

THE VALLEY

MAUMEE VALLEY COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL / VOLUME 10 ISSUE 2 / AUGUST 2019







MISSION *statement*

MAUMEE VALLEY COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL'S MISSION IS TO ENABLE STUDENTS TO BECOME ENLIGHTENED, COMPASSIONATE, AND CONTRIBUTING CITIZENS OF OUR GLOBAL COMMUNITY, WHILE PREPARING GRADUATES FOR THEIR BEST OPPORTUNITIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION.

THE SCHOOL ATTRACTS MOTIVATED, ABLE STUDENTS WHO HAVE A RANGE OF ACADEMIC INTERESTS AND DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS, AND WHOSE FAMILIES VALUE EDUCATION. ITS CHALLENGING CURRICULUM, STUDENT-CENTERED SCHOOL LIFE, AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY INSPIRE AND EQUIP THEM FOR A LIFETIME OF LEARNING.

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LYNN D. CASTO, *head of school*

Dear Maumee Valley,

We have concluded an amazing school year filled with a myriad of student successes in multiple realms—academics, arts, athletics, and extracurriculars. I continue to be astounded by the many talents of our students and the stellar faculty and staff who draw out the best in each Maumee Valley student.


This issue of the Valley features the graduation of our 63-member senior class as well as a current and historical look at Maumee Valley athletics. The benefits of athletic participation are well known and include opportunities for teamwork, collaboration, and success outside of the classroom. Athletics bring students from multiple grade levels and perspectives together as they work toward a common goal. Personally, some of my greatest lessons about hard work, perseverance, and leadership were learned on the field hockey and lacrosse fields. It brings me pride that Maumee Valley continues to invest in a well-rounded program that includes physical fitness. Today, students at Maumee Valley have the opportunity to participate in a growing athletic program that continues to include athletes of all ability levels.

As I conclude my first year, I wish to thank you for the warm welcome you have given to my family and me. It is a joy to be a part of this community.

Sincerely,

Lynn D. Casto
Head of School

CURRENT



SENIOR GRACE MOMENEE '19 SETTING UP FOR A PASS DURING FALL VARSITY FIELD HOCKEY



ATHLETICS NEWS



individual athletic highlights

- 1 **Shannon Herrmann '19**
 - 12-time Varsity Letter Winner
 - Record Holder (Field Hockey) Goals Scored in Season and Career
 - All-Ohio Field Hockey Team
 - 1000 Point Scorer (Basketball)
 - All-time Record Holder of Goals Scored in a Season (Lacrosse)
 - Player of the Year in the TAAC 2017-18 Season
- 2 **Zeb Jackson '20**
 - 1000 Point Scorer (Junior Year Basketball)
 - 2019 Ohio Player of the Year (Basketball)
 - 2019 District Player of the Year (Basketball)
 - 2019 TAAC Player of the Year (Basketball)
 - 2019 USA Today 2nd Team Selection (Basketball)
- 3 **David "Newt" Ziegler III '19**
 - 10-time Varsity Letter Winner
 - Two-time 1st Team All-TAAC Selection (Baseball)
 - Committed to play Baseball at Rose-Hulman
- 4 **4 x 4 Team: Patrick McNally '19, Patrick Lyell '20, Karl Ludwig '19, Jackson Dias '21**
 - 2019 Varsity TAAC Champions (Track and Field)
 - 2019 Regional Finalist (Track and Field)
- 5 **Patrick Lyell '20**
 - 2019 800m TAAC Champion and School Record Holder (Track and Field)
 - 2019 Regional Champion (Track and Field)
 - 2019 State Finalist (Track and Field)
 - 2019 #1 State Rank in the 800m (Track and Field)
- 6 **Miller Karns '20**
 - 2019 District Champion (Diving)
 - 2019 State Finalist (6th Place, Diving)
 - 2019 All-American (Diving)
 - 2019 12th Place Finish in the 1m National Championships (Diving)
- 7 **Mujahid Abdel-Ghani '19**
 - 2019 NWOHSSL Player of the Year (Soccer)
 - 2019 TAAC Player of the Year (Soccer)
 - 2019 All-Ohio Soccer Team
 - Record Holder for Soccer Goals Scored in a Season
 - Record Holder for Soccer Goals Scored in a Career in just two years of play



HIGHLIGHTS FROM *sporting events* AROUND CAMPUS

FALL

All-Ohio **Field Hockey**
(Best 15 players in the State of Ohio)
Shannon Herrmann '19

All-Ohio **Soccer**
Mujahid Abdel-Ghani '19

TAAC Soccer Player of the Year 2018
Mujahid Abdel-Ghani '19

TAAC 1st Team Soccer 2018
Jackson Zilba '21

TAAC 2nd Team Soccer 2018
Patrick McNally '19
Ethan Lodge '19
Noah Greenbaum '20

TAAC Honorable Mention Soccer 2018
Finn Corcoran '21
Cam Kaminski '21

TAAC 1st Team **Golf** 2018
Evan Heritage '19
Brandon Nickens '20

TAAC 2nd Team Golf 2018
Mihir Joshi '20

TAAC Honorable Mention Golf 2018
Noah Greenbaum '20
Blake Rachwal '22
Newt Ziegler '19

Northeast Ohio **Field Hockey** League
1st Team All-League (Best 11 players
in the league)
Maddie Peek '20
Shannon Herrmann '19

Northeast Ohio Field Hockey League
Honorable Mention All-League
Maya Francisco '20
Laura Cunliffe '19

All-Ohio **Diving** (2nd year)
Miller Karns '20

STELLAR COACHES**TERRI HERRMANN**

Fresh out of college, Terri Herrmann applied to Maumee Valley in 1986 for a part-time Field Hockey coaching position. Although Terri had never played or coached Field Hockey, with her background playing college softball at the University of Toledo and her natural athleticism Terri tackled the position head-on. Even though Maumee Valley was, and still is, the smallest school in the state with a team, Terri built one of the strongest Field Hockey programs in the district. With her fondness of the program and the school obvious, Terri was hired in 1987 as a full-time Physical Education Teacher. Over the years, Maumee Valley Field Hockey players competed against powerhouse teams year after year. With her continued dedication and drive for the program to succeed, Terri led teams that dominated on both ends of the field scoring at a high clip, and demonstrating stellar defense throughout the season.

Terri is not only a role model for her players, but coaches around the district know her well for her mastery of building both good cultures with her teams and sound scheme and strategy. Even now 32 years later, she continues to produce highly competitive teams, not only in Field Hockey. Terri recently led the Maumee Valley Girls Basketball Team to the first ever TAAC Championship in school history and was selected as 2018 TAAC Coach of the Year!

CRAIG JACOBS

Craig Jacobs has been an avid golfer for as long as he can remember. As Maumee Valley's Golf coach, Craig's patience, regardless of the skill level of the players he works with, is what sets him apart and makes him an exceptional coach. Golf is a game best played while staying positive, and Craig has a way of keeping his players focused regardless of what happened on the last hole.

Over the last several years, the Maumee Valley Golf Team swung their way back to the top of the TAAC and completed an undefeated regular season, topped off with a victory over Ottawa Hills. Under Craig's guidance, Evan Heritage also represented the school at the State Golf Team last year, propelling Craig to be noticed and winning him 2018 TAAC Coach of the Year.

Over the last four years, Craig's unquestionable talent and his ability to teach the game have advanced the Maumee Valley Golf Team into the top of the TAAC.

JACK DIAS AND TARA MORRIN

At one point, the storied Maumee Valley Track and Field program was down to just four participants. With such a low participation rate, the decorated program was at risk of being obsolete until coaches Jack Dias and Tara Morrin stepped in and breathed new life into the sport. Starting from square one in 2014, Tara and Jack took over the depleted program and began by focusing on fundamentals and generating excitement.

In just four short years, both the Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field programs have close to 40 participants and are full of state-caliber track athletes, district champions, and many TAAC champions. In a sport that has many individual components to it, Jack and Tara have created a family atmosphere where athletes support each other and are like family, or as they would call themselves, "Track Fam."

Their dedication for the track and field program goes beyond the practices and meets. Tara and Jack recently completed two USA Track Certifications and have interwoven the advanced lessons that they learned from those classes into practices, providing immediate results.

It is abundantly clear that Maumee Valley athletes both care for and trust their track coaches abundantly, and that is why the program has come back so quickly.

TIM MATHEWS

When Tim Mathews was hired in 2017 to lead the baseball team as head coach, the program hadn't had enough interested players to field an official team, beyond club play, in the school's history.

With the help of assistant coach Dave Ziegler, Tim took the program by the reins and poured his energy into reincarnating the sport by beautifying the baseball diamond and drumming up interest with players. After just one year, Tim was selected as TAAC Coach of the Year because of the growth of the program in such short time.

Tim has a strong record of both building and rebuilding programs. He specializes in making strong connections with the players and teaching them the basic building blocks of the game. Tim is known best for his tremendous amount of patience and calm disposition, which allowed a very young and undeveloped program to mature.

The Baseball team now stands strong with one player heading to play college baseball and several young promising players that will help carry our program forward. Tim has done a tremendous job in his short time as a coach at Maumee Valley and has earned the respect of the players and many area coaches for the job he has done building our program into what it is today.

WINTER

Boys Basketball

Division IV Ohio State Player of the Year

Zeb Jackson '19

District Player of the Year

Zeb Jackson '19

TAAC Player of the Year

Zeb Jackson '19

USA Today 2nd Team

Zeb Jackson '19

2nd Team All-League

Stephen Coleman, Jr. '21

Honorable Mention All-District

Parker Chatman '19,

Stephen Coleman, Jr. '21

Honorable Mention All-TAAC

Dez Jett '20,

Parker Chatman '19

Girls Basketball

1st Team All-TAAC

Shannon Herrmann '19

2nd Team All-District

Shannon Herrmann '19

2nd Team All-TAAC

Alana Pappochia '20

Honorable Mention All-TAAC

Maya Francisco '20

Shaylyn Bailey '19

Honorable Mention All-District

Alana Pappochia '20

Maya Francisco '20

Swimming / Diving

Champion All-District, State Finalist
(6th place) 2019

Miller Karns

SPRING

Baseball

1st Team All-TAAC
Newt Ziegler '19

2nd Team All-TAAC
Lucas Szollosi '20

Honorable Mention All-TAAC
Collin Boissoneault '19
Eric Slotterbeck '21

Tennis

2nd Team All-District
Stephane Granato '20

Track and Field

4x800m TAAC Champions
Caiden Lambert-Lyons '20,
Suenpui "Didi" Chan '21, Quinn
Dunlap '21, Lucas Szollosi '20

100m TAAC Champion, 200m and
300m Hurdles TAAC Champion,
Regional Finalist 300 Hurdles
Alana Papocchia '20

4x200m TAAC Runner Up
Karl Ludwig '19, HaoXin
"Kevin" Yu '22, Jackson Dias
'21, Ethan Lodge '19

4x100m TAAC Runner Up
Karl Ludwig '19, HaoXin
"Kevin" Yu '22, Ethan Lodge
'19, Patrick McNally '19

800m TAAC Runner Up, Regional
Champion, State Finalist
Patrick Lyell '20

4x400m TAAC Champion, Regional
Finalist
Patrick Lyell '20,
Patrick McNally '19, Karl
Ludwig '19, Jackson Dias '21



SPEECH TEAM

DEDICATION AND PERSEVERANCE PREVAIL

The Maumee Valley Speech team made up of Denise Tamesis '19, Megan McNally '21, Eleanor Byers '21, Shoshi Lavetter-Keidan '21, Jonah Musher-Eizenman '21, Tyson Hughes '21, Karina Bozanich '20, Jeremy Mahoney '21, Sumaer Brar '20, Norah Li '21, Grace Momenie '19, and Shiman (Marianna) Zhu '20 showed impeccable perseverance over many months of competing almost every weekend from the middle of November through March. They consistently brought in trophies for many of the nine categories they competed in and blew away their competition, time and again.

Not only did the team push through a long season together, nine of the eleven students qualified for state tournaments. The team placed third in the Toledo District, winning in four different categories, and moved on to the National Qualifying Tournament in which five team members qualified and headed to Texas this summer. Overall, the team placed second in Western Ohio.



NATIONAL MERIT

NATIONAL MERIT RECIPIENTS

Maumee Valley students continue to excel in the national arena. Two seniors, Julia Xiong and Evan Heritage, were Finalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program and Julia was selected as a 2019 National Merit Scholarship recipient. National Merit recognizes outstanding student performance on the PSAT/NMSQT® test taken during the junior year. Of the 1.6 million entrants who take the PSAT/NMSQT® test, National Merit selects 15,000 students for Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship. Congratulations to both Julia and Evan for their superior academic accomplishments



MATHCOUNTS

STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS ADD UP!

Led by Middle School Math Teacher Julie Shuman, six Maumee Valley Lower and Middle School students traveled to the MATHCOUNTS competition at the University of Toledo's College of Engineering this year. The participants were Kevin Chou '24, Benjamin Hsiao '23, Tameem Zaidat '23, Josh Wang '25, Omar Soltan '23, and Shrishte Baskara '25.

Kevin placed third overall, and Benny placed 11th and continued on to compete with the rest of the top sixteen in head-to-head rounds of questions. A stellar performance in the countdown round earned Kevin second place overall. The team of four, which consisted of Kevin, Benny, Tameem and Josh, placed second out of the 16 teams.

The MATHCOUNTS team advanced to the state competition in Columbus, where there were 30 teams and almost 200 participants. Kevin Chou and Josh Wang ended in the top 100 and took 13th overall!



WINTER



Boys' Basketball

Finishing third in the TAAC during the regular season, the boys' basketball team repeated as both Sectional and District Champions, and finished as Division IV Regional Runner-Up losing to eventual State Champion Convoy Crestview. The team advanced further than any other team in Maumee Valley history.

Girls' Basketball

New Coach, Amber Lisk started a new era of Hawks basketball. Coming off a historic season, Coach Lisk with seniors Shaylyn Bailey and Shannon Herrmann helped set the Hawks on a new path towards success. The season was highlighted by several great games and a runner-up finish in the Jaguar Invitational at Columbus Wellington School.



Cheer

There was plenty of energy at both home and away games this year, which was vital to the boys' basketball team's success on the court. The Cheer team led some of the largest crowds the program has ever seen and helped carry the Hawks to a historic season. Seniors, Natalie Frost and Kerstyn Anderson, demonstrated great leadership throughout their cheerleading career at Maumee Valley.

ATHLETICS RECAP

Indoor Track

Hard work and conditioning on strength, endurance, and form were critical elements to the success of the indoor track team. Under the leadership of Tara Morrin and Jack Dias, Winter Track is an adaptable team. Two athletes, Niladri Aich '19 and Patrick Lyell '20, qualified for the State meet. Niladri placed 21st in the triple jump with a jump of 34' 1". This is impressive since Niladri only participated in the triple jump twice before the state meet and had to practice in the hallway due to weather. Patrick placed 9th in the 800m run, one spot away from making the podium; he was close to a personal record with a time of 2:03:11.

Swimming + Diving

Several swimmers finished the season with personal records. Alaina Foster '20 advanced to Districts by finishing in first place in both the 200m I.M. and 100m freestyle. Alexandra "Sasha" Grinevich '19 also advanced to Districts in the 100m fly, and 500m freestyle with a fourth and first place finish in those races respectively. Wesley Foster '22 advanced to Districts by winning both the 50m and 100m freestyle and was the highest seeded freshman in Districts. Miller Karns '20 topped things off by winning the District Diving Championship and capturing the sixth-place finish at the State Diving Competition. Miller was selected for the 2nd Team All-Ohio and earned All-American status with his impressive showing.

SPRING**Track + Field**

With 37 participants, the track team capped off their season with outstanding performances at the League, District, Regional, and State meets. Alana Papocchia '20 had another exceptional year finishing as TAAC Champion in the 100m, 300m Hurdles, and 200m races. The boys 4x800m team consisting of Caiden Lambert-Lyons '20, Suenpui "Didi" Chan '21, Quinn Dunlap '21, and Lucas Szollosi '20 finished as TAAC Champions. Karl Ludwig '19, HaoXin "Kevin" Yu '22, Ethan Lodge '19, and Jackson Dias '21 finished as TAAC Runner-Up in the 4x200m. Karl Ludwig '19, HaoXin "Kevin" Yu '22, Ethan Lodge '19, and Patrick McNally '19 finished as TAAC Runner-Up in the 4x100m. Patrick Lyell '20 set a Maumee Valley school record in the 800m, finishing as TAAC Runner-Up, Regional Champion, and State Finalist, and is currently ranked first in the boys 800m. The boys 4x400m team consisting of Patrick Lyell '20, Patrick McNally '19, Karl Ludwig '19, and Jackson Dias '21 also had an outstanding year finishing as TAAC Champions and Regional Finalists. Coach Morrin and Coach Dias continue to grow our storied Track and Field Program year-after-year!

Boys' Tennis

Continuing to push forward, the boys' tennis team was more competitive this year than they have been in recent times. Highlighted by strong play and a Second Team All-District finish for Stephane Granato '20, the team continues to make strong progress. Seniors, Malik Almasri, Joel Helmick, Niladri Aich, Evan Heritage, and Ellie Griffith all helped the team improve throughout the year.

Varsity Baseball

One of the toughest sports to play during the spring in Northwest Ohio is the game of Baseball. Freezing temps, rainy patterns, or even the occasional spring snowstorm make it difficult to get started. The Maumee Valley team got off to a slow start and ended with its best baseball of the year. Seniors Collin Boissoneault '19 and Newt Ziegler '19 both led the way for a very young team. Newt Ziegler earned 1st Team All-TAAC honors, and Lucas Szollosi '20 earned 2nd Team All-TAAC honors.

Girls' Lacrosse

Another sport that spent their share of time dodging the weather and getting off to a slow start was the girls Lacrosse team. There were plenty of early glimpses that showed the talent and determination of this year's team, which gave everyone a sense that the team would catch fire and that they did, going on to win several games at the end of the year. The team lost several members preparing for an intensive trip, and with only ten players out of eleven, the team fought hard and hung in with the 2nd seeded team in the State Tournament losing 20-11. Many in the crowd from the opponent's side commented on how impressed they were with our team's toughness, grit, and determination.







congratulations CLASS OF 2019





SCENES FROM *graduation* 2019



CURRENT

COLLEGE *matriculations*

MUJAHD ABDEL-GHANI
CAPITAL UNIVERSITY

NILADRI AICH
LOURDES UNIVERSITY

SAWSAN ALKHALILI
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

MALIK ALMASRI
THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO
HONORS PROGRAM

ALEJANDRO ALVAREZ
PURDUE UNIVERSITY

KERSTYN ANDERSON
LOURDES UNIVERSITY

EMMA AVRAM
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

SHAYLYN BAILEY
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

SHREYAS BANERJEE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

COLLIN BOISSONEAULT
THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER

PARKER CHATMAN
ANDREWS OSBORNE ACADEMY

LAURA CUNLIFFE
THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

ELLIE DAPKUS
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY CHICAGO

KELLY DOYLE
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

PHILIP GARDNER
ST. JOHN'S UNIVERSITY

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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

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BERRY COLLEGE

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CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

MEICHEN "KIRA" GUO
SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS (NY)

JOEL HELMICK
ITHACA COLLEGE

EVAN HERITAGE
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

SHANNON HERRMANN
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

THAO MINH HO
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

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CHAMPAIGN

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SARAH LAWRENCE COLLEGE

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OHIO UNIVERSITY

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PROGRAM

MICHELLE LEE
CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

ISAAC LEITNER
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

ERRICKA LINCOLN
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UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON IN SEATTLE

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DAVID ZIEGLER, III
ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

NOUR ZRIEN
UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

athletic **AWARDS**

JOSEPH D DIDIER SOCCER	Mujahid Abdel-Ghani '19
ROBERT W GOSMAN MEMORIAL	Evan Heritage, Grace Momenie '19
DONNIE TAYLOR BASKETBALL	Parker Chatman, Shay Bailey '19
OUTSTANDING SENIOR WOMAN ATHLETE	Shannon Herrmann '19
DOUGLAS WHIPPLE MEMORIAL TROPHY	Newt Ziegler '19
COACH RICHARD L. NUZUM AWARD	Patrick McNally '19

department **AWARDS**

SENIOR MATH AWARD	Ethan Lodge '19
ENGLISH PRIZE	Rowan Kerr '19
MARION D PARSONS	Maya Williams, Ellie Dapkus '19
CHINESE PRIZE	Precia Soram '19
SPANISH PRIZE	Sneha Kamath '19
ART PRIZE	Sasha Grinevich '19
J CARROLL MUSIC AWARD	Shreyas Banerjee '19
STRING MUSIC AWARD	Julia Xiong '19
THEATRE PRIZE	Hudson Filas '19
HISTORY PRIZE	Ethan Lodge '19, Stephane Granato '20, Colette Jarrell '20
SCIENCE PRIZE (12TH)	Ellie Griffith '19, Nipun Jayatissa '19
BAUSCH & LOMB HONORARY SCIENCE MEDAL (11TH)	Mihir Joshi '20
RENSSELAER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE MEDAL (11TH)	Jonathan Buchanan '20
GLOBAL SCHOLAR	Susu Alkhalili '19, Shay Bailey '19
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AWARD	Summer Zhang '19
BOLDON MEMORIAL AWARD	Saniyah Brandon '20, Tyson Hughes '21
CUM LAUDE JUNIORS	Jonathan Buchanan '20, Stephane Granato '20, Colette Jarrell '20, Carolyn Schutte '20, Alaina Foster '20, Karina Bozanich '20
CUM LAUDE SENIORS	Nipun Jayatissa '19, Shreyas Banerjee '19, Patrick McNally '19, Susu Alkhalili '19, Ellie Griffith '19, Grace Momenie '19

junior **AWARDS**

CITIZENSHIP	Maddie Peek '20
LEADERSHIP	Lucas Szollosi '20
COMMUNITY SERVICE	Kristin Leong-Fern '20
WRITING PRIZE	Carolyn Schutte '20
COMMUNICATION	Loa Cho '20
REASONING	Jonathan Buchanan '20
INTELLECTUAL CURIOSITY	Stephane Granato '20

grade level **AWARDS**

MISS BISS LIFE OF SCHOOL	Jack Gensler '22
RON EUTON LIFE OF SCHOOL	Eleanor Byers '21
LIFE OF THE SCHOOL (CLASS MARSHALLS)	Dez Jett '20, Hank Thomas '20
MAUMEE VALLEY PRIZE	Denise Tamesis '20
JONATHAN KRUEGER '12 WINTERIM SCHOLARSHIP	Hank Thomas '20, Malcolm Schiewer '21
HEAD OF SCHOOL AWARD	Newt Ziegler '19



VARSITY SOCCER PLAYERS MUJAHID ABDEL-GHANI '19, RANEN CHEW '21, AND CAMERON KAMINSKI '21 CELEBRATE AFTER A TOURNAMENT GOAL

FEATURE



With a continual increase in student enrollment for the past seven years, Maumee Valley academic and extracurricular programs have seen growth take shape in many forms. Driven by a desire to offer students more opportunities, the development of more intensive opportunities, clubs, and athletic teams have taken shape year-over-year. Although all notable in growth, no other program has seen the extent of participation increase as the Athletics program. Although participation has always been key when referring to Maumee Valley's "no cut" philosophy, student involvement in sports has expanded to new levels across many divisions of the school. With this increase in participation, teams, athletes, and coaches have set goals and achieved remarkable accomplishments.

Dedication, **DETERMINATION, & REWARD**



As the leading academic Preschool-Grade 12 educational institution in Northwest Ohio, Maumee Valley has grown accustomed to receiving high accolades for challenging course offerings, unparalleled travel opportunities, and dynamic and diverse learning. **Focus on academic grit and preparing students for their future education and their lives beyond college is achieved through innovative lessons and progressive teachings.** With recent radical changes to scheduling, additional benefits to student learning have emerged. Students develop their ability to persevere through a wide-range of challenging intensive courses in the Upper School, learn to creatively solve real-world problems through coursework in the Middle School, and explore and discover their varied interests as Lower School students. With these new opportunities, students develop the ability to endure changes within their schedules, find time to focus on one subject within longer and dedicated time blocks, learn to solve problems on the spot, and commit to their shared success with peers through team projects. With these qualities ingrained into their academic studies, it should be no surprise that the extraordinary drive to learn has translated to an increase in athletic participation, and in turn, the success of the athletics program as a whole.

Over the past five years alone, total athletic participation has increased by more than 160 students across three seasons of sports. Teams have been added to the growing basketball program, and there has been a steep incline in interest and participation in sports such as baseball and cross country. In just three years of re-establishing the baseball program, enough athletes are involved to field both Varsity and JV teams. Cross country, indoor track, and track and field participation has gone from just a handful of athletes in each program to 20, 38, and

37 athletes respectively. Overall, an average of 50% of all students in grades seven through twelve participate in at least one sport with some dedicated to several sports in one year.

Excelling beyond the classroom through athletics is a natural extension for many Maumee Valley students.

Student-athletes know how to set goals, be team players, and develop value in commitment. Most importantly, they persevere when things get tough. That determination and grit translate directly into the dedication needed to be successful athletes and team members. Track and Field Coach Tara Morrin explains her first-hand experience of witnessing the correlation between what Maumee Valley students learn in the classroom and how they apply them to their sports. "I am most proud of the way athletes hang in there during long, often cold practices so that they can start and end together as a team. It's easy to want to skip practice when it's cold, when they're tired, or when they just don't feel like tackling another task that day; however, most of them still push through. Maumee Valley athletes prove to be able to conquer some of the most difficult physical and mental challenges I've ever seen, and they inspire their coaches every day with their ability to fight through moments when it would be much easier just to give up."

Skills learned throughout a student's academic career equip them with the ability to work as a team player and persevere through athletic challenges. Over the past five years, the Varsity Boys Basketball team has won the Sectional Championships, two District Championships, finished as Regional Runner-Up, and over the past three years averaged 18 victories per season. Just as impressive, the Varsity Girls Basketball team blossomed



from a dwindling program, once losing 60 games in a row, to a strong team of determined athletes, crowned the 2017-18 TAAC Championship victors for the first time in school history.

From the courts to the fields, Maumee Valley teams are sweeping the division and dropping jaws with their stunning performances. In just their second season back as an organized team, Varsity Cross Country finished as the 2018 TAAC Runner Up, Varsity Golf finished in the top three of the TAAC for the last three seasons in a row with an undefeated season in 2017, and the Varsity Boys Soccer team won two out of the last three Northwest Ohio High School Soccer League Championships. The Varsity Track team that was down to just four participants in 2014 now has 37 runners and has had several athletes finish as League Champions, District Champions, Regional Champions, State Finalists, and State Champions.

With the support and encouragement of their team members, individual Maumee Valley athletes are also accomplishing great things. This year alone, countless athletes have been recognized for their stellar performances across all sports. Shannon Herrmann '19, coached by her mother Terri Herrmann, was selected to the All-State Team, and set records for goals scored, not only in a season, but also goals scored in a career for Field Hockey. She also eclipsed the 1,000 point mark, was selected as Player of the Year in the TAAC as well as First Team All-District Selection in Basketball. Shannon earned 12 Varsity letters during her years in the Upper School and showed dedication, determination, and leadership in every sport she played.

A 2018 graduate, Emma Daugherty finished her career with two State Championships, two State Runner-Up Finishes, and was a State Finalist each of her four years in the Upper School. She was selected as an All-American in the high jump and chose to extend her academic and athletic career at Princeton University.

With aspirations to run in college, Patrick Lyell '20 worked exceptionally hard this past year and finished as the 2019 Regional Champion in the open 800 meters with a time that has him ranked first in the State of Ohio in that race. He competed for a State Championship at the Jesse Owens Track and Field Complex on the campus of The Ohio State University.

Junior Zeb Jackson committed to the Division I Basketball Program at the University



of Michigan, making school history. With the support of many teammates and coaches over his high school basketball career, Zeb became a three-time First Team TAAC Selection, three-time First Team All-District Selection, Player of the Year in the TAAC, Player of the Year for District 7, and was selected as the 2018-19 State Player of the Year. Astonishingly, Zeb also reached the 1,000 point mark during the fourth game of his junior year, a new school scoring record for basketball.

Also achieving athletic goals were Senior Evan Heritage who finished as a State Finalist last year in golf and was the regular season TAAC Champion, and Junior Miller Karns who completed a 2018-19 season as District Champion, State Finalist, and an All-American in Diving. Miller was also a State Finalist in 2017-18, and this year qualified for the AAU Diving Red/White/Blue National Championship meet in Coral Springs, FL, where he competed in the 1m event, earning a spot on the podium with a 12th place finish.

It is no wonder that with the caliber of achievements Maumee Valley athletes are accomplishing, a handful are choosing academic paths that include collegial sports. Mujahid Abdel-Ghani '19, who was selected to the All-State Soccer team and was a two-time Player of the Year in soccer setting records for goals scored in

a season, and goals scored in a career, has committed to play soccer at Capital University. Star baseball player and all-around outstanding athlete David "Newt" Ziegler III '19 will become a Fightin' Engineer in the fall and will realize his dreams of playing college baseball at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology.

Even with all the awards and recognition, the most impressive part of the on-court and on-field successes of our teams and athletes is the fact that they remain front-runners in academics. For the past several seasons, nearly the entire field hockey team received All-League Academic honors, and often teams can be found pregame or before practice studying together. Students are extending their sports passions into their academic learning through Independent Studies and other projects encompassing everything from nutrition to the effects of sleep on athletic performance. Interestingly enough, students are finding creative ways to intertwine their strong academic dedication and athletic drive.

As student passions have emerged, teachers and coaches have played essential roles in helping students refine their interests with tangible parallels between school and sports. Athletic Director and Boys Varsity Basketball Coach Rob Conover spent countless hours on and off the court supporting athletes across all seasons and making athletic-academic connections. From spending time outside of regular practices to mentoring athletes and helping them focus and refine skills, Rob was instrumental in the growth and inclusiveness of the program. Varsity Golf Coach Craig Jacobs remembers many defining moments over the last several years but notes that Rob's focus on challenging athletes to become better, no matter how high they were already achieving, became contagious among teams and coaches. "Rob

Conover's commitment to nurturing the whole student and building leadership skills in our athletes has changed attitudes. The athletes and coaches recognize that hard work and practice will make you better because of Rob," remarked Craig.

The amount of community support and participation has also been invaluable to the success of athletics. At the Boys Basketball Regional Final game, the Maumee Valley community came out in full force. Alumni, faculty, staff, students, parents, and many more supporters of the school helped inspire the team to make history. Our students continue to learn lessons that supplement and support the excellent education they receive at Maumee Valley through athletics. Teamwork, discipline, sacrifice, perseverance, and grit are invaluable lessons through athletics.

The Maumee Valley athletic community has extended the high standards and expectations of academic rigor to the field, track, court, pool, and gym. Traits that make a Maumee Valley student unique and resilient in the classroom are translating into rewarding athletic accomplishments. **Grit, teamwork, perseverance, and high achievement standards continue to be traits that Maumee Valley students have when they graduate.** These characteristics stay with them long after they leave our small campus and they guide them as they continue to be lifelong learners, competitors, and team players.



PHILANTHROPY



VARSITY GYM FLOOR RIBBON CUTTING *ceremony*

By Lynn Casto

Maumee Valley has a wonderfully rich history as a longstanding academic institution in Toledo. Sometimes long histories come with old facilities. As our school year opened, a leak led to the buckling of the Varsity Gym floor that, according to Larry Anning, was installed in 1957. We had two options: patch the floor or replace it. Due to the cost of replacement, and my relative newness to the school and our donor base, we decided to patch the floor. What came after the decision to repair, I'm describing as a Maumee Valley Moment—a time when our community shows its strength and generosity.

Let me give you an example of what I mean by a Maumee Valley Moment. As I was introduced to the school, I learned about Maumee Valley Moments. They are manifestations of the unique quality of our community—a community that respects each other, celebrates each other, cultivates individuality, and through our diversity, creates strength. One story, in particular, helped me understand how Maumee Valley honors the multiple passions of students as we *endeavor* to develop the *whole child*.

Let me take you back a few years: the scene is the basketball court, before a varsity game, and a few senior members of the string ensemble are gathered together on the court to play the national anthem on their instruments. If you know the quality of our strings program, then you know these students played beautifully, maybe even professionally. After they left the court and put away their instruments, they proceeded to step right back out onto the court in their basketball jerseys and started the basketball game—because at Maumee Valley you can do that. You can be a scholar and an artist and a musician and an Actor and an athlete, or any combination of these things. It's not an either-or decision for Maumee Valley students.

This community also rallies around kids and pitches in to help. Maumee Valley has a *"can-do" spirit* that allows us to accomplish more together than we ever could alone. The replacement of the Varsity Gym floor is a testament to this spirit and a physical demonstration of what we can do when we all work together toward a common goal. It reminds us that *no gift is too small* to make a lasting impact.

Let me bring you back to this school year. As we began planning to patch the floor, a member of our community recognized an opportunity to do what is best for our students. This anonymous donor offered to fund the first half of the floor replacement and issued a matching gift challenge. Word of the challenge spread and gained momentum with more donors generously giving toward the project. The timing of the water leak meant we had to work quickly, and we found ourselves not yet having raised all of the necessary funds. We needed to decide whether we could move forward with replacement when a second anonymous donor agreed to *provide our gap in funds*. This allowed us to fully fund the floor replacement. And finally, a third anonymous donor who had already contributed, offered to *finance upgraded subflooring* to give our students the best floor possible for years to come. Given the quick window of the project, I never foresaw that we would replace our floor. Nor did I foresee the generosity of this community who puts students first.

To the casual observer, this is a gym floor, but to our community, the Varsity Gym floor represents so much more than basketball. We use this space for students to learn to play sports in PE. It serves as a recreation area during the day for our Upper School. Our international students who live in the Dayal House utilize this space for fitness. We assemble here with our entire student body, faculty, and staff when we meet for all-school events.

Our donors understand the life lessons and physical benefit that athletics and physical movement bring to a child—lessons of hard work, resilience, determination, teamwork, and self-confidence. Our donors individually contributed to making our community stronger for current and future Maumee Valley students.

What makes me most proud is that this project was a community affair, a coming together to honor our history and to *demonstrate confident hope* in our future. Our donors were inspired to make an impact in an area that was personally relevant to each of them while meeting a real need for our school. To each of our donors, thank you for your gift to our students, to our community, and our future. This gift is much more than a floor. It represents our commitment to building *programs and pathways* for all of our students. Through individual and collective gifts, this project honors memories of the past and invests in the promises of our future.



VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

On behalf of the Maumee Valley Parent Association, Board of Trustees President, Matt Buchanan and Head of School Lynn Casto, please join us in congratulating three parents who have spent countless hours in support of MVCDS students and our community.

HEATHER ROHRS & AIMEE BRETZLOFF PARENTS OF EMILY '13 AND CADEN '21

Heather and Aimee consider it their mission to build community through the Boosters program. They have elevated the concessions by grilling their award-winning wings and other homemade offerings. Heather and Aimee have won the Silver Spoon award as volunteer chefs for Top Chef MV events, offered fun and well-organized Mystery Dinners for the past several years in support of the annual fundraising event, and generously provided additional financial support. Heather also gives of her time on the Board of Trustee's Finance Committee and joined the Board of Trustees in July.



DAVE ZIEGLER

PARENT OF NEWT '19

Dave has generously given to Maumee Valley as a volunteer baseball coach of the Middle and Upper School programs for the past six years. He would regularly arrive at the campus before 6:00 a.m. on game days and often spent his weekends grooming the field. Dave also provided significant support to this year's 41st Annual Auction, chaired by his wife, Lori.



PHILANTHROPY

A RELATIONSHIP-BASED *approach*

Maumee Valley’s Advancement Office builds affinity, engagement, and connection of the school community while promoting a culture of philanthropy to maintain operations and advance the school’s mission.

When a person includes an organization among their philanthropic priorities, their decision is often based on one thing: Impact.

Giving is often a joyful experience for donors.

Whether affected personally or through understanding another individual’s story, the meaningful and lasting effects of an organization is what drives philanthropy.

Learning what inspires people to make an impact through financial support requires listening and one-on-one attention. This is a relationship-based endeavor, and this is the focus for Maumee Valley’s Advancement Office.

Listening, we engage with individuals who seek to develop a long-term partnership with Maumee Valley, who share our values, propose ways to work together to achieve common ends, and trust us enough to be honest with us and keep asking us to be honest with them.

Learning from our community of donors, we develop stronger character as trusted professionals, and together build a better future for Maumee Valley.

There is great joy found in philanthropy in the lasting relationships that are often formed.



A FOCUS ON PARENTS:

With an opening in the Advancement Office and a reconfiguration of a position to focus on parents, a national search was conducted which resulted in Brian Oliver assuming the position of **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, PARENT PHILANTHROPIC ENGAGEMENT** on July 1, 2019. This is a new full-time position in the Advancement Office and involves serving as the chief engagement officer for the current and alumni parent community.

Having previously served as Head of the Upper School, Brian is well known among the Maumee Valley parent community and wholeheartedly embraces the school’s mission. He will be responsible for coordinating the overall parent engagement and philanthropy program.



Maumee Valley continues to evolve in how we meet student needs while honoring our rich 135-year history. Throughout our history, the financial support of our school community has helped us sustain our commitment to academic excellence delivered through a student-centered, innovative approach.

Tuition alone does not cover the cost of a Maumee Valley education, and it is financial gifts through The Community Fund for Maumee Valley that provides funding for this gap and allows us to say ‘yes’ to innovative projects, and to continue with initiatives and opportunities for students that make an impact. Also known as the annual fund, The Community Fund is the cornerstone of Maumee Valley’s philanthropic efforts.

Without the generosity of our community, the educational programs and opportunities we provide annually to Maumee Valley students would be severely limited.

The Community Fund for Maumee Valley allows us to fulfill our commitment to students through:

- TRAVEL FOR LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL IMMERSION TRIPS AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES
- TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES
- EXPANDED COURSE OFFERINGS
- CURRICULAR RESOURCES

Demonstration of support for Maumee Valley through philanthropy is meaningful. Every gift to the Community Fund makes a difference and combined with others, an even greater impact.

www.mvcds.org/makeagift
It is truly a *community* effort!





A portrait OF US: THE 41ST ANNUAL AUCTION

Led by chair Lori Ziegler P'19, Maumee Valley's 41st annual fundraising event was held on Saturday, May 11, 2019. Bringing together more than 250 community supporters, this annual event raised over **\$225,000**.

This year's theme--"A Portrait Of Us" was reflective of the Maumee Valley mission, and what connects and engages the community. As they walked through the corridors of the campus, guests were reminded of the students and the direct impact of faculty through interactive photo installations of various shapes and sizes. Photography drew a direct parallel to a commitment to global and experiential education and telling a visual story of student talents, educational journeys, and reflecting unique interests and passions.

A Springtime *"farmer's market"* replete with food vendors served a Cultural Kaleidoscope strolling dinner with international delights reflecting the incredible diversity of the school community including Indian, Middle Eastern, Asian Fusion, and American/ Tex-Mex cuisine. A silent auction and leaderboard

featured a variety of items including sporting event tickets and suites, exclusive events and access, handcrafted items, beautiful artwork, services, and family fun.

A *new auction category* featured Upper School students and channeled their talents, passions, and personal narratives into auction items and experiences with a surprising and eclectic collection of original art, exclusive performances, lessons, activities for younger children, dinner parties, and sports clinics. As the first class to go through all four years of the Upper School under the full MV2020 Vision, the Class of 2019 was the first with twelve intensive experiential learning opportunities, continuing and enhancing the long tradition of *Winterim*.

Thank you to all of our donors, sponsors, volunteers, and community members for helping to raise \$225,000 for our students.

ABOVE: PARENTS HELEN MABRY '88 AND MARK SAVAGE SEARCHING FOR PICTURES OF THEIR CHILDREN

ALUMNI



SUSAN SMITH '68 AND KAYE COOKE

85TH SMEAD *luncheon* & AWARDS



The 85th Smead Luncheon was held on campus Friday, May 3, in the Millhon Auditorium with approximately 50 community members--alumni, alumni parents, parents, students, and friends. The Maumee Valley strings ensemble welcomed guests, followed by the Upper School choir leading the Alma Mater.

CAROLINE SCHUTTE '20 was introduced as the **SMEAD SCHOLAR AWARD RECIPIENT**, a four-year honor supported by benefactors Helen France Foster '28, Judy France '29, Elizabeth France Lewis '40, and Louise France Werbe '42 who desired to support a Maumee Valley education for young women.

Other award recipients included:

RICHARD STEKETEE '68 - ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

ALEX BOWE DEROSA '82 - ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD

DAVID (DEKE) WELLES '70 - ALUMNI LIFETIME DEDICATION AWARD

ZURI HALL '06 - YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

JAY GRIFFITH P'13, '15, '19 - ALUMNI PARENT DEDICATION AWARD



Congratulations to the 2019 Alumni Achievement Award winner, Richard Steketee '68. Rick's accomplished life began at Maumee Valley, but "oh the places he would go..."

Rick's entry into medicine was presaged by two stints at Toledo Hospital - first as a surgery patient after blowing his knee in an MV football game, and later as an orderly to gain experience in medicine. Rick completed his MD at the University of Cincinnati in 1976, followed by a residency in Family Practice at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester in 1979. After spending a good bit of time in refugee camps in Africa and Asia in the late '70s, Rick got bitten by the infectious diseases bug and became a medical epidemiologist. He went back to Harvard for a Master's degree in Public Health and completed a Preventive Medicine Residency at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta in 1985 where he worked for the next 21 years. He is certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

Rick's work has been mainly on malaria for 15 of his CDC years, during which time, he lived and worked in Malawi on controlling the disease in pregnant women and children. Rick and his family then moved to France where he became the Science Director for the Malaria Control Program at PATH, a nongovernmental organization supporting international public health in the developing world. Rick directed PATH's Malaria Control and Elimination Program operating in 16 African and Southeast Asia countries. Their goal is not just to control but to eliminate malaria on the African continent.

In August 2018, Rick moved to Washington, D.C., to become the Deputy U.S. Global Coordinator for the President's Malaria Initiative, working again within the CDC. Needless to say, he is an internationally recognized expert in malaria. He has worked closely with the World Health Organization, UNICEF, the World Bank, the Global Fund to Fight HIV, TB, and Malaria, and a multi-national Partnership to End Malaria. Rick also published hundreds of papers in academic medicine and global public health on malaria and related problems.





THE FUTURE OF LEADERSHIP: *A community discussion toward affecting change*

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE BLADE, KURT STEISS

Serving as a preview to the Upper School Global Leadership Program's "2019 Issue Day," which featured talks on Healthy Societies, a community discussion was held in Maumee Valley Country Day School's Millennium Theater. Moderated by Erickson "EB" Blakney '83, program officer at the Pinkerton Foundation and long-time Board member at the DreamYard Project in New York City, the discussion also featured the great work of another former Maumee Valley student, Tim Lord '83. Tim, the co-founder/co-executive director of the DreamYard Project, was joined by Taylor Balderas-Burciaga, executive director of the Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center (SQACC) in Toledo, and Charlie Johnson, MRC, LSW (Retired), board member of the SQACC, and former social worker and rehabilitation counselor/therapist.

Having spent only three transformative years at Maumee Valley in the fifth through seventh grades, Tim Lord was the son of former Assistant Headmaster Charlie Lord. Fast forward to today. Thanks in large part to Tim's vision and leadership, the DreamYard Project partners with Bronx families and seeks to teach Pre-Kindergarten to 12th grade students through an arts and social justice lens. With a goal of building pathways to equity and opportunity through the arts, they ultimately empower children to find their voice and remain within their own community to affect long-term social change. Well-known in the nonprofit and funder community in New York City, organizations see DreamYard's work as thoughtful, progressive, and groundbreaking. When questioned why Tim chose to build the organization utilizing this educational model, he directly linked it to his experience with learning at Maumee Valley where he was able to engage in the arts, build and create as he learned, and explore different perspectives.

As a small step intended to promote positive change, the community discussion focused on creative development and the attempt of organizations to develop agency among young people and help them develop for themselves a sense of efficacy and power in their lives through encouraging and supportive adults who are someone other than a parent or teacher. Each speaker talked about the importance of collaboration, and that one person or one organization cannot successfully change a community long-term.

According to Tim Lord, “Having partners to work with who aren’t in your wheelhouse is important.” Through DreamYard’s Pathways program, Here to Here, Tim has seen the value in collaboration by charting network opportunities through more than 1200 paid internship opportunities for young people in the Bronx. Employers see young people as assets and contributors in their company long-term, thereby imagining a place where young people could have real-world experiences. Internship opportunities communicate messages such as, “This is possible. You can do this. We believe in your future.” Some employers may not be ready to receive young people, and, as Tim explained, schools can be a great asset in developing partnerships and collaboration.

Organizations such as DreamYard and the Sofia Quintero Art and Cultural Center help students overcome their negative perception of themselves and see that they can take something and do something for themselves. According to Tim, creative youth development is about looking at resources. “Everyone develops in a different way. You cannot develop a community if you are not developing youth. They are the ones who will take that on and move it forward. Youth have a lot more influence, and it will impact the community; it’s a domino effect. Young people in our community are assets. We need to listen to their voices.”

Through a partnership with Montefiore Medical Center, the DreamYard Arts Center has drawn attention through street theater and art to get more people tested for HIV, thereby helping to change lives. Creative youth development is reflected through selling fashion on the street and changing the way a neighborhood looks. Through thousands of vacant lots, a memorial park was created--a collaborative effort to do something positive. As members of the panel shared, successful community development is about finding the people and the resources in the community to help solve a problem, bringing people and resources together and seeing what can happen. As Tim shared, communities can be an asset to young people who have grown up under incredible challenges beginning with viewing the world through a lens of empathy.

In reflecting on his visit to campus, Tim shared that he enjoyed his time at Maumee Valley. “The community discussion was a wonderful example of how a school can be a community gathering place. It was terrific to talk with teachers, parents, and students about youth and community development, and to have the conversation with such inspirational local leaders.”

The Global Leadership Program’s Issues Day was a reminder of what makes Maumee Valley such a truly unique and special learning community. Fully planned and managed by the students, the series of talks were powerful, thought-provoking, and inspiring, sparking discussions and interaction around difficult topics and conversations.



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SPEAKER SERIES: VIN GUPTA '01 ON GLOBAL HEALTH

Each year, the Upper School’s Global Leadership Program (GLP) “Speaker Series” invites high-profile speakers to Campus to educate Maumee Valley and the broader community on how to be global citizens and leaders across a variety of fields. With the broad nature of this year’s theme, Healthy Societies, Dr. Vinay Gupta '01 was a well-suited and inspirational speaker for the Maumee Valley community, given his expertise in global health issues.

An assistant professor at the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME), Dr. Gupta focuses on the global burden of non-communicable diseases. He received his B.A. from Princeton, his M.D. from Columbia, and his M.P.A. from Harvard. Additionally, he is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations and is on the boards of several health-focused nonprofit organizations worldwide.

Dr. Gupta’s talk focused on the detrimental effects of tobacco and air pollution on public health around the world. He outlined the financial, gender-based, and political factors that influence tobacco use globally. He spoke from first-hand experience about being a Major in the U.S. Air Force medical corps, as well as how giving foreign medical aid can make the U.S. safer by stabilizing countries that would otherwise be unstable. Towards the end of his talk, Dr. Gupta fielded a variety of interesting questions from students, his former Maumee Valley teachers, parents, and alumni in attendance.

Throughout his talk, Dr. Gupta repeatedly highlighted his educational experiences at Maumee Valley and how they helped prepare him to be the active global citizen he is now.



ALUMNI INTERVIEW: *Dr. Anitha Rao '01*

WRITTEN BY ELLIE GRIFFITH '19

“The community at MV is special. I keep in close contact with at least half of my class. I enjoy meeting up with old colleagues when I am traveling for conferences just to catch up. Your peers at MV have known you during the most vulnerable times of childhood and adolescence. You will learn to lean on them during the ups and downs of life.” - Dr. Anitha Rao '01

Dr. Anitha Rao attended Maumee Valley from grade 7 through 12 and returned to campus as this year's graduation speaker. She likes to stream her music, and depending on her mood, she listens to anything from Tango to Electronica and also likes to meditate to binaural beats. Meanwhile, she is the CEO and Founder of Neurocern, a Chicago-based clinical analytics company that supports family caregivers to improve the longevity and quality of life for patients with dementia and other neurological conditions worldwide.

“Socrates said, ‘Wisdom begins in wonder.’ Maumee Valley has always encouraged students to think outside the box. This approach has significantly impacted how I’ve led my journey from medicine into entrepreneurship. Maumee Valley is a community of lifelong learners who ask bold questions and are always ‘coloring outside the lines.’ It is here that I was taught to value my creativity and to always push the envelope.”

With a unique blend of Neuroscience and Entrepreneurship, Dr. Rao's unique, non-traditional, and creative “outside of the box” path is a clear example of Maumee Valley's ability to create multi-dimensional thinkers. After graduating from Lehigh University and the University of Toledo College of Medicine, Dr. Rao decided to further her education by pursuing a Masters in Medical Anthropology, a decision not necessarily accepted by her peers.

“My colleagues and professors in medical school thought it was unusual for a medical student to want to pursue higher education in Anthropology, but I felt drawn to this field and knew that I wanted to work on health policy and macro-economics.”

While studying Medical Anthropology at Case Western Reserve University, Dr. Rao learned that medical conditions like dementia were projected to be the number one cost to economies worldwide by 2025, thus began a blooming interest in Neuroscience and complex neurological disorders. Not only was Rao fascinated by the economics and science of the subject, but she also found a huge need for specialized physicians.

“Between the global need for physicians who specialize in dementia and my love for Oliver Sacks books (which I was introduced to during English class Sophomore year at MV, thanks to Jenny Barthold!), I knew that I wanted to be a neurologist. I completed my neurology residency training at Case Western Reserve University. There I met hundreds of patients and families who were experiencing complex neurological

conditions that often had little or no cure--ALS, Multiple Sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, and dementia were just some of the types of conditions patients faced who I saw in my clinic and the hospital. I was inspired by my patients who would tell me that they wished they had taken more chances in life."

Dr. Rao could have stopped there; however, again, she was drawn to ask further questions and dig deeper by sub-special[izing] in Alzheimer's and dementia at a top three globally ranked neurology program at the University of California in San Francisco. She attributes having carved a niche for herself as a physician entrepreneur by asking a lot of questions with curiosity leading her down a windy path from academic medicine, to pitching to Silicon Valley investors, to now negotiating with Fortune 500 companies.

In California, Dr. Rao was again faced with desperate clients coming to her clinic "as a last resort for expert clinical care." She discusses the scarcity of dementia specialized physicians by giving this shocking statistic and personal anecdote: "There are 600 dementia neurologists like myself, and 10M patients with dementia in the US. My wait time was nine months long. Every patient I met had a unique story and needed very specialized care." She decided to do something about this issue.

To meet the global needs of dementia expert care, Dr. Rao realized that she would have to build a technology platform that would use the knowledge of other dementia neurologists. Currently the CEO and Founder of Neurocern, a Chicago-based clinical analytics company that supports family caregivers in order to improve the longevity and quality of life for patients with dementia and other neurological conditions worldwide, Dr. Rao's company has been highlighted by Forbes magazine, and her research has been showcased by the Society of Actuaries and the Alzheimer's Association.

"Although I was discouraged from trying non-traditional paths often in my life, Maumee Valley's foundational teachings to honor one's passions allowed me to take a path less traveled despite the naysayers."

Maumee Valley is known for its incredible diversity and inclusion. Born in Chennai, India, Dr. Rao reflects on how her culture helps not only her mindset but her career. Her family came to the United States when she was just a baby; however, English was her third language.

"Spending numerous summers in India [visiting extended family] helped me see the world as a bigger place than just the city of Toledo. As a youngster, my parents always encouraged travel. Every winter break or long weekend involved a passport. Learning and experiencing other cultures allowed me to be a more empathetic physician, too; in fact, during rounds, I had a special skill to communicate with patients who had recently lost the ability to speak because of a stroke. By using body language and facial expression, I was often able to synthesize what my patients were trying to tell me."

As the CEO of a company, Dr. Rao often uses her global-mindset to think critically about her company's go-to-market strategy and communicates business models that address access to care issues for clients in different countries. She is working on a project this year to highlight the shortages of neurologists worldwide and how this will impact the growing aging population.

"Winterim in high school was a special experience that allowed me to pursue interests that would not be offered by a traditional high school curriculum. I am a big fan of personal downtime to allow the creative mind to unfold."

As a student, Dr. Rao opted for experiences that allowed her to explore matters outside of the classroom, such as ballet classes on New York City's Broadway, teaching science to first graders in Toledo, and even spending time with a PR firm.

"I was shy in high school and found my creative strengths later in life. I encourage graduates to embrace uncertainty in life. So often, we go to the 'safe zone,' but it's when we are the most uncomfortable, and the most vulnerable, that we learn the most about ourselves."



Because Maumee Valley . . .
A STUDENT REFLECTION BY *Ellie Griffith '19*

I started at Maumee Valley in fifth grade. My two older sisters had been at Maumee Valley for four years prior to my enrolling in fifth grade. Even with this slow introduction, I was incredibly nervous about coming to Maumee Valley, though I had no reason to be.

Some of my earliest memories of Maumee Valley show the diversity of experiences the school provides starting at a young age. From building forts in the woods at recess to building a model of Mesopotamia in Social Studies, school was more engaging and fun than it had ever been. One of my fondest memories was researching and dressing up as Steve Irwin for our "Living Biography Day." I immediately felt at home.

Because of Maumee Valley, I began to explore my interests from the moment I arrived.

In Middle School, we continued to explore who we were through a multifaceted education. From debates with social studies teacher Mr. Green on topics such as gun control, race relations, and the death penalty, we were taught from a young age how to have civil discussions about controversial topics. We learned how to disagree respectfully. If the class was one-sided on an issue, Mr. Green always brought up the opposing views. While our studies were serious and worldly, Maumee Valley had a good understanding that middle schoolers needed time outside of class. We had large amounts of Advisee time, in which we collected recycling, competed in challenges, and decorated the hallway for events such as Haunted Hallways. My favorite memory as an Advisee of Mr. "D" Daugherty was our feature film "Pawsquatch," which we put together throughout the year.

Even in the conventionally awkward phases of life, I felt accepted in the community.

Yes, we were awkward, but we were awkward together!

High school came quickly, but Maumee Valley made the transition seamless. I soon found myself in a large glass building surrounded by people of every culture and religion--new and old--ready to find their passion, speak their truth, and most importantly, learn.

My freshman year, I was able to spend a month in Ecuador, attending school at Steiner. This was my first experience outside of North America and it was truly mind opening. I was able to stay with a family whose two daughters had previously lived with us for a month, and who my sister stayed with when she had participated in the same trip only three years prior. I am happy to have gained a second family across the sea.

It is a common thing at Maumee Valley for students to find themselves with best friends from countries and heritages reflective of the world. My own best friend is from Sweden! I attribute a lot of my cultural understanding to growing up with people of every race, religion, and culture.

Maumee Valley not only has a strong academic and social culture but a variety of options outside of the typical studies. Outside of school Maumee Valley continued to teach me important lessons such as passion, community, and inclusion.

Maumee Valley is known for helping kids explore their interests, and even find passion.

Veterinary medicine has always been an interest of mine; however, I didn't know the extent. Through the Maumee Valley's intensive program, I have been able to intern with a mobile Veterinarian, conduct my own scientific

study on internal parasites in horses, raise market steers from the time they were a day old, and intern at a Veterinary Hospital which currently employs a Maumee Valley alum!

I have always lived on a crop farm located about half an hour from the school. In fifth grade, I raised chickens and sold eggs--often to teachers and even to a coffee shop owned by a Maumee Valley parent. Entering high school, I raised four baby steers as a part of an intensive/independent study. Through this experience, I was able to know what my future clients deal with day to day and experience a career from all sides, thereby discovering my love for emergency and large animal medicine.

As a part of 17 shows--either cast or backstage--the theater program was a crucial part of my experience at Maumee Valley. Even if I had a small role, there were always ways to create and take on a production role, as well. No matter what, there was a place for me in Maumee Valley's theater program. Whether as a lead, part of the ensemble, or assistant director, I was fully exposed to what is needed to produce a production. In theater, I found more than a community; I found a family of sorts that accepts a fifth grader just the same as a senior in high school. Maumee Valley does a very good job at diversifying the shows chosen to highlight different aspects of theater. During the last production, I was able to be a mentor to some young theater kids. From third grade to Middle School, I will forever remember the kids who became my friends over the course of the performance of "Seussical."

Because of Maumee Valley, I will be attending Berry College and majoring in animal science pre-vet and minoring in theater. I even received a competitive scholarship for acting!

Even as "nonathletes," my parents had required my siblings and me to at least try a sport in high school. With Maumee Valley's no-cut sports program and the open and accepting community, I was inspired to try the difficult sport of tennis. I appreciate my experience of being a female senior athlete competing on the boy's team. Maumee Valley truly opened me up to athletics, and continually encouraged me to try new things. Tennis became therapeutic for me, and through the support of my teammates and coaches, I have developed a love for athletics.

My Maumee Valley experience is just one of many. I'm sure that any student, teacher, parent, or alum could tell similar stories of inclusion, diversity, and community. For me, the most important thing is that it will always be my home.

No matter what or where I go, Maumee Valley will always stay with me!

I have made friends that will last a lifetime. I have learned so many things that have shaped me into the person I am today, and to everyone who made that possible at Maumee Valley, I truly thank you from the bottom of my heart.

In addition to holding a variety of roles in the theater program, Ellie Griffith is a four-year varsity tennis player, founder of the Terracycle program, GSA member, and Hawk Host Ambassador. She is a graduating senior honored with cum laude and will be attending Berry College for Animal Science.

class notes

1950s

**CLASS OF '55 GATHERING**

This past summer, Neil and Joanie Kelly Green '55 hosted their classmates for an annual Maumee Valley Alumni gathering in Granville, OH, and toured Denison University Museum in Granville. L-R: Emily Riddell, Neil Greene, Joanie Green, Stuart Riddell, Cynthia Lafferty, Ted Koupal, Kay Koupal, Carole Bishop, Marshall McClung, Pat McClung, Tony Plutynski.

**JENNY HANKINS BARTHOLD '57**

Jenny Hankins Barthold '57, David Burkett, and retired Director of Admissions Vicki Koelsch traveled to England this Spring, stopping for tea at the Royal Crescent Hotel in Bath, England.

1970s

**TONY ARMSTRONG, M.D., M.P.H. '76**

is the new President-Elect of the Ohio State Medical Association.

1980s

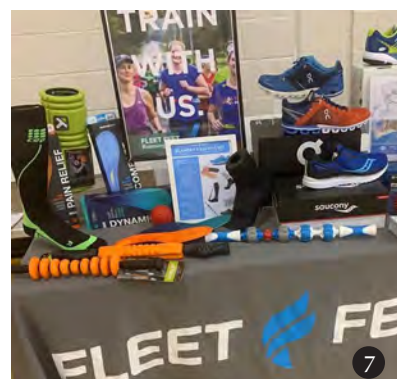
**SEKSOM SURIYAPA '84 AND PRATIK MULTANI, M.D. '84**

ran into each other at a restaurant in San Francisco where Pratik was celebrating his 25th anniversary, and across the room, Seksom was with his Twitter team having a holiday celebration dinner. This serendipitous exchange allowed Seksom and Pratik to catch up after many decades.

Pratik lives in San Diego and is the Chief Medical Officer at ORIC (Overcoming Resistance In Cancer). He has twin daughters, Geeta and Priya, who are both sophomores at Stanford.

Seksom lives in Atherton, CA, and is VP, Corporate Development & Strategy at Twitter in the San Francisco Bay Area. He and his wife, Susan Shrader, have a son Sebastian in 5th grade.

class notes



1. Erie Chapman '61 returned to campus and met with the 2018 and 2019 Erie Chapman Foundation Renaissance Student Award recipients, Denise Tamesis '19, and Carolyn Schutte '20. The purpose of the award is to encourage and recognize multi-talented students who specialize in more than one field of study, modeled after the life of Leonardo Da Vinci. **2.** Becky Ashley Ross '69 and Masahide "Max" Yasuda '68 visited in Japan for Max's 70th birthday celebration with family. **3.** Shawn Schwaner '84 was the keynote speaker for the 27th Annual Arts & Letters Day at Miami Dade College on April 1, 2019. **4.** There is nothing like a mini-reunion with some of your best childhood friends. Photo L-R: Courtney Haddad Quinn '92, Kendra Haddad Neter '90, Lisa Martin '92, Amanda Gosman '90, and Miriam Gohara '90. **5.** Katherine Block '00 and Vicente Undurraga '00, with their son Diego Undurraga, born February 18, 2019. **6.** Nadiah Fellah '02 was a guest curator and moderator at a special program presented at the Newark Museum, looking at Wendy Red Star's artistic production in context with other visual and performing arts creatives. **7.** Lena RW Steiner '02 had the opportunity to talk to over 200 soldiers from the 2nd Brigade in February 2019 about training and injury prevention during a running seminar. Working for Fleet Feet gives Lena amazing opportunities like this and she is very grateful to share the knowledge she has gained about the sport she loves. "I love my job!"

class notes

1990s

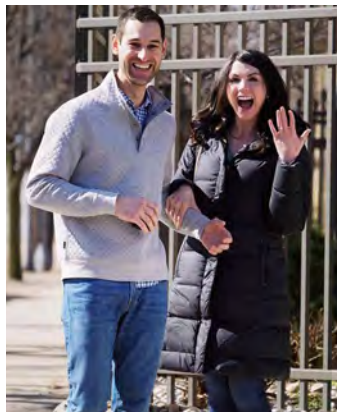
**MIRIAM GOHARA '90**

As part of research funded by Yale Law School, Miriam Gohara '90, Clinical Associate Professor of Law, visited several prisons and wrote an article on a pilot program in Connecticut seeking to answer the question, "What if our justice systems treated victims of violence who harm others as also deserving of healing?" Miriam teaches and writes about capital and non-capital sentencing, incarceration, and the historical and social forces implicated in culpability and punishment. Before joining the Yale Law School faculty, she spent sixteen years representing death-sentenced clients in post-conviction litigation, first as assistant counsel at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund (LDF) and then as a specially designated federal public defender. She has litigated cases in state and federal courts around the United States, including the United States Supreme Court.

2000s

**PETER AKPUNONU, M.D., '03**

As the Medical Director of Undersea & Hyperbaric Medicine, Peter holds the responsibility of operating the only after-hours hyperbaric chamber that does emergent treatments and directing an inpatient toxicology service.

**NATHANIEL LEMPERT '06**

is engaged to Kristen Thomas.

**ALEXIS HOLMAN '07**

is one of the first graduates from the University of Toledo's J.D/M.D program and received the valedictorian award at the law commencement ceremony. Alexis was also named the Hirsh Award winner in the American College of Legal Medicine Student Writing Competition.

**STEVEN ZIMA '09**

enrolled at the University of North Carolina, Kenan-Flagler Business School.

**NANCY RANSOM '12**

is working at the Kalamazoo Nature Center and The Institute for Bird Populations as a Field Assistant for the Powdermill Nature Reserve, Enrichment Intern at Nature's Nursery, and Plant Lady at Kalamazoo Garden Solutions. Nancy has also worked at the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center and Gander Outdoors.

**LINEA PARRY '12**

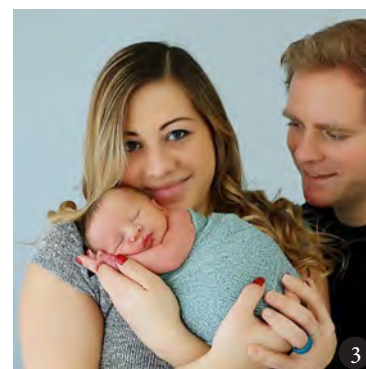
Linea Parry '12 married Mitch Falter on March 23, 2019 at Cross Creek Ranch in Fulshear, TX.

2010s

JESSIE GRIFFITH '15

will be attending Washington University in St. Louis as a Ph.D. candidate in the Molecular Microbiology and Microbial Pathogenesis program underneath the Division of Biology and Biomedical Sciences.

class notes



1. Emily Benavides '03 married Mike Thom on April 13 in Marbella, Spain. **2.** Megan Sieberg '03 was inducted into the TAAC Hall of fame this past November along with former athletic director Jim Fish. Classmates that attended included: (L-R) Joel Gedeon '03, Morgan Bayer '03, and Kelsy Grefe Oberhaus '03. **3.** Bryant Parker '04 and wife Jamie, with their son Maverick Bryant Parker, born December 1, 2018. **4.** Zuri Hall '06 hosted The 2019 Oscars Red Carpet for E! **5.** Michelle Filanovsky Bechtold '07 married Paul Bechtold on May 19, 2018, in Chagrin Falls, OH. Michelle completed her dermatology residency in June 2019 in Cleveland, OH, and the couple will move to Bloomington, Indiana. Bridesmaids included Samantha Geiser '07 and Anna Shapiro '08. **6.** Oliver Rorick '08 married Kelly Moroney on February 2, 2019, in Casa Marina Key West, FL, and honeymooned at the southernmost tip of Africa. Other MVCDS alumni in attendance: Zach Schmidt '08, Leigh Rorick '06, Kathleen Choka '06, Kitsy Sabin Choka '75, Betsy Sabin Kelsey '73, and Craig Choka '05. **7.** Andrew Schmidt '08 married Megan Haer on October 12, 2018, at the Inn at Serenbe in Palmetto, GA. **8.** Parth Patel '10 married Shreya on May 11, 2019, at The Henry - Autograph Collection, in Dearborn, MI, and is beginning his career at the Henry Ford Hospital.

class notes



1. Maumee Valley alumni, parents of alumni, and current students attended Dixon Stoddard '12's wedding. Dixon married Taylor Arends on March 3, 2019, at the W.W. Knight Preserve in Rossford, OH. L-R: Blake Stoddard, Kaylou Stoddard '15, Dixon Stoddard '12, Taylor Stoddard, Dillon Stoddard '10, and Abby (Dillon's fiancé), with Weezie Foster Stoddard '82.



class notes

2. L-R: Wesley Foster '22, Tyler Foster '24, Ella Foster '18, Stephen Foster '84, Kathleen Frasco, Kaylou Stoddard '15, Matt Dick '15, Susanna Patrick Hedblom '82, Nick Frasco '12, Lila Foster '20, Dixon Stoddard '12, Tim Foster '84, Taylor Stoddard, Steve Foster '58, Dillon Stoddard '10, Kay Rathbun Foster '57, Paige Willey '12, Forrest Foster '08, Jim Willey '70, Rick Deichert '12, Mary Krueger, Weezie Foster Stoddard '82, Nancy Fish, Jim Fish, Roger Spurgeon, Kim Spurgeon, Sarah Arthur, Josh Arthur, Walter Krueger, and Blake Stoddard.

3. Ella Foster '18 and Kaylou Stoddard '15 at Vassar for the Ithaca/Vassar lacrosse game.

4. Ron Euton has been in the used and rare book business, as a "hobby," for 40 years and he has collected pop-ups for about 25 years. A former MVCDS faculty member, Ron has many fascinating, moveable books from his extensive collection that were on display in the Wolfe Gallery. The exhibit featured many examples of eight different types of moveable books, poster books, and included a hands-on area.

5. Jim Fish, former Athletic Director and coach at MVCDS was inducted into the TAAC Hall of fame in November 2018.

remembering THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US...

Alumni

CORNELIA "PAT" LATHROP MAUK '47

HELEN KREUTZ '47

STEPHEN STRANAHAN '53

ALBERT "FRITZ" FOSTER '54

GEOFFREY BEALE '63

MARVIN RORICK III '70

Faculty

CHARLES F. "CHUCK" LUNDHOLM

TEACHER 1966-2006

Stephen Stranahan '53

1934 – 2019

BY RITA JAESSING BRAUNECK '68

Stephen Stranahan: his impact profound,
his legacy assured, and his many
connections to this dear school worth
celebrating.

Steve and his family have been members of
the Maumee Valley community/family for
five generations.

Pictures are worth a thousand words, so
here is a sampling representing Steve's
moments as student, parent, grandparent,
trustee, financial steward, and patron.



Once upon a time . . . Likely in the early 1880s, Steve's great-grandfather, James Jay Secor, was among the city fathers who set out to find a school to educate their daughters. They found one in Batavia New York, convincing the two Smead sisters to move everything to Toledo and open the **Smead School for Girls**; this was 1884. One of those daughters was Steve's grandmother, Mary Secor. And so it was with Steve's mother (nee' Virginia Secor, but known to all as Did), who graduated in 1922.



Steve's mother, Virginia, is pictured below at Daniel Stranahan's '88 graduation, with Steve, granddaughters, Abby '83 and Francie '78, Francie's husband, Scott Parry '78, and great-grandson, Stephen '07.

Steve was born on May 3, 1934, the very year the school became co-educational, moved to its present location, and adopted its current name, Maumee Valley Country Day School. Both place and name were a clear reflection of Miss Leland, a disciple of an educational methodology that looked at education holistically. As Ann Stranahan noted at Lynn Casto's Head of School Installation, this "Country Day School movement stressed the importance of outdoors, embraced experiential teaching and the sharing of personal stories. All of this was 80 years ago!"

Steve attended Maumee Valley through 8th grade, as the accompanying pictures show. He would likely say he was thankful there wasn't a picture of him at the annual Maypole Dance, an event he reportedly described as both dreaded and embarrassing. Not sure of the path to entwine his ribbon around the Maypole, he was clever enough to figure out it was best just to follow the boy in front of him! Another school-age memory included the "experiential learning" moment when measuring (and reportedly hand-digging) a pool at home served up a math lesson, and gratefully, a passing grade. He went on to attend and graduate from Brooks School, then enrolled at Dartmouth, where he earned a degree in music. He played the piano beautifully.

Returning to Toledo after college, Steve started his career in the family business (Champion Spark Plug), though his business interests soon took other turns, expanding and broadening greatly over his lifetime as entrepreneur, business owner, investor, community patron, civic leader, university trustee, and philanthropist. These noteworthy endeavors and successes have been generously acknowledged since Steve passed away on January 7, 2019.

Married to Ann in 1958, the couple would in time become parents and move to the country. Enter your humble correspondent who was twelve or thirteen at the time and growing up on a large farm just up the road. As the family's babysitter on afternoons, evenings, and during vacations for their three little ones, Francie, Josh, and Abby. (Youngest son Daniel '88 would arrive later.) All would graduate from Maumee Valley, as did I (Class of 1968). With encouragement from Ann, I took the admissions exam in the summer of 1965 and received both an acceptance letter and word of a \$600 scholarship. Tuition was \$1200 back then, so this was significant. **Only much later did I learn that Steve and Ann were funding my scholarship.** The trajectory of my life changed with that generosity, and for that, I am forever grateful.

As parents, another lengthy and storied chapter of connectedness to Maumee Valley would unfold. **Ann characterized their roles as "board members, fundraisers, arbitrators, strategic thinkers, long-range planners, executive searchers, boosters, reconcilers, and punching bags."** (Not sure if the order matters.) Steve was a member of the Board of Trustees from 1975 – 1981, and a member of the Endowment Board from 1978 – 1992. He served as Chair of the Onward Fund between 1968 and 1970 and chaired the Steering Committee for the Campaign for Development from 1975 – 1980, a campaign with a significant corpus that makes up the school's endowment today. **Credit for that legacy goes to Steve, along with his brother Pat '48, Charles McKelvey '48, Carter Smith, Larry Foster, and other generous alumni and parents.**

In Gary Boehm's introductory comments when Steve and his five siblings received the school's 2015 Alumni Achievement Award, it was

noted: "Steve chaired the committee to build the Lower School, an Open Classroom model that was a bold and controversial architectural statement at the time, and one that proved to be an enduring and important vehicle to support our academic program. **Steve was a particularly creative entrepreneur with skills that helped save the school when it fell on financial strain during hard economic times in the 1970s.** The school property, which originally bordered Reynolds Road, grew extremely valuable as the area developed, while the proximity to traffic became increasingly noisy and hazardous. Steve proposed selling the land to restore the school's financial stability, and at the same time commissioning an architectural landscape plan that would protect the campus, giving it the privacy and sense of community that still distinguish it today, forty-five years later. In the **Under One Roof Campaign**, Steve and Ann made a transformative gift and challenged their peers to join them, helping to successfully build the much-needed new Upper School building."

Steve Stranahan depicts a lifetime of connections and transformative gifts. We remember him with gratitude and appreciation.



This story is told through a collection of personal memories, previously published articles, videos, and speeches, with credit and appreciation to many.



Charles F. "Chuck" Lundholm

1943 - 2019



BY TOM CAMBISIOS

I was eating lunch one day with Chuck

Lundholm and Ron Euton, two long-serving pillars of Maumee Valley, when they announced that they were applying for a Millhon grant for the following summer. (Millhon grants were given for the faculty's professional development.) I wondered what sort of English-Science hybrid of a proposal they were going to embark on. Perhaps a collaborative reading of paleontologist Stephen Jay Gould's essays? Or would it be a joint intellectual venture into the world of E. O. Wilson, who specialized in the myrmecology, the study of ants?

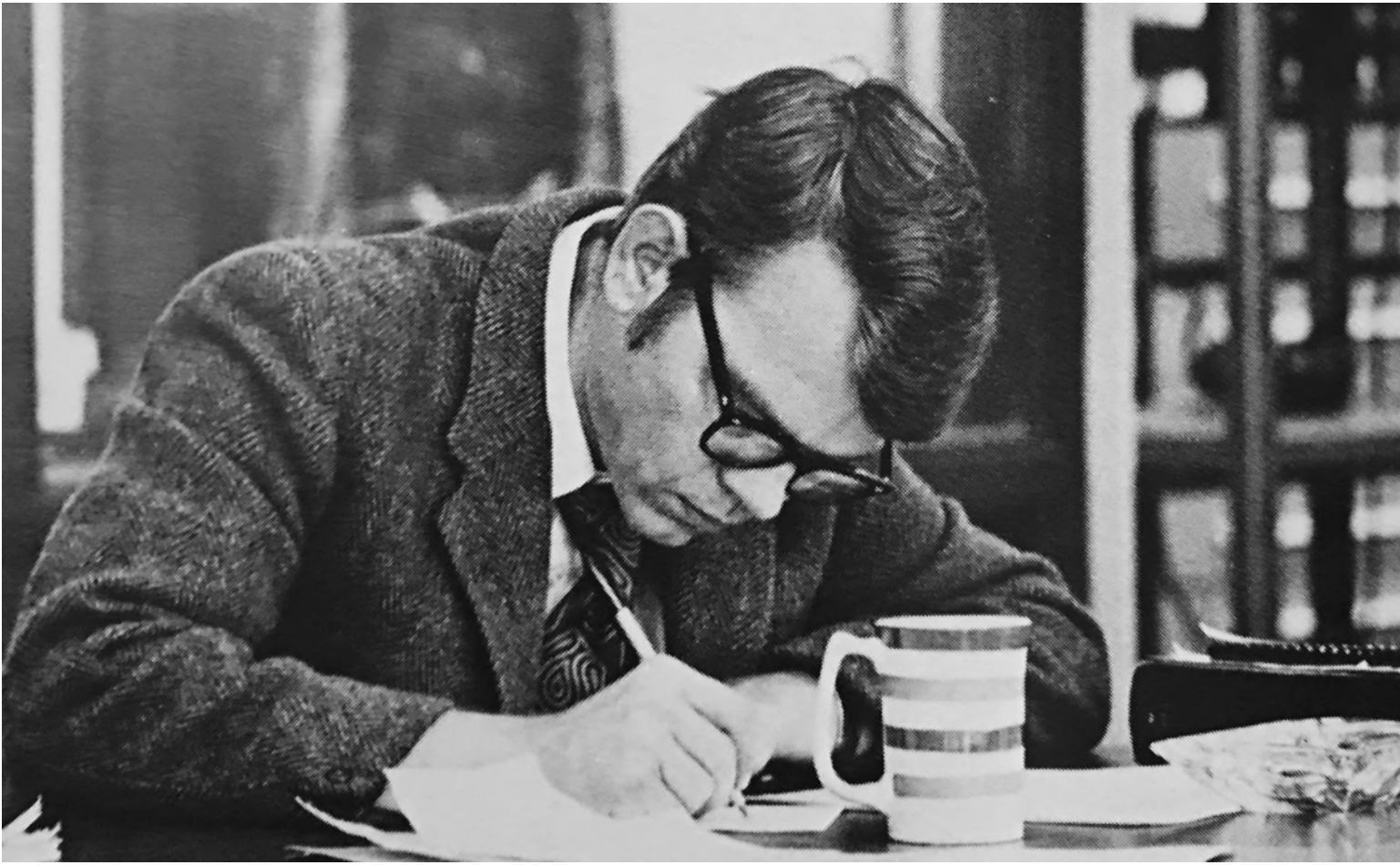
"No," Chuck responded. **"We want to visit all the Wendy's restaurants in the area and do a comparative study."** Well, of course. Chuck and Ron were already connoisseurs of Wendy's, or at least the one near campus, having embarked on many a lunch break there. Why not apply analytical skills to burgers? I don't think Maumee Valley smiled on their proposal, but I have no doubt that they would have discoursed eloquently on the merits of Wendy's fries.

Chuck Lundholm, who passed away in May, was a scholar with an impish sense of humor. As a student of reading (which is what all great teachers must start as), he had personal pleasures that he brought to the classroom. He introduced me (and his students) to Jude the Obscure and Ethan Frome, and he could explain to me with a twinkle in his eye why the seductive Arabella Donn or the quiet Mattie Silver were such fascinating characters. But sometimes, pressed for why he admired these novels, he'd throw up his hands and say, **"I can't explain it. I just do."** In his library, he had a collection of Edgar Rice Burroughs novels (the creator of Tarzan) from his youth, and he could laugh at some of the purple prose but also admire the creativity and good fun in the writing.

Chuck's willingness to look at the world and hold it up dispassionately for examination was one of his many strengths. During faculty meetings, we would sometimes have a free-ranging discussion of a topic and get bogged down in the cacophony of ideas bandied about, all in the best of Maumee Valley traditions. We'd hit some sort of intellectual impasse, and then, Chuck (who had sat out the messy part of the back-and-forth) would lean in and say, **"Have you considered ...?"** And he would bring up a salient point or different approach that suddenly clarified the direction we needed to be moving in. I can't tell you how many times he offered the idea we had not yet considered – but needed to. In many ways, he was the conscience of the faculty.

He was a man of tremendous curiosity about the world. As an avid gardener, he could speak of the merits and faults of various perennials with the passion of the committed amateur. He probably held more different posts at Maumee Valley than anyone else, including teacher, coach, administrator, and college counselor. What I respected so much





about his approach to teaching and college counseling was that he wanted the student to take control of his or her education. You were expected to really be a part of discussions as you worked through the literature. He didn't hold your hand through the college process; yes, he'd be there to offer you thoughts and reminders and wisdom. But this was about your life, so you were expected to take charge and become engaged in your future.

Chuck loved words. He would sometimes slip me a page from his word-a-day calendar (which is how I fell in love with "omphaloskepsis"), and he enjoyed challenging his students with vocabulary quizzes. If you maintained a perfect score all year long, you were feted with a free lunch, at Wendy's.

There are a group of us Maumee Valley folks who have now been having breakfast together every Friday for 30 years or more. Some of us are still teaching; some are retired. Chuck, the avid listener, was there every week with Karen (his wife, his partner in life, his rock, his Maumee Valley comrade-in-arms). Every week, we have shared laughs, complaints, joys, and communal wisdom, and every now and then, Chuck would toss in a bon mot or new idea with, **"Yes, but what about ..?"** The man who dedicated more than 40 years of his life to our school is gone, but he continues to teach us how to live and laugh and learn.





Greetings Members of the Maumee Valley Community,

I hope this letter reaches everyone at the conclusion of an enjoyable, restful summer full of adventures near and far. As you might expect, Maumee Valley and the Alumni Council are once again gearing up for a busy year of events and happenings, and we hope that many of you will join us on campus and in your region.

First and foremost, beginning this Fall, Reunion Weekend will again take place in the month of September from the 26th to the 29th. Although the featured classes will be those that end in -4s and -9s, as always, we welcome all of our community members and alumni to join in the festivities. From campus tours, live music, and dinners, the weekend will be packed with social events designed to bring people together to share memories of time at Maumee Valley as well as opportunities to catch up with friends new and old.

For those of you who have moved, recently graduated, or have news to share, please be in touch with the advancement office to update your information and send in your class notes. We are always looking to hear what Maumee Valley alumni are up to and you all are naturally the best sources of this information.

Stay tuned for local and regional events from coast-to-coast throughout the year and let us know if you would like to host one in your area.

On a personal note, for the first time in 12 years I will call Ohio home when I move to Cincinnati later this month to begin an Assistant Professor of Architecture position in design and history at the University of Cincinnati. If you are visiting or passing through the area, be sure to get in touch!

I look forward to another productive year on the Alumni Council, and I hope you will join us in continuing to ensure our diverse community is an engaged and inclusive one.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joss Kiely'.

Joss Kiely, Ph.D. '01
President, Maumee Valley Alumni Council, 2018-20

THE *Weathervane* SOCIETY

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MR. AND MRS. STEPHEN '53 STRANAHAN



" *One* of the hallmarks of Steve's board service was his insistence on building an endowment fund. [This was true at the University of Toledo, at the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, and Maumee Valley Country Day School.] He knew that seeking deferred giving was

slow and unglamorous work compared to fund-raisers and capital campaigns, but he knew that a non-profit institution could not survive without an endowment."

-- *Ann Stranahan*

You can be a part of the Weathervane Society by including Maumee Valley in your estate plans. Many members have simply named the School as a beneficiary of a retirement account, or in their will or trust. Your forward thinking will ensure that future generations of students can experience the life-changing opportunity of a Maumee Valley education.

For more information, contact the Advancement Office at 419-381-1313.

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1884 LEADERSHIP SOCIETY *Dinner*

GET BACK *Day*

42ND ANNUAL *Fundraising Event*

AUGUST 20, 2019

AUGUST 22, 2019

SEPTEMBER 20, 2019

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2019

OCTOBER 18, 2019

OCTOBER 24, 2019

NOVEMBER 27, 2019

APRIL 18, 2020