

VISION 2024 &BEYOND























VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY & COLLEGE is an international leadership institute providing a world-class military style education focused on developing its cadets to achieve full intellectual, physical, and leadership potential.

VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY is a private independent college-preparatory school for young men in grades 7-12. Committed to growing the whole person, the Academy develops individuals to be fully prepared for the challenges and responsibilities of becoming citizen leaders.

VALLEY FORGE MILITARY COLLEGE, known as the Military College of Pennsylvania[™], is a private co-ed two-year college offering AA and ABA degrees. It is only one of four in the country and the only one located in the northeast to offer an Early Commissioning Program.

Our Mission is to develop individuals to be fully prepared for the responsibilities of being citizen leaders. We produce graduates who are strong in mind, body, and soul.

Our Vision is to be a shining beacon, calling young people from around the world to achieve their full intellectual, physical, moral, and leadership potential.

Our Philosophy is to develop the whole person within an integrated academic and military environment. Our tightly structured and supervised cadet-led community helps to inculcate a deep enduring commitment to be responsible and informed citizen in a democratic society.

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE FORGE,

As we reflect on the past year, we are filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable achievements and milestones that have defined our journey. It is with great pleasure that I present to you the 2024 Donor Impact Report, encapsulating the dedication, resilience, and spirit of our esteemed institution and its vibrant community.

This year has been particularly significant, marked by substantial upgrades to our Chapel, Swimming Pool, and Flag Pole—enhancements made possible by the unwavering support of our generous donors. These improvements not only elevate our campus but also symbolize our commitment to providing an exceptional environment for our cadets.

In March, VFMAC proudly hosted the Silver Star Medal Ceremony for Captain Lawrence Liss, a retired Army captain recognized with the United States military's third-highest decoration for valor in combat for his heroic actions during the Vietnam War's Rescue at Cau Song Be. Army General Daniel Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, and U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan presented Liss with his medal in Eisenhower Hall.

A highlight of our year was the joyous return of Alumni Weekend in April after a five-year hiatus. The parade, spring play, happy hour, and pickleball tournament offered a delightful way to celebrate VFMAC's rich history and cherished traditions, fostering a sense of camaraderie and nostalgia among attendees.

Our 31 College graduates excelled with an impressive average GPA of 3.61, earning acceptances to prestigious institutions such as Princeton, Yale, and Duke. Major General Mark J. Schindler, the 54th Adjutant General of Pennsylvania's Department of Military and Veterans Affairs at Fort Indiantown Gap, delivered the commencement speech.

We proudly celebrated the graduation of 39 Academy cadets on June 1, who collectivity achieved an impressive 3.4 GPA and secured over \$1.5 million in scholarships and financial aid. We were honored to have alumnus Larry Fitzgerald '02, former Arizona Cardinals star wide receiver and 2016 NFL Man of the Year, serve as the Commencement speaker for the Academy.

President of VFMF and VFMC

- Col Stuart B. Helgeson, USMC (Ret)

our cadets."

Your support not only helps us to elevate our campus

commitment to providing an

exceptional environment for

but also symbolizes our

×****

Our cadets also had the privilege of engaging with distinguished guests, including Brigadier General Laura A. McHugh, retired CIA executive Mark Kelton, and VFMA alum General H.R. McMaster. These interactions provided invaluable insights and inspiration, reinforcing our commitment to fostering leadership and excellence.

As you delve into this report, I hope you share in our pride and excitement for the future. Your continued support and engagement are vital to our mission, and together, we will forge ahead, upholding the legacy of Valley Forge Military Academy and College.

Warm regards,

Col Stuart B. Helgeson, USMC (Ret) President of VFMF and VFMC

Start B. Helen



YOUR GIFTS MATTER at Valley Forge Military Academy & College

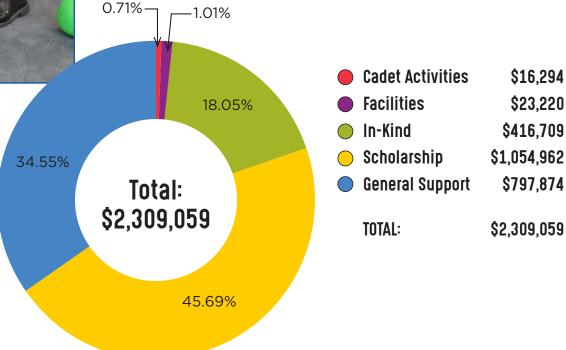


Achieving academic excellence for our cadets requires maintaining exceptionally high standards for our Academy teachers, College professors, support staff, and all the services provided to cadets, faculty, and staff. The pursuit of excellence extends beyond what tuition alone can cover.

Your contributions enable many VFMAC cadets to pursue and achieve excellence. Without your generous support each year, many would be unable to attend our institution.

Together, we are committed to our cadets, and your continued financial support significantly impacts their lives and those of their families. We pledge to honor your trust and be responsible stewards of your generosity.

2023-24 GIFT ALLOCATIONS



WAYS TO GIVE

VFMAC's benefactors consistently keep our institution at the forefront of their minds. Their contributions, whether large or small, come in various forms. Each donation is welcomed, put to excellent use, and always aimed at benefiting our cadets. We deeply appreciate the thoughtfulness and foresight with which these gifts are given.

Here are some of the ways you can contribute.



GIVING TUESDAY

Held the day after Cyber Monday, Giving Tuesday is an annual fundraising day held across the world. This past Giving Tuesday, our community came together in an extraordinary way, raising over \$86,000 to support crucial renovations at Valley Forge Military Academy & College. The funds were directed toward two significant projects: the restoration of our historic flagpole and the much-needed upgrades to our swimming pool (see page 4 for details). These enhancements are essential not only for maintaining the infrastructure of our campus but also for enriching the overall experience and well-being of our cadets.

The overwhelming generosity shown by alumni, parents, faculty, and friends of VFMAC is a testament to the strong sense of community and shared commitment to our institution's future. The renovated flagpole will stand as a proud symbol of our values and traditions, while the upgraded swimming pool will provide a topnotch facility for physical training and recreation.

EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT/OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP TAX CREDIT

The Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) is a lesser known manner of giving but has had substantial impact for VFMAC. It enables businesses to fulfill their state tax obligations by redirecting the amount they would have paid to the state to a 501C3 entity of their choice.

The Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC) enables eligible students in low-achieving school districts to apply for a scholarship to attend another public or nonpublic school.

VFMAC received \$350,000 in EITC/OSTC contributions during the last year. These funds were distributed in the form of scholarships to well deserving cadets.

To learn more about how your business can utilize the EITC/OSTC Credit, visit our website, www.vfmac.edu/give, or scan QR code to the right.

OTHER WAYS TO GIVE

STOCKS & SECURITY

Gifts of securities, including stock, bonds, or mutual funds made to our brokerage account, are encouraged and often provide significant tax advantages.

ENDOWMENT

Gifts to our endowment increase Valley Forge Military Academy & College's capacity to attract and retain the best and brightest faculty, to enroll the most qualified cadets, and to maintain our beautiful historic campus. Only the income from the principal is spent, ensuring that your gift continues in perpetuity.

UNITED WAY

Valley Forge Military Academy & College is a designated United Way recipient, and our donor number is 4316.

GIFTS IN MEMORY OR HONOR

A gift made in honor or memory of a family member, teacher, student or friend is a generous and thoughtful way to remember a person's life and accomplishments.



Scan here to start your giving today!



CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS

at Valley Forge Military Academy & College







Visitors frequently comment on the beauty of our campus. As caretakers, it's our duty to maintain the grounds and facilities to benefit the education and living quarters of our Corps of Cadets.

With nearly a century behind us, generosity from our Alumni allows for ongoing yearly improvements.

CHAPEL ENTRANCE

The chapel's entrance underwent significant restoration work. The columns were restored to their original grandeur, ensuring they continue to stand as a testament to the building's historical significance. Additionally, the entire entrance was repainted, refreshing its appearance and preserving its beauty for future generations.



These efforts, combined with other detailed enhancements, revitalized the chapel's entrance, ensuring it remains a welcoming and inspiring space for all who visit our Campus.

SWIMMING POOL

At the end of the school year, the swimming pool underwent a significant transformation. The pool was drained and repainted, with VFMA added to the lanes. To enhance safety, epoxy flooring was installed to eliminate the risk of slips, trips, or falls.



The old yellow-tinted lights were replaced with bright LED

lights, drastically improving the illumination of the pool area. Additionally, several operational upgrades were made, including a new pool vacuum, updated lane markers, and various mechanical enhancements.





The stadium underwent a significant transformation by replacing the aging bleachers and installing a new state-of-the-art scoreboard. The outdated bleachers on both the home and away sides have been replaced with modern, aluminum seating that not only enhances comfort but also increases capacity for spectators. Additionally,



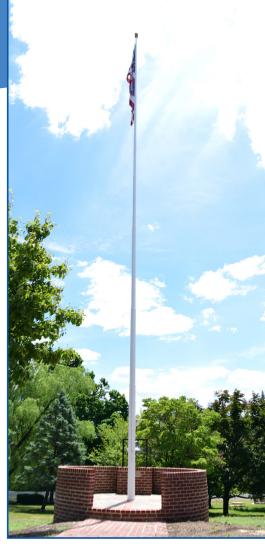
installing a new high-tech scoreboard adds a dynamic element to the game-day experience, offering vibrant displays that keep the crowd engaged.

FLAG POLE

The flag pole project reached completion in the spring. The base underwent a complete renovation and is now constructed of full brick with a slate floor, providing a solid and aesthetically pleasing foundation. Additionally, the pole was freshly painted, enhancing its appearance. A notable feature of the project was incorporating a bell from the Class of 1951, adding a historic touch to



the structure. This project was made possible thanks to the generous contributions from last year's Giving Tuesday efforts.



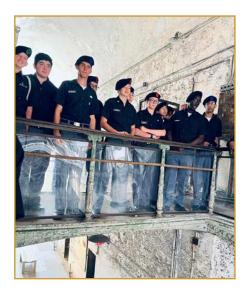




ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS







The 2023-24 academic year at Valley Forge Military Academy was a testament to excellence, filled with significant learning experiences, remarkable achievements, and a strong sense of community. The Academy's plebes arrived on campus in mid-August to start training with leadership cadets.

Just a week later, they joined their peers in classrooms, marking the official start of the school year. Thus began another chapter in the storied history of Valley Forge Military Academy, as the 96th Corps of Cadets commenced their pursuit of academic excellence and personal growth.

A few months after welcoming the cadets to campus, the Academy hosted Parent's Weekend in October, beginning with a recognition parade to celebrate the new plebes joining the Corps of Cadets. The event gave parents an opportunity to meet the tremendous educators here at The Forge. In November, seniors participated in the long standing



class ring ceremony held in the Mellon Ballroom.

After winter break, cadets were back on campus in January along with a new group of plebes transferring in. The return of Alumni Weekend marked one of the highlights of the school year in April after a five-year hiatus.. The parade, spring play, happy hour and pickleball tournament proved a terrific way to celebrate VFMAC's history and tradition. June 1st brought the school year to an end, with 39 seniors stepping onto the Parade Field stage to receive their diplomas.

Uncover all the major milestones and notable achievements in the sections below.

OFF CAMPUS TRIPS

Our cadets had the chance to supplement their learning near and far this school year with exhilarating and enlightening trips. Our French students took a trip to Paris for seven nights, and STEM students visited Costa Rica for eight nights to highlight some of the major trips.

More locally, there was a science trip to the Camden Aquarium and another to the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia to learn about momentum and gravity force calculations. Others learned more about U.S. history and military at the War College in Carlisle, Pa., and later in the school year at the Independence Seaport Museum and Fort Mifflin in Philadelphia.





Spanish and ESL students tried out their newfound language skills at local restaurants. There were also a few trips that were just for some cadet fun like paintball at Poco Loco, laser tag at Stryke Force and fishing at our neighbor Eastern University.

The senior class's last trips of the school year included a fun physics day at Dorney Park and an overnight stay at Camelback Resort in the Poconos.



COMMUNITY SERVICE

The cadets took the initiative to serve their community throughout the school year. Leadership classes attended American Legion events. There were volunteer trips to Norristown's Senior Adult Activities Center and the Coatesville Veterans' Association to support their residents' programs.

Cadets also collaborated with Radnor Township to help with the Fall Festival, the Santa Parade, and worked with the Wayne Business Association to keep the streets clean in town.





The Color Guard and Regimental Band continued to represent VFMAC well in places like the Veterans' Day Parade in Manhattan and the Memorial Day Parade in Radnor. The Color Guard made multiple trips to present the colors at Philadelphia Union games.

ATHLETICS

The Academy had seven official sports teams compete throughout the school year. The soccer, cross country, and 8-man football teams competed in the fall, followed by basketball and swimming in the winter and baseball and track & field in the spring.

Senior Cadet Justin Gonzalez led a quintet of VFMA runners with a 12th-place finish at the District 1 cross country championships. Senior Cadet Sehgal Mihir represented VFMA at the District 1 swimming championships.

The track & field team ended the athletic season with an impressive season with five District 1 medalists, including Sophomore Cadet Antonio Cortes, who won the Bicentennial Athletic League championship before a third-place finish in the 100-meter at districts.





Scan here to watch the

Highlights.

Commencement

ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS continued

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The cadets remained well-rounded, with plenty more happenings around campus at The Forge in 2023-24. The rifle club used the shooting range in Mellon and took trips off campus to test their skills. The HiQ trivia team, cultural club, gardening club, STEM enhancements, choir, Boy Scouts, and National Honors Society gave cadets multiple opportunities to learn and try new things.

The ESports club competed against programs around the area and the region and had their most successful season. This year's spring musical was Little Shop of Horrors, which drew rave reviews during Alumni Weekend.



Cadets from both the academy and college attended the Association of Military Colleges & Schools of the United States Conference in Washington, D.C. in February returning with well-earned rewards. VFMA won first place in the middle school drill competition and Cadet Isaac Chappel won second place in the middle school writing contest. College Cadet Casey Dougherty took home third in the college writing competition, and LtCol Tracey Hartley was second in the faculty writing contest.

Of course, cadets had plenty more fun activities planned throughout the school year. The Boodle hosted gatherings for cadets like a Super Bowl party, Easter egg hunts, ice cream socials, bingo, and video games tournaments. Additionally, inflatable obstacle courses, soccer and flag football games, basketball tournaments, and more, were set up outside, all designed to keep the cadets active.

COMMENCEMENT

Final exams and award ceremonies filled the last weeks of May before the Class of 2024 concluded its time at The Academy with a graduation ceremony on June 1. The seniors finished with a cumulative 3.4 GPA and amassed more than \$1.5 million in scholarships and financial aid.

Valedictorian Cadet Natan Abramson (William & Mary) and salutatorian Cadet Amir Hulan (Penn State) finished at the top of the class while class president Cadet Samir Hugh (Drexel) also had the opportunity to address his peers.

Commencement speaker Larry Fitzergald '02, former Arizona Cardinal star wide receiver, who has continued to thrive after his athletic career, sent the cadets off. He spoke of his time at The Forge and encouraged the graduates to carry their lessons from VFMA with them into their next chapter.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: LARRY FITZGERALD, JR. VFMA '02



He played 17 seasons in the NFL as a wide receiver with the Arizona Cardinals. He was named to the NFL 100 All-Time Team, which recognized the best players of the first 100 years of the NFL. In 2016, he was awarded the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award, the League's highest honor recognizing charitable work.



On the business side, Larry's passion for technology and sports are core tenets of his business and advocacy interests. He serves on the boards of directors for Tempus Ex Machina, a data and technology company focused on the sports and entertainment industries, and Dick's Sporting Goods. Larry holds ownership in the AZ Drive Major League Pickleball team, and the Rajasthan Royals cricket team, and he has also worked extensively with PGA Reach to increase diversity in the game of golf.

He also hosts the *Let's Go!* Podcast with Tom Brady and Jim Gray, and contributes as an analyst on ESPN's Monday Night Countdown.

Larry returned to campus and served as the commencement speaker for Valley Forge Military Academy's 96th Corps of Cadets graduation on Saturday, June 1st.

Asked what advice he would give prospective students and parents, Larry responded:

"If you want to be prepared for the future to come and have the discipline and mental fortitude to be able to get yourself in shape mentally, physically, psychologically, and spiritually, there is no better place that will prepare you for what life has to offer than this place and I would highly encourage it."



I can't tell you how thankful I am for my Valley Forge Military Academy experience. There's no way I'd be the person I am today if I hadn't gone there."

- Larry Fitzgerald, Jr. Valley Forge Military Academy, '02



Scan here to watch Larry's Commencement Speech.



COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS









On the College side, the 2023-24 academic year represented growth in several ways while maintaining the structure and tradition that make VFMC one of the most unique learning institutions in the country.

It all began with an implementation of the new plebe system in the fall semester, resulting in 100% retention of new students, and the addition of three new degree programs: Behavioral and Social Sciences, Mathematics, and Construction Management.

After the cadets spent a good portion of their summer at Basic and Advanced Camp to hone their military skills, the College's Field Day on the first day of September provided a fun start to a school year with lots of excitement. Lt. General H.R. McMaster and U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan were on campus for a panel discussion about modern veterans issues in November. Before break, the cadets celebrated the annual Dining In ceremony with guest speaker Brigadier General John R. Pippy in early December.

Special Agent Aaron McCaa of the Secret Service taught a class in February. In March, VFMAC played host to the Silver Star Medal Ceremony for Captain Lawrence Liss with Army General Daniel Hokanson, Chief of the National Guard Bureau and U.S. Representative Chrissy Houlahan presenting the medal. Later in the month, Brigadier General Laura A. McHugh and retired CIA executive Mark Kelton, another VFMAC alum, hosted the National Security Symposium on campus.

The cadets had their Spring Field Training Exercise in mid-April and a few weeks later the 31 seniors celebrated graduation in the chapel before many received their first salute following the commissioning ceremony.

There was plenty more going on throughout The Forge throughout the year. Here are some of the highlights below:

OFF CAMPUS TRIPS

The cadets got some terrific experiences away from The Forge as well this academic year. They visited the PA State Capitol as a guest of State Senator Tracy Pennycuick and got a taste of high society when they attended the Versailles/ Claude Monet Giverny Foundation's Annual Benefit Dinner in New York City.







There was a September Staff Ride to Fort McHenry, a Cybersecurity trip to Washington, D.C. and a visit to the Jenkins Arboretum. The Citizen Leaders took a camping and survival challenge weekend in the Poconos during the fall along with a fishing trip in the spring. The cadets also offered their services at shelters in Phoenixville and a food kitchen in Philadelphia to assist those in need.



Outside of the classroom, our cadets kept busy with the second year of the Provost's Cup intramural program and another season of cross-country competition. The Ranger Challenge team outperformed all other MJCs during its annual competition, winning top honors for the second year in a row.

The College initiated Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu, which was well received by cadets. The cadets participated in poetry slams during both semesters, film discussions, and other extracurriculars, like the women's club.

COMMENCEMENT

The 31 members of the graduating class earned an average GPA of 3.61 with acceptances to prestigious institutions like Princeton, Yale and Duke. Cadet Casey Dougherty (Holy Cross) was the valedictorian with two co-salutatorians, Cadet



Aiden Myhre (Norwich) and Cadet Leeyah Martinez (Delaware).

Three Academy grads, Cadet David Rosen, Cadet Thomas Manidis and Cadet Esteban Moreno-Gomory were part of the graduating class. Twenty-two cadets were pinned as Second Lieutenants immediately following graduation.

Major General Mark J. Schindler, the 54th Adjutant General of PA's Department of Military and Veteran Affairs at Fort Indiantown Gap, gave the commencement speech.



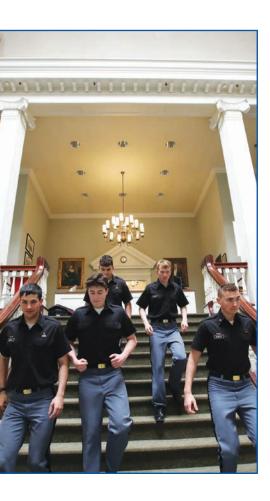






Scan here to watch the Commencement Highlights.





Scholarships at Valley Forge Military Academy & College, generously provided by multiple donors, play a pivotal role in making our topnotch education accessible to a diverse and deserving group of cadets. These scholarships not only alleviate the financial burden on families but also open doors for talented individuals who might otherwise be unable to afford a quality education.

Our donors' commitment to supporting education ensures that our cadets can focus on their academic pursuits, personal growth, and future careers without the constant worry of financial constraints.

The impact of these scholarships is truly priceless. They empower cadets from various backgrounds to reach their full potential and achieve their dreams. By investing in our cadets, our donors help cultivate the next generation of leaders, innovators, and professionals who will make significant contributions to society.

The generosity of our donors transforms lives, fosters academic excellence, and upholds the tradition of providing outstanding education to those who merit it the most.

Below is a listing of the scholarships our cadets received this year, along with featured stories of two individual students whose lives have been significantly impacted by these awards.

- The Cory Stein Memorial Scholarship
- Ethel Mae Hocker Foundation, Inc Scholarship
- Yocum Family Perpetual Charitable Trust Scholarship
- The Valley Forge Military Academy & College Golf Scholarship
- The Pittsburgh Foundation John Bruno Scholarship Fund

- The Malach D. & David E. Krupnick Scholarship
- Central Pennsylvania Scholarship Fund
- Richard R. McCullough '41 Endowed Scholarship
- Robert A. Bacine, Esq Scholarship
- EITC/OSTC

CADET ANDREW TUTURICE VALLEY FORGE MILITARY ACADEMY

Cadet Andrew Tuturice is a determined sixteen-year-old with a clear vision for his future. At the age of seven, he decided to become an officer in the United States Coast Guard, understanding the dedication and effort required to achieve this goal. To pursue his dream, Andrew researched schools that could provide the necessary foundation and decided to apply to Valley Forge Military Academy for his sophomore year.

Impressed by his transcripts and recommendations, Valley Forge Military Academy invited Andrew for an interview. He was subsequently accepted and awarded a scholarship to attend VFMA. This opportunity allows Andrew to receive a rigorous education that aligns with his aspirations and supports his journey toward becoming a Coast Guard officer.

"This past year has been an incredible and successful journey. He is receiving a top rate education combined with the structure that is needed to forge his future. We are grateful to the Academy for the man he has become and is becoming." - Christina McDowell (Mother of Andrew Tuturice)



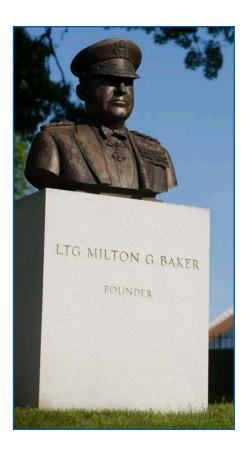
CADET ORLANDO VILLAFANE-PINTO **VALLEY FORGE MILITARY COLLEGE**

Cadet Orlando Villafane-Pinto was one of Valley Forge Military College's Yocum Family Perpetual Charitable Trust Scholarship recipients this past academic year. Cadet Villafane-Pinto was a first-year student from Coatesville High School in Coatesville, Pa. He enlisted in the army at 17, attending basic camp between his junior and senior years of high school. Villafane-Pinto was a Citizen Leader this past school year at VFMC, accumulating a 3.5 GPA while studying engineering. He was one of four cadets to receive the The Department of the Army Superior Cadet Decoration Award.

Since his family moved to Florida, Cadet Villafane-Pinto stayed in an apartment on campus this summer in order to stay local for his Army drills. He worked with the VFMAC facilities team around campus. He will be one of the leaders of VFMC's Citizen Leader program this season. He hopes to continue on to West Chester and participate in their four-year ROTC program or go into active duty.



OUR DONOR COMMUNITY





FOUNDER'S SOCIETY \$50,000 & ABOVE

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COL Edward D. Brown, USA (Ret.) '44 TAPS

The John Bruno ('44, TAPS) Scholarship Fund of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Mr. John L. English '91

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Ethel Mae Hocker Foundation, Inc.

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Mr. Hugh B. Roberts '56

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Schoendorfer, Sr.

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