September & October VILLAGER VIEW

"Do not be anxious about anything... the peace of God will guard your hearts and minds." - Philippians 4: 6-7

DANA AND CARMINE CATALANA CENTER FOR WOMEN IN

LEADERSHIP OPENING

On October 21, the OLMA community, including students, faculty, and benefactors, joined together in the official Blessing and Ribbon-Cutting of the brand-new Dana and Carmine Catalana Center for Women in Leadership. This space serves as a place for students to practice their leadership in a professional setting, including three new classrooms, an assembly area, and new faculty offices. The day began with a wonderful Mass said by Father Murray, who emphasized the faithful impact the Leadership Center will have on our school's future. Following the Mass, Evangeline Catanese '26 led the first assembly in the Leadership Center, starting with a blessing from Father Murray on the new Center. Mrs. Coyle gave welcoming remarks and expressed gratitude towards everyone involved in making this possible, especially Rose Marie Davis and Dana Catalana, whose unwavering generosity and support have helped the school. Additionally, Ava-Jo Driscoll '27 announced our new "Rose Marie Davis Woman in Leadership Award" in honor of Mrs. Davis. This annual award is presented to a woman of South Jersey who serves as a significant role model for our students.

Thank you to all our benefactors for generously supporting the OLMA community and empowering our students to lead a world of change, especially Rose Marie Davis, Dana Catalana '78, and Carmine Catalana. Our girls are grateful to be in a new, welcoming space to grow in faith, leadership, and confidence.

Erin McGonigle '26



VILLAGER VIEW

WELCOME TO THE SISTERHOOD

SISTERHOOD CEREMONY

On September 16, 2025, OLMA held its Sisterhood Mass and Reception, enjoyed by both the school community and parents. This ongoing tradition marks the official initiation of freshmen and transfer students into the OLMA Sisterhood. The Class of 2026 gave their little sisters a green and gold bracelet to formally welcome them into the Sisterhood, a deeply cherished part of the OLMA community. After the mass, Bigs and Littles enjoyed a light reception with parents. Many memories were made, and many more are sure to come. OLMA is excited to welcome the freshmen and transfer students into the Sisterhood!

NEW FACULTY & STAFF

Ms. Stefano is a former OLMA alum, class of 2021. She completed her double major in English and Media & Communications Studies and her minor in Educational Studies at Ursinus College. Ms. Stefano teaches Leadership I and is the Head Volleyball Coach, as well as a member of the OLMA Admissions and Communications team. A fun fact about Ms. Stefano is that she met Saquon Barkley while working at a restaurant during college!





Mrs. Rambone is returning to OLMA this year with a new and exciting role in the Business and Development Departments. Mrs. Rambone spent her time last year alongside Mrs. Donovan, helping in a variety of ways. She earned her MBA from Rowan University, and her knowledge in business will aid her as she takes on this new vital role to help OLMA excel.

Ms. Schubert is a former OLMA alum, class of 2021. Ms. Schubert earned her Bachelor of Arts in English Secondary Education from The Catholic University of America. She returned to OLMA to teach Religion III to juniors and Honors Literature II to sophomores. The OLMA community is blessed to have Ms. Schubert join the team!

Ms. Ciocco is joining the OLMA community with a Business Advertising degree from Appalachian State University and a Master's in Education from Rider University. Ms. Ciocco teaches Literature and Business to the students with a deep passion for both subjects, and she is also serving as OLMA's Head Field Hockey Coach. OLMA is delighted to have Ms. Ciocco join the family!

Mrs. McCormick is a former OLMA alum and is also the mother of OLMA alum Allyson, class of 2018. Mrs. McCormick is deeply committed to the teaching of science, having taught Chemistry, Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, and more. Mrs. McCormick formerly taught at Schalick High School, and now back at OLMA, Mrs. McCormick teaches Anatomy & Physiology, and Biology I.

Ms. Howells is entering the OLMA community as our Freshman and Sophomore guidance counselor. Ms. Howells earned her Bachelor of Science in Psychology from Towson University and is currently pursuing her Master's in School Psychology at Rowan University. Ms. Howells will be working alongside Mrs. Duke, as well as providing support to our 9th and 10th graders.

Kaylee Franklin '26

VILLAGER VIEW

FRESHMEN & SOPHOMORE SOCIAL

This year, OLMA was invited to attend the first Freshman and Sophomore Social at St. Augustine Prep. While a few of our girls were uncertain at first, many say it was the best night they've had in a while! The freshmen were excited to attend their first high school dance, and the sophomores were happy to see their friends after summer break. Seeing the Sisterhood in our underclassmen was truly heartwarming, and the girls looked great in their attire. After a night full of dancing and laughing, the anticipation for OLMA's Semi-Formal was only heightened. The social was a great way to start off the school year, and hopefully, there will be more of these events in the future. Thank you to all of the administrators and faculty who made this dance possible!

Theresa Thomas '28



HALLOWEEN

Halloween has always stood as an exciting and beloved day at OLMA. However, this year, students and staff took their costumes to another level, mixing creativity and originality to make this the most spirited Halloween OLMA has ever seen. The OLMA community enjoyed a day filled with exciting Halloween activities, including pieeating, costume contests, a candy corn jar guessing game, and a pumpkin decorating contest! The competition brought out significant sisterhood bonding!

Katie Capalbo '26

BIG LITTLE EVENT

Full of tradition, laughter, donut-eating contests, and a lip-sync battle, the annual Big-Little Event was an amazing kick-off to the school year for our seniors, freshmen, and transfer students. First, senior mentors connected with their Littles over the summer to get to know one another and share their interests. Then, on August 28, the evening started with a welcoming hour of fun drinks, temporary tattoos, pictures, and anticipated first-time introductions. After splitting into three groups, the Bigs and Littles enjoyed a variety of activities consisting of musical chairs, painting picture frames, and preparing for our lip-sync battle, which was definitely everyone's favorite part of the night. Each group picked a song out of a hat and had 30 minutes to coordinate a dance, and then four staff members judged each performance. The students' imagination shone from crowd-surfing to cheer stunts to dance routines. After a winner was declared, two OLMA staples followed: Just Dance and the donut-eating contest. At the end of the night, Bigs gave their Littles a gift to help start their year right. Whether it was school supplies or energy drinks, the Littles were equipped with everything they needed to have a successful school year. This event is always a cherished one at OLMA, and it was a memorable night for everyone in attendance.

Sydney Bickett '26



VILLAGER VIEW

2025 MINIMESTERS: TALES FROM THE INTERNATIONAL TRIPS

GREECE

Laney Yates: A memory that I have from Greece is when we went to one of these museums, and I was so sweaty. I reached for my barely functional deodorant to put it on, and it broke apart, dropped to the floor in the dead-silent museum, and went BOOM. There are deodorant pieces everywhere, and I start begging Gianna and Ella to hold my bag so I can pick it up. I lean over to pick up the pieces, and everything else in my bag just falls out onto the floor like BOOM BOOM. Coins are falling and making that DING DING DING sound. I put my belt-bag back on, and this lady goes to me and says, "Are you going to pick that up?" I picked everything up, and then I just had to sit in dead silence and stare.

GALAPAGOS

Abbie Bryson: A lot went down in the Galapagos, and it's so hard to think of a specific story, but I'm going to talk about the sea lions because they were everywhere (She's pretty sure they were sea lions and not seals). They were the pigeons of the Galapagos Islands. They would randomly walk across the road, and we had to stop for them. One of the places that we went to was a beach full of sea lions that were yelling and fighting each other. This one sea lion went into the water with her mom, and she came out, but her mom didn't, so she went up to all of these people screaming and doing "sea lion things." Then, when Mia and I were trying to learn a dance, a sea lion just walked past our video. A sea lion also scratched against Harriet's foot when we were snorkeling. They are everywhere, but they are so friendly!

PUERTO RICO

Sydney Bickett: My favorite day of our trip was when we went to Luquillo Beach. It was so much fun, and we were in the ocean for almost three hours. Then, we got these big pineapple drinks, and they were so good. After, we went climbing up a tree, and people had to go and get cushions because some of the people were afraid to jump off the tree. After going to the beach, we went on a private boat tour to go snorkeling and paddleboarding off on our own. As we climbed onto the boat, the water started spraying all over us, and we were soaking wet before even going into the ocean. The boat took us very far away and onto a private island for a snorkeling tour as we ate our sandwiches. On the private island, we saw stingrays and turtles, and to end the day, we all jumped off the boat.

Ella Cummins '27



VILLAGER VIEW

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Emma Eddis '27 is the Villager View's student spotlight! As the volleyball team's libero, Eddis was named Conference Player of the Week and Junior Player to Watch, and she recently earned First Team CAL All-Star. Her perseverance has helped lead the Villagers to 16-4 in the 2025-2026 season. As the volleyball team advanced as the #1 seeded team in the CAL playoffs, she uplifted her teammates and consistently radiated positivity on and off the court this season. Throughout her three years of high school volleyball, she has reached over 600 digs, with 256 just this season. Additionally, she was recently spotlighted by the Catholic Star Herald for her impressive season with the Villagers. Great job, Emma, and keep up the great work! Gwen Greco '29





OLMA SPORTS

Our Villagers sports teams have been doing great throughout the fall season! This season, our volleyball team has been ranked #1 in the Cape-Atlantic League Conference in a clutch win against Egg Harbor Township. On October 23, the volleyball team defeated Cedar Creek to advance them to the CAL Championships. For the first time in OLMA history, they won the American Division of the Cape-Atlantic League. Additionally, they were ranked #9 for all private schools in the state of New Jersey!

The tennis team ended their season 10-10, shutting out teams such as Oakcrest, Absegami, Salem, and Buena. Erin McMahon and Lily Mayo played first doubles in the CAL Tournament, winning their first match and putting up a good fight in the second. Evangeline Catanese was awarded First Team CAL.

On September 23, our field hockey team beat Ocean City 2-1 for the first time in OLMA history! The team had key players like Lauren King, Sacred Heart University Division 1 commit, who scored 100 points in her four years, and Molly Gallagher, a key midfielder committed to Pace University. The sophomore goalie, Avery Savage, also reached 177 saves this season, and senior Erin McGonigle was awarded the CAL All-Academic Team. Congrats to Coach Carli Ciocco on a successful first year!

OLMA soccer kicked off its season with a 3-2 home opener win over Middle Township. Sisters Savanna (DII Caldwell University commit) and Vienna Fries led their offense this season. Sophomore Lucca Grungo held the defense in the back and won First Team CAL honors, with goalie Peyton Widencrantz also having a great season.

Cross Country won meets against teams like Buena and Cape May Tech, and while their team is small, they are mighty. With senior Leah Lucero, who earned CAL Honorable Mention, the team hit new PR's in key meets against Millville & Absegami. Cheerleading has also been doing amazing throughout their season, always having the best spirit!

VILLAGER VIEW

POSITIVITY PIECE

OZONE RECOVERY:

Recent reports confirm the recovery of the ozone layer, with the Atlantic hole showing signs of improvement. If the research currently conducted is true:

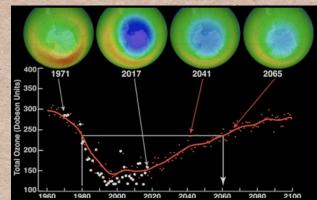
2040: There will be recovery for the rest of the world (excluding polar regions).

2045: There will be recovery over the Arctic.

2066: Recovery over the Antarctic.

Two main chemical causes of the ozone layer's depletion are

chlorofluorocarbons, which are used in air conditioners, refrigerators, and foam products. The other chemical is halons, and that is used in fire extinguishers. The healing is a direct result of the 1987 Montreal Protocol, a landmark international treaty that has been ratified by every country in the world. The protocol has led to the phase-out of 99% of ozone-depleting substances, including chlorofluorocarbons.



SOLAR ENERGY:

The cost of solar panels has decreased over the last decade, making it competitive with traditional energy sources. Numerous countries are investing in solar farms, and homeowners are adding panels to their roofs. These changes result in less pollution and a smaller carbon footprint. Also, the solar power industry is becoming a major job source, from manufacturing panels to installation. The booming renewable energy is a win-win for both the planet and the economy.

WOMEN IN NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Chamber of Commerce celebrated 12 amazing women who are changing the game across the state. These women aren't just business leaders, they're mentors, community builders, and everyday role models who are proving that leadership isn't about titles, it's about impact. From helping local neighborhoods grow to standing up for others, they're showing what it means to lead with heart and confidence. Their stories remind young women everywhere that while success looks different for everyone, passion, hard work, and kindness can shape an impactful life while inspiring others along the way.





Isabella Bond '27 & Elizabeth Dodd '29

VILLAGER VIEW

MONTHLY SPECIALS

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month, which is meant to bring awareness, raise money for research, promote early detection, and fund treatments. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women worldwide. Approximately 1 in 8 women are diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime, and there were an estimated 316,950 cases of breast cancer in 2025. Some signs of breast cancer include a lump or thickening in the breast, a change in size, redness or irritation, and more. The risk of being diagnosed increases with age, especially after menopause. It is primarily caused by genetic factors, hormone exposure, lifestyle choices, and environmental factors. Some ways to support breast cancer awareness are by donating to and fundraising for reputable organizations, volunteering, participating in walk/run events, and educating your community. A small way to support is to wear pink, which is a symbol of hope and support in the fight against breast cancer. October is also an extra reminder to hug the women in your life a little extra this month.

Sage Hall '29

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

September was Suicide Prevention Awareness Month: the effort to talk openly about suicide, reduce the stigma around it, and educate people on how to recognize warning signs. Suicide is the second leading cause of death in the United States for people between the ages of 15 and 34. Some of these signs include changes in mood, withdrawal from activities, and expressing feelings of hopelessness. It is important to recognize these signs so we can prevent people from acting on thoughts of suicide. Throughout our community, we can make a difference by creating a safe environment for those to reach out and by staying supportive and understanding.

In the OLMA community, senior Holly Salmon gave a presentation on the importance of suicide awareness and how we can change the narrative around suicide. She reminded us that we are not alone, and asking for help is not a sign of weakness. If you or someone you know is struggling, do not hesitate to reach out for help.

Daniella Brescia '29

9/11 REMEMBRANCE

On September 11, OLMA spent a day of reflection and remembrance for those involved and lost in the 9/11 terrorist attack. In Social Justice, taught by Sister Margaret, the seniors were educated on what happened, the impact it had, and how it united America, specifically focusing on the light in the darkness. 9/11 is one of the most tragic days in American history, but we should also take a deeper look into the light that came out of that day, including all of the heroes who selflessly saved others in New York, Arlington, and Pennsylvania. On September 11, America was tested and found resilient. The country united, and the people selflessly dedicated themselves to others.

Here is what some of the seniors in Sister Margaret's class have to say:

Erin McGonigle: "I learned that there was light even on one of the darkest days in history."

Sydney Bickett: "It affected the entire country, and not only New York. I used to believe that New York was the only place that was impacted, but I discovered that everyone felt it."

Kathryn Capalbo: "Watching those videos about what people went through that day really affected me. I've always known that it was a tragedy, but I really felt the sadness and helplessness that people went through during my class."

VILLAGER VIEW

HOT TOPIC

THE SUMMER I TURNED PRETTY: SEASON 3 FINALE PREDICTION by Erin McMahon

The suspense for The Summer I Turned Pretty finale is everywhere, with many people making interesting predictions and captivating edits. It is said that the next episode will be about an hour and a half long, which is great for all of the diehard fans. Personally, I think that Belly's haircut is a symbol of a new era that will include Conrad. First, I think Conrad will fly to meet Belly in Paris, they will hang out again, and Belly's feelings will slowly start to rekindle. Then, based on the heartburn that John, Belly's dad, had in the last episode, he will have a heart attack. Belly and Conrad will immediately fly back home and finally face the family after almost a year. Belly will find out that Jeremiah and Denise are dating, which hurts her, but she is happy for him.

Then, in the future, Belly and Conrad leave Paris after their one-year lease is up, and they have fallen in love. They will be at the beach house when Conrad proposes, and Belly happily says yes. The entire family is super happy for them, and the two have a beautiful but mellow wedding at Cousins, which is Belly's dream wedding.

NOW LET'S READ ERIN'S OPINIONS AFTER THE EPISODE, WRITTEN ON 9/22/25

Okay, so clearly my prediction wasn't super accurate... but most of us ended up getting what we wanted: Belly and Conrad finally together! Belly's haircut was not as bad as everybody thought it would be; it was honestly very chic and very French. I don't love how they threw Bineto and Belly's relationship away because I did like Bineto. But, moving on, we obviously all loved Conrad coming, even though Belly was a little weird in the beginning.

Eventually, they warmed up to each other, and she invited him to her birthday dinner. (Thank you, Belly, for making something happen.) Conrad really trying to win Belly over was so refreshing to watch, and I just loved their banter during the dinner. Then, Belly and Conrad have a lovely moment, and Conrad confesses his passionate love for Belly. Of course, Belly ruins the moment because she couldn't make up her mind (she never can!). 5 minutes before Conrad leaves, Belly chases after him and confesses her love, and they leave Paris to go back to the summer house together, holding hands. And that's where we are left off.

Now, while all this is happening in Paris, the rest of Belly and Conrad's family are having their own problems. I was slightly accurate in the fact that Jeremiah and Denise get together (classic Jeremiah), who is apparently a 5-star chef now. Then, Steven has to move to San Francisco for work, and he, for some reason, doesn't tell Taylor. Didn't see that one coming, but it is normal for Steven not to tell Taylor, and obviously, she gets mad. Also, with John and Laurel, we didn't even get an ending on that, but I hope to see one in the MOVIE coming out! Not to mention Adam showing up to the dinner cranky because he wasn't invited. Adam was talking about giving people space, and yet he can't leave Jeremiah alone.

Overall, this episode was excellent, and I hope the movie comes out this Christmas, because I will definitely be writing my predictions for it!

Erin McMahon '26

PHILADELPHIA SPORTS: EAGLES

The defending Super Bowl Champion Eagles are off to an 8-2 start through September and October, 1st in the NFC East. They won all four September games, then fell short in two October games before finishing the month with a win. In a Sunday Night matchoff, the Eagles' defense played a key role in a win against the Detroit Lions, 16-9. Players like Saquan Barkley and Cooper DeJean stand strong and ready to defend their title. Even though they have to work through minor flaws, there is no doubt they will battle and do their best to win this season!



Katie Capalbo '26

VILLAGER VIEW

LOVE ISLAND: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Season 7 of the reality TV show, Love Island, commonly referred to as the "show of the summer," captivated and took over the US by storm, drawing in viewers 5 days a week for hours on end. The show consisted of strangers living together in a villa located in Fiji with one common goal in mind: find love. Different games and challenges caused turmoil within the villa, including messy fights, miscommunications, and the removal of two islanders from the villa.

Now, let's take a deeper look at the 4 couples that made it into the finale and what they have been up to now:

First is the winning couple, Amaya and Brian: The day after the season reunion, the couple unfollowed each other on Instagram, following rumours that Brian had cheated. A few days later, Amaya posted on her Instagram story that the two officially split. Fans were outraged and confused due to the outpouring of love shown throughout the season to "Amaya Papaya".

The runners-up, Olandria and Nic: After having a secret love for one another the entire season, the two finally explored their connection in the last weeks and are continuing to do so today. After going on press tours, doing photo shoots, and working with multiple brands, the two have stuck together through it all.

The third-place couple, Huda and Chris: While the two became a couple later in the show, they still managed to find themselves among the final four. Before the finale aired, the two called it quits on each other in the villa, and both have been living their own lives outside of the villa. Huda has begun dating another reality TV star while Chris has been lying low.

Finally, the fourth-place couple, Iris and Pepe: After the finale, the two made it official, but their relationship did not last for long outside of the villa due to rumours of Pepe cheating on Iris. However, Iris has become the Love Island "it girl" with an outpour of love and numerous brand deals. She has also been busy exploring her connection with TJ, another member of the show, outside of the villa.

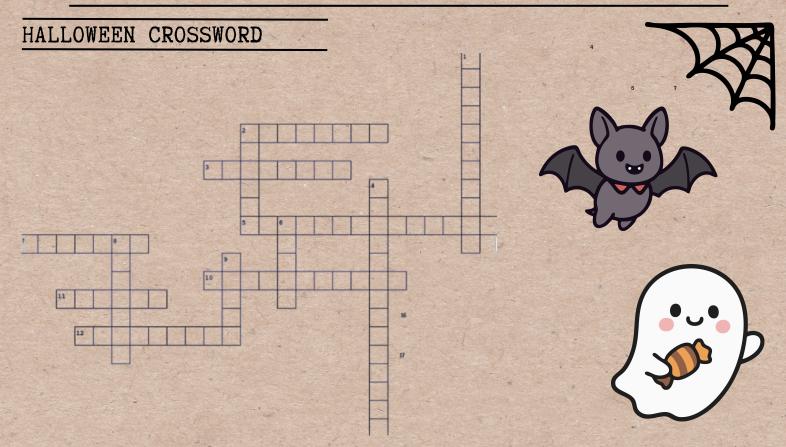








VILLAGER VIEW



ACROSS

- 2. What candy's slogan is "Taste the Rainbow"?
- 3. This iconic music video features Michael Jackson dancing with zombies; what is it called?
- 5. What is the van used by Scooby-Doo and the gang called?
- 7. What orange round fruit is carved to make Jack-O-Lanterns?
- 10. Who is the villain in the Nightmare Before Christmas?
- 11. Who is the "top scarer" in Monsters Inc?
- 12. What three colored harvest themed candy was originally called "chicken feed"

DOWN

- 1. Who wrote the horror novel "It?"
- 2. Ghostface is the serial killer from what movie franchise?
- 4. What is the fear of Halloween called?
- 6. In what town in Massachusetts was Hocus Pocus set in?
- 8. What country did Halloween originate in?
- 9, What is a group of witches called?



Edited By: Evangeline Catanese '26 & Erin Mc Lonigle '26