

## SCHOOL NEWS

## Rosarian graduate tells students not to play it safe

Rosarian Academy graduated 29 students from its eighth-grade class — five from Palm Beach — on Thursday, in the school theater.

Caroline Fulton, a Class of 2015 alumna, served as the commencement speaker, telling the graduates about how Rosarian prepared her in more ways than she could have imagined for the next four years of her life, from taking high school classes that were “nearly impossible,” to traveling on a service trip to Thailand, to trying out for a team without having any experience.

“Do not play it safe,” she advised them. “It might be awkward, or weird, or you might even fail, but you can always learn from the outcome.”

Fulton attended Rosarian from kindergarten through eighth grade. She graduated with the highest GPA in her class and went on to Saint Andrew’s School in Boca Raton, receiving a four-year merit scholarship to attend. She will head to the University of Virginia as a freshman in the fall.

Palm Beach residents among the graduates were **Isabella Dadey-McMaster, Valery Gonzalez, Lily Guari, Alina Morrison** and **Nicholas Scully**.

In addition to the diplomas, many honors and special awards

were distributed. The President’s Awards for Outstanding Academic Excellence were presented to **Thomas Coates, Stephen Hall, M.J. Hanlon, Crede Janson, Olivia Klein, Alina Morrison, Mia Pariseleti, Victoria Reynolds, Nick Scully and Parker Ward**. Recipients are students who achieved a GPA of 3.5 or higher cumulative on a 4.0 scale, a 90th percentile or higher on all state tests and national achievement tests and high achievement in reading or math during their middle school career.

The award for Educational Achievement was presented to **Matthew Cohen** for showing outstanding educational growth, improvement, commitment or intellectual development in academic subjects.

The Highest Standing Academic Accomplishment was awarded to Pariseleti and Reynolds for earning a 4.0 GPA as well as excellence in effort and conduct throughout the 2018-19 academic year. Highest Academic Honors went to Reynolds for earning As and Es in all core and co-curricular subjects as well as As on all exams for the third trimester.

The St. Dominic Award was presented to **Ava Iuliani** and Reynolds for demonstrating strong religious beliefs and pursuing truth in all

forms, and the Christian values of kindness, respect and integrity. The Oakley Debbs Red Sneaker Award was presented to Guari for participation in four or more sports and receiving at least three athletic awards.

Outstanding achievement in subject area awards went to: religion, Janson; literature, Coates; English, Pariseleti; geometry honors, Reynolds; algebra I honors, Guari; algebra I, **Katarina Bessenroth**; history, Gonzalez; science, **Trace Scuderi**; Spanish, Morrison; STEM, Ward; Art, Reynolds; drama, Janson and Pariseleti; physical education, Cohen.

Those 29 grads will scatter to 10 high schools. Among the island graduates, Guari and Scully will attend Oxbridge Academy; Dadey-McMaster will attend the Dreyfoos School of the Arts; Gonzalez will go on to St. John Paul II Academy and Morrison will attend St. Andrew’s School.

Days before Rosarian’s graduation ceremonies, another event of symbolism and significance took place at the school: first Communion.

In it, 25 second-graders came together at the school theater to receive the Holy Eucharist. The students had already received Communion individually at their home parishes.

Presiding over the liturgy and administration of the sacrament was the Rev. **Brian King**, secretary to Diocese of Palm Beach Bishop **Gerald Barbarito**.

Five island residents were among the communicants: **Julian Angle, Derby Boren, Lena Dictenberg, Maxima LaNasa and Alexandra Noff**.

## PBDA enhances its welcoming attitude

They’re already rolling out the welcome mat at Palm Beach Day Academy for next year.

On May 18, more than 150 members of new and returning families, and members of the school’s administrative team turned up at the Lower School campus in West Palm Beach for a breakfast buffet, a morning of games and fun, and the chance for families to meet school administrators and committee chairs.

Interim Head of School **Billy Peebles**, trustee and Parent Ambassador Committee Chairwoman **Juliana Gendelman** and Parent-Student Council Chairwoman **Lynne Azqueta** all addressed the attendees.

More than 50 new students already have been enrolled for the 2019-20 school year, including 15 new kindergarten students and 16 new members of the Upper Division, with more

applications in progress.

To help new families become comfortable quickly at the school, all new families have been matched with a current family.

The breakfast was but one way the school is trying to increase its user-friendliness. Another successful innovation has been Toddler Tuesdays, monthly themed events that give youngsters the chance to become familiar with the school and potential classmates. The results have been promising, said **Martha Bjorklund**, head of the Lower School.

“We feature our teachers from music, library, physical education and so on (as presenters) and they’ve each done a wonderful job,” she said.

In the season’s last event, physical education instructor **Kelly Zingaro** led about 30 youngsters through a variety of tactile experiences with balls, blocks, hoops, climbing tubes and scarves.

**Hallie Silverberg**, 17 months, needed only a bit of coaxing from mom **Samantha** and dad **Jonathan**, to participate.

“Every time, there’s something different for them,” Samantha Silverberg said. “There’s different kids, different ages, different things to do.”

Bjorklund says there are plans to offer the program again next year.

## TENNIS

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said the town did not show that it had “competent and substantial” evidence to support the approval and officials had not followed established procedures when they supported the project.

The federal suit was filed this month by plaintiff 100 Emerald Beach Way, Lamia Jacobs’ property-ownership company. The suit accuses town officials of repeatedly engaging in “discriminatory practices, unequal treatment and actions that have violated (the plaintiff’s) rights” of equal protection under the 14th Amendment.

The suit cites the tennis court dispute; a parking-sign dispute on Emerald Way, a private street owned by the Thorntons; a code-enforcement dispute over a shed on the Jacobses’ property; and a 2014 dispute with the Thorntons over code violations involving a load-bearing wall at the Jacobses’ property. The suit claims town officials colluded with the Thorntons or their representatives to favor the couple in a number of decisions. The Thorntons are not named as defendants.

The suit, which demands a jury trial, says “governmental entities must treat similarly situated people alike. The right of American citizens to be free from the intentional discrimination and disparate treatment at the hands of government officials is a fundamental bulwark of government overreach.”

## Town’s attorney responds

The town had not filed a response in federal court last week. But in a phone interview, Town Attorney John C. Randolph described the suit as “frivolous and entirely devoid of merit” and said he had never seen anything like it during his long legal career.

“The town does not discriminate for or against one neighbor over another as



**The Palm Beach Town Council this month upheld a decision by the Architectural Commission to approve a tennis court project at 1236 S. Ocean Blvd. in Palm Beach. The project was partially completed after the architectural board initially approved it in 2017, but that decision sparked a flurry of appeals and legal actions filed by a neighbor.** [PHOTO COURTESY TOWN OF PALM BEACH]

alleged in the lawsuit, but treats all residents with respect and applies the law equally to all concerned,” Randolph said. “It is unfortunate that the town has been named as a defendant in this long-standing dispute between neighbors. Suffice it to say that the town will vigorously defend its position in the case.”

The suit was filed in U.S. District Court for Florida’s Southern District on May 15, the same day that the Town Council upheld a 6-1 decision by the Architectural Commission to re-approve the tennis-court project in the wake of the circuit court’s August 2018 decision.

A key issue is whether last summer’s circuit court ruling invalidated the original application for the tennis courts, as Miami attorney Amanda Quirke Hand, representing the Jacobses’ side, has argued at Town Hall. But the Thorntons’ attorney and the town have countered that the circuit court did not demand a new application be filed but simply demanded the original one be reconsidered.

## Town Council upholds decision

In any event, the Jacobses’ legal team

appealed to the Town Council the commission’s April 24 decision approving the tennis courts. And after hearing legal arguments from both sides, the council this month agreed, in a 3-1 decision, that its Architectural Commission had not erred. Councilwoman Julie Araskog cast the lone “no” vote.

Midway through the appeal hearing, Councilwoman Bobbie Lindsay recused herself from voting, heeding the advice of Randolph. Lindsay said from the dais that she was a friend of the Thorntons and recently visited their property to view the tennis project for herself.

The Jacobses’ attorney then asked for Lindsay’s recusal on grounds that she couldn’t be impartial. Lindsay countered that she was confident she could weigh the evidence fairly.

After questioning Lindsay, Randolph told her there was no legal reason to recuse herself because her visit to the Thorntons did not “enure” her to a “special private gain or loss,” the language governing recusals in state law. But Randolph then told Lindsay that if she didn’t recuse herself, the matter might surface in an appeal

of the council’s decision that could be filed by the Jacobses’ attorney.

Palm Beach attorney M. Timothy Hanlon, representing the Thorntons, objected to the demand for Lindsay’s recusal.

Lindsay had also recused herself during an August 2017 meeting related to the tennis courts.

## Another appeal

Meanwhile, another Town Council decision related to the tennis project is pending in appellate circuit court at the request of the Jacobses’ legal team. The court has been asked to review the legality of the council’s March 19 endorsement of a decision by Zoning Administrator Paul Castro, who decided the tennis court project required no zoning code variances or so-called “special exceptions” to accommodate it. The council’s decision paved the way for the Architectural Commission to consider the project in April.

John Thornton is a former president of Goldman Sachs, the investment bank. Bradley Jacobs is a transportation mogul; his wife is a former oil trader.

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## ALLEN, Helaine

Helaine Berenson Allen, of Palm Beach, FL and Boston, MA on May 22, 2019. For 54 years the beloved wife of the late Alvin B. Allen. Devoted mother of Elizabeth and Tom, Matthew and Nancy, Douglas and Elaine, Emily and Martin. Cherished grandmother of Daniel, Katie, Sam, Caroline, Isabel, and Rachel. Dear sister of Theodore S. Berenson and his wife, Cynthia. Accomplished and avid bridge player, philanthropist, world traveler, superb cook known for her outstanding dinner parties. No one enjoyed reading (usually two books at a time) more than Helaine. May her memory be a blessing. Services at Temple Beth Elohim, 10 Bethel Rd, Wellesley, MA Sunday, May 26, 2019, 11:00AM. Interment at Beit Olam Cemetery, Wayland, MA. Memorial observance at her late residence in Boston from 3:00PM to 5:00PM, 7:00PM to 9:00PM Sunday; 1:00PM to 4:00PM, 7:00PM to 9:00PM Monday. In lieu of flowers, remembrances made to Hebrew Senior Life, Berenson-Allen Building renovation (send to Development Office, 1200 Centre Street, Boston, MA 02131).

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## KLOTSCH, Charles Martin

January 30, 1941 - May 23, 2019

Long term Palm Beach resident Charles Martin Klotsche passed away peacefully on May 23, 2019. Born in Milwaukee on January 30, 1941, Charlie’s active and productive 78-year life included: President of the United Nations Palm Beach Chapter; Executive Director of the Globetrotter Marathon Program; former President of the Circumnavigators Club; successful businessman and entrepreneur; author of 13 books; screen writer, published photographer, travel and financial news writer; and sportsman and white-water yachtsman. The projects and persona of Charles Klotsche have been featured in numerous newspapers, periodicals and television reports worldwide. The father of three adoring daughters, his passions included travel, swimming, reading, and enjoying quality time with family and friends.

Charlie graduated from the Babson School of Business, to later earn an MBA from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, where his father J. Martin Klotsche guided the university for 27 years as Chancellor. Charlie served briefly as an officer of the United States Marine Corps; then spent several years as an investment banker in Milwaukee and New York; and later went on, immediately, to successful in building a successful multi-million dollar real estate business. His projects and profile were regularly featured in media outlets, including The Smithsonian and Architectural Digest. One notable project involved the construction of a unique original Frank Lloyd Wright design, the Pottery House, in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Charlie founded the Globetrotter Marathon Program in 2007. This not-for-profit organization takes young veterans, severely wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan, to places across the world so they can participate in marathons. Rather than run, the vets — participating as members of the Achilles Freedom Team for Wounded Veterans — use hand-cranked bicycles to complete the trek. The program was later expanded to include sailboat racing.

Charlie was a prolific writer, authoring many books that chronicled his travel to over 90 countries. His autobiography, published in 2016 by the Pan American Press and dubbed “Good Time Charlie,” is available through Amazon.

Charlie’s deceased parents, Joe and Roberta Klotsche, and his maternal grandmother Annette Roberts, were prominent Milwaukeeans who left lasting community imprints. Charlie is survived by three loving daughters, Kay Owens (Ridge, Maryland), Kelly Tyler (Scottsdale, Arizona) and Lina Montez (Sandia Park, New Mexico), and nine adorable grandchildren. Charlie was blessed with two brothers, Allan from Vero Beach, Florida, now deceased, and younger brother John who resides in Incline Village, Nevada and with whom Charlie was the closest of pals. Charlie’s significant other, Carol Digges, is a long time Palm Beacher.

To recognize his joyous life, there will be a memorial service and reception for Charles Martin Klotsche at the Palm Beach Royal Poinciana Chapel in the fall. A family memorial reception will also be held, again specifics to be announced, at the Klotsche Center and Pavilion, a multi-sport complex at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee dedicated to and named after his father. Charlie’s remains will come to rest at the Forest Home Cemetery in Milwaukee, where he will be united with members of his maternal family.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Palm Beach Chapter of the United Nations Association, (<https://unnausa.org/chapter/palmbeach/>).

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