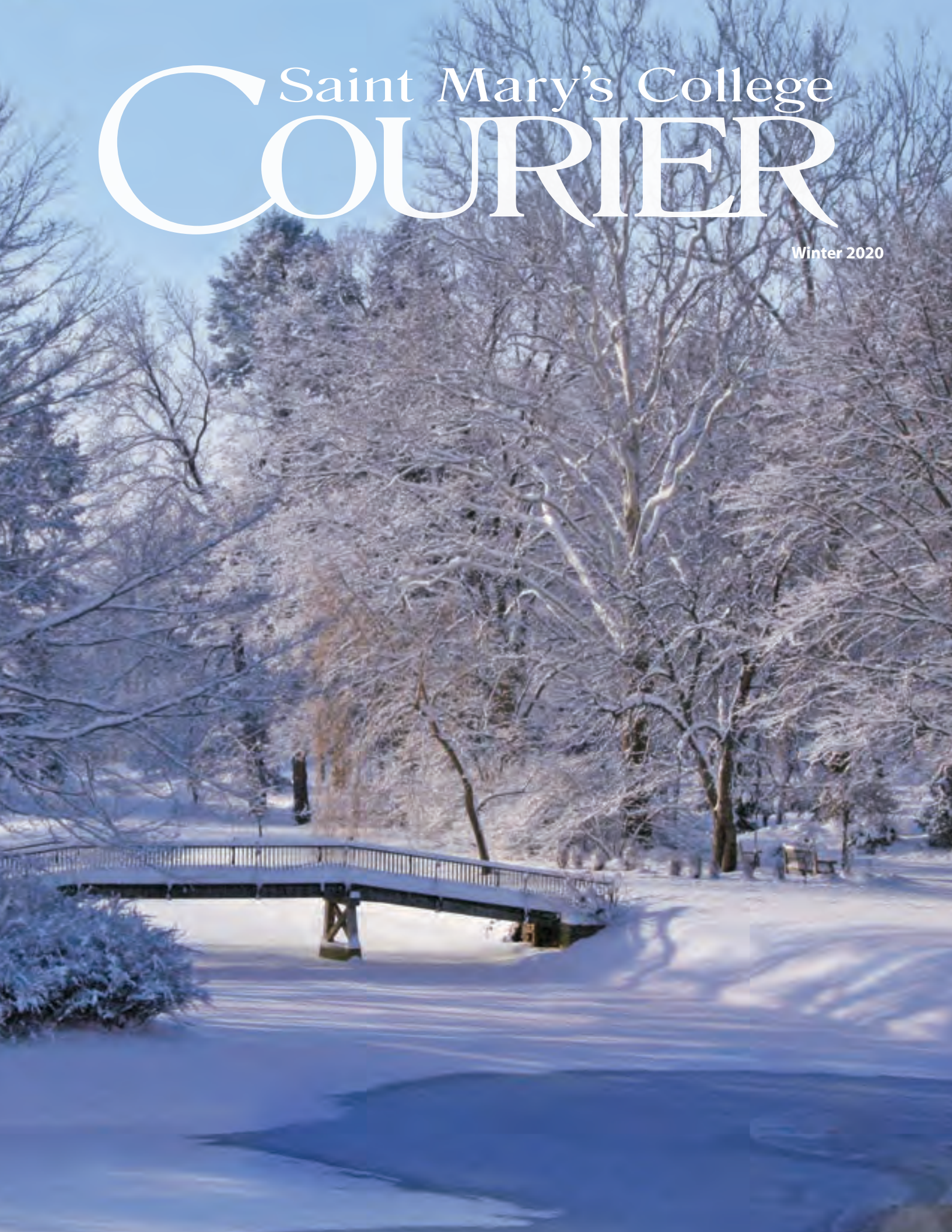


Saint Mary's College COURIER

Winter 2020





UPON REFLECTION

The very words *upon reflection* suggest looking back: considering, contemplating, musing...often nostalgically. But I'm sure many of you will agree that it is good to have 2020 in the rearview mirror, and we may not be able to remember much of it with the kind of wistful sentimentality that marks the end of many years. We may simply want to look forward.

In my family, we have a 20-year tradition of ringing out the old year with our "Top Ten." Along with our three daughters, my husband and I write down on strips of paper our personal "Top Ten" events or experiences or moments of the last year. We go out for breakfast and toss all 50 entries into a hat, and while we order, wait, eat, and relax over endless cups of coffee, we go around and around the table from youngest to oldest, drawing a strip from the hat, reading someone else's special memory, and then listening while the author describes what made the event so special. In December of 2020 we kept our tradition via Zoom. The whole process is always an exercise in gratitude—and, frankly, a welcome substitute for the self-improvement focus of most new year's resolutions.

At the turn of this most unusual year, I find myself thinking a lot about Naomi Shihab Nye's poem "Burning the Old Year." In it, the poet envisions throwing some of the immediate past into a fire: "So much of any year is flammable, / lists of vegetables, partial poems." She acknowledges that in the "flame of days," "so little is a stone." But her perspective is not destructive. She imagines how the act of burning makes room for something new: "Where there was something and suddenly isn't, / an absence shouts, celebrates, leaves a space."

And that is how I approached 2021. Yes, I drew up a list of ten special experiences even from the bleakness of 2020—many of them involving my first seven months as President of Saint Mary's College. This past year—one of disappointments and cancellations—still yielded its share of blessings, not the least of which involved simply surviving with our spirits intact. The new year will be better.

It has to be better! Nye ends her poem reflecting that "only the things I didn't do /crackle after the blazing dies." By necessity, we all left a lot undone in 2020. In 2021, we have the chance, as Nye's poem reminds us, to "begin again"—to see by the light of the old year's dying fire all that is possible ahead. Nye marks the turning of the calendar with a "Quick dance," a "shuffle of losses and leaves." A new year invites each and all of us to step into the space of celebration that the poet describes, to join that dance. I've laced up my dancing shoes. Have you? I'm linking arms with the spirits of Saint Mary's past and Saint Mary's future and stepping boldly forward. Let's spark the flame.

Let's dance!

Katie Conboy, Ph.D.
President



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the inauguration of
the Saint Mary's
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Read about
the event on
page 42.



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About Saint Mary's College

Celebrating over 175 years of empowering women to make a difference in the world, Saint Mary's College is recognized as a pioneer and a continued force in the education of women. A Catholic, liberal arts institution in Notre Dame, Indiana, the College offers more than 50 undergraduate academic programs as well as graduate programs open to all.

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On the Cover: Winter on campus doesn't get more beautiful than this view of the bridge over Lake Marian.

ONLINE EXTRAS

Check out our new *Courier* website for sharable articles, additional photos, videos, and more.

Take a deeper dive into many of the stories and enjoy interactive content.

saintmarys.edu/Courier

Education as Curiosity

Christian Culture Lecture Reaches Thousands By Haleigh Ehmsen '16



Instead of filing into O'Laughlin Auditorium for this year's Christian Culture Lecture, students gathered on Library Green to watch writer and scholar Tara Westover discuss her bestselling memoir *Educated*. The filmed discussion with President Katie Conboy was shown virtually on a beautiful Wednesday evening in September. In addition to the students tuning in, registration for the virtual event totaled more than 43,000 alumnae and friends spanning six continents.

Through Zoom, President Conboy conversed with Westover about her memoir and what it means to be educated. Westover was raised by Mormon survivalist parents in the mountains of Idaho, and never stepped foot inside a classroom until she enrolled at Brigham Young University (BYU) at 17 years old. As a young girl, she spent her days scrapping metal with her father and mixing herbs for essential oils and tinctures with her mother.

Although Westover was a dutiful Mormon daughter, she aspired to see the world beyond the mountain on which she grew up. Her father disapproved, but her mother secretly encouraged her. Once at BYU, Westover dove into her studies. "A good education will change you in a lot of ways," she told Conboy. Westover began to feel alive and awake as she studied music and history and read the great works of literature.

During the lecture, Westover encouraged students to find what awakens you and pursue it. "Education, in its best form, is curiosity," Westover said. Beyond retaining knowledge, she feels becoming educated is about seeing things from other perspectives and trying to understand people, even if they hold

different beliefs. Through literature and meeting people from all over the United States—and eventually, the world—Westover learned to make space for new perspectives and started to diverge from her Mormon faith.

"Respect for other people's values is a prerequisite for self-respect," Westover noted. "And education, too, is about learning to listen to yourself."


In addition to the conversation with President Conboy, Westover connected with a small group of humanistic studies students to answer their questions and dialogue about her book via Zoom. One student asked Westover about the commencement speech she gave at Northeastern University in 2019 on "The Un-Instagrammable Self," to which Westover responded that she believes that all of life's important moments happen outside of Instagram.

Westover gave the example of the photo she posted after her own graduation from BYU with her parents. While in the photo they were smiling, what isn't shown is that her parents barely made it, and actually missed the ceremony. The photo she posted didn't reflect reality at all, and so she encouraged students to think about their un-Instagrammable moments, the moments you wouldn't post. "Insist on being muddy and confused and complicated," she told them.

In her book, Westover brings a unique perspective to her readers, as she grew up off the grid and lived without most modern conveniences or even a solid early education. After she earned her undergraduate degree at BYU, she went on to obtain a master's

degree from the University of Cambridge at Trinity College as a Gates Cambridge Scholar, and was a visiting fellow at Harvard University in 2010. She learned to ask questions and consider her relationships, experiences, and how they formed her. She grew from the obedient and dutiful Mormon daughter to asking the bigger, tougher questions about humanity. For example, in our current moment, Westover is interested in the polarization of our nation and how that came to be.

Westover's virtual visit continues an incredible tradition that is supported by both the HUST program and a generous donor, **Kathleen McAnaney Glaser '65** to honor her late father Francis A. McAnaney (ND '29), a former Board of Trustees member from 1963–69. The Christian Culture Lecture brings an opportunity to hear from contemporary public figures in the humanities who challenge the status quo and ask us to think more deeply about the world and our place in it. Past speakers have included Margaret Atwood, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Krista Tippett, and so many more.

The physical distancing limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic made the event impossible to hold in person this year, but the virtual platform brought the lecture to tens of thousands of interested viewers around the world. It also presented an opportunity to help solve another problem: financial hardships facing Saint Mary's students as a result of the pandemic. Instead of charging admission to this year's Christian Culture Lecture, the College asked attendees to consider making a donation to the Student Emergency Fund, and donations totaled over \$50,000. 



Supporting Future Generations Through Ornaments

Across the country, Saint Mary's alumnae come together in their communities to support each other and future students. With 54 alumnae clubs around the United States, Saint Mary's women stay connected to the College through social events, fundraising, networking, and more.

Nearly six years ago, three women led the Los Angeles Club in a long-range project with the goal to support students from their region of California. **Rebecca Votto Bennett '93**, **Courtney Parry Talley '09**, and **Susan Fitzgerald Rice '61** got the idea from a Notre Dame ornament and suggested the club take on a similar project.

Once the club members solidified the idea, they put their heads together and developed a series of Christmas ornaments with beautiful campus scenes. With a PowerPoint in hand, they approached College administrators to get their approval and support—and the project was on its way.

In 2015, the first ornament was released at Reunion Weekend. The brass etched scene of The Avenue sold out quickly and was followed in the years to come with four more designs including Le Mans Hall Entry, View from Lake Marian, Holy Cross Hall, and the French Cross.

The initial goal of the LA Club was to raise \$40,000 for its scholarship fund. To date, ornament sales have contributed more than \$52,000 to the fund and the club voted to extend the fundraiser program.

Bennett first got involved with the Saint Mary's Chicago East Alumnae Club when she lived there from 1996–2004. She recognized how being involved in the club could support future generations of women and make the College stronger. When she moved back to LA, she got involved there and encourages other alumnae to do the same in their own communities.

"The relationships I made at Saint Mary's are so important to me," Bennett said. "As an alumna, I want to give back."

Graduates often lament leaving campus, but alumnae clubs offer a similar community of supportive women with the incredible shared experience of their time on campus—regardless of their class years. They also provide Saint Mary's women an opportunity to pay it forward with events such as "Send Off" and care packages for students from their area. And

sometimes, it's just about being with women with similar values for social gatherings and book clubs.

Bennett shares that alumnae clubs provide a great way to connect, be of use, and get involved in her own community with women she enjoys. "It's sort of like taking the time to do yoga—I've never felt sorry after a session. Every time I've done something with a club or for Saint Mary's in the city that I live in, I've never walked away from it feeling disappointed. I've always felt better connecting with other alumnae and with the College."


Bennett has since moved to New York, but as an LA native, when the LA Club leadership asked for her continued assistance with the ornament program, she was happy and honored to stay involved. "We're working now to take an approach that will help make the program sustainable over time," she said, acknowledging the incredible volunteer bandwidth that is needed to carry out such a large project year over year.

The LA Club is busy planning the next several years' designs, as well as developing resources, how-to's, and solid committees. The actual packaging and fulfillment is probably the most daunting of tasks, yet year after year, they meet to insert informative sheets and carefully apply gold bows to the blue boxes that deliver the treasured ornaments.

And while many enjoy reminiscing about Saint Mary's each year as they place the gold icons and scenes of campus on their trees, the true gift is the support lent to the next generation of graduates. After all, the world needs more Saint Mary's women. 



Club members pack ornaments in 2018: (from left) **Mary Braet-Hurley '82**, **Moria Michiels '88**, **MaryKay Scheid '88**, **Christina Rising '11**, and **Katy Kronenberg Penna '88**

 To view past ornaments or to place an order, visit saintmarys.edu/Courier

Celebrating Our Hispanic Heritage

The College celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month which recognizes the contributions of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the US. The 30-day span ran from September 15 to October 15.

A flag ceremony with students and faculty kicked off the month, followed by an immigration prayer service, a celebration dinner, and movie nights, among others. Colorful table displays throughout campus also highlighted Latin culture and artifacts. Virtual sessions throughout the month included reflections by several Saint Mary's alumnae, as well as a lecture by celebrated Cuban authors Carlos Aguilera and José Manuel Prieto.

Contributions of our LatinX students, faculty, and alumnae were also highlighted on social media and our website, including the four shown here.



Gloria Ybarra '75
Retired Judge in Maricopa County, Tucson, Arizona



Leticia Hart '00
Associate Director of Education Programs, UnidosUS, San Antonio, Texas



Cristina Posadas '11
Alumni Counselor at Noble Network of Charter Schools, Chicago, Illinois



Silvia Cuevas '13
Leadership Fellow, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey



A Professor's Publication on a Better Way to Study

Jen Fishovitz, PhD, assistant professor of chemistry at Saint Mary's noticed the ways her students were struggling with learning the amino acids in her Biochemistry course and wanted to provide them with a better way to study the material. She adapted the popular "Heads Up" charades game into a study tool for her students. Her adaptation of the game and analysis of the new study tool was published in an article in the *Journal of Chemical Education*.



English Professor Leads Digital Archive Project

Sarah Noonan, PhD, assistant professor of English, is leading an effort to digitize early manuscripts dating back to 1200 AD. As co-principal investigator on a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources, Noonan and colleagues at Indiana University Bloomington and Loyola University Chicago will work with a consortium of 18 other higher-learning institutions across the Midwest to digitize and catalogue 78 books and 406 medieval manuscript fragments over the next three years.



Our Tobacco-Free/Smoke-Free Campus

On November 19, Saint Mary's officially became a tobacco free and smoke free campus. In collaboration with the Sisters of the Holy Cross, Saint Mary's adopted this policy as part of a national movement among students, faculty, and administrators to address smoking and tobacco use at college campuses throughout the United States.

Saint Mary's was one of 48 colleges and universities to be awarded a grant from Truth Initiative® to adopt a 100 percent tobacco-free/smoke-free campus policy. In conjunction with the grant, the College has ongoing resources for students, faculty, and staff who wish to quit using tobacco products.

Athletic Director **Julie Schroeder-Biek '88**, Nurse Practitioner Kathryn Wojcik, and student leaders **Noel Keen '20** and **Addie Bobosky '21** led the initiative, originally scheduled to begin May 20 but delayed due to the pandemic.

Alumna Joins Political Science Professor to Adapt Public Policy Course



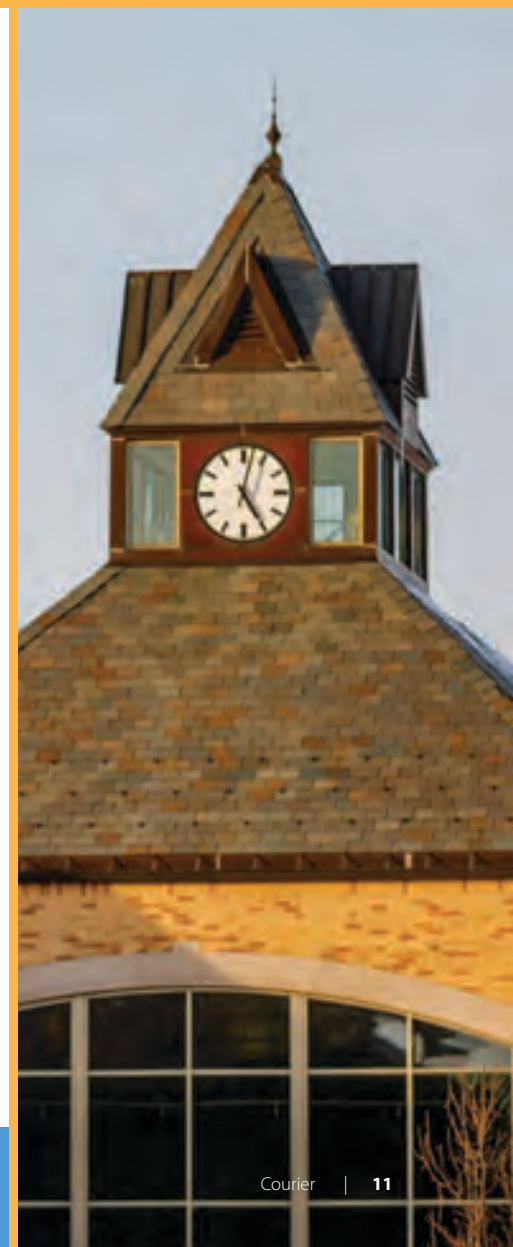
Social media has changed the political atmosphere and it was a Facebook post that has inspired a new alumnae/faculty collaboration. Pat Pierce, PhD, professor emeritus of political science, and alumna **Michelle Abi-Yaghi '06** have adapted Pierce's American Public Policy course to discuss the ways the policy-making process has changed. The weekly Zoom class garnered the interest of more than 90 alumnae who work in various levels of government and public service and continues to meet regularly.

HUST Faculty Publishes Memoir

Philip Hicks, PhD, Bruno Schlessinger Endowed Chair in Humanistic Studies, recently released his memoir *Old Notre Dame: Paul Fenlon, Sorin Hall & Me* published by Corby Books. As a young Notre Dame student Hicks was captivated by Paul Fenlon, the last "bachelor don" at Notre Dame, who lived in Sorin Hall as an unmarried layman. Hicks' fascination with Fenlon developed into a close friendship that shaped him into the scholar and professor he became.



For full stories, visit saintmarys.edu/Courier





Volunteers at PRESENT NOW wrap gifts in signature white boxes tied with purple ribbons.

Hard Decisions

First-year college students experience a variety of feelings when leaving home for the first time. When **Melanie Garman Neumann '98** first attended Saint Mary's, she struggled with anxiety and longed to return home. Missing her family and friends, she called home—a lot. As the semester wore on, her parents knew it was growing more difficult for Melanie and gave her permission to come home to Pennsylvania.

She thought about it. On the one hand, Saint Mary's had been her college of choice. Her grandfather was a dedicated Notre Dame fan and her mom dreamed of a life at Saint Mary's for herself and for her daughter. But Melanie longed to be closer to her parents, since they too were going through a difficult time as they worked through a divorce.

“But instead of staying home after break, I came back. I'm so glad that I did,” she says now. “I made great friends and I got an amazing education. Sticking it out was a hard decision, but it's why I'm where I am today.”

Neumann and her husband Michael (ND '98) live in Los Angeles and have three children. She recounts that pivotal moment—and understands how it has influenced her career and how she raises her kids.

“I tell my children, ‘the hardest decisions in your life, I guarantee, will be the best ones you ever make. Don't let fear stop you.’ And for me, staying at Saint Mary's was the best decision I ever made. Hands down.”

In 2013, she co-founded the nonprofit organization, PRESENT NOW. After learning just how dire the circumstances are for children of domestic violence, Neumann channelled her passion for justice to the kids whose moms are facing extraordinary hardship.

Domestic violence is one of the leading causes of homelessness for women and children across the nation. According to the National Resource Center for Domestic Violence, one in four women will experience a pattern of abusive behavior at some point in their life. When the alternative is homelessness, survivors often find themselves staying in an abusive home, especially when children are involved.

But when they do find their way to a transitional shelter, survivors have taken an important first step. For the children who've come with them, they too must learn to adapt to a new life away from their familiar surroundings as their mothers rebuild their lives financially and emotionally.

“Many times, women escape from their abusive partner with the clothes on their back and a few personal belongings,” Neumann said. “Often, it's when their partner is at work or it's in the middle of the night when they are asleep. The situation can be dangerous, and it is always traumatizing. The kids don't have time to pack, leaving behind their clothes, toys, and things they need for school.”

PRESENT NOW helps fill the gaps in belongings and sense of home that children are missing.

Neumann developed the nonprofit with friend Erica Fisher after thinking about what they could do for the kids to bring them joy in a time of crisis. Because they can be at a shelter from 18 months to two years, children miss out on a lot of traditional moments.

“We knew from visiting domestic violence shelters around LA that the mothers are getting a lot of the support they need,” Neumann said. “But the children in some cases don't even have their backpacks. Then the birthdays come around, and most of the women cannot afford even a small gift.” PRESENT NOW helps to fill these gaps by providing backpacks full of supplies in August, and then gifts for each child's birthday along with supplies to make them a birthday cake, and an electronic educational gift on Valentine's Day.

Neumann and Fisher grew the organization slowly from their homes and with the support of friends and family. In its first year, they delivered 118 presents. Now, seven years later, they have delivered 7,574 presents, impacting 4,200 families. The organization has raised more than \$2 million and serves 38 shelters in California and New York with the help of over 200 volunteers.

They are also in the process of a national expansion project and hired an executive director one year ago.

In their five-year plan, Neumann and Fisher are determining which cities and states have the greatest need.

“There are only 800 transitional domestic violence shelters in the country,” Neumann said. “The number of domestic violence reports have grown exponentially during COVID-19, with survivors stuck in close proximity to their abusers due to stay-at-home orders. It’s shocking and heartbreaking. The need for resources has never been higher.”



Cofounders Erica Fisher and Melanie Neumann '98

Neumann said while she can't give the gifts directly to the children—safety concerns for domestic violence survivors require strict anonymity—she knows the work is valuable.

“Since we've started, we have talked to many different shelters and experts in domestic violence who do coaching sessions for families. Through these conversations, we have learned that our programming is just not being done elsewhere, and certainly not available to children. The mothers who we are able to visit with share their gratitude because we have helped their children feel loved and less alone. That means everything.”

Neumann admits she's drawn heavily on her time at Saint Mary's to find the stillness she needs when she's most overwhelmed by the tragedy of domestic violence. During her most challenging moments on campus, Neumann often found herself in a chapel to quiet her mind and regroup.

It turns out the resilience Neumann found at Saint Mary's influenced her mom **Bridget Torsell '02**. She too dreamed of graduating from the College before she had children. Once she saw how the experience impacted Melanie, she made the unusual (and hard) decision to move to South Bend, and graduate four years after her daughter.

“My mom made the brave decision to get her degree from Saint Mary's,” Neumann says with a smile. “She lived on campus—naturally she was everyone's mom while she was there—and graduated in 2002. I don't know if I'm the legacy or my mom is, but she did what she felt she needed to do, and I couldn't be more proud of her.”

Neumann looks forward to the day when she begins talking about colleges with her daughters—naturally she's hoping they too choose Saint Mary's—but she's focusing on more important conversations right now. As her children grow older, she's teaching them about healthy relationships and how to recognize when they are not. Through these lessons, she's guiding them to a more resilient future, one where they too can help serve the needs of their communities and the world. **C**

Visit saintmarys.edu/Courier to learn more about PRESENT NOW, BAVO, or the Domestic Violence Awareness Project.

It Can Happen to Anyone

Domestic violence is best understood as a pattern of abusive behaviors—including physical, sexual, and psychological attacks as well as economic coercion to gain, maintain, or regain power and control in the relationship. Here are the sobering stats from the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence: In the United States, 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men experience contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of employment or educational level, race or ethnicity, religion, marital status, physical ability, age, sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. However, the burden of domestic violence is not shared equally across all groups, with women and many racial/ethnic and sexual minority groups being disproportionately affected.

The Belles Against Violence Office (BAVO) provides the Saint Mary's community with education, training, support, and advocacy efforts to prevent and respond to sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking.



Cincinnati

The Saint Mary's Club of Cincinnati has held a few virtual events over the summer including a Zoom put on by the Madeleva Society in July covering the Sistine Chapel and works of Michelangelo presented by **Tiffany McIver De Luca '07**.

In August we sent out a “Send-off Survey” to replace the in-person send-off party for returning and new students. Alumnae of all ages shared their favorite memories and wisdom from their time at Saint Mary's College. Enjoy their stories and insight on our club website: <https://smccincinnatialumnae.weebly.com/smc-student-sendoff-survey-responses>

Columbus

The Saint Mary's College Alumnae Club of Columbus has been adapting in our new virtual environment!

Earlier this summer we hosted a virtual event to connect with Belles for conversation over coffee and then joined a yoga practice together. It was a great way to informally check-in with our local Belles!

Ahead of student move-in, our club collected notes from local alumnae to welcome new students to campus! It was a fun way to share memories of our time on campus and support the incredible young women beginning their Saint Mary's journey this year.

Our monthly book club run by **Marilyn Messick '69** has also moved to Zoom. We are meeting monthly to discuss various books, with a focus on including authors of color and books focused on diversity and inclusion.

To stay up to date with our events, please like our club Facebook page (Saint Mary's College Alumnae Club of Columbus) or contact **Colleen Lowry '11** at clowry01@gmail.com or **Sarah Ryan '89** at sarahryan@insight.rr.com.

Des Moines

The planning committee of the Des Moines Club (**Sarah Sullivan Bigelow '96, Kelly Lewis '97, Susie Hunter '84, Kim Darr '82, Michelle Lickteig '02, Aimee Beckmann-Collier '75**) met in July to make tentative plans for the coming year. To celebrate Founders' Day, we will continue our speaker series, which in November featured a presenter on the Black Lives Matter movement and White privilege. We hope to hold this event in person with social distancing but will do it virtually, if necessary. Our spring service project will be tied to this theme but we'll wait until the end of the year to plan it. In addition, we hope to host a member of the College's development staff in the spring, if it's safe to do so.

Detroit

In August, our Saint Mary's group met for lunch at The Village Club in Bloomfield Hills, MI. **Lurray Bell '63** acted as hostess. Others in attendance included **Carol Lee Markley '56, Joan Reddy '56, Maureen Sullivan '55, Susan Boyer '73, Julie Fries '52, and Sally McKendry '58**. We enjoyed great camaraderie, celebration of freedom from lockdown, and stimulating conversation.

CLUB NEWS

Bridget O'Brien '79 also generously embroidered a dozen or more towels for the first-year students from our area. She has done this for years and these normally are presented to the students at a send-off, but due to COVID-19 no get-together took place—hopefully next year!



Pittsburgh

The SMC Club had a virtual send-off for students at the end of July. It was so fun to hear from current students and alumnae! We also did a food drive for a local pantry that needed to restock their shelves. We will be doing a virtual book club. The group read *Just Mercy* and it was discussed via Zoom in September.

South Florida

Adriana Puente '05 is putting together virtual events and get-togethers for the alumnae of South Florida. Reach out to her at AdrianaPuente27@yahoo.com to make sure you are on the Evite list for the next virtual event and/or to help plan future ones.

Toledo

In August we welcomed one new Belle from the Toledo area. Since we could not have an in-person event this year, we asked our local alumnae to write notes welcoming her to the Saint Mary's family. We delivered a gift, along with the notes, to the new Belle before she left for campus.

We are looking forward to the time when we can all be together in-person again! If you would like to get more involved with the Toledo Alumnae Club, please email **Elizabeth '12** and **Toni '13** at SMCclubtoledo@gmail.com.

Grand Rapids

The Grand Rapids Club hosted a send-off at Tassel Park for our freshmen and their parents. It was in a safe environment for all and a big success! Such a fun night to spend with these amazing young women headed for SMC!

We have also been gathering at local parks to host our book club meetings. Such a nice way to stay social, be there for each other and stay safe. Our club will continue to do this until the snow flies!

If you would like to learn more about our alumnae club, please contact **Tara Millar '90** at tmillar@comcast.net.

Indianapolis

The Indianapolis Alumnae Club welcomed 23 Belles from the Class of 2024 to the Saint Mary's community through a Virtual First Year Sendoff (pictured below) in July. Our club also hosted President Conboy for a virtual gathering on Thursday, November 11th!



Los Angeles

The LA Club is pleased to announce that our Christmas ornament sales over the last five years have yielded a \$50,000 donation to our scholarship fund for SMC students. The project was so successful we are continuing; order your ornament today!

Our Zoom book clubs are going strong, one in LA and one in Orange County. We had a virtual gathering for Founder's Day and were able to welcome Dr. Katie Conboy and introduce her to our club members. The service day in April was also a great success with over 30 alum participating in letter writing and donations to a number of organizations including the Brother Andre Center at St. Agnes in Los Angeles. We have decided to make this an annual event so stay tuned!

ALUMNAE DEATHS

1939 Mary Levernier Wiersch	April 23, 2020
1941 China Isben Oughten	October 13, 2019
1944 Corine Rino Byrne	October 15, 2019
1945 Marcia Lehr Wenker	February 3, 2020
1947 Mary Lou Ley Delaney Rosemary Reilly Grady Theresa Koehnemann Klingelhoffer Mary Parish Nutting Frances Tiernan Smith	May 30, 2020 August 2, 2020 November 22, 2019 March 27, 2020 May 31, 2020
1948 Suzanne Travis Heidelman Bette Broderick Lammers Mary Bott LaRose	July 2, 2020 February 2, 2020 April 21, 2019
1949 Jeanne Glasstetter Farabaugh Eleanor Knoll McDonell Kathryn Fushman Reardon Marianne Aschoff Weaver	July 7, 2020 May 28, 2019 April 18, 2020 November 2, 2019
1950 Sister Joan Allem, CSC Mary Cieslewicz Beie Ann Trautschold Sheedy Jean Suelzer Streicher	July 11, 2020 October 23, 2019 August 28, 2020 June 25, 2020
1951 Mary Guthrie Company Nancy Wedemeyer Sippel	June 22, 2020 March 20, 2019
1953 Jeanne Rouhier Gutschenritter Ann Martin McManus Clarice French Rohrer	July 30, 2020 June 17, 2020 September 7, 2020
1954 Gloria Kennedy Hermann Hilda Salazar	July 11, 2020 December 2, 2019
1955 Joan Hausman Campbell Mary Levandusky Woldt Marilyn Jean Ritcey Woodcock	September 21, 2020 March 17, 2019 September 23, 2020
1956 Anne DePadro Bloom	July 21, 2020
1957 Mary Smith Conway Linda Kolp Craig Lucinda Carolyn Dill Dapo Gaetana DiCerto Lenox	March 29, 2020 August 7, 2020 July 6, 2020 September 1, 2020
1958 Mary Husted Bottum Nancy Weinand Ellingsen Joy Lacour Hurley	June 18, 2020 August 29, 2020 August 9, 2020
1959 M. Joanne Deger Feigl Mary Jo Greene Horan Carroll Colbert Logsdon	July 19, 2020 September 18, 2020 July 28, 2020

1960 Jean McCarthy Carpenter Zoe Wagner Graham Kathleen Burns Russell Nancy Madigan Schlacks Ann Nelle Schwind	May 16, 2019 July 27, 2020 April 9, 2020 August 8, 2020 June 9, 2019
1961 Rachel Flynn Hamilton Nancy Ely Hughes	July 14, 2020 August 4, 2020
1962 Mary Barry Sakach	September 18, 2019
1963 Joyce Boaler Sister Barbara Doherty, SP	August 25, 2020 August 17, 2020
1965 Kathleen Walsh Harty	July 10, 2020
1968 Judith A. Davis	August 5, 2019
1969 Mary Frances Nolan Kensinger	August 18, 2020
1971 Diane Dziduszko Gagliardi	August 16, 2020
1973 Deborah Green Fariori Michel Heidke Shain	September 10, 2019 July 24, 2020
1980 Patricia Vidal Osterheld	September 27, 2020

FAMILY DEATHS

Maryalice Abood, mother of Maureen Abood Shaheen '90 and Mary Margaret Abood '92, aunt of Lisa Anne Nakfoor '88 and Gabriele Abood Damico '96, August 9, 2020.
Thomas Bader, father of Anne Elizabeth Bader '89, March 21, 2020.
J. Norman Baker, husband of Patricia Kelley Baker '61, June 16, 2020.
Jeffrey Bergen, father of Lyndsey Rae Bergen '05, August 1, 2020.
Jackie Dungan Bertram, grandmother of Carolyn Gass Hunt '05, June 6, 2020.
James Boesen, father of Clare Boesen Cortesio '84 and Martha Boesen Trout '88, June 13, 2020.
Joseph Bosse, husband of Joan Woodka Bosse '59, May 2, 2020.
G. Thomas Bull, father of Patricia Bull Hurst '82 and Martha Bull Oprea '83, September 16, 2020.
Francis Conway, father of Sara Conway Zimmerman '79, September 1, 2020.
William W. Cushwa, Sr., father of Margaret Cushwa Haller '90, grandfather of Kathleen Hall Dunn '17, cousin of Barbara Gifford Ellis '63, Patricia Gifford Ransford '63, Lorrie Gifford Burke '67, Joan Gifford LaSage '71, Karen Quinn Hall '87, and Kathleen Hall O'Rourke '94, September 8, 2020.
Lucille Peppers Davis, mother of Mary Jo Davis Wilson '74, October 3, 2019.
Wesley Dickman, husband of Susan Stodgell Dickman '61, July 23, 2020.

Dolores Di Nero, mother of Lisa Di Nero Sampson '86 and Toni Lynn Donoghue '87, July 19, 2020.
Mary Doyle, mother of Jennifer Doyle Young '85, February 25, 2020.
Robert Erler, husband of Mary Carpenter Erler '59, March 26, 2020.
Doratheia Felder, mother of Janine Felder Kahn '93, August 10, 2020.
Rita FitzGibbons, mother of Margaret FitzGibbons Higgins '73 and Ann FitzGibbons '75, grandmother of Mary Shannon FitzGibbons '19, July 9, 2020.
William Flynn, III, father of Meghan Flynn Kelly '13, June 21, 2020.
John Geary, husband of Joan Roddewig Geary '62, father of Michele G. Girgis '88, August 24, 2020.
Philip Greipp, father of Patricia Theresa Greipp '91, February 11, 2020.
Patricia Gudgeon, mother of Susan Gudgeon Reilly '70, September 18, 2020.
Sister Maria Luisa Güeneña, CSC, aunt of Gabriela Natalie Bravo '19, July 22, 2020.
Arthur V. Harris, husband of Julie Ann Shabi '78, July 22, 2020.
Michael Harvey, father of Elizabeth Harvey Preston '92, September 14, 2020.
William Hennessey, father of Megan Hennessey Rapien '92, January 24, 2020.
Efrieda Holtcamp, mother of Linda Holtcamp McVoy '74, grandmother of Molly Kathleen McVoy '01 and Katie Marie McVoy '03, December 11, 2019.
Robert Horn, father of Tracy Horn Siciliano '89, September 28, 2020.
Jane Jackson, mother of Susan Jackson Naramore '78, June 6, 2020.
Donna Jones, mother of Lisa Jones Polasky '93, January 10, 2020.
Cecilia Jordan, mother of Patrice M. Jordan '89, July 25, 2020.
Stephany Koenig, mother of Allison Koenig McLean '98, June 27, 2020.
Dr. Kerry Koller, father of Katherine Koller Brophy '89 and Elizabeth Koller Adams '99, grandfather of Mary Claire Brophy '18, September 30, 2020.
Daniel Konkey, father of Linda Konkey Downey '82, June 19, 2020.
Paul Kortenkamp, son of Virginia Leyes Kortenkamp '64, September 27, 2020.
Norman Krauss, father of MaryKathryn Krauss Doheny '80, Nanette Krauss Beckert '81, Melissa Ann Krauss '86, and Melinda Krauss Lister '96, father-in-law of Laurie Sullivan Krauss '84, grandfather of Abigail Sullivan Krauss '18, September 26, 2020.
Julia Mahon, mother of Marian Mahon Gartee '98, February 13, 2020.
Angela Curry Maynard, mother of Dr. Angela Maynard Sewall '68, sister of Anne Curry Dalton '50, aunt of Honorable Mary-Margaret Dalton Burgdorff '81, Deidre Dalton Toole '82, and Ellen Dalton Patterson '84, October 2, 2020.
Joseph McGrath, son of Mary Duvic McGrath '84, June 29, 2020.
Charline McNamee, mother of Kathleen E. McNamee '83, December 9, 2019
Maurice Murphy, husband of Irene Fay Murphy '53, father of Mary Murphy Stenger '79 and Eileen Murphy '82, April 2, 2020.
Eileen Murray, mother of Mary Ann Murray Kimball '79 and Eileen Murray Froehlike '81, grandmother of Meaghan Kathleen Froehlike '05, Maura Kathleen Kimball '14, and Mary Elizabeth Kimball '16, aunt of Carolyn Powley Head '67, Cathleen Libert Fourman '77, Jean Powley Murphy '79, and Stephanie Libert Mauer '90, August 29, 2020.

FAMILY DEATHS

F. Roger Oswald, husband of Joan Kay Snetsinger Oswald '57, March 14, 2020.
Etienne Otano, husband of Ana Livia Casanova-Otano '58, March 10, 2020.
Peter Plamondon, father of Anne Plamondon McNamara '78, August 16, 2020.
Michael Poulin, husband of Sharon Webber Poulin '73, July 16, 2020.
John Quinn, father of Elizabeth M. Quinn '84, uncle of Erin Cusack Micklo '91, August 21, 2020.
Richard Quinn, husband of Jean Heidt Quinn '58, February 8, 2020.
Robert Reilly, father of Joann Reilly Hughes '80, August 23, 2020.
Gerald Rigsby, husband of Jane Rolfe Rigsby '57, March 28, 2020.
John Shuff, husband of Margaret Scanlan Shuff '63, father of Mary Lloyd Shuff '97, June 29, 2020.

Anne Rainey Smith, sister of Mary C. Rainey '63, April 6, 2020.
Roger Sugg, husband of Charlotte Kallal Sugg '60, May 31, 2020.
Albin Szweczyk, father of Karen Marie Finkenbinder Knop '81, grandfather of Brittany Sinka Szuba '12 and Shelby Morgan Knop '19, August 17, 2020.
Mildred Tull, mother of Mary Tull O'Leary '80 and Barbara Tull Dwyrer '89, June 30, 2020.
Maurie Turcotte, father of Suzanne M. Turcotte '80, June 3, 2020.
Joseph Volz, husband of Katharine Bird '59, May 23, 2020.
Robert Weigand, father of Jean Weigand Morrissey '86, brother-in-law of Josephine Disser Barger '53, uncle of Ann Therese Heiny-Long '71, Carol Disser Dresser '84, and Janet Susan Libbing Prendergast '92, great uncle of Madeline Claire McCrea '10, Alexandra Leigh Dresser '17, and Cassandra Lynn Libbing '17, March 11, 2020.

Thomas West, husband of Susan Fenton West '58, January 28, 2020.
Donald Zielinski, father of Leslie Zielinski Walsh '99, August 5, 2020.
John Zimmerman, husband of Aurelia McCormick Zimmerman '59, January 12, 2020.
Kathleen Zolkowski, mother of Jennifer Zolkowski Welstead '95, December 2, 2019.

For births and weddings, please visit
Baby Belles and Wedding Belles
at alumni.saintmarys.edu



IN MEMORIAM



Arthur "Art" Decio passed away November 6, 2020. He was 90.

Among Decio's many contributions to the College, he and his late wife Patricia "Pat" supported the construction of Spes Unica Hall. The Patricia George Decio Commons in Spes Unica Hall recognizes their generosity, as does the Patricia George Decio Endowed Scholarship, which Art established when Pat was posthumously honored at the Saint Mary's Down the Avenue event in 2013.

Both Pat and Art also received an honorary degree from Saint Mary's in 1996. According to the citation, "With his boundless energy, his solid core of Christian values, and his intuitive capacity for leadership, [Arthur] has made a difference in the lives of many."

Saint Mary's Executive Director of Development **Libby Gray Koultourides '93** noted that Art's generosity and enthusiasm were contagious. "He loved his community and the people in it and supported the South Bend and Elkhart regions with his time, talent and treasure," she said. "His huge heart and his magnetic personality brought others along to support the causes about which he cared most."

Two of their nieces are alumnae: **Leslie Vite Dashiell '82** and **Lisa Ann Vite Haines '84**.

Thank you for sharing your news with us and for participating in our dynamic alumnae community. As a rule we do not censor Class News. This section is intended to be an avenue for self-reporting of life occurrences. The content or positions of these submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the College, the Office of Alumnae Relations, or the Courier staff.

1945

From the Courier Office

From the family of the late **Nancy Hoffman Bires**: "Mom told us that the von Trapp family girls gave several recitals at Saint Mary's while staying there during the war. She also recalled hearing Carl Sandberg and Mortimer Adler speak (not sure if they were visiting professors, guest speakers, etc.). And, of course, she spoke highly of watching football games in Notre Dame stadium (not a bad seat in the whole place)!"

"As a girl, she recalled the 1933 Racine bank holdup by John Dillinger, watching the robbery unfold from her father's office building window. She also remembered her late father introducing her to Frank Lloyd Wright during construction of the S.C. Johnson headquarters building. She contributed to the WWII effort as a riveter for the production of military airplane wings."



1946



1949

Sister Mary Grace Swift, OSU
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I recently saw a movie promoting the canonization of Father Patrick Peyton, CSC. It will happen. During the year of 1945-46, some of us heard him one Saturday in Holy Cross Chapel. Father would walk from Notre Dame to celebrate Mass for a small group who came daily. His sanctity was unforgettably evident then. I am wondering if anyone else remembers it. Some who MIGHT have been there were the late **Sister Marcella Connelly, OP**, **Sister Mary Eileen Scully, OP**, the late **Sister Marie Sarah Dineen, OP**, the late **Sister Dolores Brooks, OP**, **Louise Brady Collins**, and more.

1950

Mary Mudd McHale
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It was a shock to find the Class of '50 listed first in Class News in the spring *Courier*. To me that means without news we'll just disappear. So I contacted the Alumnae Office and offered to be your secretary. Now it's up to you to keep me in business.

I start with sad news. **Jean Suelzer Streicher** died June 25, 2020, after several years of failing health at St. Anne's Nursing Home. From her obituary: "Jean was a champion for those less fortunate, always volunteering her time to help in any way she could. She loved to volunteer at the Saint Mary's Soup Kitchen, the Ave Marie House, and the Charis House." She was predeceased by her husband Don, sister Carol, and brother Tom. Survivors include six children, 15 grandchildren, and 17 great-grandchildren. I'll always remember Jean as one of the naturally funniest people I've ever known. A good writer, too.

I sent emails to everyone on our class list that had email. I was delighted to hear from **Kay Motta Hart**, who sent news: "We moved from Aurora, IL to the Clare, a retirement home in downtown Chicago, in 2008 and it was a very good move. Three of our five daughters live in the area (another is in Milwaukee and a fifth in Cadillac, MI), and Bill was able to walk to the courthouse instead of commuting for so many years, and I was happy to give up household chores and enjoy the people and activities at the Clare." She also sent the sad news that her sister Irene had died.

As for me, Jack was transferred from San Francisco to FBI headquarters in Washington in 1958 and we settled in the community of Skyline, near Suitland (headquarters of the Census Bureau) and under the flight line at Andrews AFB (very noisy). Jack retired with 27 years at the bureau and became chief of police for Prince George's County. He died in 2004. I'm still here in the same house. I retired as a school librarian in 1999 but continue to write a neighborhood column for County newspapers. Three of my children live here in Maryland, another in Ohio, and two in Texas. Son Brian (ND '79) died of cancer in 2016. My sister **Johanna Mudd Vargas '55** has died but **Rosie Mudd Nickodemus '59** and two other siblings still reside in Saginaw. Send me news for the next class news column. Take good care of yourself. Wear a mask. Read a good book.

1951

Nancy Wills Browne
nebrowne91@gmail.com

Nancy Wills Browne sends her greetings from Novi, MI, and **Carol Huebner Collins** sends hers from Indiana. We are both living happily as widows in adult care institutions that treat us well.

Our children visit as much as they can and provide us with things we need and entertainment. We read, play cards, paint, listen to audio books, and write letters. And pray!

We both have very pleasant and helpful helpers or aides.

Life in the early 90s is good. Love to all SMC Belles, Nancy.



1952

Marilyn Dargis Ambrose
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Looking forward to reading our next *Courier* and all the coronavirus effects. I have to share what someone sent me as the "Mascot of the Virus"—a picture of a raccoon, with comments—"Always wears a mask, constantly washing his hands/paws, rearrange the animal letters and its name is 'Corona.'" On with some news. Heard from **Jo Disser Barger '53**, sister of **Sally Weigand**, that Bob Weigand, Sally's husband, passed away in March, just five years after Sally went to her heavenly reward. They married right after college, raised their family of five boys and one girl in Fort Wayne where they both lived their whole life, except for the month of March, when they would rent a large home in Palm Springs Desert, and many of the family would come to visit and stay awhile. Each March, I would drive east, over the mountains to spend a few days with them. One time, **Mary Jean Wallace Paxton** joined me and unfortunately we got a flat tire en route. We had to wait a long, long time for a tow truck and repairs, so we compromised by not going all the way to Bob and Sally's home and having a light lunch with them near the repair shop just outside of town. Mary Jean never forgave me for keeping her unfed at "normal" lunch time. It was quite late when we finally got back home—a journey we never forgot.

When the spring *Courier* arrived, I read that **Mary Jean Zalesak Worthington** died in July 2019. I'm sad that we didn't know of this. Prayers for her and her family. I've been remiss in sending reminders of *Courier* deadlines, so this may indeed be a rather short article. Unfortunately, I had a freak accident—while pruning some bushes at my nearby son's home (I know, why was I doing that?), I tripped and my left leg got impaled by a ragged branch just waiting to go through it. A very deep wound, but missed my tendons, ankle bones, and arteries. Could have been lots worse—no complaints. So I have been wheelchair-bound nearly four weeks and many more to go. I'm learning to really appreciate anyone with disabilities, and I am building up my upper body torso, removed area rugs and zip along my wood floors, sent my 2-year-old puppy Grace up to Chris, another son in Bend, OR. Caleb, my 14-year-old therapy dog, is my faithful companion. We're aging gracefully. I am getting wound bandage changes every other day by neighbor friends, retired nurses, and trying to humble myself in asking for help when I really need it. Something good always comes of calamities, right?

Already got a very quick response to my appeal for news. **Annemarie Matt Seidler** and husband Bill said they are adapting to being at home, ordering groceries and necessities online and delivered. They are enjoying their poodle Freddy and are spending time organizing family photo albums. I am sure many of us are doing likewise—tasks that perhaps need organizing. She noted that she's still playing the piano. How valuable are these special talents which we're able to continue. She wishes all of us the very best.

From **Mary Berners Kishler**: "My 90th birthday May 5 is my best news. I had told family and close friends that this virus time was no time to be celebrating anything. It never occurred to me to tell that to

our hospital gift shop manager, where I've been a volunteer buyer since 1985. On my birthday a friend who had been bringing groceries to me dropped off the week's order. She mentioned she would like to bring birthday dinner to me. Great! When she said she'd come by about 5:00 I thought that was a bit early but figured it fit into her schedule. While we were chatting for a few minutes before I took the dinner in, I heard horns honking and thought the neighborhood teens were getting restless and driving around honking at people. Then I noticed two cars pulling into my cul-de-sac—strange, as the circle is off the beaten path. They started honking their horns—25 cars in all—a real birthday parade! Then they all got out, wearing their red volunteer smocks, and sang Happy Birthday. It was all a total surprise. Someone kindly took a video so I have that to still enjoy. And two four-foot-high balloons (9 and 0) tied to my mailbox answered the "how old are you" question. It was a total surprise! My son Mike's wife put together a birthday album, which included a delightful note from Faith [Mary's roommate for many years] and a lovely letter from **Barb Callahan Johnson**, close classmate."

From **Joey Bryan MacDonald**: "I'm very sorry to learn about your fall and the damage you're dealing with. Living in a retirement community has taught me that older-age falling is common and very serious. I hope you heal quickly and completely! The pandemic's confinement is a challenge. My residence is in a lockdown and there are many unwanted restrictions but so far no one is ill. My oldest son Bryan and his wife sold their country home and have moved fairly near me, also are close to their daughter and her family. That's a plus for me but I try to stay as independent as possible. My vision is now much worse but I can still live a fairly normal life. Not seeing people's faces is a challenge! During this time of confinement, I'm organizing every little nook and cranny in my apartment and it's a good feeling to pass on what I no longer need or want. I think my family will someday be grateful for that! Thankfully, Wisconsin's governor has mandated masks for everyone, a necessary precaution. I'm surprised at the self-centered attitude of many people and also sad because we all affect one another. The summer has been near perfect here and I spend large amounts of time sitting on my deck and enjoying this wonderful time of year. I'm sending wishes for good days to all my classmates. Be cautious and be well!" Joey explained, when I asked whether she was writing from Florida or Wisconsin, that she's now in a condo in Wisconsin having sold her place in Florida. **Toni DiSalle Watkins** sends love and blessings to all our classmates. She's expecting family visitors in Arizona soon and "all is well."

Sister M. Emily Demuth, CSC, sent an update that she's been sheltered in California since March, using her pastoral skills on webinars online. The Holy Cross nuns are helping parishes throughout our country. Sister Emily is at Saint Agnes Medical Center in Fresno as a chaplain. She further explained there are Holy Cross sisters in Los Angeles at Saint Agnes parish and another Holy Cross sister teaching at the Dominican School of Theology in Berkeley. How flexible and committed are these nuns, filling needs everywhere.

Has anyone heard from **Nancy Ahlforth Steele** lately? My email for her is not correct. She lives in

Los Gatos, where my youngest daughter and her family live, so I was able to visit Nancy when I was up there visiting my family, but of course we're all in quarantine now.

Lynn writing now: I've enjoyed reading updates from some of our classmates on what they've been doing during the pandemic. Like all of you, projects that have been sitting undone are getting done. I decided to stay in my one-story moderate size home rather than move, so I am doing some renovations to make it more ADA compliant. How timely since now I am temporarily in a wheelchair from an unfortunate slip. I have a rather steep driveway to my garage attached to my home, so designed side pathway from the mailbox at the top of the street with a sloping boardwalk down to my front door, improved path lighting in front and back yards, installed guard rail by spa on lower deck helps getting in and out. Grace, my golden doodle 2-year-old puppy, is staying temporarily with my son Chris and his wife Tammy, up in Bend, OR. They also have a 2-year-old female border collie Oreo, and the short movies they have sent of these two are precious. No alpha male to interfere with these bonded sisters. I have a strong suspicion that when she comes home, she'll be a champion Frisbee catcher, which is the talent of border collies. Caleb, my 14-year-old therapy golden doodle was somewhat sad when she left, but now I believe he is really quite happy to take his long naps and have me to himself. As it turns out, the column isn't as short as I thought it would be. Thanks all of you for contributing, and if you are not in the news this time, we are always open for new items next time. Keep the prayers going for our country and world.

1954

Ann Korb
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One Sunday in August I had a delightful, unexpected phone conversation with Pat O'Beirne, husband of the late **Mary Leim O'Beirne**. You may remember Mary Lou and I went to high school together and then Saint Mary's. From Rensselaer, IN, she was a boarder at the Springs and spent many weekends with the Korbs. We became great friends and it was fun to reminisce about those times with Pat. He is still living in San Diego though says it's not the same city today—climate OK, traffic not so.

Another great phone call was with **Sue Hartmann**. She's in Indianapolis, spending most of her time at home as the rest of us are. She does see her local children and grandchildren and talks with the out-of-town (and country) ones. She's very proud of her family—with cause as I listened to what they're doing with their lives.

In missing the last issue of *Courier*, I also missed the sad news of Tom Campbell's death on April 10. He and **Mary Ann Kramer Campbell** moved to Andre House in Holy Cross Village, Notre Dame, in 2010. As many of you know, Tom had been ill for some time. A memorial Mass will be held at Loretto, hopefully on his death anniversary next

April. Tom requested that memorial donations be sent to Brothers of Holy Cross, Box 460, Notre Dame, IN 46556.

Other news I missed was a note from **Ann Murray O'Neill**, who spent winter in Fort Myers but was home in Iowa with children and six grandchildren for Christmas—"a great time and weather good for Iowa."

Lorraine Nigro Cervanyk says her life is quite routine but blessed with friends and all of her five children, who live in the Denver metropolitan area. Highlights of her year included visits from niece Elizabeth, daughter of **Rose Marie Nigro Groppe '60**, and nephew Michael Yuhas, son of **Catherine Nigro Yuhas '52**. Lorraine visits with **Betty Galloway** at least once a month. "It is always good to remember our days at Saint Mary's and our visits after graduation. The 2004 reunion was the last time we were able to get together."

From **Mary Beth Adler Wilhelm**: "I'm grateful and blest, just joining Pope Francis and a few million people in prayer asking God's intervention to rid us of the coronavirus threat. His message: 'We are all in the same boat in this world. The Good News is Jesus is in the boat with us. Jesus loves us and saves us when we turn to Him.'"

I'm hunkered down here in my condo. Lots of family to tend to my needs. No routine running around in my little world; lots of prayer time for the brave folks who can't hunker down.

Last November many in my family met in NYC to watch and cheer my daughter and granddaughter as they ran in honor of grandson Ethan, who was treated at Sloan Kettering Cancer Center: a peak experience to be part of—50,000 runners each for a cause dear to them. Like today I see that kind of unity happening.

Sitting in my kitchen listening to the birds and... remembering. What a blessing.

I've tried to include messages from **Nancy Gibbon Ross** and **Terry Weber Steffen '83** but couldn't download their Facebook items.

Current news from **Joan Rossi: Rose Marie Murphy Foley, Janell Wenzel O'Barski**, and she are hoping to meet for lunch—somewhere near Janell—social distancing, of course.

A couple calls brought Joan up to date. **Barb DiSalle Lindskold** is now in Arizona full time (not possible for her to go to Virginia)! Her sister **Toni DiSalle Watkins '52** is also close by. Joan sent Barb SMC articles referring to her dad.

Another phone visit with **Mary (Midge) Myler Russo**, who had gone to her grandson's wedding in Maine where her daughter **Mary Jo Russo Henke '83** has a second home: beautiful location and a small family wedding, of course. Midge had brought some of the many (old) pictures Joan had sent her, and all had good laughs reminiscing!

Joan is certainly helping the post office with its financial problems, as she's going through '50 pictures, static newspapers, and articles and sending them to the pictured!

1955

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Greetings and salutations from my pandemic home office. I certainly hope that by the time you read this that this horrible COVID-19 will be behind us and we will all be healthy, happy, and holy!

For your information I received a statement of the 1955 Endowed Scholarship Fund. The value of our class contribution has increased by \$8,104.46 since last year and we distributed \$10,800 in the 2019-2020 academic year. Many thanks to all who have contributed over the years.

I certainly regret the 2020 Reunion was cancelled. I had planned to attend and was looking forward to spending time with a few of you. I understand we will be invited to share in the 2021 Reunion so start doing your exercises to stay fit and healthy and saving your pennies for a trip to South Bend next spring/summer.

I was able to attend a Zoom session of the new and 14th president of Saint Mary's College, Katie Conboy. She is really a dynamic person and indicated she is all for keeping Saint Mary's a Catholic women's college following the 13 people who have preceded her. She mentioned Sister Madeleva with great reverence and also has a keen interest in poetry.

She stated the current enrollment consists of 392 freshmen with students coming from 29 states. Also, 22% of this class have a legacy connection. In addition, there were 92 alumnae-endorsed applications. Remember, we are not too old to recommend new students to our beloved alma mater.

Dr. Conboy talked about the four graduate programs, the high honors that many of the athletes have obtained, and the proposed construction on campus.

She referred to the commitment and passion of the faculty as well as the alumnae for Saint Mary's. I was very pleased with her sensitive and optimistic goals for the future of the college. Speaking on behalf of the Class of 1955, President Conboy, good luck and God bless you.

1956

1957

Mary Gladys (M.G.) Turner Enderle
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When I finished our last column, with the due date of April 1, our world had just begun to deal with COVID-19. Little did we know what lay ahead? This column, due August 1, is usually one filled with travel, graduations, weddings, and family fun. What a different story to tell now! We have all learned so much in recent months and many have shared their experiences. In April and May we commiserated about our hair, though the benefit of our shaggy outgrowth was that few could see us while we "stayed at home." I was envious that **Alice Quinn Kalafut** could get her hair done in Georgia a month before I could in Illinois. **Jody Donohoe McGoldrick, Mary Ann O'Loughlin Szydlowski, Judy Hankes Maus, Josie Murphy Vorda, Anne White Maysak**, and others shared ways to social distance with friends, neighbors, book groups, and family on porches, decks, garages, driveways, and parks and on neighborhood walks. Anne heard from **Mary Kathryn Carroll Hartigan**, who remained at her Vero Beach, FL vacation home later than usual this year and enjoyed bike riding and fewer restrictions there at that time. Mary Kathryn's granddaughter Katherine has been accepted at UCLA to study performing arts but as we all know everyone's school plans are up in the air. We commiserated about missed graduations, a zillion birthdays, family reunions, and postponed weddings, and felt especially sorry for those who missed their special "moments in the sun."

As **Ann Schultheis Massey** said, "Whoever thought we would be attending Sunday Masses on laptops or TVs?" I hear that Ann has been doing her yoga via TV. Zoom suddenly became very important in trying to bridge the gaps. While **Mary O'Connor** lamented postponing two Road Scholar trips, she echoed the comments of many. We sometimes complain about technology but during this time it has been a life saver!

We cleaned our closets and cabinets, sorted files and boxes of old photos. I shared a few found souvenirs myself and should have labeled the envelopes "sit down before opening." **Kay Howard Boyle** was one recipient of my treasures and her response told of her past years' health challenges. She is recuperating well, though she misses gardening, which has been a lifelong delight. Kay and many others expressed how much pleasure they found in reading, especially with fewer outside activities to distract us.

Even less stressful medical appointments came with strict sanitary procedures and the lack of a supporting companion. We spent those early days comparing stories about online grocery ordering, and the waves of crazy hoarding and subsequent shortages, but realized quickly that what we missed most was being together with friends and family—nothing can replace a hug!

During this period several of you alluded to the astonishing changes that happened in our lives, so suddenly. **Eva Haas Dolan** said it was a surreal climate that even Sister Sophia couldn't have imagined. For sure—we now need all the coping mechanisms we can muster.

One of the saddest effects of our quarantine is evidenced by less opportunity for friends and family to gather in support at the time of a death. **Mary K. "MK" Sheehan Chandler** had been ill for several

years and passed away on May 3 in Norwood, MA. Her husband Bob predeceased her by about a year but she is survived by her seven children, 20 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. My information about MK's death came from **Irene O'Leary Van Beckum**, who went to St. Xavier Academy in Chicago with MK (and a number of our other classmates) and had remained in touch. **Peggy Kearin Carey's** friendship with MK started in high school days also, when they both enjoyed summers in Long Beach, IN, and continued through college, including when MK met husband Bob on a blind date there. Many of you responded to my email at the time of MK's death and remembered her as a fun-loving classmate who added greatly to our freshman and sophomore years.

Shortly thereafter I heard again from Irene, telling of the death on May 5th of **Margi Mc Carthy Rice** in Madison, WI. Margi had been battling cancer for several years and had recently declined treatment. She leaves behind her seven children and their families and a legacy of good friends who remember her quick wit, great smile, and artistic ability. Though Margi transferred to Marquette after sophomore year, she always remained loyal to Saint Mary's and the friends made there and happily joined us at our 60th Reunion.

Maura Kiley '62, sister of our **Dee Kiley LeFevour**, died on May 23 while in hospice at Dee's Oak Park home. Since her class was in the same "Reunion cycle," many of you have met Maura over the years and appreciated her sense of humor and artistic talents. Maura was predeceased by another sister, the late **Kathleen Kiley '56**.

The spring 2020 issue of the *Courier For The Record* section carried the January 2020 death of Robert Buetter, husband of **Mary Alice Wilhelm Buetter**. Bob, an attorney, was the longest-serving mayor of Mishawaka, IN. In addition to Mary Alice, he is survived by their four children and seven grandchildren. I send our sympathy to our classmates and all those who have lost loved ones during this period, without the comfort provided by the pre-pandemic visitations and services.

I am so happy to continue on a high note. Just after I submitted my April 1 column, I received a great email from **Carole Nordengren Suttner**. She and John celebrated their 60th anniversary in August 2019. The entire clan was present (eight children and families). They started at 4:00 o'clock Mass, at which Father gave them a special blessing and the men's choir sang for them. Their SUV was decorated and they were driven around the town. (Carole says Chilton, WI is a small town.) Then one of their sons hosted the party. The whole wonderful event was the highlight of 2019, and I can see why!

These months have been true character builders and certainly have given us plenty of time for reading, thought, and introspection. Along with the pandemic has come the national examination of our thoughts and the history of our nation in racial equality. We collectively have had ample time to reevaluate and face the inequities of our society. Let's hope and pray that we, our leaders, and the following generations will have learned a valuable lesson. Change is long overdue and as the old song goes, "Let it begin with me."

1958

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SMC Class of 1958, how are you all? Are you surviving staying at home? This pandemic has changed our lives. I sadly start with the news of the death of **Mary Husted Bottum**. She died peacefully in her home June 18, 2020 surrounded by her four children. Mary was a dedicated hospice volunteer and an accomplished pianist. She took great joy in playing at the LA County jail Sunday Mass for 20 years. Our 1958 class looked forward to Mary playing our wonderful college songs! For years Mary brought humor, frankness, and warmth to our college times when we were all together. We were so proud when Saint Mary's awarded her their top alumnae award at our SMC 60th Reunion.

Teddi Reid Murray wrote her son's wedding was cancelled until September 19 because of the pandemic. She's hoping to fly from Phoenix to Houston.

I got a nice note from **Patricia Kennedy Flock**, who is trying to stay cool in Naples, FL. Pat's granddaughter is having Pat's first great-grandchild. Pat wrote, "I have always wanted to be great."

Lovely to hear from **Jody Vetter Olson**. She is staying very close to home, just like all of us. Sees only family but from a distance.

Nancy Schwind Gallagher lives in Peru, IL. She also has news of a granddaughter, who is Sister Mercy Marie of Servants of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Joan Renehan Thompson is doing well with the new norm due to the pandemic. She missed her happy times visit with **Barbara Shimanski Leahy** due to the virus. Barbara also missed seeing Joan. Enjoyed her newsy note that all is well in New Hampshire. A special thing Barbara mentioned is that she is a crossing guard for a sweet little school about four blocks from her house. "One of my favorite jobs ever!"

Ellen Canny Werner sends a special hello from Fort Myers. Ellen was the first person to tell me about the passing of **Mary Husted Bottum**. Ellen mentioned how bad we all feel about losing Mary. "She was such a blessing to our class."

Joan Roytek DeMerchant wrote she is "blending generations" and moving in with her son and his wife. Joan does some writing and ended with this: "We need to get into good trouble," by John Lewis.

Paula Lawton Bevington writes she is hunkered down like everyone else. "Masked when I leave my apartment unit and even when retrieving mail."

A hello from **Gloria Vidotto Dugan**. Her daughter and granddaughter stopped at Saint Mary's when on the way to Madison, WI. They had never ever been. They raved about how beautiful it is! Don't we agree!

Sally Teppert McKendry wrote that several months ago she decided to call **Maureen Scanlon Sharrock** in Bucyrus, OH. While calling her she looked out her window and a lovely deer was staring right in her eyes. Due to the stay at home order, things are so quiet the deer came to visit. Maureen is fine. She said she visited **Joanne Rogan Chalifoux** in New York in February. Sally also said she and John exercise three days a week online. Good for them!

News from **Patricia Ellen Costello** mentions speaking to **Joan Galligan Sheehy**. Joan's husband Jack passed away September 11, 2019. Pat also mentioned **Ana Livia Casanova-Otano's** husband Etienne Otano passed away two months ago.

Sue Corcoran Griffin and I talk on the phone often. She sent me a wonderful article about **Mary Ann Saxe Hickey** and her husband Roger. The article began, "Planting seeds for food and planting seeds for faith have been important to one Catholic farming family for more than sixty years." The Roger and Mary Ann Saxe Hickey family includes six children and 14 grandchildren. This article is a wonderful story of Roger, fifth-generation farmer of Hixome Farms, and Mary Ann. I loved reading it. Really proud of them.

I did talk to **Sally Hultkrans Callahan** and **Hannah Grasberger Storen** on the phone and they send their hellos.

My email is at the top of this column. Use that to send me news. Much love to you all! Stay safe!

1959

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I am sorry to report the passing of two of our classmates, **Theresa Soete Debelak** and **Carroll Colbert Logsdon**. Terry passed away on January 31, 2020 in Honesdale, PA, where she was born. Preceded in death by her husband Stanley, she is survived by five children and 11 grandchildren. After Saint Mary's, she attended Marywood University and Cornell University, preparing for her career in dietary food and nutrition in health care facilities in Illinois, Connecticut, and New Jersey, retiring as a food service director.

Carroll passed away on July 28, 2020 in Avondale, AZ, where she and her husband retired from Sewickley, PA to be closer to her daughter. She is survived by her husband Bill, three children, and six grandchildren. She taught middle and high school students in Kansas City, KS, Cleveland, OH, and Quaker Valley High School. She played a lot of golf and chaired a benefit golf tournament for 13 years at Pittsburgh-area courses that raised \$600,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. She was also honored as the 2002 "Woman of the Year" by the *Sewickley Herald*. Please remember Terry and Carroll and their families in your prayers.

Carol Ann Cruise underwent hip replacement in October but the stem never seated correctly, necessitating a second surgery. Following that she developed an infection on the ball of one of her feet. Then came COVID-19, which caused the cancellation of all her craft shows, so she now counts on her website to drum up business, which might be a blessing in disguise.

Betsy Finneran Kennedy spent a few weeks in Florida after the first of the year with her sister, a nun from NYC, where they were quarantined. As she wrote "Not too shabby. We had a grand time and if she had been home, she would definitely be gone. She has pulmonary fibrosis, and the sisters she ate with all got the virus. She has returned to a different place and is in quarantine."

Suzanne Brown Bapst and **Pat Wilson Fastigi** both became first-time great-grandmothers this year. Congratulations! Sue writes that her house is still on the market but not moving because of the pandemic. No one in her 1,500-home community in northern Georgia has gotten the virus, so I'm sure we all agree with her when she laments, "Seems like a waste of our limited time here on earth to sit in the house month after month."

Saw a post of **Mary Hughes Enright** and her husband Bud on Facebook yesterday with a salute from their daughter Malia, celebrating their 61st anniversary. She wrote that her dad polished the soles of his shoes on their wedding day so they'd look good when he was kneeling in church with his bride.

Gerry and I are adjusting to the new normal of masks and elbow bumps. All of the dining tables and exercise machines have been moved out of doors at our retirement community. We are most grateful for California weather sans humidity. I am also playing pickleball two or three times a week. Our community so far remains virus free, we are happy to report, but our granddaughter and her new husband and my daughter Bettina's family of five in Florida fell victim to COVID-19. They have all recovered without hospitalization.

Perhaps some of you saw the Class of 1983's unique digital salute to the Class of 2020 on the occasion of their non-graduation ceremony in May. Classmates all over the country put together a video where they interacted from frame to frame, sending a message of encouragement and congratulations. It was very impressive. I say "kudos" to the Class of 1983 for their ingenuity and thoughtfulness.

FYI: Anticipated amount from the Class of 1959 Endowed Scholarship to be distributed to recipients for the academic year 2019-20 is \$30,100.

1960

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Class of 1960 is in the same situation as every other class...wishing we could get together... wanting to get together...hoping to get together... but thinking better of doing so during this time. Remember...absence makes the heart grow fonder.

The last time most of us saw each other, we were in our very early twenties. Boy, did we think we were brilliant. Look at how much we have learned since then. And we haven't stopped learning yet... especially learning to miss and appreciate one another.

Thank you, Saint Mary's, for the virtual celebration of our 60th Reunion. Though many of us were planning to be there in person, many more were able to be part of the virtual celebration. We hope the virtual celebration will continue in the future. Those of us who are able will aim at attending next June, but it is nice to know we can all participate in a virtual celebration.

Last, but not least, I hope everyone read the Christian Culture suggested book *Educated* by Tara Westover. It was well worth the time and effort to learn a point of view to which many of us have never even imagined.

God bless all and until we meet again... Keep smiling, Mo

1961

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Mary Ellen Carroll Convery wrote that she and her husband Tom had just sold their house and moved to independent living in The Renaissance retirement community in Due West, SC, about an hour from Clemson and across the road from Erskine College. They were looking forward to watching the college teams if the virus ever goes away. Their new address is 5 Frank Pressly Drive, Due West, SC 29639, and phone number is 864-617-7227. She was hopeful all our classmates are well and stay that way.

Susan Stodgell Dickman sent a request to classmates for healing prayers. Her husband of 58 years died of an aggressive form of lymphoma the third week of July. He had fought bravely for two years and was a great, vibrant guy.

Mary Kay Biddle Aisthorpe wrote to brag that her grandson, one she shares with **Claudia Cronin Waller**, graduated with the Notre Dame Class of 2020. Mary Kay is hoping to attend our 60th Reunion next June.

Marilyn Wolter Laboe sent news of the wonderful weekend birthday surprise for her roommate **Judy Ames Ehlerman** in April. She also is happy to report that her family will have a third-generation student at Saint Mary's this fall. Anne Howard, her granddaughter and daughter of **Renee Laboe Howard '89**, is very excited to be a member of the SMC Class of 2024. Marilyn is confident Anne will have the same positive experience at Saint Mary's as she had and will meet very special young women who will impact her life.

As the faith formation coordinator for All Saints Catholic Church in Hayward, CA, **Jean Lucey Easterly** has faced a lot of challenges over the years but nothing like these last few months. She has definitely had to be flexible and creative as 86 children scheduled to receive first Holy Communion

suddenly got "unscheduled." They are getting ready for "Parking Lot Masses," smaller numbers of children receiving their first Holy Communion during the Sundays of August, and they have learned that Zoom is their friend when planning for Family Faith Formation in the fall.

Sandy Graham Bartlett sent a "funny-sad" email saying they have aged a lot in the past few years. She is currently being tested for the source of uncontrollable shakes and recently had a three-day EEG test with constant videotaping. Her head was completely enclosed in white gauze, so she looked like she'd been in a horrible accident. Her husband Bill has Parkinson's, so they make a great pair trying to out-shake each other! The kids took the car and keys and left one of their cars in their driveway so Bill wouldn't be tempted to drive. Their daughter is chief of police in town and could send her guys/gals after them if they tried to drive! They are still at home. Bill doesn't want to part with anything and, having lived in their home since 1971, he has a lot of stuff!

Still and forever a volunteer joiner (LOL), **Susan Fitzgerald Rice** has gone onto their condominium homeowners association board, is doing legislative analysis of state bills on higher education for the League of Women Voters, and has started a two-year term as president of UCLA Women & Philanthropy. She also is continuing to work as a consultant with a management, fundraising, and executive search firm, currently on behalf of Charles R. Drew University and its capital campaign. Susan has been thrilled at the alumnae response to the SMC-sponsored conversations on diversity and the leadership (and writing skills) of our new president. She loves the new website and is counting on a vaccine that will keep us safe for our 60th Reunion, June 3—6, 2021!

Helenmarie Anderson Corcoran has been living in San Miguel de Allende in Mexico for the past six years. San Miguel is always ranked as one of the most beautiful cities in the world on various surveys. While she had intended to retire, write, draw, and sleep late, she ended up as president of Festival de Música de Cámara, which is in its 42nd year. They are going virtual this year with master classes, concerts, and lectures. She says it has been wonderful to be involved in the wonders of the arts, which provide access to ourselves, others, the community, and the Divine. They are all well: her five children, eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, isolating and depending on the internet both personally and professionally. She wonders if there have been any Zoom mini-reunions. She would be happy to participate.

We are saddened to learn of the passing of our classmate **Rosemary Boughal Benchik**. She served as a leader in education from 1961-2015 and was the original designer of the Individualized Education Plan (IEP) for the state of Indiana. She directed distinct projects, attained grant funds, and commanded teams of educators to create programming for the South Bend Community School Corporation. Lastly, she was responsible for her granddaughters being fourth-generation legacies, starting with mother-in-law, the late **Betty Bowen Benchik '37**, and continuing with her twin daughters **Jacquelyn Benchik-Osborne '89** and **Marilyn Benchik '89**, and granddaughters

Hannah Kristina Benchik '20, Karen Cecelia Klimek '21, and Marirose Cecilia Osborne '22.

Thank you to all who answered my request for news. There are many of you I never hear from, and I would enjoy it so much if you would write.

1962

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From **Jeanne Fontana Ferrini**: There is a different vibe in others perceiving us between saying we are 79 and then 80. I am good with 80, glad to be here in good health.

I sometimes catch up by phone with **Patricia Meehan Tittinger, Connie Roule, and Helene Ciciarelli Flanigon**. So far all are well. Time for another call, though.

Sometimes when I wake up in the morning, I wonder if I am really in a coma, dreaming that I am living in a pandemic. It feels so unreal and relentless. Then I soon know that this is indeed real. Jim and I are managing by practicing more patience with each other and by playing ping pong daily. I have allowed myself to turn gray and love the freedom of doing so.

We have begun to visit, with social distancing, other members of our family, including our daughter **Mary Caren Ferrini D'Anniballe '90**. I am okay being alone so much by walking and resurrecting old projects, and cooking more, though my husband does most of it. Mostly I enjoy the strenuous part of gardening, planting flowers, bushes of various kinds, and just pulling weeds.

I have such fond memories of Saint Mary's and can still picture many of you.

I pray that you are all well and coping with God's peace. Be safe.

From **Marilyn Cacciatore O'Leary**: "Because **Ginny Lynch Collins** wrote to remind me of this, I think it's a good idea in the year of turning 80 to communicate with classmates, although it's probably been 50 years since I've sent something in to *Courier*.

"Using Zoom during this wretched pandemic has kept me engaged in my book, poetry, and movie groups. I also put out the newsletter for my HOA and have been working on updating our website. I am grateful for my health and for my sister Helen, who moved in with me about four years ago. Jim passed away in 2013, and it has been wonderful to have my sister's companionship.

"Last year I met up with **Lyn Cosgriff Isbell, Jean Trainor McGlynn**, her former roommate **Jane Hughes Carlson, Pat Gallagher, and Charmaine Hitchcox**. We had a great visit enjoying conversations and finding we had similar values and interests. A few weeks ago I spoke with **M. De Vonne French McClinton**, spurred to call her by the Black Lives Matter protests and to see how she is. She and her husband were in Dallas with their daughter and we had a good chat. I speak often

with **Maureen McCafferty**, but I don't get to see her enough! Warm wishes from Albuquerque, NM."

From **Margaret Burns DeMartini**: "Greetings from Pullman, WA, where I have lived for the last 42 years! I hit the big 80 in February. I think I am used to being OLD by now!

"I retired this summer from a 20-year stint as a hospice volunteer. The coronavirus kept us from visiting patients in their homes, nursing homes, or hospitals. I really miss that work.

"I take my walker for long walks twice a day hoping to alleviate severe pain from arthritis and fibromyalgia. I start each morning with a long session of water aerobics, which is a huge help for pain relief. I hope all is well with the rest of you!"

From **Virginia Lynch Collins**: "80! How could this happen when I hardly feel like a grownup yet! Then I stop to think of all the things that have happened during those years: the wonderful opportunities and experiences that have enriched my life; while at Saint Mary's, during graduate school, teaching ESL students, through book groups and adult ed classes; the inspiring examples of all of the people who have crossed my path in a myriad of ways; the great blessing of cherished friendships, especially my Saint Mary's classmates; and definitely and most importantly, the happiness of the family my husband and I have enjoyed for the last 57 years. We have been truly fortunate that our four children and nine grandchildren all live near, giving us the wonderful chance to have been a part of their lives at their games, their special events and milestones, and to just watch them grow up. These 80 years have indeed been full!

"The pandemic, however, has interfered with so many of those aspects that we enjoy. The adult ed classes and book groups are not the same on Zoom; it has been difficult to be in touch with friends as we have been; and, the worst loss of all is that of not being with our family as we normally would be, and the concern of what the future holds for our grandchildren, who are just emerging into adulthood. I know we are all coping as best we can, aware that many are suffering greatly in ways that we are not, and hoping for a return to our normal lives soon! Stay safe!"

1963

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Hi, all! I'm writing for our winter issue of *Courier* today and hoping that we're celebrating the availability of a vaccine by then. I'm also wondering how you are faring. So far, no classmate has sent word of having suffered COVID-19. Let's hope we're able to sustain that apparent track record.

Some folks have been using the near-hibernation well. **Barry Troxler O'Grady** sent news of some deep pursuits. "At the beginning of 2020, I had joined two study groups. What a piece of luck that was, in retrospect! Perhaps Providence took me by the hand. One group was for the practice of meditation: a group of 10 working with a retreat

master and meeting in my parish church here in Manhattan. We read Thomas Merton's journals and diaries with the editor of *The Intimate Merton, His Life from His Journals*. When the shutdown confined all of us in the group, we had already achieved a special connection with one another and with Merton. In March, I had fallen into the habit of reading just at dawn, and the grace that enveloped me on more than one occasion has been a kind and loving companion these months of shutdown. I wonder who/what has taken others by the hand? Perhaps there aren't so many of us who are solitary. It's an involuntary vow of stability, isn't it? Who knows? But I had the luxury of time to match the matter and am grateful for it.

"By now, you are asking 'So, what was the other hand you held? Can you believe it? *Moby Dick*. Didn't we read it in 1958/1959? Surely, we did. However, where was my head then? What edition did I get ahold of this time? Up to COVID time, if questioned about a favorite book, I was likely to say *War and Peace* (always safe to please other readers). Or, with great energy and in hopes of a lengthy conversation, I'd put *Huckleberry Finn* out there. Now, it's *Moby Dick* who tries to show us 'the ungraspable phantom of life.' Not a bad aim these days. The NY governor can shut us in, yet that gives new freedom to the mind. I'm grateful also for the various online lectures Saint Mary's is streaming with professors."

One of the joys of doing this column is reconnecting with old friends. Such was the case when I tracked down **Barbara Hankins Douyon**, who had fallen off the class address list at some point. Barbara (she'll answer to Bobbie as well) is now reading back issues of *Courier* via the archive. She lives in Yuba City, CA and I'm providing her contact information below because many of you will be interested to know that she has self-published a children's book. Titled *Grammy Said... Then Papa Said*, it should be available through Amazon by the time you read this column, though you can also get it directly from Barb. The book explicates proverbs in a delightful fashion, something young children often find weird and difficult to understand. Barb and her husband Andre recently celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary with their son and daughter, Michelle and Armand, who live in the Sacramento area nearby. As an English writing major at Saint Mary's, Barb started her career as a journalist, but switched into teaching when her children came along. In the last five years of her teaching career, she served as a master teacher, working to support and guide new teachers through her district's Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment (BTSa) program, a state-sponsored program that is one of the best and most comprehensive vehicles for the induction of new teachers in the country. I should add that only teachers considered the absolute best are selected for this role! Barb's contact information is bdouyon@comcast.net and 530-632-1842; she lives at 2911 Railroad Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991.

At a moment when we've had new and painful reasons to worry about where we are as a nation with respect to equity and inclusion, **Mary Schuh DeSilva's** daughter Chris Nee received stunning accolades on multiple fronts in a recent issue of *IndieWire*, a digital newspaper for professionals in the film, publishing, and television industries. The article noted that the award-winning creator and

producer of *Doc McStuffins*—now considered a Disney legacy project—is also accomplishing powerful work on inclusion and gender equity through the culture she shapes and nurtures in the workplace. Chris has not been slowed by the pandemic. Indeed, she recently moved her entire production operation to Netflix, under a sweeping deal that "positions her well on her way to becoming the Shonda Rhimes or Ryan Murphy of kids TV." Chris's reflections on her work are especially timely. The recipient of Emmys and a Humanitarian prize, Chris describes her hiring power as "the real work" and details how she positions women and people of color to be showrunners on their own rather than slotted into dead-end assistantships. If they have the talent and willingness to invest themselves, Chris knows she can provide them with the mentoring and support to master the institutional tools of putting a show on the screen. In an industry that has so often used and discarded people before they had a chance, Chris is recognized for doing groundbreaking work. Mary, we salute you as the mom as well! For the article on Mary's daughter, see <https://www.indiewire.com/2020/07/doc-mcstuffins-disney-chris-nee-netflix-kids-tv-1234572600/>

A wonderful catalog of news from **Joan Mousaw McGuire**, who writes that she is not inclined to publicly elaborate on elements of their blessed life, but will share a few updates because she loves reading our class column. She writes that the period of these past months has been epic, with so many struggling with the impact of COVID. Her family has been hunkered down like everyone. "Now that we live in a 55+ community, everyone is tuned in to safety precautions. We made the decision to relocate after about 2.5 years of exploring options. With our three kids scattered—one in Connecticut, one in Michigan, and another in Massachusetts—and having lived in Connecticut since the year of my graduation (!) (John is a '62 Domer), we decided that our roots are really in Connecticut with so many friends and connections. So, we moved from Storrs (University of Connecticut location) to Suffield (40 miles to the west) last September. Our community consists of 28 single-family homes, which means getting acquainted didn't take too long. Downsizing isn't for the faint of heart, as many of us have come to realize. But I remind our kids that it's a living gift—rescuing them from having to sort through decades of 'stuff.' That feels soooo good!"

Joan continues with her consulting work for Educational Testing Service, reviewing students with disabilities who are seeing accommodations on high stakes tests (e.g., GRE). "It is such a gift—working with a group of 32 professionals from around the country, some of us who have served in this capacity for 22 years. Most of the work is online, so we were already well versed on the world of virtual meetings and protocols."

Joan's husband John is fully retired and has become very involved with the American Battlefield Trust, a group dedicated to preserving historic sites around the country. In fact, he's met an SMC alum and looks forward to the group's frequent conferences, although as with most everything nowadays, the venues are currently online. In addition to their committee work in the community, the McGuires are also very involved with their nine grandkids, ranging in age from 11 to 24. They are both "so

grateful to be able to experience their progression into adulthood. The oldest has a dream job for a 24-year-old—working for the Boston Red Sox! Next in line is our granddaughter who is a special education teacher, beginning her second year in the profession in Portland, ME. Our third college grad, who missed out on an actual graduation ceremony because of COVID, just started her full-time job as a pediatric research coordinator for a physician at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The remaining six include a college senior and freshman, then high schoolers and junior highers. I've reiterated to them many times my sympathies that their 'GG' (Grateful Grandma) is a former teacher/professor who does pay attention to grammar, writing, etc.! How often do I give thanks to my amazing education at SMC, especially under the tutelage and wisdom of Dr. Schlesinger!"

Joan added, "We're looking forward to a return to some semblance of normalcy where we can all resume those activities that involve social interaction, especially travel and visiting with friends and family. I do enjoy regular virtual cocktail hours with **Suzie Duncan Lawler** and **Judith Ann Reardon** and I'll leave it up to all to imagine some of the wild conversations that punctuate our calls! I am hopeful that our Class of '63 is weathering this pandemic and staying safe and healthy. Gosh, would love to be anticipating another Reunion—they have been such a gift of time with amazing women who share so many values and are truly inspirational!"

1964

Mary Ann Curnes Fuller
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Unlike any other time of our lives, we are definitely living day to day, lots of uncertainty, bad things happening to good people, disruptions in schools, cities, jobs, and our own lives. COVID, protests—not just peaceful but with violence, looting, destruction of personal properties, breakdown of civility—lead us to prayer and doing what we can to help. ATTITUDE and HOPE are the key words by which we should try to live.

Mary Ann Roach Butkovich was happy to hear that Saint Mary's was hiring a diversity director. Mo suggested that our class consider naming our class scholarship in memory and in honor of **Gerry Corbin**.

Maria Mazza Kompare's family has experienced loss of jobs for son, son-in-law, and three of her daughters who are teachers; her grandchildren have missed high school and college graduations. In spite of this, she viewed this forced togetherness as a blessing for herself and her husband.

Marianne Elliott Morin has used this time to make a movie of what she and her husband were doing and add music. Their garden is a work of art, they have saved money by not eating out—tried puzzles and hated them! Learned to Zoom and studied some guidelines to mindfulness.

Nan Tomshack Tulchinsky has increased her time at the Food Pantry at ND and in SB and is inspired

by how much her neighborhood cares about the less fortunate. Nan also wrote that closing of the churches only made her appreciate what an opportunity and gift Mass and Communion were in her life.



EXCELSIOR

Mary Kay Brady Turner '64 received the annual Peacemaker Award from TELOS, an international organization based in Washington, DC, that works to promote peace between Israel and Palestine.

Fran Bardello Craig misses her friends during this social distancing and is planning on a get-together when this has passed. Her daughter Ellen is in Italy and has an Instagram sight: Umbria for delicious Italian food and quaint real Italian places.

Pat Wellman Bove and Jim—who were used to travelling—have been home: gardening, walking, reading, watching movies, and keeping SAFE!

Jeanne Kozmer Marszalek and husband are sheltering in place but Jeanne is virtually chairing two committees that bring unity to the community and is also the historian for the National Federation of Democratic Women. Her son John has written a book: *Coming Out of the Magnolia Closet*, which tells the story of a gay couple in Mississippi, intertwining his own story of his meeting and the marriage to his husband Larry.

Barbara Koch Dumit responded that she was upset that the BLACK LIVES MATTER led to such violence and destruction and that the emphasis should include ALL people and should be done PEACEFULLY.

Bobbie Borchers Flecker wrote that she and **Angie Braunstein Maher** had planned a reunion weekend in Pittsburgh for the ND-PITT game—CANCELLED! Bobbie has had several setbacks this year: botched right knee replacement, broken right wrist, carpal tunnel surgery on her right hand, and recently a right humerus shoulder bone. Angie and Jim (because of their ages!) have been put in lockdown.

Kent and I spent the night with **Mary Kay Brady Turner** and John—socially distancing: we had our

own cabin!—at their Jackson Hole house. We were on our way to Utah. SO SPECIAL!

Karen Mortimer Williams has been doing her art virtually from her teacher, who is in France. **Roberta Limarzi Weinsheimer** is back playing golf. **Jinx Hack Ring** sends lots of pictures, always with her mask—but with fun backgrounds!

Missing your name? Next time send me news! Keep safe, well, and HOPEFUL.

1965



1966



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Barbara Borchers Bernath wrote via our Facebook page that this winter she traveled to Sarasota, FL to visit **Kathie Reed Cocks**. Although they talk periodically, this was the first face-to-face conversation since our 50th Reunion. Of course, they visited the Ringling Museum of Art.

Continuing the trip to Marco Island, Barbara stopped near Naples, FL to have lunch with **Mary Madden Carey**. Barbara was delighted to spend time with both of her SMC roommates.

Kate O'Hara Aubert wrote about using Zoom for her book group. Some familiar names are **Anne Liess Hoover**, **Maureen Rodgers Budetti**, **Anne Sheehan Garbarino**, **Carol Smither Mansfield**, and **Liz Bermingham Lacy**. Liz mentioned that she was so excited to join the DC Belles Book Club by Zoom. It has been wonderful to connect with old friends.

Anne Sheehan Garbarino continues all her activities of hiking, biking, and swimming in her own patch of paradise. She took a quick trip to the Dominican Republic to work with the Elizabeth Seton Center. This trip Anne took her granddaughter. Upon returning home in March during the COVID outbreak in New York, Anne begin making masks and help by sewing isolation gowns for a nursing home, where the director is a relative. Anne is pleased with Governor Cuomo and the way he is handling the COVID outbreak.

Carla Johnson Lewis thanked the inventors of Zoom because they allowed her to visit with her children who live across the USA. All their trips to visit the families were cancelled.

Carol Senda Damaso praised Zoom also because her roommates are visiting regularly and can meet now. These roommates are **Ellen DeRaedt Hoover**, **Pat Guccione Conway**, and **Ronnie Henahan Hagerty**. Carol has added a second child grandchild on July 10. Martin joined 2-year-old sister Gia.

Maureen Ward O'Brien sent a note saying that we might remember her as Reenie Ward. She keeps in contact with **Maureen Rodgers Budetti** on Facebook. She asked about **Mary Jo Postorino Kennedy** and **Marge Diamond Gaberino**. If you know anything about these two classmates, please contact Reenie by our Facebook page. Reenie works by taking care of the elderly so they can stay in their homes. She misses seeing her children also.

Maureen LeJeune Harty wrote shortly after the last column in *Courier*. She spent time in Croatia a few years ago. She loved Montenegro and Dubrovnik. Right now, Maureen is making plans for our 55th Reunion in 2021.

Pat Hilger Zeigler wrote from Florida saying that her daughter Sarah works at the CDC. Pat knew things were bad when her daughter asked if they minded attending Mass online. Her other daughter Aileen moved with her family to Montgomery, AL, where her husband is stationed with the Air Force. Aileen rented an 1832 mansion in downtown Montgomery. Pat is anxious to visit this Christmas.

Kathie Donovan Dur talked of her experiences in New York City. During the quarantine, Kathie walked Central Park with a mask on, recreated hundreds of the Barefoot Contessa's recipes, and attended an Italian cooking class on Skype. Ex-school administrator Kathie worked on developing units of study for the middle school gifted program for the city's public schools. Kathie cited the unit on Jane Austen and her book *Emma*. She wished she had discussed the topic with our personal English expert **Mary Dunn Finneran**.

Sharon Priester Lewert greeted her second granddaughter Willa in July.

Take care and stay well, everyone.

1967

Alyne T. Ricker, MD
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As I'm writing in July, it has been six months since we first heard of coronavirus, and four months that we have had our faces covered and our movements limited.

Gloria Ross McGiveran writes from self-imposed quarantine after flying across country from her Florida home to Los Gatos, CA, where her son and his family live close by. The family is celebrating Jay's 80th birthday, waving from the second balcony and enjoying cake, wine, and lemonade! She keeps very busy with online bridge ("a miracle lifesaver"), Zooming with knitting and book clubs, and taking art history courses at Santa Clara University. She extends invitations to bridge players to sign on to the bridgebase app. Anyone looking for a game or help with the app can give her a call at 203-253-9877 or email gmcgiveran@gmail.com. Gloria invites you to call if you are in either the Ft. Myers or Los Gatos area.

Patt VanderKarr Von Bergen has done some impressive travel in the last three years, via three pilgrimages. She has been to Israel, Italy, and

Lourdes and Fatima. Though these are currently impossible, when things change she encourages you to "visit the Holy Land... following the footsteps of Jesus will change your life." In Italy with her daughter she was able to appreciate Rome and the Vatican, with side trips to Assisi (St. Francis), Monte Cassino (St. Benedict), San Giovanni (Padre Pio), and Lanciano (site of a Eucharistic miracle). She would love to hear from anyone who has shared this journey. For now, she is finding online resources to connect with her faith and with family and friends. And since deep cleaning and projects are complete, she is finding lots of time to read. As an educator and grandparent, she is concerned about how students, teachers, and parents will fare in September. (This hits very close to home for me, as my husband is a school counselor in a K-5 school and the decision to return, or not, is still up in the air.)

Sharon Wilchar, busy as ever, is now acquiring new tech skills in order to take the annual October art exhibition to a totally virtual format. "A giant leap of faith," she says, especially given the tight timeline. Entries, jurying, displays, and sales of local artwork will all be handled online. She notes that her mask collection continues to grow and thinks that Bay Area folks will be staying home through the end of 2020, if not longer. At the end of May, she spent a weekend assembling PPE face guards at her dining room table for a local hospital. The first one "took forever" but by the 50th she had it down to five to seven minutes per piece. In addition, she has a small organic garden with green beans and zinnias "that just won't quit" that keeps her "anchored and gets me outdoors." She is "reading up a storm, exchanging next book suggestions with **Sue Williams Quinn**, **Pat Holland**, and **Alyne Ricker**." She stays in contact with SMC classmates via internet, email, social media, phone, and occasionally even a letter. **Kathy McGrath Russo** sent a picture of **Judie Gabler Tidwell** and Sharon, taken at their 20th SMC Reunion. How little they have changed since then!



Judie Gabler Tidwell and Sharon Wilchar at their 20th SMC Reunion.

Just a note: Patt mentioned that "some of my classmates encouraged me to share..." so I hope that we will hear from those classmates too in subsequent reports. For now, please wear a mask, wash your hands, stay out of crowds (unless it's for a very good cause), and above all, stay well.

1969

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Hi classmates,

I am so grateful for all of the news contributed by you for this column. Some issues fluctuate between feast and famine, and this is definitely an issue full of updates. THANKS!

Peggy Pettey Powers and her husband downsized almost three years ago to a townhouse in St. Louis, selling their large home of 40 years. They have two sons and one daughter and currently have eight grandchildren, ages 1 to 15. She wrote, "We have helped them all with babysitting, etc., during the pandemic, as they work from home and taught their kids. Been a crazy time for everyone around the world. Stay safe and healthy!"

A bright spot for many of you during this time of isolation and lockdown has been the opportunity to Zoom with family, friends, book clubs, etc. **Janice Williams**, who lives in Gary, IN, has enjoyed keeping in touch with **Susie Madden Darrow**, **Sally Gildea Smith**, **Kathy Walsh**, **Barb Crowley Schenck**, **Mary Regan O'Rourke**, and **Kathy Carey Moore**.

From Colorado, **Mary Alice Herod Lajoie** checked in to say she too is using Zoom to stay connected. Mary Alice shared that **Mary Ann Tavery** was planning a week-long camping trip; **Kate Garrity Leatherman** is reading a ton and playing online bridge with friends a lot; **Kathy Ellis Prescott's** daughter flew in from California, and the other daughters brought over their children...social distancing out the window, but Kathy loved every minute, and finally that **Nan Raaf** had two cousins visit in her newly remodeled basement.

Janet Krueger emailed her news from Michigan saying, "We were so lucky to be able to attend our 50th Reunion in 2019! Unfortunately for my husband, Bruce, his 50th in Boston was postponed until next May and will be only a shortened shadow of what was planned, that is "IF" COVID-19 is under control by 2021. In this age of burgeoning technology, we are again so lucky to be able in an instant to keep up with our loved ones all over the world. My sister Joanne and her family in Italy are all healthy. Housebound for the spring, I had plenty of time to connect with some of my SMC friends: **Lynn Champion Schmitt**, **Georgia Florin Gasner**, **Kathy O'Donnell Effler**, **Nan Raaf**, **Rosy Naphin**, **Sheila Dwyer Robusto**, **Joanne Tracy Marsh**, **Betsy Mueller Heil**, and last but not least, our class correspondent **Joyce O'Donnell Bussewitz**. Everyone is being careful, and I hope our class will not lose anyone to this pandemic. One more 'lucky'... Bruce and I are in a 'bubble' with our daughter Claire and her family, so we still see our two little granddaughters twice a week!"

Another classmate very thankful to have had our Reunion in 2019 was **Marty Roark Higgins**. She expressed her thoughts writing, "That time with so many classmates from our SMC class has become even more precious as we navigate through this pandemic period. My husband and I have been

spending most of the last several months at our lake house in Michigan, with occasional trips back into Chicago for meetings, mail check, etc. It has been wonderful to see the spring season come to life up here, and now we are enjoying summer, although a most unusual one. Our normal activities and travel have come to a screeching halt (although we did get a week in St. Bart's right before everything shut down) but are trying to stay in touch via phone, face time, and Zoom. In the good news department, we are very excited that our oldest grandchild Jack will be a freshman at ND this fall. Hope they start and are able to stay. Best wishes to all!"

Congratulations to **Susie Sevier Mackin** and husband Dennis (ND '66, '69), who celebrated 52 years of marriage in June. Susie wrote, "This fall our oldest of 17 grandchildren Connor Lynch (2019 graduate of Texas Tech) will attend ND in the business school for his master's degree in accounting. He follows both ND grandfathers and both SMC grandmothers, both parents, four uncles, and five aunts who are grads of ND. We continue to thank God for our Catholic faith and many blessings. God bless America and God bless Notre Dame!" Susie added that Connor's other set of grandparents are **Jeannette Friedewald Lynch '64** and Mike Lynch (ND '63.) Susie added that Jeannette and Mike had five children, three of whom attended ND, and all three married their ND sweethearts. Susie and Dennis had six children, four of whom attended ND, and three of them married ND spouses.

Kareen Reese Klier sent the following news. "It's hard to believe that our 50th year class Reunion was last year—how different the world is now! We were so fortunate to be able to celebrate together and get to see the many amazing changes to the SMC campus, too. Here are some updates from myself and other friends. Tom and I moved to Columbus, OH last fall so that we could be closer to our older daughter and her family. We moved into a condo and, for the most part, are enjoying that style of living. Before COVID-19, we were seeing many of our three grandkids' activities as well as spending time with their whole family. Since March, when the world came to a screeching halt, I have been doing many inside projects, such as downsizing photo albums and family keepsakes as well as going through many file folders and shredding lots of papers from years past. I have the pandemic to thank for helping me 'get my affairs in order'.

A group of us has been meeting in Chicago for a weekend almost yearly since turning 40. We had to cancel our June reunion this year—now we are meeting via Zoom twice a month so here is some news about them. **Mary Ann Hickey Walsh** and her husband Mike (ND '63) were all set to sell their house and move when the coronavirus hit. Now they have many packed boxes in their garage and their lovely house all staged but are on hold until things get back to "normal."

Patty Hanna McCauley and Mike (ND '69) got back from their winter getaway in Florida just as the governors were closing down states.

She missed visiting their only granddaughter for several months while the country was in lockdown. Recently, she and Mike have had their kids and precious granddaughter visit at their house in Milwaukee so that has been a real treat. They are expecting another grandbaby this fall so that is truly something to look forward to!

Laura Frank Chudd found quarantining difficult in many ways, but the establishment of weekly Zoom chats with her extended family was a bonus; she hopes they continue even when they are able to travel again. When the restrictions eased a bit, Laura's daughter decided it was just as easy to work from home in New Jersey as in Boston, so she and her two cats arrived for a very welcome four-week stay. A brief visit to her son's family in Falls Church, VA, was another welcome dip into normality. Laura reports now spending many hours going through several generations of pictures to preserve for family history. If that project ever gets finished, it will be another unexpected bonus of the last months!

Kathy Schmitz is living in Tokyo, so when the five of us Zoom, it is evening in the USA but morning of the next day where Kathy is in Japan. We're drinking wine and she's drinking coffee! Kathy recently finished teaching a summer class on Zoom for Temple University's Japan Campus, so is enjoying a break now. It is always interesting to compare life there during these unusual times with what we are going through in the various locations around our country. We try hard to find other topics to talk about, too, so that we can feel uplifted at the end of our chat.

Margaret Virginia Rose Kensinger-Klopfer '00 advised that her mother **Mary Frances Nolan Kensinger** passed away on August 18, 2020. A scholarship in her honor, the **Mary Frances Nolan Kensinger Memorial**, has been established.

We all agree that being healthy and safe is more important than the other inconveniences and frustrations we've experienced these past five months. So, we give thanks and hope for a better tomorrow.

In closing I ask each of you to join in prayers of comfort, strength, and peace for our classmate **Phyllis Redgate Finn** and her loved ones. Phyllis emailed this update: "I wish I had some happy news to report. Sadly, I do not. Dan and I lost our precious granddaughter Vivienne Cecilia Finn on March 10. She was 11 years old and died from an inoperable brain tumor. She endured three different types of treatments over the course of 16 months. She was the bravest person I have ever known. I want to take this opportunity to say how grateful I am for the outpouring of kindness and sympathy from Saint Mary's, my classmates, and dearest friends. During this most difficult time it brings me comfort to feel surrounded by the love of my SMC family." Our deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to you, Dan, and family, Phyllis.

Thank you again, dear classmates, for all of your contributions. God bless!

1970

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As many of you know, our 50th class Reunion was cancelled because of COVID-19. Instead, our Class Reunion Committee hosted an e-Union 2020 over Reunion Weekend to celebrate our 50th. Our agenda included a welcome by our class President **Rosemarie Rinella Stocky** and address by our new College President Dr. Katie Conboy, a session on how the college is handling COVID-19, talks from our classmates on the volunteer work and passions they are pursuing (**Cathy Collet, Kathy Carbine Fullin, Sue Gudgeon Reilly, Terri McBirney Begas, and Ann Pacelli Gores**), **book discussions (Kathy Bernard Franzel and Mary Dunleavy Smith)**, class discussions on aging (**Patricia McCusker Allgood and Becky O'Connor Chandler**), a beautiful Liturgy and Memoriam (**Sara Bateman Koehler and Julia O'Brien Gatta**), a Closing session where we honored our classmates who have served SMC over the years in multiple ways and celebrated reaching our Class Gift fundraising goal (**Sara Bateman Koehler, Ronnie Henry Kessinech, Addie Stefanac Cashore, Sister Veronique E. Wiedower, CSC, and Rosemarie Rinella Stocky**) and multiple lounge sessions where classmates were able to just hang out and catch up! Cathy

Collet was awarded the 2020 Humanitas award for her work as an advocate for ALS. Cathy started her work as a fierce advocate when her mother was diagnosed in the 1990s. On the fundraising front, our class won both the awards for highest class participation and highest number of classmates enrolled in the Mother Pauline Society.

We really want to thank **Kathy Yuhus Kwinn** for coming up with this inspired idea in early March and putting together a survey to assess class interest and then an incredible agenda, **Cathy Collet** for getting us started on the use on Zoom to execute, and Kari Kwinn for doing such a beautiful job as our session facilitator. It was amazing what they were able to accomplish in less than 90 days! Given the participation over three days (60+ classmates) and the feedback we have received, our e-Union 2020 was a resounding success. You can view recordings of some of the sessions and pictures taken over those three days on our class web page <https://www.smc1970.org/>. We also encourage you to provide an update on what is happening in your life under What's New with You on our class web page and share both then and now pictures and memories of our deceased classmates as we will be using this information to put together a Class Memory Book.

Based on a follow up survey, the Reunion Committee will be hosting future Zoom sessions for lounge sessions, book discussions, and other topics of interest to keep us connected until we can meet on campus in June 2021 for our 50+!

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Join fellow alumnae for an interactive and spiritually enlightening retreat on the theme of love of God, self, and neighbor—drawn from *Fratelli Tutti: On Fraternity and Social Friendship*, a recent encyclical by Pope Francis.

Make a plan now to give yourself this opportunity for deepening your Christian identity. Watch for further details in the coming months.

"The spiritual stature of a person's life is measured by love."
— Pope Francis

You should be receiving notices to put these sessions on your calendars! Our first session was a lounge session on August 4. One of the great outcomes of our e-Union is that it has given the opportunity for so many of our classmates to reconnect. Please let me know if you need an email address for one of our classmates and I will do my best to assist. If you are not receiving my class email blasts but would like to, please just email me and I will make sure you are added to one of my two distribution lists (I am limited to 100 per list).

Since my last column, we have lost one classmate, **Diane de Manbey Duebber**, and have several classmates who have lost a spouse, undergone surgery with positive results, and/or are going through the arduous challenge of managing a new medical diagnosis and/or being a caregiver for a spouse or other loved one. **Shelley Miller Minch** is currently going through dialysis as she waits for a kidney transplant, which unfortunately is now classified as elective surgery—hopefully, that will change soon. **Pam Carey Batz** continues to be the poster person for managing Parkinson's and living a full life! As for me, my daughter—with a lot of help, the right medications, and everyone's prayers—is doing wonderfully! I could not have seen this outcome a year ago and am so thankful for the support I have received from my family, friends, and SMC sisters as we have gone down this journey. I continue my own therapy or what I call my "weekly tune-ups" to help me keep everything in balance.

Overall, the other big news of course is COVID-19 and how everyone is dealing with it. A number of our classmates have not been able to get together with family as they are accustomed to because of travel restrictions, the frontline positions of their children and spouses, and the risk to themselves. Backyard and porch visits and of course Zoom and Facetime seem to have become a new norm for family visits. Fortunately, all of our classmates seem to be weathering this pandemic and staying virus free. Let's pray that this continues!

Take care and stay healthy!

1971



1972

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Well dear classmates—I am writing this column in late July in hot, steamy Florida. What a year! Here we are in the midst of the COVID virus. The usual travel plans, family reunions, and fun times have been cancelled or postponed. Worse yet, how can we possibly celebrate another big milestone birthday—70—with a Zoom party? Ridiculous! I was fortunate to get my partying done before it was time to quarantine. I have a suggestion. Since most could not celebrate, we should just roll back a year and all turn 70 in 2021—what do you think?

I reached out to a few classmates to find out what they have been doing to keep spirits up. **Mary Jo Anderson Coughlin** shared that she and George (ND '69) will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on August 15. Mary Jo said that they will celebrate this happy event alone since all of their children live out of town. A family celebration had been planned in Maine but was cancelled. Three of their four children are married, and they have three granddaughters and two grandsons. Their youngest son is only 25—the oldest daughter was a sophomore at Notre Dame when he was born! Mary Jo and George have taken several river cruises through France in the last few years and look forward to more travel soon. She and **Kate Berney Werring** get together for lunch every few months and have enjoyed rekindling their friendship.

Speaking of Kate, she bravely started a bathroom remodeling job during the virus, a project that she said has taken forever! She also wrote that a trip to Scotland in May evaporated. Kate works at a mental health center and shifted to using telehealth to meet with clients. She sat in her kitchen with fuzzy slippers, but a nice sweater, and provided therapy through Zoom or by phone.

She is back to meeting in the office with everyone wearing masks but added that none of her clients objected to the other method and were happy to continue their therapy. Like most of our grandkids, Kate's were being schooled at home. Her daughter-in-law texted one morning that granddaughter Lily, age 10, was requesting a substitute teacher (Kate) for grammar. Kate guessed that mom and daughter had hit a wall!



EXCELSIOR

Cheryl Kunberger Taylor '72
former Foellinger Foundation President and CEO, has been honored with the Sagamore of the Wabash award, one of Indiana's highest recognitions.

Tom and **Janet Teichen McHugh** will remember 2020 as a very happy year. Daughter Meghan had their first grandchild Sophie Dolores on May 26. Her middle name is for Janet's mom, who was thrilled to welcome her first great-grandchild! In addition, son Mike and his wife Mollie are expecting their first baby in early September. Double joy!!

I saw on Facebook that Ed and **Maureen Walsh Fender** adopted an adorable new puppy! Curious as to what prompted that, I emailed Mo and asked. She replied that being home so much, she really missed having a dog. However, it had been a long time since they had a puppy, so she added "lucky for him he is so cute!" Mo said that they are staying and eating at home, wearing masks, and making lists of things that need to be done to their home in Eugene, OR. Sounds familiar!

As far as family goes, youngest son Kevin and wife had their first baby Connor last March in Boston, just before everything shut down. Ed and Mo have not been able to see the baby yet but share pictures every day. Older daughter Kelly and family are planning a cross-country road and camping trip from the East Coast to Eugene in August. One stop will be Notre Dame for 14-year-old grandson Jordan to take a look. The Fenders have eight grandchildren—five boys and three girls.

I was fortunate to see my daughter Jessica and grandkids Finn and Sadie in Florida in late February. We drove up to St. Augustine, FL. Sadie and I swam with the dolphins one day—what a fun experience. We made a stop at the Kennedy Space Center for Finn, which is fascinating! I would highly recommend it. I have seen the rocket stream from my back yard and would love to be in Cape Canaveral for a launch. Add it to the bucket list, I guess.

I hope you all stay safe, healthy, and sane! Happy birthday all with my love.

1973

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I do enjoy my role as class reporter. I hear from classmates who become email pals! Not a bad gig. As always, I welcome your news. Please don't be shy. We are all interested or we wouldn't be reading the *Courier*!

From **Patricia Helgesen**: "I did not attend our 45th Reunion, however, my daughter **Meghan Kathleen McAlpine '13** did attend as this was her first Reunion. Unfortunately, I have lost touch with our class. I was in the Rome Program my junior year, and on return I roomed with close friends from Rome Program Class of '74. I actually attended their 45th Reunion.

"At SMC, I was a fine arts major with a biological sciences concentration, as I was planning to pursue a medical illustration degree at Ohio State. After grad school, in 1978, I was recruited as a medical illustrator/graphic designer by the VA Medical Center in Northport, NY. I met my husband there and raised my family, two sons and a daughter, in Northport.

"After a 36-year career, as an illustrator, revenue coordinator/business office manager, and eventually compliance officer, I retired in July 2016. In 2015, we moved to Middletown, RI, where we had vacationed for over 20 years. I have enjoyed my transition from work to volunteer for the Newport

Preservation Society, Sail Newport, Newport Art Museum, etc. I also enjoy the book clubs, tennis, and travel, especially visits with my three grandchildren (ages 5, 3, and 2) and my family in Wisconsin. I also have been doing college fairs for SMC both on Long Island and now in Rhode Island. I was so fortunate to have my daughter attend SMC, and through her I have met so many other Belles, moms, and daughters. It is such a great network. I am now enjoying attending her friends' weddings and reconnecting with so many SMC/ND alums!"

Cami Kutch Cenedella sent along wonderful information about the many SMC and ND students who studied abroad in Angers, France in 1970–1971.

"We've been communicating for the last 20 years in our own internet group, and now, during the time of coronavirus, we are having monthly Zoom gatherings, thanks to Bill Kemp (ND '73). We participate from our homes all over the United States, as well as from England and Italy. The wife of the director of our program, Jane Doering (ND professor emeritus), also joins us. Nine years ago on Bastille Day, 26 members of our group (plus a few family members) gathered back in Angers for the 40th reunion of our time there. It was an incredible experience. Over the years, we have had mini reunions here, there, and everywhere, including at ND, where many of our children studied and became acquainted with each other. Who would ever have thought 50 years ago (when 25 SMC students and 25 ND students set sail on the SS

France from New York to Cherbourg) that decades later we would be such close friends? It has been both a boon and a blessing for us!

"Here are the SMC classmates that joined me in Angers: **Jane Grillot McCurdy, Connie Smith Barker, Liz Gassner Devine, Margaret Keating Peck, Nora Barry Fischer, Bonnie Israel, Mary Mullaney Kearney, Rosemary Crock, and Ginnie Marie Russell**."

Teresa Sisson Rijks writes from Crested Butte, CO: "Unfortunately, Crested Butte was hit hard at the beginning of the pandemic. We lost one friend and have had numerous friends and acquaintances battle the disease. Many have been sick for months. I started taking more time to keep in touch with friends via email. Both **Barb Davis Jeselnick '72**, who lives in Naperville, IL, and **Angie Raaf Widdel '72**, who lives in Santiago, Chile, were staying at home. Our daughter **Mamie Elisabeth Rijks '02**, who lives in Munich, Germany, missed her 40th birthday trip in April. She was hoping to meet her sister Annie at a trivia convention in Las Vegas. We missed visiting our son Peter (ND '00) and his family for our granddaughter's first birthday in April. Our daughter Annie and her husband have been busy with their podcast *QuizQuizBangBang*. Although our Rijks Family Gallery art business was shut down in mid-March when Crested Butte restricted activities for us older folks, I have been a part of an amazing journey with a second career helping Dr. Richard Gibney (ND '68) (**Edi Hill Gibney '70**)

launch empoweredkidneycare.org. I have been so mentally stimulated that I have felt younger and am enjoying the journey, hoping to change health care starting with kidney care. If anyone is interested, our blog post about social determinants (<https://empoweredkidneycare.org/blog/addressing-social-determinants-of-health-in-kidney-care/>) gives a taste of Dr. Gibney's dream. Our youngest daughter Diana returned from job searching in Chicago and has taken on many of my duties at the gallery. My sisters—**Diana Sisson Peacock '74, Donna Sisson Rozman '76**, Linda Sisson Trifone (ND '77), and Laura Sisson Decker (ND '80)—and I have gotten together via Zoom. I am in touch with my SMC roommate **Donna Barbano** of Long Beach, CA via Facebook."

Bob Farrior, the husband of **Deborah Green Farrior**, informed me of Debbie's passing on September 10, 2019. Our sympathy to Bob and his entire family. I asked Bob to share some information about Debbie and asked who she kept in touch with from our class. Here's what Bob wrote:

"Debbie was a very proud graduate of Saint Mary's College and the affiliation with the University of Notre Dame. She was always eager to share with her friends, family, and students her fond memories and friendships gained at Saint Mary's.



The late Debbie Green Farrior

We invite you to **REDISCOVER** the beauty of campus and **EXPLORE** the exciting changes taking place as we look to the future.

RECONNECT with friends, **REMINISCE** about the great times, and **CREATE NEW MEMORIES**.

1s and 6s: **JUNE 3-6, 2021**
0s and 5s: **JUNE 10-13, 2021**



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"After graduating with a BA degree in English literature, Debbie moved to San Diego and continued her education, earning a MA degree in counseling from the University of San Diego. She worked as a school counselor and then as a seventh-grade language arts teacher at Palm Middle School in the Lemon Grove School District in San Diego. She was very well respected within the school district and her students consistently scored very high in the California State English Proficiency exams. She was listed in the *Who's Who Among American Teachers* publication.

"Besides teaching, Debbie was involved with several other student activities such as the Peer Helper and Cross Age Tutoring Programs as well as serving as the Career Day and College Day Coordinator for several years. She was proud to represent her school at the California State Distinguished Schools Awards Ceremony. Debbie's primary mission during her teaching career was to "make a difference" for her students—and she did.

"When Debbie and I married, she was pleased that her former classmates **Trudy Jerome Gallagher**, along with her husband Jeff Gallagher (ND '71), as well as **Jan Natale Trombello** and her husband Mike Trombello (ND '71), were able to fly in from other parts of the country to attend our wedding in San Diego. Trudy sang at our wedding and she gave a memorable performance. Debbie also stayed in continual touch with classmate **Kathy Foley Fagan**. Debbie and I were blessed with a wonderful daughter named Vanessa who now works as a therapist in the addiction treatment field.

"Debbie was proud of two of her nieces who followed in her footsteps. One niece **Tara Green Ferrone '97** graduated summa cum laude and we attended her graduation. Debbie was able to show me all around campus and she reminisced about fun memories including the joy of attending the Notre Dame football games. Another niece Lindsey Green Fisher (ND '02), was a four-year starter on the Irish women's tennis team. Besides being nationally ranked in doubles, she was only one of four tennis players in Notre Dame history to have over 200 combined singles and doubles victories.

"Debbie retired from teaching in 2009, but she chose to stay busy. We were lucky to travel to many different countries in the world. In addition, Debbie spent much of her time taking care of her late mother Marjorie Green. She also became involved with the Cooking for Christ Ministry through the Rock Church, serving in community events that feed the homeless and others in need. She was a beautiful, bright and productive woman—and is missed by all who knew and loved her."

I was happy to hear from **Anne Faherty**, who is still working for the Notre Dame Alumni Association as part of their marketing team. Since March, like so many others, Anne has been working from home. Here's her news:

"Not being able to connect with SMC friends in person has been hard. We usually try to gather as a group at least once a year. Now instead, since March 26 of this year, 'Frem's' from the Class of 1973 have been coping with the pandemic isolation by meeting for Zoom cocktails every Friday evening, telling the same stories we have been telling for 45+

years, sharing new joys and some sorrows. While not everyone can make it every week, we usually have a turnout of between 12 to 16 plus significant others. In addition to myself, the Zoomers include: **Cathy Reinhart Perea** and Gus, **Kay Peters Hall** and Wayne (ND '73), **Carol Wangberg Haines** and Dave (ND '72), **Lu Schleck Donnelly** and EJ (ND '71), **Therese Conway Moltz** and Fran, **Sarah Hickey Connelly** and Steve (ND '73), **Maribeth Cashman Coughlin** and John, **Betsy Schum Brown** and Peter (ND '73), **Suzanne Head McAuliffe** and Kevin (ND '72), **Jane Grillot McCurdy** and Mike (ND '73), **Sharon Ames Nelson** and Chuck (ND '69), **Susan Mogab** and Pat Harrington, **Patty Larkin**, **Mary Fisher** and Tom Heath (ND '73), **Nancy Sheeran Dana**, **Mary Quinlan McGrath** and Bill (ND '73), **Claudia "Muggs" Traudt**, **Peggy Burke Varty**, **Marilyn Smith Hasty** and Bob, **Ellen Zwicker Curtin** and Dan (ND '73)."



Zoom meeting: top row, from left: Anne Faherty, Lu Schleck Donnelly and EJ Donnelly, Kay Peters Hall and Wayne Hall, Bill McGrath and Mary Quinlan McGrath; second row: Dave Haines and Carol Wangberg Haines, Sally Hickey Connelly, Kevin McAuliffe and Suzanne Head McAuliffe, Peggy Burke Varty; third row: Jane Grillot McCurdy, Mary Fisher, Gus Perea and Cathy Reinhart Perea, Sharon Ames Nelson and Chuck Nelson; bottom row: Susan Mogab, Therese Conway Moltz, Betsy Schum Brown, and Peter Brown.

Sharon Ames Nelson is anxious to share some joyous news with us.

"My daughter **Molly Kathryn-Rose Nelson Giltrow '11** and her husband Tom blessed us with our first grandchild, who was born July 26, 2020. Charles Gregory Giltrow (Charlie) is named after both of his grandfathers. My husband Chuck (ND '69, '83) is thrilled as am I with our first visit this weekend. Tom grew up in Ann Arbor and Molly in South Bend, so this union has been very interesting every football season. In fact, Molly and Tom met during the ND/Michigan game on the rooftop of Citizen Bar in Chicago one month after she moved there. They were married at Old St. Pat's, on October 14, 2017. Their wedding was a mini reunion as four of Molly's bridesmaids were from her class: **Megan Miller Stickley '11**, **Jessica Schott Lezynski '11**, **Ally Drake Bernstein '11**, and **Kelly Jean Zenere '11**. Five more classmates also attended: **Sarah Commiskey Lewis '13**, **Elizabeth Eileen Molnar '11**, **Liz Adams Homan '11**, **Catherine (Meggie) Campbell Garcia '11**, and **Kathleen Parsons '11**.

"Ten of my classmates also attended and were a huge help to Molly and me during the frantic days prior to the big day. **Susan Mogab**, **Jane Grillot McCurdy**, **Kay Peters Hall**, **Carol Wangberg Haines**, **Lu Schleck Donnelly**, **Sarah (Sally) Hickey Connelly**, **Maribeth Cashman Coughlin**, **Anne Faherty**, **Therese Conway Moltz**, and **Claudia (Muggs) Traudt**. Only our reception

location size prevented more of our SMC 'Frem's' group from attending.



Back row, from left: Susan Mogab, Carol Wangberg Haines, Maribeth Cashman Coughlin, Sarah (Sally) Hickey Connelly, Therese Conway Moltz (whose daughter was also a bridesmaid); front row: Kay Peters Hall, Jane Grillot McCurdy, Lu Schleck Donnelly, Sharon Ames Nelson, Anne Faherty, Claudia (Muggs) Traudt.

"Experiencing Molly's college relationships is like reliving mine. That is not a coincidence. Saint Mary's is a very special place. At Molly's admissions interview, when she was asked what she planned to study, she replied, 'I don't know. I just want to graduate with 20 good friends like my mom, who still gets together with her friends every year!'"

"On a sadder note, my dear mother Rosemary Ames passed away on March 10, 2020. I was so sorry that she was unable to meet Charlie in person, but she knew of his impending birth and was extremely happy. Nothing made her smile radiate more than the face of a child."

1974

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What a different world this is as I write. Several SMC/ND gals had planned to get together in September 2020 in Erie, PA, home of **Natalie Dwyer-Haller**, and she had arranged this magnificent home on Presque Isle for us, with an evening of music and cocktails on a private yacht. I had so looked forward to spending time with Natalie and **Dianne Elizabeth Gibbons**, **Mary Ellen Raphael**, **Judie Moore Green**, **Jackie Schimizzi Ehler**, **Julie Griffin Murphy**, **Jeannelle Naquin Brady**, **Dede Lohle Simon**, **Carol Longo Kaupp**, **Bobbi Kuhn Riconosciuto**, and **Jan Gabler Cranfield**. We excitedly communicated our plans. And then COVID-19. I'm sure you feel the same about this whole global mess... just horrid... and are praying for those affected, praying for health care workers, and praying for a vaccine that arrives soon.

We are able to share the happy news that Natalie and Dave's daughter Colleen is now Dr. Colleen Haller and she began her pediatric residency in Chicago as of July 1. Good luck and sending you some "energy wishes" and "get some sleep wishes," Dr. Haller.

I see **Jackie Leskovec** has used the time wisely in that she has showcased some great carpentry and home remodeling skills in the home she shares with her wife JoAnne. They are doing so much work on

the home, and it looks beautiful, all the work is done meticulously. I follow her on Facebook in hopes I might acquire some of these skills, but alas, that has not happened!

Before the great household clampdown, I was fortunate to visit **Jeannelle Naquin Brady** and husband Brien (ND '74) at their lovely home in Naples FL on the same day that **M. Janet Caldemeyer** and her husband Rick were visiting. We had an hours-long fun lunch, I hated to leave... and would have hated it even more if I knew it would be my last social event for four months.

Congratulations to **Kathleen Flynn Fox** for capturing the Women's Club Championship at the Pretty Lake Golf Club, her northern home course located in Plymouth, IN. She won the final match 4 and 3!

As I write this, no one knows the college football season plans. It's a small issue in the global big picture of COVID-19, but for we lifelong Notre Dame fans, it's going to be interesting, and perhaps sad, to see how this turns out. Go Irish!

We'd love to hear from everyone else as to how you are coping. See my email address above and stay healthy.

1975



1976



1977

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Thank you very much to the following classmates who provided input for this issue of *Courier*. I, and our classmates, appreciate it.

Theresa Rafferty Grom wrote: "My husband Terry and I retired to Sun City West, AZ about a year ago. I spent 29 years teaching for the Archdiocese of Chicago (with time off in between to raise my family) and spent the last two years of my career as an assistant principal. My career ended on a high note with our school, St. Francis de Sales in Lake Zurich, being awarded its second National Blue Ribbon. It was a special memory being in Washington, DC for the award presentation.

"We are enjoying retired life in the Valley of the Sun. I spend my days volunteering, walking three to five miles per day, reading, crafting, lounging at the pool, and substitute teaching for the Diocese of Phoenix. Our five children are all married and are spread across four different time zones. Our children live in North Carolina, Colorado, Arizona, and two are still in Illinois. We also have four grandchildren, all under the age of 3. The pandemic has put a halt on our

travel plans but hopefully we will be on the road again in 2021."

Michele Jaworski Piazza reported: "David and I celebrated our 10-year anniversary June 12, 2020. We have a second home in Bozeman, MT and started out there, then explored Three Forks, Missoula, and then Glacier National Park. Hiking, kayaking, biking, and enjoying the outdoors far from CV19. It was majestic.

"Since our place is 45 minutes from Yellowstone National Park, we visit there as well and David has re-acquainted himself with fly fishing. Big fans of *Yellowstone* TV series as well!

"Last year was a hectic one. My mother turned 90 years old and we celebrated with a party at Villa Macri/Wine Gallery at the end of January 2020. Daughter Megan Moore was engaged to Nick Redmond, June 15, 2019 and we celebrated with an engagement/New Year's Eve party with family and friends from across the country!

"Megan is a PhD student in forest and conservation sciences at the University of Montana. Daughter Mackenzie Moore is living in Los Angeles, working for SPOTIFY as a narrative podcast writer for Parcast Original Shows. She was a writer's assistant for Apple's Emmy-winning *Ghostwriter*. She has forthcoming poetry chapbooks with Kelsay Books and Variant Literature along with poetry, essays, and stories in *Man Repeller*, *Architectural Digest*, and *Lunch Ticket*.

"David and I headed to Antarctica on November 23, 2019 to explore the Seventh Continent. We are SO glad we went when we did as the glaciers, penguins, seals, whales, sharks, etc., were plentiful and it was still cold. The recent climate change impacts have brought 60-80 degrees in Antarctica, bringing melting and horrendous damage to the wildlife and plant life. This was a special trip in so many ways! Looking forward to our next Reunion!"

Arlene Gatmaitan Dunbar wrote: "I have been living in Sugar Land, TX (outside of Houston) for the last 35 years. I have been married to Lawrence Dunbar (ND '75) for 43 years this coming August 2020.

"We have three grown and married sons along with three wonderful daughters-in-law, four beautiful granddaughters, and one amazing grandson, ranging from 7 years old to 10 months old. I am definitely enjoying being a grandma along with some volunteer work in my parish. Larry is still very busy with his law practice and his engineering consulting work. Our youngest son Ryan (ND '13) was just transferred back to Houston with Chevron, bringing two of my youngest grandbabies close by.

"My sister **Ann Gatmaitan McSorley '79** has recently retired to Maryland from Chicago with her husband Bill (ND '79). They now live closer to two of their three children, Michael McSorley (ND '11) and Julia McSorley (ND '14). My youngest sister **Rozel Gatmaitan Moore '89** and her husband David live outside of Fort Worth, TX and have two children. They will be sending their oldest daughter to college this fall. That is it in a nutshell. We are all very blessed, staying healthy and making the best of these crazy times. Stay safe."

From **Karen Sofranko Ploszek**: "Hi Maureen, I hope this finds you doing well... thanks for taking on the task of class notes! I figured after 43 years I should send an update!

"I just retired after 22 years in the St. Charles, IL school district, the last 10 years teaching students with special needs in grades K-2. My husband Mike (ND '77) retired in January as a hospital president after a very diverse career that landed us in five different states over the last four decades. We have five children (four boys and one girl), two of whom graduated from ND. We just welcomed our first grandson at the end of June after being blessed with five granddaughters over the last 12 years.

"Coach Ploz said to tell you your old flag football coach said hello! Take good care of yourself during these crazy times of COVID!"

Trish Muench Sweeney wrote: "Husband is Peter A. Sweeney (ND '77).

"Our son Patrick Sweeney (ND '09) attended the University of Notre Dame and received his BBA degree in accounting. He decided to change his career path and two years later he entered the Feinberg School of Medicine of Northwestern University, graduating in 2015.

"In June of this year Patrick completed a five-year orthopedic surgery residency at Northwestern. In August he will begin a one-year fellowship in shoulder/elbow surgery at Washington University in St. Louis. Most importantly, Patrick is engaged to be married to the love of his life Marisa Russo, an oncology nurse at Lurie Children's Hospital, in May 2021."

1978

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Dearest classmates,

I need your help. Please provide me with updates for our class *Courier* articles. Send me a paragraph about yourself, your accomplishments, retirement, family, etc. I would love to hear from you as soon as possible. I moved in December and I cannot find my Reunion notes, so I am really at a disadvantage here. I want to keep our article fresh and let as many of you as possible participate. Our world has been turned upside down the past five months and there is no sign of going back to the way we were. I am so grateful to have my SMC sisters and my strong faith to help carry me through these tough times. A few of us had planned for a "when I'm 64" get-together in June that had to be cancelled. Now it is looking like football season might also be cancelled/postponed. Stay healthy and happy. This article is being written in July; however, it is the fall/winter issue. I am praying that we can celebrate the holidays with family and friends this year. So much uncertainty. My parents are 92 and 90 and we cherish every minute we have with them. We are truly blessed. I wish you all the very best and may God bless you and your families."

Laurie O'Dell Rollinson writes: "As I write this, it's late July during this crazy pandemic year, 2020. I will be starting my 40th year at Mater Dei High

School in Orange County, CA, in a few weeks and it will definitely be the strangest year of all. I still don't know if we will have students in class or continue with remote learning. My husband's nationally ranked football team won't even start the football season until January. It'll be interesting to see if that even happens! (Who would have ever imagined an autumn without football?!) We have been lucky to have our family very close by and will have two new grandchildren born during this global pandemic. Caroline and her husband Will (both ND '09) had their third baby in April, a girl after two boys! Catherine and her husband Bill (both USC '13) are expecting a baby boy in a few weeks to join their 18-month-old daughter. So, while this has been an unsettling year there has still been much to be grateful for! I often think back to that August day, 46 years ago, driving down The Avenue to Holy Cross Hall. Such wonderful and happy memories—seems like yesterday and also seems like a lifetime ago. Hoping all is well with my fellow classmates, and while I haven't seen many in the past 40 years I think of them often and always with a smile. You are all forever young!"

1979

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Dear SMC 1979 Classmates:

This is **Cheri Petride Miller**, your new class reporter. In 2019, our classmate **Jean Powley Murphy** decided to step down as our class reporter for *Courier* after 40 years. Jean did an outstanding job as class reporter and I hope I can do as well. I was very happy to hear from Jean recently. She tells me that her youngest son Andy had his wedding scheduled for June 27, 2020 but because of COVID-19, it had to be put off until October 4. Her oldest son Ed got engaged shortly before COVID-19 struck and he and his fiancée plan to be married in 2021 on October 9.

Tracy Jane McAuliffe Schilling is settled in Omaha, NE with her husband Andy Schilling (ND '76). After living in New York City, she and Andy joined the foreign service and lived abroad for 24 years, serving at US embassies in Tokyo, Rome, Vienna, Oslo, and Warsaw, with occasional domestic assignments in Washington, DC. Tracy and Andy have two grown sons. Before COVID-19 struck, Tracy and Andy traveled to Japan, Normandy, and France. Tracy hopes to keep safe and healthy so that they can resume their international traveling. She sends best wishes to all and hopes to see everyone at a future Reunion.

Teresa Herman Swafford is teaching school and has been providing hospice care through a local agency. Teresa lives in Omaha, NE and sends happy wishes.

Until COVID-19 is over, I will continue teaching college courses online in the areas of political science and general studies. I hope to hear from

more of you for our next submission to Class News. May everyone stay safe and healthy.



Patrice Carroll '79 was named one of *Cablefax Magazine's* top 100 for 2020. The Cablefax 100 salutes the most influential executives whose leadership continues to take the telecom industry to new heights.

1980



1981



1983

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I'm writing this column in the summer of 2020 and it's impossible not to ignore what's going on in the world. While I hope by the time you read this that the pandemic will be nothing but a memory, sadly I doubt this will be true. Given the number of people who have been touched by it from a health or economic standpoint, chances are that some of you, or some of those close to you, have been affected. This is a tough reality for so many of us, to say the least, and I don't have words to express how I feel about everything that's been happening in the world. All I can say is to hold tight those we love, whether in person or from a distance. Below I have news from classmates, which I hope will be a welcome diversion for your day.

Lucy Hanahan DaGiau writes that "there is something really great about longtime friends, especially Saint Mary's friends! In September of 2019, I traveled to Cedar Rapids, IA to visit my Le Mans Hall roommate **Nancy Lorenzini Kopec**. Nancy and her husband Keith were celebrating the wedding of their beautiful daughter, Emily. My 'plus one' was **Kathleen M. Byrne**. We were graciously chauffeured around all weekend by **Melissa Weis Riegel** and her husband Scott. The ceremony, the newlyweds' grand entrance, the main course 'Mangia, Mangia,' and the warm toast from Nancy's two handsome sons were just some of the highlights of the evening. As the weekend closed, I thought of all the milestones we each have celebrated over the years. Life travels on day to day but Saint Mary's roommates are always there for each other."



From left: Kathleen M. Byrne, Nancy Lorenzini Kopec, Lucy Hanahan DaGiau, Melissa Weis Riegel.

From **Mary Jo Russo Henke**: "We were looking forward to a fun spring of graduations and weddings when the coronavirus hit. One by one, our four kids fled their apartments and returned home, with significant others and dogs in tow, each carving out a spot where they could work remotely. With space at a premium, our daughter Kate, a librarian at Wheaton College in Massachusetts, secured a chair from the dining room and an end table from the living room and set up her 'office' in the master bathroom, quickly abandoning the idea when it proved too humid after the morning showers. We stayed busy with a full house and held out hope that the events might be salvaged but soon gave in to the new normal. It was bittersweet watching our sons' virtual graduations—Patrick from medical school and Paul from a master of arts in teaching—feeling robbed of a real chance to celebrate their accomplishments. We're both proud and anxious as Patrick starts his residency at Southern Colorado Family Medicine and Paul prepares to teach seventh and eighth grade math in-person at a middle school in the New York Adirondacks. But there were silver linings, too. We all connected with far flung family and friends over Zoom, including a call with **Kathleen Rownd Zullo**, **Patti Zukaitis Russo**, **Helen Clarke Laseter**, **Fran Roth Nemeth**, **Betsy Boyle Ratcliff '82**, and **Mary Wall Oxford (ND '83)**. And, after the initial disappointment of the wedding postponement of our son Tim (an insurance broker in the family agency) and his fiancé Claire, they decided to get married at our house with just immediate family—a total of 14 in attendance. As it turns out, there was a

real beauty in the simplicity and it wouldn't surprise me if this leads to a new trend in small, backyard weddings. As the last of our kids head back to work, I am thankful for the additional time we had as a family but terrified for what it means as the virus is reeling out of control. My heart goes out to those who have felt isolated, missed out on special occasions, fallen ill, or lost loved ones as a result of this pandemic. Stay safe and God bless."

Ann Simonaitis LeRose is grandmother to three grandsons, with another grandson on the way by the time you read this. Anne's daughter Cathy and her husband have boys Henry and Harrison, and her son Claude and his wife have son Graham, along with soon-to-be son Hudson. All are happy and healthy. Anne writes that she loves to hear about classmates' adventures, careers, and families. "Stay well during this pandemic and keep prayer in your lives always."

Carol Pattyn O'Connor and her husband Michael T. O'Connor (ND '82) sold their USA and Costa Rican manufacturing firms in the summer of 2019. "We are totally enjoying retirement. We thought about all the lovely places around the world where we have visited and would like to retire, but we decided what we wanted most was to retire near our siblings. So we returned to our Hoosier roots and have bought a lake house in northern Indiana near both our families. We do return to Illinois often to visit our daughter Colleen, who is a suicide prevention educator. She works with her local school districts to educate junior high and high school students about mental health awareness. She improves the lives of troubled teens and we are proud of her. Our son Michael (ND '16) and his wife live and work in Ireland, which is a great place to visit, so we can't wait for all the COVID travel restrictions and quarantines to someday loosen so we can see each other more often. I was fortunate enough to study a full academic year in Maynooth, Ireland my junior year. I return to Maynooth often and, oh my, has it grown! Maynooth was a truly wonderful and life-changing experience! I am thrilled my son, who has studied and lived in Ireland for the last five years, has the opportunity to live the Irish life!"

Carol Knych Stephens writes that she started off her March of 2020 with a broken left arm and resulting surgery due to a fall in her kitchen. Her oldest son Eddie is a physician in Dallas, and Carol expressed her wish for prayers for all front-line workers. Her son Jack is a CPA in Chicago. Her daughter Joanie is a student at Saint Mary's, and she came home for what she thought was spring break, but it turned into the end of her whole semester. "Joanie took over our house. Grocery shopping, cooking... she was wonderful. She missed her friends and margarita Mondays so much. But I thank God she was home and healthy." Carol also reports that she's had more time to keep in touch with Belles on Facebook and she's found a Facebook group that she wants everyone to know about: it's called Belles Supporting Belles.



Martha Wargo Oprea '83 joined Michigan City-based Harbour Trust & Investment Management Co. as the new Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer.

1985

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Greetings, and I hope you are well. Hopefully next year we'll be able to gather together at SMC for our rescheduled Reunion on June 10-13, 2021. Save the dates!

In the news, **Karen Wittgen Cain** joined the staff of the Catholic Diocese of Evansville in November 2018 as the associate diocesan finance officer. When she was growing up, her mother worked for the diocese in various capacities, so she says that "it was almost like coming home." Karen and husband Jonathan celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in May. Congratulations, Karen! Their son Nicholas will be a freshman at Western Kentucky University this fall, in the college of business.

Maureen Karnatz Smith shared the tale of two cities: She and husband Steve are based in Cleveland, but also spend time in Atlanta, where he is CFO of a paper and package distributor called Veritiv. Both Maureen and Steve are well and especially grateful that they've just celebrated their 35th anniversary! Their oldest Meghan works in Chicago. Their son Kevin is working remotely for EY in Cleveland and Atlanta, and their youngest Bridget graduated from ND in May with a degree in industrial design and is currently job hunting while in Cleveland.

Thank you, Maureen, for serving on the SMC Board of Trustees for the last four years, and now, as vice chair. Maureen enjoys her time on the board, and also chaired the president search for our current president, Katie Conboy. Also deserving of our gratitude for serving on the board is **Mary Burke**,

who won the Distinguished Alumna Award this year, and **Colleen Flynn Roohan**. Thank you, ladies! Mike Schmitt (ND '84) (**Kacey Horner Schmitt's** husband) and Dave Taiclet (ND '85) (**Kathy Conley Taiclet's** husband) have been current and past board members to these ladies, respectively. Maureen sees both Kacey and Kathy at SMC as a result. Maureen also serves on the board of Saint Martin De Porres High School, a Cristo Rey school in the city of Cleveland.

Maureen shared, "Other classmates I hear from regularly are **Mary Lynn Mulcahy Doyle** in South Bend, **Janet Saas Pier** in Cleveland (just celebrated 35 years in nursing and won the Cleveland Clinic Lifetime Achievement Award), and **Tracy Bringardner Sommer**, **Cathy Norris**, **Cara Hageman Long**, and **Patti Walsh Smith**, all in Chicago. I also see **Christy Smith Moran** and **Julianne Keigher Lange** when in Atlanta. I keep in touch with **Maira Finnegan Zahn** in South Dakota, **Karen Overly DeJonckheere** in Kentucky, and **Cindy Zesinger Rheinhardt**, newly retired in Indiana. I really enjoy seeing the grandchildren on Facebook of **Jennifer Spence** and **Molly O'Hara Niezer**, who I ran into at the Senior Open which was held on ND's golf course last July. **Jenny Doyle Young**, who is also a grade school and high school friend of mine, sadly lost her mom just recently."

Please keep **Beth Murphy McNish** in your prayers, as her mother Margaret Murphy passed away in August.

Best wishes for your and your family's health and happiness, especially during these times. Please share your news with us by emailing me at Laineysinow@gmail.com. Blessings.

1986

From the *Courier* Office



Catherine Logsdon Moreno advised that her mother **Carroll Colbert Logsdon '59** passed on July 28, 2020. Catherine mentioned that her mom was an amazing woman as noted in her obituary. "If you spent time with Carroll, you know that she was big hearted and generous. She loved to travel (ready at a moment's notice to be *On the Road Again*), played a lot of golf and bridge, stopped at nearly every historical sign, was an avid reader, enjoyed hosting family and neighborhood gatherings, and that she rarely turned down an opportunity to volunteer."

1988

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As I write, we are five months into the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertain when and if things will return to the way they were. School started for me on August 3 (we do everything early in California—lol!). I am teaching virtually in an empty classroom, and that is just as strange as teaching virtually at

my dining room table. I heard similar stories from everyone who wrote.

Molly McShane Kelly is “spending the summer wondering how to keep a 13-year-old busy, Maeve Kelly, and working from home.” Grateful not to be caring for an early elementary child, she says, “It is still a challenge.”

Amy O’Brien Mundt echoes the hope that “our world returns to normal soon.” But for the moment, she has a perfect set-up. She explains: “My husband Alex and I have been living in the Columbus, OH area for about 12 years. Last fall we moved into our dream home out in the country on 23 acres. Who knew at the time that we were setting ourselves up to be in the perfect position for extreme social distancing! I am in IT, so I am able to work from home, and I am grateful for that. My two dogs and my cat keep me company during the day; my husband’s business is considered essential, so he still goes to work every day. Now that the days are getting nicer, we will be spending more time outdoors landscaping and doing all the things needed after building a new home.”

While Amy found a more spacious place, **Jeanne Power Luke** is about to move into smaller digs. She writes: “My husband and I have been preparing to downsize from our home of 22 years in Stewartville, NJ, as our three children are grown and flown from the nest. We are staying in New Jersey, but

moving closer to Morristown, NJ, where I work at an ambulatory surgery center as the nursing educator.” But it hasn’t been all work and no play: “I had a great time in NYC with many SMC ‘88 and ‘87 friends back in October before the COVID social distancing changed so many of our vacation plans.”

Others among us have learned how to connect safely. **Jean Louise Guarino, Lois Morahan Sheridan, and Kate McDevitt Meyer** gathered for an outdoor luncheon hosted by Lois to celebrate Jean’s birthday. **Kate McDevitt Meyer** says: “It was a beautiful afternoon and we enjoyed each other’s company on a gorgeous July day. We are grateful for the many SMC friendships that have lasted over the years. Now especially, they mean so much.” I, too, am fondly recalling past visits with my SMC friends, and I am anticipating the celebration we will have when all of this is over!

Michelle Franz McCauley has much to celebrate. She describes virtual teaching in the spring as a “trial by fire which I came through on the other end.” Even better, she shares these family updates: “I became a grandma for the first time. Luca Giovanni Catrone was born December 22, 2019 to my oldest daughter Anne (and Rocco) Catrone. We are currently preparing for our oldest son Carl’s wedding on October 10, 2020.”

Congratulations to all!

Maintaining family connections motivated **Christi Holz Emerson** and her husband to hit the road. She explains: “Between COVID and protests, the Minneapolis area has been an interesting place to live lately. My husband and I came to the conclusion COVID isn’t going away anytime soon and if I ever wanted to leave the house, we’d have to get creative. I have had two kidney transplants and am immunosuppressed, making me the top of the risk list. So, we bought a 1998 RV and took off for Colorado to visit our kids. No restaurants, no hotels, no public restrooms, no flights necessary. We helped our son, 26, pack up from Denver for his move to California, while our daughter, 28, found out she is moving from Golden, CO to Lexington, KY for a teaching job.” The two of them are looking forward to visiting lots of new places to wander in the RV. She leaves us with this invitation: “Hit me up with where you live—have RV—will travel! Christi_emerson@msn.com

1989

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Writing in August and not knowing how the rest of 2020 will look, I can only hope and pray that everything has improved by time you read this.

Karen Handloser Bradford shared some wonderful news—her son Justin married Alexandra on July 31, 2020 at Fox Hills in Plymouth, MI. In keeping with a pandemic wedding, it was a family-only celebration. The couple resides in Holt, MI, where Justin is a meteorologist for Fox 47 News in Lansing and Alex is a school psychologist.

Just before COVID-19 hit hard, **Barbara Tull Dwyer** took advantage of a fabulous trip to Cuba, where she encountered wonderful food and people, through her executive MBA program at Bellarmine University in Louisville, KY. Barbara graduated last spring with no ceremony but the hope of formally walking in December. No matter what, the degree is hanging on her wall! Congratulations!

Kristine Kruczek Mains made a career change. She left Metro Nashville Public Schools to join the training team at Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems (CASAS) where she creates online training content, training videos, manages the National Consortium for CASAS Certified Trainers, develops customer care procedures, and works with clients to implement CASAS assessments at the state and local levels. Kristine works from home and travels to the main office in San Diego. Pre COVID-19, she was an empty nester, but her children Max, 25, and Anna, 20, temporarily returned home to Nashville from Chicago. Max is a vegan chef who manages kitchens, designs specials, and specializes in opening new stores. Anna

completed high school through dual enrollment in college while training full-time at the Joffrey Ballet in Chicago and joined the Charlotte Ballet in North Carolina in October to continue her professional dance career. Kristine enjoyed having her family home and looks forward to their next adventures.

During a spring visit with her mom, Kristine had a chance to catch up with **Susan Hunt Howell** in Indianapolis, IN. They reminisced about their experiences in the Semester Around the World program with Dr. Pullapilly and his daughter Gita. They caught up on kids and careers and shared pictures. Susan lives in Indianapolis, where she has a private collaborative law practice.

COVID-19 quarantine has presented challenges and opportunities, and Kristine embraced that by organizing and being cantor for Zoom Mass, where Notre Dame friends and families and celebrant Father Tom Doyle (ND ‘89) joined in community to pray for peace and healing.

If you or your group or office are looking for a way to manage stress and tend to self-care, please consider contacting **Kellen Celeste Brugman** at www.kellenbrugman.com. She is a certified holistic wellness coach in addition to being a certified Ayurvedic practitioner. Kellen focuses on helping people manifest life goals and heart dreams. She gives holistic wellness presentations (via Zoom) about stress relief and immunity investments to corporations, groups, and schools.

NOTE: Please take a moment to update your information with Saint Mary’s or through your class reporter. Keep in touch!

1990



1991



1992

From the *Courier Office*

Carla Prando Domenici has joined the University of New Mexico (UNM) as the new director of finance and administration, Strategic Initiatives, effective July 27, 2020. This position will provide critical leadership and coordination in the implementation of strategic business initiatives across the institution, including the university’s response to emergency situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic. She will be supporting university leadership in implementing effective

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I am strong. I am creative. I am curious.

plans, policies, and procedures and ensuring compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and public health guidance in times of critical need or crisis. Carla has worked at UNM since 2005. She worked as an associate university counsel in the Office of University Counsel and as the director of Safety and Risk Services Department.



EXCELSIOR

Jennifer Chantal Peve '93 Managing Director of Business Innovation at Depository Trust & Clearing Corporation (DTCC), was featured in a *Best Execution* article under Women in Finance.

1995



1996



1999

EXCELSIOR

Vanessa Vreeland '99 has been appointed by Truist Financial Corporation to lead Truist Ventures, a corporate venture capital division created by integrating investments in technology companies from the heritage SunTrust brand with BB&T Ventures.

2000



2001



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From Molly: Greetings, Belles of 2001! Twenty years ago, as we began our senior year at SMC, I am sure that we weren't imagining dealing with a pandemic.

Chrissy Govorko Farrell shared her joyous wedding news. She married Richard Louis Farrell III on July 25, 2020 at St. Monica Church with a reception at Morris Park Country Club. They took time in between the ceremony and reception to go to SMC and take photos in front of Le Mans and on the Bridge. Congratulations!

Jill Fenske Boerstler writes, "After completing my doctorate in bioethics in May 2019, I accepted a position as ethicist for Providence Health Care, a Catholic health care organization in Vancouver, British Columbia. Vancouver was an 'ethics destination' for me as I sought to learn more about legalized euthanasia in Canada and the ongoing opioid crisis in the city, especially from the Catholic moral and ethical perspective. Vancouver is one of North America's epicenters for opioid use disorder, overdoses, and deaths, and my work quickly became eye-opening as health care organizations grapple with the ongoing public health emergency. What I did not anticipate was being thrust into another public health emergency declared in British Columbia—COVID-19. As my husband and I adjusted to our new lives in Vancouver, the pandemic hit and what wasn't upended by a cross-country, international move was affected by COVID. Unexpected challenges, such as not being able to visit family in the US, weigh on us but it has been a fascinating experience to live in another country (with socialized health care) during a pandemic. Also, the professional growth opportunities abound. A small group of ethicists serve the province of British Columbia and are tasked by the provincial government to write ethical decision-making frameworks (for PPE and ventilator allocation, etc.) and address numerous ethical consultations regarding COVID-related concerns and questions. Ethicists never expect to use theoretical pandemic ethics, and COVID provided a training ground in applied public health ethics and camaraderie among those dealing with heartbreaking decisions in rationing and allocation. The pandemic continues to provide unprecedented opportunities for professional development, new hobbies, and a general sense of acceptance that the world can change on a dime. I never could have guessed in 2001, as I walked across the stage to accept my Saint Mary's College diploma, that 20 years later I would be living in another country and doing what I love for a living, in the midst of a global pandemic, but I am most grateful for the direction my life has taken."

Tara Cupelli Raposa shares, "2020 definitely has not gone as planned. My husband and I have both been working from home since mid-March! At first it was hard to find balance and a routine, but I've adjusted to this new normal. I got myself a desk that opens when I'm working but closes to look like just a little cabinet when I'm not working. I find it helps give me a space to work that I don't even see when I'm done working for the day. I'm never tempted to go work more in the evenings. ...outta sight, outta mind! We actually just got word the other day from my job to not to expect to be back in the office till January at the earliest. So I've started doing Zoom calls with my staff to try and keep us all sane. It works most days.

"Our oldest is essential and has been working this entire time, though. So we are just doing whatever we can to help him navigate this time. To be 20 with your first job and then this strikes, not easy... for anyone.

"We also had to cancel a cruise to Alaska for my husband's 50th birthday this year! We decided 2020 just won't count, though, and pushed the cruise, and his birthday, to next year. We've also started walking the neighborhood in the evenings just to get out of the house. The only other time I'm out is grocery shopping and bringing things to my high-risk parents. So, needless to say, I've found tons of projects to do around the house and I've never used my deck so much."

Thank you for sharing what life looks like in a pandemic world. On July 1, **Molly Kahn Allen** became the assistant regional superintendent of schools for Regional Office of Education #17, covering four counties in central Illinois with 30 public school districts and 20 private schools. "Managing quarantine life with a 4- and 5-year-old as well as an eighth grader was certainly memorable. To be home with my children (longer than I was for maternity leaves) but also balancing working full time kept us busy but grateful to be together. I am excited and energized by the opportunity to serve our educators, students, and community, especially during this daunting time."

Belles of 2001, we wish you and yours well. Looking onward, we will hopefully return down The Avenue together early next summer to commemorate our 20th Reunion. Can't wait to see everyone and celebrate! Be well, Molly

From Alyson: Hello, Class of 2001! Hope you and your families are safe and healthy. Another short, but sweet update from our class.

Megan Maureen McKeon shared, "I'm now president of the Legal Marketing Association's Midwest region." Congrats! And **Lori Renee Fournier-Norem** added, "I will celebrate my 19th wedding anniversary in August. I have two wonderful boys, Tidus who is 14 and Jensen who is 7. I earned my master's degree in 2007 from the French School at Middlebury College. After that, I earned my ESL teaching certification from Notre Dame's ACE Program. In the fall, I will start the 20th year in my teaching career. I am currently teaching French in Elkhart, IN and also teach dual credit, so I am an adjunct at both Indiana University and Ivy Tech. I consider myself an autism advocate as both of my boys are on the spectrum." Great to hear from you! Until next time, my best. Take care.

2002

Jaime Dineen Gleason
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Jaime Dineen Gleason wants to wish the class of 2002 a Happy 40th birthday! I know many celebrations were put on hold, but I know you all made the best of it!

Amy Mae Hubbs welcomed Joseph Francis Macaluso on July 30, 2019. She recently sold a comedy pilot to NBC and will be working as a co-executive producer on a FOX sitcom that will air next year starring Mayim Bialik!

Brie Irene Strohmeier married Shawn McDonald in Beverly Hills, CA on September 22, 2018. Shawn holds an undergraduate degree from Cornell University and JD from Harvard Law School. The couple reside in Dallas, TX.

Alison Ashley Johnson continues to work for M Health Fairview supervising a team of social work care coordinators. "It has been an interesting time working in health care, to say the least! My husband and I have been able to work remotely during this time, which allowed us to be home with our daughter Devin, 10, and son Cameron, 6, during their distance learning. We were fortunate to get our spring travel completed before the pandemic. We look forward to more travels and adventures in the future. Until then, we are enjoying a summer at home on Lake Gervais, MN!"

Melissa Marie Whalen had her first baby Juniper Isabell in October. She was born ten weeks early but is thriving now!

Annie Knish Mitchell: "We live in Saint John, IN but we will be moving to the Sarasota, FL area in August! My husband Jason received a job promotion/transfer with Core Construction in business development, and we have decided to take a leap of faith! New adventures await! Jason and I are celebrating our 10-year anniversary in August, as well.

I have been a speech-language pathologist for almost 15 years now, and I love it! We have two children: Grace, 6, will be entering first grade, and David, 4, will be starting pre-k!"

Thank you to some of our teachers like **Meghan Eileen Meyer** and **Mandy Schomas Soderstrom**, who survived teaching sixth grade via distance learning! Meghan said she spent daysssss as referee for group projects. "Oh, and I got a masters in school administration from Fordham."

Kathryn Marie O'Connell had her first baby Cormac Robert in June 2019!

Shanna Conner Cronin: I will hit 15 years active duty as an Army judge advocate in September 2020. I am stationed at Fort Bliss, TX with my husband, who is also Army JAG, and our two boys Conner, 8, and Finnegan, 3. I am currently the chief, special victim litigation, handling all sexual assaults, domestic violence, and abuse against children.

Allison T. Doherty McSherry: "Last July my family relocated from Warsaw, IN to Vicksburg, MS for my

husband's work. My kids are 14, 10, and 8. I have taken a career change and will start teaching fifth grade at St. Francis Xavier of Vicksburg Catholic Schools in the fall. I'm very excited about the opportunity and love being in the classroom!"

Jaime Dineen Gleason: After 16 years in pharmaceutical sales with Sanofi, I have switched to oncology sales for Bristol-Myers Squibb, where I will be specializing in lung cancer.

Finally, many alums are happy they survived spring e-learning with multiple kids at home while working! Good luck to everyone this fall and stay safe!

2003

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Thank you to everyone for sharing your news with fellow alumnae. It has been a year like no other, and I am thankful for all the support the Saint Mary's community has given each other during these unprecedented times.

Kate Moeller Holloway currently lives in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she is taking Danish classes and working at the American Pie Company in downtown Copenhagen.

Katie Rand Davis and her husband Joel had a daughter this past spring. Josephine Helen Davis was born on April 6, 2020 at 7 pounds 15 ounces and 21 inches. She has a full head of jet-black hair. Their son Teddy (2 years old in May 2020) is obsessed with her and is being a great big brother!

Monica Cannon Meeker opened her own design firm, Meeker Interiors LLC in Nashville. She is excited to use her art history and design interests to further her brand.

Bridget Myers Mullins and her husband Vince welcomed a son Jack Dominic Mullins on July 8, 2020. Their daughter Aubrey loves being a big sister and Mommy's helper!

2005



2006



Ellen Louise Riley-Davis
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As I write this, I can hear the twins who live next door jumping on their trampoline while my youngest is asleep, yet I can hear her sound machine playing music through the baby monitor. These are normal things for me, but at the same time I found myself praying for those I know who have, or have had, COVID-19, which is still a reality in this world today. In the midst of this unknown time, it has been a joy hearing about everyone's blessings and updates that have occurred recently.

Did you know that one of our classmates is a professional actress? **Angela Karin Sauer** is a professional actress and has been in several episodes of the television series *Mission: Unstoppable with Miranda Cosgrove*, produced by Geena Davis. The show's goal is to get kids, specifically young girls, interested in STEM fields. In the segments she is in, she is a magician and is partnered with a female neuroscientist. They use magic to teach kids about neuroscience principles. The show airs on Saturday mornings, past episodes can be found online on CBS.com. She is in episodes 11 "Algae, Asteroids, and Astrophysics," 12 "Bots, Bacteria, and Building," and 19 "Marine Biology, Moon Rock, and Molecules."

Becky Feauto La Liberte and her husband Jake welcomed their fourth child Maisie Marie on December 29, 2019. She's the sister to James, 7, Greer, 5, and Ezra, 3.

Michelle Fitzgerald Abi-Yaghi gave birth to her third child and first daughter, hopefully a future Belle, on January 9, 2020. Her daughter Colette joins older brothers Joseph and Robert. Michelle currently resides at the Jersey Shore in Toms River, NJ and invites her 2006 Belles to join her at the beach anytime!

Meghan Elisabeth Cassidy and her husband Matt welcomed their first child, a daughter Aidan (Aidy) Ronayne Hopkins, on May 5, 2020 in Milwaukee, WI.

Holly Agnes Anderson-Reyes and husband Fredy welcomed daughter Evangeline Agnes Reyes on June 13, 2020. Evie was born at 1:38 a.m., measured 8 pounds, 20.5 inches, and had a full head of hair! The family resides in New York City. Holly continues to work at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center as the associate clinical director of patient financial services.

Kellye Lynn Mitros resides in South Bend and works in the Notre Dame Law School. She also sits on several boards there. Kellye got engaged early in July 2020 to James Mueller (ND '04), the mayor of South Bend.

Angela Johnston Eck and her husband John Eck are celebrating 13 years of marriage this year. They live in New Whiteland, IN, with their daughter, son, and three cats. Angela is the assistant director at the Bartholomew County Public Library in Columbus, IN.

Stephanie Snyder Seliga-Soulseed and her family moved to a 22-acre farm in South Central Washington. They are running a plant nursery, a preschool, and getting their farm off the ground!

2007

Lisa Victoria Gallagher
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From **Meaghan Herbst Arzberger:** "My husband and I welcomed our first and only child Cooper Frederick Arzberger on New Year's Eve, December 31, 2019. I told Cooper that it is unfortunate that he will need to settle for Notre Dame in his future without the option of SMC. Having a newborn during COVID-19 has been a challenge to say the least but Zooming and calls with fellow Belles has made a big difference!"

Angie Ellison Keefner and her husband Aaron welcomed Callan Robert Campbell Keefner on March 15, 2020. She writes: "Big sister Gloria (class of 2038) is in love! Being born at the beginning of a global pandemic was certainly interesting, made even more so when the family rushed their move from Chicago to the suburbs to get ahead of the shelter-in-place orders, when Angie was only eight days postpartum. Eight-day-old Callan just went along for the ride. In July, Callan made his first visit to campus and, if his naps and drinking were any indication, deemed it a good place to eventually earn his graduate degree."

Lisa Cozzi Kaczmarczyk welcomed son Robert Daniel Kaczmarczyk on December 22, 2019. He weighed 8 pounds and was 19.5 inches long.

Kristen Renee Serna married Gregory Dworjan (ND '07) on June 26, 2020 at Tippecanoe Place in South Bend, IN. They were joined by **Kelly McDavitt Ford**, **Cassandra Quaglia '08**, **Sara Marie Otto**, and Daniel Geffre (ND '07).

Britni McElligott Creamer and her husband Josh (ND '07) welcomed their first child Beau Mason Creamer on May 5, 2020. He weighed 8 pounds 13 ounces and was 21.5 inches long.

April Anne Wilfong married Kyle Jurgens on April 26, 2019. In attendance was her aunt **Sue Petrick Flockencier '74**. Bridesmaid Jessica Buechler (ND '08) attended along with Tedd Hawks (ND '07) and Alyssa Brauweiler (ND '07). The happy couple exchanged marriage vows at Assumption Catholic Church in Chicago. The wedding party, close family, and friends enjoyed a beautiful reception at Gibson's steakhouse downtown.

Allison Mae Beyer writes: "Our daughter was born on November 9, 2019. We are thrilled and all in love."

2008

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Margaret Lindley Carbone and husband Michael welcomed their first child Anthony Dominic on April 24, 2019. He weighed 7 pounds 8 ounces and was 19.5 inches at birth. The Carbone's live in Niceville, FL.

Katie O'Brien Scheib married Christopher Scheib in Hawai'i on February 20, 2020.

Brooke Trudeau married Sam Stover in July of 2017 and, in August of 2019, welcomed a baby girl Eloise Charlotte. They live just outside London, England, and work at TASIS, The American School of England, where Brooke is the curriculum coordinator for the middle school.

Hope you're all having a nice summer and staying healthy.

EXCELSIOR

Kathleen Sabol '08 an artist and entrepreneur, was featured in the July 2020 issue of *Desert Living Magazine*, where she discussed her jewelry making business—Mila and Stevie. Her designs can be found at 25 stores across the U.S.

2009

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Liz Ann Harter
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Amidst the pandemic, the Class of 2009 has been busy celebrating weddings, new babies, and career changes. I, **Katie Kohler Dalhoff** for one, have had my hands full navigating the "new normal" being a mother of three (Rachel, Timmy, and Ellie) while adjusting to virtual learning. It has been a big change, but I am looking forward to school (hopefully) resuming and everyone staying safe in whatever school environment works best. The year 2020 has turned out to be the year of the multitasking woman and I'm happy to hear so many great updates from fellow Belles who are finding ways to balance it all to advance their careers and support their families.

Liz Ann Harter is a social media manager at Notre Dame, who has been busy with all the changes surrounding campus life during COVID. She spent a lot of time at Saint Mary's these past few months and found the quiet to be peaceful and beautiful. She feels blessed we were able to spend 4 years here and is looking forward to things returning to normal so we can all enjoy campus again.

Kristen Bildhauser Edson got married on April 7, 2018 and works as an upper-level math teacher at Marquette Catholic High School in Michigan City. Her principal is also a Belle, **Allyson Elizabeth Headd '12**. On January 22, 2019, Kristen welcomed her first child Annabelle Clara Edson.

Martha Smid Cosgrove lives in Dubuque with her husband Luke and her 9-month old son Charles. She is working from home through the end of the year but is enjoying spending more time with her family.

Michelle Renee O'Dea married Nithin Vijay in May in Cape Coral, FL. Although she planned for a larger wedding, she was unable to do so with COVID. After reducing the guest list and with the help of family and friends, she had a beautiful and memorable 2020 wedding. **Caitlin Stevenson** Nemeth married Kevin Nemeth (ND '07) at the Basilica on December 9, 2019. **Laura Eileen Stevenson '13** and **Megan Thompson Fitzpatrick** were bridesmaids.

Allison Louise Rider and her husband Jeremy welcomed their son Maverick James on April 29, 2020.

Andrea Zettler McIntyre and her husband Rory welcomed their first baby Virginia "Ginny" Ann on December 14, 2018. **Mary (Gracie) Deery Oakley** welcomed William Patrick on January 10, 2020. **Katie Comeford Fernandez** welcomed her son Michael Fernandez Jr. on June 19, 2019. She is also expecting baby #2 in the spring. **Lauren Momenee Baessler** and her husband Matt welcomed their first baby Frederick James on May 26. **Katie Putz De Vry** welcomed her second son Paul Elliot on June 20, 2020. His godparents are **Liz Ann Harter** and Aaron Hernandez (ND '10). **Meghan Larsen-Reidy** and husband Tim (ND '10) welcomed Simon Michael on May 21, 2020. Megan also has a daughter Ruth and son Sam, who are showing Simon the ropes.

Lindsey Applequist built her first house. Despite being stressful at times, it has been a dream come true to watch it come together.

Molly Lamping Fleck is living in Sydney, Australia with her husband Adam (ND '06) and her son TJ who was born in March. She is eagerly awaiting when her family can come visit abroad and meet TJ, but in the meantime, she is dreaming of Notre Dame football and visiting campus again. **Annaliese Furman McSweeney** welcomed Niall Timothy in June 2019 and celebrated his first birthday with an international Zoom party, along with family, friends, and big brother Cillian, 3.

Emily Fitzgerald Gillepsie has two children, Patrick, 1, and Andrew, born on June 29, 2020. She also has two stepchildren, Bree, 15, and Braden, 10. She and her husband Heath live in Lombard, IL and she works for Cresco Labs as an HR director.

Stephanie Kornexl Kaufmann got married on July 25, 2020. Her sister **Jennifer Lynn Kornexl '10** was her maid of honor. She had a small but beautiful quarantine wedding. She lives in Louisville, KY, where she and her husband Matt stay actively involved in organizing and advocating for justice issues within their community.

Ellen Marie Ratajack completed her PhD in applied social and health psychology in May. She is currently employed at Indiana University as a visiting assistant professor.

Molly Carroll got married to Michael Vandy on October 5, 2019 after celebrating her bachelorette party in South Bend for the ND/New Mexico game.

Katie Marie McGuire '07, **Megan Elizabeth Clarkson**, **Carolyn Breitenbach Hurtuk**, **Gabrielle Delores Moody '18**, and **Maureen Catherine Seus** were all bridesmaids. **Taryn Pabst Keller**, **Casey June Maus**, and **Francesca Marie Johnson** were also in attendance. She is also expecting her first child in November.

While life has taken the Class of 2009 all around the country, it is great to hear that so many of us are staying connected to each other and to campus. Liz and I hope everyone is staying safe and healthy during uncertain times and look forward to hearing what other blessings 2020 brings.

2010

Michelle Alyse Giannola
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Hello, Belles!

I was so sad that we weren't all able to reconnect at the Reunion. However, I heard the virtual happy hour was amazing. Thank you, **Megan Marie O'Neill** and **Fran Aileen Broderick** for planning it. We appreciate you both!

Bridget Elise Kestermeier married Caleb Reagan on March 20, 2020. She shared they had to call off their dream wedding only days before due to COVID. However, they were able to have a small wedding with 16 guests at a park in Gulfport, FL.

Jackie Therese Corey reached out wanting to share bit about where she is now! After graduating from the dual engineer program, Jackie went on to become a licensed professional engineer. She works as the water/wastewater engineer for Black & Veatch in Arizona. She specializes in condition assessment/asset management in the water/wastewater industry. Jackie works with some of the biggest cities across the country, making sure situations like Flint don't happen (thanks, Jackie!).

Keep sending your updates whenever they arise. It's great hearing about new careers, mini reunions, accomplishments, and everything in between!

Stay safe and healthy and don't forget to smile (yes, even under that mask!)



Mini SMC reunion celebrating the engagement of Kayla Elizabeth McColl '12. From left: Christa Elise McColl '14, Kayla Elizabeth McColl '12, Kerry Quinn Kanaley '12, Ally Drake Bernstein '11, Kelly Conaty Barnett '12, Katie Herbig Sorice '12, Morgan McColl Cimala.

2011

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In all the craziness going on in the world right now, I truly hope that this fall/winter issue finds everyone in good health and happiness. As always, if you have any news you would like to submit, you can email it to me at any time. I want to hear about your exciting new jobs, additional degrees, marriages, babies, or any other fun things in your life. Congratulations to everyone below on your exciting news!

Save the date for our 10-year Reunion: June 3–6, 2021. Hope to see you all there.



Laura Smith Battistoni and husband David welcomed their sweet boy Lucca David Battistoni on March 18, 2020 at 5:16 a.m. at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago, IL. He came into the world right as everything shut down, and though it was a restrictive pandemic delivery, they couldn't have been happier with his arrival! Laura and David were also so thankful to be able to baptize him at Holy Family Church in Chicago on June 28, 2020, which is the same church where they were married at in 2016!

Hannah Snyder Rangel and husband Parker (ND '11) welcomed their second child Griffin Donald Rangel on April 29, 2020. Griffin joins big brother Max, who is 2 years old.

Megan Elizabeth Aldrup-MacDonald and husband John welcomed their son James (Jamie) Pascal on May 18, joining big brother Archie. They have moved from Durham, NC to Cleveland, OH.

Karolyn Wojtowicz Gore and husband Matt's (ND '10) son Henry recently turned a year old. He was baptized early September of 2020 in a ceremony by Karolyn's grandpa, a retired deacon. Godparents are **Caitlin O'Neill O'Connor** and **Joe O'Connor** (ND '11).

Emma Rose was born to **Meaghan Veselik Klump** and **Kyle Klump** (ND '11, '17) on May 4, 2020. She was welcomed with love by her big brother Liam, who is age 2.

Robert Michael David Nier joined mommy **Lisa Sommers Nier**, daddy Christopher, and big sister Olivia on July 9. Robby was 8 pounds 5 ounces and 21.25 inches long. Mom and baby are both healthy and everyone is adjusting well. Liv loves giving her baby brother kisses and hugs and getting his "paci" when he cries. Robby was christened on August 15 with his paternal aunt and uncle as godparents.

Katherine Sperry Beruben and husband Anthony welcomed twin girls Emma Katherine and Olivia Mireya Beruben on January 23, 2020.

Joanie Marie Saunders married Anthony Hitsman on July 18, 2020 at Saint Mary's in the Holy Spirit Chapel. SMC alumna bridesmaids were **Erin Valencia Hathaway**, **Jessica Lee Reese**, **Mary McMahon Keller '13**, and **Mickey Gruscinski Thomas '09**.

Anne Elizabeth Kasey married Bradyn Bennett on July 11, 2020 in Indianapolis, IN. In attendance were 2011 graduates **Amelia McGannon Dinh**, **Caitlin Rose McGuire**, **Tara Dawn Hill**, and **Ann Manning Oates**.

2012

Kate Kirbie Dubinski
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Katie Maranges DiPiero is starting this fall at the University of Chicago, earning a master of arts in social service administration.

Sarah McNellie Alakel was married to Daniel Alakel on October 19, 2019. Supporting Sarah on her big day were her sister and maid of honor

Katie Beck, **Kelley Murphy Enzweiler**, **Madison Thatcher Visto**, **Maggie Ronan**, **Hilary Ferguson Crist**, **Lauren Harrell Krassow**, **Sadie Lynn Olen**, and **Anne Bolitho Lentz**. "SMICK CHICKS" for life! The couple bought a new house in Murrells Inlet, SC in February 2020. Sarah is a third-grade teacher at Waccamaw Elementary School, a public school in Pawleys Island, SC.

Kayla Elizabeth McColl was engaged to Christopher Belk and will be married January 2, 2021.

Tiffany Brandenstein Ivery earned her license in clinical social work (LCSW) in February 2020. Tiffany and her husband Christopher welcomed the birth of their daughter Mahalia Mae on November 17, 2018.



EXCELSIOR

Lupita Quintana '12 was accepted into the Health Policy Research Scholars program. This is a fellowship program for doctoral students who are committed to using research to advance health equity through policy change and build a culture of health.

In March of 2020, after seven years of living in Chicago, **Amanda Joy Noesen** returned to her hometown of Tampa, FL. Amanda pivoted out of the advertising agency world and now works internal for PWC Labs doing strategy enablement and alignment.

Madeline Inez O'Sullivan graduated from Lipscomb University in Nashville, TN in May 2020 with her master's degree in reading and an English language learner endorsement. She also accepted a job as an English as a new language teacher at an elementary school in Nashville.

In August, **Danielle Nicole Gannon** completed her actuarial exam requirements and earned the designation of fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA). Danielle also received a promotion in July and is now a manager at PWC.

Katie Nash Greenspon began a new marketing operations role with Edwards Lifesciences based in Orange County, CA. Additionally, Katie is working on earning her professional certificate in management from the University of Notre Dame.

Samantha Irene Schroeder began working as a fifth-grade teacher at Old St. Mary's School in Chicago, IL.

In July, **Katie Dapper Dressing** and her husband Michael (ND '11) moved to Boca Raton, FL with their 2-year-old son Dillon.

On June 8, 2019, **Courtney Dahms Kopp** married Matthew Kopp at Our Lady of Loretto Church on Saint Mary's campus. She was joined by the following bridesmaids: **Bridget Gorman Owens '07**, **Elizabeth Anne Mueller**, **Ellie Marie Frawley**, and **Jillian Nicole Meert '13**. Benjamin Gilfillan (ND '04) also stood as a groomsman. Courtney and Matthew welcomed their son Henry Richard Kopp on March 4, 2020.

Christina Girardi Blake married Patrick Blake on October 26, 2019 in Arlington, VA.

Keelin Claire McGee married Neil Ryan on May 25, 2020 in a small ceremony after their original plans were postponed. They married in Peoria, IL in front of Keelin's parents, with the rest of their families on Zoom, including her sisters, **Mackenzie Colleen McGee '03** and **Caitlin McGee Lakdawala '08** with **Nellie Williams Gould '03** photographing the day. They look forward to celebrating their Catholic ceremony next summer in Ireland.

Laura Hranac Flancher was married to Scott Flancher on July 17, 2020 in Denver, CO. The couple lives in Denver, where Laura is a veterinarian and Scott teaches high school math.

Elizabeth Downs O'Connor and her husband Daniel welcomed their daughter Elizabeth Mary "Betty" on November 8, 2019.

On December 9, 2019, **Bridget Meade Edmonds** and her husband Tim, welcomed their son John Timothy Edmonds into their family.

Karen Hanley Whalen and Scott Whalen (ND '11) welcomed the birth of their son James Parker Whalen on February 12, 2020 in Chicago, IL.

Elizabeth Bramanti Feldpausch and her husband Nathan (ND '12) welcomed their fourth child John Paul Roman Feldpausch on March 14, 2020. He joined his siblings: Mary Claire, 4, Nate, 3, and Eleanor, 18 months.

Kelley Murphy Enzweiler and her husband Matthew (ND '13, '16), welcomed the birth of their son Peter James on May 31, 2020 in Chicago, IL.

Megan Flaherty Lynch and her husband Vincent welcomed Thomas "Tommy" Joseph Lynch to their family on June 5, 2020 in Arlington, VA at 6 pounds 11 ounces and with a head full of dark Irish hair. The growing family has since moved to Cleveland, OH.

Danielle Kramer Feldpausch and her husband Marcus Feldpausch welcomed the birth of their first child Iris Mae Feldpausch on June 20, 2020.

Death: Joshua Stone, fiancé of **Stacey Marie Dickson**, February 12, 2020.

2014

Galia Chantal Guerrero
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Hello Belles! It's hard to believe as we write this update that it's now August, that we have been adjusting to the "new normal" for five months! 2020 has certainly been a crazy year but despite the challenges, our classmates are still celebrating life's most precious moments!

We have some future Belles and Domers. **Stephanie Farah Towle** had her son Levi on March 1, 2020. Stephanie shared, "These past five months with him have been interesting to say the least but we feel blessed to get this time at home with him!" **Natalie Stoerger Hall** had her first baby Jacob Warren born on May 10, 2020. **Grace Connolly Powers** welcomed James Cashel Powers "Cash" on June 28, 2020. **Clair Kusbach Springer** had her future Smick Chick and second child Gabriella on July 26, 2020. We are thrilled for you all; congratulations to all of the new parents!

The class of 2014 rang a few wedding Belles this year! On August 1, 2020, **Emma Derheimer Niespodziany** married Jordan Niespodziany, congratulations! Emma also graduated in January 2020 with her MSW from Boston University and became the director of social services at Neuro Psychiatric Hospital of Indianapolis. Such exciting news, Emma! **Aubrey Hodges Tompkins** married Christopher Tompkins on July 25, 2020 in Regina Hall Chapel. Aubrey will also begin the CNEP program this October at Frontier Nursing University to become a certified nurse midwife. We are so excited for you, Emma and Aubrey, and wish you both a lifetime of happiness as you begin your lives with your new husbands!

We are thrilled to celebrate these milestones with you! Please continue to share your news with us. Sending love and prayers to our favorite Belles. Yours in Saint Mary's!

2015

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Greetings Class of 2015,

Well this certainly is not the 2020 we anticipated. I wish we were all able to catch up this summer at our five-year Reunion, but I suppose that will make our six-year Reunion all the better! Despite the circumstances, the Class of 2015 still managed to accomplish some pretty amazing things this year!

Alyssa Lanting Henneman began a new job working as a special education teacher in an autism classroom for the St. Joseph County ISD in Centreville, MI. Way to go, Alyss!

Stephanie Gatchell Jaworski married Joshua Jaworski on May 26, 2019 at Swan Lake Resort in Plymouth, IN. Classmates **Madeline Elizabeth Havrilla** and **Sarah Marie Kastelic** were bridesmaids. Congratulations, Stephanie and

Joshua! Stephanie has also started a new position as a registered nurse at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, IN on the oncology floor. Congrats, Stephanie!

Tabby Latisha Hackbush graduated from Indiana University—Purdue University Indianapolis in May 2020 with a master's degree in social work. Congrats, Tabby!

Catherine Hope Sullivan is currently finishing up the first year of her master of social work program at Ball State University, focusing her research on Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, Neonatal Opiate Withdrawal Syndrome, and stigmatization of perinatal substance use within the medical community. She is working as a social worker at a free Healthy Lifestyle community in northeastern Indiana. She begins her practicum this summer, returning to the Fresh Start Recovery Center to once again work with pregnant and postpartum women with substance use and mental health disorders. She is excited to get back to SMC as soon as possible. Way to go, Catherine!

Becky Jeanne Walker just bought her first home in Northern Virginia. She will begin her fifth year teaching fourth grade at St. Rita School in the fall of 2020. Congratulations, Becky!

Wishing a big congratulations to **Linsey Paige McMullen**, who was recently awarded the Elizabeth Ann Seton Educator of the Year award by the faculty and staff at DePaul Cristo Rey High School in Cincinnati, OH, where she teaches high school biology.

Mackenzie Woods Nester married Andy Nester (ND '10) on June 27, 2020 in a small family ceremony at Notre Dame's Log Chapel, the same location where Andy's great-grandparents were married in 1932. Mackenzie and Andy plan to celebrate with all their wedding guests with a Mass at Holy Spirit Chapel and reception at Notre Dame next summer. Congratulations, Mackenzie and Andy!

Payton Alexi Moore married Joseph Wernke (ND '13) on July 25, 2020 in Cincinnati, OH. **Karlie Marie Wolff** was Payton's maid of honor. **Christa Mellissa Costello**, **Jessica Ilish Filipski**, and **Kaitie Maierhofer Monahan** all joined the celebration virtually. Congrats, Payton and Joseph!

Congrats to the Class of 2015 for such exciting accomplishments! Send me your life updates to: nicoleotoole128@gmail.com.

EXCELSIOR

Matie Ohms '15 has been selected as one of the **Moody on the Market 40 Under 40** recipients for Southwest Michigan. Ohms is a Senior Staff Accountant at Kruggel Lawton in St. Joseph, MI.

2016

Jennifer Anne Vosters
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Our Belles are hard at work making the world a better place!

Nellie Therese Petlick has returned to the United States after working in Ukraine since 2016, first with the Peace Corps and then with the State Department. She is now an MA candidate at Yale University's Jackson Institute for Global Affairs. Welcome back, Nellie!

Kelly Marie Lyden graduated with her JD from Marquette University Law School in May! She has since started a job as a judicial law clerk for the Milwaukee County Circuit Court. Congratulations, Kelly!

Allison Leigh D'Ambrosia has begun a new position at Oxford University in the UK as the student engagement coordinator. Well done, Allison!

Don't forget to submit your updates on graduations, new jobs, new cities, weddings, births, and special accomplishments with smc16news@gmail.com!

2017

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I hope you are all staying safe and healthy; what a year this has been! I am so proud of our classmates who have been able to accomplish great things during these times of uncertainty.

We have had quite a few classmates graduate receive their juris doctorates this year. **Margaret Elizabeth Kelly** graduated from Wayne State Law School. **Emmalyn Margaret McCarthy** graduated from William and Mary Law School; she will be relocating to Washington DC to work for the federal government. **Melissa Marie Snyder** graduated from Michigan State University, cum laude, and will be sitting for the bar exam in Florida. Congratulations to you all!

Kelsey Christine Welzen is proud to announce she recently became a board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA) and has started working for a pediatric therapy company in Chicago's North Shore. They are lucky to have you, Kelsey!

Casey Morgan Kochniarczyk married William Munch (ND '17, '18) in a private ceremony on July 17 due to COVID. They are looking forward to celebrating with their friends and family next year.

2019



EXCELSIOR

Krystal Harris '19 has been named the new alumni relations manager for Saint Viator High School in Arlington Heights.



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Sustainable Farm Unveiled



On October 30, under dramatic northern Indiana clouds, President Katie Conboy officially unveiled a project five years in the making—the Saint Mary's Sustainable Farm. Created on a five-acre plot north of campus, the farm is designed to model a small, working sustainable food system, both ecologically and economically, and will serve as an educational resource for the Saint Mary's and South Bend communities.


Attendees at the inauguration ceremony gathered near the west doors of Le Mans Hall to hear Conboy's welcome, as well as other speakers who talked of the project's genesis and its connection to the mission of the College. The Sisters of the Holy Cross, who joined many generous donors to fund the project, provided a rich and prayerful blessing of the soil. All who gathered embarked on a half-mile walk to the north edge of campus where the field is under development.

Christopher Cobb, associate professor of English and environmental studies, serves as the education director for the project and described the farm as "an example of a sustainable food system that closes the food loop." Food waste comes from the dining hall at Saint Mary's, composts at the farm site, and becomes organic fertilizer for the soil. The food that grows will be sold at a market, and in time possibly supplement food served in the Noble Family Dining Hall.

Cobb introduced Deb Durall, who will farm the land for Saint Mary's. A local sustainable grower, Durall has leased the land and will run the farm as a business.

The decisions about how to grow, what to grow, and how to market it are hers, made in consultation with the College. Together, it is their goal that in years to come, classes at Saint Mary's and groups from the community can come to the farm to learn about sustainable food systems.

Durall showed off the first planting of the farm on newly built *Hügelkultur* beds, a planting method that uses raised beds of varying composting materials. Garlic and a small crop of onions will grow in these beds over the winter and into next summer. Over time, two of the five acres will be fully developed into food-producing land. The remaining three acres serve as a buffer between the sustainable land and the conventional agriculture fields that are connected to it.

To signify this is a farm for all and help nourish the ground in spring, guests were invited to sow winter rye seeds in the fields. As the sun began to set, sisters and students, administrators and faculty all began by planting seeds that would officially mark a turning point in sustainable farming at Saint Mary's. 

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Caitlin Wirtz '21 used indigo dye and *itajime shibori*—a Japanese folding and clamp-resist method of dyeing—to create this beautiful fabric in the Sustainable Textiles course.