

PCTI STUDENT OF THE MONTH

October 2017

Altruistic with a Heart of Gold MATTHEW VARGHESE

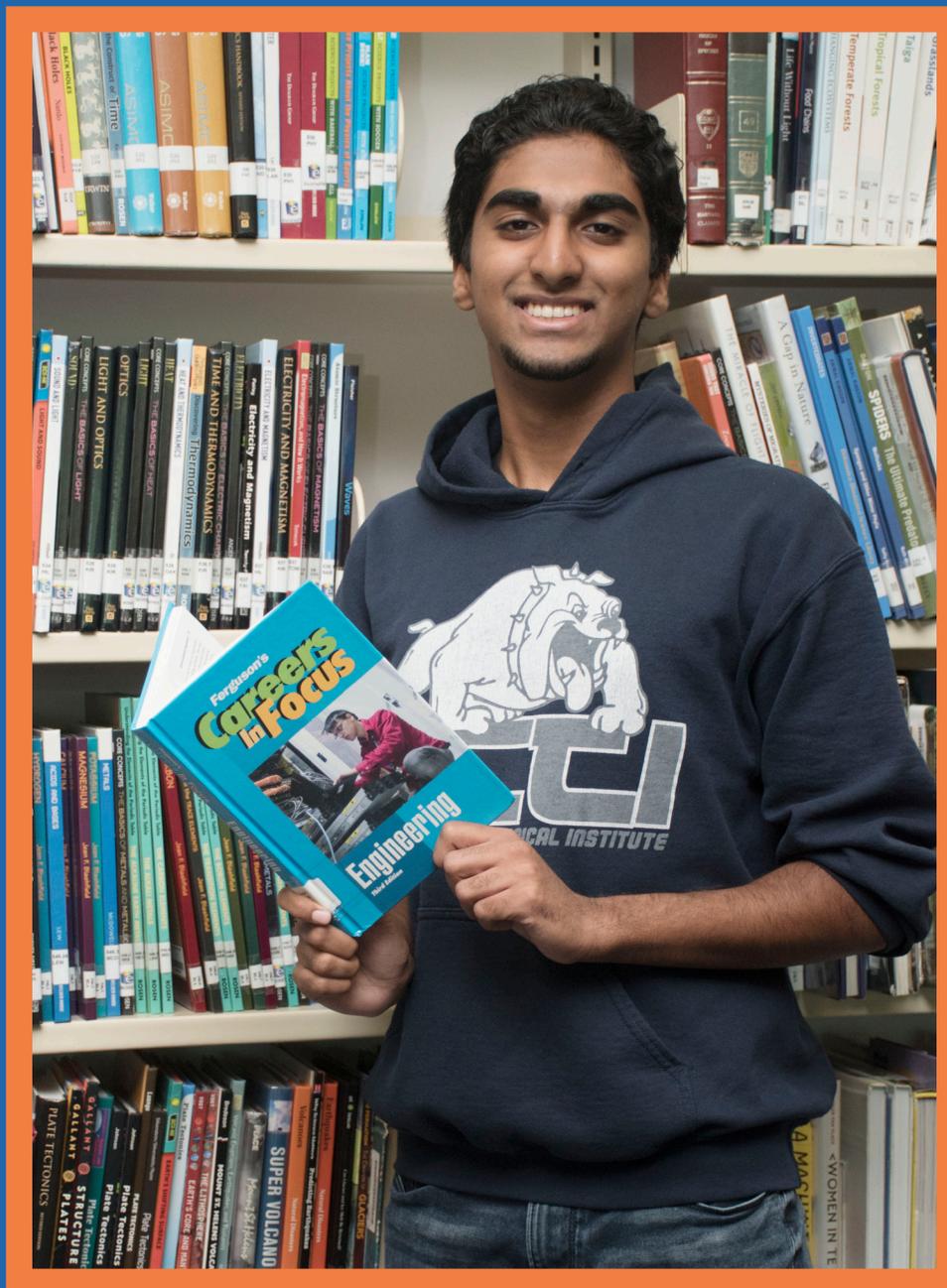
Matthew Varghese is a young man of high moral standing who believes building connections with others is the way to positively impact communities and the world. This Haledon native selected to study within the School of Engineering Technology with the ambition of becoming an Architect.

The parallel of building something great and providing a service for others speaks directly to Matthew's code of ethics and what it means to be Christian - values which he says are at the core of his character. "I want to do as much as I can and learn as much I can now - to make a difference and help people," Matthew says.

It's no wonder that he spends most of his time volunteering. More than five hundred hours have been accumulated during mission trips to Philadelphia, acting as a counselor at a day camp, teaching students at church, tutoring, and taking care of his family.

Despite a busy schedule of helping those in need, Matthew ranks in the top one percent of his class with an incredible GPA of 4.43! He's even accumulated a potential thirty-one college credits to be used after graduation and achieved Principal's Honor Roll throughout most of his high school career.

Matthew is heavily involved



in numerous activities, including the Engineering Club, Chess Club, Peer-to-Peer Tutoring, and the NASA Hunch Initiative. He was also selected for Circle of Success, the National Honor Society, and served as a Teacher's Assistant for the Summer STEM Academy.

When asked about what he enjoys most about PCTI, Matthew shares that it's all about

the opportunities. "I've grown academically - there are classes here that I couldn't have taken anywhere else. The programs give you such exposure. I was the captain of my team and got to build a kneeboard for NASA that was recognized and reviewed by an astronaut. That doesn't happen everywhere."

In speaking of success, Matthew says it's all about lend-

ing a helping hand and keeping his standards high.

"I think we should act as the leaders we aspire to be some day, that way we can make a real difference."

He will be applying to NJIT, Cooper Union, Carnegie Mellon, Rice, and Cornell University (among others). Matthew aspires to obtain a Master's degree in Architecture and may double major during his undergraduate career in Architecture and Psychology.

Congratulations to this young man with a big heart who is determined to make the world a better place. You've made us proud!

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranks in the top 1% of his class
- Will graduate with a potential 31 college credits
- Member of Engineering Club, Chess Club, Peer-to-Peer Tutoring, & NASA HUNCH Initiative
- Selected for Circle of Success, National Honor Society, served as a TA at the Summer STEM Academy
- Volunteers during mission trips, as a camp counselor, teaching students, & helping family
- Goal: Graduate from a university with combined undergraduate degrees in Architecture & Psychology, work towards Master's degree in Architecture, become an Architect