal of \$75 million. That in itself speaks volumes about the board's commitment

“This is the perfect time to get involved... We need the involvement of all of those who care about this school.”
– Jeffrey

and heart for this. We do invite the entire Ransom Everglades community, and the Miami community, to join us.

Jeffrey: This is not just about technology. This is not just about building a STEM Center, or even about stepping into the future. What Ransom Everglades is trying to do is build for the future while harnessing our legacy, and our past. We want to harness the spirit of our school and passion of our school. As we move forward, as

we anticipate where our world is going, we will also remain consistent to our values. We will tap into the humanities and the heart of what makes Ransom Everglades special. Constance and I are so convinced of the value of this campaign, that we've already committed to it ourselves with significant gifts. We can't ask people to contribute if we don't do it ourselves. We want people to follow suit.

This is the perfect time to get involved. This is an important juncture of time for our community, whether it be current parents or alums or grandparents or whoever has been touched by Ransom Everglades. We need the involvement of all of those who care about this school.

Constance: If you're a past, current or future parent, or alum, this is an investment in Miami. We believe this transformation will reach far beyond the gates of Ransom Everglades School and into the City of Miami. And even beyond!

For information about how you can get involved with *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*, contact Director of Advancement Greg Pollard at gpollard@ransomeverglades.org or call 305 460 8820.

REinventing Excellence

Sir Ken Robinson



REinvention Starts Now Sir Ken Robinson helps RE launch

REinventing Excellence

THE CAMPAIGN FOR RANSOM EVERGLADES

Sir Ken Robinson brought his powerful message about transforming education through innovation and creativity to the Lewis Family Auditorium on October 17, 2017, captivating hundreds of members of the RE community and setting the tone for the launch of *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*.

Robinson, considered one of the world's foremost experts on education, advocated for schools that are more individualized and less conformist. He called for more emphasis on creative thinking and less preoccupation with test scores. Robinson

addressed an appreciative crowd of alumni, parents, board members, administration, faculty, staff and RE friends for more than 90 minutes.

"The human imagination is the seed of every form of human achievement," he said. "We can't afford to neglect it."

Earlier that evening, RE's Chair of the Board **Rudy Prio Touzet '76** introduced Ransom Everglades' \$75 million capital campaign, announcing that \$40 million had already been raised, including \$30 million in gifts from the school's trustees. Head of School Penny Townsend also addressed the crowd, explaining why even

the nation's finest institutions must seek reinvention in many realms.

"What kind of curriculum is appropriate for a society in which traditional work, career ladders, even entrepreneurship are radically different?" she said. "How do we factor in something as potentially world-changing as artificial intelligence? We don't know any of the specifics. All we do know is that test-centric teaching, perfectionism, and complacency will sink us. A lot needs to be reinvented."

REinventing Excellence will usher in that wide-ranging reinvention, starting in the summer of 2018 with the construction



Rudy Prio Touzet '76, Sir Ken Robinson, Penny Townsend (photographs by Jenny Abreu and Suzanne Kores)

of a STEM Center on the Upper School campus as the school gradually incorporates its plan for the La Brisa land – which won City of Miami approval in January 2018 (see page 30). The La Brisa property will eventually include a new student commons that will replace the current dining hall, and the La Brisa home will be repurposed for academic and administrative uses.

Robinson, the author of *Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That's Transforming Education*, met with RE's faculty in a private reception that lasted more than an hour before his evening

appearance. He touched on a range of topics, including the testing mindset in education that he described as a "toxic culture," and the necessity of replacing outmoded ways of teaching with more effective strategies and approaches.

"The system is changing – and it has to," he said.

Robinson's provocative message and the night's campaign launch left the RE community abuzz and excited.

Townsend reaffirmed her commitment to the path of innovation described by Robinson in a letter to the RE community the next day. She wrote that the talk

by Robinson "was not a wake-up call so much as affirmation that we are on the right path – and a reminder that we need to be constantly vigilant about staying there. Being an innovator is not a passive proposition. We need to continue to think outside the box, continue to innovate and continue to reach the whole student."

For more information about supporting *REinventing Excellence*, contact Director of Advancement Greg Pollard at gpollard@ransomeverglades.org.



La Brisa Approved

Miami City Commission
lauds Ransom Everglades
for its plan for the
new property

Ransom Everglades' plan for incorporating the La Brisa land into its Upper School campus won unanimous approval from the Miami City Commission on January 25, 2018, setting the stage for the gradual integration of La Brisa's seven acres into student life.

Photographs by Suzanne Kores



The decision at Miami City Hall concluded a lengthy approval process that began soon after the school purchased the property along the northern edge of the school's Main Highway campus in June 2016. Commissioners indicated they supported the RE plan because it not only ensures the prosperity of generations of students but also enables RE to continue to be an active and generous community partner while respecting the natural riches of Coconut Grove.

The school's plan envisions the addition of just one new building – a future student commons – on the La Brisa property as RE adapts the 1920s home on the land so that it can serve academic and administrative purposes. The extensive mangroves and tree canopies on the property will be preserved. The plan, which was lauded by the Historic Preservation Society of Coral Gables for “good stewardship,” calls for tree-lined quads, expansive lawns and additional landscaping on the current Upper School campus.

The approved plan represents the merging of RE's vision for the La Brisa land with the school's previously approved plan for the existing Ransom Campus. That proposal won approval by the Miami City Commission in 2014 and includes a proposed STEM Center. The addition of the La Brisa property nearly doubles the size of the Ransom Campus.

Commissioner Ken Russell applauded Ransom Everglades for resisting the temptation to maximize to every corner of the La Brisa land in terms of density, parking spaces and construction additions.

The decision “validates the 19 months of hard work and thoughtful planning that went into presenting our vision for the future of our school,” Head of School Penny Townsend said in a letter to the RE community. “I am proud that, throughout this process, we remained faithful to our school's values.”



**1. Lewis Family Auditorium 2. Proposed Student Commons 3. Fine Arts Building 4. Proposed Multidisciplinary + STEM Center
5. Dan Leslie Bowden Library and Cameron Hall 6. Ludington Hall 7. La Brisa Home 8. The Pagoda 9. Henry H. Anderson, Jr. '38 Gymnasium**

Dozens of members of the RE community attended the hearing, and nearly two dozen addressed the commissioners during the public comments session. Commission Chair Keon Hardemon was so impressed with the eight RE students – **Tomas Gomez '18, Chris Kucera '18, Lauren Marx '18, Alex Mendelson '19, Paulina Pages '18, Juan Roca-Paisley '19, Ryan Sears '18** and **Hannah Tacher Lois '18** – who spoke on behalf of the school he invited two of them, Sears and Tacher Lois, to serve as honorary co-chairs.

The city's approval also paves the way for the revitalization of the existing Upper School campus through the school's *REinventing Excellence* campaign, beginning this summer with the construction of the new STEM Center. The school's campaign is guided by the five initiatives Townsend crafted with the board's support soon after her arrival to the school in 2014: Enriching the curriculum; building the best faculty; integrating technology creatively; upgrading buildings, facilities and spaces; and developing RE as an institution.

After the hearing, Townsend offered her personal thanks to many who contributed to the effort, including the legal team led by **John Shubin '79**, Amy Huber and Rachel Streitfeld; the architectural team directed by **Carlos Prio-Touzet '72** and Jacqueline Gonzalez; attorney **W. Tucker Gibbs '72**; landscape

architect Jennie Rogers; arborist Lisa Hammer; traffic engineer Joaquin Vargas; master planner Cal Bowie; parking expert Tom Butcher; land surveyor Anthony Campanile; entrepreneur Jose Goyanes; and engineer Joaquin Mojica.

Many of that group participated in RE's 20-minute presentation at the hearing.

Townsend also thanked board Chair **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, Vice Chair **Andrew L. Ansin '81**, and the rest of the board for their leadership, vision and dedication; Jim Cowgill, RE's Chief Financial Officer, for his tireless work on the project; and the entire RE community for its support.



Members of the RE community standing outside Miami City Hall after the Jan. 25 hearing.



Commissioner Chair Keon Hardemon stands between "co-chairs" **Hannah Tacher Lois '18** and **Ryan Sears '18** during RE's January 2018 Miami City Commission hearing.

From the *Everglades Campus*

STEM at RE rooted in the Dell



The words *REdesign*, *REbuild*, *REprogram* appear on the back of the shirts worn by our Middle School competitive robotics students. They are intended as a reminder that the work we do is always challenging and fundamentally iterative in nature. Ideating, or brainstorming, is just one of the steps of the engineering design process that students learn when engaged in competitive robotics at Ransom Everglades. Students work in teams to develop a strategy, design, build a prototype, program it, then test it and analyze the results. Failure (and no small amount of frustration) is part of the process, but the students take what they learn and start the cycle over again with new insights. Ahead of its time, the Everglades School for Girls explained the philosophy in its creed: “To profit from your past mistakes and aim for higher goals.”

I am proud to say that engineering, design-thinking and invention are becoming more and more a part of the everyday life of Middle School students. In the past few years, competitive robotics has grown

from a handful of students working during the club portion of the school day to more than 30 working after school four days a week. We sent five teams to this year’s RoboSLAM and two to the state championship, and we hope to repeat last year’s success at worlds! The integration of science, technology and applied mathematics is evident within the school day as well. The seventh-grade rotation now includes computer programming and app-making, and the eighth graders are taking a semester-long course with a focus on robotics programming using Robot-C. Sixth-grade students will be participating in the second-annual Ransom Everglades Energy and Climate Symposium where their individual scientific experiments, research reports and engineering projects will be showcased. Our budding scientists continue their exploration of science during club time; we have a Crime-Busters club as well as Organic Garden, Pinhole Camera and Slime-Time clubs. The STEM Club has taken on the challenge of putting together a hydroponic garden inspired in part by the aquaponics system (see page 36) on the Ransom Campus.

The science department has been continually updating the curriculum at all grade levels, reinforcing math skills and infusing connections to the humanities and arts as well engineering and design-thinking. This integrated approach, which builds on the many excellent projects and labs our students have been doing for years, represents a natural contemporary iteration of the experiential approach to learning Paul Ransom built the school around. When our students begin their years at the Ransom Campus and take their first classes in our upcoming STEM Center, they will already know that designing a part for 3D printing requires a sense of form and function. As they look across the Quad at the Visual Arts Building they will know they can find inspiration for their creations in aesthetics as well as mathematics. In the future, they may choose to pursue medicine, alternative energy, Battlebots or graphic design but, rest assured, they are already testing their initial designs on the Bluff or in the Dell, or in the Atrium.

Gustavo Palacios
Middle School Science Department
Coordinator

RE Provides RElief

RElief effort on both campuses nets \$8,700

Hundreds enjoyed Ransom Everglades' Stronger Together RElief Festival throughout the day and evening on Oct. 27, 2017, donating \$8,700 to regions hit by natural disasters while taking in various special events on both of the school's campuses. Members of the RE community turned out for a varsity football game at the Middle School, an International Food Festival, a Rock 4 Relief concert at the Upper School and a Middle School dance.



All of the RElief events were free, but student and faculty volunteers collected donations at each event. "I was absolutely overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and energy that surrounded our multi-faceted Stronger Together RElief Festival," Head of School Penny Townsend said in a letter

to the RE community on Oct. 30. "My reaction that night could be summed up in one word: Wow. My response this afternoon, as I reflect on the event, is just as heartfelt: Thank you."

World language students and faculty prepared and served food from regions recently struck by natural disasters. Dozens of students and some faculty performed in the Rock 4 Relief concert that was organized by **Jacob Tie-Shue '18** and featured Student Government Association President **Ryan Sears '18** as the emcee. World Languages Department Chair Adabel Diaz-Rivera and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Paul Elkins helped coordinate the events. Alumni under the direction of **Ryan Holtzmann '00** contributed by conducting a relief drive for items ranging from baby wipes to tarps.

Leading up to the festival, students and alumni donated supplies ranging from baby food to mosquito netting; those items were sent directly to Puerto Rico as it rebuilt after Hurricane Maria. Student volunteer leaders determined the distribution of the rest of the funds under the direction of Elkins, sending donations to six other traumatized areas.



Sixteen Seniors Honored

Students named 2018 National Merit Semifinalists

Sixteen RE seniors were named semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Celine De Araujo, Carlos Esber, Daniel Freedline, Jordan Gould, Gabriel Jaramillo, Stephen Kaiser, Scott Kim, Sonja Lazovic, Alexander Lerner, Ines Pinilla, Ben Rosenthal, Joshua Solesbury, Jacob Tie-Shue, Ryan Tie-Shue, Jordan Wong and Megan Zou were among just one percent of the 1.6 million students who took the PSAT to advance in the competition for 7,500 National Merit Scholarships.

Dramatic Duo

Performances at the US and MS showcase student talent

The drama program at Ransom Everglades showed its range and excellence in crowd-pleasing performances on both campuses last fall. Upper School students performed the uproarious *Moon Over Buffalo* at the Lewis Family Auditorium Oct. 20-21, 2017, under first-year performing arts teacher Sam Shapiro, leaving the audience in stitches.

Middle School drama students followed with an exhilarating rendition of *High School Musical* under the direction of Cecilia Gonzalez that drew resounding standing ovations at Swenson Hall on Nov. 8, 9 and 10.

Gonzalez, a graduate of the University of Miami Frost School of Music and Miami's New World School of the Arts, is currently pursuing a Master of Arts at UM.



Shapiro arrived to Ransom Everglades last summer from director's roles at the Miami Children's Theater and Broadway Musical Theatre on Key Biscayne; she also served as a casting production assistant for Steven Spielberg's entertainment company, Amblin Entertainment.

Eight students ranging from ninth to 12th grades expertly executed the Upper School production; **Juan Gabriel "Juanchi" Roca-Paisley '19** and **Margaret "Ivy" McWilliams '18** played the lead characters in the two-act Ken Ludwig farcical

play that also included **Vanessa Gonzalez '19**, **Rachel Seipp '19**, **Roy "R.J." Black '19**, **Viviana Freyer '20**, **Liam de Araujo '21** and **Rudy Prio Touzet '18**.

Nick Rubino '23, **Zoe Holtzman '22**, **Alexa Hommen '22** and **Nico Maynulet '23** led the talented and expansive cast for *High School Musical*. Drama teacher Gina Montet and many others assisted with both productions.



From Aquaponics Tank to Table

Biology students raise food to feed their peers

Ninth-grade biology students are planning to feed their peers this spring with a meal of tilapia and greens produced inside the school's new 400-gallon aquaponics tank, which the ninth-grade scientists have tended this year.

"Team Tilapia," a team of National Science Honor Society students under the tutelage of **Cecilia Calleros '94**, worked throughout the summer to assemble and prepare the aquaponics tank. Once classes began, biology students took over the system.

Students populated the aquaponics tank with plants and monitored the system during the summer months. As the plants grew, bacteria developed and the water quality reached desired levels, biology students added tiny tilapia. Plants and fish clean the water and provide food for each other in the self-sustaining system.

In December, the students supplied the annual holiday party for faculty and staff by cutting kale, bok choy, lettuce, basil, mint and rosemary plants for Chef Alfredo Silva. **Ben Arriola '18, Jasper Beardslee '18, Rebecca Hadwen '18, Lauren Marx '18, Leo Menninger '18, Noa Richard '18, Hannah Tacher Lois '18 and Jed Warshaw '18** worked on the tank over the summer.



Biology students clip and collect greens from the aquaponics tank for RE Chef Alfredo Silva. Head of the Upper School Kenneth S. Mills in photo above; teacher **Cecilia Calleros '94** in photo to left.





Presidential Poetry Obama's inaugural poet visits Ransom Everglades



Renowned poet Richard Blanco shared with Upper School students his incredible journey from Cuban immigrant in Miami to inaugural poet at President Obama's second inauguration. Blanco, one of just five people to read a poem at a U.S. presidential inauguration, read from his works during the December 2017 assembly at the Lewis Family Auditorium.

When President Obama invited him to write a poem for his inauguration in 2013, Blanco joined elite company that includes Maya Angelou and Robert Frost. For the event, he crafted "One Today."

Blanco attended Christopher Columbus High and then pursued engineering at Florida International University. He worked for several years as a civil engineer before returning to FIU to earn an MFA in creative writing. His first book, *City of a Hundred Fires*, received national acclaim and allowed him to pursue poetry full time.

Blanco told RE students how his struggle to find his home, place and identity in the United States – as a Cuban immigrant, Hispanic and gay man – influenced his poetry. "The poem is, in a way, a response to the questions of home," he said. "The greatest gift of the inauguration was realizing that I was home all along, that my story was part of the American story."

Blanco has taught at American, Georgetown and Wesleyan universities; received a number of honorary doctorates; and won a host of poetry prizes and awards. After the morning assembly, members of RE's poetry club escorted Blanco to lunch.

He remained on campus that afternoon to serve as a guest lecturer in a number of classes, then offered a workshop for faculty immediately after school.

Hurricane *Irma*

The Balm after the Storm

RE community joins in campus cleanup after Hurricane Irma

Ransom Everglades' facilities team worked overtime and students, faculty, staff and administration contributed to a massive clean up in the wake of Hurricane Irma, which flooded the Upper School athletics field, damaged the school's waterfront and gym, and forced the cancellation of school from Sept. 7-18, 2017.

Irma obliterated the mangroves between the athletics field and bay, tore up the field's turf surface, destroyed one of the school's three docks, and flooded the erg room under the pool and first floor of the gymnasium – and its offices, locker rooms, training room and workout facility.

There was, however, no significant damage elsewhere on the school's campuses and the La Brisa property. The historic Pagoda and Ransom Cottage sustained no visible damage, and all of the school's academic buildings weathered the storm with only expected wear and tear to roofs. Both campuses were left without power for a week and were littered with downed trees and fallen limbs.

Three boats washed up on the Ransom Campus; a crane was brought in to help remove them. Dozens of faculty and staff helped out in the days after the Sept. 10 storm, and nearly 150 Upper School students showed up to help clear debris from the athletics field on a Saturday during the hurricane break. Facilities Director Erick Ceballos and Chief Financial Officer Jim Cowgill directed and oversaw the monumental clean-up effort.

View of the Robert E. Walker Field during the storm (photo by Erick Ceballos).

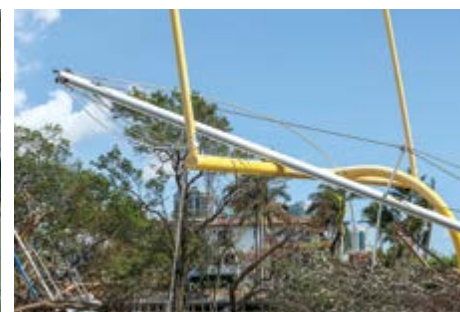




The gymnasium reopened for games and practices within two weeks of the storm, and RE's football team returned to practice at the Robert E. Walker Field on Oct. 5. The restored field has since accommodated football, soccer and lacrosse practices, but because about 30 yards of turf near the bay were irreparably damaged, all home games were moved to the Stamps Family Field at the Middle School. The entire Walker field turf will be replaced in the summer of 2018 after the seawall has been reinforced.



Photographs by Carl Kafka and Suzanne Kores



Youth Movement

Girls' and boys' golf teams sweep local championships

RE's varsity golf program showed incredible promise as young squads led by twins **Jake Beber-Frankel '20** and **Phoebe Beber-Frankel '20** swept the district and regional meets and earned trips to the 2017 Florida High School Golf State Championships.

Jake won the individual boys' district and regional championships and Phoebe won the girls' individual regional title, ensuring that the Raiders dominated the fall postseason events. The victory at regionals and subsequent appearance at the November state meet were firsts for the boys' team.

Three sophomores powered RE's boys, who were coached by David Ragan, and two sophomores and one junior led the girls' team under coach Eric Salomatoff. The girls finished eighth at states.

At districts, Jake Beber-Frankel (68), **Marc Chaneles '20** (74), **Anderson Murphy '19** (75) and **Zachary Buttrick '20** (79) combined to shoot 296 – the best team score in Raider history. Co-captain and four-year starter **Josh Solesbury '18** (83) also posted a strong showing as the Raiders easily topped second-place finisher Westminster Christian, which scored a 349.

The girls' team of Phoebe Beber-Frankel (76), **Megan Houchin '19** (86), **Rachel De Angulo '20** (87) and **Kathleen Cochran '18** (111) tallied a 360 at districts, edging Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart (363) for the girls' title. **Olivia Castillo '21** (112) also contributed to the championship.



Bakes '18 and Bent '18 sign national letters of intent

Lacrosse player **Erin Bakes '18** and volleyball player **Sydney Bent '18** signed ceremonial national letters of intent in front of an appreciative audience of faculty and students in the Anderson gymnasium. Bakes committed to extend her lacrosse career at the University of Southern California, and Bent will play volleyball at Notre Dame.

Interim Athletic Director Andy De Angulo served as emcee at the November 2017 ceremony that honored the two most celebrated athletes in Ransom Everglades' Class of 2018.

A US Lacrosse first-team All-American, Bakes has been team captain, team Most Valuable Player and first-team All-Dade for four consecutive years. She also excelled in soccer (third-team All-Dade for two seasons) and volleyball, where she contributed to the 2013 state title.

"When you go out to see Erin on the lacrosse field, what she does on that field is truly remarkable," De Angulo said. "She is one of the top players in the country."

Bent is a third-team All-American, a two-time first-team All-Dade selection, and team captain and MVP. De Angulo lauded her dedication and "sheer will" to succeed, and noted that stopping her became the entire focus of opposing teams' game plans. You can't help "noticing how dominant of a player she is," he said.

National letters of intent are binding agreements with NCAA Division I schools for a student's first year in college. At press time, more than a dozen other RE seniors had decided to continue their athletic careers at various colleges and universities, with more expected commitments: The students are: German Giammattei, soccer, Amherst; Falyn Goldstein,



crew, Lehigh; Matthew Jackson, baseball, Illinois Tech; Antonio Mora, tennis, Emory; Ellie Moret, cross country/track and field, Tufts; Tiffany McBrayer, soccer, Sarah Lawrence; Will Miller, football, Chapman; Ines Pinilla, crew, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Reece Ritzenthaler, lacrosse, University of Colorado, Boulder; Matt Simko, swimming/water polo, Brown; Felipe Urrutia, swimming, Chicago; Tucker Weed, sailing, Brown; Julian Zighelboim, soccer, Northwestern.

All-Dade RE Athletes Fall 2017

FIRST TEAM

Jake Beber-Frankel '20, golf
Phoebe Beber-Frankel '20, golf
Sydney Bent '18, volleyball
Alina Pedroso '18, volleyball

SECOND TEAM

Ellie Carrera-Justiz '19, volleyball
James Cusack '18, cross country
Rachel De Angulo '20, golf
Megan Houchin '19, golf
Julia Ortiz '18, volleyball

THIRD TEAM

Marc Chaneles '20, golf
Fernanda Garcia
Morena Alvarez '21, cross country
Felipe Urrutia '18, swimming
 (200 IM, 100 br)



Freshmen in Penny Matthews' Bay Studies course paddle Ransom Everglades' new fleet of paddle boards out to Biscayne Bay on a beautiful morning in February. Ransom Everglades acquired 10 of the popular boards last summer for the benefit of the school's physical education program, enriching an experiential learning curriculum that already included sailing, canoeing and kayaking. Students in the Advanced Bay Studies course also utilize the paddle boards.



We have amazing kids.
You have interesting jobs.
Let's talk.



We are looking for individuals, organizations, firms, science labs, medical facilities or others willing to host RE high school students over the summer in volunteer internships.

We have plenty of smart, motivated students who can assist with your organization's project-based and/or research-based activities between mid-June and early August. If you are in need of extra help during the summer, consider joining our growing program at Ransom Everglades called Summer Learning through Internships and Mentoring (SLIM).

We especially value work with RE alumni and parents in all fields.

If you would like to sponsor or host a student internship in 2018 or 2019, please contact program director **Paul Natland '02** at pnatland@ransomeverglades.org as soon as possible.

Alumni Events

Link to the photo galleries:
<https://ransomevergladesschool.smugmug.com/>



Alumni came out to celebrate the Raiders' homecoming with a post-game tailgate at the Taurus on October 13, 2017. Pictured with Head of School Penny Townsend: event chairs **Lola Arellano Pegg '93**, **Becky Haggard McCarron '93** and **Bubba Drody '88**. The Raider is joined by **Kelly McCammon '86**, **Mark Hoffman '85**, Sunny Fraser and **David Gordon '85**.



Jose Llamas '04 and faculty member Jose Rodriguez at the first Young Alumni Committee event of 2017-18 at Wynwood Kitchen & Bar on Sept. 27, 2017. Jessica Srebnick, **Scott Srebnick '83** and **Joe Furst '97** of Goldman Properties played host to a young and energetic group from the Classes of 2000 and after.



Karim Aryeh '98 and **Pearce Klevan '97** write notes to classmates at the Fund for RE Kick-Off on October 4, 2017, which once again was supported by a strong alumni showing. **Todd Mestepey '91** and **Christian Falk '91** are co-chairing the alumni fund effort that seeks to again surpass 30-percent participation and to exceed \$1 million for the first time. Make your gift today by visiting www.ransomeverglades.org/make-a-gift.



NYC alumni **Nick Werner '97**, far left, **Asher Simon '93**, far right, and **Alex Fumero '01** (not pictured) shared their experiences on 9/11 with members of Gregory Cooper's "America in the Post 9/11 World" class during a class trip to New York. Pictured (L to R): Werner, **Ivy McWilliams '18**, **Grace Waibel '19**, **Sophia Elliott '18**, Lindsay Danielson, **Ben Arriola '18**, Cooper and Simon.



The Alumni Association partnered with the Office of College Counseling to provide mock interviews to current seniors on Nov. 5, 2017. Under the leadership of co-chairs **Rob Newman '95** and **Nelly Farra '96**, 25 alumni and one RE parent conducted individual interviews for more than 30 students. Following the interviews, all volunteer interviewers and students gathered in the dining hall for a wrap-up session to provide further guidance.

Alumni Events



Alumni of all ages gathered at Sushi Maki Coconut Grove for a networking exchange on November 28, 2017. Pictured are **Stephanie Castellano Hopple '04**, **Phil Cassel '03** and Patrick Hopple. Above, host Abe Ng stands with **Melissa Krinzman '86** and **Ben Quevedo '98**.



Young Alumni gathered across the street from the Upper School at the Taurus on Thanksgiving weekend to kick off the holiday season. This year was particularly special as RE faculty members Penny Matthews, Bob DuBard, Jose Rodriguez, Greg Cooper, Ellen Grant, Karen Thompson, Jay Calkins (retired), Jean Duty and Alina Mendoza joined the festivities.



The Class of 2007 rallied over the holiday break to celebrate its 10-year reunion. More than 60 classmates and friends gathered at B-Bistro on December 23, 2017. Co-chairs (L-R) **Stephanie Peral '07**, **Danielle Calleja '07**, **Jacques Holzmann '07** and **Rebecca Noble '07** organized the evening.



The tradition continues! Dan Leslie Bowden read Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* on December 9, 2017, at The Palace Suites in Kendall. Despite the long distance from campus, Mr. Bowden attracted a full house. Mr. Bowden's great nephew Thomas Bowden, who lives in Mr. Bowden's home state of Georgia, joined the reading.

More than 300 parents, faculty members and alumni gathered on December 15, 2017, for a holiday party on the Ransom Quad. Guests were welcomed with Prosecco courtesy of Dall'Armellina Vineyards and a performance by the RE Jazz Combo and Band Director Jon Hamm. Head of School Penny Townsend and Trustee **Jeffrey Miller '79** shared details of the *REinventing Excellence* campaign and thanked Bonnie Seipp, REPA President, and **Konky Arellano '90**, Alumni Board President. Special thanks were also given to Board Chair **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, and event co-chairs **Tania Dominguez '87**, Allison Holly, Vicky Hucks and **Roland Samimy '86**. More than 150 toys and gift cards were collected and distributed to families and children of Centro Mater as part of the REACH Too (Ransom Everglades Alumni Can Help Too) effort.



At left: Prosecco sponsors Adriana Dall'Armellina and husband Francisco Gonzalez of Dall'Armellina Vineyards.

Above: John and Bonnie Seipp and **Rebecca Millares Macia '95**



Eliot Gelber '84, **Pearce Klevan '97**, **Kevin Grossfeld '95**, **Peter Diamond '92**, **Todd Mestepey '91**, **Carlos Dominguez '90** and Alumni Board President **Konky Arellano '90**.



Ransom School

1953

Townsend “Towny” Ludington, son of **C.T. Ludington ’15**, gathered with Head of School Penny Townsend; **Henry “Harry” H. Anderson, Jr. ’38**; and **Nick Bell ’82** – grandson of C.T. Ludington and nephew of former RE headmaster David Pierre “Pete” Cameron – at the Griswold Inn in Essex, Ct., in August 2017. The four shared stories about RE over lunch. Towny settled on his family’s farm in Old Lyme, Ct., after a distinguished career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he taught English and American studies from 1966 to 2004. His name will be forever remembered at UNC because of the Townsend Ludington Distinguished Professorship in American Studies, which was endowed in his honor in 1999. Towny, a Yale graduate who earned his doctorate from Duke, helped found the American studies program at UNC and was instrumental in the creation of the school’s African-American studies and the Native American studies programs. He is also the author or editor of 11 books about American literature, art and culture.

1962

Ward Arrington see In Loving Memory, page 63.

Jim Beverley writes, “I have lived in High Pines just South of Gables/Sunset Drive for the last 45 years. I am retired since 2008 from 40 years teaching and coaching full time (Ransom, RE, Palmer, Miami Dade College, Palmetto) but since retirement have been a volunteer soccer coach at RE and alumni soccer

participant. I am also active in alumni activities both as an ex-student from ‘back in the day’ and as a former teacher/coach (1970-78). My major activity these days besides RE is grandfather, ‘PopPop,’ to three young girls (ages 7, 5, 4) – two here in Miami who I see daily before and after school, and one in NYC who I see on most holidays and summers. I would encourage any of the old school alums to get involved in Ransom Everglades and RE functions, ‘carpe, carpe diem.’ Enjoy yourself while you’re still in the pink; it’s later than you think, for all of us.”

1968

Ralph Kazer, offers this amusing tidbit as part of his 50-year reflections: “I can remember propping chalkboard erasers on our classroom door so that they would fall on Mr. Geesey’s head when he would walk into our English class.” Those mischievous Ransom boys!

Mike Maisel, along with his mother Laura and wife Karen, honored the memory of **Stanley D. Maisel ’72** by creating the Stanley D. Maisel Endowed Scholarship at Ransom Everglades School. This very special scholarship will annually be awarded to deserving students who could not otherwise attend Ransom Everglades. See page 69 for more on this endowment.

1970

A 2005 portrait of Madeleine K. Albright by **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** was added to the collection of the National Portrait Gallery on Nov. 19, 2017, during the second American Portrait Gala. Albright received the Portrait of a Nation Prize, given for her exemplary achievements and significant contributions to American history and culture. Robert



Redford introduced Albright at the gala and posed for photos with Albright and Greenfield-Sanders.

1972

W. Tucker Gibbs, see **Marcelo Fernandes ’84**.

Stanley D. Maisel, see page 69 for the article on a scholarship established in his memory.



Carlos Touzet and his partner and wife Jacqueline Gonzalez of Touzet Studio, received the Silver Award for Design Excellence from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Miami. This was the first time in the history of the organization that this award was presented to two partners for equal recognition of their work. The Silver Award is the highest honor the AIA Miami bestows for service or design excellence to elevate public consciousness of good design, and to recognize those architects whose work enriches our built environment. The Design Awards Gala took place on October 28, 2017, at the Olympia Theatre. In 2015 they achieved another first; both partners were presented the Architects of the Year by AIA Miami.

1973

Dan Ellison writes, “I have become more and more involved in projects creating arts access for people with disabilities. I started the DADA project (Durham Audio Described Art), which provides pre-recorded audio description of public art. The descriptions are hosted on a phone call-up number, but soon to be adding a smartphone app. I’ve been teaching ‘Legal Issues for the Performing Arts’ and related arts policy courses, for the past 10 years, to undergrads at Duke.”

Everglades School for Girls 1961

Katherine Swenson Kahan writes, “I will always be grateful for the video of RE’s inspirational recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Irma. The sights and sounds, the strong and beautiful spirit of the Ransom Everglades community, and especially the words of Penny Townsend will be in my heart forever (video can be found at www.ransomeverglades.org/page/about/videos). Hope and trust that you have all had a wonderful holiday season. Richard and I have just returned from two very happy weeks with our family in Hawaii. I am happy to be in touch with **Jourdan Moore Houston, Darrow (Dutch) Dutcher Hodges, Andrea Lynch Cole** and **Carol (Kiki) Shafton Rock.**”

1962

Lou Pfaelzer, see **Jourdan Moore Houston ’62**

Jourdan Moore Houston and Fraser stopped by to see **Matilee Howard Johnson ’61** and her husband Emerson last July, soon after spending the Fourth with **Bebe Ferrell McClain ’62**, Bill and two of their grandsons at their lake house south of Asheville, N.C. Mat and Emerson moved to Matilee’s hometown of Aiken, S.C., from Pawleys Island last year. (The Houstons even saw Mat’s elementary school, where she had once reigned as a little May Queen.) Jourdan and Fraser



Photo (L-R): Emerson and Matilee Howard, Fraser Houston, Jourdan Moore Houston.



were en route to a family reunion at the Outer Banks, N.C., to see their two daughters and their families, who traveled from Shanghai and New Hampshire. The Houstons later enjoyed their annual gathering with Mike and **Lou Pfaelzer ’62** in New England, having spent a week in late 2016 with them riding their bikes for a week along the Great Allegheny Pass from Pittsburgh to Cumberland, Md. Photo above: Jourdan and Lou traveling with their group along the Great Allegheny Pass.

Bebe Ferrell McClain writes, “Last year Bill and I celebrated our 50th anniversary. We have three children and four grandchildren and split our time between Asheville and Hilton Head, N.C.. We had great visit from **Jourdan Moore Houston ’62** and husband Fraise last summer.”



Linda Morris McKillop’s husband, Roy, passed away last year in their new home town of Greenville, S.C., where they had moved to be close to one of their sons. Roy won many admirers among early-1960s Everglades alums gathering at their 2010 reunion at the home of **Lou Blair Pfaelzer ’62** in Stowe, Vt., after he successfully took on a demurring rental car agent — one who was giving **Susie Russell ’61** less than satisfying assistance after a deer collided with her vehicle. Linda is busy finishing a children’s book, attending a writers’ group, and creating sophisticated doll clothes for her granddaughters.



1963

Darrow Dutcher Hodges visited campus with her longtime childhood friend Lori Ryder last fall to see the campus in action. As part of her visit, Darrow entrenched herself in the RE community and even found herself on the water with RE sailing students during their PE class. Darrow recently created an endowment with brothers Arthur and David in memory of their deceased sibling, **Douglas Vogt Dutcher ’80**; the endowment is known as *The Douglas Vogt Dutcher ’80 Fund for Equity and Justice Initiatives*. Income from the fund will help to support equity and justice initiatives at Ransom Everglades, which include programs to raise awareness, develop cultural competency and celebrate diversity in all of its forms. In its first year of existence, the fund was used to support the presentation of the play “Incognito” during RE’s annual exchange program with Booker T. Washington High School.



Darrow visited **Matilee Howard Johnson ’61** in Aiken, S.C., after her trip to Florida. Matilee was the revered physical education department head in the ’60s and queen of field hockey when there was an RE property on the bay across from the middle school. (Heaven!) She has spent her entire career in education and is married to Emerson Johnson, former headmaster of several private schools and former President of the National Association of Independent Schools.

Class Notes

1969

Lili Krech Neale shares the passing of her beloved mother Cherry Krech. "Cherry G. Krech, 92, passed away on December 7, 2017. She was the mother of Lili Krech Neale, **Carol Darling Krech '74**, **Cherry Krech Fulcher '76** and the grandmother of **Giles Grady Neale '98**. Cherry G. Krech was the widow of M. Chapin 'Hafey' Krech, who predeceased her in 2008 and was the assistant headmaster and mathematics teacher at Ransom School from 1958-63 and the assistant principal and mathematics teacher at Everglades School for Girls from 1965-69." Our condolences to the Krech Family.

Shelly Lavigne Rifkin, see In Loving Memory, page 63.

1970

Gail Beckham writes about her continuing education: "I am winding down from a busy holiday season with GB Catering and, believe it or not, I am back in school. I am finishing a baking class and taking international cuisine classes this next semester."

Darryl Larson writes, "A busy time of the year in my world, and in my neighborhood, as the Scottsdale All Arabian Horse Show happens for 10 days in about a month. I keep very busy with shoots, projects, and house quests especially since we have been very lucky with our weather. I too look forward to the reunion and hope to see a few of you before then ... somewhere ... somehow! Blessings to all... ONWARD!"

Cree McDougal Scudder is busy looking for art space in her new home in Orchid Island, Fla. She moved to Florida last spring after living many years in La Jolla, Calif., where she raised her children. She recently welcomed her third grandchild Reggie, who lives in Los Angeles.

The Rev. **Deborah L. Wright** of Sausalito, Calif., is celebrating the 40th anniversary of her ordination as a Presbyterian minister. Deborah was the first clergywoman to serve in San

Francisco, and now enjoys working with millennial clergy as they work to refine what religion in America is like in a post-Christendom era. She was thrilled by a visit from classmate **Dorothea Matheson '70** this past year when she discovered Dorothy's stepson lived a mere block away! Deborah loves following so many Everglades classmates on Facebook, and can't wait to see them at their 50th reunion when it comes around!

Dorothea Matheson, see **Deborah L. Wright '70**

1972

Leslie Wakefield Buchanan writes, "Joe and I spent an early Christmas in NYC in December with our kids, **Tom Buchanan '03** and Sarah Buchanan, who live there. Tom is in Columbia University's executive MBA program while working full time for Fareportal. Sarah is a Senior Vice President at Pimco. **Katie Buchanan Reynolds '01** and Britt Reynolds were there too! Katie has been active in fundraising as a Development Director in a private school and Britt is a Portfolio Manager with Premise Capital. Photo (L-R): Leslie Buchanan, Britt Reynolds, Katie Buchanan Reynolds, Joe Buchanan. See pg. 62 for news about the full funding of the Ann Goesel Mathematics Department Head Chair Endowment Fund.



1974

Carol Darling Krech, see **Lili Krech Neale '69**

Ransom Everglades School

1975

Debbie Massey Cavanaugh led her masters water polo team – the Fighting Flamingos – to four straight national championships and one world title (2013) in the 55-59 age division. The Fort Lauderdale resident and former University of Miami swimmer was honored by USA Water Polo as its Female Masters Athlete of the Year and, most recently, was featured in a story in ESPNW.com. The story noted that Debbie frequently trains and competes with the South Florida Water Polo Club – a girls' group of 14- to 18-year-olds. "I think I'm smarter [game-wise] than a lot of the girls and boys, but they've got those quicker reactions," she told ESPNW.com. "But it's a fun time. They respect me. ... I think they're impressed somebody my age can still play the sport."

1976

Cherry Krech Fulcher, see **Lili Krech Neale '69**

James Franklin writes, "Last June I retired after a 35-year career at the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the last 18 years of which were spent at the National Hurricane Center in Miami where I was the chief of hurricane forecast operations. During my career, I had the excitement of flying nearly 100 times into the eyes of hurricanes, including Andrew when it was



just east of Miami, and Mitch when it was a Category 5 hurricane in the Caribbean. After that, I was a hurricane forecaster at NHC for 10 years before leading the forecasting unit there. I feel very grateful for having had the opportunity to contribute to our understanding of these dangerous storms and helping to keep people safe from them. My wife, **Sandra Harris Franklin '78**, and I have a daughter who is in her senior year of art school at Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota. Since retirement I've been working on a variety of personal projects, including genealogy, trying to improve my bowling average, and avoiding (rather than encountering) oncoming hurricanes such as Irma. I attach a photo taken at my retirement luncheon at NHC last June."



Michael Fryd attended the Golden Globes in LA. Michael's web site software is used by the Golden Globes, Miss Universe, Miss USA and the Academy Awards (Oscars) to manage the distribution of the photos from their in-house photographers. Michael has been working with the Miss Universe Organization since 1982. He wrote the software that drives the custom-built voting system that determines the winner of the televised Miss Universe, Miss USA, and Miss Teen USA Pageants. At this point, he has worked more than half of the Miss Universe,

Miss USA and Miss Teen USA Pageants. As Michael recently lamented on the red carpet, "It's a tough job, but someone has to do it!" When not on the road, you can usually find Michael at his South Beach photography studio. In addition to working as an in-house photographer for the above organizations, he shoots for many local and national companies. Michael credits his time at Ransom Everglades with his success. It was at RE that he had his first exposure to programming and honed his photography skills for the yearbook. Michael believes that without his RE education, his career arc would have been very different. It would not have started with teaching computer science at Carnegie-Mellon University, and would not have taken him all over the globe to support his clients. Michael's wife, **Alison Lehr Fryd '75**, and son, **David Fryd '19**, like to accompany him when scheduling allows.

1977

Leslie Miller Saiontz was the presenting sponsor of the United Way Women's Breakfast on January 11, 2018, that featured Andrea Jung, president and CEO of Grameen America, which has invested over half a billion dollars in low-income women entrepreneurs across the country. Family members in attendance included **Amanda Saiontz Gluck '03**, **Melissa Saiontz Luse '06**, **Rachel Saiontz '09** and niece **Lauren Miller '03**. Leslie, who is the long-time board chair for Teach for America, also is the proud founder of Achieve Miami (<http://www.achievemiami.org/>). Below she is pictured with her daughters.



Lisa Shaw writes, "Living in Barcelona with three kids ages 17, 13 and 13. Enjoying our local travel opportunities plus front row seats to the Catalan revolution. Love to hear from RE alums living or traveling in Europe."

1979

Dave Villano, RE soccer coach, continues one of the longstanding alumni traditions at RE by organizing the annual alumni soccer game over break. More than 20 individuals gathered to play on campus on Nov. 25, 2017.



1980

Douglas Vogt Dutcher, see **Darrow Dutcher Hodges '63**

Paul Zuccarini writes, "I have returned to my hometown of Key Biscayne, Fla., where I live with my longtime girlfriend, Vania Campos, and our children, Parker Zuccarini, Eduardito Castillo and Mauro Castillo. It was, and continues to be, a wonderful place to raise young



children. Two local boards have been gracious enough to have me serve the community. The Friends of Cape Florida State Park, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation and was established in 2000 to provide support to the park and to help conserve and enhance the wildlife and other resources of the Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park. The Youth Athletics Advisory

Class Notes

Board, provides insight and recommendations to the Village of Key Biscayne that will foster the development and maintenance of quality athletic programs offered to the youth of Key Biscayne. We also provide fun fitness training for children ages 7-12. Please give a shout out to Doc [Crabtree], and may he continue to coach cross country at RE 'forever.' Paul was recently featured in Key Biscayne's *Islander News* for his attempt to bring a track and field program to children on Key Biscayne. Zuccarini, a national champion sprint triathlete and former high school decathlete, began offering an afterschool program to children at the Key Biscayne K-8 Center on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays in January. Zuccarini told the newspaper he would focus on eight of the 10 decathlon events: the 100-, 400- and 1,500-meter runs; the hurdles, long jump, high jump, shotput and discus. "Every child is not going to be the fastest," he said. "It's going to give them an opportunity to do something new and learn a skill that improves their coordination."

1981

Andrew Ansin writes, "The Ansin family is grateful for our heath and time together. We had a great winter break in Vegas, not losing too much \$\$ and enjoying wonderful shows. Top wishes for 2018 are for success for Ransom Everglades as it incorporates the La Brisa property into the Upper School, commencement of STEM Center construction and a smooth transition for me to chair of the RE Board of Trustees."



Tamara Marks Leppo writes, "Just sent my twin boys off to college this fall – and they are adjusting very well. My husband Michael and I will celebrate our 24th wedding anniversary this year, which is hard to believe. Things are good. I currently work for SkyBitz, which brings IoT technology to an industry that previously has not taken advantage of technology to improve its service and manage its risk. I am focusing on the trucking industry which I LOVE and am responsible for the Southeast of the U.S. I will be re-locating as soon as we can sell the house in N.J. – and most likely move to the Jacksonville area. I am REALLY looking forward to getting closer to RE classmates and alums in the area. It has been a long, long time. Would love to hear from any former classmates or schoolmates from RE!"

1983



Carles (Bill) Bailey writes, "I have embarked on an encore career, finally putting to use a master's degree in journalism earned 20 years ago. After almost 30 years in commercial real estate, I now work for Hanley-Wood, a marketing and data analytics company serving the homebuilding industry. I am a consultant in the Metrostudy subsidiary responsible for market studies and news articles. My wife and I are soon to be empty-nesters. Our oldest son graduated from Palmer (closer to home) entered the Honors College at UCF and is majoring in computer science. Our second son will graduate this year, and we've yet to learn where he will go to college, though he's eyeing the northeast. We enjoy seeing old friends, making new ones, and dabbling in politics."

1984

Marcelo Fernandes won a seat on the Coconut Grove Village Council in November 2017 and was appointed chair of the council by his peers. Marcelo has been working with **W. Tucker Gibbs '72**, previously his teacher at RE's Middle School, who is now a prominent zoning attorney and longtime Grove resident. As a developer, Marcelo built many projects in the area and stated his commitment to controlled and sustainable development in Coconut Grove. Marcelo, the owner and founder of Grove Properties, wanted the opportunity to give back to his hometown through public service. "As a member of the Coconut Grove Village Council, I want to continue to support all of the Grove 2030's initiatives," he said. "Let's bring affordability to housing in the Grove in terms of both homeownership and rentals, while encouraging and nurturing business growth in order to support residents and local businesses." In addition to housing and business growth, Marcelo is an advocate for changes to the NCD (Neighborhood Conservation District) regulations and sustainable new developments. Marcelo will also encourage youth programs by using more resources available in the Grove by creating partnerships with local schools, organizations, businesses, and clubs. Fernandes created the GP Cares program at Grove Properties, which donates a minimum of \$300 to local charities at each closing. Marcelo also co-founded ARC+, non-profit architectural resource collaborative with the FIU School of Architecture to educate and encourage students on sustainable building concepts. "As a Grove resident, business owner, and graduate of Ransom Everglades, I live, work, and play in our distinguished village. We need to focus on environmental sustainability, attainable housing, and reasonable new developments," he said.



1985

Peter Gardner '85, Dustin Nason '86 and **Sheri Levine '86** shared RE alumni pride in Nantucket, Mass., last summer.

Laura Goldberg writes, "I started the year off with a big life change! Maybe it was turning 5-0. After more than 15 years with the personal concierge service that I founded, I am making a big career change. Just after the New Year began, I joined the Ben Moss Group at Compass Real Estate. I know that all the skills that made the concierge service a success will translate to serving buyers and sellers with their residential real estate needs. That is my big news. Otherwise, my son, Gideon, and I have been living in Coconut Grove for more than 10 years and he is a happy fourth grader at Alexander Montessori."



Melissa O'Neill, see **Michiel van de Kreeke '88**

1986

Pam Pennell Kelly writes, "We are enjoying living in Gainesville, Fla., still – Evie is 16, driving and still loving gymnastics. She also had a good season diving and made it to regionals. Addis is 14 and playing soccer and kicking for the football team at Oak Hall School. Ed is happy at his job at University of Florida Investment Corp. and I am staying busy with my KellyArt web design business and promoting the Rodan + Fields skincare brand that I love so much!"



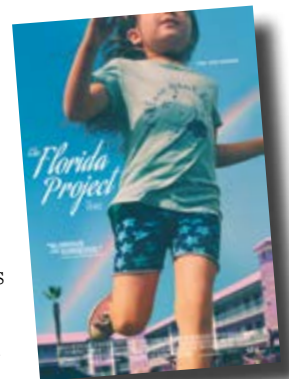
Robin Van de Kreeke and his brother **Michiel (Monkey) van de Kreeke '88** participated in the longboard competition in the annual Surfing Santa fundraiser for autism in Dana Point, Calif., Nov. 19, 2017. The Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel hosted the fundraiser to benefit Surfers Healing, a non-profit that helps get kids on the autistic spectrum into the water to surf. Surfers Healing is celebrating 20 years. Since it started, hundreds of thousands of kids with autism have surfed with the nonprofit, all free of charge. Through the years, the event and an accompanying surfboard auction have raised nearly \$300,000 for the charity. The two-day event, now in its seventh year, brought both surfers and stand-up paddlers to Salt Creek; it was the first year the event expanded to include a SUP category. Robin Van de Kreeke flew in from Sydney,

Australia, for the event, meeting his brother Michiel, who flew in from Miami. The duo own the brand The Rashie Company, which made Santa-inspired contest jerseys. Michiel, known as "Monkey," joked that his electronic hat that plays music and has blinking lights buzzed when he hit the salt water. The brothers said the trip was worth it because of the joy their product helped bring to the beach.

1987

Francesca Candib Silvestri debuted "The Florida Project" in Miami on Oct. 5, 2017, at the Tower Theater on SW 8th Street. Francesca co-produced the movie with her husband Kevin Chinoy. Guests were invited to a reception at the Cubaocho Museum immediately following. In attendance were fellow alumni including **David Frankel '88, Jodie Weitzer Rozencaig '87, Todd Poses '87, Lori Burnstine '87, Vanessa Greene Steinberg '87, Nicole Sayfie Porcelli '89** and **Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88**.

Critics have given this film starring Willem Dafoe and Brooklynn Prince rave reviews. *RogerEbert.com* noted the following: "It's hard to describe 'The Florida Project' in a way that conveys its greatness without making it sound maudlin and sentimental. It is one of those films that defies its plot description through its execution. It is a film of small notes that combine to form something major, the kind of movie that sneaks up on you and sticks with you ... This is a remarkable film, one of the best of the year."



Class Notes



1987

Bubba Drody, his wife, Lani Kahn Drody, and their two sons, Will and Sam, traveled to Jackson Hole, Wyo., to see the solar eclipse as part of a Kahn family reunion.

Adam Gelber has been coaching Little League baseball for three years on Miami Beach. His son, Conrad Gelber, projected for the RE Class of 2026, plays on the team. This past season they won the championship game of the Rookies Division and went 16-0 for the season.

Elena Ramirez and her husband Matt live in Shelburne, Vt., with their two daughters Emma and Ellie. Elena continues her psychology practice in Burlington. Emma is a senior applying to college and Ellie is a freshman. All are avid skiers. Photographed are Emma and Ellie (L-R) at Sugarbush.



After sending her eldest (**Harrison Tandy '17**) off to the University of Pennsylvania, **Heidi Howard Tandy** has expanded her trademark and social media law practice in Miami. She will be hosting sessions for trademark users and attorneys at Baltimore's Universal FanCon in April, INTA in Seattle in May and, she hopes, San Diego Comic Con in July.



Michiel van de Kreeke hosted an informal alumni gathering while on business in October 2017 in Seattle at the Nest at the Thompson Hotel. In attendance were **Caroline Blake '00**, who works for Amazon, and **Melissa O'Neill-Albert '85**. Reporting as a proud father, Monkey could not be happier chasing his 10-year-old son Sebastian Johan around the bay and helping coach the Coral Reef Yacht Club Sailing Team. Also see **Robin Van de Kreeke '86**.



1989

Rosalie Berg noted that "It was awesome seeing friends at the annual holiday party." She is second from the left with Marc Weaver, **Dustin Nason '86**, **Russell King '89** and **Sharon Jo Nachman '89**.



Vinnie Falco writes "My library, Beast, was accepted into Boost (<https://github.com/boostorg/beast>); my CppCon 2017 presentation on C++ class design

is available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsUnnYEKPNl>). I resigned from Ripple in 2017 and have launched a new non-profit called The C++ Alliance (<https://github.com/CPAlliance/cppalliance.github.io>). I plan to soon launch a new non-profit called The Bitcoin Alliance (<https://github.com/BTCAlliance/btcalliance.github.io>). I am currently residing in Marina del Rey, Calif.

1994

Ashley Moses Lindenauer will be honored on April 28, 2018, for her works with the Children's Bereavement Center at the 2018 Rockin' on the Green event in Miami.

1996

Nina Ashkenazi, see **Jessica Lewin Zmood**.



Indi Avila writes, “Evelyn LaRusse was the guest judge at The Mandelstam School’s Annual Spanish Poetry Recitation Contest. I was thrilled and honored to introduce my former teacher to my current students and to have her help me select the finalists!”

Ricky Stern, see **Jossie Stern-Liddell ’04**.

Albert “B.J.” Stieglitz writes, “My family, wife Amanda and daughters Caroline, 6, and Elizabeth (“Ellie”), 4, and I have relocated to London, following my selection last year to be the U.S. Department of Justice’s representative to the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority and Serious Fraud Office. Following this two-year assignment, we expect to move back home to Arlington, Virginia.”

Jessica (Lewin) Zmood writes, “**Nina Ashkenazi ’96** and I completed the New York City Marathon this November. It was my first marathon and Nina’s third. I live in New York with my husband and three children and Nina lives in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters.”



1997



Celeste Den landed the role of Comrade Chin in David Henry Hwang’s “M. Butterfly” revival, which played last winter at the Cort Theatre in New York City. She also was

selected as a recipient of the Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship, in the category of Exceptional Merit for early to mid-career performing artists. Celeste can be seen next in the upcoming feature film *Sister*, written and directed by Sia. Celeste previously appeared in the television series *Homeland*, *Shameless* and *Scandal*.

She earned her BA in at the University of Florida and MFA in acting at the California Institute of Fine Arts. See a story on Celeste here: <http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/BWW-Interview-Celeste-Den-Conducts-Dangerous-Liaisons-in-M-BUTTERFLY-20171113>



Annie Lord writes, “My husband Nick and I just moved back to town with our two boys in December! We’re thrilled to be back home. In January, I began my new job as Executive Director at Miami Homes for All, a nonprofit that advocates to prevent and end homelessness. It was so nice to see so many of you at reunion back in April. I hope to get the chance to connect again soon. We’re pictured here with my parents.”

Michael Vassilaros recently joined Key International, a local real estate investor and developer.

1998

Marisa Fort and **Cody Courbier** are the proud parents of Malu Rose Courbier, born on October 18, 2017, in Miami.



Cooper Jones, Vice President of Trade Traffic LLC, moved back to Miami after four-and-a-half years in Broward County. He and his wife, Karen, are the proud parents

of two girls, Olivia Susan Jones, who will be 4 in June, and Ava Carolina Jones, who will be 2 in April.

Class Notes



Charles Rua continues to grow his South Florida real estate brokerage, Rua Realty. In this 12th year of business, Rua Realty has been certified by the State of Florida as a minority-owned business and counts numerous RE alumni as clientele (thank you for your support!). In addition to serving his clients, Charlie is committed to his community. He continues to serve on the City of Coral Gables Parks and Recreation Board as well as the technology board (SEED) at Sunset Elementary. Most recently, he is excited to be a part of the Class of 1998 Ransom Everglades Reunion Committee. Charlie resides in Coral Gables with his wife, Cristina, and children, Amaia, 8, and Nicolas, 5. The photo shows Charlie Rua sharing real estate insights on Univision.

Davina Aryeh '99 wrote to us last fall about her experience in Mexico City during and after the earthquake. We decided to share her moving and inspiring message almost in its entirety. "Apologies in advance for the long post. Many of you have reached out to ask how things have been in Mexico since the earthquake, so I wanted to share our experience with you. Where do I begin? So much to tell you and so many emotions.... It's a strange feeling in the city. A bit like NYC after 9/11. There's a sadness and a stillness, but at the same time an enormous spirit of compassion and togetherness. I feel like my heart is here and this is my home now. These are my neighbors and my kids' friends and their parents. This is our community. I really just still cannot get the thought out of my head that a school full of kids collapsed ... That I was so blessed and lucky to be able to be with my kids just seconds after the quake and hold them both in

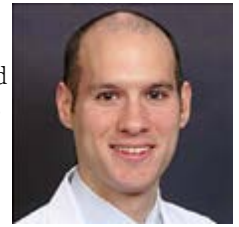


1999

Davina Aryeh, the Chief Marketing Officer of The Latin Academy of Recording Arts, was honored with the Rising Star award by the National Association for Female Executives (NAFE) during the 2017 Women of Excellence Award ceremony in November 2017. Aryeh was recognized for her outstanding business accomplishments and leadership since joining The Latin Recording Academy in 2011. She has negotiated agreements with top global brands ranging from MasterCard to L'Oréal. Before joining the Latin Recording Academy, Aryeh worked on Latin American strategy at the National Basketball Association. Aryeh has been a guest speaker at SXSW, Miami Marketers and the Colombian Chamber of Commerce in Bogotá. See also Davina Aryeh's reflection below.



Patrick Hourani writes, "It's my third year back in Miami, and in that time my wife Erin and I have had two kids, Owen and Kirin. I am now the department chair of internal medicine and an interventional cardiologist at Mercy Hospital. It has been great to REconnect with many of the other alumni!"



Rebeca Raney, her husband Ithai and their daughter Ray visited with faculty member Astrid Dalins on the RE campus last fall. Rebeca is an artist and lives with her family in Brooklyn, N.Y.



my arms safe and sound. That even my inconveniences were banal compared to what others were living ... People continue to dig through the rubble and some people are still supposedly alive. The number of volunteers is amazing and humbling. Everyone is doing their part. Mexicans and foreigners alike. People from all over the world flew here to help the rescue efforts. It's amazing to me how people dedicate their lives to help others. Makes me feel so humbled by their generosity. They leave their kids and families to come risk their lives for complete strangers. It's so incredible and hard to fathom. There are truly special people in this world... men and women of service (firefighters, rescue workers, nurses, doctors, etc.). We owe them all so much gratitude. Last night someone sent me a video of a guy (a famous Mexican comedian) who was at a shelter talking about the displaced kids

continued, page 55

2000

Caroline Blake see **Michiel van de Kreeke '88**

Dina Dubson Kelley is a Miami-based attorney with almost a decade of experience in renewable energy law and policy issues. She has been working to facilitate the development and integration of renewable energy and energy storage technologies, and to advance transmission policies that would enable further deployment of renewable energy and energy storage projects. Most recently, Dina has been working in the regulatory and legislative policy arenas, but she also has experience with transactional issues related to energy project development. She was formerly the chief counsel for Renewable Northwest in Portland, Ore.

Renee Sterling writes, “I married my long term partner, Neville Daniel, on Nov. 4, 2017. Our wedding was at Miller Estate in South Miami. **Dwanita Fields '00** was my maid of honor. **Christine James '99** was also a guest at the wedding. We both pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., at the University of Florida. London, England, continues to be my home.” (photo at right)

and how they have nothing, and encouraging people to gather toys for them. It really hit home for me. One thing led to another and I created a WhatsApp group of friends and Aguamarina moms (Lucas' pre-school) who all wanted to help. We all decided to bring toys and activities for the kids (coloring books, puzzles, etc.) and meet at the school to organize everything and pack it up and take it to a shelter with kids. It started as 10 of us and before I knew it there were almost 50 people asking to come by, dropping off bags of toys and stuffed animals and posting it in Facebook and other group chats. Complete strangers came and donated and offered to help. Both moms and dads stayed home from work to help. We all took our kids with us to help ... Eventually we had so many donations we couldn't fit them in our cars. We had to ask for help with transportation and find trucks to take the boxes. We then began our adventure to



Pablo Tamayo writes, “I am very pleased to announce that I have launched a new law firm, Geller Tamayo, LLC, providing services focused on personal injury and criminal defense with two offices in South Florida, located in Brickell and downtown Hollywood. I also serve as an RE alumni board member.”



2001

Matthew Beatty was featured in the “Under 40” section of Legacy Magazine in August 2017. Here's an excerpt: “Matthew is the director of communications at The Miami Foundation. He leads the foundation's public engagement strategies and grows relationships that increase its brand presence throughout the community. A native Miamian, Matthew attended The Cushman School, where he now serves on the board of trustees, and Ransom Everglades School, and earned his BS in management and MBA in marketing at Florida A&M University. His public relations career includes managing communications for Baptist Health South Florida, the National Environmental Education Foundation and numerous other organizations across the U.S. He also serves on the board of Leadership Florida Connect, the premier statewide resource for educating, engaging and inspiring Florida's top emerging leaders.”

Katie Buchanan Reynolds, see **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan '72**.

find shelters that had kids and that would be willing to take toys (some shelters are only focused on the essentials and vital needs, which is understandable). We tried calling the shelters to find out but none of them even have phone numbers and the ones that did were obviously not picking up. We began our trek through the city to the heart of where the most destruction occurred in an area called Roma/Condesa. The streets were full of volunteers, centers receiving donations, and everyone was wearing surgical masks in order not to breathe in the pollution in the air from all the fallen buildings. The smell was of concrete and dry wall. Regular people with hard hats and shovels volunteering almost on every block. Incredibly well coordinated donation centers with hundreds of people lined up to receive and sort... We arrived to a center in Benito Juárez, which was a sports facility turned into a shelter.

continued, page 56

Class Notes



Dr. Josefina Farra Talone and Aaron Talone are the proud parents of Josefina Raffaella Talone, born Sept. 25, 2017. She is already taking after her mom, playing doctor at only 15 weeks old.

Marcella McCarthy writes, “I have something really exciting to share. Many of you know that for the last year I’ve been working on an idea I’m really passionate about: it’s a web platform that lets you find and book all sorts of local learning opportunities. And all of them are in real life. That’s right, not online. Anything from cooking to photography to floral arrangement to tech classes, you’ll be able to find and book them all on SKILLIED. So here’s the exciting part: right now you can already upload your classes and workshops on our Beta right over here: <https://skillied.com/>. If you teach, upload your classes. If you have friends that teach, please share this with them. I’m so excited to see all the fascinating local learning opportunities Miami has to offer!”

2002

Christian Fong has remained close friends with **Sergio Sotolongo, Ari Mark, Carlos Leon, Marcel Laniado,** and **Nick Cachaldora**. Pictured here

are the alums and their growing families: Christian Fong (Christian and Andres), Sergio Sotolongo (Daniel), Ari Mark (Ryan and Coby), Carlos Leon (Sofia), Marcel Laniado (Luis and Lily), Nick Cachaldora (Coco and Savannah).



Cameron Sisser has been promoted to Vice President for External Relations at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind. Cameron, who joined the Miami Lighthouse in 2010, represents the Miami Lighthouse at the local, state and national levels. His goals are to pass legislation and help foster a political environment that will aid Miami Lighthouse’s mission. He is also interested in developing a comprehensive fundraising, marketing, communications and public relations program that will enhance Miami Lighthouse’s image, brand and position within the South Florida philanthropic community. Cameron holds a bachelor’s degree from The George Washington University, a Master in Public Administration from Florida International University and a Certificate in Fund Raising Management from The Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. **Agustin “Konky”**

Arellano ’90, president of the Ransom Everglades Alumni Association board, served as the Miami Lighthouse board chair from 2012-14, and **Jan Salvesson Morrison’69** currently serves on the Lighthouse board.

They gladly welcomed everything and confirmed that they had plenty of children who would love the toys! An assembly line of volunteers lined up to help take all the bags and boxes into the building. I was able to make my way to the end of the line to the final point where the boxes were received and where the families were living. It was so moving to see them there... to imagine what they were living and all they had just lost. It brought me to tears, but also made me so happy to know that hopefully the boxes of toys might alleviate

a tiny bit of the sadness those kids were feeling. seeing the shelter and actually having been able to drop them there ourselves was so emotional for all of us. I feel so blessed to have been able to be part of the relief efforts, even if just in a tiny way. It feels important to be involved and to take part. I am so proud of my boys for their help and for having chosen the toys they wanted to give away to the ‘*niños sin casas*.’ It was so incredible to see their faces when I tried to explain why we needed to do this and what had happened to these

kids. I’m not sure they totally understood, but their hearts were in the right place and they too felt special for being part of something bigger and being involved. Various times they asked me “*Mami, me estoy portando bien?* Am I being nice and kind? Are you proud of me?” The heaviness feels a bit lighter when you see the relief efforts. I wish we could do more. I hope we can all continue to do more.”

Michael Kelley and his wife are the proud parents of their third son, Matthew Joseph, born on Oct. 28, 2017.

Justin Luger writes, “I’m a Senior Associate at the law firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman in Coral Gables practicing commercial and government litigation. In 2017, I earned an AV Preeminent Rating with Martindale-Hubbell and ‘Rising Star’ and ‘Up and Comer’ recognitions from SuperLawyers and Florida Trend publications. I currently sit on the board of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and chair its 35-and-under committee, HYPE Miami. I’d love to connect with other local RE alumni!”



Carly Matire writes, “Hello RE alumni! In 2017, my husband John and I welcomed our third child, Asher Charles. His big sisters Molly, 4, and Skylar, 2½, adore him. We are living in West Palm Beach where I work in pharmaceutical sales. Aside from work and family, John and I are avid triathletes!”



Jackie (Berger) Savir writes, “My husband David Savir and I welcomed our third child, Sylvie Mae, on Sept. 5, 2017. Sylvie joins older sisters Tobie, 5, and Sadie, 3. We live in Surfside, Fla.”

2003

Tom Buchanan, see **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan** '72.

Lauren Defabio Flanagan gave birth to Harper Elizabeth Flanagan, on Oct. 18, 2017.



Janelle Milanes has received early acclaim for her debut novel, *The Victoria in My Head*, published by Simon and Schuster and launched in September in New York City. The young-adult novel about a shy girl with overprotective Cuban parents has received excellent reviews. She credits Thomas Dughi, her AP English teacher at RE, for inspiring her passion for writing. Milanes, who led a Barnes and Noble writing workshop, lives in New York with her husband Dan and daughter Victoria Milanes Mulhall. Baby Victoria was born Nov. 15, 2017, weighing in at 7 lbs., 10 oz. and 20½ inches.

Amanda Saiontz Gluck welcomed third child Dane Samson Gluck. Amanda currently lives in South Miami and is the founder of *FashionableHostess.com*, which was featured by Martha Stewart four times in 2017. See **Leslie Miller Saiontz** '77.

2004

Jonathan Lask is Director of Casino Campaign Operations and Analytics at Carnival Cruise Line.

Jossie Stern Liddell and her husband Andrew Liddell are the proud parents of Logan Paige Liddell born on Oct. 7, 2017. Logan’s photo was taken by photographer **Ricky Stern** '96.



Stacy Rudin, see **Daniel Lafuente** '05.

Daniel Whyte was married on Oct. 22, 2017, in Montauk, N.Y. Raiders were out in full force! Photographed are fellow 2004 Raiders **Alex Shack, Andrew Cummings, Tony Fine, Miguel Tamayo, Franco Da Costa Gomez, Alex Artiga, Alex Markel, Ray Lloret, Thomas Willis, Fernando Rodriguez-Vila.**



Class Notes

Thomas Willis writes, “This is now my 10th year working/coaching at RE and I am loving every minute of it. I am the facilities manager and director of summer programming here. When not in the office I am out coaching the Middle School football team and varsity baseball team. I hope to see many of you back on campus soon!”

2005

Ryan Elias, see **Daniel Lafuente '05**

Wifi Fernandez organized a group of 15 alumni to serve lunch at Chapman Partnership in Downtown Miami as part of the REACH Too Program. This program was a combined effort of the REACH Too Committee and the Young Alumni Committee.

Daniel Lafuente shared an excited update with us: “In March 2017, I launched a socially conscious spirits company called Simple Vodka along with a couple of friends and colleagues (including a handful of RE alums). Our first product, Simple Vodka, is an ultra-smooth, gluten-free potato vodka made in Idaho and on a mission to end hunger in America. How you ask? For every bottle we produce, not just sell, we donate the equivalent of 20 meals to hungry people in America through local and national hunger relief organizations (everyone from the likes of Feeding America and No Kid Hungry to local banks like the Miami Rescue Mission). The company itself started with a problem – one out of six people in America was food insecure, which means they don’t always know where their next meal will come from. That means more than 50 million people are going hungry every day in THIS country. But I didn’t realize or witness its magnitude until I started my first social business in Wynwood in 2012 (The LAB Miami, a co-working space and event venue started with fellow RE alum **Wifredo Fernandez '05**). We would regularly take leftover food from events to the Miami Rescue Mission (MRM), a food bank just a few blocks away. While Wynwood had been undergoing a cultural and commercial renaissance, MRM was still serving thousands of meals every day to Miami’s most needy. But what began as a simple sense of ‘the right thing to do’



Danny Lafuente '05, Ryan Elias '05, Dan Maslow and Amanda Mindlin

eventually became a regular and fulfilling habit. As I became more aware of the issue, I discovered not only how pervasive the issue was but the nonprofits working behind the scenes to support those in need With a motivating cause and exemplary nonprofit partners in hand, we began to imagine products that: 1) would bring greater awareness to the cause, 2) would contribute to the cause in a meaningful and impactful way, and 3) people would sincerely enjoy consuming regardless of its social impact ... We ultimately chose spirits because it checked many of our boxes and also because, as an industry, we felt there was the greatest opportunity to raise the ethical and sustainable bar (or as we call it, from vice to virtue). And so, Simple Vodka was born. There are a little less than 20 drinks in a standard bottle, which is why we donate 20 meals. One drink, one meal. It’s that simple. Since we launched Simple Vodka in March 2017, we’ve expanded from South Florida to New York, New Jersey, California and Texas. In May, we won a Double Gold medal for taste at the 2017 SF World Spirits Competition, the highest honor at the most prestigious tasting event. Aside from standard beneficiaries, we also helped deliver thousands of meals to those affected by the hurricanes and wildfires. For the holidays, we were picked up by a number of holiday gift guides (*USA Today*, NBC and “The Manual”), which gave us a late year push to exceed more than 100K meals donated in less than nine months. For 2018, we have our eyes set on 1 million meals. I started the company with my college roommate, Dan Maslow, but have grown the team to eight, including four other Ransom Everglades alumni: **Ryan Elias '05**, partner and chief mixologist; **Stacy Rudin '04**, PR specialist and senior brand ambassador (NYC); and **Samuel Agnoli '07** and **Alfredo Cubina '14** as brand ambassadors (NYC). In 2013, RE

honored Wifredo and me with the Head of School’s Award for Distinguished Service to the school for founding The LAB. During my thank you, as I’m sure so many have done, I recalled Paul Ransom’s letter. Specifically, his search for students in ‘Group 3’ and the impact his words had on my first socially entrepreneurial venture. Success in life is to have passion, to work hard, to commit to self-improvement, to tackle the biggest problems, and to leave the world better than you found it. Now on my fourth such venture, his words are no less of a driving force in my career and I couldn’t be more thankful.”

Christina Michelena Peterson writes, “Hi! I thought I would respond with all of my life updates. In February 2017, I married Sam Peterson, who is originally from Utah, and we are expecting our first baby in March, 2018! We recently moved to Fort Lauderdale from the Miami area, and I just started working for KFC Latin America, joining the company’s finance/new store development team. Here is a photo from our wedding.”



Michael Sullivan and Isabel Vinuesa '07 were married on May 27, 2017, in Quito, Ecuador. The couple was delighted that many fellow Ransom Everglades alumni made the trip to South America. Michael sold his restaurant OTC/Golden Fig last year and now works for the local commercial real estate firm The Koniver Stern Group, specializing in restaurant and retail leasing. Isabel works in



residential real estate and recently has partnered with longtime friend **Jaclyn Bild '07**. Michael and Isabel live on Miami Beach.

2006

Melissa Saiontz Luse, see **Leslie Miller Saiontz '77**.

Lauren Taylor writes: "I live in New York City where I am currently working with Barry Jenkins, the Oscar-winning film director of *Moonlight*) on his new film *If Beale Street Could Talk*, which he adapted from the James Baldwin novel from 1974."

2007

Sam Agnoli, see **Daniel Lafuente '05**

Jaclyn Bild, see **Michael Sullivan '05**

Deidra "Dee-dee" Gintel writes, "I earned my Master in Public Health from the University of South Florida in May 2015. I married my wife, Berit, in October 2015. We met during my undergraduate study at Furman where she was on foreign exchange from the Netherlands. She graduated last year with her PhD in English from the University of Florida. While she finished her PhD, I worked at the UF College of Medicine writing course material for an online graduate certificate program for students studying to become substance abuse counselors. In winter 2017, we took the big jump across the pond and now live in Amsterdam where I freelance as a personal trainer and fitness instructor, edit academic texts, and of course, learn Dutch! Berit teaches at one of the universities here in Amsterdam. While we certainly miss friends and family back in the USA, life here is great. It's nice to be able to cycle everywhere!"

Isabel Vinueza married **Michael Sullivan '05** on June 27, 2017. See **Michael Sullivan '05**

Marilyn Loddi proves that the world we are living in can be very small at times. It turns out she interviewed faculty member Jose Rodriguez's college roommate for one of her film projects. She did not know the link until much later.

2008

Beatrice Fischel-Bock, co-founder of Hutch was recognized in the 2017 Forbes' "30 under 30" on both the Big Money and Retail & Ecommerce lists. An excerpt: "After realizing the untapped potential of 3D interior design, Fischel-Bock started Hutch (then ZOOM Interiors and Homee) during her senior year at The George Washington University. The app and website – which allow users to upload photos of their rooms, virtually redecorate and purchase pieces to make the look a reality – earned her \$1 million in revenue before graduation." <https://www.forbes.com/30-under-30/2018/big-money/#2adefad37160>



Rachel Saiontz is engaged to RE Middle School sweetheart **Nick Geary**. The couple plans to marry in March 2018. See **Leslie Miller Saiontz '77**.

Mason Zemel writes, "Hello there! I haven't updated ever actually, but here it goes. After deciding on medical school, I went to American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine (AUC) in Sint Maarten. I was just able to return home after spending the past semester in Preston, UK, after the devastation of Hurricane Irma. AUC was devastated, and due to our relationship with the National

Health Service we were lucky for University of Central Lancashire in Preston to take in 500 students for now. Half will be returning to Sint Maarten next semester, while some will still be in the UK. Luckily, I was not on the island at the time, but it was quite a loss. I have what I had in my suitcases at the time, but I have great friends and family for help! I can't wait to go back soon to see what I can do to help. I just got home from England after being top 20 in my class through the basic sciences and will be starting my clinical rotations in Brooklyn or Miami in May! It is good to be home, and I'm glad to see that Irma has passed!"



2009

David Gellman writes, "I've started a new job at a government relations firm in Washington, D.C., called Federal Advocates, Inc. You can find out more here: <http://www.federaladvocates.com/government-relations/>"

Alex Hamm, a songwriter/producer in Los Angeles, has just released his first solo album titled "Common Behavior." You can listen to the tracks on Soundcloud (https://soundcloud.com/alex_hamm_official). Alex, a graduate of the University of Southern California and alumni of the SoCal VoCals, has also composed the lyrics and music for the new RE Alma Mater. Stay tuned and search for @alex.hamm.official on all social media platforms for new music and news.



Class Notes

Jeanine Mason was cast as one of the interns in Season 14 of ABC's *Grey's Anatomy* and made her debut Nov. 2. Jeanine, who starred as Merav in ABC's *Of Kings and Prophets* last year, plays Sam and was among six new interns at Grey Sloan Memorial Hospital. While a senior at Ransom Everglades, Jeanine became the youngest winner of *So You Think You Can Dance*, and she has landed many roles in movies and television since.

Francisco Triana, see In Loving Memory page 63.

2010

Tina Miller shared an exciting update with faculty member Jose Rodriguez, who passed it on to Class Notes: "My older brother, **Bobby Miller '04**, and I both took and adored your AP Art History class. Fast forward seven years and I'm now doing art in New York City, mainly writing and performing music – composed and collaborated with artist Janani Balasubramanian (aka DarkMatter poetry) for a piece commissioned by The Highline Park a few months ago, on a particle-physics based immersive reality piece. A few weeks ago, I played a tiny show, opening for friends, in a dingy bar, and after playing, a woman approached me – she was the curator for the Brooklyn Museum, and she was interested in having my project play for their gala, which was going to be a revival of *The Dinner Party*, and Judy Chicago was going to be the guest of honor speaking. That is tonight, I'm playing in five hours. I'm so deeply grateful for your class and when the curator mentioned Judy Chicago and the piece, I immediately was brought back to staring at the projector screen in the dark classroom years ago, and later bubbling in an answer on the AP exam, and the significance of her work in feminist art. It's pretty surreal for that static piece to now be brought, not only to life, but into my life, and I wanted to send you a quick note in thanks. Hope you are in good health and doing well, especially in this climate. I envy all your students and still think your class was one of the best, most thorough educations in art that I've received."



Michelle Nahmad won first place in the student filmmaker category for her short film "Shohet" in the AT&T Entertainment Project, an open competition seeking imaginative, undiscovered short films from aspiring filmmakers. She received her BFA in Communication Design and Art History at Washington University in St. Louis and her MFA in Visual Narrative at School of Visual Arts. The recognition came with a \$10,000 prize. See an interview with Nahmad here. <https://shape.att.com/>; <https://shape.att.com/entertainment-project>; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVxtsLO_LLA

2011

Victoria Sanchez writes, "I have been working for Accenture for a little over a year now. I am a senior technology consulting analyst who travels every week (Monday through



Friday) to my client. I work in Financial Services, more specifically Commercial Lending System Implementations. I studied Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Florida in a five-year program and I love the consulting life! Would love to share my experience with Ransom Everglades students or give any advice to them for their future. I live in Atlanta now, but I'm planning on moving back sometime in July 2018."

Gianfranco Scipioni, see In Loving Memory, page 63.

Matt Susskind

writes, "I just moved to LA for screenwriting, working independently and looking for jobs writing for TV. I was previously at Google in San Francisco, but decided it was time to try something new."



2012

Eddie Bustamante is a Financial Analyst at MSP Group, LLC.

Alejandro Warman, see In Loving Memory, page 64.

2013

Briana (Bri) Christophers was named a 2017 Spirit of Princeton Award winner last spring. Then a senior majoring in molecular biology, she was among eight winners selected from among more than 80 nominees. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the undergraduate experience through dedicated efforts in student organizations, athletics, community service, religious life, residential life and the arts. Briana was a peer academic adviser and health professions adviser at Whitman College. As an undergraduate researcher, she was named "25 Under 25 in STEM" by the Princeton journal of science and technology "Innovation" for her work on zebrafish heart development. She was also the first undergraduate member of the Princeton chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science. She is a head fellow for the Scholars Institute Fellows Program, was a 2016 Freshman Scholars Institute molecular biology course fellow, and co-founded Project Welcome Mat: A Guide for First-Gen Princeton Students. She served as an undergraduate representative on the University Priorities Committee and the Healthier Princeton Advisory Board. She is a member and former co-president and advocacy chair of Princeton Latinos y Amigos, member of the Latinx Collective, the Princeton University American Sign Language Club and the Princeton University Mentorship Program.



Elizabeth Glass writes, "I am finishing my first year of my MFA program at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. In my first year, I have made four short films, and next year I will start on my thesis film! Above is a photo of me on the set of the first film I produced."

Max Grad is a financial analyst with Kraft Heinz in downtown Chicago. He graduated last spring from University of Chicago.

Isabella Morcos writes, "I graduated Bucknell University this past May and am now living in NYC working at Sony Pictures for the publicity team."

2014

Carolina Pereira Ribeiro was designated a John Harvard Scholar, an honor assigned to the top five percent of students in her class at Harvard. She will graduate in May 2018 with a major in sociology and minor in economics.

Lisette Tellez helped the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Engineers to a conference championship and National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III tournament bid in volleyball while also garnering second-team all-conference honors in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC). The Engineers (30-2) advanced to the NCAA tournament for the fourth straight season, and made it to the third round before falling to the undefeated Johnson & Wales Wildcats in a tight match.

2015

Cole McWilliams writes, "**Kelly Moran '15, Raquel Szomstein '15, Chloe Dulin '15** and I met up in Londonderry, Ireland. We all had a blast studying abroad this past semester! Note: I am



back in the USA now! I attend Wake Forest University; Kelly Moran attends Tufts University; Raquel Szomstein is at the University of Pennsylvania; and Chloe Dulin is at Georgetown University. We all also attended different universities in Europe."

Sofia Rivas was named Scholar-Athlete of the Week for Oct. 2-6, 2017, at the University of California at Berkeley. The former RE water polo star



was recognized "for encompassing a range of diverse experiential opportunities to enhance her holistic growth as a Berkeley scholar."

Rivas, a major contributor on the water polo team, is also active in the following: Deutsche Bank GROW, Berkeley Finance Club, Brazilian Student Association, Cal Student-Athlete Business Network and Athletic Study Center Tutoring Program.

2016

Dimitri Godur writes, "I am still very much involved in music at Columbia even though it isn't my major. I play snare in the marching band and I am also a member of the Taiko Drum Group and CU Jazz Ensemble. I also just finished up a National Institutes of Health internship this summer and was assigned to conduct research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in its Department of Genetics and will be declaring my major in neuroscience with a premed track at the end of this year."

2017

Joon Kim is photographed with **Dr. Ken Yu '91**, an Assistant Professor at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Joon, who moved with his family to New Jersey this past summer, was awarded a medical internship in New York City with Dr. Yu. Joon is finishing up his freshman year at Harvard, Dr. Yu's alma mater.



Head of School Penny Townsend visited with alums at Princeton: **Gabriel Paniagua '17, Kavya Chaturvedi '17, Benjamin Freeman '17** and **Christina de Soto '16**

Faculty and Staff



Endowment honors Goesel

Ann Goesel is extremely honored and touched by a generous donation last fall from the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation, which provided for the full \$500,000 funding of the Ann Goesel Mathematics Department Head Chair Endowment Fund. This is the foundation's second significant gift to the Goesel endowment. In 2010, the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation provided a \$250,000 grant to help establish this endowment. These two gifts, along with donations from several RE community members, brought success to this important endowment.

The beloved Ann Goesel started as a substitute teacher at Everglades School for Girls in 1966. Ms. Goesel used her quick mind, warm heart and dry wit to educate and nurture RE students and staff for 46 years. Ms. Goesel continues to be involved with the Ransom Everglades community as one of its prestigious Faculty Emeriti. She attends events regularly and visits campus once a week. She is photographed with Head of School Penny Townsend, and Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation Trustee **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan '72**.

"Ann was an important teacher and counselor during my years at Everglades and we are good friends today," Wakefield Buchanan said. "She continued being an important supporter of my children during their time at Ransom Everglades. The Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation is proud to support this endowment in her name."

Jackie Milanes is a proud grandparent! Victoria Milanes Mulhall was born on November 15, 2017. Victoria is the daughter of **Janelle Milanes '03**. Grandma writes, "She is beautiful, happy and healthy! Mommy Janelle, Daddy Dan and Baby Victoria are all doing great!"

Jonathan Scholl and his wife Kat are the proud parents of Yannik Scholl. For those who love baby numerology: He was born on 12/19/2017 at 7:44 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz.

Heidi Steen and Ken Stocker were married on June 17, 2017 in Darien, Conn.



Matt Stock opened his "Abandoned Vehicles of the Everglades" photography exhibition at the Biltmore Hotel during Miami Art Week on Nov. 27, 2017. Matt is pictured to the right of Charles J. Kropke. Read more about this multiyear project that depicts "a hidden side of the Everglades" at www.abandonedeverglades.com



Ellen Grant opened an exhibition of her work, Nature Garage, on Nov. 3, 2017, at Books & Books, Coral Gables.

In Loving Memory

William B. Arrington '62 passed away, June 2, 2017.

Jeffrey Laurance Dow, PhD, 69, of Newberry Florida, formerly of Miami, died Dec. 3, 2017. Born in Belfast, Maine, Jeff was a life-long educator who not only taught at Ransom Everglades, but also ran a private tutoring service, and worked with the University of Florida's Lastinger Center to improve teaching and learning at schools throughout Florida. He is survived by his wife Marty Varnadoe Dow and many family members.

Deane Hundley, former RE Director of Development, passed away on Oct. 22, 2017, in Virginia. Over a long career in education and development, he served a number of institutions as development director or chief economic development officer, most notably Ransom Everglades School, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, the American Horticultural Society in Alexandria, Va., and most recently The Episcopal School of Texas in San Antonio.

Shelly Lavigne Rifkin '69 passed away peacefully surrounded by family on July 22, 2017. **Jan Salvesen Morrison '69**, **Lee Howell '69**, **Lili Krech Neale '69** and **Susan Fleming '69** attended Shelly's Memorial Service at Temple Beth Am in Miami on July 24, 2017. On behalf of Lili Krech Neale, class representative, the entire Class of 1969 sends its deepest sympathy and love to all of Shelly's family.

Gianfranco Scipioni '11. Francesco and Susan Scipioni mourn the passing of their beloved son, a robotics star at RE who went on to Vanderbilt University. "It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beautiful son, Gianfranco Scipioni. He was a light, love and pure joy to everyone who knew him. He will always be remembered as a gift to everyone he touched during his brief 25 years on this earth." Gianfranco is survived by his parents and brother **Luciano Scipioni '16**. Family and friends celebrated his life on Oct. 7, 2017, at the Key Biscayne Community Church.

Francisco Triana '09 passed as a result of a fall in Cartagena, Colombia, on Jan. 1, 2018. At RE, Francisco served as SGA president and was recognized with both the Mike Stokes and **Robert Segall '82** awards. Francisco went on to Harvard University where he earned a BA in Economics. Francisco was working in capital management in New York City at the time of his death. He is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ennrique Triana (Claudia), and his two brothers, **Enrique Triana '06** and **Pedro Triana '13**.

Susan Jones, former RE trustee and past parent, passed away at home in Coral Gables on Dec. 25, 2017, after a long battle with cancer. She will be remembered at Ransom Everglades School as a trustee from 1992-98, a loyal parent and volunteer, and a forever friend and advocate. She remained close to many in the RE community, particularly Dan Leslie Bowden. Susan, who served the University of Miami community for more than 20 years, was instrumental in the success of UM's two major capital campaigns — Momentum 1, which began in 2003, and Momentum 2, in 2012. The two campaigns raised more than \$3 billion and helped transform the university's research centers and classrooms, added student scholarships and awards, and attracted top faculty. Momentum 1 amassed \$1.4 billion in donations at a time when no Florida school had topped the billion-dollar mark. Jones' leadership at UM was recognized through her induction into the Iron Arrow Society, the highest honor given by the university. Jones also served on the boards of Beaux Arts and the Junior League of Miami. In 2006, Jones received the Sarah Hopkins Woodruff Award at the American Red Cross' Spectrum Awards for Women. Jones was born June 26, 1945, in Annapolis, Md., to U.S. Navy Cmdr. Lewis D. Tamny and Ann Tamny. As the daughter of a career military family, Jones grew up in numerous posts in Florida — Pensacola, Opa-locka and Sanford — as well as Texas, New Jersey and Rhode Island. She graduated from the University of Florida. In addition to her husband, Jones' survivors include her sons Patterson and **Cooper Jones '97**; grandchildren Olivia and Ava; and siblings Michael, Pete and Laiky Tamny.



In Loving Memory

Robert “Bob” G. Segel, a devoted RE parent and former member of the Board of Trustees, passed away on Sept. 6, 2017. Bob, the founder and managing partner of Park Street Capital in Boston, was a constant presence at Ransom Everglades, showing enthusiastic support for children **Julia Segel '14** and **Michael Segel '19**, serving a fruitful eight-year tenure on the board and passionately advocating for independent schools. Bob was the consummate fundraising volunteer, generously devoting his time, talent and treasure to elevate Ransom Everglades. As benefactor chair on the board's advancement committee, he was the driving force behind years of record-breaking annual fund growth. As chair of the board's investment committee, he urged the RE community to build up the school's endowment for long-term sustainability. A native Bostonian and lifelong Red Sox fan, Bob used his love of the game to strengthen Raider baseball. He was instrumental in establishing a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Miami-Dade and raising money for the renovation of the club's baseball field, providing RE's student-athletes with access to



a beautiful diamond. The cherished husband of Janice Sherman and dear son of the late Gerald and Rita (Rothfarb) Segel, Bob also served for seven years on the

board of Buckingham Browne & Nichols in Boston and was involved in many other educational and community causes.

Dr. Shirley Ann Vaerewyck passed away on Dec. 20, 2017, from complications of leukemia. Her three sons were by her side. Born Nov. 18, 1942, in Mishawaka, Ind., Shirley was a lifelong scientist and educator who earned her master's degree at Ball State Teachers College and PhD at the University of Iowa in 1975. Shirley began her career in scientific research and education with several universities including Washington University in St. Louis, and the University of Miami, where she helped make early contributions to diabetes research. As her children were born, Shirley made the transition to full-time science educator at Alexander Montessori School and MAST Academy. She capped off her career teaching seventh- and eighth-grade science at RE's Middle School where she worked for 20 years until her retirement in 2014. Shirley loved her community, and was always generous with her free time. Over the years she served as YMCA soccer coach, USS swimming official, science fair judge and, while at Ransom Everglades, she instructed swimming, tennis, cheer-leading, cooking club, sewing club and

many more. Shirley had a wonderful sense of adventure and traveled the world to visit Costa Rica, Argentina, Spain, Italy, France, Russia and Scotland in recent years. Her personal passion was ballroom dancing, especially the Argentine tango, and she was so grateful to be welcomed into the ballroom dance community in Miami. Shirley is survived by her three sons, **David Hajek '98**, **Daniel Hajek '00** and **Andrew Hajek '03**; her former spouse and father of her sons, Anthony; her brothers, Eugene (Janice) and Larry (Amy), sister Sally (Frank) and many nieces, nephews, colleagues and friends. Shirley will be remembered as a loving mother and sister, nurturing teacher, adventurous traveler, avid dancer, and most of all for her beautiful smile that lit up all our lives.

Alex Warman '12 passed away on Sept. 24, 2017, at the age of 23. He was born on April 28, 1993, and grew up in Miami where he attended Temple Beth Am Day School and later Ransom Everglades before going on to pursue a degree in chemical engineering at Cornell University. Alex worked at Mars Chocolate in Hackettstown, N.J., before his senior year of college, where he had accepted a job offer upon graduation. He was a longtime ball boy at the NASDAQ Open and later the Sony Ericsson Open in Key Biscayne. Alex enjoyed football, was a fan of the Miami Dolphins and enjoyed competing in fantasy football leagues during the National Football League season. He was also a passionate amateur photographer. Alex is survived by his loving parents, Danny and Monica, as well as his sister, Michelle.



THE FUND FOR RE Ransom Everglades

Annual gifts to The Fund for Ransom Everglades ensure that RE has the dexterity to act on needs that arise each year. Your gifts allow us to build programs that attract and keep the nation's best faculty, support a financial aid program that enhances and diversifies our student body, and so much more.

The Fund for RE is the first priority of *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*.

Though it will take a number of years to reach the capital and endowment goals of the campaign, gifts to The Fund for RE are put to work immediately. Our goal is to increase the flexible resources at RE's disposal each year so that the school can respond as soon as needs arise.

The power of thousands of RE parents, alumni and friends joining their gifts together will change lives today and for years to come.

Please make your gift today at www.ransomeverglades.org/make-a-gift.

RE inventing Excellence
THE CAMPAIGN FOR RANSOM EVERGLADES



RE's Special Programs & People Highlighted in a New Video Series

RE's communications office last fall began the production of a series of videos designed to showcase what makes a Ransom Everglades education exceptional. The videos will reside on the RE website. A few have been completed; more will be added as they are produced.

RESTUDIES

RESAILS

RESPEAKS

Many others coming soon!

Check out <https://www.ransomeverglades.org/page/about/videos>



Shop online at [RansomEverglades.org/Bookstore](https://www.RansomEverglades.org/Bookstore)

Your one-stop shop for gifts and goodies

We're open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and located opposite the Aquatic Center on the Upper School Campus. All alumni, parents and students are welcome.

For more information, contact Katrina Patchett, Director of Bookstores, at 305-460-8885 or kpatchett@RansomEverglades.org.

Save the Date: Saturday, May 12, 2018

SEVENTH ANNUAL
REEF
RANSOM EVERGLADES EPIC FISHING
TOURNAMENT

*Have some reel fun
at the Seventh Annual
Ransom Everglades
Epic Fishing Tournament.*

Anglers of all ages are invited to tackle the waters of Biscayne Bay in a friendly fishing competition that will benefit the Ransom Everglades waterfront.

Organized by the RE Alumni Association, the R.E.E.F. Tournament engages the entire RE community to support projects that fulfill the school's mission to give back. The RE waterfront supports RE and community-wide athletic opportunities and is used year-round for classes, competitions and community service.

After the last cast, join us for the final weigh-in and RE camaraderie.

For registration, sponsorship opportunities and more information, go to www.ransomeverglades.org/reef or contact: Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88 at 305 460 8826 or vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org.

From the Archives



Those of you planning to attend your 50th reunion this spring can brush up on your former classmates by studying the photos above. The first includes girls in the Everglades School for Girls Class of 1968; the second includes boys in the Ransom School Class of '68. Email your guesses to REnews@ransomeverglades.org. We will reveal the answers in our next issue, and award an RE T-shirt to the winner for each photo.

Why I Give

Mike Maisel '68

Maisel family endows The Stanley D. Maisel '72 Endowed Scholarship Fund



Stanley D. Maisel '72



Head of School Penny Townsend with Karen Maisel, **Mike Maisel '68** and Laura Maisel (seated).

“My mother and I wanted to honor the memory of my brother, **Stanley D. Maisel '72**, with a legacy that is both lasting and meaningful. We cannot think of a more appropriate way to commemorate Stanley’s life than to offer the gift of a Ransom Everglades education to a talented student who otherwise would not have such an opportunity. From the time that he was eight years old, Stanley aspired to be a physician. He loved his years at Ransom, though I often joke that he spent so much time in his bedroom doing homework that I only saw him at dinner. He continued his studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, after receiving early acceptance to its honors program. He then earned his medical degree at the osteopathic medical school in Kansas City, Mo. Shortly after graduation, he realized his lifelong dream of opening his own medical practice in Atlanta, Ga. Tragically, that dream was cut short when he passed away at the age of 34. My mother and I want to ensure that Stanley’s dream lives on through The Stanley D. Maisel '72 Endowed Scholarship Fund. We hope that this scholarship will bring a smile to the faces of all who knew Stanley; ensure that his short but significant time on earth never will be forgotten; and help generations of Ransom Everglades students achieve their own dreams.”

RE Ransom Everglades School

3575 Main Highway
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
www.ransomeverglades.org
305 460 8800

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Miami, Florida
Permit No. 1727

save the date

Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28

Head of School Penny Townsend invites you to attend

ALUMNI WEEKEND

2018



Reunion Classes of 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993 and 1998 will be celebrated.

Weekend activities include our signature spring cocktail party, athletic and family activities, tours of the Ransom and Everglades campuses, the presentation of our distinguished Alumni Awards, the individual reunion receptions, and time with current and former faculty members.

RE Ransom Everglades School

For more information visit:

www.ransomeverglades.org/REunions

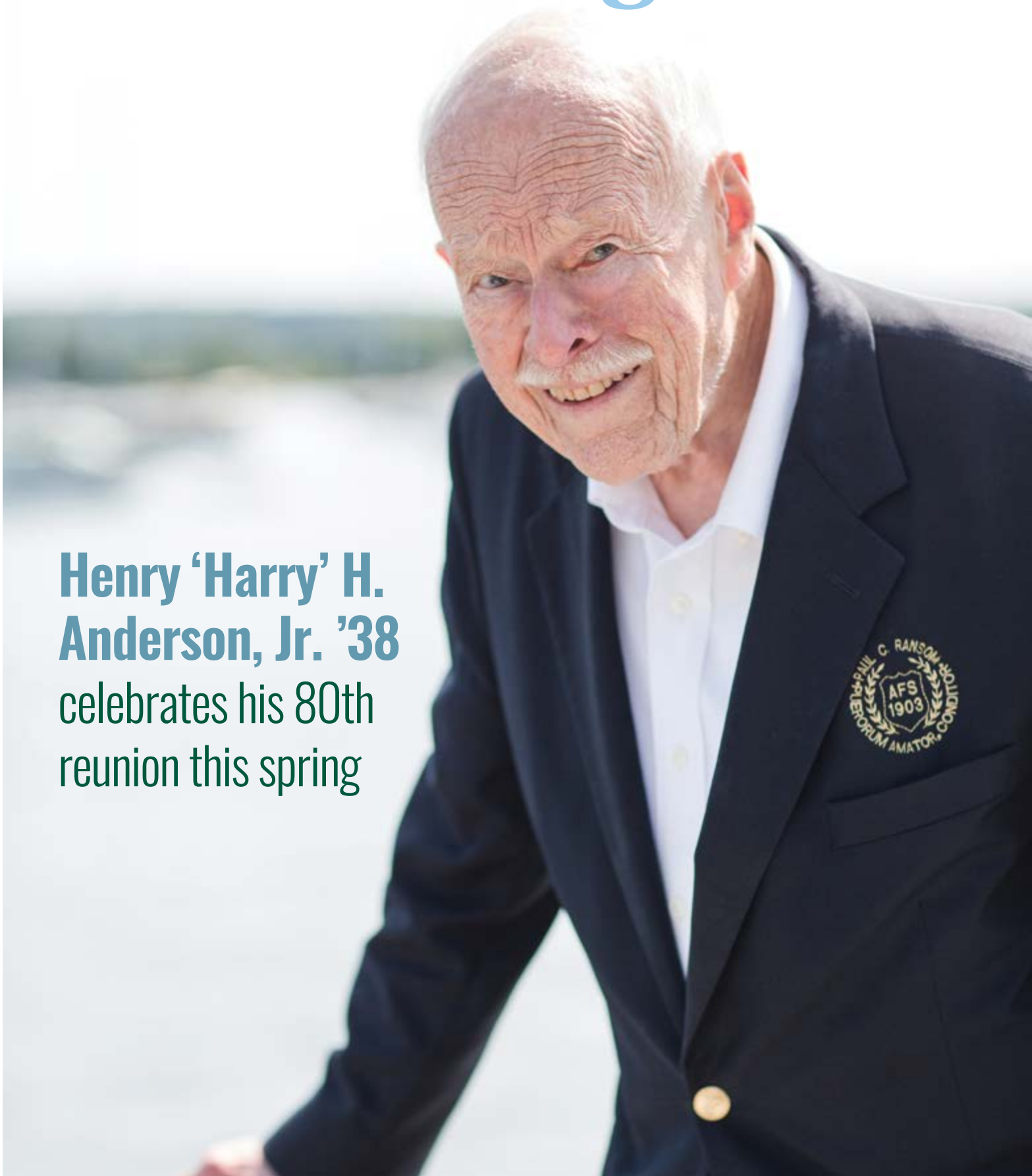
Or contact the the office of Alumni Relations:

Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88 | 305 460 8826 | vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org

SPRING 2018

Ransom Everglades LOG

**Henry 'Harry' H.
Anderson, Jr. '38**
celebrates his 80th
reunion this spring



Head of School Penny Townsend invites you to attend

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2018



Celebrating the Classes of 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993 and 1998.

All alumni and guests are welcome. Families are encouraged to attend Saturday activities. Parents of alumni, too!

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018

11:30 a.m. - 50-Year Reunion Luncheon for Ransom Class of 1968

Special guests include Dan Leslie Bowden and Mike Stokes
Ransom Campus, Pagoda

4:30 - 6:30 p.m. - Tour, Tapas and Jazz for Everglades Alumnae honoring the Class of 1968

Special performance by jazz musician Michelle Faber '68
Everglades Campus, Swenson Hall foyer and the Dell

6 - 9 p.m. - STEM Center Groundbreaking, Alumni Spring Reception and Dinner

Honoring all reunion classes, Doc Crabtree, Trustee Emeritus Henry H. Anderson, Jr. '38 and the 2018 Head of School Award recipient. All alumni (ages 21 and above)
Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center Deck and Anderson Gymnasium

Join your reunion Facebook page:

Everglades School for Girls
Ransom-Everglades Class of 1978
Ransom Everglades Class of 1988
Ransom Everglades Class of 1993
Ransom Everglades Class of 1998

For hotel and rental car information visit:

RansomEverglades.org/AreaHotels

For more information contact the Alumni Office:

www.RansomEverglades.org/REunions

Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88

vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org | 305 460 8826

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

9 a.m. - Alumni Regatta

Ransom Campus, Anderson Waterfront
Monkey van de Kreeke '88 (mvandekreeke@aol.com)

10 a.m. - Alumni Soccer Game

Everglades Campus, Stamps Field
David Villano '79 (dvillano@yahoo.com) or
James Beverley '62 (jamescbeverley@bellsouth.net)

10:30 a.m. - Alumni Water Polo

Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center
Eric Lefebvre (elefebvre@ransomeverglades.org)

10:30 a.m. - Alumni Volleyball

Ransom Campus, Anderson Gymnasium
Penny Matthews (pmatthews@ransomeverglades.org)

10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Children's Crafts and Activities

10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Organized pool activities for children -
underwritten by the Alumni Board
12 - 2 p.m. Crafts and games
Adult supervision required
Ransom Campus, Ansin Aquatic Center

11:30 a.m. - Guided Student Tours of Ransom Campus

Meet promptly in the Breezeway

11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Lunch

Ransom Campus, Dining Hall and Quad

1 - 3 p.m. - Classes with RE Master Teachers

Jean Duty, Doc Crabtree and Jose Rodriguez
Ransom Campus

7 p.m. - Individual Reunion Parties

Class of 1968 Joint 50-year Reunion
Class of 1988 30-Year Reunion
Class of 1993 25-Year Reunion
Class of 1998 20-Year Reunion

8 p.m. - Class of 1978 40-Year Reunion

Table of Contents



4

Ransom Everglades Log Spring 2018

Link to the photo galleries: <https://ransomevergladesschool.smugmug.com>

FEATURES

Henry 'Harry' H. Anderson, Jr. '38 4

Approaching his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades

Bringing Science, Sports and Students to Life 14

Robert 'Doc' Crabtree elevated teaching and coaching for 36 years

Supporting RE: An Investment in Miami – and Beyond 22

A well-known alumnus joins forces with a new parent to help *REinvent Excellence*

REinvention Starts Now 28

Sir Ken Robinson helps RE launch *REinventing Excellence*

La Brisa Approved 30

Miami City Commission lauds RE for its plan for the new property

The Balm after the Storm 38

RE community joins in campus cleanup after Hurricane Irma



14



38

DEPARTMENTS

From the Pagoda 2

From the Everglades Campus 33

Student News 34

On Campus 36

Sports 40

Alumni Events 43

Class Notes 46

Faculty and Staff 62

In Loving Memory 63

From the Archives 68

Why I Give 69

The Ransom Everglades Log

aims to connect, inform and engage readers in the life of Ransom Everglades School. It is published by the Ransom Everglades Office of Communications.

Executive Editor: Amy Shipley
Associate Editor / Photography Director: Suzanne Kores
Art & Design: Kim Foster
Contributing Editors: Greg Pollard, Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88
Contributing Writers: Penny Townsend, Gustavo Palacios
Photographers: Jenny Abreu, Erick Ceballos, Carl Kafka, Suzanne Kores, Amma Rhea

Contact Us:
Ransom Everglades School
Office of Communications
3575 Main Highway, Coconut Grove, FL 33133
T: 305 460 8212
E: REnews@ransomeverglades.org
To change your address or remove yourself from our mailing list, please send an email to REnews@ransomeverglades.org.
W: www.ransomeverglades.org/page/Publications-Archives

A values-added education



Ransom Everglades' long history is preserved in the grainy photos, weathered tomes and faded letters that populate the school's extensive archives. Despite the age of those materials and the inevitable decay they face, the stories they convey remain vivid and alive, and the values they memorialize continue to guide our students and faculty. Those enduring values provide the real value added – or, more precisely, *values added* – of a Ransom Everglades education.

Our school was built on values handed down by founder Paul Ransom, who firmly believed that no one could be an adequate individual or citizen unless he or she was well read, well informed and determined to make the world better. He was conscious of the part that the discipline of learning played in the development of character, and he was convinced that good manners, thoughtfulness, generosity, decency and courage were some of the permanent values necessary to maintain an intelligent, just and free society.

As we march forward with the *REinventing Excellence* capital campaign that we launched last fall, we hold tightly to our history and the values passed down to us, and recognize and celebrate the people who advanced and preserved them. Schools may be constructed from bricks and cement blocks, but they are built around people, and we feature a few of the finest in this edition of the *Ransom Everglades Log*.

Harry Anderson '38 will soon celebrate his 80th reunion, a breathtaking milestone that captures the remarkable length of his connection to RE, but doesn't begin to illustrate the depth of his engagement with our school that continues to this day. Harry's contributions to Ransom Everglades over seven decades are so extensive we couldn't possibly catalog them, but we tried to capture the magnitude of his influence in a story that begins on page six. As former RE board chair **Eric Buermann '69** told us: "Whenever the school needs him, he is there."

We also celebrate the career of Robert "Doc" Crabtree, who is finishing the last of 36 stellar years in the classroom at Ransom Everglades. Doc, best known for his biology and anatomy/physiology classes and leadership of the girls' cross country team, brings the passion and work ethic of the most respected educators. He excites students with his enthusiasm



and creativity, and shows his deep commitment by arriving early and staying late. His influence led dozens of alumni into careers in medicine or the sciences, and his encouragement pushed others onto collegiate athletics teams. Many of them reached out to us to share their appreciation for Doc. See that story on page 14.

When you build your school around talented people, you do more than educate students. You become a force for good in the local and even global community. One of our most esteemed alums, **Jeffrey Miller '79**, and RE parent Constance Fernandez P'22, together elaborate on that message in a story that begins on page 22. Co-chairs of the *REinventing Excellence* campaign, they explain why they believe an investment in Ransom Everglades represents an investment in Miami.

We had quite a fall. A month before we kicked off our campaign, we weathered Hurricane Irma, who proved a decidedly disagreeable guest, leaving the Upper School with a flooded athletics field, wayward sailboats and all manner of debris. She knocked down trees, lifted tiles off of our rooftops – and ignited a spirit of resilience that was nothing short of inspiring. Students and faculty alike helped us clean up. See our story and photos on page 38.

Finally, the esteemed Sir Kenneth Robinson, the renowned education innovator, helped us launch *REinventing Excellence* in October. He captured the essence of our \$75 million campaign, reminding us that remaining excellent requires constant attention and reinvention. Construction will begin next summer on a new Stem Center, but the scope of our reinvention extends beyond buildings and blueprints.

We will enhance our educational spaces so we can continue to attract faculty members like Doc Crabtree. We will enrich our curriculum and integrate new technologies so that we raise the bar for academic excellence and innovation, and cement our stature as one of the top independent schools in the nation.

We are excited about what the future holds. Yet no matter how many buildings we refurbish, how nimbly we adapt to future challenges, how frequently we reinvent, or how fast we grow, some things will never change.

We will always strive to provide a values-added education.

Penny Townsend
Head of School

Our school was built on values handed down by founder Paul Ransom, who firmly believed that no one could be an adequate individual or citizen unless he or she was well read, well informed and determined to make the world better.

We'd love to hear from you! If you have comments about stories in this magazine, please submit your Letter to the Editor to REnews@ransomeverglades.org.

Hurricane Irma

September 10, 2017

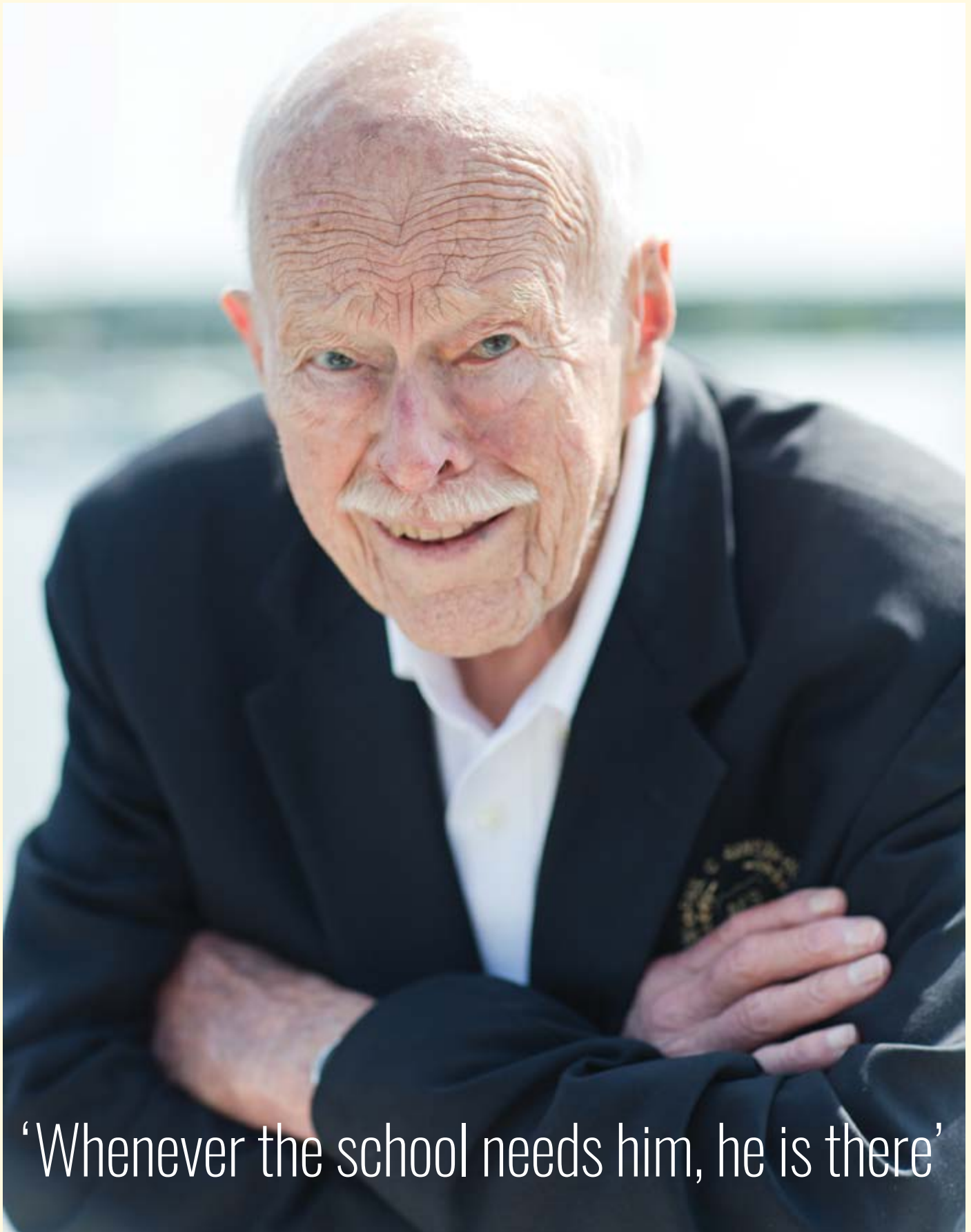


Hurricane Irma tore up the Robert E. Walker Field and left debris – and boats – in her wake. But the RE community came together to clean up. See story page 38

Photograph by Carl Kafka

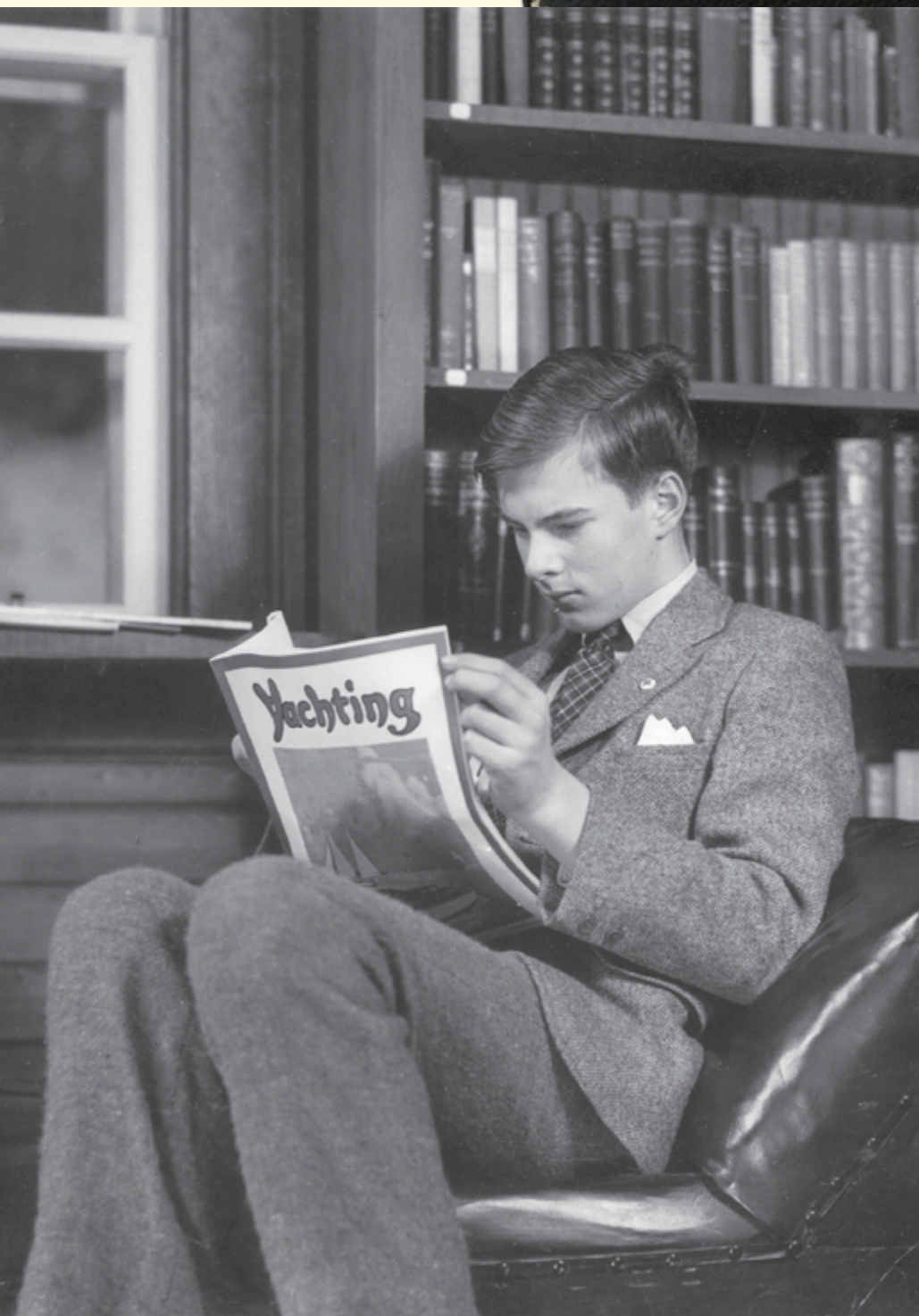
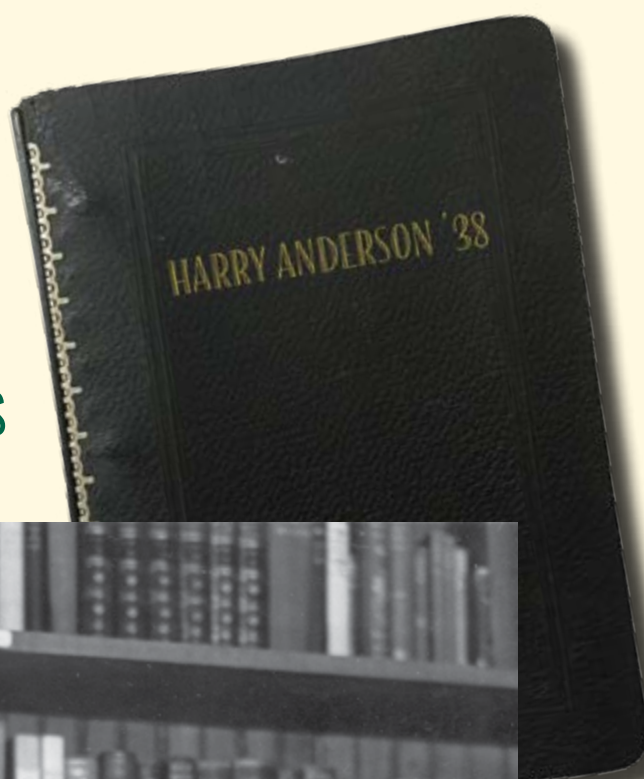


Henry 'Harry' H. Anderson, Jr. '38



'Whenever the school needs him, he is there'

approaches his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades



It would be difficult to find a person more deeply connected with the long history of his alma mater than **Henry “Harry” H. Anderson, Jr. ’38**, who will celebrate his 80th reunion with Ransom Everglades School this spring.

The son of an alumnus, Anderson paddled a canoe to attend an interview with Alice Ransom, the wife of the school’s founder, in 1930. Eighty-seven years later, in the summer of 2017, he dined with current Head of School Penny Townsend. In the decades between, Anderson established himself as one of the school’s most influential caretakers.

Known internationally as a legend in competitive amateur sailing, Anderson can lay claim to many titles at Ransom Everglades: Model of the school’s mission. Defender of its history. Protector of its tradition. Governor of its legacy. Longtime steward of the sailing program. Trustee Emeritus.

As a student, he shared classrooms and after-school adventures with best-selling author **Sloan Wilson ’38** and painting great **Emilio Sanchez ’34**. In the late ’40s, he served on the board of trustees with **Henry Timken ’26** and **C.T. Ludington ’15**, who like Anderson are memorialized on Upper School buildings. In the ’50s, he was named the first chair of the Alumni Association and helped execute the school’s first formalized capital campaign.

In 1970, he helped save the Pagoda from demolition. In the 1980s, he offered the first – and largest – individual gift to allow the school to construct the gymnasium that bears his name and the Dan Leslie Bowden Library. In the 2000s, he gave the sailing program a fleet of new boats.

Anderson, who was born on June 2, 1921, and now resides in Mystic, Conn., helped the school through nearly every tumultuous period in its long history, in many cases driving decisions informed by the school’s mission and traditions – and



which have served to preserve both. “The creed of yesteryear will enable the school to maintain its tradition of excellence through whatever crises may lie ahead,” Anderson wrote in a letter included in a book celebrating Ransom Everglades’ 75th anniversary in 1978.

It was that creed that guided Anderson as he helped lead the school through near-bankruptcy after World War II. That creed pushed him to travel to the Adirondack campus before it was closed to personally dig up the old photos that now highlight the school’s extensive archives. And it helped him steer his fellow board members through the turbulent ’60s and ’70s that saw the sailing program and Pagoda threatened.

“He doesn’t brag as some people might. He doesn’t toot his own horn. His agenda is not Harry Anderson,” said **Eric Buermann ’69**, a former president of the RE Board of Trustees. “He approaches everything in a very quiet manner. He does things in a very gentlemanly reserved, behind-the-scenes way.

“I think that is why Harry is very respected and beloved. It’s not the Harry Anderson show. It’s about his deep love for the school. Whenever the school needs him, he is there.”

Schoolboy days at the Adirondack-Florida School

Anderson hailed from a family of means and stature. He took pride in being a second cousin, five times removed, of Aaron Burr. Arthur Curtiss James, a great yachtsman and railroad speculator who was one of the world’s wealthiest men in the 1920s, was another cousin. Anderson’s great-grandfather married into the family of John D. Rockefeller’s brother William, claiming a stake in the Standard Oil fortune.

Born in Manhattan, Anderson grew up in Roslyn, N.Y. His father, **Henry Hill Anderson ’11**, a Yale graduate, second-generation sailor and third-generation lawyer, attended Ransom Everglades – then called the Adirondack-Florida School – as did Harry’s two brothers.

As a student at the migratory school with its summer campus near Saranac Lake, N.Y. and winter campus in Coconut Grove, Fla., Harry Anderson thrived. In his last year, he received the school’s most coveted academic prize: the Medal for Scholarship. “I knew I couldn’t compete with him so I decided to make my own path,” said his brother **David Anderson ’41**. “He was a highly disciplined, bright student – he modeled himself after my father.”

Harry Anderson served as an editor of the *Hickory Log* magazine. Having learned to sail from his father, he helped the sailing team to its first ever appearance in an interscholastic championship. His conduct and grades were always sufficient to earn him weekend cruises on the school’s schooner. “There was much more freedom at the AFS than at comparable schools,” said Anderson, “since groups of students could wander off campus many miles on fishing or hunting trips, canoe and camp overnight, cruise to the Keys or sail over to Key Biscayne and trek to the ocean side for skinny-dipping.”

He still recalls the details of the overnight sailing excursions, when he and his classmates would drop anchor on their way to the Keys.

“We’d chase whip rays and harpoon them,” he said. “They give quite a surface fight... You had to learn teamwork. You learned a lot of skills.”

Anderson remembers classes of a half-dozen students or fewer, demanding lessons and heavy discipline. His Latin teacher Paul Abbott captured the rigor of the curriculum at that time. “If you stumbled in your delivery,” Anderson said, “he’d throw an eraser at you. Or a piece of chalk.”



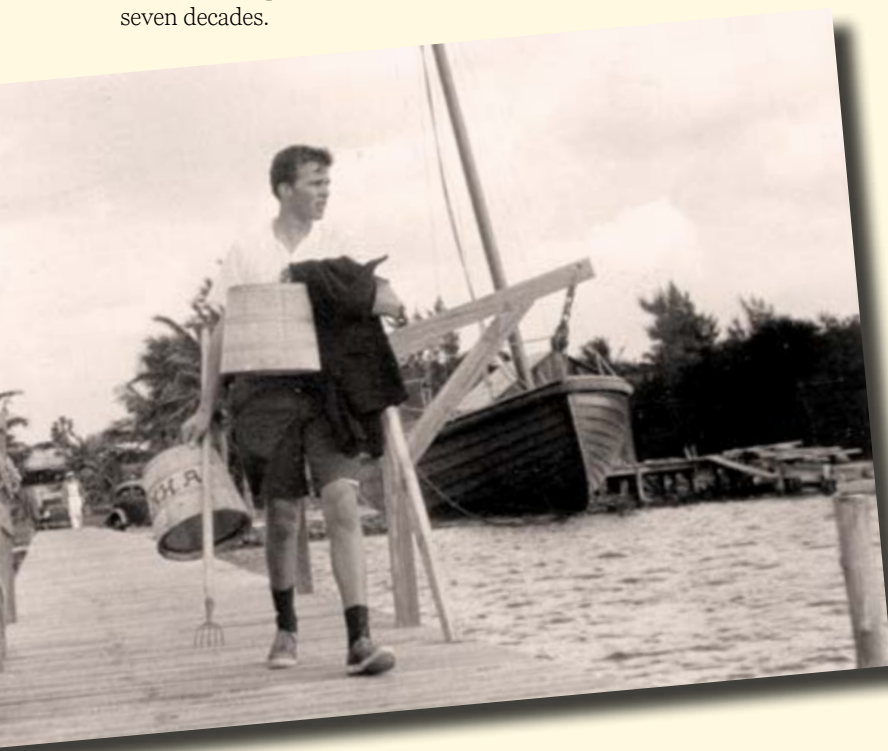
Harry Anderson '38 during his years at the Adirondack-Florida School. In center of photo at left. In far right of photo at right. Photos from archives.



The advanced curriculum allowed Anderson and a number of his comrades to leave the Adirondack-Florida School after their junior year. Following a year at Andover, he won acceptance to Yale. Today, Anderson speaks with deep pride about the top-tier education he received at the Adirondack-Florida School, and the school's focus on creating service-minded leaders even back then.

"No question you got a good education," Anderson said. "When JFK made that statement about do more for your country than you do for yourself, he was stealing Ransom's words. He didn't invent that."

Anderson's passion for his school drove him for the next seven decades.



"He approaches everything in a very quiet manner. He does things in a very gentlemanly reserved, behind-the-scenes way. I think that is why Harry is very respected and beloved. It's not the Harry Anderson show. It's about his deep love for the school. Whenever the school needs him, he is there."

—Eric Buermann '69



Serving as a young alumnus

Anderson, who had served as a U.S. Army captain during World War II, got a call from **C.T. Ludington '15** soon after the war had ended.

The chair of RE's board, Ludington asked Anderson to join him on the board as secretary.

On the one hand, it was a remarkable gesture and enviable opportunity. A Yale graduate, Anderson had just entered Columbia Law School. In his early 20s, he lacked the impressive credentials of the high-powered board members who assembled for meetings at the Yale Club in New York City. The school's trustees at that time included Ludington, the co-founder of Ludington Airlines (later to become Eastern Airlines); Henry Timken, the head of Timken Roller Bearing Company; Joseph Roebling, the son of the engineer who built the Brooklyn Bridge; and **Lithgow Osborne '10**, the former Commissioner of Conservation in New York.

On the other hand, the Adirondack-Florida School was on the verge of bankruptcy. It had closed in December 1942 because of the war, and remained shuttered until the fall of 1947. The heirs of Alice Ransom had put the Florida campus up for sale.

The school's future was in doubt, and the work ahead seemed enormous. Yet Anderson told Ludington, yes. He joined the board in 1946, and never left.

“It will be most rewarding to witness Ransom-Everglades students searching these documents for clues to the values that have sustained the school and its graduates in later life.”

– Harry Anderson '38

The next few years flew by. Anderson helped his fellow trustees raise \$150,000 so the school could re-start. He helped bring on David Pierre Guyot (Pete) Cameron as headmaster. He was there when the school finally reopened after the war – with a first class of nine boys – including Ludington's son **Townsend (“Towny”) Ludington '53**.

And he was there in 1949, with the post-war growth at a crawl and funds increasingly tight, as the board met to discuss what to do to stop the financial bleeding. The topic on the table: closing one of the school's two campuses – either the one in the Adirondacks, or the winter campus in Coconut Grove.

“It got very expensive to run two campuses on one set of incomes,” Anderson recalled. “That was the debate that went on and on and on and on. It was debated by the undergraduates and by the faculty and by the alumni.”

The board met with University of Miami President Bowman Foster Ashe. “His advice,” Anderson said, “was that there were plenty of high-ranking secondary schools in New England. We needed one down south.”

Anderson and the rest of the trustees voted to close the Adirondack campus that May.

Financial stability would soon return, and the Ransom School was born.

Taking care of the school's history

Anderson wanted to ensure the school's history did not get bulldozed or misplaced in the transition to a single campus in Florida. He traveled by train to the Adirondack campus before it closed to collect any archival material he could find. “I identified everything we should save one day,” he said. “I took the night train up, then spent the day doing that, then took the night train back to New York.”

Anderson had a sense, even then, of the importance of that trip. He rescued books, photos and many other remnants of history that populate the school's archives to this day.

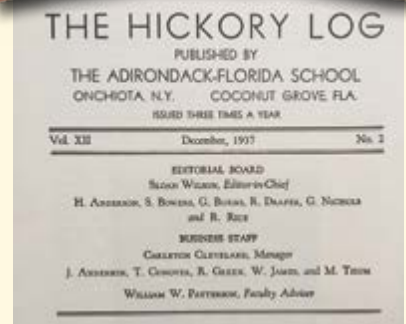
“It will be most rewarding to witness Ransom-Everglades students,” he wrote years later, “searching these documents for clues to the values that have sustained the school and its graduates in later life.”

The Ransom School underwent a massive revival over the next two decades



Harry Anderson '38 and then Head of School Jerry Zank at the dedication of the Henry H. Anderson '38 Gymnasium in 1991.

A glimpse at the archives at Ransom Everglades, which contain many documents preserved by **Harry Anderson '38** – including some of the earliest editions of this magazine. Photographs by Suzanne Kores



under the leadership of Cameron, regaining its footing as an elite academic institution. Meanwhile, the turbulent '60s and '70s took their toll on some of the school's traditions. In some cases, the outcome was positive: In 1975-76, the Ransom-Everglades School opened to male and female students after the merger of the Ransom School and Everglades School for Girls.

Saving the Pagoda

The Pagoda, at the center of the school's life since its start in 1903, literally reflected the free-wheeling times and political unrest; students painted its interior with psychedelic colors and stars on the ceiling. The building housed the student newspaper on its second floor and served largely as a student lounge. Many parents – some of whom were board members – wanted it torn down.

“The parents had no interest in history or sentimental feelings for the history of the school,” recalled Buermann. “If you

had said ‘Paul Ransom’ they wouldn't have known who that was. To them, the Pagoda was just an old ramshackle building that blocked the view to the bay and had termites and had to be maintained. They thought it was an eyesore.”

Anderson and fellow trustee Gaines Wilson saw it as a piece of history even more valuable than the items Anderson had boxed up and saved from the Adirondack campus, and they were inspired by student activist **Giulio Blanc '73**. The trio helped recruit other members of the board. Their message was impassioned. Those who interacted with him found Anderson soft-spoken, sharp and persuasive.

“He had this twinkle in his eye,” said **William Middleton Munroe '53**. “He would sit and be talking to you very quietly



“Sailing was really a distant stepchild to the sports that parents were interested in.... But Harry grew up as a winter student on the bay, so he always had that attachment and viewed the bay as a tremendous resource for the school.”

—Eric Buermann '69



and all of the sudden he'd come up with this brilliant thing.”

With Anderson's support behind it, the Pagoda survived. The board refused to demolish it.

Three years later, in 1973, the Pagoda was listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

A passion for sailing

Anderson quietly supported RE's sailing program through the decades as he gained fame in the world of competitive amateur sailing. He served as executive director of the North American Yacht Racing Union (now US Sailing); race committee chair for the America's Cup; chair of the American Sail Training Association; a vice president of the International Sailing Federation (now World Sailing); and commodore at various yacht clubs. He spent 50 years on the advisory board for the Naval Academy and has been a heavy supporter of Yale's sailing program.

“He evolved into being the grandfather of amateur sailing organization,” said **Thomas Otto III '54**. “A lot of his ventures were just because he wanted to. He put a lot of his time and organizational capability, as well as his financial support, behind amateur sailing to carry it forward as a sport, to support it and its history.”

As amateur sailing grew internationally, RE's sailing program saw a dip in interest as parents pushed for more traditional, bigger sports: football, soccer, tennis, etc. “By the time the '70s rolled around, sailing was really de-emphasized,” Buermann said. “Sailing was really a distant stepchild to the sports that parents were interested in.... But Harry grew up as a winter student on the bay, so he always had that attachment and viewed the bay as a tremendous resource for the school.”

Anderson supported the program with his presence, votes, financial resources



and pure persistence. He purchased boats for the school. He helped bring the interscholastic championships to the campus. He mentored RE's coaches and top sailors.

"I pushed very hard for it," Anderson said. "It's very important. It's a good experience for the youngsters. We'd be throwing away the opportunity to use the bay as a campus if we didn't do that."

Anderson's generosity extended beyond the school's sailing program. Former trustee Peter Bermont, who co-led the late 1980s capital campaign that funded the school's first gymnasium/student activities center, said his first plea for support went to Harry Anderson. "We went to Harry, and Harry never said no," Bermont said. "He was as generous as he could be."

The school honored Anderson, whose financial gifts to the school exceeded \$500,000, by unveiling the Henry H. Anderson '38 Gymnasium and the Harry Anderson '38 Watersports Center.

"We owe him a huge debt of gratitude for seven remarkable decades of service and devotion."

– Head of School Penny Townsend

"He has a very sincere interest in the school – not just sailing," Otto said. "He has the wherewithal and the brains to do things, and he follows his curiosity and his passions. He makes valuable contributions. He brings energy, insight and a spirit of adventure – with a lot of IQ behind it. "He was – and is – highly respected."

Even as Anderson's trips to Coconut Grove have become less frequent in recent years, he has stayed connected. He frequently emails Penny Townsend with notes and pieces of advice. Last summer, the head of school traveled to Mystic to have lunch with Anderson; they were joined by C.T. Ludington's grandson **Nick Bell '82**, and son Towny, a former professor of English and Comparative Literature

at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Anderson dressed up in his finest commodore attire for the engagement, then regaled his guests with stories about Ransom Everglades.

"I feel honored to have known and spent time with Harry Anderson," Penny Townsend said. "He has been an invaluable custodian of our values and ethos. He represents the very best of Ransom Everglades School, and has shaped our history more than anyone besides [founders] Paul Ransom and Marie Swenson.

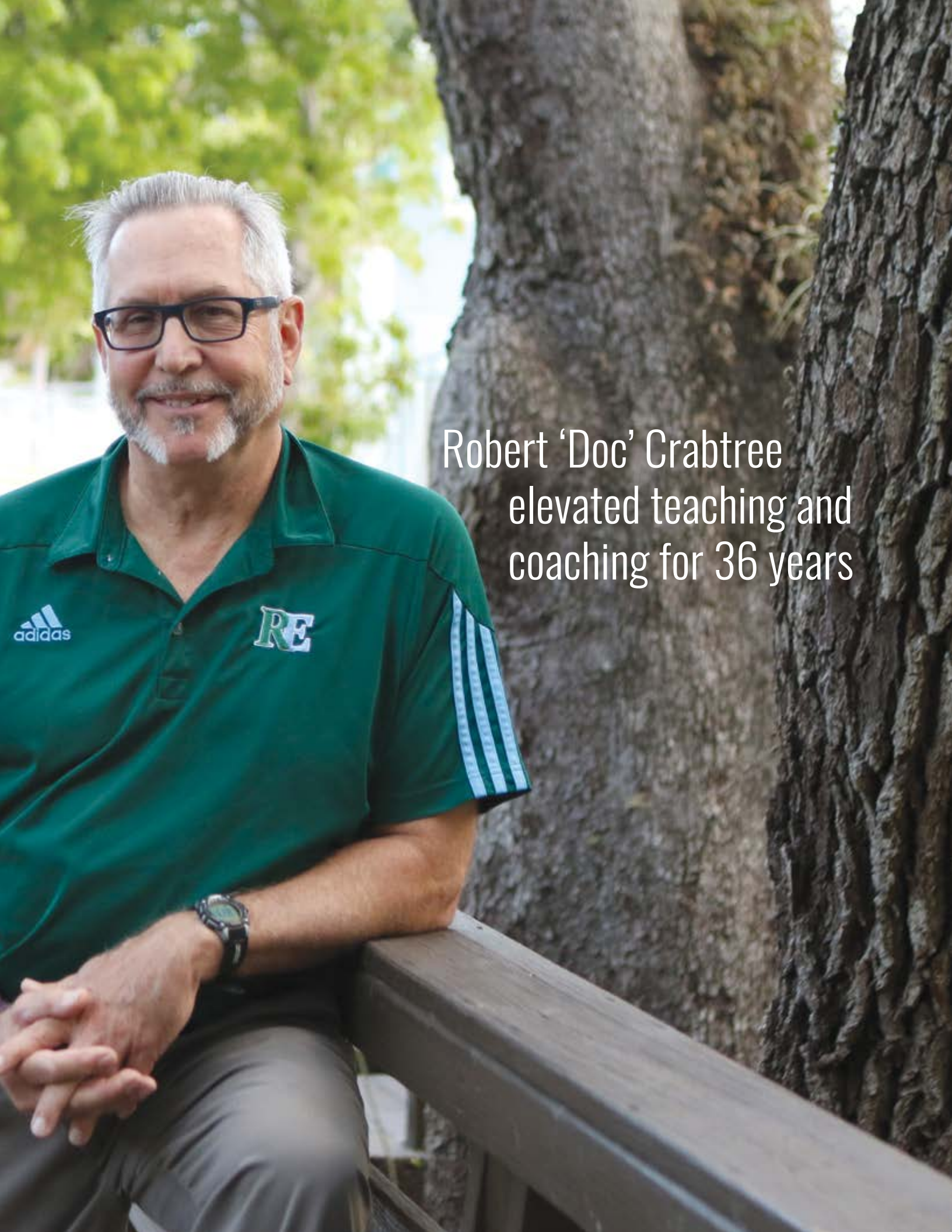
"We owe him a huge debt of gratitude for seven remarkable decades of service and devotion."

Early this spring Harry Anderson's fishing companions were astounded by his "Gay Nineties" fishing costume: ragged sneakers, dirt-stained, once-white ducks, a remarkable Harvard red jacket with black stripes, buttoned awry, and the whole surprising rig topped by a white cloth cap of the J. D. Rockefeller type and sporting a bent fishing license. It is little wonder that the fish were scared of him and that he returned without so much as a strike.

A photograph of a person in a green shirt standing on a wooden deck with a railing, looking out over a green landscape. The person is partially visible on the right side of the frame. The deck is made of light-colored wood and has a dark brown railing. In the background, there are green trees and a white building. The overall scene is bright and outdoors.

BRINGING SCIENCE, SPORTS AND STUDENTS

to Life



Robert 'Doc' Crabtree
elevated teaching and
coaching for 36 years

Whether it was competing alongside his anatomy classes in local triathlons to better understand the human body, frightening biology students with grisly details of deadly diseases, or ruining the appetites of entire classes by explaining the composition of a mouthful of chicken wings, Ransom Everglades teacher and coach Robert “Doc” Crabtree brought science so vividly to life that his students can’t shake the memory of his classes even years later.

Now at Stanford, **John Mistele ’17** recalls lessons from Crabtree’s ninth-grade biology class that were so mesmerizing or hair-raising they compelled him to break his customary silence at the dinner table when his parents asked him the dreaded question: What did you learn today?

“I would spill whatever awesome biology arcana Doc had woven into the routine lecture on plant cell anatomy or DNA structure,” Mistele said. I would say, “Have you heard of Rosalind Franklin?’ or ‘Doc told us about this terrifying virus in West Africa,’ or ‘Vitamin C is a scam!’ It was all so exciting!”

After 36 years of exciting students and exemplifying an all-in approach to teaching at Ransom Everglades, Crabtree will retire from the classroom at the end of this school year. He plans to continue assisting with RE’s athletics teams; he has been a girls’ cross country coach for more than three decades and coached track and field for 20 years. Last fall, his cross country team qualified for the state championship meet for the 40th straight year.

Ransom Everglades is “a special place, a special group of students, a special faculty,” he said. “If I couldn’t be at the

forefront of science or athletics myself, I’d like to think I contributed by pushing others to that level. The kids are so talented. They’ve taken me a lot farther than I’ve taken them.”

In class, Crabtree has never used prepared notes. As a coach, he has never stood quietly on the sidelines. His classes have always been lively and interactive. And his training sessions have always included pieces of wisdom and encouragement and ... Crabtree himself. He has toiled with his teams, either by running with them or, as the years went on, tailing them on a bicycle. “Nothing good comes easy,” he has told thousands of students. “Nothing easy shows how good you are.”

Countless former students went on to become physicians, scientists, researchers, collegiate athletes or lifelong runners.

“His influence on me with regard to science was greater than he probably knows,” said **Vicky Bedell ’05**, an obstetrician-gynecologist who shares a practice with her mother and sisters in Kendall. “Doc Crabtree was truly one of the greatest teachers I ever had.... His enthusiasm during the AP Biology

“Doc never read from notes, he never used a presentation, he always lectured in a casual yet extremely engaging manner. Somehow he made complex anatomy lessons feel like he was telling a gripping story... I was constantly smiling in his class, as he would keep the classroom environment so fun while simultaneously so insightful.”

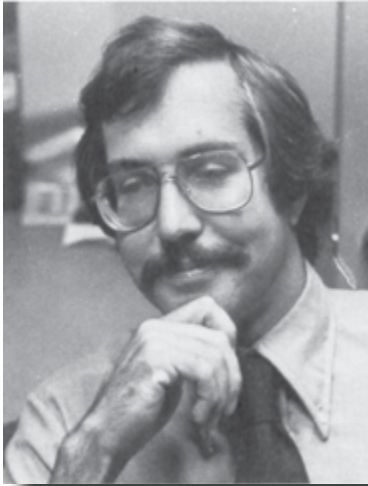
Isabella Morcos ’13

Publicity assistant at Sony Pictures Entertainment

“Doc Crabtree nurtured my love for both science and running. His mentorship during my senior AP Biology class put me on the path to pursue a career in medicine as an OB/GYN ... I will forever hear his voice in my head motivating me during the long haul, ‘This is a running sport, ladies.’ Thanks for everything Doc; I hope to continue making you proud!”

Isabelle McKay ’05

Fourth-year medical student at Tulane School of Medicine



and Anatomy and Physiology classes I took was infectious, and without a doubt helped forge my career in medicine.”

“He has changed so many kids’ lives for the better – including mine,” said **Franchesca Burgos ’14**, who is on the women’s cross country team at Tufts and majoring in cognitive and brain sciences. “I am eternally grateful and feel incredibly blessed to have been Doc’s athlete, student and advisee.”

Where it all began

Crabtree’s personal journey lends insight into his professional one. As a student in junior high in Wooster, Ohio, Crabtree wanted to make the track team so desperately, he spent four months training on a tiny oval (1/10th of a mile) in the basement of a local YMCA. He aspired to run the 800, a half-mile race.

But the young Crabtree was a frail child who had asthma. He exhausted himself on the day of tryouts. He entered competitions for several events before the 800, then found himself too tired to perform well in that event.

He failed to make the team, but salvaged the day: He asked the track coach if he could serve as the team’s manager. That small request ignited what would become a defining Doc pursuit: helping others do their best. If he couldn’t always cross the finish line himself, he could share his passion and knowledge to help others excel.

In high school, he competed on the swim team and ran recreationally. He walked on to the Ohio State track and field team, then joined the team at Wooster College after he transferred as a junior. He was ineligible to compete because of transfer rules, but grew to love running.

“I was never a star runner,” he said. “I ran a 52.3 [seconds in the 400 meters] indoor my senior year. I was decent, but I was never a star. I was a good practice athlete. I loved being part of a team, and the physical challenge.”

His interest in science also grew at that time. Because he had been in advanced math since eighth grade, he fulfilled his math requirement early in high school, which gave him the freedom to take physics and a second year of biology at the same time – while putting off calculus until college. Crabtree

“Doc has instilled a sense of tradition and *sisu* [a Finnish term that loosely translates to ‘resilience’] into each team. Doc does more than coach girls to succeed in meets. He expects his girls to have the guts, inner strength, to have *sisu* in their academic, athletic and personal lives. Doc is a perfect example of practicing what he preaches. His ‘100 percent in’ attitude as a coach, a teacher and a mentor is contagious to all those around him. I feel blessed to have been one of his athletes and excited to have been his assistant coach for 10 years and able to be part of the Ransom Everglades girls’ cross country tradition.”

Tracy Friedlander Ley ’02

Third-grade teacher at St. Louis Covenant School in Miami



found math courses such as calculus hopelessly theoretical, but the sciences seemed relevant, engaging and useful.

He earned his BA in biology at The College of Wooster. He claimed an MS in zoology at Ohio University, then went on to Clark University in Worcester, Mass., earning his PhD in biology. From there, he traveled to the University of Miami for post-doctoral research in neurobiology. It was around that time that he developed an interest in road racing. He watched a marathon for the first time, and witnessed the finish of well-known wheelchair athlete George Murray. Murray's ability to overcome the challenge of his wheelchair inspired Crabtree, who started running 10-kilometer races, then marathons (he would eventually complete six; his best marathon time was three hours, 31 minutes).

His passion for running fit perfectly with his love for the sciences. He learned in his youth that his body could fail him; as a young researcher, he sought to understand the limits of the human body and mind. At the University of Miami, a National Institute of Health (NIH) fellowship funded his research in neurobiology. He also served as a visiting professor and helped coach the school's cross country team.

He began to imagine a career teaching at a university, yet it became clear the University of Miami didn't have a fulltime professorship to offer him. He was offered a job at Juniata College in Huntingdon, Pa. His wife Sharon, a Miami native who was in the geology department at UM, balked at moving to a colder climate, so Crabtree began rethinking his career plan.

A fellow faculty member who was acquainted with Barbara Lester, the chair of the science department at Ransom Everglades, suggested he reach out to her. Crabtree hadn't given any thought to teaching at a private high school but, at that point, needed a job. So he secured an interview.

On to Ransom Everglades

Crabtree showed up in a suit to interview with Lester, who was immediately impressed with his dress and enthusiasm for his doctoral research. She believed he would make a great addition to RE's science department, and advocated for his hiring.

When Crabtree arrived to Ransom Everglades for his first day on the job, he was feeling pretty good about himself and his credentials.

"Doc's class changed my interests... He made science understandable, and he was the kind of teacher that always wanted the best for you ... I am now a medical student and have to thank Doc for inspiring my love for medicine."

Nicolette Roque '12

Master's program at Johns Hopkins
Bloomberg School of Public Health

"The confidence that Doc helped instill in me led me to the Duke track team, where I competed in the heptathlon. I am so grateful ... He coached me with humor, gentleness and patience, and I will always be thankful for his influence in my life."

Jenny Stadler Krueger '93

Founder and executive director of RISE UP!,
a ministry that teaches character in elementary schools

“He was my teacher at the Upper School in the infamous Anatomy B class, which was one of my favorite classes of all time because of his passion for the subject and his desire to teach it. He was a teacher that truly cared for his students and enjoyed watching them learn. He has helped mold me into the man I am today.”

Thomas Willis '04
Coach, Calendar/Facilities Manager and
Director of Summer Programming at Ransom Everglades

“I was a five-year post-doc with a PhD now teaching high school,” Crabtree said. “I was a young hotshot who thought he knew everything.”

Yet instead of earning the respected title of “Dr. Crabtree” among his new colleagues, he found himself referred to around campus as “one of Barbara’s Boys,” a nickname coined by the maintenance staff as Lester, at that time, led an all-male department. And Dan Leslie Bowden, the legendary teacher who was then the English department chair, quickly put Crabtree in his place after listening to the young professor speak a bit too forcefully at a faculty meeting.

“Some individuals who haven’t been here very long,” Bowden commented icily, “despite knowing a lot, need to take more time to understand our culture.”

Lester, who was sitting next to Crabtree, patted his hand. “I looked at Barbara Lester and said: ‘I’ve just been torched by Dan Bowden!’”

Bowden proceeded to send Crabtree several articles on teaching, one explaining how to be authentic in the classroom,

GIRLS' CROSS COUNTRY UNDER DOC CRABTREE

32

consecutive years qualifying for state
championship meet

194-9

record in dual meets

2

state championships

20

top-5 finishes at state

23

district championships
(17 consecutive)



SCIENCE CLUB



Science Club 1983: Mr. Zach Chasan, **Steve Needell '83**, **Julie Zahniser '85**, **Margaret Chang '83**, **Gordon Wood '83**, **Asako Toyoda '85**, **Catherine Malinin '83**, **Michelle Carey '85**, **Gary Goldbloom '83**, **Stacey Tenen '85**, **Marc Sanders '84**, **Andrea Wang '84**, **Yvette Sands '85**, **Paul Wigoda '85**, **Andre Williams '85** and Dr. Robert Crabtree

the other discussing how to help students overachieve. Other faculty members advised Crabtree never to underestimate the school's student body.

"One of the things they told me was don't try to snowball the students," he said. "The students know more than you do, and they know about a lot of subjects that you don't. If you don't know, say you don't know — and let's try to find out."

Crabtree began teaching chemistry, AP Biology and Anatomy and Physiology. He couldn't stand the idea of lecturing from notes, so he did not. He preferred to throw out ideas, get feedback and let students test things out in the laboratory.

"The kids here are bright, motivated, intelligent and disciplined," Crabtree said. "They were as good, or better, than the college students I had been teaching."

Said Lester: "His lab was the showcase. He had all sorts of models and students' projects on display. In his teaching, he was able to give them lots of examples and anecdotes that helped them understand the material. He was excellent."

From his first day on the job, it did not occur to Crabtree to leave campus after the final bell. He found his way to the pool deck after school and offered to do the timing at swim meets. It wasn't long before he landed the head coaching position for track and field. A year later, he took over the girls' cross country team.

It was a job he never relinquished.

His runners fondly recall Saturday training sessions at the former Parrot Jungle in South Miami; grueling hill climbs on the Rickenbacker Causeway; and long van rides enlivened by old tunes from John Mellencamp and Meatloaf. They remember endless streams of encouragement.

As the years went by, Doc had the privilege of coaching his daughter, **Nicole Crabtree '04**, in track and field, and cheering on his other daughter, **Robyn Crabtree '09**, who played water polo and swam. Over the years, his girls' cross country teams won 23 district titles and two state championships. In dual meets, the team sported an incredible 194-9 record, and his athletes won first-team All-Dade recognition 27 times. To mark certain milestone victories, Crabtree shaved the milestone number into the side of his head.

"Doc Crabtree never let me quit. Even when I actually did quit the track team my senior year, he didn't accept the resignation. And it is a memory and lesson I have carried with me for many years. He also taught me the opening lines of 'Bohemian Rhapsody' and that there is no better way to celebrate a victory at the state championships in Gainesville than a burger at Steak 'n Shake. Thanks Doc for always being such a positive influence in my life."

Patricia Tortolani '97

Editor in chief of Ocean Drive magazine

“Doc is inspiring, authentic, disciplined, compelling, motivating, and a superb role model for those students who aspire to become teachers.”

Marc D. Sanders '84
Associate Vice President
at Stanford University



He expresses gratitude to various faculty members from RE: He describes former colleagues Mike Stokes, Geoff Pietsch and Owen Paris as “legends.” Teacher Karen Thompson served as his assistant for 15 years; **Tracy Friedlander Ley '02** came after; and **Caroline Lutzky '09** has assumed the head-coaching reins. Former strength coach Brian Biagioli was a guiding force.

Though Cabtree spent most of his career coaching female athletes, he never considered adapting his methods. As an Ohio native, he had been influenced by the legendary football coach Woody Hayes; that was the coaching style he knew. “I don’t coach girls any different than I coach boys,” he said. “I coach athletes.” **Nicole Medina-Hospital '02**, a writing instructor at the University of Miami and Artist in Residence at the Deering Estate, called her former coach and AP Biology teacher a “true feminist.”

As a teacher and coach, Crabtree started with students and ended up with fans.

“Doc showed overt pride in coaching women,” Medina-Hospital said. “It was great for us... My adventures, my victories and the lessons I learned with Doc are priceless. He will always play the role of hero in my heart.”



“Our dad has impacted so many people’s lives in such a positive way, as an educator, coach and mentor. We often hear from those he has influenced and inspired over the years, and we are so lucky to have him as a role model. He continues to set the example in our lives and now sets the example for his granddaughter. Ransom Everglades has always been our second home, but we know retirement will bring new challenges and opportunities for him to change and inspire the community. We know this next chapter is going to be great!”

Nicole Crabtree '04 and Robyn Crabtree '09

To see more alumni reflections on Doc Crabtree, follow this link:
www.ransomeverglades.org/re-log/2018/doc-crabtree



Supporting RE: An investment in Miami – and beyond

A well-known alumnus joins forces with a new parent to help *REinvent Excellence*

Jeffrey Miller '79 and Constance Fernandez represent the old and new at Ransom Everglades. Miller and members of his family have served the school for decades through volunteerism, philanthropy and their constant and cheerful presence on RE's campuses. Fernandez, a Michigan native, belongs to one of the school's newer families. She and her husband have provided critical support to countless organizations and causes in Miami, but it wasn't until their youngest son **Cristofer Fernandez '22** joined the RE community as a sixth grader that they began to realize the remarkable return offered by an investment in Ransom Everglades School.

Miller, a longtime trustee and former chair, persuaded Fernandez, a fellow trustee, to join him as a co-chair for the *REinventing Excellence* campaign that was launched last fall. They have since worked together to generate enthusiasm for the \$75 million campaign, which is designed to elevate all of RE's programs and bring about a significant makeover of the Upper School campus. Despite their different backgrounds, both share the belief that Ransom Everglades is much more than a school; it is a force for good that drives the entire Miami community.

This winter, they agreed to share insights into their favorite common cause. They met at the La Brisa property the school acquired in June 2016.

“Our students and faculty and administration made us a No. 1 school. We owe it to them to give them the classrooms and facilities they have earned and deserve. We absolutely should build that around them.”

– Constance



Jeffrey: I have a long history with Ransom Everglades, and the Ransom School before that. I went to high school here, Class of '79. My brother (**Stuart Miller '75**) and sister (**Leslie Miller Saointz '77**) went here. Both of my children have gone to Ransom Everglades; one (**Anthony Miller '15**) graduated, one (**Lenny Miller '21**) is in ninth grade. Nine nieces and nephews have attended, and I've served on the board for 10 years or so, and I've also chaired the board. So my involvement has been pretty consistent over the years. I see Ransom Everglades as an integral part of my own life, and a pillar of the community. It's not only a great high school and middle school, but it's really a community builder.

Constance: I didn't volunteer for this, I was recruited by Jeff – but happily. It's an honor. As I listen to Jeff describe his long connection to Ransom Everglades, it occurs to me that I'm a good complement. My family doesn't have the legacy that his does here at this institution – of course, that is my hope in the future for our family. We are a new family here. I was born and raised in Michigan. After earning my MBA from the University of Michigan, I moved to Atlanta to open several restaurants and clothing stores. From there, I moved to Fort Lauderdale and then Miami, where

“ We are adding seven acres of land, but there is not going to be a push to add another 1,000 kids here. We like our size. We like the intimacy of our classrooms.”

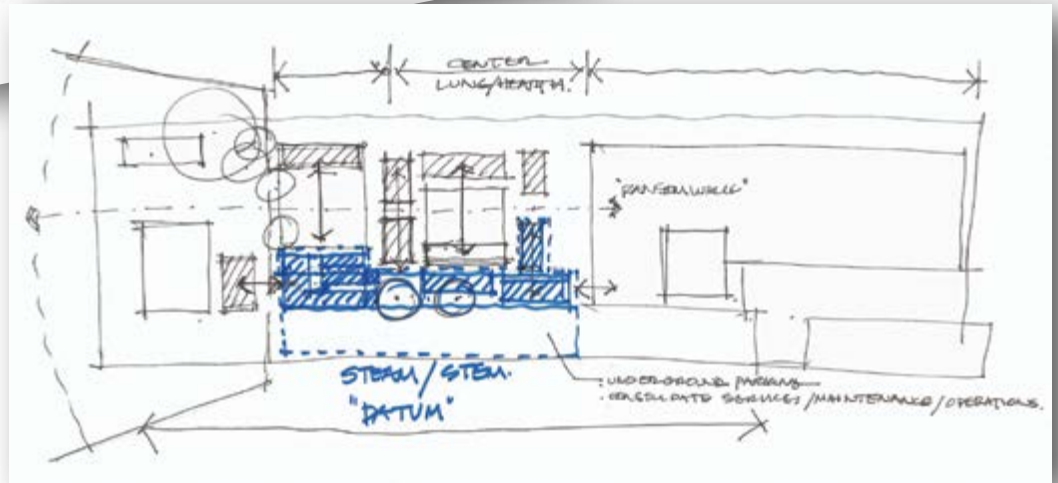
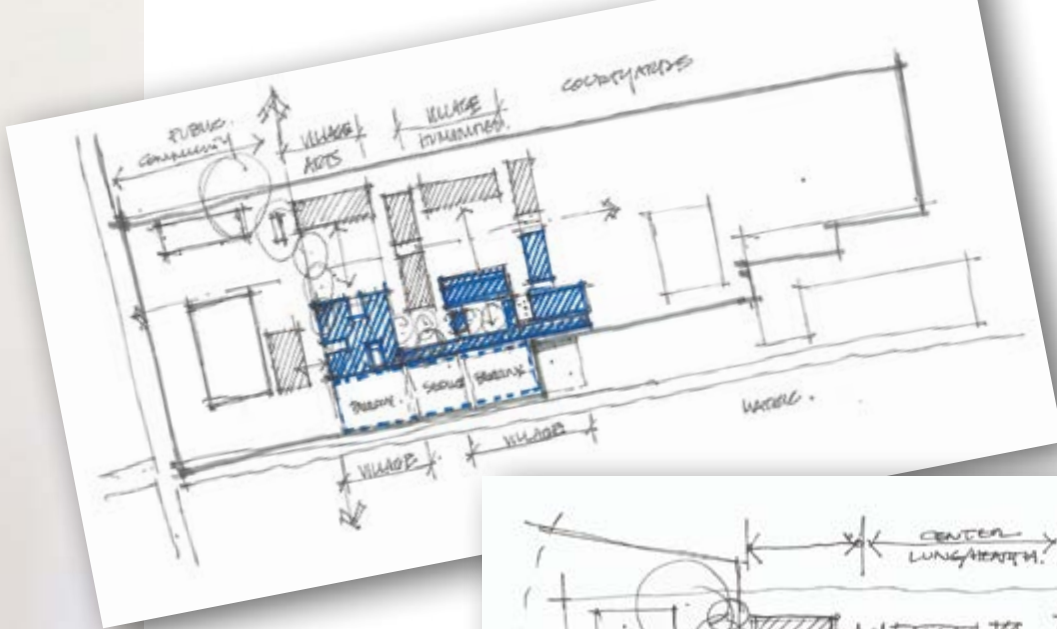
– Jeffrey

I worked as a marketing director at a healthcare company. That's how I met my husband, Mike, who also was in the healthcare industry. That was 18 years ago. This is a school I wish I could have attended, and I'm very happy to provide this opportunity for our youngest son, Cristofer. This was the school of choice. It is a perfect fit for Cristofer, and I feel that Cristofer adds to the Ransom Everglades community. Our family supports many philanthropic and worthy causes here in

Miami, but this particular investment is very special to me. What better place for me to spend the next five years, as my son finishes his schooling here, and at a pivotal time for Ransom Everglades? What a great institution this has been for the past 100 years. To have the opportunity to contribute to a major transformation – one that will reverberate throughout the city of Miami – is inspiring.

Jeffrey: I was involved during the last capital campaign, which provided new fields and facilities to the Middle School. I've been involved in upgrades to the athletic buildings and the construction of the Ansin Aquatic Center on the Ransom Campus. This particular revitalization – which we are calling *REinventing Excellence* – is especially exciting because it's going to expand the Upper School campus with the inclusion of the La Brisa property. It will also be transformative for the Upper School academic buildings – which is long overdue. We haven't had a new academic building on the Ransom Campus for over 40 years.

Constance: *REinventing Excellence* is about more than just buildings – I want to emphasize that – but it will bring new buildings, and I am very excited about that. Why? For me, the attraction to Ransom



Everglades wasn't that it was a beautiful facility, or had these gorgeous new buildings. It was the core of the school, and what was inside. The academics. The seriousness of it. The faculty. The curriculum. That's what brought my family to Ransom Everglades. We don't like to talk about rankings, yet I can't help but mention that Ransom Everglades has been ranked the No. 1 school in Florida for years. It's hard to stay No. 1. You have to be ahead of the curve to stay No. 1. I feel our students and faculty and administration made us a No. 1 school. We owe it to them to give them the classrooms and facilities they have earned and deserve. We absolutely should build that around them. Imagine where that will take us? We already have what it takes to be No. 1. The physical enhancements will elevate our academic program. They will enhance our curriculum. Great facilities will help us keep and attract the best and brightest teachers. The entire institution will benefit. We will lift the level of excellence in every facet.

Jeffrey: We are starting by building a STEM Center – a science, technology engineering and math building. We expect to start construction this summer. The STEM Center has been designed in such

a way as to make it flexible so that as our world changes and as education changes, the facility is adaptable enough in design to incorporate those changes in that building. So regardless of what is happening 10 years from now, this building will be able to adjust to that. It's really exciting that we're undertaking something with the understanding that we're trying to look forward and not build just for our needs today.

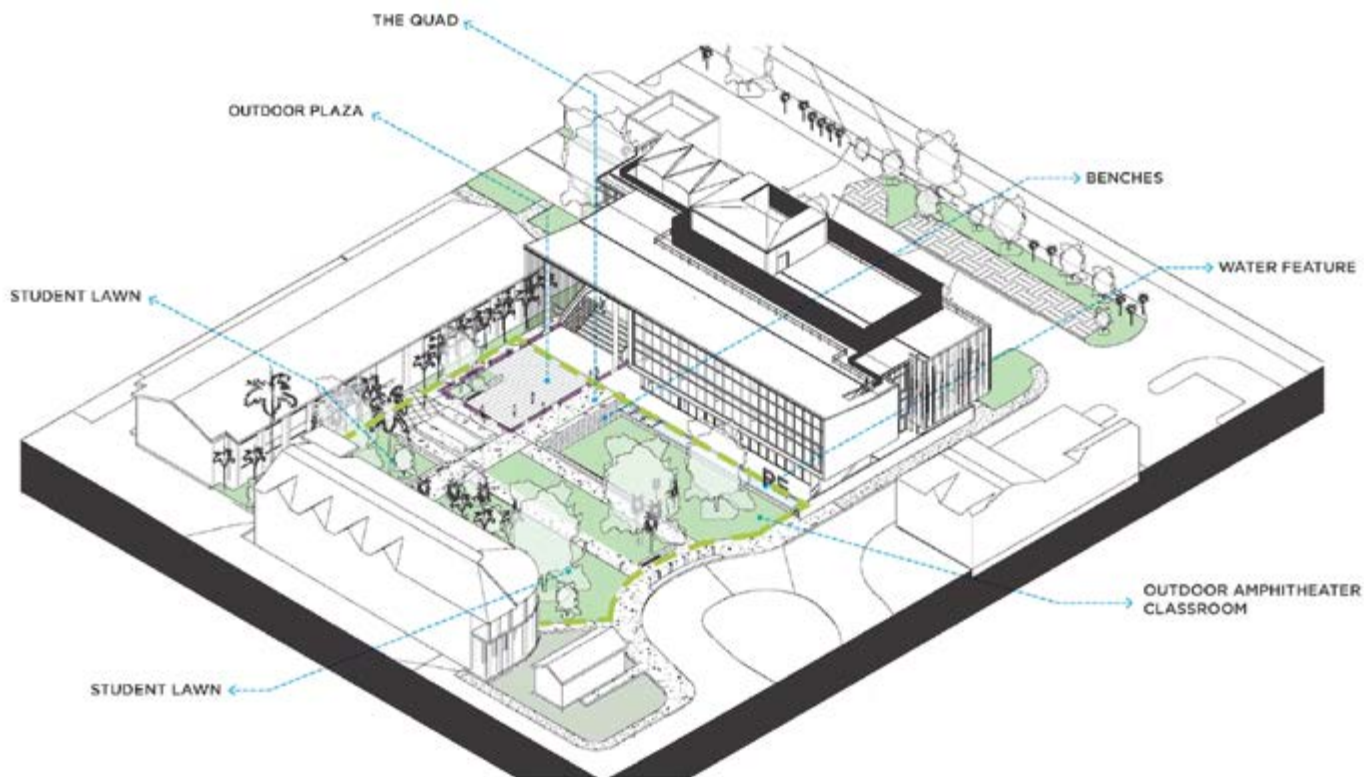
“ We need to keep raising the bar for education as our city raises the bar in so many other ways.”

– Constance

During this campaign, Ransom Everglades is not going to change in terms of substantially growing in numbers. We're going to remain about the same size. That's a remarkable thing. We are adding seven acres of land, but there is not going to be a big push to have another 1,000 kids here. We like our size. We like the intimacy of our classrooms. We like the community atmosphere that develops in each class. And we want to add more green space. We want our students to enjoy an expansive property that feels like a college campus.

Constance: We're paying forward. This will benefit many of our current students, but it's primarily a gift for our next generation. There is no question this is a critical time: we will need to be educating this next generation for careers we don't even know about yet. They need to be well-rounded. We need to prepare the whole child intellectually, socially, athletically. They must be well-rounded to best handle what they are going experience, what has yet to be seen. It's scary, but it's also exciting.

Jeffrey: Education is the key to every aspect of a community being strong and vibrant. Education, whether it be in public schools, charter schools, magnet



schools, private schools, universities and colleges, is key to the quality of community and how we grow our community. A community builds, and builds well, based on its education, and its level and quality of education. Ransom Everglades plays a major part in education throughout our entire community. It's not only educating our kids, it's reaching out to the community, it's helping inner-city kids, it's creating collaborative partnerships with universities and other pieces around our overall community.

We have in our budget every year \$5 million in financial aid that goes out to balance our student body. The board is consistently raising that budget so we bring people from all walks of life and all financial places into Ransom Everglades. That's really a goal and something the board is tuned into and wants to make sure happens. We've seen it happen. The Ransom Everglades community has changed and evolved over the years. I have been directly involved with RE for over 40 years. Our board chair, **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, may have been the first, or one of the first, Cuban-American families at Ransom. Today, Ransom Everglades is over 50 percent Latin American and, really, what has evolved is diversity, diversity on every front. It really is a microcosm

of what Miami-Dade County is as a whole. We represent all facets of life whether it be cultural, religious, lifestyle. It's something that we embrace.

Constance: When I was at the University of Michigan's business school, all of my friends were from out of the country, international students. I did not have one friend from the United States of America. That really opened my world at a pivotal

time in my life. It added to my learning experience, and it also showed me that the world was bigger than I had previously understood. I had friends from Indonesia, the Philippines, Hong Kong. International exposure is built in to Ransom Everglades, because of its location in the heart of such a diverse city.

Jeffrey: South Florida has obviously increased in diversity, but it's also changed in other ways. It's interesting, when I graduated and went to college, many of my fellow students and fellow classmates went off to college and never came back to Miami. There wasn't tremendous opportunity down here. Right now, Miami is an emerging scene of business. Miami has always been a real estate mecca, but there is so much more now to Miami, whether it be around technology, whether it be around the medical community.

Constance: As more and more companies relocate to Miami or start businesses here, they come with families and children who are concerned about education. I speak from experience; we were one of those families! As Miami continues to grow in sophistication and culture – we've seen the rise of the Pérez Art Museum Miami, the Frost Museum of Science, and the Institute of Contemporary Art – our

“This is an investment in Miami. We believe this transformation will reach far beyond the gates of Ransom Everglades School and into the City of Miami.”
– Constance



school must continue to grow with it. We need to keep raising the bar for education as our city raises the bar in so many other ways.

Jeffrey: The other element of that is there is so much business happening around Miami, students graduating from RE are going off to college and finding opportunities to come back to Miami. They don't have to go off to San Francisco or New York or Boston; there's opportunity here in South Florida. That's an exciting part of Ransom Everglades: we are building future leaders, leaders who might come back and share their talents and the benefits of a Ransom Everglades education with this community. We already have an incredible alumni community. Obviously, if people are here in the local community we can re-engage them in Ransom Everglades life.

Constance: Many alumni – like Jeff – serve Ransom Everglades as board members or in other roles. Our board members are an amazing group: alumni, community leaders, past and current families. We have 100-percent participation from our board in the *REinventing Excellence* campaign. The board alone has raised more than 50 percent of the school's campaign goal of \$75 million. That in itself speaks volumes about the board's commitment

“This is the perfect time to get involved... We need the involvement of all of those who care about this school.”
– Jeffrey

and heart for this. We do invite the entire Ransom Everglades community, and the Miami community, to join us.

Jeffrey: This is not just about technology. This is not just about building a STEM Center, or even about stepping into the future. What Ransom Everglades is trying to do is build for the future while harnessing our legacy, and our past. We want to harness the spirit of our school and passion of our school. As we move forward, as

we anticipate where our world is going, we will also remain consistent to our values. We will tap into the humanities and the heart of what makes Ransom Everglades special. Constance and I are so convinced of the value of this campaign, that we've already committed to it ourselves with significant gifts. We can't ask people to contribute if we don't do it ourselves. We want people to follow suit.

This is the perfect time to get involved. This is an important juncture of time for our community, whether it be current parents or alums or grandparents or whoever has been touched by Ransom Everglades. We need the involvement of all of those who care about this school.

Constance: If you're a past, current or future parent, or alum, this is an investment in Miami. We believe this transformation will reach far beyond the gates of Ransom Everglades School and into the City of Miami. And even beyond!

For information about how you can get involved with *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*, contact Director of Advancement Greg Pollard at gpollard@ransomeverglades.org or call 305 460 8820.

REinventing Excellence

Sir Ken Robinson



REinvention Starts Now Sir Ken Robinson helps RE launch

REinventing Excellence

THE CAMPAIGN FOR RANSOM EVERGLADES

Sir Ken Robinson brought his powerful message about transforming education through innovation and creativity to the Lewis Family Auditorium on October 17, 2017, captivating hundreds of members of the RE community and setting the tone for the launch of *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*.

Robinson, considered one of the world's foremost experts on education, advocated for schools that are more individualized and less conformist. He called for more emphasis on creative thinking and less preoccupation with test scores. Robinson

addressed an appreciative crowd of alumni, parents, board members, administration, faculty, staff and RE friends for more than 90 minutes.

"The human imagination is the seed of every form of human achievement," he said. "We can't afford to neglect it."

Earlier that evening, RE's Chair of the Board **Rudy Prio Touzet '76** introduced Ransom Everglades' \$75 million capital campaign, announcing that \$40 million had already been raised, including \$30 million in gifts from the school's trustees. Head of School Penny Townsend also addressed the crowd, explaining why even

the nation's finest institutions must seek reinvention in many realms.

"What kind of curriculum is appropriate for a society in which traditional work, career ladders, even entrepreneurship are radically different?" she said. "How do we factor in something as potentially world-changing as artificial intelligence? We don't know any of the specifics. All we do know is that test-centric teaching, perfectionism, and complacency will sink us. A lot needs to be reinvented."

REinventing Excellence will usher in that wide-ranging reinvention, starting in the summer of 2018 with the construction



Rudy Prio Touzet '76, Sir Ken Robinson, Penny Townsend (photographs by Jenny Abreu and Suzanne Kores)

of a STEM Center on the Upper School campus as the school gradually incorporates its plan for the La Brisa land – which won City of Miami approval in January 2018 (see page 30). The La Brisa property will eventually include a new student commons that will replace the current dining hall, and the La Brisa home will be repurposed for academic and administrative uses.

Robinson, the author of *Creative Schools: The Grassroots Revolution That's Transforming Education*, met with RE's faculty in a private reception that lasted more than an hour before his evening

appearance. He touched on a range of topics, including the testing mindset in education that he described as a "toxic culture," and the necessity of replacing outmoded ways of teaching with more effective strategies and approaches.

"The system is changing – and it has to," he said.

Robinson's provocative message and the night's campaign launch left the RE community abuzz and excited.

Townsend reaffirmed her commitment to the path of innovation described by Robinson in a letter to the RE community the next day. She wrote that the talk

by Robinson "was not a wake-up call so much as affirmation that we are on the right path – and a reminder that we need to be constantly vigilant about staying there. Being an innovator is not a passive proposition. We need to continue to think outside the box, continue to innovate and continue to reach the whole student."

For more information about supporting *REinventing Excellence*, contact Director of Advancement Greg Pollard at gpollard@ransomeverglades.org.



La Brisa Approved

Miami City Commission
lauds Ransom Everglades
for its plan for the
new property

Ransom Everglades' plan for incorporating the La Brisa land into its Upper School campus won unanimous approval from the Miami City Commission on January 25, 2018, setting the stage for the gradual integration of La Brisa's seven acres into student life.

Photographs by Suzanne Kores



The decision at Miami City Hall concluded a lengthy approval process that began soon after the school purchased the property along the northern edge of the school's Main Highway campus in June 2016. Commissioners indicated they supported the RE plan because it not only ensures the prosperity of generations of students but also enables RE to continue to be an active and generous community partner while respecting the natural riches of Coconut Grove.

The school's plan envisions the addition of just one new building – a future student commons – on the La Brisa property as RE adapts the 1920s home on the land so that it can serve academic and administrative purposes. The extensive mangroves and tree canopies on the property will be preserved. The plan, which was lauded by the Historic Preservation Society of Coral Gables for "good stewardship," calls for tree-lined quads, expansive lawns and additional landscaping on the current Upper School campus.

The approved plan represents the merging of RE's vision for the La Brisa land with the school's previously approved plan for the existing Ransom Campus. That proposal won approval by the Miami City Commission in 2014 and includes a proposed STEM Center. The addition of the La Brisa property nearly doubles the size of the Ransom Campus.

Commissioner Ken Russell applauded Ransom Everglades for resisting the temptation to maximize to every corner of the La Brisa land in terms of density, parking spaces and construction additions.

The decision "validates the 19 months of hard work and thoughtful planning that went into presenting our vision for the future of our school," Head of School Penny Townsend said in a letter to the RE community. "I am proud that, throughout this process, we remained faithful to our school's values."



**1. Lewis Family Auditorium 2. Proposed Student Commons 3. Fine Arts Building 4. Proposed Multidisciplinary + STEM Center
5. Dan Leslie Bowden Library and Cameron Hall 6. Ludington Hall 7. La Brisa Home 8. The Pagoda 9. Henry H. Anderson, Jr. '38 Gymnasium**

Dozens of members of the RE community attended the hearing, and nearly two dozen addressed the commissioners during the public comments session. Commission Chair Keon Hardemon was so impressed with the eight RE students – **Tomas Gomez '18, Chris Kucera '18, Lauren Marx '18, Alex Mendelson '19, Paulina Pages '18, Juan Roca-Paisley '19, Ryan Sears '18** and **Hannah Tacher Lois '18** – who spoke on behalf of the school he invited two of them, Sears and Tacher Lois, to serve as honorary co-chairs.

The city's approval also paves the way for the revitalization of the existing Upper School campus through the school's *REinventing Excellence* campaign, beginning this summer with the construction of the new STEM Center. The school's campaign is guided by the five initiatives Townsend crafted with the board's support soon after her arrival to the school in 2014: Enriching the curriculum; building the best faculty; integrating technology creatively; upgrading buildings, facilities and spaces; and developing RE as an institution.

After the hearing, Townsend offered her personal thanks to many who contributed to the effort, including the legal team led by **John Shubin '79**, Amy Huber and Rachel Streitfeld; the architectural team directed by **Carlos Prio-Touzet '72** and Jacqueline Gonzalez; attorney **W. Tucker Gibbs '72**; landscape

architect Jennie Rogers; arborist Lisa Hammer; traffic engineer Joaquin Vargas; master planner Cal Bowie; parking expert Tom Butcher; land surveyor Anthony Campanile; entrepreneur Jose Goyanes; and engineer Joaquin Mojica.

Many of that group participated in RE's 20-minute presentation at the hearing.

Townsend also thanked board Chair **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, Vice Chair **Andrew L. Ansin '81**, and the rest of the board for their leadership, vision and dedication; Jim Cowgill, RE's Chief Financial Officer, for his tireless work on the project; and the entire RE community for its support.



Members of the RE community standing outside Miami City Hall after the Jan. 25 hearing.



Commissioner Chair Keon Hardemon stands between "co-chairs" **Hannah Tacher Lois '18** and **Ryan Sears '18** during RE's January 2018 Miami City Commission hearing.

From the *Everglades Campus*

STEM at RE rooted in the Dell



The words *REdesign*, *REbuild*, *REprogram* appear on the back of the shirts worn by our Middle School competitive robotics students. They are intended as a reminder that the work we do is always challenging and fundamentally iterative in nature. Ideating, or brainstorming, is just one of the steps of the engineering design process that students learn when engaged in competitive robotics at Ransom Everglades. Students work in teams to develop a strategy, design, build a prototype, program it, then test it and analyze the results. Failure (and no small amount of frustration) is part of the process, but the students take what they learn and start the cycle over again with new insights. Ahead of its time, the Everglades School for Girls explained the philosophy in its creed: “To profit from your past mistakes and aim for higher goals.”

I am proud to say that engineering, design-thinking and invention are becoming more and more a part of the everyday life of Middle School students. In the past few years, competitive robotics has grown

from a handful of students working during the club portion of the school day to more than 30 working after school four days a week. We sent five teams to this year’s RoboSLAM and two to the state championship, and we hope to repeat last year’s success at worlds! The integration of science, technology and applied mathematics is evident within the school day as well. The seventh-grade rotation now includes computer programming and app-making, and the eighth graders are taking a semester-long course with a focus on robotics programming using Robot-C. Sixth-grade students will be participating in the second-annual Ransom Everglades Energy and Climate Symposium where their individual scientific experiments, research reports and engineering projects will be showcased. Our budding scientists continue their exploration of science during club time; we have a Crime-Busters club as well as Organic Garden, Pinhole Camera and Slime-Time clubs. The STEM Club has taken on the challenge of putting together a hydroponic garden inspired in part by the aquaponics system (see page 36) on the Ransom Campus.

The science department has been continually updating the curriculum at all grade levels, reinforcing math skills and infusing connections to the humanities and arts as well engineering and design-thinking. This integrated approach, which builds on the many excellent projects and labs our students have been doing for years, represents a natural contemporary iteration of the experiential approach to learning Paul Ransom built the school around. When our students begin their years at the Ransom Campus and take their first classes in our upcoming STEM Center, they will already know that designing a part for 3D printing requires a sense of form and function. As they look across the Quad at the Visual Arts Building they will know they can find inspiration for their creations in aesthetics as well as mathematics. In the future, they may choose to pursue medicine, alternative energy, Battlebots or graphic design but, rest assured, they are already testing their initial designs on the Bluff or in the Dell, or in the Atrium.

Gustavo Palacios
Middle School Science Department
Coordinator

RE Provides RElief

RElief effort on both campuses nets \$8,700

Hundreds enjoyed Ransom Everglades' Stronger Together RElief Festival throughout the day and evening on Oct. 27, 2017, donating \$8,700 to regions hit by natural disasters while taking in various special events on both of the school's campuses. Members of the RE community turned out for a varsity football game at the Middle School, an International Food Festival, a Rock 4 Relief concert at the Upper School and a Middle School dance.



All of the RElief events were free, but student and faculty volunteers collected donations at each event. "I was absolutely overwhelmed by the enthusiasm and energy that surrounded our multi-faceted Stronger Together RElief Festival," Head of School Penny Townsend said in a letter

to the RE community on Oct. 30. "My reaction that night could be summed up in one word: Wow. My response this afternoon, as I reflect on the event, is just as heartfelt: Thank you."

World language students and faculty prepared and served food from regions recently struck by natural disasters. Dozens of students and some faculty performed in the Rock 4 Relief concert that was organized by **Jacob Tie-Shue '18** and featured Student Government Association President **Ryan Sears '18** as the emcee. World Languages Department Chair Adabel Diaz-Rivera and Associate Dean for Student Affairs Paul Elkins helped coordinate the events. Alumni under the direction of **Ryan Holtzmann '00** contributed by conducting a relief drive for items ranging from baby wipes to tarps.

Leading up to the festival, students and alumni donated supplies ranging from baby food to mosquito netting; those items were sent directly to Puerto Rico as it rebuilt after Hurricane Maria. Student volunteer leaders determined the distribution of the rest of the funds under the direction of Elkins, sending donations to six other traumatized areas.



Sixteen Seniors Honored

Students named 2018 National Merit Semifinalists

Sixteen RE seniors were named semifinalists in the 2018 National Merit Scholarship Competition. Celine De Araujo, Carlos Esber, Daniel Freedline, Jordan Gould, Gabriel Jaramillo, Stephen Kaiser, Scott Kim, Sonja Lazovic, Alexander Lerner, Ines Pinilla, Ben Rosenthal, Joshua Solesbury, Jacob Tie-Shue, Ryan Tie-Shue, Jordan Wong and Megan Zou were among just one percent of the 1.6 million students who took the PSAT to advance in the competition for 7,500 National Merit Scholarships.

Dramatic Duo

Performances at the US and MS showcase student talent

The drama program at Ransom Everglades showed its range and excellence in crowd-pleasing performances on both campuses last fall. Upper School students performed the uproarious *Moon Over Buffalo* at the Lewis Family Auditorium Oct. 20-21, 2017, under first-year performing arts teacher Sam Shapiro, leaving the audience in stitches.

Middle School drama students followed with an exhilarating rendition of *High School Musical* under the direction of Cecilia Gonzalez that drew resounding standing ovations at Swenson Hall on Nov. 8, 9 and 10.

Gonzalez, a graduate of the University of Miami Frost School of Music and Miami's New World School of the Arts, is currently pursuing a Master of Arts at UM.



Shapiro arrived to Ransom Everglades last summer from director's roles at the Miami Children's Theater and Broadway Musical Theatre on Key Biscayne; she also served as a casting production assistant for Steven Spielberg's entertainment company, Amblin Entertainment.

Eight students ranging from ninth to 12th grades expertly executed the Upper School production; **Juan Gabriel "Juanchi" Roca-Paisley '19** and **Margaret "Ivy" McWilliams '18** played the lead characters in the two-act Ken Ludwig farcical

play that also included **Vanessa Gonzalez '19**, **Rachel Seipp '19**, **Roy "R.J." Black '19**, **Viviana Freyer '20**, **Liam de Araujo '21** and **Rudy Prio Touzet '18**.

Nick Rubino '23, **Zoe Holtzman '22**, **Alexa Hommen '22** and **Nico Maynulet '23** led the talented and expansive cast for *High School Musical*. Drama teacher Gina Montet and many others assisted with both productions.



From Aquaponics Tank to Table

Biology students raise food to feed their peers

Ninth-grade biology students are planning to feed their peers this spring with a meal of tilapia and greens produced inside the school's new 400-gallon aquaponics tank, which the ninth-grade scientists have tended this year.

"Team Tilapia," a team of National Science Honor Society students under the tutelage of **Cecilia Calleros '94**, worked throughout the summer to assemble and prepare the aquaponics tank. Once classes began, biology students took over the system.

Students populated the aquaponics tank with plants and monitored the system during the summer months. As the plants grew, bacteria developed and the water quality reached desired levels, biology students added tiny tilapia. Plants and fish clean the water and provide food for each other in the self-sustaining system.

In December, the students supplied the annual holiday party for faculty and staff by cutting kale, bok choy, lettuce, basil, mint and rosemary plants for Chef Alfredo Silva. **Ben Arriola '18, Jasper Beardslee '18, Rebecca Hadwen '18, Lauren Marx '18, Leo Menninger '18, Noa Richard '18, Hannah Tacher Lois '18 and Jed Warshaw '18** worked on the tank over the summer.



Biology students clip and collect greens from the aquaponics tank for RE Chef Alfredo Silva. Head of the Upper School Kenneth S. Mills in photo above; teacher **Cecilia Calleros '94** in photo to left.





Presidential Poetry Obama's inaugural poet visits Ransom Everglades



Renowned poet Richard Blanco shared with Upper School students his incredible journey from Cuban immigrant in Miami to inaugural poet at President Obama's second inauguration. Blanco, one of just five people to read a poem at a U.S. presidential inauguration, read from his works during the December 2017 assembly at the Lewis Family Auditorium.

When President Obama invited him to write a poem for his inauguration in 2013, Blanco joined elite company that includes Maya Angelou and Robert Frost. For the event, he crafted "One Today."

Blanco attended Christopher Columbus High and then pursued engineering at Florida International University. He worked for several years as a civil engineer before returning to FIU to earn an MFA in creative writing. His first book, *City of a Hundred Fires*, received national acclaim and allowed him to pursue poetry full time.

Blanco told RE students how his struggle to find his home, place and identity in the United States – as a Cuban immigrant, Hispanic and gay man – influenced his poetry. "The poem is, in a way, a response to the questions of home," he said. "The greatest gift of the inauguration was realizing that I was home all along, that my story was part of the American story."

Blanco has taught at American, Georgetown and Wesleyan universities; received a number of honorary doctorates; and won a host of poetry prizes and awards. After the morning assembly, members of RE's poetry club escorted Blanco to lunch.

He remained on campus that afternoon to serve as a guest lecturer in a number of classes, then offered a workshop for faculty immediately after school.

Hurricane *Irma*

The Balm after the Storm

RE community joins in campus cleanup after Hurricane Irma

Ransom Everglades' facilities team worked overtime and students, faculty, staff and administration contributed to a massive clean up in the wake of Hurricane Irma, which flooded the Upper School athletics field, damaged the school's waterfront and gym, and forced the cancellation of school from Sept. 7-18, 2017.

Irma obliterated the mangroves between the athletics field and bay, tore up the field's turf surface, destroyed one of the school's three docks, and flooded the erg room under the pool and first floor of the gymnasium – and its offices, locker rooms, training room and workout facility.

There was, however, no significant damage elsewhere on the school's campuses and the La Brisa property. The historic Pagoda and Ransom Cottage sustained no visible damage, and all of the school's academic buildings weathered the storm with only expected wear and tear to roofs. Both campuses were left without power for a week and were littered with downed trees and fallen limbs.

Three boats washed up on the Ransom Campus; a crane was brought in to help remove them. Dozens of faculty and staff helped out in the days after the Sept. 10 storm, and nearly 150 Upper School students showed up to help clear debris from the athletics field on a Saturday during the hurricane break. Facilities Director Erick Ceballos and Chief Financial Officer Jim Cowgill directed and oversaw the monumental clean-up effort.

View of the Robert E. Walker Field during the storm (photo by Erick Ceballos).





The gymnasium reopened for games and practices within two weeks of the storm, and RE's football team returned to practice at the Robert E. Walker Field on Oct. 5. The restored field has since accommodated football, soccer and lacrosse practices, but because about 30 yards of turf near the bay were irreparably damaged, all home games were moved to the Stamps Family Field at the Middle School. The entire Walker field turf will be replaced in the summer of 2018 after the seawall has been reinforced.



Photographs by Carl Kafka and Suzanne Kores



Youth Movement

Girls' and boys' golf teams sweep local championships

RE's varsity golf program showed incredible promise as young squads led by twins **Jake Beber-Frankel '20** and **Phoebe Beber-Frankel '20** swept the district and regional meets and earned trips to the 2017 Florida High School Golf State Championships.

Jake won the individual boys' district and regional championships and Phoebe won the girls' individual regional title, ensuring that the Raiders dominated the fall postseason events. The victory at regionals and subsequent appearance at the November state meet were firsts for the boys' team.

Three sophomores powered RE's boys, who were coached by David Ragan, and two sophomores and one junior led the girls' team under coach Eric Salomatoff. The girls finished eighth at states.

At districts, Jake Beber-Frankel (68), **Marc Chaneles '20** (74), **Anderson Murphy '19** (75) and **Zachary Buttrick '20** (79) combined to shoot 296 – the best team score in Raider history. Co-captain and four-year starter **Josh Solesbury '18** (83) also posted a strong showing as the Raiders easily topped second-place finisher Westminster Christian, which scored a 349.

The girls' team of Phoebe Beber-Frankel (76), **Megan Houchin '19** (86), **Rachel De Angulo '20** (87) and **Kathleen Cochran '18** (111) tallied a 360 at districts, edging Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart (363) for the girls' title. **Olivia Castillo '21** (112) also contributed to the championship.



Bakes '18 and Bent '18 sign national letters of intent

Lacrosse player **Erin Bakes '18** and volleyball player **Sydney Bent '18** signed ceremonial national letters of intent in front of an appreciative audience of faculty and students in the Anderson gymnasium. Bakes committed to extend her lacrosse career at the University of Southern California, and Bent will play volleyball at Notre Dame.

Interim Athletic Director Andy De Angulo served as emcee at the November 2017 ceremony that honored the two most celebrated athletes in Ransom Everglades' Class of 2018.

A US Lacrosse first-team All-American, Bakes has been team captain, team Most Valuable Player and first-team All-Dade for four consecutive years. She also excelled in soccer (third-team All-Dade for two seasons) and volleyball, where she contributed to the 2013 state title.

"When you go out to see Erin on the lacrosse field, what she does on that field is truly remarkable," De Angulo said. "She is one of the top players in the country."

Bent is a third-team All-American, a two-time first-team All-Dade selection, and team captain and MVP. De Angulo lauded her dedication and "sheer will" to succeed, and noted that stopping her became the entire focus of opposing teams' game plans. You can't help "noticing how dominant of a player she is," he said.

National letters of intent are binding agreements with NCAA Division I schools for a student's first year in college. At press time, more than a dozen other RE seniors had decided to continue their athletic careers at various colleges and universities, with more expected commitments: The students are: German Giammattei, soccer, Amherst; Falyn Goldstein,



crew, Lehigh; Matthew Jackson, baseball, Illinois Tech; Antonio Mora, tennis, Emory; Ellie Moret, cross country/track and field, Tufts; Tiffany McBrayer, soccer, Sarah Lawrence; Will Miller, football, Chapman; Ines Pinilla, crew, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Reece Ritzenthaler, lacrosse, University of Colorado, Boulder; Matt Simko, swimming/water polo, Brown; Felipe Urrutia, swimming, Chicago; Tucker Weed, sailing, Brown; Julian Zighelboim, soccer, Northwestern.

All-Dade RE Athletes Fall 2017

FIRST TEAM

Jake Beber-Frankel '20, golf
Phoebe Beber-Frankel '20, golf
Sydney Bent '18, volleyball
Alina Pedroso '18, volleyball

SECOND TEAM

Ellie Carrera-Justiz '19, volleyball
James Cusack '18, cross country
Rachel De Angulo '20, golf
Megan Houchin '19, golf
Julia Ortiz '18, volleyball

THIRD TEAM

Marc Chaneles '20, golf
Fernanda Garcia
Morena Alvarez '21, cross country
Felipe Urrutia '18, swimming
 (200 IM, 100 br)



Freshmen in Penny Matthews' Bay Studies course paddle Ransom Everglades' new fleet of paddle boards out to Biscayne Bay on a beautiful morning in February. Ransom Everglades acquired 10 of the popular boards last summer for the benefit of the school's physical education program, enriching an experiential learning curriculum that already included sailing, canoeing and kayaking. Students in the Advanced Bay Studies course also utilize the paddle boards.



We have amazing kids.
You have interesting jobs.
Let's talk.



We are looking for individuals, organizations, firms, science labs, medical facilities or others willing to host RE high school students over the summer in volunteer internships.

We have plenty of smart, motivated students who can assist with your organization's project-based and/or research-based activities between mid-June and early August. If you are in need of extra help during the summer, consider joining our growing program at Ransom Everglades called Summer Learning through Internships and Mentoring (SLIM).

We especially value work with RE alumni and parents in all fields.

If you would like to sponsor or host a student internship in 2018 or 2019, please contact program director **Paul Natland '02** at pnatland@ransomeverglades.org as soon as possible.

Alumni Events

Link to the photo galleries:
<https://ransomevergladesschool.smugmug.com/>



Alumni came out to celebrate the Raiders' homecoming with a post-game tailgate at the Taurus on October 13, 2017. Pictured with Head of School Penny Townsend: event chairs **Lola Arellano Pegg '93**, **Becky Haggard McCarron '93** and **Bubba Drody '88**. The Raider is joined by **Kelly McCammon '86**, **Mark Hoffman '85**, Sunny Fraser and **David Gordon '85**.



Jose Llamas '04 and faculty member Jose Rodriguez at the first Young Alumni Committee event of 2017-18 at Wynwood Kitchen & Bar on Sept. 27, 2017. Jessica Srebnick, **Scott Srebnick '83** and **Joe Furst '97** of Goldman Properties played host to a young and energetic group from the Classes of 2000 and after.

Karim Aryeh '98 and **Pearce Klevan '97** write notes to classmates at the Fund for RE Kick-Off on October 4, 2017, which once again was supported by a strong alumni showing. **Todd Mestepey '91** and **Christian Falk '91** are co-chairing the alumni fund effort that seeks to again surpass 30-percent participation and to exceed \$1 million for the first time. Make your gift today by visiting www.ransomeverglades.org/make-a-gift.



NYC alumni **Nick Werner '97**, far left, **Asher Simon '93**, far right, and **Alex Fumero '01** (not pictured) shared their experiences on 9/11 with members of Gregory Cooper's "America in the Post 9/11 World" class during a class trip to New York. Pictured (L to R): Werner, **Ivy McWilliams '18**, **Grace Waibel '19**, **Sophia Elliott '18**, Lindsay Danielson, **Ben Arriola '18**, Cooper and Simon.

The Alumni Association partnered with the Office of College Counseling to provide mock interviews to current seniors on Nov. 5, 2017. Under the leadership of co-chairs **Rob Newman '95** and **Nelly Farra '96**, 25 alumni and one RE parent conducted individual interviews for more than 30 students. Following the interviews, all volunteer interviewers and students gathered in the dining hall for a wrap-up session to provide further guidance.

Alumni Events



Alumni of all ages gathered at Sushi Maki Coconut Grove for a networking exchange on November 28, 2017. Pictured are **Stephanie Castellano Hopple '04**, **Phil Cassel '03** and Patrick Hopple. Above, host Abe Ng stands with **Melissa Krinzman '86** and **Ben Quevedo '98**.



Young Alumni gathered across the street from the Upper School at the Taurus on Thanksgiving weekend to kick off the holiday season. This year was particularly special as RE faculty members Penny Matthews, Bob DuBard, Jose Rodriguez, Greg Cooper, Ellen Grant, Karen Thompson, Jay Calkins (retired), Jean Duty and Alina Mendoza joined the festivities.



The Class of 2007 rallied over the holiday break to celebrate its 10-year reunion. More than 60 classmates and friends gathered at B-Bistro on December 23, 2017. Co-chairs (L-R) **Stephanie Peral '07**, **Danielle Calleja '07**, **Jacques Holzmann '07** and **Rebecca Noble '07** organized the evening.



The tradition continues! Dan Leslie Bowden read Truman Capote's *A Christmas Memory* on December 9, 2017, at The Palace Suites in Kendall. Despite the long distance from campus, Mr. Bowden attracted a full house. Mr. Bowden's great nephew Thomas Bowden, who lives in Mr. Bowden's home state of Georgia, joined the reading.

More than 300 parents, faculty members and alumni gathered on December 15, 2017, for a holiday party on the Ransom Quad. Guests were welcomed with Prosecco courtesy of Dall'Armellina Vineyards and a performance by the RE Jazz Combo and Band Director Jon Hamm. Head of School Penny Townsend and Trustee **Jeffrey Miller '79** shared details of the *REinventing Excellence* campaign and thanked Bonnie Seipp, REPA President, and **Konky Arellano '90**, Alumni Board President. Special thanks were also given to Board Chair **Rudy Prio Touzet '76**, and event co-chairs **Tania Dominguez '87**, Allison Holly, Vicky Hucks and **Roland Samimy '86**. More than 150 toys and gift cards were collected and distributed to families and children of Centro Mater as part of the REACH Too (Ransom Everglades Alumni Can Help Too) effort.



At left: Prosecco sponsors Adriana Dall'Armellina and husband Francisco Gonzalez of Dall'Armellina Vineyards.

Above: John and Bonnie Seipp and **Rebecca Millares Macia '95**



Eliot Gelber '84, **Pearce Klevan '97**, **Kevin Grossfeld '95**, **Peter Diamond '92**, **Todd Mestepey '91**, **Carlos Dominguez '90** and Alumni Board President **Konky Arellano '90**.



Ransom School

1953

Townsend “Towny” Ludington, son of **C.T. Ludington ’15**, gathered with Head of School Penny Townsend; **Henry “Harry” H. Anderson, Jr. ’38**; and **Nick Bell ’82** – grandson of C.T. Ludington and nephew of former RE headmaster David Pierre “Pete” Cameron – at the Griswold Inn in Essex, Ct., in August 2017. The four shared stories about RE over lunch. Towny settled on his family’s farm in Old Lyme, Ct., after a distinguished career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he taught English and American studies from 1966 to 2004. His name will be forever remembered at UNC because of the Townsend Ludington Distinguished Professorship in American Studies, which was endowed in his honor in 1999. Towny, a Yale graduate who earned his doctorate from Duke, helped found the American studies program at UNC and was instrumental in the creation of the school’s African-American studies and the Native American studies programs. He is also the author or editor of 11 books about American literature, art and culture.

1962

Ward Arrington see In Loving Memory, page 63.

Jim Beverley writes, “I have lived in High Pines just South of Gables/Sunset Drive for the last 45 years. I am retired since 2008 from 40 years teaching and coaching full time (Ransom, RE, Palmer, Miami Dade College, Palmetto) but since retirement have been a volunteer soccer coach at RE and alumni soccer

participant. I am also active in alumni activities both as an ex-student from ‘back in the day’ and as a former teacher/coach (1970-78). My major activity these days besides RE is grandfather, ‘PopPop,’ to three young girls (ages 7, 5, 4) – two here in Miami who I see daily before and after school, and one in NYC who I see on most holidays and summers. I would encourage any of the old school alums to get involved in Ransom Everglades and RE functions, ‘carpe, carpe diem.’ Enjoy yourself while you’re still in the pink; it’s later than you think, for all of us.”

1968

Ralph Kazer, offers this amusing tidbit as part of his 50-year reflections: “I can remember propping chalkboard erasers on our classroom door so that they would fall on Mr. Geesey’s head when he would walk into our English class.” Those mischievous Ransom boys!

Mike Maisel, along with his mother Laura and wife Karen, honored the memory of **Stanley D. Maisel ’72** by creating the Stanley D. Maisel Endowed Scholarship at Ransom Everglades School. This very special scholarship will annually be awarded to deserving students who could not otherwise attend Ransom Everglades. See page 69 for more on this endowment.

1970

A 2005 portrait of Madeleine K. Albright by **Timothy Greenfield-Sanders** was added to the collection of the National Portrait Gallery on Nov. 19, 2017, during the second American Portrait Gala. Albright received the Portrait of a Nation Prize, given for her exemplary achievements and significant contributions to American history and culture. Robert



Redford introduced Albright at the gala and posed for photos with Albright and Greenfield-Sanders.

1972

W. Tucker Gibbs, see **Marcelo Fernandes ’84**.

Stanley D. Maisel, see page 69 for the article on a scholarship established in his memory.



Carlos Touzet and his partner and wife Jacqueline Gonzalez of Touzet Studio, received the Silver Award for Design Excellence from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Miami. This was the first time in the history of the organization that this award was presented to two partners for equal recognition of their work. The Silver Award is the highest honor the AIA Miami bestows for service or design excellence to elevate public consciousness of good design, and to recognize those architects whose work enriches our built environment. The Design Awards Gala took place on October 28, 2017, at the Olympia Theatre. In 2015 they achieved another first; both partners were presented the Architects of the Year by AIA Miami.

1973

Dan Ellison writes, “I have become more and more involved in projects creating arts access for people with disabilities. I started the DADA project (Durham Audio Described Art), which provides pre-recorded audio description of public art. The descriptions are hosted on a phone call-up number, but soon to be adding a smartphone app. I’ve been teaching ‘Legal Issues for the Performing Arts’ and related arts policy courses, for the past 10 years, to undergrads at Duke.”

Everglades School for Girls 1961

Katherine Swenson Kahan writes, “I will always be grateful for the video of RE’s inspirational recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Irma. The sights and sounds, the strong and beautiful spirit of the Ransom Everglades community, and especially the words of Penny Townsend will be in my heart forever (video can be found at www.ransomeverglades.org/page/about/videos). Hope and trust that you have all had a wonderful holiday season. Richard and I have just returned from two very happy weeks with our family in Hawaii. I am happy to be in touch with **Jourdan Moore Houston, Darrow (Dutch) Dutcher Hodges, Andrea Lynch Cole** and **Carol (Kiki) Shafton Rock.**”

1962

Lou Pfaelzer, see **Jourdan Moore Houston ’62**

Jourdan Moore Houston and Fraser stopped by to see **Matilee Howard Johnson ’61** and her husband Emerson last July, soon after spending the Fourth with **Bebe Ferrell McClain ’62**, Bill and two of their grandsons at their lake house south of Asheville, N.C. Mat and Emerson moved to Matilee’s hometown of Aiken, S.C., from Pawleys Island last year. (The Houstons even saw Mat’s elementary school, where she had once reigned as a little May Queen.) Jourdan and Fraser



Photo (L-R): Emerson and Matilee Howard, Fraser Houston, Jourdan Moore Houston.



were en route to a family reunion at the Outer Banks, N.C., to see their two daughters and their families, who traveled from Shanghai and New Hampshire. The Houstons later enjoyed their annual gathering with Mike and **Lou Pfaelzer ’62** in New England, having spent a week in late 2016 with them riding their bikes for a week along the Great Allegheny Pass from Pittsburgh to Cumberland, Md. Photo above: Jourdan and Lou traveling with their group along the Great Allegheny Pass.

Bebe Ferrell McClain writes, “Last year Bill and I celebrated our 50th anniversary. We have three children and four grandchildren and split our time between Asheville and Hilton Head, N.C.. We had great visit from **Jourdan Moore Houston ’62** and husband Fraise last summer.”



Linda Morris McKillop’s husband, Roy, passed away last year in their new home town of Greenville, S.C., where they had moved to be close to one of their sons. Roy won many admirers among early-1960s Everglades alums gathering at their 2010 reunion at the home of **Lou Blair Pfaelzer ’62** in Stowe, Vt., after he successfully took on a demurring rental car agent — one who was giving **Susie Russell ’61** less than satisfying assistance after a deer collided with her vehicle. Linda is busy finishing a children’s book, attending a writers’ group, and creating sophisticated doll clothes for her granddaughters.



1963

Darrow Dutcher Hodges visited campus with her longtime childhood friend Lori Ryder last fall to see the campus in action. As part of her visit, Darrow entrenched herself in the RE community and even found herself on the water with RE sailing students during their PE class. Darrow recently created an endowment with brothers Arthur and David in memory of their deceased sibling, **Douglas Vogt Dutcher ’80**; the endowment is known as *The Douglas Vogt Dutcher ’80 Fund for Equity and Justice Initiatives*. Income from the fund will help to support equity and justice initiatives at Ransom Everglades, which include programs to raise awareness, develop cultural competency and celebrate diversity in all of its forms. In its first year of existence, the fund was used to support the presentation of the play “Incognito” during RE’s annual exchange program with Booker T. Washington High School.



Darrow visited **Matilee Howard Johnson ’61** in Aiken, S.C., after her trip to Florida. Matilee was the revered physical education department head in the ’60s and queen of field hockey when there was an RE property on the bay across from the middle school. (Heaven!) She has spent her entire career in education and is married to Emerson Johnson, former headmaster of several private schools and former President of the National Association of Independent Schools.

Class Notes

1969

Lili Krech Neale shares the passing of her beloved mother Cherry Krech. "Cherry G. Krech, 92, passed away on December 7, 2017. She was the mother of Lili Krech Neale, **Carol Darling Krech '74**, **Cherry Krech Fulcher '76** and the grandmother of **Giles Grady Neale '98**. Cherry G. Krech was the widow of M. Chapin 'Hafey' Krech, who predeceased her in 2008 and was the assistant headmaster and mathematics teacher at Ransom School from 1958-63 and the assistant principal and mathematics teacher at Everglades School for Girls from 1965-69." Our condolences to the Krech Family.

Shelly Lavigne Rifkin, see In Loving Memory, page 63.

1970

Gail Beckham writes about her continuing education: "I am winding down from a busy holiday season with GB Catering and, believe it or not, I am back in school. I am finishing a baking class and taking international cuisine classes this next semester."

Darryl Larson writes, "A busy time of the year in my world, and in my neighborhood, as the Scottsdale All Arabian Horse Show happens for 10 days in about a month. I keep very busy with shoots, projects, and house quests especially since we have been very lucky with our weather. I too look forward to the reunion and hope to see a few of you before then ... somewhere ... somehow! Blessings to all... ONWARD!"

Cree McDougal Scudder is busy looking for art space in her new home in Orchid Island, Fla. She moved to Florida last spring after living many years in La Jolla, Calif., where she raised her children. She recently welcomed her third grandchild Reggie, who lives in Los Angeles.

The Rev. **Deborah L. Wright** of Sausalito, Calif., is celebrating the 40th anniversary of her ordination as a Presbyterian minister. Deborah was the first clergywoman to serve in San

Francisco, and now enjoys working with millennial clergy as they work to refine what religion in America is like in a post-Christendom era. She was thrilled by a visit from classmate **Dorothea Matheson '70** this past year when she discovered Dorothy's stepson lived a mere block away! Deborah loves following so many Everglades classmates on Facebook, and can't wait to see them at their 50th reunion when it comes around!

Dorothea Matheson, see **Deborah L. Wright '70**

1972

Leslie Wakefield Buchanan writes, "Joe and I spent an early Christmas in NYC in December with our kids, **Tom Buchanan '03** and Sarah Buchanan, who live there. Tom is in Columbia University's executive MBA program while working full time for Fareportal. Sarah is a Senior Vice President at Pimco. **Katie Buchanan Reynolds '01** and Britt Reynolds were there too! Katie has been active in fundraising as a Development Director in a private school and Britt is a Portfolio Manager with Premise Capital. Photo (L-R): Leslie Buchanan, Britt Reynolds, Katie Buchanan Reynolds, Joe Buchanan. See pg. 62 for news about the full funding of the Ann Goesel Mathematics Department Head Chair Endowment Fund.



1974

Carol Darling Krech, see **Lili Krech Neale '69**

Ransom Everglades School

1975

Debbie Massey Cavanaugh led her masters water polo team – the Fighting Flamingos – to four straight national championships and one world title (2013) in the 55-59 age division. The Fort Lauderdale resident and former University of Miami swimmer was honored by USA Water Polo as its Female Masters Athlete of the Year and, most recently, was featured in a story in ESPNW.com. The story noted that Debbie frequently trains and competes with the South Florida Water Polo Club – a girls' group of 14- to 18-year-olds. "I think I'm smarter [game-wise] than a lot of the girls and boys, but they've got those quicker reactions," she told ESPNW.com. "But it's a fun time. They respect me. ... I think they're impressed somebody my age can still play the sport."

1976

Cherry Krech Fulcher, see **Lili Krech Neale '69**

James Franklin writes, "Last June I retired after a 35-year career at the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the last 18 years of which were spent at the National Hurricane Center in Miami where I was the chief of hurricane forecast operations. During my career, I had the excitement of flying nearly 100 times into the eyes of hurricanes, including Andrew when it was



just east of Miami, and Mitch when it was a Category 5 hurricane in the Caribbean. After that, I was a hurricane forecaster at NHC for 10 years before leading the forecasting unit there. I feel very grateful for having had the opportunity to contribute to our understanding of these dangerous storms and helping to keep people safe from them. My wife, **Sandra Harris Franklin '78**, and I have a daughter who is in her senior year of art school at Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota. Since retirement I've been working on a variety of personal projects, including genealogy, trying to improve my bowling average, and avoiding (rather than encountering) oncoming hurricanes such as Irma. I attach a photo taken at my retirement luncheon at NHC last June."



Michael Fryd attended the Golden Globes in LA. Michael's web site software is used by the Golden Globes, Miss Universe, Miss USA and the Academy Awards (Oscars) to manage the distribution of the photos from their in-house photographers. Michael has been working with the Miss Universe Organization since 1982. He wrote the software that drives the custom-built voting system that determines the winner of the televised Miss Universe, Miss USA, and Miss Teen USA Pageants. At this point, he has worked more than half of the Miss Universe,

Miss USA and Miss Teen USA Pageants. As Michael recently lamented on the red carpet, "It's a tough job, but someone has to do it!" When not on the road, you can usually find Michael at his South Beach photography studio. In addition to working as an in-house photographer for the above organizations, he shoots for many local and national companies. Michael credits his time at Ransom Everglades with his success. It was at RE that he had his first exposure to programming and honed his photography skills for the yearbook. Michael believes that without his RE education, his career arc would have been very different. It would not have started with teaching computer science at Carnegie-Mellon University, and would not have taken him all over the globe to support his clients. Michael's wife, **Alison Lehr Fryd '75**, and son, **David Fryd '19**, like to accompany him when scheduling allows.

1977

Leslie Miller Saiontz was the presenting sponsor of the United Way Women's Breakfast on January 11, 2018, that featured Andrea Jung, president and CEO of Grameen America, which has invested over half a billion dollars in low-income women entrepreneurs across the country. Family members in attendance included **Amanda Saiontz Gluck '03**, **Melissa Saiontz Luse '06**, **Rachel Saiontz '09** and niece **Lauren Miller '03**. Leslie, who is the long-time board chair for Teach for America, also is the proud founder of Achieve Miami (<http://www.achievemiami.org/>). Below she is pictured with her daughters.



Lisa Shaw writes, "Living in Barcelona with three kids ages 17, 13 and 13. Enjoying our local travel opportunities plus front row seats to the Catalan revolution. Love to hear from RE alums living or traveling in Europe."

1979

Dave Villano, RE soccer coach, continues one of the longstanding alumni traditions at RE by organizing the annual alumni soccer game over break. More than 20 individuals gathered to play on campus on Nov. 25, 2017.



1980

Douglas Vogt Dutcher, see **Darrow Dutcher Hodges '63**

Paul Zuccarini writes, "I have returned to my hometown of Key Biscayne, Fla., where I live with my longtime girlfriend, Vania Campos, and our children, Parker Zuccarini, Eduardito Castillo and Mauro Castillo. It was, and continues to be, a wonderful place to raise young



children. Two local boards have been gracious enough to have me serve the community. The Friends of Cape Florida State Park, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) corporation and was established in 2000 to provide support to the park and to help conserve and enhance the wildlife and other resources of the Bill Baggs Cape Florida State Park. The Youth Athletics Advisory

Class Notes

Board, provides insight and recommendations to the Village of Key Biscayne that will foster the development and maintenance of quality athletic programs offered to the youth of Key Biscayne. We also provide fun fitness training for children ages 7-12. Please give a shout out to Doc [Crabtree], and may he continue to coach cross country at RE 'forever.' Paul was recently featured in Key Biscayne's *Islander News* for his attempt to bring a track and field program to children on Key Biscayne. Zuccarini, a national champion sprint triathlete and former high school decathlete, began offering an afterschool program to children at the Key Biscayne K-8 Center on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays in January. Zuccarini told the newspaper he would focus on eight of the 10 decathlon events: the 100-, 400- and 1,500-meter runs; the hurdles, long jump, high jump, shotput and discus. "Every child is not going to be the fastest," he said. "It's going to give them an opportunity to do something new and learn a skill that improves their coordination."

1981

Andrew Ansin writes, "The Ansin family is grateful for our heath and time together. We had a great winter break in Vegas, not losing too much \$\$ and enjoying wonderful shows. Top wishes for 2018 are for success for Ransom Everglades as it incorporates the La Brisa property into the Upper School, commencement of STEM Center construction and a smooth transition for me to chair of the RE Board of Trustees."



Tamara Marks Leppo writes, "Just sent my twin boys off to college this fall – and they are adjusting very well. My husband Michael and I will celebrate our 24th wedding anniversary this year, which is hard to believe. Things are good. I currently work for SkyBitz, which brings IoT technology to an industry that previously has not taken advantage of technology to improve its service and manage its risk. I am focusing on the trucking industry which I LOVE and am responsible for the Southeast of the U.S. I will be re-locating as soon as we can sell the house in N.J. – and most likely move to the Jacksonville area. I am REALLY looking forward to getting closer to RE classmates and alums in the area. It has been a long, long time. Would love to hear from any former classmates or schoolmates from RE!"

1983



Carles (Bill) Bailey writes, "I have embarked on an encore career, finally putting to use a master's degree in journalism earned 20 years ago. After almost 30 years in commercial real estate, I now work for Hanley-Wood, a marketing and data analytics company serving the homebuilding industry. I am a consultant in the Metrostudy subsidiary responsible for market studies and news articles. My wife and I are soon to be empty-nesters. Our oldest son graduated from Palmer (closer to home) entered the Honors College at UCF and is majoring in computer science. Our second son will graduate this year, and we've yet to learn where he will go to college, though he's eyeing the northeast. We enjoy seeing old friends, making new ones, and dabbling in politics."

1984

Marcelo Fernandes won a seat on the Coconut Grove Village Council in November 2017 and was appointed chair of the council by his peers. Marcelo has been working with **W. Tucker Gibbs '72**, previously his teacher at RE's Middle School, who is now a prominent zoning attorney and longtime Grove resident. As a developer, Marcelo built many projects in the area and stated his commitment to controlled and sustainable development in Coconut Grove. Marcelo, the owner and founder of Grove Properties, wanted the opportunity to give back to his hometown through public service. "As a member of the Coconut Grove Village Council, I want to continue to support all of the Grove 2030's initiatives," he said. "Let's bring affordability to housing in the Grove in terms of both homeownership and rentals, while encouraging and nurturing business growth in order to support residents and local businesses." In addition to housing and business growth, Marcelo is an advocate for changes to the NCD (Neighborhood Conservation District) regulations and sustainable new developments. Marcelo will also encourage youth programs by using more resources available in the Grove by creating partnerships with local schools, organizations, businesses, and clubs. Fernandes created the GP Cares program at Grove Properties, which donates a minimum of \$300 to local charities at each closing. Marcelo also co-founded ARC+, non-profit architectural resource collaborative with the FIU School of Architecture to educate and encourage students on sustainable building concepts. "As a Grove resident, business owner, and graduate of Ransom Everglades, I live, work, and play in our distinguished village. We need to focus on environmental sustainability, attainable housing, and reasonable new developments," he said.



1985

Peter Gardner '85, Dustin Nason '86 and **Sheri Levine '86** shared RE alumni pride in Nantucket, Mass., last summer.

Laura Goldberg writes, "I started the year off with a big life change! Maybe it was turning 5-0. After more than 15 years with the personal concierge service that I founded, I am making a big career change. Just after the New Year began, I joined the Ben Moss Group at Compass Real Estate. I know that all the skills that made the concierge service a success will translate to serving buyers and sellers with their residential real estate needs. That is my big news. Otherwise, my son, Gideon, and I have been living in Coconut Grove for more than 10 years and he is a happy fourth grader at Alexander Montessori."



Melissa O'Neill, see **Michiel van de Kreeke '88**

1986

Pam Pennell Kelly writes, "We are enjoying living in Gainesville, Fla., still – Evie is 16, driving and still loving gymnastics. She also had a good season diving and made it to regionals. Addis is 14 and playing soccer and kicking for the football team at Oak Hall School. Ed is happy at his job at University of Florida Investment Corp. and I am staying busy with my KellyArt web design business and promoting the Rodan + Fields skincare brand that I love so much!"



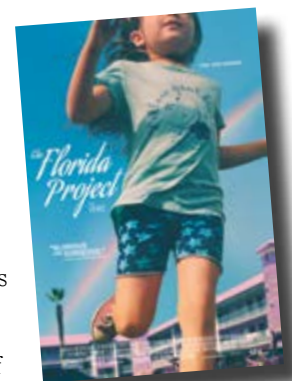
Robin Van de Kreeke and his brother **Michiel (Monkey) van de Kreeke '88** participated in the longboard competition in the annual Surfing Santa fundraiser for autism in Dana Point, Calif., Nov. 19, 2017. The Ritz-Carlton Laguna Niguel hosted the fundraiser to benefit Surfers Healing, a non-profit that helps get kids on the autistic spectrum into the water to surf. Surfers Healing is celebrating 20 years. Since it started, hundreds of thousands of kids with autism have surfed with the nonprofit, all free of charge. Through the years, the event and an accompanying surfboard auction have raised nearly \$300,000 for the charity. The two-day event, now in its seventh year, brought both surfers and stand-up paddlers to Salt Creek; it was the first year the event expanded to include a SUP category. Robin Van de Kreeke flew in from Sydney,

Australia, for the event, meeting his brother Michiel, who flew in from Miami. The duo own the brand The Rashie Company, which made Santa-inspired contest jerseys. Michiel, known as "Monkey," joked that his electronic hat that plays music and has blinking lights buzzed when he hit the salt water. The brothers said the trip was worth it because of the joy their product helped bring to the beach.

1987

Francesca Candib Silvestri debuted "The Florida Project" in Miami on Oct. 5, 2017, at the Tower Theater on SW 8th Street. Francesca co-produced the movie with her husband Kevin Chinoy. Guests were invited to a reception at the Cubaocho Museum immediately following. In attendance were fellow alumni including **David Frankel '88, Jodie Weitzer Rozencaig '87, Todd Poses '87, Lori Burnstine '87, Vanessa Greene Steinberg '87, Nicole Sayfie Porcelli '89** and **Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88**.

Critics have given this film starring Willem Dafoe and Brooklynn Prince rave reviews. *RogerEbert.com* noted the following: "It's hard to describe 'The Florida Project' in a way that conveys its greatness without making it sound maudlin and sentimental. It is one of those films that defies its plot description through its execution. It is a film of small notes that combine to form something major, the kind of movie that sneaks up on you and sticks with you ... This is a remarkable film, one of the best of the year."



Class Notes



1987

Bubba Drody, his wife, Lani Kahn Drody, and their two sons, Will and Sam, traveled to Jackson Hole, Wyo., to see the solar eclipse as part of a Kahn family reunion.

Adam Gelber has been coaching Little League baseball for three years on Miami Beach. His son, Conrad Gelber, projected for the RE Class of 2026, plays on the team. This past season they won the championship game of the Rookies Division and went 16-0 for the season.

Elena Ramirez and her husband Matt live in Shelburne, Vt., with their two daughters Emma and Ellie. Elena continues her psychology practice in Burlington. Emma is a senior applying to college and Ellie is a freshman. All are avid skiers. Photographed are Emma and Ellie (L-R) at Sugarbush.



After sending her eldest (**Harrison Tandy '17**) off to the University of Pennsylvania, **Heidi Howard Tandy** has expanded her trademark and social media law practice in Miami. She will be hosting sessions for trademark users and attorneys at Baltimore's Universal FanCon in April, INTA in Seattle in May and, she hopes, San Diego Comic Con in July.



Michiel van de Kreeke hosted an informal alumni gathering while on business in October 2017 in Seattle at the Nest at the Thompson Hotel. In attendance were **Caroline Blake '00**, who works for Amazon, and **Melissa O'Neill-Albert '85**. Reporting as a proud father, Monkey could not be happier chasing his 10-year-old son Sebastian Johan around the bay and helping coach the Coral Reef Yacht Club Sailing Team. Also see **Robin Van de Kreeke '86**.



1989

Rosalie Berg noted that "It was awesome seeing friends at the annual holiday party." She is second from the left with Marc Weaver, **Dustin Nason '86**, **Russell King '89** and **Sharon Jo Nachman '89**.



Vinnie Falco writes "My library, Beast, was accepted into Boost (<https://github.com/boostorg/beast>); my CppCon 2017 presentation on C++ class design

is available on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WsUnnYEKPNl>). I resigned from Ripple in 2017 and have launched a new non-profit called The C++ Alliance (<https://github.com/CPAlliance/cppalliance.github.io>). I plan to soon launch a new non-profit called The Bitcoin Alliance (<https://github.com/BTCAlliance/btcalliance.github.io>). I am currently residing in Marina del Rey, Calif.

1994

Ashley Moses Lindenauer will be honored on April 28, 2018, for her works with the Children's Bereavement Center at the 2018 Rockin' on the Green event in Miami.

1996

Nina Ashkenazi, see **Jessica Lewin Zmood**.



Indi Avila writes, “Evelyn LaRusse was the guest judge at The Mandelstam School’s Annual Spanish Poetry Recitation Contest. I was thrilled and honored to introduce my former teacher to my current students and to have her help me select the finalists!”

Ricky Stern, see **Jossie Stern-Liddell ’04**.

Albert “B.J.” Stieglitz writes, “My family, wife Amanda and daughters Caroline, 6, and Elizabeth (“Ellie”), 4, and I have relocated to London, following my selection last year to be the U.S. Department of Justice’s representative to the United Kingdom’s Financial Conduct Authority and Serious Fraud Office. Following this two-year assignment, we expect to move back home to Arlington, Virginia.”

Jessica (Lewin) Zmood writes, “**Nina Ashkenazi ’96** and I completed the New York City Marathon this November. It was my first marathon and Nina’s third. I live in New York with my husband and three children and Nina lives in New Jersey with her husband and two daughters.”



1997



Celeste Den landed the role of Comrade Chin in David Henry Hwang’s “M. Butterfly” revival, which played last winter at the Cort Theatre in New York City. She also was

selected as a recipient of the Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship, in the category of Exceptional Merit for early to mid-career performing artists. Celeste can be seen next in the upcoming feature film *Sister*, written and directed by Sia. Celeste previously appeared in the television series *Homeland*, *Shameless* and *Scandal*.

She earned her BA in at the University of Florida and MFA in acting at the California Institute of Fine Arts. See a story on Celeste here: <http://www.broadwayworld.com/article/BWW-Interview-Celeste-Den-Conducts-Dangerous-Liaisons-in-M-BUTTERFLY-20171113>



Michael Vassilaros recently joined Key International, a local real estate investor and developer.

1998

Marisa Fort and **Cody Courbier** are the proud parents of Malu Rose Courbier, born on October 18, 2017, in Miami.



Cooper Jones, Vice President of Trade Traffic LLC, moved back to Miami after four-and-a-half years in Broward County. He and his wife, Karen, are the proud parents

of two girls, Olivia Susan Jones, who will be 4 in June, and Ava Carolina Jones, who will be 2 in April.

Class Notes



Charles Rua continues to grow his South Florida real estate brokerage, Rua Realty. In this 12th year of business, Rua Realty has been certified by the State of Florida as a minority-owned business and counts numerous RE alumni as clientele (thank you for your support!). In addition to serving his clients, Charlie is committed to his community. He continues to serve on the City of Coral Gables Parks and Recreation Board as well as the technology board (SEED) at Sunset Elementary. Most recently, he is excited to be a part of the Class of 1998 Ransom Everglades Reunion Committee. Charlie resides in Coral Gables with his wife, Cristina, and children, Amaia, 8, and Nicolas, 5. The photo shows Charlie Rua sharing real estate insights on Univision.

Davina Aryeh '99 wrote to us last fall about her experience in Mexico City during and after the earthquake. We decided to share her moving and inspiring message almost in its entirety. "Apologies in advance for the long post. Many of you have reached out to ask how things have been in Mexico since the earthquake, so I wanted to share our experience with you. Where do I begin? So much to tell you and so many emotions.... It's a strange feeling in the city. A bit like NYC after 9/11. There's a sadness and a stillness, but at the same time an enormous spirit of compassion and togetherness. I feel like my heart is here and this is my home now. These are my neighbors and my kids' friends and their parents. This is our community. I really just still cannot get the thought out of my head that a school full of kids collapsed ... That I was so blessed and lucky to be able to be with my kids just seconds after the quake and hold them both in

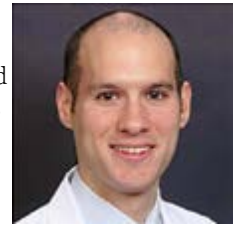


1999

Davina Aryeh, the Chief Marketing Officer of The Latin Academy of Recording Arts, was honored with the Rising Star award by the National Association for Female Executives (NAFE) during the 2017 Women of Excellence Award ceremony in November 2017. Aryeh was recognized for her outstanding business accomplishments and leadership since joining The Latin Recording Academy in 2011. She has negotiated agreements with top global brands ranging from MasterCard to L'Oréal. Before joining the Latin Recording Academy, Aryeh worked on Latin American strategy at the National Basketball Association. Aryeh has been a guest speaker at SXSW, Miami Marketers and the Colombian Chamber of Commerce in Bogotá. See also Davina Aryeh's reflection below.



Patrick Hourani writes, "It's my third year back in Miami, and in that time my wife Erin and I have had two kids, Owen and Kirin. I am now the department chair of internal medicine and an interventional cardiologist at Mercy Hospital. It has been great to REconnect with many of the other alumni!"



Rebeca Raney, her husband Ithai and their daughter Ray visited with faculty member Astrid Dalins on the RE campus last fall. Rebeca is an artist and lives with her family in Brooklyn, N.Y.



my arms safe and sound. That even my inconveniences were banal compared to what others were living ... People continue to dig through the rubble and some people are still supposedly alive. The number of volunteers is amazing and humbling. Everyone is doing their part. Mexicans and foreigners alike. People from all over the world flew here to help the rescue efforts. It's amazing to me how people dedicate their lives to help others. Makes me feel so humbled by their generosity. They leave their kids and families to come risk their lives for complete strangers. It's so incredible and hard to fathom. There are truly special people in this world... men and women of service (firefighters, rescue workers, nurses, doctors, etc.). We owe them all so much gratitude. Last night someone sent me a video of a guy (a famous Mexican comedian) who was at a shelter talking about the displaced kids

continued, page 55

2000

Caroline Blake see **Michiel van de Kreeke '88**

Dina Dubson Kelley is a Miami-based attorney with almost a decade of experience in renewable energy law and policy issues. She has been working to facilitate the development and integration of renewable energy and energy storage technologies, and to advance transmission policies that would enable further deployment of renewable energy and energy storage projects. Most recently, Dina has been working in the regulatory and legislative policy arenas, but she also has experience with transactional issues related to energy project development. She was formerly the chief counsel for Renewable Northwest in Portland, Ore.

Renee Sterling writes, “I married my long term partner, Neville Daniel, on Nov. 4, 2017. Our wedding was at Miller Estate in South Miami. **Dwanita Fields '00** was my maid of honor. **Christine James '99** was also a guest at the wedding. We both pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., at the University of Florida. London, England, continues to be my home.” (photo at right)

and how they have nothing, and encouraging people to gather toys for them. It really hit home for me. One thing led to another and I created a WhatsApp group of friends and Aguamarina moms (Lucas' pre-school) who all wanted to help. We all decided to bring toys and activities for the kids (coloring books, puzzles, etc.) and meet at the school to organize everything and pack it up and take it to a shelter with kids. It started as 10 of us and before I knew it there were almost 50 people asking to come by, dropping off bags of toys and stuffed animals and posting it in Facebook and other group chats. Complete strangers came and donated and offered to help. Both moms and dads stayed home from work to help. We all took our kids with us to help ... Eventually we had so many donations we couldn't fit them in our cars. We had to ask for help with transportation and find trucks to take the boxes. We then began our adventure to



Pablo Tamayo writes, “I am very pleased to announce that I have launched a new law firm, Geller Tamayo, LLC, providing services focused on personal injury and criminal defense with two offices in South Florida, located in Brickell and downtown Hollywood. I also serve as an RE alumni board member.”



2001

Matthew Beatty was featured in the “Under 40” section of Legacy Magazine in August 2017. Here's an excerpt: “Matthew is the director of communications at The Miami Foundation. He leads the foundation's public engagement strategies and grows relationships that increase its brand presence throughout the community. A native Miamian, Matthew attended The Cushman School, where he now serves on the board of trustees, and Ransom Everglades School, and earned his BS in management and MBA in marketing at Florida A&M University. His public relations career includes managing communications for Baptist Health South Florida, the National Environmental Education Foundation and numerous other organizations across the U.S. He also serves on the board of Leadership Florida Connect, the premier statewide resource for educating, engaging and inspiring Florida's top emerging leaders.”

Katie Buchanan Reynolds, see **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan '72**.

find shelters that had kids and that would be willing to take toys (some shelters are only focused on the essentials and vital needs, which is understandable). We tried calling the shelters to find out but none of them even have phone numbers and the ones that did were obviously not picking up. We began our trek through the city to the heart of where the most destruction occurred in an area called Roma/Condesa. The streets were full of volunteers, centers receiving donations, and everyone was wearing surgical masks in order not to breathe in the pollution in the air from all the fallen buildings. The smell was of concrete and dry wall. Regular people with hard hats and shovels volunteering almost on every block. Incredibly well coordinated donation centers with hundreds of people lined up to receive and sort... We arrived to a center in Benito Juárez, which was a sports facility turned into a shelter.

continued, page 56

Class Notes



Dr. Josefina Farra Talone and Aaron Talone are the proud parents of Josefina Raffaella Talone, born Sept. 25, 2017. She is already taking after her mom, playing doctor at only 15 weeks old.

Marcella McCarthy writes, “I have something really exciting to share. Many of you know that for the last year I’ve been working on an idea I’m really passionate about: it’s a web platform that lets you find and book all sorts of local learning opportunities. And all of them are in real life. That’s right, not online. Anything from cooking to photography to floral arrangement to tech classes, you’ll be able to find and book them all on SKILLIED. So here’s the exciting part: right now you can already upload your classes and workshops on our Beta right over here: <https://skillied.com/>. If you teach, upload your classes. If you have friends that teach, please share this with them. I’m so excited to see all the fascinating local learning opportunities Miami has to offer!”

2002

Christian Fong has remained close friends with **Sergio Sotolongo**, **Ari Mark**, **Carlos Leon**, **Marcel Laniado**, and **Nick Cachaldora**. Pictured here

are the alums and their growing families: Christian Fong (Christian and Andres), Sergio Sotolongo (Daniel), Ari Mark (Ryan and Coby), Carlos Leon (Sofia), Marcel Laniado (Luis and Lily), Nick Cachaldora (Coco and Savannah).



Cameron Sisser has been promoted to Vice President for External Relations at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind. Cameron, who joined the Miami Lighthouse in 2010, represents the Miami Lighthouse at the local, state and national levels. His goals are to pass legislation and help foster a political environment that will aid Miami Lighthouse’s mission. He is also interested in developing a comprehensive fundraising, marketing, communications and public relations program that will enhance Miami Lighthouse’s image, brand and position within the South Florida philanthropic community. Cameron holds a bachelor’s degree from The George Washington University, a Master in Public Administration from Florida International University and a Certificate in Fund Raising Management from The Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. **Agustin “Konky”**

Arellano ’90, president of the Ransom Everglades Alumni Association board, served as the Miami Lighthouse board chair from 2012-14, and **Jan Salvesson Morrison’69** currently serves on the Lighthouse board.

They gladly welcomed everything and confirmed that they had plenty of children who would love the toys! An assembly line of volunteers lined up to help take all the bags and boxes into the building. I was able to make my way to the end of the line to the final point where the boxes were received and where the families were living. It was so moving to see them there... to imagine what they were living and all they had just lost. It brought me to tears, but also made me so happy to know that hopefully the boxes of toys might alleviate

a tiny bit of the sadness those kids were feeling. seeing the shelter and actually having been able to drop them there ourselves was so emotional for all of us. I feel so blessed to have been able to be part of the relief efforts, even if just in a tiny way. It feels important to be involved and to take part. I am so proud of my boys for their help and for having chosen the toys they wanted to give away to the ‘*niños sin casas*.’ It was so incredible to see their faces when I tried to explain why we needed to do this and what had happened to these

kids. I’m not sure they totally understood, but their hearts were in the right place and they too felt special for being part of something bigger and being involved. Various times they asked me “*Mami, me estoy portando bien?* Am I being nice and kind? Are you proud of me?” The heaviness feels a bit lighter when you see the relief efforts. I wish we could do more. I hope we can all continue to do more.”

Michael Kelley and his wife are the proud parents of their third son, Matthew Joseph, born on Oct. 28, 2017.

Justin Luger writes, “I’m a Senior Associate at the law firm of Weiss Serota Helfman Cole & Bierman in Coral Gables practicing commercial and government litigation. In 2017, I earned an AV Preeminent Rating with Martindale-Hubbell and ‘Rising Star’ and ‘Up and Comer’ recognitions from SuperLawyers and Florida Trend publications. I currently sit on the board of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and chair its 35-and-under committee, HYPE Miami. I’d love to connect with other local RE alumni!”



Carly Matire writes, “Hello RE alumni! In 2017, my husband John and I welcomed our third child, Asher Charles. His big sisters Molly, 4, and Skylar, 2½, adore him. We are living in West Palm Beach where I work in pharmaceutical sales. Aside from work and family, John and I are avid triathletes!”



Jackie (Berger) Savir writes, “My husband David Savir and I welcomed our third child, Sylvie Mae, on Sept. 5, 2017. Sylvie joins older sisters Tobie, 5, and Sadie, 3. We live in Surfside, Fla.”

2003

Tom Buchanan, see **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan** '72.

Lauren Defabio Flanagan gave birth to Harper Elizabeth Flanagan, on Oct. 18, 2017.



Janelle Milanes has received early acclaim for her debut novel, *The Victoria in My Head*, published by Simon and Schuster and launched in September in New York City. The young-adult novel about a shy girl with overprotective Cuban parents has received excellent reviews. She credits Thomas Dughi, her AP English teacher at RE, for inspiring her passion for writing. Milanes, who led a Barnes and Noble writing workshop, lives in New York with her husband Dan and daughter Victoria Milanes Mulhall. Baby Victoria was born Nov. 15, 2017, weighing in at 7 lbs., 10 oz. and 20½ inches.

Amanda Saiontz Gluck welcomed third child Dane Samson Gluck. Amanda currently lives in South Miami and is the founder of *FashionableHostess.com*, which was featured by Martha Stewart four times in 2017. See **Leslie Miller Saiontz** '77.

2004

Jonathan Lask is Director of Casino Campaign Operations and Analytics at Carnival Cruise Line.

Jossie Stern Liddell and her husband Andrew Liddell are the proud parents of Logan Paige Liddell born on Oct. 7, 2017. Logan’s photo was taken by photographer **Ricky Stern** '96.



Stacy Rudin, see **Daniel Lafuente** '05.

Daniel Whyte was married on Oct. 22, 2017, in Montauk, N.Y. Raiders were out in full force! Photographed are fellow 2004 Raiders **Alex Shack, Andrew Cummings, Tony Fine, Miguel Tamayo, Franco Da Costa Gomez, Alex Artiga, Alex Markel, Ray Lloret, Thomas Willis, Fernando Rodriguez-Vila.**



Class Notes

Thomas Willis writes, “This is now my 10th year working/coaching at RE and I am loving every minute of it. I am the facilities manager and director of summer programming here. When not in the office I am out coaching the Middle School football team and varsity baseball team. I hope to see many of you back on campus soon!”

2005

Ryan Elias, see **Daniel Lafuente '05**

Wifi Fernandez organized a group of 15 alumni to serve lunch at Chapman Partnership in Downtown Miami as part of the REACH Too Program. This program was a combined effort of the REACH Too Committee and the Young Alumni Committee.

Daniel Lafuente shared an excited update with us: “In March 2017, I launched a socially conscious spirits company called Simple Vodka along with a couple of friends and colleagues (including a handful of RE alums). Our first product, Simple Vodka, is an ultra-smooth, gluten-free potato vodka made in Idaho and on a mission to end hunger in America. How you ask? For every bottle we produce, not just sell, we donate the equivalent of 20 meals to hungry people in America through local and national hunger relief organizations (everyone from the likes of Feeding America and No Kid Hungry to local banks like the Miami Rescue Mission). The company itself started with a problem – one out of six people in America was food insecure, which means they don’t always know where their next meal will come from. That means more than 50 million people are going hungry every day in THIS country. But I didn’t realize or witness its magnitude until I started my first social business in Wynwood in 2012 (The LAB Miami, a co-working space and event venue started with fellow RE alum **Wifredo Fernandez '05**). We would regularly take leftover food from events to the Miami Rescue Mission (MRM), a food bank just a few blocks away. While Wynwood had been undergoing a cultural and commercial renaissance, MRM was still serving thousands of meals every day to Miami’s most needy. But what began as a simple sense of ‘the right thing to do’



Danny Lafuente '05, Ryan Elias '05, Dan Maslow and Amanda Mindlin

eventually became a regular and fulfilling habit. As I became more aware of the issue, I discovered not only how pervasive the issue was but the nonprofits working behind the scenes to support those in need With a motivating cause and exemplary nonprofit partners in hand, we began to imagine products that: 1) would bring greater awareness to the cause, 2) would contribute to the cause in a meaningful and impactful way, and 3) people would sincerely enjoy consuming regardless of its social impact ... We ultimately chose spirits because it checked many of our boxes and also because, as an industry, we felt there was the greatest opportunity to raise the ethical and sustainable bar (or as we call it, from vice to virtue). And so, Simple Vodka was born. There are a little less than 20 drinks in a standard bottle, which is why we donate 20 meals. One drink, one meal. It’s that simple. Since we launched Simple Vodka in March 2017, we’ve expanded from South Florida to New York, New Jersey, California and Texas. In May, we won a Double Gold medal for taste at the 2017 SF World Spirits Competition, the highest honor at the most prestigious tasting event. Aside from standard beneficiaries, we also helped deliver thousands of meals to those affected by the hurricanes and wildfires. For the holidays, we were picked up by a number of holiday gift guides (*USA Today*, NBC and “The Manual”), which gave us a late year push to exceed more than 100K meals donated in less than nine months. For 2018, we have our eyes set on 1 million meals. I started the company with my college roommate, Dan Maslow, but have grown the team to eight, including four other Ransom Everglades alumni: **Ryan Elias '05**, partner and chief mixologist; **Stacy Rudin '04**, PR specialist and senior brand ambassador (NYC); and **Samuel Agnoli '07** and **Alfredo Cubina '14** as brand ambassadors (NYC). In 2013, RE

honored Wifredo and me with the Head of School’s Award for Distinguished Service to the school for founding The LAB. During my thank you, as I’m sure so many have done, I recalled Paul Ransom’s letter. Specifically, his search for students in ‘Group 3’ and the impact his words had on my first socially entrepreneurial venture. Success in life is to have passion, to work hard, to commit to self-improvement, to tackle the biggest problems, and to leave the world better than you found it. Now on my fourth such venture, his words are no less of a driving force in my career and I couldn’t be more thankful.”

Christina Michelena Peterson writes, “Hi! I thought I would respond with all of my life updates. In February 2017, I married Sam Peterson, who is originally from Utah, and we are expecting our first baby in March, 2018! We recently moved to Fort Lauderdale from the Miami area, and I just started working for KFC Latin America, joining the company’s finance/new store development team. Here is a photo from our wedding.”



Michael Sullivan and Isabel Vinuesa '07 were married on May 27, 2017, in Quito, Ecuador. The couple was delighted that many fellow Ransom Everglades alumni made the trip to South America. Michael sold his restaurant OTC/Golden Fig last year and now works for the local commercial real estate firm The Koniver Stern Group, specializing in restaurant and retail leasing. Isabel works in



residential real estate and recently has partnered with longtime friend **Jaclyn Bild '07**. Michael and Isabel live on Miami Beach.

2006

Melissa Saiontz Luse, see **Leslie Miller Saiontz '77**.

Lauren Taylor writes: "I live in New York City where I am currently working with Barry Jenkins, the Oscar-winning film director of *Moonlight*) on his new film *If Beale Street Could Talk*, which he adapted from the James Baldwin novel from 1974."

2007

Sam Agnoli, see **Daniel Lafuente '05**

Jaclyn Bild, see **Michael Sullivan '05**

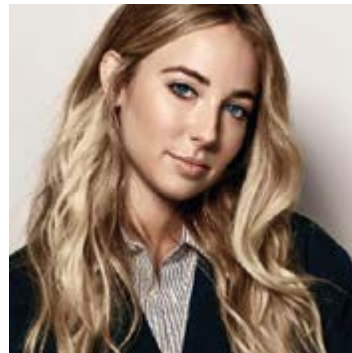
Deidra "Dee-dee" Gintel writes, "I earned my Master in Public Health from the University of South Florida in May 2015. I married my wife, Berit, in October 2015. We met during my undergraduate study at Furman where she was on foreign exchange from the Netherlands. She graduated last year with her PhD in English from the University of Florida. While she finished her PhD, I worked at the UF College of Medicine writing course material for an online graduate certificate program for students studying to become substance abuse counselors. In winter 2017, we took the big jump across the pond and now live in Amsterdam where I freelance as a personal trainer and fitness instructor, edit academic texts, and of course, learn Dutch! Berit teaches at one of the universities here in Amsterdam. While we certainly miss friends and family back in the USA, life here is great. It's nice to be able to cycle everywhere!"

Isabel Vinueza married **Michael Sullivan '05** on June 27, 2017. See **Michael Sullivan '05**

Marilyn Loddi proves that the world we are living in can be very small at times. It turns out she interviewed faculty member Jose Rodriguez's college roommate for one of her film projects. She did not know the link until much later.

2008

Beatrice Fischel-Bock, co-founder of Hutch was recognized in the 2017 Forbes' "30 under 30" on both the Big Money and Retail & Ecommerce lists. An excerpt: "After realizing the untapped potential of 3D interior design, Fischel-Bock started Hutch (then ZOOM Interiors and Homee) during her senior year at The George Washington University. The app and website – which allow users to upload photos of their rooms, virtually redecorate and purchase pieces to make the look a reality – earned her \$1 million in revenue before graduation." <https://www.forbes.com/30-under-30/2018/big-money/#2adefad37160>



Rachel Saiontz is engaged to RE Middle School sweetheart **Nick Geary**. The couple plans to marry in March 2018. See **Leslie Miller Saiontz '77**.

Mason Zemel writes, "Hello there! I haven't updated ever actually, but here it goes. After deciding on medical school, I went to American University of the Caribbean School of Medicine (AUC) in Sint Maarten. I was just able to return home after spending the past semester in Preston, UK, after the devastation of Hurricane Irma. AUC was devastated, and due to our relationship with the National

Health Service we were lucky for University of Central Lancashire in Preston to take in 500 students for now. Half will be returning to Sint Maarten next semester, while some will still be in the UK. Luckily, I was not on the island at the time, but it was quite a loss. I have what I had in my suitcases at the time, but I have great friends and family for help! I can't wait to go back soon to see what I can do to help. I just got home from England after being top 20 in my class through the basic sciences and will be starting my clinical rotations in Brooklyn or Miami in May! It is good to be home, and I'm glad to see that Irma has passed!"



2009

David Gellman writes, "I've started a new job at a government relations firm in Washington, D.C., called Federal Advocates, Inc. You can find out more here: <http://www.federaladvocates.com/government-relations/>"

Alex Hamm, a songwriter/producer in Los Angeles, has just released his first solo album titled "Common Behavior." You can listen to the tracks on Soundcloud (https://soundcloud.com/alex_hamm_official). Alex, a graduate of the University of Southern California and alumni of the SoCal VoCals, has also composed the lyrics and music for the new RE Alma Mater. Stay tuned and search for @alex.hamm.official on all social media platforms for new music and news.



Class Notes

Jeanine Mason was cast as one of the interns in Season 14 of ABC's *Grey's Anatomy* and made her debut Nov. 2. Jeanine, who starred as Merav in ABC's *Of Kings and Prophets* last year, plays Sam and was among six new interns at Grey Sloan Memorial Hospital. While a senior at Ransom Everglades, Jeanine became the youngest winner of *So You Think You Can Dance*, and she has landed many roles in movies and television since.

Francisco Triana, see In Loving Memory page 63.

2010

Tina Miller shared an exciting update with faculty member Jose Rodriguez, who passed it on to Class Notes: "My older brother, **Bobby Miller '04**, and I both took and adored your AP Art History class. Fast forward seven years and I'm now doing art in New York City, mainly writing and performing music – composed and collaborated with artist Janani Balasubramanian (aka DarkMatter poetry) for a piece commissioned by The Highline Park a few months ago, on a particle-physics based immersive reality piece. A few weeks ago, I played a tiny show, opening for friends, in a dingy bar, and after playing, a woman approached me – she was the curator for the Brooklyn Museum, and she was interested in having my project play for their gala, which was going to be a revival of *The Dinner Party*, and Judy Chicago was going to be the guest of honor speaking. That is tonight, I'm playing in five hours. I'm so deeply grateful for your class and when the curator mentioned Judy Chicago and the piece, I immediately was brought back to staring at the projector screen in the dark classroom years ago, and later bubbling in an answer on the AP exam, and the significance of her work in feminist art. It's pretty surreal for that static piece to now be brought, not only to life, but into my life, and I wanted to send you a quick note in thanks. Hope you are in good health and doing well, especially in this climate. I envy all your students and still think your class was one of the best, most thorough educations in art that I've received."



Michelle Nahmad won first place in the student filmmaker category for her short film "Shohet" in the AT&T Entertainment Project, an open competition seeking imaginative, undiscovered short films from aspiring filmmakers. She received her BFA in Communication Design and Art History at Washington University in St. Louis and her MFA in Visual Narrative at School of Visual Arts. The recognition came with a \$10,000 prize. See an interview with Nahmad here. <https://shape.att.com/>; <https://shape.att.com/entertainment-project>; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVxtsLO_LLA

2011

Victoria Sanchez writes, "I have been working for Accenture for a little over a year now. I am a senior technology consulting analyst who travels every week (Monday through



Friday) to my client. I work in Financial Services, more specifically Commercial Lending System Implementations. I studied Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Florida in a five-year program and I love the consulting life! Would love to share my experience with Ransom Everglades students or give any advice to them for their future. I live in Atlanta now, but I'm planning on moving back sometime in July 2018."

Gianfranco Scipioni, see In Loving Memory, page 63.

Matt Susskind

writes, "I just moved to LA for screenwriting, working independently and looking for jobs writing for TV. I was previously at Google in San Francisco, but decided it was time to try something new."



2012

Eddie Bustamante is a Financial Analyst at MSP Group, LLC.

Alejandro Warman, see In Loving Memory, page 64.

2013

Briana (Bri) Christophers was named a 2017 Spirit of Princeton Award winner last spring. Then a senior majoring in molecular biology, she was among eight winners selected from among more than 80 nominees. The award recognizes those who have demonstrated a strong commitment to the undergraduate experience through dedicated efforts in student organizations, athletics, community service, religious life, residential life and the arts. Briana was a peer academic adviser and health professions adviser at Whitman College. As an undergraduate researcher, she was named "25 Under 25 in STEM" by the Princeton journal of science and technology "Innovation" for her work on zebrafish heart development. She was also the first undergraduate member of the Princeton chapter of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science. She is a head fellow for the Scholars Institute Fellows Program, was a 2016 Freshman Scholars Institute molecular biology course fellow, and co-founded Project Welcome Mat: A Guide for First-Gen Princeton Students. She served as an undergraduate representative on the University Priorities Committee and the Healthier Princeton Advisory Board. She is a member and former co-president and advocacy chair of Princeton Latinos y Amigos, member of the Latinx Collective, the Princeton University American Sign Language Club and the Princeton University Mentorship Program.



Elizabeth Glass writes, "I am finishing my first year of my MFA program at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. In my first year, I have made four short films, and next year I will start on my thesis film! Above is a photo of me on the set of the first film I produced."

Max Grad is a financial analyst with Kraft Heinz in downtown Chicago. He graduated last spring from University of Chicago.

Isabella Morcos writes, "I graduated Bucknell University this past May and am now living in NYC working at Sony Pictures for the publicity team."

2014

Carolina Pereira Ribeiro was designated a John Harvard Scholar, an honor assigned to the top five percent of students in her class at Harvard. She will graduate in May 2018 with a major in sociology and minor in economics.

Lisette Tellez helped the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Engineers to a conference championship and National Collegiate Athletic Association Division III tournament bid in volleyball while also garnering second-team all-conference honors in the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC). The Engineers (30-2) advanced to the NCAA tournament for the fourth straight season, and made it to the third round before falling to the undefeated Johnson & Wales Wildcats in a tight match.

2015

Cole McWilliams writes, "**Kelly Moran '15, Raquel Szomstein '15, Chloe Dulin '15** and I met up in Londonderry, Ireland. We all had a blast studying abroad this past semester! Note: I am



back in the USA now! I attend Wake Forest University; Kelly Moran attends Tufts University; Raquel Szomstein is at the University of Pennsylvania; and Chloe Dulin is at Georgetown University. We all also attended different universities in Europe."

Sofia Rivas was named Scholar-Athlete of the Week for Oct. 2-6, 2017, at the University of California at Berkeley. The former RE water polo star



was recognized "for encompassing a range of diverse experiential opportunities to enhance her holistic growth as a Berkeley scholar."

Rivas, a major contributor on the water polo team, is also active in the following: Deutsche Bank GROW, Berkeley Finance Club, Brazilian Student Association, Cal Student-Athlete Business Network and Athletic Study Center Tutoring Program.

2016

Dimitri Godur writes, "I am still very much involved in music at Columbia even though it isn't my major. I play snare in the marching band and I am also a member of the Taiko Drum Group and CU Jazz Ensemble. I also just finished up a National Institutes of Health internship this summer and was assigned to conduct research at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in its Department of Genetics and will be declaring my major in neuroscience with a premed track at the end of this year."

2017

Joon Kim is photographed with **Dr. Ken Yu '91**, an Assistant Professor at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center. Joon, who moved with his family to New Jersey this past summer, was awarded a medical internship in New York City with Dr. Yu. Joon is finishing up his freshman year at Harvard, Dr. Yu's alma mater.



Head of School Penny Townsend visited with alums at Princeton: **Gabriel Paniagua '17, Kavya Chaturvedi '17, Benjamin Freeman '17** and **Christina de Soto '16**

Faculty and Staff



Endowment honors Goesel

Ann Goesel is extremely honored and touched by a generous donation last fall from the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation, which provided for the full \$500,000 funding of the Ann Goesel Mathematics Department Head Chair Endowment Fund. This is the foundation's second significant gift to the Goesel endowment. In 2010, the Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation provided a \$250,000 grant to help establish this endowment. These two gifts, along with donations from several RE community members, brought success to this important endowment.

The beloved Ann Goesel started as a substitute teacher at Everglades School for Girls in 1966. Ms. Goesel used her quick mind, warm heart and dry wit to educate and nurture RE students and staff for 46 years. Ms. Goesel continues to be involved with the Ransom Everglades community as one of its prestigious Faculty Emeriti. She attends events regularly and visits campus once a week. She is photographed with Head of School Penny Townsend, and Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation Trustee **Leslie Wakefield Buchanan '72**.

"Ann was an important teacher and counselor during my years at Everglades and we are good friends today," Wakefield Buchanan said. "She continued being an important supporter of my children during their time at Ransom Everglades. The Dunspaugh-Dalton Foundation is proud to support this endowment in her name."

Jackie Milanes is a proud grandparent! Victoria Milanes Mulhall was born on November 15, 2017. Victoria is the daughter of **Janelle Milanes '03**. Grandma writes, "She is beautiful, happy and healthy! Mommy Janelle, Daddy Dan and Baby Victoria are all doing great!"

Jonathan Scholl and his wife Kat are the proud parents of Yannik Scholl. For those who love baby numerology: He was born on 12/19/2017 at 7:44 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs., 2 oz.

Heidi Steen and Ken Stocker were married on June 17, 2017 in Darien, Conn.



Matt Stock opened his "Abandoned Vehicles of the Everglades" photography exhibition at the Biltmore Hotel during Miami Art Week on Nov. 27, 2017. Matt is pictured to the right of Charles J. Kropke. Read more about this multiyear project that depicts "a hidden side of the Everglades" at www.abandonedeverglades.com



Ellen Grant opened an exhibition of her work, Nature Garage, on Nov. 3, 2017, at Books & Books, Coral Gables.

In Loving Memory

William B. Arrington '62 passed away, June 2, 2017.

Jeffrey Laurance Dow, PhD, 69, of Newberry Florida, formerly of Miami, died Dec. 3, 2017. Born in Belfast, Maine, Jeff was a life-long educator who not only taught at Ransom Everglades, but also ran a private tutoring service, and worked with the University of Florida's Lastinger Center to improve teaching and learning at schools throughout Florida. He is survived by his wife Marty Varnadoe Dow and many family members.

Deane Hundley, former RE Director of Development, passed away on Oct. 22, 2017, in Virginia. Over a long career in education and development, he served a number of institutions as development director or chief economic development officer, most notably Ransom Everglades School, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, the American Horticultural Society in Alexandria, Va., and most recently The Episcopal School of Texas in San Antonio.

Shelly Lavigne Rifkin '69 passed away peacefully surrounded by family on July 22, 2017. **Jan Salvesen Morrison '69**, **Lee Howell '69**, **Lili Krech Neale '69** and **Susan Fleming '69** attended Shelly's Memorial Service at Temple Beth Am in Miami on July 24, 2017. On behalf of Lili Krech Neale, class representative, the entire Class of 1969 sends its deepest sympathy and love to all of Shelly's family.

Gianfranco Scipioni '11. Francesco and Susan Scipioni mourn the passing of their beloved son, a robotics star at RE who went on to Vanderbilt University. "It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our beautiful son, Gianfranco Scipioni. He was a light, love and pure joy to everyone who knew him. He will always be remembered as a gift to everyone he touched during his brief 25 years on this earth." Gianfranco is survived by his parents and brother **Luciano Scipioni '16**. Family and friends celebrated his life on Oct. 7, 2017, at the Key Biscayne Community Church.

Francisco Triana '09 passed as a result of a fall in Cartagena, Colombia, on Jan. 1, 2018. At RE, Francisco served as SGA president and was recognized with both the Mike Stokes and **Robert Segall '82** awards. Francisco went on to Harvard University where he earned a BA in Economics. Francisco was working in capital management in New York City at the time of his death. He is survived by his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ennrique Triana (Claudia), and his two brothers, **Enrique Triana '06** and **Pedro Triana '13**.

Susan Jones, former RE trustee and past parent, passed away at home in Coral Gables on Dec. 25, 2017, after a long battle with cancer. She will be remembered at Ransom Everglades School as a trustee from 1992-98, a loyal parent and volunteer, and a forever friend and advocate. She remained close to many in the RE community, particularly Dan Leslie Bowden. Susan, who served the University of Miami community for more than 20 years, was instrumental in the success of UM's two major capital campaigns — Momentum 1, which began in 2003, and Momentum 2, in 2012. The two campaigns raised more than \$3 billion and helped transform the university's research centers and classrooms, added student scholarships and awards, and attracted top faculty. Momentum 1 amassed \$1.4 billion in donations at a time when no Florida school had topped the billion-dollar mark. Jones' leadership at UM was recognized through her induction into the Iron Arrow Society, the highest honor given by the university. Jones also served on the boards of Beaux Arts and the Junior League of Miami. In 2006, Jones received the Sarah Hopkins Woodruff Award at the American Red Cross' Spectrum Awards for Women. Jones was born June 26, 1945, in Annapolis, Md., to U.S. Navy Cmdr. Lewis D. Tamny and Ann Tamny. As the daughter of a career military family, Jones grew up in numerous posts in Florida — Pensacola, Opa-locka and Sanford — as well as Texas, New Jersey and Rhode Island. She graduated from the University of Florida. In addition to her husband, Jones' survivors include her sons Patterson and **Cooper Jones '97**; grandchildren Olivia and Ava; and siblings Michael, Pete and Laiky Tamny.



In Loving Memory

Robert “Bob” G. Segel, a devoted RE parent and former member of the Board of Trustees, passed away on Sept. 6, 2017. Bob, the founder and managing partner of Park Street Capital in Boston, was a constant presence at Ransom Everglades, showing enthusiastic support for children **Julia Segel '14** and **Michael Segel '19**, serving a fruitful eight-year tenure on the board and passionately advocating for independent schools. Bob was the consummate fundraising volunteer, generously devoting his time, talent and treasure to elevate Ransom Everglades. As benefactor chair on the board's advancement committee, he was the driving force behind years of record-breaking annual fund growth. As chair of the board's investment committee, he urged the RE community to build up the school's endowment for long-term sustainability. A native Bostonian and lifelong Red Sox fan, Bob used his love of the game to strengthen Raider baseball. He was instrumental in establishing a partnership with the Boys & Girls Clubs of Miami-Dade and raising money for the renovation of the club's baseball field, providing RE's student-athletes with access to



a beautiful diamond. The cherished husband of Janice Sherman and dear son of the late Gerald and Rita (Rothfarb) Segel, Bob also served for seven years on the

board of Buckingham Browne & Nichols in Boston and was involved in many other educational and community causes.

Dr. Shirley Ann Vaerewyck passed away on Dec. 20, 2017, from complications of leukemia. Her three sons were by her side. Born Nov. 18, 1942, in Mishawaka, Ind., Shirley was a lifelong scientist and educator who earned her master's degree at Ball State Teachers College and PhD at the University of Iowa in 1975. Shirley began her career in scientific research and education with several universities including Washington University in St. Louis, and the University of Miami, where she helped make early contributions to diabetes research. As her children were born, Shirley made the transition to full-time science educator at Alexander Montessori School and MAST Academy. She capped off her career teaching seventh- and eighth-grade science at RE's Middle School where she worked for 20 years until her retirement in 2014. Shirley loved her community, and was always generous with her free time. Over the years she served as YMCA soccer coach, USS swimming official, science fair judge and, while at Ransom Everglades, she instructed swimming, tennis, cheerleading, cooking club, sewing club and

many more. Shirley had a wonderful sense of adventure and traveled the world to visit Costa Rica, Argentina, Spain, Italy, France, Russia and Scotland in recent years. Her personal passion was ballroom dancing, especially the Argentine tango, and she was so grateful to be welcomed into the ballroom dance community in Miami. Shirley is survived by her three sons, **David Hajek '98**, **Daniel Hajek '00** and **Andrew Hajek '03**; her former spouse and father of her sons, Anthony; her brothers, Eugene (Janice) and Larry (Amy), sister Sally (Frank) and many nieces, nephews, colleagues and friends. Shirley will be remembered as a loving mother and sister, nurturing teacher, adventurous traveler, avid dancer, and most of all for her beautiful smile that lit up all our lives.

Alex Warman '12 passed away on Sept. 24, 2017, at the age of 23. He was born on April 28, 1993, and grew up in Miami where he attended Temple Beth Am Day School and later Ransom Everglades before going on to pursue a degree in chemical engineering at Cornell University. Alex worked at Mars Chocolate in Hackettstown, N.J., before his senior year of college, where he had accepted a job offer upon graduation. He was a longtime ball boy at the NASDAQ Open and later the Sony Ericsson Open in Key Biscayne. Alex enjoyed football, was a fan of the Miami Dolphins and enjoyed competing in fantasy football leagues during the National Football League season. He was also a passionate amateur photographer. Alex is survived by his loving parents, Danny and Monica, as well as his sister, Michelle.



THE FUND FOR RE Ransom Everglades

Annual gifts to The Fund for Ransom Everglades ensure that RE has the dexterity to act on needs that arise each year. Your gifts allow us to build programs that attract and keep the nation's best faculty, support a financial aid program that enhances and diversifies our student body, and so much more.

The Fund for RE is the first priority of *REinventing Excellence: The Campaign for Ransom Everglades*.

Though it will take a number of years to reach the capital and endowment goals of the campaign, gifts to The Fund for RE are put to work immediately. Our goal is to increase the flexible resources at RE's disposal each year so that the school can respond as soon as needs arise.

The power of thousands of RE parents, alumni and friends joining their gifts together will change lives today and for years to come.

Please make your gift today at www.ransomeverglades.org/make-a-gift.

RE inventing Excellence
THE CAMPAIGN FOR RANSOM EVERGLADES



RE's Special Programs & People Highlighted in a New Video Series

RE's communications office last fall began the production of a series of videos designed to showcase what makes a Ransom Everglades education exceptional. The videos will reside on the RE website. A few have been completed; more will be added as they are produced.

RESTUDIES

RESAILS

RESPEAKS

Many others coming soon!

Check out <https://www.ransomeverglades.org/page/about/videos>



Shop online at RansomEverglades.org/Bookstore

Your one-stop shop for gifts and goodies

We're open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and located opposite the Aquatic Center on the Upper School Campus. All alumni, parents and students are welcome.

For more information, contact Katrina Patchett, Director of Bookstores, at 305-460-8885 or kpatchett@RansomEverglades.org.

Save the Date: Saturday, May 12, 2018

SEVENTH ANNUAL
REEF
RANSOM EVERGLADES EPIC FISHING
TOURNAMENT

*Have some reel fun
at the Seventh Annual
Ransom Everglades
Epic Fishing Tournament.*

Anglers of all ages are invited to tackle the waters of Biscayne Bay in a friendly fishing competition that will benefit the Ransom Everglades waterfront.

Organized by the RE Alumni Association, the R.E.E.F. Tournament engages the entire RE community to support projects that fulfill the school's mission to give back. The RE waterfront supports RE and community-wide athletic opportunities and is used year-round for classes, competitions and community service.

After the last cast, join us for the final weigh-in and RE camaraderie.

For registration, sponsorship opportunities and more information, go to www.ransomeverglades.org/reef or contact:
Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88 at 305 460 8826
or vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org.

From the *Archives*



Those of you planning to attend your 50th reunion this spring can brush up on your former classmates by studying the photos above. The first includes girls in the Everglades School for Girls Class of 1968; the second includes boys in the Ransom School Class of '68. Email your guesses to REnews@ransomeverglades.org. We will reveal the answers in our next issue, and award an RE T-shirt to the winner for each photo.

Why I Give

Mike Maisel '68

Maisel family endows The Stanley D. Maisel '72 Endowed Scholarship Fund



Stanley D. Maisel '72



Head of School Penny Townsend with Karen Maisel, **Mike Maisel '68** and Laura Maisel (seated).

“My mother and I wanted to honor the memory of my brother, **Stanley D. Maisel '72**, with a legacy that is both lasting and meaningful. We cannot think of a more appropriate way to commemorate Stanley’s life than to offer the gift of a Ransom Everglades education to a talented student who otherwise would not have such an opportunity. From the time that he was eight years old, Stanley aspired to be a physician. He loved his years at Ransom, though I often joke that he spent so much time in his bedroom doing homework that I only saw him at dinner. He continued his studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, after receiving early acceptance to its honors program. He then earned his medical degree at the osteopathic medical school in Kansas City, Mo. Shortly after graduation, he realized his lifelong dream of opening his own medical practice in Atlanta, Ga. Tragically, that dream was cut short when he passed away at the age of 34. My mother and I want to ensure that Stanley’s dream lives on through The Stanley D. Maisel '72 Endowed Scholarship Fund. We hope that this scholarship will bring a smile to the faces of all who knew Stanley; ensure that his short but significant time on earth never will be forgotten; and help generations of Ransom Everglades students achieve their own dreams.”

RE Ransom Everglades School

3575 Main Highway
Coconut Grove, Florida 33133
www.ransomeverglades.org
305 460 8800

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage
PAID
Miami, Florida
Permit No. 1727

save the date

Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28

Head of School Penny Townsend invites you to attend

ALUMNI WEEKEND

2018



Reunion Classes of 1968, 1978, 1988, 1993 and 1998 will be celebrated.

Weekend activities include our signature spring cocktail party, athletic and family activities, tours of the Ransom and Everglades campuses, the presentation of our distinguished Alumni Awards, the individual reunion receptions, and time with current and former faculty members.

RE Ransom Everglades School

For more information visit:

www.ransomeverglades.org/REunions

Or contact the the office of Alumni Relations:

Vicki Carbonell Williamson '88 | 305 460 8826 | vwilliamson@ransomeverglades.org