Local people making a difference in South Jersey and beyond

Julia Lipsett
The Glassboro student placed first in New Jersey and seventh in the nation for SIFMA Foundation’s Spring InvestWrite contest. Now in seventh grade, Lipsett participated as a sixth-grader in Mary Aruffo’s gifted and talented program at Thomas E. Bowe School. The contest called to highlight a real or fictional athlete, research stocks for that athlete and write essays based on the stock recommendations. Lipsett focused on gymnast Gabby Douglas.

Brenden Aaronson
The Medford native landed a spot earlier this year with Bethlehem Steel FC, the official affiliate of the Philadelphia Union in the United Soccer League, at the age of 16. An attacking midfielder, he has been part of Philadelphia Union Academy teams since 2011 and will rejoin their U-19 squad once his season with Bethlehem Steel comes to an end. Aaronson has also participated in several U.S. national team camps and traveled to England with the U-17 team in 2015.

Dr. William J. King
The doctor was recently honored for his life’s work and service by the residents of Gloucester County, as county freeholders Jim Jefferson and Frank DiMarco were on hand to present King with a commemorative plaque, which will be adorned in front of his family medical practice building in Woodbury. King was the first African-American physician at Woodbury’s Underwood-Memorial Hospital, now known as Inspira Medical Center Woodbury.

Alexa Grabelle
The 15-year-old Voorhees resident was named a national winner of the 2017 Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes thanks to her Bags of Books service organization. Grabelle started her project at age 10 and has donated over 120,000 children’s books to schools, after-school programs, homeless shelters and children’s hospitals to promote literacy. The Barron Prize annually celebrates 25 young people from across North America who are making a difference.

Cheryl Reeve
The Washington Township native and Minnesota Lynx head coach made history as the team won its fourth WNBA title last month. Reeve has been the team’s head coach since 2009 and also helped lead the team to championships in 2011, 2013 and 2015. She has the highest playoff winning percentage in the history of the WNBA and has been named the WNBA Coach of the Year twice, in 2011 and 2016.

Max McGee
The Cherry Hill native and Cherry Hill East High School alumnus recently became the Weekend News Anchor for WMBF news in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Previously, he was a reporter and producer for Raycom’s sister station, KPLC in Lake Charles, Louisiana. McGee graduated from Temple University with a degree in journalism and interned at FOX 29 while in the Philadelphia area.

Do you know a local person who is doing great things? Let us know by emailing Josephine@SouthJersey.com.

NAMES TO KNOW

Photo of Alexa Grabelle courtesy of the Barron Prize; Photo of Max McGee courtesy of WMBF news.