

RYE BROOK Westmore NEWS

Vol. 54 No. 26 • An edition of Westmore News
Friday, June 29 - Thursday, July 5, 2018

Enthusied for engineering

Blind Brook top scholar Olivia Morrisey prepares to study engineering at the University of Pennsylvania

BY JAMIE KERNER

Given her course enrollment track record, it should come as no surprise that Olivia Morrisey, one of Blind Brook High School's top scholars, is planning to study engineering in college.

Throughout high school, Morrisey was enrolled in various honors and Advanced Placement math, science and computer science classes and says her favorite teachers are those who taught such courses.

"I've always been good at math and science, since I can remember," the recent Blind Brook graduate said.

After taking, and very much enjoying, computer science courses in sophomore and junior year, Morrisey knew that when it came time to apply to colleges, she only wanted to look at engineering programs.

Morrisey will be continuing her studies at the University of Pennsylvania in the fall and says that she is looking forward to being able to take classes more focused on her interests.

"I think I'm more excited to just be able to pursue my engineering passions because at Blind Brook, because it's so small, there aren't as many course offerings because not enough people would take them," she said.

Morrisey is one of the top scholars in her graduating class, having earned a weighted GPA of 4.39. Along with fellow top scholar Jared Bassett, she was invited to and recognized at the 53rd Carroll F. Johnson Scholastic Achievement Dinner on May 16.

Beyond the classroom

Morrisey's interests go beyond the classroom, as she was involved with a plethora of clubs and teams.

"I play tennis and softball, and this year I was the CEO of the Blind Brook Marketplace, the school store," she explained. "I'm also the Arts and Entertainment editor for Focus."

After playing on Blind Brook's junior varsity tennis

team her sophomore year, Morrisey moved up to the varsity team as a junior and continued to play for the team throughout her senior year. Likewise, Morrisey played on the varsity softball team during her final two years of high school after playing for the JV team as a freshman and sophomore.

Morrisey was the President of Sales of the Blind Brook Marketplace before then stepping up to be its CEO. In that position, she was in charge of managing the club's members, conducting its meetings and buying all of the products for the store. She thanks her involvement with the Blind Brook Marketplace for helping her to become more interested in business, as well as for allowing her to learn about that field of work.

"I never took business classes at school, so I thought it was pretty helpful," Morrisey said. "Especially because I can use it in the future to relate it to engineering when I graduate."

Morrisey was able to explore her interest in pop culture by working for the Arts and Entertainment section of Focus, Blind Brook High School's student-run newspaper. She became editor of the section as a senior after serving as a staff writer for two years. As editor, she said she liked coming up with the topics to assign to the section's writers for each issue of the paper.

Home is where the heart is

Having lived in Rye Brook her whole life, Morrisey said it will be bittersweet to leave when she goes off to college.

"It's kind of sad to leave my friends I've grown up with since we were in preschool," Morrisey said.

Though at times Morrisey thinks Rye Brook is too small, she is sad about leaving the close-knit village and she thinks it will be weird going to a school a lot bigger than Blind Brook. The strong sense and feeling of community in Rye Brook is what she'll miss the most.



As one of Blind Brook High School's two top scholars, Olivia Morrisey is excited to study engineering at the University of Pennsylvania this fall.

COURTESY OF OLIVIA MORRISEY

Her fondest memories from her time at Blind Brook include the eighth-grade trip, the junior class trip and other events that allowed her grade to come together to participate in fun activities.

Nonetheless, Morrisey said she was excited about graduation, now behind her, venturing on beyond the small community and seeing fresh faces.

"I'm excited to go off into the world and meet new people," Morrisey said.