# Class of 2022



Harry graduated from Bucknell University in 1932 and St. Louis University Medical School in 1936. He opened his medical practice in Port Jervis in 1938 but his career was interrupted by World War II during which he served in the Medical Corps of the 32nd Infantry Division, earning the rank of Captain. He served as Chief of Medical Staff at St. Francis Hospital for many years and retired in 1987 after 46 years of service to our community. Harry was a member of Temple Beth El, the VFW, the American Legion, the Elks, and served on the Port Jervis Board of Education for 13 years. He passed away in 1991.

## Dr. Frank Simpson, Class of 1947

Frank graduated from Cornell University's College of Veterinary Medicine in 1953. In 1954 he opened the Tri-State Veterinary Hospital on Neversink Drive in the Town of Deerpark where he served our community with honor and distinction for many decades. He also served on the Deerpark Planning Board and Zoning Board Commission, and helped spearhead the development of the Neversink Valley Area Museum and County Park in Cuddebackville. He served on the Orange County Citizens Foundation, Port Jervis Heritage Commission and PJ's Operation Depot. He is a recipient of the Union-Gazette Progress Award, the Malcolm Booth Medal for history preservation and the Graham Skea Quality of Life Award.

#### John "Jack" Flynn, Class of 1957

Jack devoted 43 years of federal government service to our nation in counter-intelligence, counter-terrorism, and emergency management. During his lengthy tenure, Jack received numerous awards for outstanding service and he carried Secret or Top-Secret compartmentalized clearance for 35 years. After his active duty in the Air Force, he was a career crash rescue/structural firefighter and emergency medical technician at Stewart International Airport, and fire chief for the VA Hudson Valley Medical Center. He has served as the emergency management director for the Town of Deerpark for over 25 years and has been a volunteer firefighter and past chief with the Sparrowbush Fire Department for more than 50 years.

## Nelson Keyes, Class of 1965

Thanks to his accomplishments at PJHS, Nelson received a track scholarship to North Carolina Central University. He was then drafted into the Viet Nam War where he joined the 173rd Airborne Brigade. After two years of service and a Bronze Star, he returned to NCCU, where he graduated in 1971. Nelson was a world class runner and set a world record with his brothers, Salih and Steve. He was an accountant by trade and worked with famed labor lawyer, Theodore Kiel, for more than 40 years. He co-founded the Metro Eagles of Queens, NY fame with fellow PJHS and NCCU alum James Wilkerson. The Eagles won six AAU National Track Championships. He passed away in 2016.











#### David Simmons, Class of 1966

Dave taught sixth grade in the Port Jervis schools for 33 years. He also coached football at PJHS for 33 years - 10 years as JV assistant under Joe Viglione and 23 years as varsity defensive coordinator under Bob Corvino. He was also the varsity wrestling head coach for 17 years where his teams earned 157 dual meet victories and four Orange County League national conference championships. His wrestlers earned 28 Section IX titles, 18 NYS place finishers and one state champion. The team finished second in NYS in 2001. He passed away in 2019.



#### Arthur Trovei, Class of 1970

Artie was a four-year wrestler at Wilkes College where he was a two-time All-American and a NCAA Division III national champion. He was captain of the 1974 Wilkes team that won the Division III national team title. He is the owner of Arthur Trovei and Sons, Inc., which was founded by his grandfather. He has given back to his community by serving multiple terms on the Deerpark Town Council.



#### Lisa Cohen Cooper, Class of 1979

Lisa graduated from Syracuse University in 1983 and the Syracuse College of Law in 1985. She started her career in environmental law with Nixon Hargrave in Rochester. She then moved to Raleigh, NC to work for Carolina Power/Progress Energy (which became Duke Energy) from 1993 to 2007 where she served as associate general counsel then Director of Environmental Health and Safety and finally as Vice-President. Her next venture was as CEO and general counsel of PMI Ash Technologies, which specializes in the conversion of coal ash into building materials. She was the first female chair of the American Coal Ash Association.



### Kelly Decker, Class of 1985

If you've ever met Kelly, you know of his deep love of Port Jervis. He served over 22 years in the New York Air National Guard which included combat in Panama for "Just Cause" as well as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Iraq for "Desert Shield/Storm." Simultaneously, he served the area as a Deerpark and Port Jervis Police Officer for over 22 years where he was a popular DARE Officer and the school district's first School Resource Officer. In "retirement", he has served as a social studies teacher at the PJ Middle School since 2012. He also served the past 8 years as the Mayor of Port Jervis, where his major accomplishments include the Downtown Revitalization project, Watershed Trails development and the Neversink River Bridge replacement.