

# VIKING VOICE

A Magazine for Lyndon Institute alumni, parents, and friends.



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### VIKING VOICE

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SkillsUSA Back Cover



It is the policy of Lyndon Institute not to discriminate on the basis of a student's or his/her family member's actual or perceived race, color, ancestry, national origin, creed, religion, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, age, military/uniformed service or veteran's status, disability, or other legally protected classification in the provision and administration of its educational programs, activities, services, and access provided to the public, in accordance with and to the limits of applicable requirements of state and federal laws. Lyndon Institute complies with the American Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as well as other applicable state and federal laws with respect to accommodating individuals with disabilities. Lyndon Institute provides special education to eligible students in accordance with the School's special education approval from the State of Vermont, state and federal legal requirements, the School's policies and in coordination with the student's school district

Lyndon Institute Viking Voice is published once a year by the Development Office. We welcome submissions for publication and letters in response to articles. Please send submissions to Director of Development, Melissa Hall, by email to Melissa.Hall@lyndoninstitute.org.

### Dear Alumni and Friends of Lyndon Institute



"What an exciting year LI is having! Campus is buzzing with energy and creativity and students are really having the educational experience you all remember and have come to expect."

What an exciting year LI is having! Campus is buzzing with energy and creativity and students are really having the educational experience you all remember and have come to expect.

Having emerged from the cocoon that was Covid, LI is providing exciting travel and off-campus opportunities to students. More than 40 students traveled to London, the Normandy coast, and Paris during J Term to immerse themselves in history and a new culture. In an effort to continually grow these experiences, we have trips planned to Puerto Rico next year and to Greece and Italy for 2026. Locally, there were dozens of off-campus internships during J Term and I've been told that Exhibition Night was the most vibrant and fun in years.

We had a joyfully exuberant performance of SpongeBob the Musical, and our Select Chorus was invited to perform at Senator Sanders' annual concert. We're hosting Vermont SkillsUSA finals again this year and hope to send another strong contingent of CTE students to nationals in Atlanta in June. Members of LIDS (Lyndon Institute Design Studio), a graphic design "business" which grows from our CTE program, sent 12 members to the Future Business Leaders of America state competition and eight won awards, qualifying them to travel to Orlando this summer to compete in Nationals.

We hosted 21 athletic teams with several making it to postseason play. This spring 53 students are coming out to be on the track and field team, which is an amazing number! In addition to sports we have introduced some new and exciting clubs such as Ultimate Frisbee and FIRST Robotics.

Many of the annual experiences you remember are still alive and well, with Spirit Week (including arm wrestling and pep rally with a float competition) as well as Winter Carnival (with a window design competition). For the second year running, Student Council hosted a successful Homecoming Dance. Current students honor LI traditions and still make them lived experiences for themselves.

As I round the corner on my second year at LI I am so very excited about the conversations we're having about the future. We are talking as a faculty and staff about building work-force capacity by partnering with local industry: get kids off campus to work and get corporate partners on campus to teach them about the opportunities that are waiting after graduation. We are talking about how to use Fine and Performing arts to bolster every student's use of creativity: the driving force to success in college, the work force, and in life! We're also talking about ways to get students outdoors more often in a meaningful way: to build camaraderie, enjoy what the Kingdom lays at our feet, and just to enjoy their time as LI students as much as possible. With these exciting conversations happening in hallways, meeting rooms, and department spaces it is a really exciting time to be here in Lyndon Center each day. Our conversations are about the future, our students, and how LI can be the transformational experience that each and every student deserves to have. If you're in the area, or just visiting, please stop by and share your LI stories. I hope to see you under the tent in May!

Dr. Brian Bloomfield Head of School

LI SPRING 2024





## Bikini Bottom, Where the Arts Join Together

By David Stahler Jr.

SPONGEBOB AND PATRICK LAUGH AND DANCE, arm in arm, while Squidward mopes, Sandy calculates, and Plankton schemes amid the brash neon and pastel colors of an undersea world.

But this is no cartoon; tonight the audience isn't seated before the glow of a TV set but the brilliantly lit stage of Alumni Auditorium as a company of Lyndon Institute actors and dancers perform to the music of the pit band settled stage right. It's opening night and the annual musical is off to a roaring start.

This year's selection, The SpongeBob Musical, may seem like an unusual choice at first glance. After all, the frenetic children's cartoon—a Nickelodeon staple that features an absurdly (to some, annoyingly) optimistic sea sponge and his fellow denizens of Bikini Bottom—isn't what one normally thinks of when it comes to high art. But the musical has a solid pedigree, enjoying a two-year run on Broadway, twelve Tony Award nominations, a North American tour, and musical contributions from artists like John Legend, David Bowie, and Cyndi Lauper, as well as bands like They Might Be Giants and The Flaming Lips.





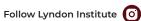
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## FBLA qualifies for Nationals

LYNDON INSTITUTE PREVAILED ON MARCH 15TH at the Vermont Future Business Leaders of America state leadership conference which qualified the team to attend the National Conference being held in Orlando, Florida in June. Out of 250 attendees, LI brought home five first place, two second place and four fourth place wins, plus the statewide pin design competition! Congratulations to Mrs. Atkins and the entire team on your successes:



Vermont FBLA pin design: K-Leigh Hodgdon

**Digital Animation:** Taylor Trepanier & Nadia VanDvk, First Place

**Public Speaking:** Summer Guilmette. First Place & Gabrielle Atkins, Second Place

Introduction to **Public Speaking:** Maia Boyer, First Place

**Job Interview:** Alena Brittain, Fourth Place

**Data Analysis:** Yiwei Zhao, First Place

Impromptu Speaking: Summer Guilmette, Second Place

**Economics:** Yiwei Zhao, First Place

**Health Care** Administration: Summer Guilmette. Fourth Place

Intro to FBLA: Maia Boyer, Fourth Place

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Additionally, Yiwei "Yvette" Zhao will represent Lyndon Institute on the FBLA State Officer team in the Reporter position for the 2024-2025 school year. Yvette campaigned and was elected by the FBLA Delegates at the Spring Leadership Conference.

## LI Partners With WCAX to Provide Live Weather Camera Feed

LYNDON INSTITUTE HAS PARTNERED WITH WCAX to install a live camera on our iconic bell tower. Now, you'll be able to view our beautiful campus any time of the year - from sunrise to sunset! The live stream will showcase 24-hour views of the school and surrounding mountains. We hope you enjoy this new way to see our campus and community. Navigate to www.lyndoninstitute.org/alumni/wcax-weather-cam and click the play button in the video player to start your live view from LI's Main Building.



## Commencement

LYNDON INSTITUTE HEAD OF SCHOOL DR. BRIAN BLOOMFIELD IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE THE VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN FOR THE LYNDON INSTITUTE CLASS OF 2024.



#### Valedictorian

**THE VALEDICTORIAN OF THE GRADUATING CLASS** at Lyndon Institute is awarded to the student who receives the highest weighted grade point average during their tenure at the school. The student to realize that accomplishment for the Class of 2024 is Lydia Gillespie. In her role as valedictorian, Lydia will present the valedictory address during the school's commencement ceremonies in June.

Known for her dedication and unwavering resolve, Lydia has consistently pushed herself to excel in every endeavor. Her teachers describe her as a focused and curious student, one who possesses a strong sense of justice and leads by example. As Math teacher Tim Ulrich notes, "Lydia's rise to the pinnacle of her class was achieved through her remarkable work ethic and unmatched determination. Having taught Lydia twice, I have witnessed first hand her desire to continuously improve herself as a student." Lydia has established herself as a committed and insightful student who expects the best from herself, her peers, and her community.

Lydia will attend the University of Vermont and major in Biochemistry. She is the daughter of Tiana and Jonathan Gillespie of West Burke, Vermont.



Scan me to read the full story!



#### Salutatorian

**THE SALUTATORIAN OF THE GRADUATING CLASS** at Lyndon Institute is awarded to the student who has earned the second highest weighted grade point average during their time at the school. The student to realize that accomplishment for the Class of 2024 is Molly Renaudette. In her role as salutatorian, Molly will present the invocation address during the school's baccalaureate ceremony in June.

A leader in many ways, Molly's impact on LI can be characterized by the consistent care, humor, and drive she models. Academically, socially, and athletically, Molly has excelled. Most notably, she will earn an Associate's degree through Vermont State University this spring as a member of Lyndon Institute's Lyndon Learning Collaborative, a partnership between the two schools that allows students to complete their last two years of high school and first two years of college at the same time. This is no small feat, and Molly has balanced this achievement with a commitment to both her school and her community.

Molly is the daughter of Kristal Renaudette of Lyndonville and Dan Renaudette of Lyndon Center.

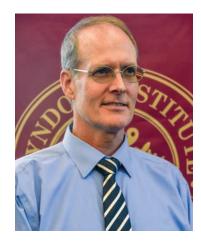


### **Graduation Speaker**

LYNDON INSTITUTE IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE this year's graduation speaker will be Barbara Donahue. A 1974 graduate of Lyndon Institute, Donahue earned her bachelors in political science from the University of Vermont. After working as a production assistant for ABC Sports, Donahue went on to form Grand Prix Productions, a multi-faceted television and film production company based in Los Angeles, California. For the last forty years, her company has produced over 2500 shows and received fourteen Emmy Awards for its work on network and cable entities, such as ABC, NBC, CBS, FOX, ESPN, NESN, USA, NFLN, Univision, and YouTube, among many others. Grand Prix Productions has also produced outtakes and behind the scenes extras for over ten feature films, including *The Blues Brothers, Meet Joe Black*, and *Happy Gilmore*. She is a passionate equestrian who has contributed to *Polo* and *Polo Times* magazines and is the author of the book *The Anti-Rules: Now That You've Got Him, How Do You Get Rid of Him?* 

"This class has worked hard to help LI return to a sense of normalcy after COVID and has demonstrated strong leadership. They respect the traditions of LI and have played an important role in getting this ship back on course."

Baccalaureate speaker Kevin Hickey.



### **Baccalaureate Address**

**CONTINUING A TRADITION THAT BEGAN LAST YEAR,** members of the Lyndon Institute graduating senior class vote on a faculty member they would like to deliver the Baccalaureate address. Lyndon Institute is pleased to announce this year's Baccalaureate speaker will be math teacher Kevin Hickey.

Hickey spent most of his childhood in New Hampshire. He attended the University of New Hampshire where he was the captain of the rowing team and graduated with a degree in physics. After college, he spent time traveling the country, culminating in a thru-hike of the entire Appalachian Trail with his dog Dune. His first full-time teaching position was with South Kent School in Connecticut for two years. Hickey then moved to Alaska for four years and studied space physics at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He then returned to New England and taught for four years at White Mountains Regional High School in New Hampshire. In 2003, Hickey started teaching at Lyndon Institute, where he has remained ever since. He has taught math, physics, and computer programming. He has coached outdoor track, Nordic skiing, cross country, and indoor track.

"I am not a fan of public speaking," Hickey said. "But I feel honored to have been selected. This class has worked hard to help LI return to a sense of normalcy after COVID and has demonstrated strong leadership. They respect the traditions of LI and have played an important role in getting this ship back on course."





said Adam Norwood, who was Assistant Head for Academics and now serves LI as its Lyndon Learning Collaborative Coordinator and adjunct faculty in addition to his work with the Upper Valley Educators Institute. "It was [then Head of School] Rick Hilton's last year, and we were considering ways to innovate. I thought, we're an independent school—we can do anything we want!

"So I organized an open meeting for anyone on the faculty who wanted to come, just to have a conversation. If you could reinvent school from scratch, what would it look like? That first time, about six or eight people showed up. We had a great discussion. So I offered another meeting. About twice as many came. By our third meeting, the concept for a J Term started taking on a life of its own."

## A Decade of J Term, A Flagship Program Turns Ten!

By David Stahler Jr.

**THE HOT AIR BALLOON RISES INTO THE FRIGID AIR** on Lewis Field, its rainbow colors looking even brighter against the snowy white background as students gather to watch—not just down on the football field but from the windows of the Main Building up above. The new WCAX bell tower webcam offers an HD view for those engaged elsewhere around campus (and other parts of the world).

Normally, a hot air balloon in the dead of winter would be a startling sight, but this is January—J Term—a time of year at Lyndon Institute where anything can happen and wondrous sights are the norm.

J Term, one of LI's signature programs, embraces the spirit of innovation, of exploration, of experimentation—both in the classroom and outside of it—in a variety of innovative ways. It is itself a grand experiment in education, one that has now just completed its tenth year and is still going strong.

For nearly all high schools, when students return from the holidays, it's business as usual. But for the past decade, LI students have come back from their semester break for three weeks of project-based learning and other unusual opportunities to expand their education. J Term is about shaking things up.









## J Term Turns Ten!

Scan me to read the full story!









On Saturday January 6th the LI community gathered for the 10th Annual Alumni Hockey Game! This year we had 33 players covering a range of graduation years from 1989 to 2023! The volunteer officials were Herman Noyes '89 and Brandon Noyes. The volunteer scoreboard operator was Neal Allen '99. Tim Kirchoff '96 is the volunteer coordinator for this annual event. After three intense periods, the game ended in a tie of 6 vs 6! Thank you to all the participants and spectators who made this a great game!

## Development

### The Give Back to Our Future Annual Auction & Dance

## THE GIVE BACK TO OUR FUTURE ANNUAL AUCTION & DANCE WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

We especially want to thank our donors, who gave so generously. Without the support of our local businesses this event would not be possible. Remember to shop local no matter where you live to show your appreciation for all that small businesses give back to the community.

We are forever grateful for our board leadership with Amber Macek '98, Loralee Tester '96, Mike & Cisi Flynn, and Holly Taylor '95. Special thanks to Lussier Auction Service for volunteering their services and providing an evening of entertainment. The Pizza Man provided refreshments and resources for the cash bar, DJ Mike Labounty kept the music playing and our students served the food and helped run items to bidders, we appreciate them all immensely.



Marty and Doc will be arriving in the Delorean on Alumni Weekend, May 31-









LI alum Bruce Houghton '72 (far right) milling logs with students in our Diversified Agriculture program.

## Creating Alumni Connections with our Students

## AT LI, WE RECOGNIZE THAT ALUMNI OF THE SCHOOL HAVE A LOT THAT THEY CAN OFFER IN SUPPORT of

our students and we enjoy making the connection! Once you've felt the pride of knowing that you helped students learn something about your field or talent, you'll probably wonder why you didn't connect before!

As alumni you can serve as role models for current students who want to discover their full potential. Students can gain industry knowledge, fill internships and summer employment openings, which help your business all while teaching the student more about your career focus. In addition to employment opportunities, students are interested in having conversations with alumni to hear first hand how they, too, can get there from here. Your talents and experiences provide valuable information in helping the students to determine their path after graduation. You need not be local to participate, we are reaching out far and wide as we can connect with you for virtual meetings.

Please email us with your business information at alumni@lyndoninstitute.org



## **Ribbon Cutting**

#### LYNDON INSTITUTE HOSTED A RIBBON CUTTING for

the Pierce Wing Entrance addition and improvements to its Main Building on September 29th. The ceremony celebrated the completion of the project with speeches from Dr. Brian Bloomfield and President of the Board Loralee Tester.

The LI Community of students, faculty & staff, and parents are now enjoying the benefits from the welcoming environment, beautiful common space, and enhanced security features. We are extremely grateful to our donors and partners in the community who have contributed to our capital campaign bringing this project to fruition.



## Thank you for taking our call!

**LYNDON INSTITUTE STUDENTS** completed the 2023 Annual Fund phone-a-thon in late November. Students enjoyed connecting and appreciated hearing from so many about their LI experiences. We couldn't call everyone but do appreciate your time and willingness to engage with our students and learn more about the school we all love so much. We are planning to hold a phone-a-thon again in the fall of 2024 as the experience of connecting over the phone is an important lesson for the students.

Thanks for your support!









"I'm honored to have served in the capacity of Director of Athletics and will continue to bleed maroon and white forever. #GOVIKES!"

## Athletics Eric Berry, Director of Athletics and Student Activities

AS I SIT DOWN TO WRITE MY LAST ATHLETIC SUMMARY FOR THE VIKING VOICE, I welcome the reflection of this past year and the positive developments that have occurred during that time. At the time of the last keystroke we had just finished the Winter season and Spring showers were welcoming new games to play. The timing of this hasn't changed much nor has the spirit and competitiveness of our student athletes.

This winter our hockey team skated all the way to the division two semifinals and put together an incredible 16-3-3 record with several postseason accolades handed out to our coach and players. Basketball season proved to be successful too Brooke'lyn Robinson highlighted a 16 and 6 season by becoming the school's all time leading scorer surpassing Jimmy Lau's ('10) previous record of 1254 points. Brooke'lyn finished with 1325 career points. We also saw a tremendous achievement from sophomore Karter Morey who, as an independent wrestler, lost in the state title match to an undefeated senior counterpart after an incredible season.

Last Spring our softball team reached the semifinals and lost to eventual champion Mt. Abraham. Baseball bowed out of the quarterfinals while boys and girls lacrosse reached the playoffs and had bountiful rosters. Track and Field enjoyed an uptick in participation and also has seen an increase in team growth for this upcoming season.

Our school saw record growth in participation across the board with all of our teams and will look to continue that moving forward. Ethan Lussier set the all time record

for passing touchdowns with 12, surpassing Bob Boulrisse('50/11TDs) in a single season highlighting an incredible season. We had several players named to all league teams as well.

We have had several athletes move on to now compete in collegiate athletics this past year. It's exciting to see the growth of all of our athletes during their career

Finally, I am honored to have served in the capacity of Director of Athletics and will continue to bleed maroon and white forever. #GOVIKES!

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### Athletic Hall of Fame Induction

remarkable - much like the two classes of inductees before them!"

LYNDON INSTITUTE INDUCTED EIGHT OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL ATHLETES AND THREE PROLIFIC TEAMS into the 2023 LI Athletic Hall of Fame on October 13, 2023. "Every year we get reinvigorated by yet another outstanding class of athletes, teams, and distinguished contributors to our athletic programs," said LI's Director of Athletics and Activities, Eric Berry. "Our Hall of Fame committee appreciates all of the nominations we received as well as the information provided about this tremendous group. It is not only fun to recognize their accomplishments, but to also recognize the rich tradition of great athletes, coaches, and teams we have had here at LI. This group is very special in their own way and also

#### MEMBERS OF THE NEWEST HALL OF FAME CLASS

Ray Allard '51 Track and Field

Ralph Devereaux '59 Track and Field, Alpine

Paul Sears '68

Track and Field, Nordic Skiing Milt Norway '70

Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field, Football

Duane Johnson '71 Track and Field, Combined Skiing

Ernie Gaskin '73 Track and Field, Football

Susan Simpson '87 Track and Field, X-Country

Meg McCormack '91 Track and Field, Field Hockey

#### **TEAMS**

Football '33

Only team to capture a Division 1 football crown or the undefeated in a season.

Boys and Girls X-Country Running '74 to '76 Both were Division 1 Champions three straight years.

Girls Softball '05 to '08

State Champions all four years/79 straight wins/Four straight D2 Championships.



"Every year we get reinvigorated by yet another outstanding class of athletes, teams, and distinguished contributors to our athletic

LI's Director of Athletics and Activities, Eric Berry

You can find out more information about LI's Athletic Hall of Fame by visiting lyndoninstitute. org/athletics/athletic-hall-of-fame.

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#### Florida Reunions 2024

FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR, Lyndon Institute has held a reunion in Ocala as well as in the Orlando area. The weekend of March 22-24 was warm and sunny and the events made a great reason for locals to make a trip south and escape the long winter in Vermont. The weekend kicked off on Friday evening with a pool-side social at the Silver Lake Resort in Kissimmee. Representing LI were Head of School, Brian Bloomfield, VP of External Relations and Advancement, Erik Oliver and Director of Development, Melissa Hall '92.

On Saturday 32 gathered at Romano's Macaroni Grill for a nice luncheon followed by an update on the School. The following afternoon 33 alumni and friends gathered in Ocala at the Tuscany Restaurant and Bar at SummerGlen for a relaxing buffet luncheon that included a school briefing and presentation. The dining room at SummerGlen sits at the edge of the beautiful golf course. Some alumni took advantage of the location with an afternoon tee time to complement the luncheon reunion.





We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to hosts Mike Garcia '74 and Paul Wheeler '74.

The hosts take care of organization details that would otherwise be challenging to handle from Vermont.

The Florida events are traditionally scheduled for March and we encourage you to join the fun.

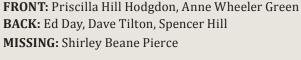














Lois Lang Williams, Dave McDermott, Bill McGinnis, John Talman, Dot Nutting Borsodi.

**MISSING:** Sarah Robinson Wakefield, Blanche Lachance Dessormeau, Ron Sherburne, Arthur Gray

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**FRONT:** Linda Carlisle Nutting, Linda Gee Rexford, Elaine Ingalls Smith, Gerry Blair, Carole Dutton Perron, Susan Magill Simpson.

**BACK:** Gary Cassady, Ken Grant, Harriet Hall Beattie, Steve Libbey, Martha Hill Brooks, Jim Gallagher, John Gregory, Liz Wishart Traver, Eric Royce, Don Blake, Russell Rexford, Sidney Young, Shiela Wood Pelletier, David Libbey, Ron Dudley, Sharon Sanderson Murphy, Charles Camber, Roland Ruggles, Sherry Ronan Noyes, Gary Aubin, Gib Aldrich. **MISSING:** Arthur Elliott



FRONT: Deanna Dutton Wesley, Linda Noyes McDonald, Kathy Kark, Liz Stevens Kennedy, Amanda Norris Lane, Ellen Stoddard Bickford, Donna Brown Richardson, Arthur Brown, Allana Gaylor Clark, Larry Bona, Steve Tripp, Claire Stevens Morrison, Linda Cassady Sylvester.

BACK: Larry Titemore, Steve Hopkins, Barb Eaton Follett, Jean Rosselot Chase, Greg Mason, Larry Stahler, Peter Emery, Steve Allard, Stan Weed, Clint Hudson, Larry Simpson



**INSERTS:** Steve Birchard, Patti King, Everett Douse, Jean Trucott Hoadley

FRONT: Debbie Simpson Kimball, Deb Hill Pulley, Linda Clifford Lee, Sue Griswold, Beth Garfield Laplant, Colleen Herrity, Laurie Farrington, Dawn Anderson Almon, Marj Semones Watts, Lynn Blake Welch

2ND ROW: Peter Blair, Deanne Tripp Robinson, Mark Hunter, Sue Sanderson Carr, Barb Cole, Bob Lepine, Mike Hodges, Stuart Guy, Jenny Fox Beilstein, Brad Whitehill, Ann Findlay Lepine, Marie Mathers, Susan "Sam" Cummings Durham, Pam Sweet Prescott, Dennis Drown

**3RD ROW:** Tim Ruggles, Bruce True, Bernie Timson, Carol Weed Butynski, Dave Rivers, Audrey Badger Stone, Cindy Barrett Griffith, Carol Baillargeon Haley

BACK: Steve Carter, Dave Austin, Fred Wells, Joe Allard, Herb Reed, Teresa Jewett Corrow, Glenn Laplant, Donnie Ball, Liza Lewis



**FRONT:** Janine Berry Silvey, Mary Patoine Waldron, Kathy Simons Uhrin, David Williams, Jeanine Comeau Porter, Nancy Hartwell Graves, Christian Fors

2ND ROW: Linda Hodge Drown, Diane John Cole, Carolyn Rice Darling, Karen Fenn, Heidi Harris, Debbie Beer Desjardins, Teresa Mitchell Stimpson, Kathy Guy Hodgdon BACK: Lynnanne Shene Ott, Doug John, William Stimpson, Kevin Corliss, Brian Clifford, Chris Devereaux, Rod Easter MISSING: Virgina Barrett



**FRONT:** Tissy Dunphy Rogers, Lila Bradley Leonard, Sandie Lacroix Maynard, Trudy Densmore Lowry, Mary Brooks Murray, Sue Devost, Sue Densmore Luby, Mary Garcia Straight, Gail Lyford Lovell, Anna Krauss Wilson, Charlene Johnston

**BACK:** Kevin Bull, Mike Stone, Kim Gray Gaboriault, Mary Kelly, James Gaboriault, Janet Allard Powers, Randee Nutting Johns, Dwight Stahler, Tammy Davis Hastings, Kevin Ruggles, Deb Newland Fournier, Gary Novosel

MISSING: Cary Hunter, Mike Brosseau, Dawn Smith Dwyer



Monica Franz Newell, Shelly Cole, Pam Charron Schabler, Mary Beth Toborg Novosel, Denise Noel Tomaselli, Mick Hudson

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Kelly McClure Dudas, Krista Lantagne Poquette, Amy Solinsky Tucker, Heidi Cotte Broome, Amber Bevilacqua Gregory, Pam Francis Henderson, Robin Hamel Calkins, Treny Turner Burgess, Jason Coons, Samantha Hudson, Kathy Jackson Smith, Julie Yerkes, Mariko Gilman Raymond

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## Alumni Weekend 2024 Friday, May 31 to Sunday, June 2

#### FRIDAY, MAY 31ST

## 8:30 AM VIKING SCRAMBLE GOLF TOURNAMENT AT THE ORLEANS COUNTRY CLUB

**REGISTRATION 7:30 TO 8:00** 

Pre-registration is required and you can do so online here: https://bit.ly/492Lw92

You may also contact: Rick Angell 802-535-3777 or richard.angell@lyndoninstitute.org

## 10 AM TO 5 PM CELEBRATING ARTS IN THE SCHOOLS - ART SHOW

Featuring LI Alumni Artists at the Satellite Gallery on Depot Street in Lyndonville

#### **4 PM CAMPUS TOURS**

Meet at Thompson Cottage (Alumni Museum). Walking tour and golf cart transportation will be available.

#### **4 PM TWO DAYS IN NOVEMBER**

**ALUMNI AUDITORIUM** 

Producer, Mike Dickerman '74 presents a long-lost documentary capturing the 1978 rivalry game between Lyndon Institute and St. Johnsbury Academy varsity football teams. Prepare for a nostalgic journey back to a bygone era in high school football!





#### **5 PM SOCIAL HOUR AND ALL-CLASS PARTY**

Join in the fun to reunite with your classmates.

Update from the Head of School.

All alumni are invited under the tent on the Robert K. Lewis field. Small plates provided by Chris Willey '00 of Willey's Catering. Cash bar by The Pizza Man. Corn Hole and casual lawn games.

Dancing and music provided by "MIX IT UP" with D.J. Rousseau beginning at 7 pm.

#### **7 PM GROUP PHOTO**

Group photo with your classmates.

#### **SATURDAY, JUNE 1**ST

## 9 AM TIM SIMPSON AND BOB HEATH MEMORIAL 5K AND WALK

Gather with family and friends for a casual 5K walk/jog around the Bob Heath Track.

## 9 AM YOGA FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES, WITH KAREN (ZAUN) KENNEDY '74

In the Alumni Gym. \*Bring your own mat if you have one available.

#### 10 AM BRUSHES & BRUNCH

Join us for a group painting session with Betsy Choquette, while enjoying a light brunch and mimosas. (\$35/pp RSVP required using link below)

#### 12 PM REUNION CLASS GATHERINGS

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>

10 AM BACCALAUREATE
11 AM CLASS OF 2024 COMMENCEMENT



RSVP's are required.
Questions? Contact:
Heather Wheeler
Phone: 802-535-3772
Email: heather.wheeler@
lyndoninstitute.org



Register online at https://bit.ly/ LI2024AlumniWeekend or scan this code.









## Class Notes

#### 1954



Gloria (Nugent) Simms ventured from beauty school into a diverse banking career. As the LI senior year Class Treasurer, financial management was a natural path. Navigating finance, she retired and dedicated 20 years to volunteering at Wolfson's Children's Hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. Gloria shared that LI's imprint on her life is immeasurable. Its diverse activities fueled her growth. In life's tapestry, it signifies an enduring focus. To future LI students, she urges engagement in Alumni pursuits and upholding principles of do the right thing, stay focused and let your dreams come true. If her life were chronicled, it would bear the title, "You Are a Mirror: Be your Best Reflection."

#### 1955



Carroll Gorham spent 16 years with the National Guard and went to auto repair school in Fort Benning Georgia while with the guards. He helped build the Moore Dam for \$1.00 an hour and if he ran the jack hammer, he got paid another 25 cents an hour. Carroll learned the trade of fixing typewriters and owned his own stores. He witnessed the creation of the copy machine and the change of calculators from wheels and gears to tubes and digital. He likes to ride his motorcycle and reported that he put about 5,000 miles on it last summer. Carroll married his wife, Carol, in 1965 after Nancy (Eaton) '62 and Dick Lawrence '55 had introduced them.

She is half of his team, and they live in Guildhall.

#### 1956

Ain Kivimae wanted to let his classmates know that he was fortunate when the fires wiped out the town of Lahaina, Maui. He lives on the other side of the mountains from the devastating fire.

#### 1965

**Linda (Hazard) Ronan** reports that she is still happily retired in sunny Florida.

#### 1975

**Erik Kwiecienski** shared that he loves the fact that LI is a hub in the



community
and a source
of its pride
and identity.
He earned his
degree from the
University of
Vermont in 1979
and worked
for IBM for
over 20 years

17

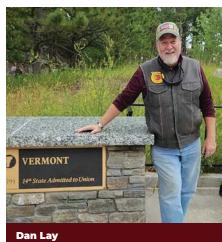
in Vermont and Texas, briefly as a mainframe system administrator and then in sales and marketing until 2001. Since Erik has worked as a sales rep and systems engineer for Mainline Information Systems, an I/T reseller. He currently works part

time on the path to full retirement. In May of 2023 Erik moved into a house he renovated himself in Lyndonville and is hoping to find meaningful volunteer opportunities in the NEK.

#### 1976

Robert "Bob" Dickerman was posthumously inducted into the Vermont State University (formerly Lyndon State College) Athletic Hall of Fame in 2023. Bob earned his bachelor's degree in English writing and during his time at LSC he was a statistician for the basketball team and served as sports information director for the Mayflower Conference. He coached for 40 years and served on the Little League boards in Vermont and Pennsylvania. Bob passed away in October 2019.

#### 1979



Daniel M. Lay, Esq. was named President of HM Payson & Co. at the annual meeting of company shareholders in January. Founded in 1854, HM Payson is the oldest investment firm in the country still operating under its original name and oversees more than \$6.5BN in client assets from offices in Portland, Brunswick and Damariscotta, Maine.

#### 1985



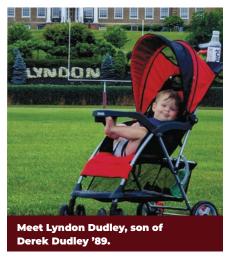
From 1989-2004, **Anders Hagman** worked and graduated from Montserrat College of Art in Beverly, Massachusetts. He moved to Japan and opened a cram school in 2005 called Castle Town English Academy which is thriving presently. Now he works full-time, teaching at Keiwa High School since 2009. In 2013 Anders founded a band called The Slow Claps, and they currently are recording their second album – "Life in Japan". He lives with his wife, Ikumi, and they have an eight-year-old son named Haru.

#### 1988

Mary Beth (Toborg) and Gary Novosel '83 were united in marriage on August 12, 2023.



#### 1989



Lyndon and his dad were taking a stroll around the Bob Heath track last summer and snapped a quick photo to share.

#### 1991

Margaret "Peggy" (Gorham)
Buckingham completed three
decades of meritorious service in
the U.S. Navy. She was honored in
a retirement ceremony on August
31, 2023, and officially retired on
October 31, 2023. Peggy amassed
several medals throughout her career
and retires as an ITCM (Information
Systems Technician, Master Chief).
Peggy is the daughter of Roxanne
Gorham '69 and the late Fred
Gorham '69.

#### 1994

Paula (Cornell) Ward earned her degree in accounting from New Hampshire Technical College in Berlin, NH in 1996. She worked in banking and then the health care field before starting her Service Writing position at Wes Ward Auto Repair in 2004. After finding the automotive industry to be similar to health care, Paula found her career path, job and then business ownership in 2011. As a busy mom (Katelyn was born in 2002) and business owner, she always found time to also support

our community as a board member and organizers for many area organizations. Paula shared that LI's business program was a career starter for her.

#### 1996



Andrew Johnson was inducted into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame in April 2024. Andrew was a two-time (2002 & 2006) Nordic Ski Olympian and for the past 13 years he has coached the Nordic team at his alma mater, the Middlebury College. Since taking over the reins in 2013, Johnson has been selected twice as the Eastern Intercollegiate Skiing Association (EISA) Coach of the Year (2018, 2023). He has coached six All-Americans as well as one Olympian.

#### 1997



Mark Thomas earned his Chemical Engineering degree from Northeastern University in Boston where he participated in

their CO-OP program. He worked in three different fields in chemical engineering; a chemical plant that made chemicals for circuit boards and microchips, the food industry making gelatin, and a biotech company. Mark stuck with the Biotechnology industry after graduating because he wanted to make an impact helping mankind by making important drugs for extremely sick patients. Mark has lived in the San Francisco Bay area since 2007, managing a team of engineers designing new manufacturing facilities and modify current ones to meet the needs for new processes in making important drugs to fight various forms of cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, and plaque psoriasis. He has designed facilities and processes in various locations throughout the country and even performed a feasibility design in China.

#### 2002



Gendreau's daughter

Angela (Lanpher) 2002 and Travis Gendreau welcomed a daughter, Scarlet Gendreau on July 19, 2023, in Cowansville, Quebec. She joins brothers, Warren, and Gareth.

#### 2003

**Heather Switser** and Gregory Gochie announce the birth of their daughter, Kamryn Deanna Gochie on December 12, 2023.

#### 2009

Patrick Hilton was inducted into the Vermont State University (formerly Lyndon State College) Athletic Hall of Fame in 2023. Patrick graduated from Lyndon State College in 2013 with bachelor's degrees in journalism, creative writing, and business administration. While earning his degrees at LSC, he was a stellar leader and two-sport athlete competing in soccer and baseball. Patrick went on to earn a master's degree in business administration in Finance from Florida Gulf Coast University. After spending five years working in Chicago, he resides in Florida working on trucking logistics and sales.

#### 2010

Cassidy (Newland) and Brady Lewis '11 welcomed a son, Mason James Lewis, on August 19, 2023. He joins a sister, Mia Marie Lewis.

**Caleb Lewis** and Corinne Lewis were united in marriage on August 12, 2023.

#### 2012



**Riley Blankenship** was inducted into the Vermont Sports Hall of Fame in 2023. She was a two-time state champion in both the shot put and

javelin and also won a state crown in the discus. Riley currently holds the school's record in the javelin and discus. She went on to be part of three national champion rugby teams at Norwich University. Riley graduated from Norwich University with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the United States Army in 2016.

**Denielle (Riendeau) and Jason Hopkins '03** welcomed a daughter,
Presley Lynn Hopkins on May 3,
2023.

#### 2013

#### Dr. Melissa Helstein, DMV

(Doctor of Veterinary Medicine) was presented with the 2023 NEOA Achiever Award at the New England Educational Opportunity Association's annual conference on April 5, 2023. Melissa earned her doctorate from the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine in May of 2022. She currently works as an Associate Veterinarian at the Newbury Vet Clinic in Newbury, Vermont.

Nicole (Mitchell) and Jackson "Jake" Solomon were united in marriage on August 12, 2023. They are both currently still living in Lyndonville with their dog, Bruin.

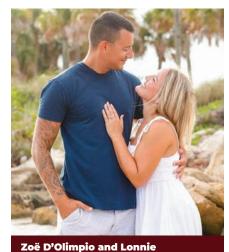


Jake works as a Subaru mechanic at St. J Subaru in St. Johnsbury and Nicole works as a Staff Auditor for RHR Smith and Company out of Buxton Maine.

Jesse Switser captured his first career American Canadian Tour (ACT) victory while racing at the White Mountain Motorsports Park in North Woodstock, New Hampshire. Jesse started racing in 2007 and on August 5, 2023, he was crowned winner of the 6th Annual Milton ACT Midsummer Classic 250.



#### 2014



**Zoë D'Olimpio** and Lawrence (Lonnie) Petlowany are engaged to be married in 2025. Zoë is a preschool teacher at the Espiritu Santo School in Safety Harbor, Florida.



**Davis Guyer** and Morgan Belknap welcomed a daughter, Westlee Jean Guyer on August 6, 2023. Davis is a police officer working for the city of Newport, VT.

#### 2015

Chantelle (Matthewson) and Blaine Grieves were united in marriage on August 12, 2023.

#### 2016



**Trisha (Potter) and Cody Jackman** '09 welcomed a son, Walker Dean Jackman on March 27, 2023.

#### 2017

Samantha Valentine was appointed as coach for the Vermont State University (formerly Lyndon State College) women's soccer team in the fall of 2023.

#### 2018



**Falicia Christman** and Jacob Mallett announce the birth of their son, Corbin Mathew Mallett on September 27, 2023. He joins a brother, Chase Wilder Mallett.



**Jade (Berry)** and Lawson Ouelette were united in marriage on December 30, 2023.

#### 2019

Gabrielle Rowell and Alexander Heywood welcomed a daughter, Xalia Zandria Heywood, on April 14, 2023.

#### 2020

Micayla Francis and Merlin Randall welcomed a son, Jasper Moon Randall, on April 17, 2023.

**Elaina Lafond and Tyler Liberty '17** announce the birth of their son, Oaklee Chase Liberty, on January 14, 2024.

#### 2021

**Devon Mitchell** and Bianca Hinman announce the birth of their son, Jaxson Oliver Mitchell, on February 16, 2024.



**Allison (Sicard) and Davin Hagman '14**, were united in marriage on August 5, 2023. Allison works as an LPN at The Pines in Lyndonville. Davin works as a life coach in two different schools. They are expecting their first baby to arrive at the end of May.

VIKING VOICE LI SPRING 2024 21

## In Memoriam

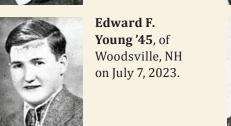


M. Eleanor "Podgie" (Blair) Weissent '39, of Walpole, MA on March 2, 2024. Podgie turned 102 on February 14, 2024.





Barbara Ashton Lamont '44, of St. Johnsbury, VT on July 25, 2023.







**Helen Phelps** Myhrberg '47, of Glens Falls, NY on September 15, 2023.



Wallace W. Holbrook'50, off Zellwood, Florida on December 6, 2023.



Nathan R. Houghton '51, of Lyndonville, VT on June 20, 2023.

**Marjorie Astle** 

Lyndonville, VT

on October 19,

2023.

Arnold G.

2023.

Bandy '53, of

East Ryegate,

Edward A.

Day '53, of

2024.

Lyndonville, VT

on February 17,

Reginald L.

Leonard '53, of

Lyndonville, VT

on January 31,

2024.

Gordon G.

Ely '54, of East

March 13, 2023.

Burke, VT on

VT on March 19,

**Reed '52**, of



Marilyn J. Hughes '54, of Lyndonville, VT on December 26, 2023.



Marion Mitchell Humphrey'55, of East Burke, VT on October 22, 2023.



**Marilyn Baird Drew** '56, of Lyndonville, VT on January 21, 2024.



Leslie O. Carpenter '57, of Concord, VT on December 26, 2023.



Carolyn Randall Gadapee '57, of Lyndonville, VT on October 8, 2023.



Daniel J. Gregory '57, of St. Albans, VT on February 27, 2023.



**Lois Moulton** Wheeler '57, of St. Johnsbury, VT on March 4, 2023.



Jean Magill Gilman '61, of Lyndonville, VT on December 2, 2023.

**Helena Clifford** 

Ewens '60, of

Concord, VT on

November 27,

2023.



Otis I. Thompson '63, of Lyndonville, VT on January 12, 2024.

**Yvonne** 

"Bonnie"

Jaques '63, of

on October 18,

Nashua, NH

Crosier

2023.



Stephen C. Grant '58, of North Hampton, CT on February 8, 2023.



Sherburn **E. Lang '62**, of Lyndonville, VT on January 13, 2024.



Robert J. Hebert '64, of Clayton, GA on August 26, 2023.



Sandra **Therriault** Hiers '58, of Charleston, SC



Donna

2023.

Marcotte

Durocher '59,

of Barton, VT

on November 8,



2023.

Arthur M.

Smith '62, of

Pampa, TX on

October 19,



Miller '64, of Lyndonville, VT on January 12, 2024.

John H.





Diana Stewart-Griffith Prokociner '64, of Lyndonville, VT on August 6, 2023.



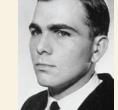
James E. Ross '64. of 2023.



**Mattie Hill** Moses '59, of Lyndonville, VT on September 24, 2023.



Arthur B. Elliott'63, of Lyndonville, VT on September 13, 2023.



Moretown, VT on November 7,

23



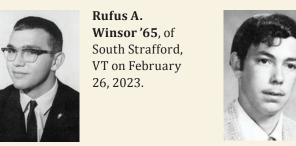
**Gail Austin** Ruggles '65, of East Haven, VT on September 26, 2023.



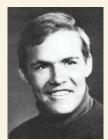
Mark W. Goodwin '74, of West Burke, VT on July 4, 2023.



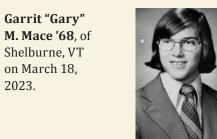
Mark D. Franko '80, of Northampton, PA on August 5, 2023.



Mark F. John '74, of Lyndonville, VT on March 14. 2023.



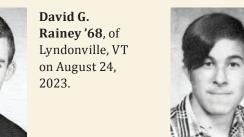
James E. Simpson '80, of Sutton, VT on June 30, 2023.



Robert C. Vinton '75, of West Lebanon, NH on March 10, 2023.

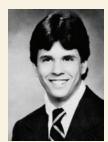


Simpson '81, of Lakeworth, FL on December 5, 2023.





Stephan R. Clifford '76, of Okeechobee, FL on June 16, 2023.



Rodney M. Young '83, of East Haven, VT on April 9, 2023.



Michael R. Powers '77, of Concord, VT on August 4, 2023.



Karen E. Fleming '84, of Lyndonville, VT on August 15, 2023.



Russell E. Ball

**'69**, of West

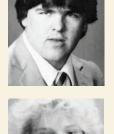
Burke, VT on

August 5, 2023.

**Teal Charron** Pontarelli '78, of West Palm Beach, FL on October 9, 2023.



Leon I. Garfield '84, of Lyndonville, VT on November 27, 2023.



Bruce O. Cushman'87, of St. Johnsbury, VT on February 25, 2024.



Glen D. Jardine '94, of Sheffield, VT on December 29, 2023.



Travis J. **Fraser '07**, of Lyndonville, VT on April 7, 2024.





Meg Gregory-Hemond Metras '95, of Bethlehem, NH on August 26, 2023.



Jessica L. Norrie '14, of Lyndonville, VT on March 9, 2024.

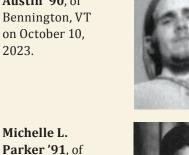


Donald A. Austin '90, of Bennington, VT on October 10, 2023.

Lyndonville, VT

on March 29,

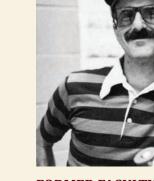
2023.



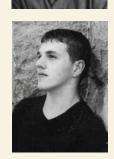
Adam J. Hale **'98**, of West Burke, VT on March 15, 2024.



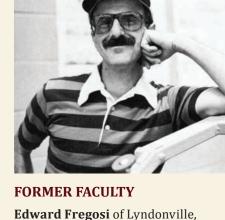
Jesse W. February 28,



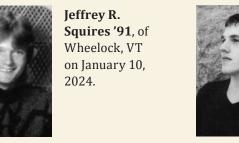
Nelson '00, of Sutton, VT on 2024.



Evan D. Newland '03, of East Haven, VT on March 23, 2024.



VT on November 3, 2023. Ed was a physical education teacher at Lyndon Institute for over 25 years. He also coached cross country running and started a gymnastics club during his time at LI.



Melynda

**'92**, of East

Burke, VT on

January 7, 2024.

Sargent Miller



Matthew J. Caron '04, of Lyndonville, VT on August 29, 2023.

*It is with sorrow that the Development* Office records the deaths of alumni. We extend our deepest sympathies to the families of these individuals. Alumni and friends desiring more complete information or a copy of an obituary can contact the Development Office at 802-535-3772.

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## SkillsUSA Winners



Gold place wins have the opportunity to compete at Nationals in Atlanta, GA.

#### Welding "Individual"

1st Gold: Zander Veilleux 2nd Silver: Jason Vance 3rd Bronze: Lucan Hopkins

#### Welding Fabrication "Team"

1st Gold: Keenan Evans, Abby McReynolds, Andy McReynolds

#### **Welding Sculpture**

1st Gold: Bradly Hulbert 3rd Bronze: Renea Douglas

#### Automotive

3rd Bronze: Mason Schade

