Musings is a monthly e-newsletter sent to Portsmouth Abbey parents, alumni and friends that contains informal news designed to keep you better informed about the School, the Monastery and our community. For day-to-day news about School events and activities, we invite you to visit the "News" section of our School website. You may also choose to receive news alerts from us; just go to the “News” page on our website, or to the “Team Page” you want to follow, and click on the “Alerts” button. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, Pinterest and LinkedIn. Thank you!

Third Annual Art & Science Expo Showcases Students’ Talents: The School’s third Art & Science Expo, held April 15 in the Regan Lecture Hall, was a resounding success, as 19 students, aspiring artists and scientists alike, presented a range of exceptional work to a panel of judges.

The program was divided into two sections, “Oral Presentations” and “Creations and Projects.” The winner in the “Creations and Projects” division was Deon Li ’17, with “Photocatalysis of Carbon Monoxide into Carbon Dioxide using an LED source.” The runner-up was Rosie Randolph ’16, with “Hearts and Lungs" (pictured here). In the “Oral Presentation” Division, Finnley Arends ’17 placed first with “Bag the Number 2.” The runner-up was Scott Harkins ’17, whose presentation
was titled, “How to Unboil an Egg.”

“The Third Annual Portsmouth Abbey School Art & Science Expo (PASase) was a great success and showcased the incredible creativity of Abbey students,” said Abbey Science teacher Dr. Stephen Zins, who organized the Expo. “The oral presentations spanned trips to Tibet, unboiling an egg, reducing workplace carbon monoxide, and revolutionizing recycling! The physical art pieces exhibited impressive, scientifically inspired talent, with an Andy Warhol-style piece on the human heart and lungs garnering significant praise. The judges from Brown University were unanimously impressed with the effort and ability of our Abbey students, and they praised the Abbey for holding an event uniting two seemingly disparate, but ultimately intertwined, disciplines: Art and Science.”

Category winners received a $50 Amazon gift card and a copy of the book, On Immunity, by Eula Biss. Runners-up also received a copy of the book, which is a recent Book-of-the-Year candidate that artistically outlines the case for vaccines using evidence and metaphor from literature, history, and poetry; “a nice blend of art and science,” added Dr. Zins. Read more.

2016 Haney Fellowship and Sacco Internship Recipients Chosen: Six Fifth Formers have been selected to receive prestigious independent study fellowships for the summer of 2016. One student, Grace Fink, was named this year’s Ali Sacco ’05 Intern, and five students were named Haney Fellows. They are: Ziqun “Caitlin” Cao; Oliver Ferry; Christine Gu; Kaiwen “Kevin” Jiang; and Edward “Teddy” O’Connor.
The Haney Fellowship was established in 1998 by William "Bill" Haney III '80 in honor of his father, the late William Haney, Jr. (photo, left), who lived and worked at Portsmouth Abbey School from 1968 to 1991 as a chemistry teacher, houseparent and golf coach. This creative and generous fund provides rising Sixth Form students with a unique educational experience during the summer prior to their final year. The Haney Fellows were chosen after a rigorous application and interview process earlier this year.

Caitlin Cao will volunteer with and promote reading to children in schools located in the Qinghai Province of China; Oliver Ferry will teach simple robotics to students at Boys’ Town in Singapore; Christine Gu will conduct art history research and will volunteer at Mogao Caves in Gansu Province, China; Kevin Jiang will volunteer for The New Citizen Project, in Beijing, China, where he will work with migrant children; and Teddy O’Connor will volunteer at the Center for Hearing and Communication in New York City as well as at its national convention in Washington, D.C.

The Ali Sacco '05 Internship award was established by Children’s Hospital in Boston in memory of Ali’s spirit of curiosity, enthusiasm, and generosity. Ali died in December of 2003 during her Fifth Form year at Portsmouth Abbey; she would have graduated with the Class of 2005. The recipient of this award is chosen each year based on academic accomplishments and outstanding personal qualities. Grace Fink will have the opportunity to shadow physicians and medical staff in the Cardiology Department at Children's Hospital for two weeks.

Each of these students will provide a wrap-up report and photos of their respective experiences once they return to school in the fall. Congratulations to them all!

For more information and the experiences of past winners, visit our Enrichment page.
Parents’ Association Updates: Family Day and Pre-Prom Reception and Dinner

**Family Day 2016 - April 30th from 12:00 – 5:00 p.m.** We are looking forward to seeing many of you tomorrow on campus for Family Day. Parking will be down at the fields; please stop at the Welcome Tent to pick-up your T-shirt and program for the day. Snacks will be available at all events, and the all-School cookout will open at about 3:45 p.m. and will run until the last game is over! #goabbeyravens

**Pre-Prom Reception and Dinner for Parents - Saturday, May 7, starting at 5:30 p.m.** Last call for the reception and dinner organized for all parents of this year’s promgoers! Pre-Prom reception begins at 5:30 p.m. here on campus in the Winter Garden and on the Holy Lawn. It will be followed by cocktail hour and dinner at Carnegie Abbey Club. We are looking forward to gathering parents together as the students enjoy a wonderful prom night in Newport. Please contact Meghan Fonts at 401.523.8646 with any questions. **We will need final numbers by Monday, May 2.**

**Commencement Gifts Available at Bookstore:**

Looking for that perfect gift for your soon-to-be Abbey graduate? The Bookstore has a wide selection of gifts that will delight your favorite Raven! From sterling silver crosses, diploma frames and Vineyard Vines ties and tote bags to beautiful Portsmouth Abbey School Captain’s chairs, you’ll find that special Abbey keepsake that your graduate will
cherish as he or she heads off to college. Visit the Bookstore in person, or shop online.

**Annual Fund Update:** Together, alumni, parents, faculty, staff, grandparents and friends have contributed over $1.2 million toward our $1.6 million Annual Fund goal for the 2015-16 year. Alumni wrapped up Abbey Madness on April 5. The Class of 1964 won the first Abbey Madness Challenge, and the Class of 1985 won the Redemption Round. Both classes achieved over 90% participation and are well on their way to setting new records for the School. The Classes of 1981 and 1997 received Honorable Mentions for their outstanding participating during Abbey Madness. Over 66% of parents have participated with a gift to the Parent Division of the Annual Fund, and parent volunteers will be reaching out to the rest of the families during May as we strive to hit our goal of 100% parent participation.

Thank you to everyone who has made a direct impact on students and faculty with a gift to the Annual Fund this year. If you haven’t yet a chance to participate, you can make a gift here. If you have any questions regarding the Annual Fund, please do not hesitate to contact Amanda Lazarus, director of the annual fund, at (401) 643-1204.

**2016-17 Diman Scholar Named:** Christopher Zaiser, an eighth-grade student at Far Hills Country Day School, in Far Hills, NJ, has been named Portsmouth Abbey's 2016-17 Diman Scholar, which will provide him with a full, four-year scholarship to the Abbey beginning in September 2016.

A consistent high-honors student, Christopher is very involved in school activities: he is an editor of the Far Hills Country Day literary magazine, Collectors' Items; an avid fencer and co-captain of the Far Hills Fencing Team; and this past winter played the role of Ren, the lead character in his school's production of "Footloose."
Outside of school, Christopher is a pitcher for his county's youth baseball major's team and Summer All-Star League. He loves to write, was the recipient of a Silver Key in Writing in the 2015 New Jersey Scholastic Arts & Writing Awards, and was a contestant in his school's and county's National Geographic Bee this year. At Portsmouth Abbey, Christopher plans to play football, squash, and baseball and hopes to write for the Beacon or Raven. He also would like to join the Debate Club and Robotics Club.

"When I first set foot on the Abbey campus, I immediately noticed the friendship between students," said Christopher. "The Abbey is not only an academically strong school, it possesses a unique sense of community, which I think both sets it apart from other schools and is what drove me there. In addition, the beautiful campus and top-notch facilities really appealed to me. When I arrive on campus next September, I look forward to being a part of that community and the independence that I will have." We look forward to welcoming Christopher to campus in September!

**Varsity Lacrosse Coach Al Brown Notches 400th Win:** The Abbey's Head Boys' Lacrosse Coach, Al Brown, recently earned his 400th career win, when the Ravens defeated Hyde School of Connecticut on April 6. Brown, who is also the athletics director and head football coach at the Abbey, came into the 2016 season needing only two wins to put him over the 400-mark. Following a 9-4 win over Bishop Hendricken on April 2, the Ravens bested Hyde, 15-4, to give Brown his landmark victory.

Brown's career coaching lacrosse began in 1978 at Rutgers Prep. From there, he helmed the programs
at Northfield Mt. Hermon, Vermont Academy, Alfred University and Bates College before joining Portsmouth Abbey in 2001. With the team's two recent wins, Brown's record at the Abbey stands at 168-66. Since 2001, he has led the Ravens to one SENE championship and seven Eastern Independent League (EIL) championships, and he has been recognized as EIL Coach of the Year twice. He was also named US Lacrosse Coach of the Year, Eastern New England Region, in 2010 and 2013.

While at Alfred University, Brown competed in the NCAA Division III championship tournament four times and the ECAC championships twice, winning the ECAC Upstate title in 1995. He was named NCAA D-III Coach of the Year in 1990 following a record-breaking 15-2 season.

Brown is a 1975 graduate of C.W. Post College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in health and physical education. He played lacrosse all four years at C.W. Post, earning All-American honors as a defenseman in 1973 and 1974. He also holds a master's degree in physical education from Adelphi University.

"I am grateful to reach the 400-win mark," said Coach Brown, "but my greatest reward from coaching has been my connection to the student-athletes, schools and assistant coaches I have worked with over the past 38 years. My family, in particular my wife, Linda, has been very involved with my coaching, and I am grateful for their support."

Brown will be recognized in January 2017 at the US Lacrosse Convention, in Baltimore, MD, as a member of the Century Club, which honors milestones in coaching careers.

Congratulations, Coach Brown!

**Portsmouth Institute's 2016 Summer Conference to Discuss “Christian Courage in a Secular Age”:** How do we courageously raise Catholic families? How should Christianity influence
public discourse? How are we to understand and support the plight of persecuted Christians around the world, especially in the Middle East? As religious liberty becomes more narrowly defined, how do we continue to live as both Americans and Christians? How do we emulate the courage of the saints? Please join us! Read more...

**Calendar of Upcoming School, Alumni Events**

**Sunday, May 8:** Confirmation Mass  
9:30AM  
Church of St. Gregory the Great, Portsmouth Abbey Campus

**Tuesday, May 10:** Denver Reception  
6:00 – 8:00PM  
Hosted by Mr. & Mrs. Jeremy Kinney ’62  
[Register here](#)

**Saturday, May 21:** Spring Play – The Abbey Players Present, “Wild Oats”  
7:30PM  
School Auditorium  
For tickets and information, contact Jay Bragan, director of performing arts, at 401-643-1218.

**Sunday, May 22:** Ninth Annual Boys’ Alumni Lacrosse Game - Boys’ Varsity vs. Alumni  
11:30AM  
Lacrosse Field  
Game to be followed by BBQ at Coach and Mrs. Brown’s house

**Saturday, May 28:** Prize Day  
4:00PM  
Holy Lawn, Portsmouth Abbey Campus
Sunday, May 29: *86th Commencement Exercises*
11:30AM
Holy Lawn, Portsmouth Abbey Campus

Monday, June 13: *15th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament*
Carnegie Abbey Club, Portsmouth, RI
Register here, or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, contact Patty Gibbons, director of special events, at 401-643-1281.

Friday, September 30 – Sunday, October 2: *Reunion 2016*
All class years ending in ‘1s and ‘6s, and members of the Diman Club, this is YOUR year!! Please visit our Reunion page for more details.

*Remember to visit our website often for updates on upcoming events.*

*Many thanks to our hosts and guests who joined us for receptions in Atlanta, Philadelphia, Westchester County, Princeton and Washington, D.C. It’s always great to see so many Ravens on the road!*

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