

# Saint Mary's College COURIER

Summer/Fall 2019







# UPON REFLECTION

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This summer has been such a joyful time on campus. We celebrated and honored our graduates at Commencement, sending them forth to be critical thinkers and leaders in their endeavors. Their academic experiences at Saint Mary's have truly prepared them for the world and I am very proud of how the members of the Class of 2019 have matured into thoughtful, spiritually-grounded young women.

In early June, we welcomed over 1,000 alumnae back to campus for our largest Reunion Weekend ever. It was a blessing to meet so many incredible women and reconnect with many of my former students. Being present allowed me to see how Saint Mary's alumnae have given of themselves to transform the world, and I am in awe of their accomplishments in their families, communities, and careers.

This issue of *Courier* honors those events along with our continued drive to conduct meaningful research. Chemistry professor Kathryn Haas leads students as they investigate copper and its relationship to Alzheimer's. This work gives our students an incredible experience at the undergraduate level with the hope of impacting the human condition in the fight against one of the most debilitating diseases affecting older individuals today.

We're also adding a new celebration of the arts with the Saint Mary's College National Literary Festival. **Adriana Trigiani '81** will return to campus this November to host the inaugural event. As a best-selling author and screenwriter, she has invited writers from all genres to discuss their published work and give insight and guidance to fans and future writers.

As I close, I want to share my experience this summer in Brazil with the Sisters of the Holy Cross. I was honored to walk alongside them as they served those in less-fortunate situations. As we follow their example, may we all propose to be "life touchers" along our daily paths and see the face of Christ in all people. I encourage us to focus on our core value for the upcoming academic year — COMMUNITY — and ask ourselves daily *what can I contribute to?* and *who can I encourage in our community this year?*

*Nancy P. Nekvasil*

Nancy P. Nekvasil, PhD  
Interim President





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Mary Jane Cullinan Murphy '44  
returned to celebrate her class's  
75th Anniversary during Reunion 2019.

### About Saint Mary's College

Celebrating 175 years of empowering women to make a difference in the world, Saint Mary's College is recognized as a pioneer in the education of women. A Catholic, liberal arts institution in Notre Dame, Indiana, the College offers more than 50 academic programs and also offers co-educational master's degrees in data science, speech language pathology, autism studies, and a Doctor of Nursing Practice.



On the cover:  
Communication Studies Major Katie Desotell is all smiles  
as she heads to the Le Mans green for Commencement.

## ONLINE EXTRAS

Check out extended content  
and stories online at  
[saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier)

- > Commencement award winners, information, and bios
- > Reunion photo gallery
- > Reunion award winners
- > A student's experience  
"Creating the Cultural Archive"





# The Class of 2019 Moves Out into the World

## To commence is to begin.

Which makes it odd that the word “commencement” is associated with the ending of one’s school years, when in reality a thousand journeys are just beginning.

For the Saint Mary’s College Class of 2019, Commencement on May 18 was an auspicious start to an untold array of adventures and opportunities that await. With bright blue skies and a temperature hovering in the mid-eighties, the outdoor ceremony in front of Le Mans Hall brought 343 undergraduate and 36 graduate students together to celebrate their crowning achievement in the 175<sup>th</sup> year of the College’s founding.

As they move out into the world, these graduates will excel in life just as they have in school. They will use their voices to effect change where change is needed — just as they did with this year’s water bottle challenge that raised awareness and action surrounding single-use products. They also created the Mother Pauline Pantry in McCandless Hall, which offers nonperishable food and personal hygiene products for all students at no cost. This class will advocate for the things that matter, the things they care about.

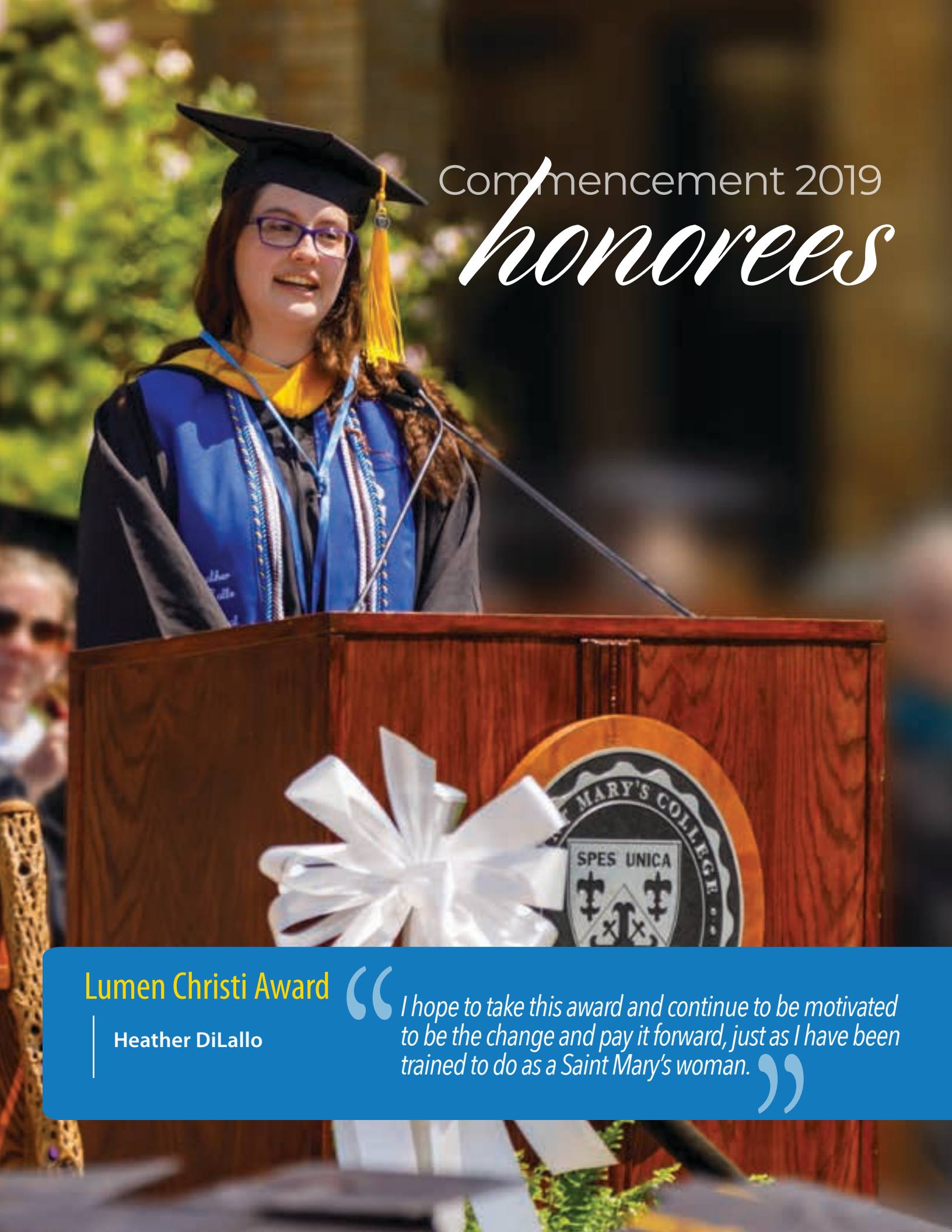
Already, they are armed with an understanding of how to pursue goals and utilize knowledge. As evidenced by the Saint Mary’s Research Symposium, the signature event of the spring semester, they have demonstrated their ability to apply their learning to real-life scenarios.

Whether they are going on to pursue advanced degrees, a career in business, science, the arts, or any other endeavor in the US or abroad — the Class of 2019 will artfully balance their careers with their passions, and their education with their hearts.

May they always remember the words of Saint Mary’s own alumna **Kelly Grier ’91**, who gave the Commencement address. As one who walked the same path, she told the students, “You now have everything you need to succeed. The gifts you have received from Saint Mary’s have made you rich beyond any financial measure and they are gifts that will last a lifetime. Take them with you. Hold them steady.”

May many new journeys of wonder and joy now commence.





# Commencement 2019 honorees

## Lumen Christi Award

Heather DiLallo

“I hope to take this award and continue to be motivated to be the change and pay it forward, just as I have been trained to do as a Saint Mary's woman.”



## President's Medal



**Sister Kathleen Reilly '65, CSC**  
Member, Board of Trustees

*"I told Dr. Nekvasil that I am accepting this award on behalf of all the Sisters of the Holy Cross who have ever served Saint Mary's in its 175-year history. My message to you is to go out and change the world because you have a Saint Mary's education and I know you will put it to good use. Thank you for all the wonderful times that I've had in 30-some years. Go Belles!"*

## Honorary Degree Recipients



**Kelly Grier '91**  
Commencement Speaker  
EY US Chairman and Managing Partner  
and EY Americas Managing Partner

*"You don't get to choose whether or not you're a role model. As a Saint Mary's graduate, you already are a role model. The only thing you get to choose is what kind of role model you will be."*



**Sister Maureen Grady, CSC**  
Senior Lecturer, Saint Mary's  
Department of Nursing Science

*"To my companions in learning — you, who in your years at this magnificent institution have been embraced in the ways of the spirit and yet are aware of the ways of the world, I offer a very wise Arabic proverb: 'Trust in God, but tie up your camel!'"*

## Valedictorians



**Natalie Dock**

communicative sciences and disorders major with minors in psychology and business

*"Saint Mary's has taught me that gratitude is not only to be offered to the people who helped you along the way, but that it is also to be directed to those moments which define some part of who you are to become . . . to see gratitude even in moments that challenge us and to see opportunity for growth and strength when we feel least capable of doing so."*



**Monica McGrath**

statistical and actuarial math major with a minor in computer science

*"St. Francis of Assisi said, 'A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.' This is exactly what I have found here. I encountered God's love through this community filled with people who do not hesitate to share a smile or a kind word. These small acts of kindness have been a beacon of light during times of personal or academic challenges."*



**Elizabeth Preister**

communicative sciences and disorders major

*"We now have the courage to wade into adaptive challenges and to be leaders, to inspire people with the vision of what is possible. In doing so, we will discover that new ideas and possibilities take hold in our imagination. We will discover that we have the chance to make a difference."*

## Award Recipients

**Saint Catherine Medal**  
Anne Maguire '20

**Outstanding Senior**  
Meredith Mackowicz '19

**Maria Pieta Award**  
Jim Rogers  
lecturer of business  
and economics

**Spes Unica Award**  
Phyllis Kaminski  
professor of  
religious studies

See more information and bios online  
at [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier).



# 2019 Legacies

Our legacy graduates celebrate along with their family members: mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and other women who all attended Saint Mary's.  
(Mothers are listed in italics; deceased alumnae denoted with an asterisk.)

**Madeline Margaret Alexander**, *Michelle Pauwels Alexander* '87

**Meghan Marie Allen**, *Kathryn Killian Allen* '93, Margaret Mary Killian '91, Elizabeth Ann Killian '97, Mari Morrissey Bower '46\*

**Sarah Elizabeth Allen**, *Kathryn Killian Allen* '93, Margaret Mary Killian '91, Elizabeth Ann Killian '97, Mari Morrissey Bower '46\*

**Darby Marie Auckland**, Kasey LeeAnne Auckland '18

**Anna R. Baran**, Lauren Elizabeth Kornacker '13

**Caroline Nicole Blue**, Connie Blue Casale '73

**Abigail Nichole Bridegroom**, Kylie Marie Bridegroom '18

**Grace Isabelle Burchett**, MaryClaire Burchett '17, Noelle Marie Burchette '15

**Deirdre Rose Cawley**, Nora Cawley Tudor '13

**Annemarie T. Clare**, *Linda Pellicane Clare* '90, Jennifer Pellicane Toone '96

**Catherine Angela Clare**, Colleen Regina Clare '16, Bridget Elizabeth Clare '17

**Audrey Starr Louise Cross**, Angela M. Welling '65

**Katie Marie Desotell**, *Kimberly McNamara Desotell* '86, Bridget McNamara Semmer '90, Michelle McNamara '86

**Molly Ruth Diener**, Michelle Diener Filicicchia '81

**Emily Therese Dilworth**, *Linda Potts Dilworth* '84, Laura Potts Sorensen '82

**Hannah Elizabeth Draddy**, Christie Marie Draddy '12

**Adele Christian Edmonds**, Patricia Sehn Ruffin '81

**Diana Nagi Elia**, Sibelle Nagi Elia '17

**Hannah Grace Falter**, *Sandra Bradley Falter* '84

**Kristin Therese Favazzo**, *Caroline Molnar Favazzo* '93, Susan Molnar Russell '82, Christin Molnar Campbell '07, Lauren Knisley Twardowski '07

**Mary Shannon FitzGibbons**, Ann FitzGibbons '75, Margaret FitzGibbons Higgins '73

**Brianna Foley**, Christine Marie Yeager '07

**MaryKate Carol Foley**, Bridget Foley Queally '85, Julie Hanahan Foley '85, Mary Ellen Podesta Burke '61, Kathleen Podesta Mehigan '64, Carol Podesta Foley '59

**Samantha Rose Gleasen**, *Judith Trippe Gleasen* '84, Rosemary Knope Trippe '57, Patricia Trippe Brand '80

**Siobhan Margaret Gilligan**, Kara Krask Micus '05

**Cara Ozetta Givens**, Denise H. Givens '83\*

**Meghan Emily Gray**, Sandra Strezo Gray '61

**Haley Marie Green**, *Lisa Watts Green* '88

**Claire Ann Guffy**, Caitlin Jane Guffy '12

**Mackenzie Cassidy Hamman**, Casie Hamman Buccì '10

**Brianna Marie Hart**, Corissa Tallen Hart '11, Morgan Rebecca Light '10

**Jane Elizabeth Henry**, *Barbara Butler Henry* '85, Paula Walsh Henry '62, Lisa Henry Sarosi '90, Teresa Cozzi Butler '88

**Marta Teresa Herman**, Susan Elizabeth Herman '12

**Anna Marie Irons**, *Alba Agostino Irons* '81, Stefania Raschilla '99, Kathi Katona Agostino '95

**Sophia Lynn Johnson**, McKenzie Marie Johnson '17

**Allie L. Johnston**, Hayley Lemus Tillman '14

**Caroline Duffy Kennedy**, *Bridget Gott Kennedy* '91, Mary Kay Duffy Gott '66, Christine Gott Dickemper '68, Patricia Hamel Duffy '75, Ann Lipsett Kennedy '88

**Anna Claire Kerper**, *Tracie Williams Kerper* '87, Elizabeth Kerper Heinzman '89, Samantha Anne Kerper '17

**Ellen Rose Kilian**, Olivia Jean Kilian '15

**Catherine Jones Kirkpatrick**, Kelly Lynn Nix '16

**Shelby Morgan Knop**, *Karen Marie Finkenbinder Knop* '81, Brittany Skina Szuba '12

**Elizabeth Sydney Kochniarczyk**, Casey Morgan Kochniarczyk '17

**Madelyn Jean Leahy Kostielney**, Susan Marie Kostielney '92

**Rachel K. Leonard**, *Kathleen Spellacy Leonard* '88

**Elizabeth M. Lockwood**, Teri Lavallee Judeson '80

**Jordan R. Lolmaugh**, Clarissa Leone Orosz '05

**Sarah Marie Loughran**, *Mary Frances DeCelles Loughran* '85, Kimberley J. Tychsen DeCelles '86, Mariel Regina Rose '12, Sheila Weisensee Loughran '89, Ann Loughran Pingel '85

**Caroline M. Macius**, Sarah Eileen Macius '16

**Audrey Linn Macsuga**, Jennifer Jermano Miller '93

**Margret Irene Malarney**, Mary L. Wills Malarney '36\*, Maureen Agnes Malarney '16

**Erin Kathleen Maloney**, Taylor Frances Schuler '16

**Macie Elizabeth Martin**, *Carrie Rogalski Martin* '94, Cristin Joel Welch '16, Elizabeth Mazzone Welch '59

**Lauren Catherine Mathile**, Jennifer Mathile Prikkel '95

**Elizabeth Carolyn McCarthy**, *Elizabeth Patkom McCarthy* '88

**Kerry Rose McDonald**, Ellen Margaret McDonald '00, Lindsay Elizabeth McDonald '13

**Christina Marie Theresa McGuire**, Camille Gebert Hoover '10

**Anne Elizabeth McHugh**, *Mary Beth Curtis McHugh* '85, Kathleen Curtis Reed '83

**Maeve Colleen McMahon**, *Colleen Cary McMahon* '89, Margaret Phelan Green '57, Cameron Elizabeth Phelan '02, Keilleen Phelan Smith '91, Margaret McMahon Fochler '89, Colleen McMahon Baer '82

**Madeline Ann McTernan**, Pauline Capelli McTernan '61

**Patricia Nicole Meza**, Julie Isabel Meza '17

**Adrian Marie Milos**, Nicole Danielle Milos '98

**Madeline Kenney Morrison**, Caitlin Margaret Morrison '09

**Meghan Elizabeth Motolenich**, *Kathleen McMahon Motolenich* '95

**Victoria Paige Murphy**, Meredith Brooke Murphy '15

**Nora Elizabeth Napleton**, *Clare McEnery Napleton* '87, Sistie Doherty McEnery '58, Mimi Doherty '56\*, Mary McEnery Harding '84

**Maura Elizabeth Newell**, *Susan Smith Newell* '87, Kathleen A. Kennedy '87, Meghan Elizabeth Walters '11

**Francesca A. Niewiadomski**, Katherine Alexis Freed '18

**Molly R. O'Neill**, Megan Marie O'Neill '10

**Annabelle Grace Paulson**, *Kimberly Christensen Paulson* '90, Maria Francesca Muscarello-Sotelo '06, Therese Christensen Danner '83

**Emily Louise Peppers**, *Lisa K. Peppers* '87

**Mary Olivia Philbin**, Molly Elizabeth Philbin '12

**Rachel Marie Pritchett**, Terese Waltner Brandenburg '81, Katherine Waltner Harig '77

**Anna Gabrielle Reyes**, Kendall Riedlinger Ymalay '03

**Moira Byrne Ryan**, *Helen Brett Ryan* '86, Suzanne Brett Enright '83

**Abigail Eileen Scanlon**, *Julie Herbstritt Scanlon* '86, Emily Anne Scanlon '15, Barbara Herbstritt Ward '62, Catherine Herbstritt McMahon '61

**Riley M. Schlais**, *Bridget Heraty-Schlais* '89

**Emmalee Meganne Schulte**, Rachel Lynn Shulte '16

**Anna Claire Shadid**, *Martha Smith Shadid* '82, Theresa Martin Shadid '89

**Kaylee D. Swartz**, Samantha Totten Miller '00

**Megan Elizabeth Temple**, *Paula Kivinen Temple* '97, Michelle Marie Strabley '92

**Moira Rose Trausch**, Colleen Trausch Quinn '11, Lisa Trzuskowski Hower '80

**Alicia Michelle Twisslemann**, Gretchen Ann Flicker '93

**Bridget Rose Usher**, Kathleen Randolph Woods '91, Shanna Randolph Widera '92

**Emma Elizabeth Vielee**, Eleanor Gartland Organ '36\*, Mary Gartland Tegarden '35\*, Riley Nicole Althouse '17

**Molly Elizabeth Voge**, *Kerry Joyce Scanlon Voge* '92

**Sarah Rose Wehby**, Katherine Wehby Rand '99

**Alyssa Joyce Wonski**, Caitlyn Wonski Monks '12

**Sydney Jade Woodman**, Remi White Brackett '12





# Growing Our Global Community

Community. *It's a simple word that captures the essence of people coming together to serve a common purpose. Whether that be for the College, a social endeavor, or humanity, the essential ingredients remain the same. First, it takes understanding — opening our eyes and ears to the needs and perspectives of others. And it requires a willingness to embrace and celebrate diversity in the pursuit of unity.*

*This year, Saint Mary's focuses on our core value of Community and it's with this vision we decided to take a look at how the College and three individuals are playing a part in our largest community — that of the world.*

The world desperately needs leaders and champions. It needs people who can make connections, nurture relationships, collaborate on solutions, and keep up communications even when a span of latitudes or longitudes lie between.

Saint Mary's supports this belief, through not only our comprehensive study abroad program, but other avenues as well — avenues like Fulbright, the international educational exchange program launched in 1946 and sponsored by the US government. The Fulbright program is complementary to Saint Mary's goals for engaging with others across the globe and working toward creating a better world. College students and faculty have been participating in Fulbright for more than five decades.

For students who achieve Fulbright scholarships, the opportunity to select a country to work within broadens awareness that one person truly can effect change.

For faculty, the relationships they create allow them to build a network of colleagues and mentors in the host country, and to potentially continue their collaborative research thanks to today's technology.



# What is my place in this world? What can I do to make a difference?

Receiving a Fulbright Specialist grant, Jamie Wagman, associate professor of history and gender and women's studies, spent three weeks in the African country of Morocco in March. There, she served in an advisory capacity at Rabat International University (RIU), which was founded only nine years ago. Wagman lent her expertise in developing a gender and women's studies master's program at the university. She also advised on curriculum and gave lectures on reproductive justice, transgender rights, visibility, public health history, abortion history and law, and second wave feminism.

Just as importantly, Wagman established networking opportunities that will support research and engage students at both RIU and Saint Mary's on topics such as transnational feminism and Islamic feminism.

Laura Elder understands the power of the Fulbright program. As assistant professor of global studies and Fulbright program advisor at Saint Mary's, she calls Fulbright "a key that opens many doors."

"Literal and figurative doors are opened through Fulbright not only for Saint Mary's students and faculty, but also for the people they meet, work, and live with," Elder said. "When we are exposed to new cultures and ways of living, we are challenged to reflect on our own understandings and to think innovatively."

Fulbrighters address critical global challenges in all disciplines, while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 59 who have been awarded a Nobel Prize, 84 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 who have served as a head of state or government.

Like Saint Mary's, Fulbright strives to make a significant and lasting impact, both in the foreign country and back home, as participants share stories of their experiences and even engage in follow-up projects or a continuation of the work they started abroad. It creates a multiplier effect, a ripple that can reverberate long and far.

One such ripple will take place over the course of two years as Toni Barstis, professor of chemistry, employs her Fulbright US Scholar Program Award to conduct chemistry research in Nepal and Ghana. In Ghana, she will be working with Sisters of the Holy Cross who operate and minister at a health clinic there. Her research project met with approval from Congregation President Sister Veronique Wiedower '70, CSC, who discussed with Barstis her idea for collaborating with the sisters' missions abroad.

Over the next two years, Barstis will spend three to six months in Ghana sampling and analyzing the pharmaceuticals in the

sisters' clinic to help them detect potentially dangerous fake medicines. Her work will help keep patients safe, leading to healthier communities and productive individuals, now and into the future.


Applying for a Fulbright scholarship or grant is a lengthy process, and it is followed by an extensive waiting period as delegates from both the US and the chosen country review applications.

As program advisor Elder guides students and faculty through the application process, she is aware of the similarity between the questions Saint Mary's asks of students and those posed by Fulbright. Saint Mary's encourages students to consider things like, *What is my place in this world? What can I do to make a difference?* With Fulbright, applicants ponder and articulate such questions as, *What is your goal? How does that serve the country you want to visit? What can you offer the country?*

**Eleanor Jones '16** answered those questions and, as a result, received a Fulbright US Student Program scholarship a year after her graduation. Jones had already spent a year in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa through our foreign study program but felt she still had much to learn about the world, so she applied for the Fulbright scholarship.

The chance to go abroad and learn about new cultures was important to her, and so she chose Mongolia — a place she might not otherwise visit.

In Mongolia, Jones not only taught intermediate English classes to students at the Mongolian State University of Life Sciences in Ulaanbaatar, she participated in several university events in her role as a US cultural ambassador. Jones carries this broader understanding in her current work with VIA Programs in East Java Province, Indonesia. There, she aids in the selection process and edits language content for manuscripts accepted by the Journal of Southeast Asian Human Rights and manages correspondence between researchers and the journal.

Realizing the transformative power of cultural exchange, these individuals — Jamie Wagman, Toni Barstis, and Eleanor Jones — seek mutual understanding, collaboration, and betterment beyond their backyards and hometowns. They are global citizens, creating community through their work, research, and travels. As a result, their impact is amplified, touching the lives of future generations near and far. 

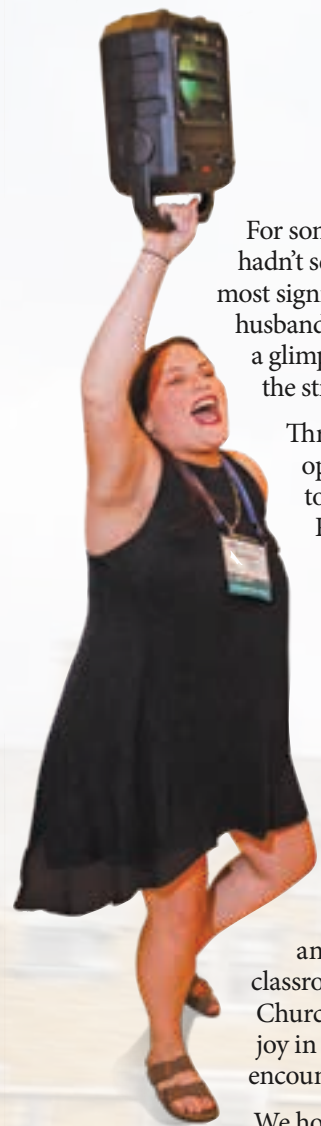


# "I Still Belong Here"

Nearly 1,000 alumnae from the classes of "fours" and "nines" returned to Saint Mary's in June for Reunion 2019. Whether they were five years post-graduation, or as in one case, 75 years, each alumna arrived on campus ready to reconnect and renew friendships.







For some it was a curiosity to reconnect with classmates they hadn't seen in years. Others wanted to revisit the site of one of the most significant times in their lives. And for many who brought husbands and children it was to give them (especially daughters!) a glimpse into the place and the people who helped form them as the strong women they are today.

Throughout the weekend, attendees were offered the opportunity to experience an array of activities — from tours of sites both old and new, to visiting with Interim President Nancy Nekvasil (who some fondly remember as “Dr. N”) ... from attending talks and panel discussions, to joining Professor Patti Sayre in the calming and inspiring “Philosophy of Walking” sessions across campus. Of course, there was still plenty of time for old friends to relish in spur-of-the-moment activities — a jaunt across the street to Notre Dame, a stop at a favorite local hangout, or a leisurely stroll along The Avenue.

Beyond the reconnections and reliving of precious memories, however, there is something about Reunion that is difficult to put into words. It's a sense of something intangible that is fulfilling, regenerative, and just happy. It comes in those moments when an alumna retraces her footsteps from dorm room to classroom. It comes in the peace of attending Mass at the Church of Loretto or in Holy Spirit Chapel. It comes in the joy in seeing revered professors and staff. And it comes in encounters never expected.

We hope you enjoy a few of these cherished moments from Reunion 2019. And to the classes of “zeros” and “fives,” we hope to see you next summer as you return to the place where you will always belong.



## Reunion Recap



### Most Popular Sessions

**Philosophy of Walking** — led by Patti Sayre, professor in the Department of Philosophy

**A Stroll Down the Avenue of Memories** — led by Sister Catherine Osimo '68, CSC

**Stress: 10-Minute Training Techniques** — led by Peggy Dorsher Kasimatis '79

**Rewire Your Anxious Brain** — led by Catherine Pittman, associate professor in the Departments of Psychological Sciences and Communicative Sciences and Disorders

### Thank You for Your Gifts!

**Class of 1974** — Highest Class Gift to the Saint Mary's Fund

**Class of 1969** — Highest Class Gift to the College

**Class of 2014** — Class Participation Award and Young Alumnae Participation Award

**Class of 1964** — Mother Pauline Society Award



# Sharing their experience

Dozens of Reunion attendees took the time to share photos and sentiments. Be sure to go online to see them all at [saintmarys.edu/Courier](http://saintmarys.edu/Courier)



Marilyn (fourth from right) and friends from the Class of 1969 celebrate togetherness at the Inn.

## Different and yet the same

"I took my education, my character building, and my friendships all for granted when I was at Saint Mary's. Now I look back and realize that I developed differently than my female peers in the 1960s. I experienced female role models in the staff, disciplined curriculum, and acceptance among friends ... Reunion makes me realize I am no different than the other women who attended Saint Mary's — it was that foundation that we shared!"

— Marilyn Murphy Messick '69

## Togetherness

"We have always stayed in touch and see each other through the years but this is the first time the four of us have been together since October 2003!" — Janet Sabo '84



Friends from the Class of '84: Janet Shafer Sabo, Kathy McGrath Clarke, Esther Fallon Breeding, Amy Marie VanDevere

## A special connection

"Like many others I share my alma mater with my mom, Julia Griffin Murphy '74. I find it even more special that we are on the same Reunion cycle. Now that we have wrapped up our second Reunion Weekend together I have grown so fond of this tradition ... There is a magic at SMC this weekend and it's really something I am so fortunate to share with my mom." — Caitlin A. Murphy '09



Daughter-mother Reunion duo — Caitlin Murphy '09 and Julie Griffin Murphy '74.



Another mother-daughter Reunion duo — JoAnn Calandra Haemmerle '84 and Katie Haemmerle '14



## A view from the tower

Class of '74 roommates Sharon Brown Sobolewski and Laurie Bracken Flanagan enjoy the spectacular views from the Le Mans Bell Tower during their tour Reunion Weekend.

See the inside back cover of *Courier* to read Flanagan's poem, *Climbing Le Mans*.

# Reunion Honorees

Each year the Alumnae Association carefully selects honorees from nominated alumnae and recognizes these outstanding women during Reunion Banquet.

## The Distinguished Alumna Award



**Barbara Wolfston Urrutia '74** has had a long and industrious career in health care, working at Beckman Coulter for 15 years and Quest Diagnostics for 28 in San Francisco, California. Currently, she is the account manager for one of Quest's largest health system clients. Outside of her successful career, Urrutia has remained dedicated in her service to Saint Mary's College by serving as a member of the Madeleva Society Steering Committee and on the Alumnae Association's Board of Directors. She has served on the Sesquicentennial Gift Campaign and on her Reunion Gift Campaigns. She has worked as a volunteer for the College's admissions office and has been an active member of the San Francisco Bay Area Alumnae Club. Not only does Urrutia annually open her home for Bay Area club events, but she also has served as an officer, including club president. In addition to her support of the College, Urrutia actively supports her community in the Bay Area and in her hometown of Pittsburgh.

## The Alumna Achievement Award



**Joan Frances Lewis '62** has spent her career as an educator — first with students learning French in the classroom and now for individuals around the world who read her books and articles, see her on television, and hear her on the radio as she shares her knowledge of the Catholic Church, the Popes, and the Vatican. Throughout her career, she has worked as a correspondent for the *New York Times* in Rome and Cairo and as a freelance writer for such publications as the *National Catholic Register*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Miami Herald*, and *San Francisco Examiner*. Lewis was in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981, when Pope John Paul II was shot and was the first journalist to report that two American women had suffered wounds from stray bullets that day. When not writing and reporting, Lewis spends her time volunteering in her community. She helps with fundraisers for the Pontifical North American College, serves as a lector and member of the parish council at St. Patrick's American Community in Rome, and was a member of the Board of Regents of Marymount International School in Rome.

## Outstanding Young Alumna Award



**Alicen Miller Teitgen '09** fell in love with chemistry in high school and has studied and taught the subject ever since. She received her bachelor of science degree from Saint Mary's College, her master of science degree from Ball State University, and her PhD at Purdue University. This fall Teitgen begins a new adventure as an instructor of organic chemistry at Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Her professional accomplishments are not limited to the classroom. Teitgen has co-authored two research publications and made significant, scientific breakthroughs. In addition to teaching college students, she teaches toddlers and retirees on her own YouTube channel. Beyond her passion for chemistry, she enjoys spending time with her family, running marathons, and volunteering. Through her leadership and service, Teitgen exemplifies the standards, ideals, and mission of Saint Mary's College.

## The Humanitas Award

**Anne Day Falvey '84** has spent her life caring in a special way for her fellow human beings. In Falvey's case, those humans are small ones — babies and children struggling in the foster care system in her communities. As a teacher, Falvey watched her students come to school showing signs of neglect and she wanted to help. So, she and her husband took action and became foster parents. No matter the circumstance or background, Falvey welcomed children into her home, knowing that, because of their histories, there would be challenges for the family. Married for 33 years, the two have so far reared four biological children, five adopted children, and 18 foster children. Falvey lives a life of personal dedication, compassion, selflessness, and sacrifice by caring for her own children and those she has fostered and adopted.





# Piecing Together the Puzzle of Alzheimer's

By Kathe Brunton

One of the top 10 causes of death in America, Alzheimer's disease is the only one that cannot be prevented, cured, or slowed. It is a major unsolved puzzle in medical research.

But work being done on copper and lead at Saint Mary's College may contribute to the understanding of how Alzheimer's develops, and every little bit of data adds to the growing store of knowledge that many hope may eventually lead to a cure.



*“There’s so much we don’t know about Alzheimer’s and very little that we do.”* — Kathryn Haas, assistant professor of chemistry



Kathryn Haas, assistant professor of chemistry, emphasized that her research is only a tiny corner of one piece of the huge puzzle that is Alzheimer’s. “I’m trying to understand how proteins interact with copper and lead on a molecular level,” she said. “Each metal has a different implication for Alzheimer’s.”

Copper is a naturally occurring metal in the body and essential for life. We obtain it daily through our diets. The brain has one of the highest concentrations of copper in the body, and studies show that people with Alzheimer’s have an elevated level of copper in certain parts of the brain. One of the questions driving the research is, are high copper levels a symptom or a cause?

“There’s so much we don’t know about Alzheimer’s and very little that we do,” said Haas. “Research to this point indicates that Alzheimer’s may be caused by amyloid beta plaques and neurofibrillary tangles. The plaques are made up of tiny pieces of amyloid precursor protein. These pieces normally get cleared away while we sleep. We don’t know the purpose; we just know that it happens. But in Alzheimer’s patients, the amyloid beta builds up over time and forms plaque that collects in the spaces between brain cells. It’s like bits of gunk that clog things up.”

In the lab, when amyloid beta pieces are in a test tube, they eventually form plaque. But when copper is added to the mix, plaques are created immediately. “So, the hypothesis is that a relationship exists between copper and the formation of the plaques,” Haas said. “If we can understand how this relationship works, we may be able to shed light on a small part of the Alzheimer’s mystery.”

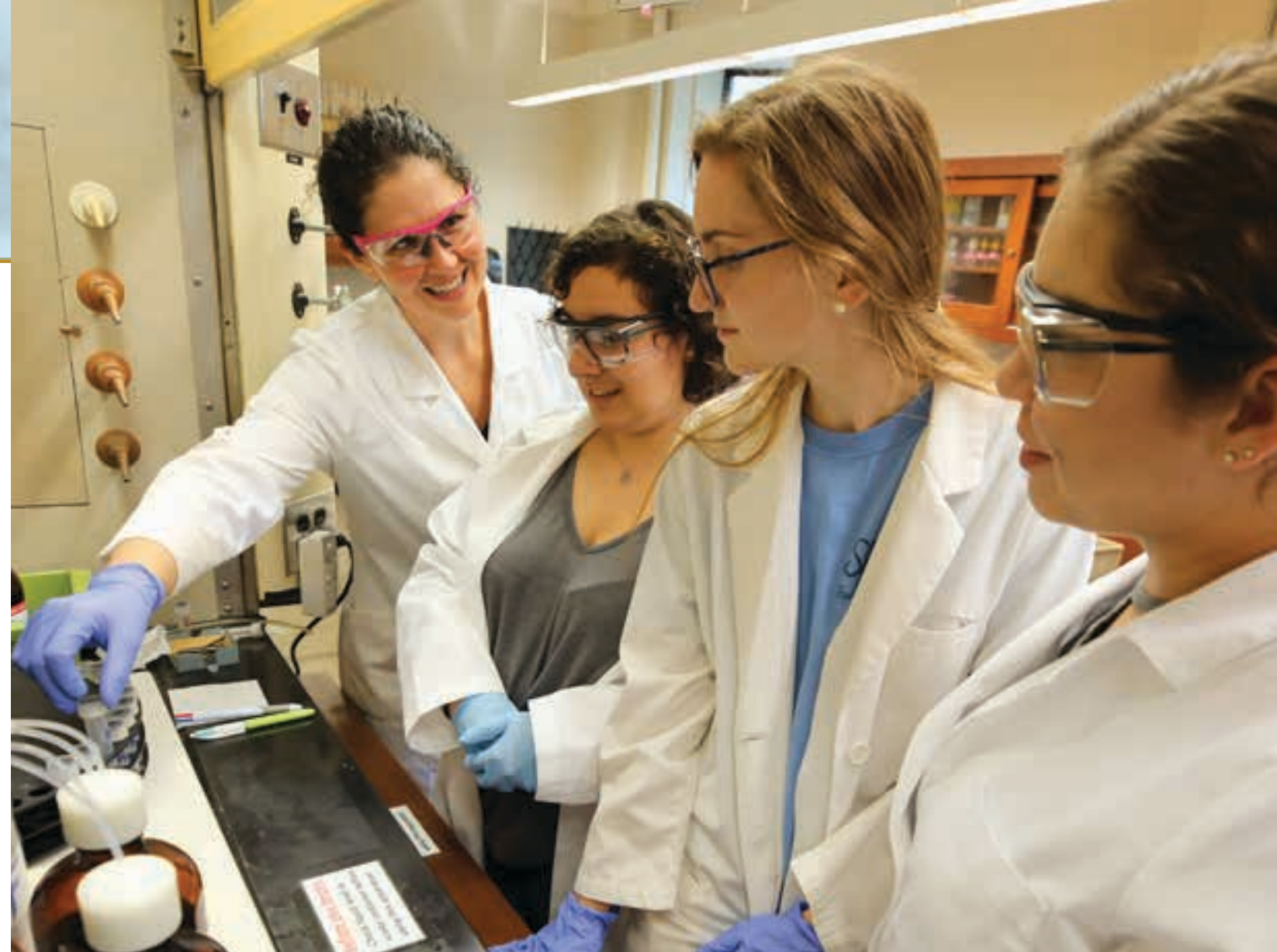
Haas’s research on copper also carries implications for other diseases. Cancer patients, for example, demonstrate higher levels of copper in the blood. A former student in Haas’s research group, **Madison Sendzik ’17**, was the first to discover an important interaction between copper and the most abundant protein in the blood, albumin. This incredible discovery by a Saint Mary’s student-researcher gives other scientists insight into the effects of copper in the bloodstream.

### A Question of Lead

Another question their research addresses is related to lead. It’s common knowledge that even a small amount of lead is toxic, but what is the connection with Alzheimer’s? Haas’s secondary area of research is based on the hypothesis that exposure to low levels of lead over a long period of time in childhood can lead to Alzheimer’s decades later in life.

A study from the 1980s on three groups of monkeys informs some of the research Haas and her students are conducting. One group was not exposed to lead, the second group was exposed in adulthood, and the third group was exposed only in childhood. An unexpected revelation came about 20 years later when the third group began exhibiting signs of dementia. These monkeys were found to have amyloid beta plaques in their brains while the others did not.

When adults are exposed to lead, the effects are treatable and reversible. Not so with children. The difference lies in a person’s developmental stage when the genes in our cells are particularly sensitive to the environment. During fetal and childhood development, an enzyme changes which genes are turned “on” and “off” in our cells, in this way telling them what function they are to perform.



With Professor Haas (far left) are students Maria Escobedo '19, Erica Slogar '19, and Anna Martinez '21.


Haas’s hypothesis is that when lead is introduced into the body at a young age, it interferes with the on-off switching, which leads to an excess of amyloid precursor protein. Again, the protein is broken down into pieces of amyloid beta that group together to form the plaques that are a hallmark of Alzheimer’s.

“Exposure to lead, especially during development when this on-off switching happens frequently, combined with time, might explain the occurrence of Alzheimer’s later in life,” said Haas.

### The Student Impact

**Erin Reinhart ’15**, who worked with Haas as a student-researcher, discovered that lead sticks to the enzyme that turns genes “on” or “off.” It sticks in a way that might interfere with the normal processes and in a way that probably causes it to leave genes “on” too often, genes like the one for amyloid. This research was funded by a Maryjeanne R. Burke and Daughters Pretecture Faculty/Student Sistar Grant award at Saint Mary’s. After she graduated, Reinhart received a graduate research fellowship from the National Science Foundation and is now at Dartmouth pursuing a fully funded PhD in chemistry.

Another student, **Jennie Connell ’16**, followed up on Reinhart’s work with research funded by a Marjorie Neuhoﬀ Summer Science Communities grant at Saint Mary’s, the same type of grant that funded Sendzik’s research. Connell developed a method for detecting whether the enzyme is working. “Now we just need the funding and time to take the next step,” Haas said. “We need to find out if the enzyme still works when lead is stuck to it. That will tell us if lead might explain some cases of Alzheimer’s disease.”

In this research on copper and lead, undergraduates are in collaboration with researchers at other colleges and universities around the country. As she leads, encourages, and supports her students through the scientific discovery process, Haas is hopeful that their findings may help other scientists in the continued quest to illuminate the causes and processes of not only Alzheimer’s but other disease states as well. 



ALUMNAE DEATHS

**1939**  
Marguerite Cleary Remien March 7, 2019

**1940**  
Patricia McCarthy Boettcher February 28, 2019  
Eleanor Reitz Borzilleri March 12, 2016

**1941**  
Laverne Hoerner Clinch January 30, 2017  
Mary Gluntz Gallagher June 7, 2018  
Dorothy Pavegio Lovaas February 3, 2017  
Dorcas Brummel Miller May 13, 2019  
Elizabeth Mazanec Reagan November 10, 2018

**1942**  
Miriam Marshall Hemphill February 25, 2019  
Mary Mayle Hickey August 9, 2018

**1943**  
Dorothy Hall Vanderbloemen December 27, 2018

**1944**  
Geraldine Roche Fahey March 12, 2019  
Adele Kronk Sommerville February 16, 2017  
Marianne Iddings Templeton June 27, 2017  
Kathryn Stowell Zaustinsky January 2, 2019

**1945**  
Joan Loughery Courtney October 31, 2018  
Mary L. Dunn Drinan September 30, 2017  
Laurette Marcotte Naylor March 29, 2018  
Janet Knecht Rudolph August 8, 2018  
Helen Joan Stultz Saxton June 11, 2017

**1946**  
Marian Hannan Middendorf August 14, 2018  
Mary Jane Spencer Miller July 24, 2017  
Catherine Garofalo Misir February 28, 2017  
Louise Ann Fries Redmon Summers November 26, 2017

**1947**  
Nancy Carroll Conley January 17, 2017  
Mercia Doss Gorman August 8, 2018  
Susanne Tiedebohl March 5, 2019  
Mildred Mackie Wolf March 24, 2017

**1948**  
Patricia Gavin Barba March 21, 2019  
Margaret Kerrigan Brooks April 10, 2019  
Janet Falvey Childs October 8, 2018  
Frances Anne McGinnis Hayes January 8, 2019  
Rita Domas McCabe August 21, 2018  
Sue Ficks Murphy May 24, 2019  
Barbara Makielski Nania February 20, 2018  
Ann Kimber Walsh January 23, 2019

**1949**  
Lorna Claire McDonald Ameal June 8, 2018  
Marilyn Hennebry Hessert February 27, 2019

**1950**  
Joan Kennedy Baulos May 28, 2018  
Rosalie Noonan Curran July 13, 2018  
Catherine Ann Moran Goodin April 27, 2017  
Mary Alice Connolly Hansen May 31, 2018  
Margaret N. Oltz Penwell August 1, 2018

**1951**  
Mary Louise Devry Bledsoe May 15, 2017  
Flora Friday DeCrane March 29, 2019  
Joanne Hutchison Ellis October 20, 2018  
M. Frances Ann Aldridge Fantin July 26, 2017  
Janet Sullivan Willock January 14, 2019

**1952**  
Natli Yerex Molloy June 13, 2018  
Sister Mary Margaret Prenger, OSU April 9, 2019  
Joan Hanlon Roming May 2, 2019  
Beverly Miller Skoniecke March 23, 2019  
Alice Luft Wheatley March 9, 2019

**1953**  
Anita Marie Kampmann Lorson September 16, 2018  
Joan Randag Maloney March 4, 2019

**1954**  
Lois Langford Berry March 25, 2019  
Barbara Ann Kennedy Blanchard January 5, 2019  
Alice Artim McMahon April 3, 2019  
Mary Leim O'Beirne April 10, 2019

**1955**  
Mary Jo Bujarski Alexander February 15, 2019  
Mary Annis Eklund November 12, 2017

**1958**  
Jean O'Leary Gorman May 5, 2019  
Sister M. Perpetua Meyer, CSC April 19, 2018

**1959**  
Mary O'Meara Koziej March 26, 2019  
Barbara Kauzlaric Rucker March 6, 2019

**1961**  
Carol Fazio Harvey November 1, 2018  
Susan Sercl Longan February 9, 2019

**1962**  
Claudia Touhey Bruno March 31, 2019  
Sister M. Joseph Sullivan, CSC April 21, 2019

**1963**  
Joellen Reedy Belts January 2, 2019

**1964**  
Sister Michelle Harmon, SFCC January 22, 2019

**1967**  
Mary Carol Madden McCracken March 24, 2019  
Colleen Moran Tobino December 10, 2018

**1968**  
Emilie Brock Huffman March 7, 2019

**1969**  
Sharon Sweeney Bourke April 7, 2019  
Jacquelyn Willette McKenna November 6, 2018

**1972**  
Lorraine Nichols Taylor June 2, 2017

**1973**  
Melanie Walsh Flannery April 28, 2019

**1974**  
Cynthia Nilles Fellman December 7, 2018

**1977**  
Helen McCauley Cartlidge March 26, 2019  
Kathy Schoneberg Swingle November 9, 2018

**1984**  
Linda Weeks Cynenas June 1, 2019

**1986**  
Kathleen S. Kelly February 12, 2019

**1990**  
Bridget McNamara Semmer May 21, 2019

FAMILY DEATHS

Richard Blanchard, husband of Joan Donovan  
Blanchard '69, December 19, 2018.

Justin Bolger, father of Janet Bolger Smith '85 and  
Gail Bolger Castillo '87, March 27, 2019.

Harold Borgmann, father of Deborah Borgmann  
Rubiano '88, Cynthia Borgmann Hutton '89, and  
Jessica Borgmann Lawless '91, February 28, 2019.

Robert Bower, father of Ann Bower Huber '82,  
grandfather of Theresa Ann Huber '16,  
January 18, 2019.

Doris Bull, mother of Patricia Bull Hurst '82 and  
Martha Bull Oprea '83, March 9, 2019.

John F. Burke, husband of Joan Sharpe Burke '54,  
father of Frances Burke Karas '83, February 11, 2019.

John Reynolds Burke, father of Jennifer Burke  
Harris '89, April 19, 2019.

Robert Burke, father of Annie Benet Bauer '89 and  
Stephanie Burke '89, March 27, 2019.

Thomas Cholis, husband of Nancy Sheeran Cholis '68,  
April 14, 2019.

Hope Chrisovergis, mother of Margaret M.  
Chrisovergis '13, April 25, 2019.

Eugene Cieszykowski, husband of Nancy Nungesser  
Cieszykowski '84, May 25, 2019.

Steven Clarke, husband of Helen Funch Clarke '60,  
April 15, 2019.

William Corby Carey, brother of Pamela Carey Batz '70  
and Elizabeth Carey Kish '78, uncle of Carolyn Batz  
McGee '05, Catherine Ardath Batz '12, and Anne Mare  
Kish '21, February 13, 2019.

Mary Coletta, mother of Nora Coletta McMerrell '95,  
March 11, 2019.

Therese Cutler, grandmother of April Thomas  
Runft '05, March 7, 2019.

Gary Davis, father of Shannon Davis Pezolt '92 and  
Julie Davis Piehl '98, March 22, 2019.

Rosemary Dearing, mother of Linda S. Kawecky '79,  
May 6, 2019.

Donna DeFouw, mother of Christine C. DeFouw '79,  
February 11, 2019.

Pamela Delaney, mother of Pamela Michele  
Delaney '92 and M. Christine Delaney Kennedy '93,  
May 7, 2019.

Rudolph DiDonato, father of Christine Jean  
DiDonato '88, December 31, 2018.

Mary Kay Buckley D'Isa, grandmother of Katie Turner  
Nix '05 and Erin Turner Rotterman '07, May 20, 2019.

Frank Dwyer, husband of Frances Valenta Dwyer '79,  
brother-in-law of Elizabeth Valenta White '78, uncle of  
Erin Kathleen Babington '11, March 1, 2019.

Sharon Fisko, mother of Sarah Fisko-Bushong '93,  
March 16, 2019.

Sidney Foltz, father of Lynne Foltz Ahern '73,  
February 17, 2019.

Anthony Garruto, husband of Margaret Murray Garruto  
'57, father of Regina Garruto Nugent '83,  
March 27, 2019.

Harmon Thomas Gnuse, husband of Jeanne Pflaum  
Gnuse '59, January 20, 2019.

Leonard Greenspon, father of Judith A. Greenspon '80,  
grandfather of Katherine Nash Greenspon '12,  
April 4, 2019.

Robert Heaney, father of Shannon Heaney Terrill '97,  
June 6, 2019.

Mary Heaney, mother of Shannon Heaney Terrill '97,  
April 30, 2019.

Dennis Heck, husband of Mary Thiele Heck '88, father  
of Elizabeth Katherine Heck '99, May 12, 2019.

Bernard Kaminski, husband of Barbara Hudson Chapp-  
Kaminski '52, December 27, 2018.

Joseph Kania, father of Kristin Kania Dozier '07,  
May 19, 2019.

John Karle, father of Priscilla Karle Pilon '86,  
March 30, 2019.

William Klem, husband of Jeanne Yuncker Klem '44,  
father of Anne Klem Rettig '73, May 14, 2019.

Fred Koch, father of Maria Koch Pogwist '89,  
May 12, 2019.

Michael Leach, father of Nicole Leach Todd '07,  
May 15, 2019.

Robert Majewski, husband of Emma Roach  
Majewski '52, February 7, 2019.

Roy Mammolenti, father of Michele M.  
Mammolenti '83, March 21, 2019.

James McCarthy, husband of Barbara Dubois  
McCarthy '56, November 15, 2018.

Martin McGowan, father of Shannon McGowan  
Gannon '90 and Patricia McGowan Donahue '92,  
uncle of Elizabeth McGowan Devereux '89 and  
Clare Devereux Roche '83, May 25, 2019.

Bert McKasy, father of Kristine McKasy Hykes '87,  
February 8, 2019.

Thomas McKeon, husband of Eileen McCarthy  
McKeon '56, February 3, 2019.

Ralph Meluch, father of Jacquelyn Meluch Deranek '85,  
grandfather of Kelly Marie Deranek '10, January 25,  
2019.

Terrence Merkel, husband of Louise Kulka Merkel '42,  
May 28, 2019.

Adelaide Meskill, mother of Kathleen M. Meskill '67,  
April 3, 2019.

Dolores Mohrman, mother of Marilyn Mohrman-  
Gillis '72, January 8, 2019.

Raymond Mohrman, father of Marilyn Mohrman-  
Gillis '72, November 16, 2018.

Mary Ann Myers, mother of Jennifer Plemich  
Nicholus '95, March 29, 2018.

Myron Noble, father of Wendy Elise Noble '87 and  
Heidi Marie Noble '92, March 22, 2019.

Joseph O'Connor, brother of Mary O'Connor '57,  
January 10, 2019.

Paul O'Connor, brother of Mary O'Connor '57,  
April 19, 2019.

Frances Oliva, grandmother of Amelia Marie Oliva  
Campos '06, February 10, 2019.

Norman Pasas, father of Stephanie Anderson Pasas-  
Farmer '98, January 15, 2019.

Kimberly Ravana, sister of Kristin Schultz Short '92,  
April 21, 2019.

Kenneth Ruddy, father of Christine Ruddy Draths '80  
and Erin Ruddy Allare '83, grandfather of Sarah  
Hamilton Schwartz '07, Catherine Ann Draths '14,  
and Colleen Allare '18, July 13, 2018.

Mary Schimizzi, mother of Maureen Schimizzi '71 and  
Jacqueline Schimizzi Ehlerl '74, March 2, 2019.

Hazel Schuth, mother of Maureen Schuth Darling '57,  
November 21, 2018.

David Sever, father of Christine Nauman Sever '92,  
April 19, 2019.

Thomas Sherman, husband of Judith Balavitch  
Sherman '63, January 29, 2019.

Henry Sirotek, father of Meghan Sirotek Miller '02,  
March 3, 2019.

Paulette Stanosheck, mother of Laura Catherine  
Stanosheck '91, January 2, 2019.

Charles Totten, father of Lisa Totten Panozzo '90,  
January 18, 2019.

Jacob Viglietta, son of Mary V. Fisher-Viglietta '87,  
March 17, 2019.

Daniel Welde, father of Karey Welde Circosta '98,  
February 12, 2019.

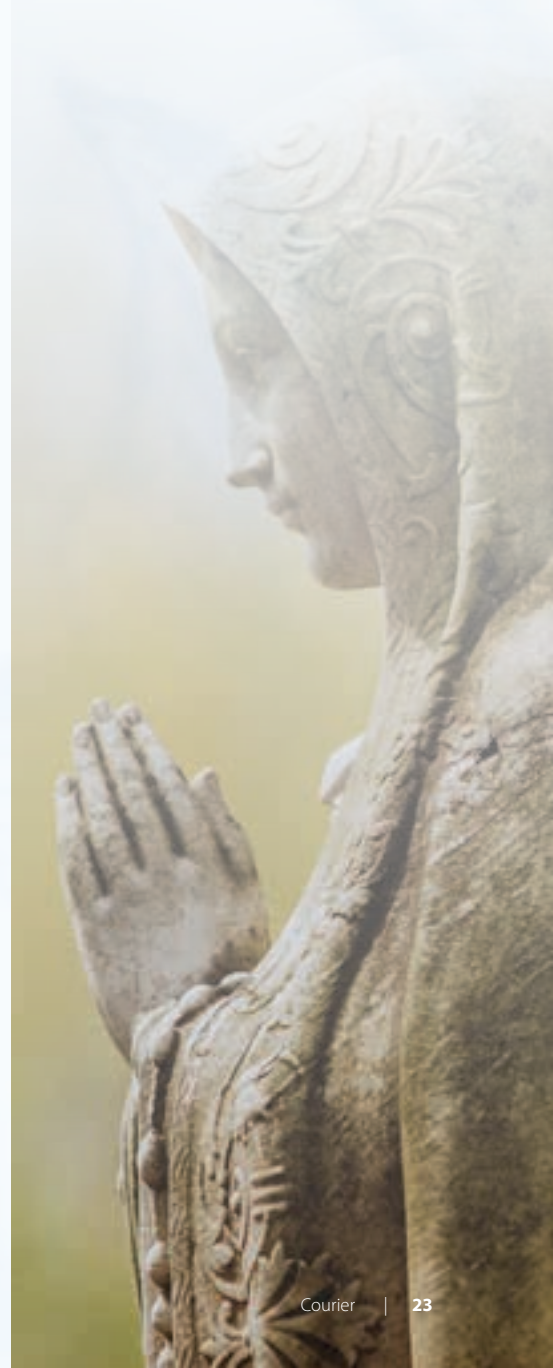
Ray Wernig, father of Stephanie R. Wernig '68 and  
Mia Wernig Elfrink '74, October 18, 2018.

James Wilson, father of Kelly Elisabeth Wilson '15,  
brother of Mary Pat Wilson Russell '78 and Katherine  
Wilson Fahrenbach '83, uncle of Margaret Mary  
Fahrenbach '13, Katherine Maire Russell '14, Madeline  
Wilson Spond '14, Colleen Anne Fahrenbach '15, and  
Laurel Anne Wilson '17, April 27, 2019.

Michael Wilson, husband of Rebecca Zink Wilson '85,  
March 18, 2019.

Richard Wood, father of Laura Christine Wood '96,  
January 27, 2019.

For births and weddings, please visit  
Baby Belles and Wedding Belles  
at [alumnae.saintmarys.edu](http://alumnae.saintmarys.edu)





## Cincinnati

On March 27, the Cincinnati and Dayton Alumnae Clubs gathered for a reception to celebrate the



2018 Club of the Year Award. Interim President Nancy Nekvasil and Vice President for College Relations Shari Rodriguez traveled from South Bend to present the Club of the Year Award to the Cincinnati Alumnae Club. Dr. Nekvasil also updated those in attendance with current news on campus including progress in Saint Mary's new graduate programs. More than 70 canned goods were collected for the SMC Serves 175,000 Meals food drive!



## Chicago East

In January, we opened up our quarterly board meeting to the public and had a wonderful turnout with great conversations! Twenty ladies enjoyed wine and snacks, mingled, and shared ideas for the club at City Winery.

In February, the Saint Mary's and ND clubs of Chicago had a joint volunteering event with Catholic Charities. Twelve volunteers packed 400+ meal boxes to be distributed throughout Chicago.



## Chicago West

2019 is off to a great start for the Chicago West Club! In January, a local event to kick off the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration was held in Naperville, beginning with Mass and then gathering at the home of **Kristin Simono Newell '91** to work on a service project to make valentines for veterans served by the Valentines4Veterans project.

The service theme continued into the Lenten Season with an online food drive through the Northern Illinois Food Bank. If you are interested in helping feed your neighbor, you can look for the SMC Chicago West Alumnae Club page on the Northern Illinois Food Bank website to contribute.

A wonderful afternoon of comedy and music was enjoyed as a group attended *The Producers* at the historic Paramount Theater in Aurora on March 10. A great performance in a beautiful setting!

And in early April, the club was honored to welcome Interim President Nekvasil to a reception at the Naperville Country Club. Guests had the opportunity to enjoy appetizers and drinks, followed by an informative presentation from Interim President Nekvasil that brought us up to date on everything from the current enrollment climate to strategic goals for the College moving forward.



Interested in keeping current on club events? Email us at [smcwcolums@gmail.com](mailto:smcwcolums@gmail.com) and we will add you to our monthly email.

## Cleveland

The Cleveland/Akron Alumnae Club is blooming right along with the spring flowers! After finishing up some truly great exam care packages for our Cleveland/Akron Belles in April, the club is planning a service activity at Maggie's Place and other great summer activities. If you are interested in information about the club's activities, please contact **Miranda Oltmanns Hoy '16**, president, at [moltma01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:moltma01@saintmarys.edu). If you want to register, please contact **Linda Holtcamp McVoy '74**, treasurer, at [Immcvoy@aol.com](mailto:Immcvoy@aol.com). We love Northeast Ohio and we love being Belles!



## Colorado

Our "reactivated" Colorado Alumnae Club met in April at Decadent Dessert Bar in Colorado Springs. We had representatives from classes in 1965 to 2018!

The event celebrated the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school, so we were asked to bring photos and special memories to share with everyone.

There were gasps of astonishment at the photo of UNIFORMS that we wore in 1961, gasps of joy at the story of a wedding proposal by a Notre Dame boy during a class at Saint Mary's, gasps of laughter at stories of panty raids and girls throwing various things out of the windows of Holy Cross, just plain gasps at the story of an ND boy spending the night in an RA's closet during the '70s when he failed to leave by curfew time! Everyone agreed that the best memory was the friendships made at Saint Mary's!



Please contact **Samantha Tulisak Lee '12** at [samantha.tulisak@gmail.com](mailto:samantha.tulisak@gmail.com) or **Bridget Meade Edmonds '12** at [bridget.m.edmonds@gmail.com](mailto:bridget.m.edmonds@gmail.com) for information about the club.

## Columbus

The Saint Mary's College Columbus Alumnae Club has had an eventful winter with some exciting club updates coming this spring. In honor of SMC's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the club organized a service project focused on serving the community around us here in Columbus. The club met and assembled fleece blankets for My Very Own Blanket, an organization focused on donating blankets to foster care in Ohio. The annual Spring Brunch was a success yet again; **Anne Sofranko '11** did a wonderful job organizing and bringing together SMC alumnae of all ages. Spring Exam Care Packages are planned to be sent by **Laura Fattaleh '84** for our nine students currently at SMC. The club also continues to meet monthly for Book Club. We are very pleased to announce some leadership updates for our club: **Colleen Lowry '11** and **Sarah Ryan '89** will be taking over the club this coming year. **Marilyn Messick '69** has done a wonderful job over the last couple years as our president and we thank her for all that she has done! If any SMC women in Central

Ohio are wanting to get involved, please contact Colleen Lowry, [clowry01@gmail.com](mailto:clowry01@gmail.com). The SMC Columbus Alumnae Club has many exciting events planned for this summer that we can't wait to share. Have a safe and fun summer!

## Grand Rapids

The Grand Rapids Club kicked off the College's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary on January 20 with Mass downtown at St. Andrews Cathedral, followed by brunch at the New Hotel Mertens. Our club combined the Annual Lenten Service project and the College's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration this year with a very successful food drive at the home of **Luci Staples McCall '78** on March 25. Contributions towards the Saint Mary's Serves 175,000 Meals drive were donated to the St. Alphonsus food bank.

If you would like more information about the Grand Rapids Alumnae Club, contact our president, **Tara Melichar Millar '90**, at [tmillar@comcast.net](mailto:tmillar@comcast.net)

## Los Angeles

The Los Angeles Club was honored to host Interim President Nancy Nekvasil on May 8 at the Los Angeles Athletic Club. We've had many gatherings from quarterly Happy Hours in Orange County; several locations for *The Ninth Hour* book club; and participating in 175-year service activities.



We are proud to present the 2019 Ornament, the fifth and final in a series of collectible Christmas ornaments. The 2019 Saint Mary's Christmas Ornament honors the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the College. The ornament features the iconic French cross, a symbol of Saint Mary's College, its founders, and the mission of the College. Please visit [saintmarysclub.com](http://saintmarysclub.com).



Club members Maureen Cassidy '71, Beth McPherson '81, Marykay Scheid '88, Lucy DaGiau '83, Katy Penna '88, and Moira Michiels '88 prepare ornaments for shipping.

## Nashville

The Nashville SMC Club has an exciting year planned for the remainder of 2019. Emails with specific dates/times will be sent shortly regarding our upcoming events; make sure your contact information is up to date with the Alumnae Office. We are organizing a reservation for a Nashville Sounds baseball game (June/July), Annual Student Send-Off (August), and an Epiphany/holiday party (January 2020). We would also like to start a biannual book club for those who are interested. Anyone wanting to attend, donate, or volunteer for any upcoming events can email **Monica Cannon Meeker '03** at [cannon.monica@gmail.com](mailto:cannon.monica@gmail.com). Thank you for everyone's past participation. As Nashville welcomes an average of 50+ new residents a day, we look forward to welcoming all new and existing Belles!



The Saint Mary's College Philadelphia spirit is strong and the group hopes to get together again sometime soon! Interested in attending or planning an event? Contact [juliesgraham@comcast.net](mailto:juliesgraham@comcast.net).

## San Diego

The San Diego Club is grateful to **Lynn Ambrose '52** for coordinating our monthly book club meetings, and we're hoping to host more events this upcoming fall. If you're local or thinking about attending a future event, make sure to find us on Facebook, where we post upcoming happenings. Thanks. Lisa, Jen, and Kathy.

## San Francisco

The new San Francisco Bay Area Club officers convened for a quick SMC photoshoot by the Golden Gate Bridge in late March (**photo 1**). In April, the club organized a group hike along the rugged coastline of Land's End park (**photo 2**). The hike ended with a sunny picnic at Crissy Field (**photo 3**).

The club is planning four major events for the remainder of the year, aligning with the College's core values: Learning, Community, Faith/Spirituality, Justice. Follow us on Facebook at [saintmaryssanfrancisco](https://www.facebook.com/saintmaryssanfrancisco) and connect with us at [sanfransmc@gmail.com](mailto:sanfransmc@gmail.com).





**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.**

## 1950

Elizabeth Nolan  
3630 Glastonbury Street  
Iowa City, IA 52245

Belated greetings to all '50 alumnae who celebrated a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2018. Mine was in October, but I was in a wheelchair from rehab (while recovering from a fractured femur) in July for a surprise birthday celebration. It was a wonderful family gathering of about 60. In October I was on my feet again, able to renew my driver's license and fly to California for a nephew's wedding.

**Mary Kelty Strudeman**, another Libra, celebrated her birthday doing the Chicago River Walk with her daughters Laura and Ellen. Mary continues to enjoy a full life as an artist, also volunteering and doing yoga.

**Anne Reynolds Pyron** toured Alaska last August. She wrote that it was an exciting trip and she was by far the oldest in the tour group. They cruised to Skagway, then traveled by bus to Yukon, Fairbanks, various other cities, and also visited Denali National Park and other sites before flying home to Florida via Atlanta. Her travel plans for 2019 include Oregon and a cruise on the Snake and Columbia rivers.

**Sister Geneal Miller Kramer, OP**, wrote from Albuquerque that she continues doing spiritual direction three days a week and will preach a three-day mission at St. John's Parish in April 2019. She celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in January with her sister Dee and brother Michael and his wife.

**Sister Ramona Marie Oppenheim, MM**, sent a lovely Christmas note from the Maryknoll motherhouse. She expressed gratitude for the class news and hopes that it is not pushed out of *Courier* due to space limitations.

Reporter note: If you readers continue to share updates of your interests, we can probably delay such an event for a while yet.

**Rita Moliski Goth** and Jack have celebrated 66 years of marriage. They host yearly family gatherings in the summer and the day after Christmas to accommodate the various work and travel schedules of the younger Goths. Rita's letter said they knew they were getting old when their oldest daughter signed up for Medicare. She also wrote, "SMC seems so long ago, but still so precious a memory."

Congratulations to SMC Interim President Nancy Nekvasil and the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint Mary's College.

## 1952

Marilyn Dargis Ambrose  
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**Mary Dvilaitis Blanford** writes that she's still on the move. She attended her granddaughter's wedding in Denver the end of January, 52 degrees and snow the next day. In February she spent a week in San Juan for rest, relaxation, and renewal. She passed the annual driver's test for one more year, so watch out. She hopes to make it to California at least one more time in September with another granddaughter getting married over Labor Day. Mary usually brings some of us together for lunch with **Mary Musante Kraemer** and **Mary Jean Wallace Paxton**.

**Kathleen Smith Schaffer** wrote that she's had a hard bout of COPD and it has slowed her down. Like many of us, our age is creeping up on all of us. We keep each other in prayer.

Received a long email from **Joey Bryan MacDonald** sharing her travels with us: "I'm content in the small retirement community close to where Mac and I lived for 12 years. I stay in touch with my children with phone calls and emails and visits when possible. Last October I flew to Boise and spent two good weeks with my youngest daughter, Mary. I also enjoyed time with a grandson, his wife, and two children. I have another grandson who works for Micron Technology in Boise. Idaho is a beautiful state and my family members are happy living there.

"Just before Christmas, I hopped on a bus from Madison to Chicago and enjoyed my youngest Tom and his family for a short but wonderful visit. They live in San Miguel De Allende, Mexico, but come to Chicago fairly often to manage their two wine bar restaurants in Logan Square. Christmas was celebrated in Minneapolis with my daughter Maureen, her husband, and two sons. It was quite peaceful. Next week, my son from the Seattle area and I are spending a week in Destin, FL. Then I'll stay put for a while. I keep saying that I won't travel anymore and maybe that will happen! Accepting the dwindling number of friends at Saint Mary's, in Lafayette, and Wisconsin's north woods isn't easy, but I am most grateful to enjoy good days and a longevity I never dreamed of having."

**Mary Jean Wallace Paxton** was quite hesitant in joining our Saint Mary's book group that some of us started many years ago in February 2010. She read a lot, but had never been in any club to discuss books. Well, guess who has been one of our loyal attendees for nearly 10 years and always adds some unique comments to our small yet enthusiastic group. What makes it special is that we have alumnae young and older, like **Leah Marie Walsh '18** and **Nicole Mercado Fortunato '00**, bringing her mom, Frances Mercado, a staunch supporter of SMC, and **Emily Frances Olson '91** joining **Mary Jean Wallace Paxton** and me, both grads of 67 years ago! We generally let the host decide books to read and lead a discussion adding info about the author. We've lost some loyal alumnae who have moved to various states, like **Martha Hartwich**

**Hagenbrock '01** to Minnesota, **Kathleen Hossley Hines '59** to Virginia, and **Amanda Myers Babin '01** to the Bay Area of California. Some selections were books and often movies based on the book from history: *Killing Lincoln* (Bill O'Reilly), *John Adams* (David McCollough); novels: *Shoemaker's Wife* (Adriana Trigiani), *Pride and Prejudice*, *Sense and Sensibility* (Jane Austen), *South of Broad* (Pat Conway), *Life of Pi* (Yann Martel); biography: *Wild* (Cheryl Strayed); humor: *The Prize Winner of Defiance Ohio* (Terry Ryan), *The Guernsey & Potato Peel Pie Society* (MaryAnn Shaffer).

And life goes on. As Joey says, "Let's hang in there!"

## 1954

Ann Korb  
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**Lorraine Nigro Cervanyk** moved into a senior independent living facility in mid-March, saying she was anxious about the whole process but now feels positive about her decision. Her thoughts will be of the Class of '54 during 2019 Reunion days, remembering the Reunions she did attend all those years ago.

**Peg Tiernan Sheehan** and Jerry hosted a reunion for both sides of their family in May. Peg says she'd been working on it for months.

**Jane Flynn Carroll** will go to Sarasota and Phoenix to visit her sister Rachael and daughter-in-law, both of whom are ill. She thinks her daughter **Mary Rose Carroll Campobasso '81** might drive down with her for the reunion picnic.

**Terry Martin Weber** and three of her daughters had a memorable trip cruising from Southampton to Iceland with ports in Norway and the Shetland Islands. Quilting continues to take much of her time and she goes on quilting retreats several times a year. Terry's still playing organ for church on a regular basis and directing the choir when not playing. She wonders, "Does one ever get to retire?"

**Nancy Gibbon Ross** sends a big hello along with a hug to her classmates. She won't have made it to Reunion, health wise, but would be thinking of those of you who did.

**Rody Oppenheim Dilnschneider** and Jack (ND '54) attended their granddaughter's high school May graduation in Indianapolis and then headed to Saint Mary's for the Saturday banquet. She says she's bereft about **Rena Bianucci Sereno's** passing: She always remembers Rena saying in the midst of comprehensives, "The Lord never lets you remember the pain." Of course, when she said that Rena had already finished her paintings portfolio! Rody reminds us of the anniversary this year of the School of Sacred Theology. Do you remember all its priests (faculty) and nuns on campus in our years? What an advancement and achievement the school was for Sister Madeleva and the College!

Rody recommends *Leadership in Turbulent Times* by Doris Kearns Goodwin: "Are leaders born or made?" I suggest *The Book of Joy*, a week-long conversation

between the Dalai Lama and Desmond Tutu. Very readable.

**Mary Ann Kramer Campbell's** Tom (ND '54) celebrated his 88th birthday on February 27. She says he amazes everyone as he fights through all his health issues.

**Bev Ritz Bierbusse** and Paul had the pleasure of hearing and seeing the wonderful SMC Women's Choir on its spring tour. They continue to volunteer at Laurel Lake in Hudson, OH.

There was a Memorial Mass for **Sister Gertrude Anne Otis, CSC '55** in early March. Do you remember that **Jean Zimmerer Thomas** worked for her in the admissions office after we'd graduated? The memento for her was most interesting; she had accomplished so much.

**Joan Rossi** writes of her 10 days in the Holy Land: Bethlehem, Galilee, the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and carrying a Cross along the Via Dolorosa. She says it's so breathtaking to actually experience Our Lord's life. "And at Mount Tabor where Peter said, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here.' Did I pray for and think of my SMC classmates? You bet I did!"

The late **Eileen Cox Karp** left a generous bequest to Saint Mary's to establish a scholarship for math students.

I had a marvelous surprise opening email one day and finding a message from Dick Sullivan (husband of the late **Judy Jones Sullivan**) saying he enjoyed reading each *Courier* and all the doings of Judy's classmates.

## 1955

Maureen Sullivan  
maureen98@msn.com

"65 Years without Slumbering – Tick Tock, Tick Tock" – Where has the time gone? I want to remind you to take your vitamins and do your exercises so we can all meet up at Reunion 2020 for our 65<sup>th</sup>. The dates are Thursday, June 4 – Sunday, June 7. This is the weekend after Memorial Day in 2020. Hope to see you there.

**Sarah Struett O'Keefe** gave me information last year for the December deadline; however, I was only allowed a certain number of lines. So, here goes: Sarah reported that she attended **Molly Maloy Griffin's** funeral in the fall. They shared many good times together at Saint Mary's and their daughters were close friends at Saint Mary's also. Molly had been struggling with health problems for several years and her husband Ned visited her in the rehab place every day. As Sarah said, "Molly is now in a better place!"

**Barbara Bridgman O'Connor** also attended Molly's funeral as well as that of **Carol Wiseman Smith**. Carol's son spoke at the funeral and talked about Carol's deep devotion to the Holy Spirit, which was instilled in her by Sister Sophia. A prayer to the Holy Spirit was said at all convocations. He said that Carol definitely passed this devotion down to her children. Barbara read in the newspaper of the death of **Sheila Enright Russell** and also

called **Jane McCormick Nilles**, who is living in a retirement home and enjoying all the activities, which keeps her very busy.

I attended the funeral of **Mary Anne McManus Harahan**. She and I met on the train going back and forth from Detroit to South Bend. We retained our friendship all these many years.

I received the sad news that the second person of our 50-year Reunion Gift Chair Committee has gone to her eternal reward also: **Mary Ann Immonen Haidinger** died in her sleep on January 31 and her dear husband Bob died the next day, February 1, 2019. Well, "Till death do us part" didn't have to last too long in their case. Many thanks for all your dedication to raising money for our scholarship fund.

The other deceased member was **Kitty Nolan Calacci**. So, now **Frances Clohessy Spillane**: "It is up to you to carry on." They did a great job of encouraging us all to contribute and we raised a considerable amount of money. I received a thank-you note from **Emma Faith Conroy '19** from Three Rivers, MI thanking us for our \$10,000 scholarship. She will graduate in May 2019. So, Praise God, thanks to all of you for your generous support of our alma mater.

Sarah also reported that she is in contact with **Pat Cutter Reynolds**, who lives in Vero Beach, FL and also spends time in the summer in the Chicago area. Pat is very interested in the arts, especially theatre, where she does some standup comedy. Maybe she will come to Reunion and give us a sampling of her talents.

**Mary Beth Croxall Wahl** is enjoying her new home in Georgia being closer to family members. **Sue Mitchell Crowley** enjoys being back in Columbus, OH where she is closer to family and also teaches some classes. She does spend her summers in Aspen. **Juliette Noone Lester** is also back in Columbus and lives close to Sue. **Mary White** misses Juliette yet keeps busy with her many activities in the Washington, DC area.

Maureen reported: "It pays to wear one's Saint Mary's sweat shirt to church. As I was coming out of church one morning a woman named Julie stopped me. She asked if this was SMC in South Bend, IN. I replied, 'Yes.' She said a good friend of hers in Ohio went to Saint Mary's and I don't suppose you would know her. She said her name is **Nancy Doersam Bichimer**. I replied, 'Oh yes, she was a classmate.' Julie called Nancy who reported that she is doing pretty well in spite of her husband's death last year and enjoys spending time with her daughter in Florida. Nancy says 'Hello to all!' It pays to wear our SMC clothing. Never know who you might meet."

It is great to know that we are supportive of our friends/class members and to Saint Mary's, and I do hope you will be able to join me at Reunion 2020.

## 1956



Carol Lee Jasper Markley, Mary Falls Lee, Mary Jo West Mason, Joyce Dyckes Slavsky. August 2018 summer get-together in Bloomfield, MI.

## 1957

Mary Gladys (M.G.) Turner Enderle  
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As I start this column, it's a cold snowy day in the Chicago area and a good day to go through notes, emails, and Christmas cards and think of all of you! I especially enjoy hearing from those enjoying warmer climes. **Mary Comisky Riley** sent her greetings from her now year-round home in Scottsdale. John and **Peggy Maher Engler** have lived in Charlotte so long they may have forgotten northern winters! Four of their nine grandchildren were pictured in their card, a very attractive sample. Granddaughter Emily is an attorney with the Department of Education in DC, grandson Ezra is pursuing a music career in NYC, and another grandchild is in Seattle, so group photos are hard to come by. Peggy is happy the rest are still in school in Charlotte.

Larry and **Mary Ann O'Loughlin Szydowski** took a break from Michigan weather for a wonderful 19-day cruise this January. They traveled from Ft. Lauderdale to San Diego, through the Panama Canal including stops in Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Puerto Vallarta, and more. As Mary Ann said, they saw "a lot of beauty but a fair amount of poverty." A wonderful eye-opening trip!

Lucky **Irene O'Leary Van Beckum** started her Florida winter with a repeat attendance at the Key West Literary Seminar! This year the "mind blowing" presenters included Joyce Carol Oates, Geraldine Brooks, and Margaret Atwood, who gave the keynote speech. Irene said, "Again, I felt that I was in over my head, but I guess it's good to be mentally challenged at our age!"

**Jody Donohoe McGoldrick** got away from Connecticut's harsh winter with a week on Florida's east coast, followed by a week in Atlanta visiting daughter Maureen and her family. Earlier Jody had checked with Saint Mary's regarding the maintenance of the bench dedicated to the late **Diane Donovan Grant**. She was assured that those teak benches are very resistant to Indiana



weather. A spring power washing, some tree trimming, and refreshed flower beds will return the bench and its surroundings to former glory.

**Pat Bauervic Leonard** wrote from snowy Michigan with good news. She thinks she may have bragging rights for having the youngest grandchild among our classmates, and she might be right! James Duke Leonard was born two days before Christmas to son John and his wife Kyle and reportedly is the apple of everyone's eye.

**Margi McCarthy Rice** used her own darling rendition of a penguin on her card. She had successful carotid artery surgery in January but was working her way through other health issues. She appreciates the help of two of her daughters who live about a mile away and spoke of the beauty of the snowy Madison, WI landscape.

**Josie Murphy Vorda's** Christmas card included a picture of her with her four grandchildren, the oldest of whom is 7. They all live near her in Chicago's north suburbs so she is busy enjoying the fun activities of the younger set.

I am one of those people who read the death notices. Lately I consider it a very good day when I see no familiar name. Last November I noted the name of Hazel J. Schuth, mother of our **Maureen Schuth Darling**. Mrs. Schuth, formerly of River Forest, IL, died in Walworth, WI at the amazing age of 111. Our sympathy to Maureen and all the family.

This is a good time for me to put in a plug about email. If you do email and haven't received one from me within the last month or so, please contact me to be added or to correct your information. In late January my email was the sad notification of the death of Pat Faulkner Werner. Pat came to Saint Mary's from Maywood, IL and though she only remained for freshman year, she stayed in contact with the College and several classmates. Pat's services were held in Lake Villa, IL, and she is survived by her four children and their families, including 11 grandchildren. Thanks to **Janet O'Connell McCue** for spotting this in the *Chicago Tribune*. Janet suffered her own loss in late November. Her youngest brother James A. O'Connell had lived in Oregon for many years and is survived by his wife and two daughters.

**Mary O'Connor** lost her brother Joseph S. O'Connor, M.D. in January. Joe is survived by his wife Jane, their six children and families including 17 grandchildren and three "greats." Mary had a temporary infection that prevented her from coming from Palo Alto for the services, but she was comforted by the good visit she had with Joe in the fall when she had come to Chicago for the funeral of John Benish, husband of **Ellen Boyle Benish**.

I read the *Courier* carefully and hope you do too! In the Fall/Winter 2018 issue Club News section, I spotted familiar names in the Eastern North Carolina Club report. Attending the student send-off gathering last July were **Judy Trippe Geaslen '84** and **Samantha Geaslen '19**, daughter and granddaughter of our **Rosemary Knope Trippe**.

In the same issue, Portraits of Saint Mary's carried the picture of **Mary White '55**, sister of **Anne White Maysak**. Mary worked in the White House for Presidents Kennedy and Johnson and there is a link to more on Mary's career.

The 24-Hour Donor Challenge in late February was a huge success. My email "encouragement" brought great responses, in communication as well as participation. Our class finished 17<sup>th</sup> in percentage of participation. All classes ahead of us, with two exceptions, graduated since the millennium. As **Ann Schultheis Massey** put it, "We were the best of the 'Oldies' or the 'Older than Goldens.'" Perfectly put, Ann!

I was delighted to see a response from **Margaret Menard O'Rourke**. She now lives in Saint Augustine, FL, a long way from Schenectady, NY, where Marge and her sister, the late **Elaine Menard Blakey** lived in their Saint Mary's days.

**Barbara Geary** shared her latest concern regarding the fifth generation of wireless technology and projected effects on the planet as outlined in an article by Gabriel Cousens, MD. Barbara has long used her talents for environmental causes and is well respected for her opinions.

Just before my April 1 deadline, **Peggy Kearin Carey** enjoyed a trip to Spain. Her granddaughter who attends the University of Dayton is spending a semester at the University of Alicante, so Peg and five family members visited there as well as Madrid, Sevilla, Granada, and Valencia. Upon return, Peg is being honored at Trinity High School's annual Bal Dominique with the school's service award, primarily for her many years of leadership on their board of directors.

## 1958

Ann Leonard Molenda  
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The only news I have is the death of **Ellen McDermott Gibson's** husband Gifford Gibson in Colorado. Ellen is now sadly added to our list of widows. I did receive a newsy Christmas card from **Joan Renehan Thompson** in California. She looks fit and happy.

I wish all my classmates reasonable health and great happiness in the Lord.



### Pat Castello '58

received the Minuteman Cane Award from the Town of Lexington, MA on Patriots Day 2019. This award is presented to someone who is actively involved in the community and an inspiration to others through life, career, hobby, or their volunteer work.

## 1959

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After 17 years in San Clemente, Gerry and I are moving 15 minutes north to Reata Glen, a continuing care retirement community (CCRC) in Rancho Mission Viejo on the border of San Juan Capistrano, CA. The swallows arrived yesterday but we don't head there until May 22. PLEASE NOTE NEW CONTACT INFO ABOVE.

Most of the news in this column arrived in Santa's mail bag. **Pat Wilson Fastiggi** celebrated her 80th in Texas, where she winters. She thought it was going to be a quiet celebration with a few friends but over the course of three days, people started arriving from Burlington, Seattle, Florida, and Maryland, and the celebration was anything but quiet. To her surprise and delight her children replicated a charm bracelet Dick gave her that went missing shortly after his death. Following a large family wedding in Baltimore in June, she hosted most of the family in August on the shores of Lake Champlain, where she resides six months of the year.

I follow **Sue Brown Bapst** on Facebook and enjoy seeing the pictures of her travels and her friends – especially the Ohio bunch! In her Christmas note she mentioned looking for a similar place like I'm moving to, but hates the thought of leaving her friends in Bent Tree. **Betsy Finneran Kennedy** writes that she has a deposit on two senior-living residences in Chicago. "Now all I have to do is empty the house and sell it. Each child received a box of their 'stuff' from the attic as a gift."

As **Mary Carpenter Erler** wrote, "What great changes you are planning. Like everybody our age, I have been thinking about what form the last part of life should take." How did we get to this age anyway?! One day we could bounce down the stairs with two kids tucked under each arm and the next we have to sit down and hang on to put on our pants!

**Mary Moran Smith** was busy this year with her granddaughter's graduation, her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and a trip to Sicily. She underwent a knee replacement in November. **Peg Stratton Burleigh** writes that her husband Chuck is fighting advanced-stage prostate cancer, but staying quite active. Peg participates in pump and yoga classes each week and walks two miles almost every day. Hopes to meet up with **Mary Moran Gaudet** next year.

**Marge Liebrich O'Connor** reports that she and her husband Bob, who will turn 92, endure many health issues, but enjoy living in their CCRC. Aaron Esrig sent a Christmas letter saying that **Martha Gillis Esrig** "has developed a balance problem when walking and I usually hold her hand. Our nephew saw us and commented how great it was that after all these years of marriage we still hold hands — should I tell him the real story?" They still have two grandchildren in college and enjoy two great-grandchildren.

I see **Rose Mudd Nickodemus** on a daily basis via Facebook and I can tell you she is a puzzle nut! She is enjoying her two great-grandchildren and visited them recently in Washington. She continues to participate in her church choir, two book clubs, and as a volunteer at the local library. She has an in-ground pool, which she uses as much as weather in Michigan allows ... and I think there is a little doggie in the picture.

After a hectic year, including the death of her daughter Ann and the hospitalization of her daughter Barb, Bob and **Colleen Taffee Goldkamp Harmon** took a relaxing cruise a few weeks after Christmas.

**Carol Ann Cruise** just keeps sewing, sewing, and sewing. She's suffering from some lingering effects of back surgery. "It's affecting my work because I can't stand, lift, or carry like I used to. Very frustrating. So I just keep on keepin' on and doing what I can. I can't die because I have too much to do yet!" I called Carol last week to order one of the bears she makes from real fur. I came across my mother's beautiful mink stole I've had since she died in 1957 and have asked Carol to make me a keepsake bear, which will include her name that was embroidered in the lining.

Received a nice color picture via email of **Rosalie Riegler, Mary Scuderi Loughran, Barbara Morrissey Kelly, Peggy Broughton McGrath,** and **Carol Podesta Foley**, who got together for their annual Christmas luncheon in Chicago on December 14, 2018.

My sister **Betty Benford Belfiore's** husband Jack is in declining health. Hospice comes two days a week but she is his primary caregiver, which keeps her pretty close to home.

Gerry and I have our big move ahead of us in May, a granddaughter's wedding in early June, and our youngest son's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, which will be celebrated in Maui the last week of June. Busy times. Sadly I won't be at Reunion or my new great-granddaughter's christening because of the move.

Look forward to news from Reunion. I was there in spirit.

## 1961

Wini Tennis Kristufek  
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**Patty Crotty Misrach** sent news of upcoming family events with the First Communion of youngest granddaughter Anne Marie in May, followed by the wedding of grandson Matthew, and in between two graduations: Pierce from the eighth grade and Sarah from Ole Miss. Pierce will enter St. Xavier High School and Sarah will be off to seek fame and fortune in Colorado. Patty keeps busy with docenting, playing bridge, and traveling. She loved her first trip to Africa but probably will not go back due to the length of travel time. Like all of us aging Belles, she has some difficulty with agility but just tries to awaken each morning thankful for another day on Earth with prayers for this wonderful country of ours.

**Joan Schaefer Haviland** is working with Friends of Borgne, Inc., a charitable nonprofit that helps children in Borgne, Haiti get an education. They support three schools and have over 40 children on full scholarship. Joan also works with a high school youth group, which is all about volunteering. All are welcome and they do what all religions teach — to love our neighbors — at home, in school, in our village, our country, and our world. Their five children and their families are doing well.

**Pauline Capelli McTernan** loves her position as development director at St. Joseph Catholic Academy in Kenosha, WI. In this position, she is in charge of many fund-raising events at the school and "It is all for the kids!" They have been fortunate to have some of their graduates attend Saint Mary's. This last May, **Maddy Ann McTernan '19**, Pauline's granddaughter, graduated from SMC. Maddy loved her experience.

**Reggie Ryan Wyles** wrote that her life has been full of losses this past year. Ron, her husband, passed away in March of 2018 after an eight-year battle with cancer. Her mother passed away in July on her 103<sup>rd</sup> birthday, and her brother Dick passed this last January, also from cancer. All three deaths were blessings for each of them. She is staying in The Villages, FL for the foreseeable future. If any classmates are in the area, Reggie would love to hear from you.

From November to April, lucky **B.J. Sitzberger Gorman** and husband Earl escaped the snow and cold at Ocean Reef in south Florida. In February, they had a fun weekend with **Marylee Zahner Foley** and husband Howard at their place in Stuart, FL.

From Dan Green, husband of the late **Gwynith Druilhet Green**: "On April 15, 2019, the State House of Representatives brought to the floor a bill memorializing her life and work in the legislature and in the state-wide community. Gwyn loved Saint Mary's and the guidance, education, and values she received. Gwyn gave herself and impacted wherever she lived and to whomever she contacted. The work scholarship with the staff program was the sole means for her to attend college and Gwyn was ever grateful. Someone dropped and she called her last minute acceptance a miracle. And I think that investment by Saint Mary's helped make the world a better place for helping make Gwyn the person she was. At the memorial service there were more than a dozen representatives, senators, and the Lieutenant Governor lauding her work. Both sides of the House stayed in the chamber to recognize her. All spoke of her smile and willingness to listen. There were 60 legislators cosponsoring the memorial bill."

Thank you to all who answered my request for news. My next deadline is August 1, 2019. I'd love to hear from you.

## 1963

Gail M. Donovan  
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News of several gatherings north, south, and abroad. Thank you for sending word!

Florida classmates in the Sarasota-Naples-Venice area gathered for a lovely luncheon at the home of **Eileen Holtmeier Cash** and included **Betty Rompf Gallick, Mary Rainey, Pat Seider Tyler,** and **Helen Cahill Zavodnyik**. Conversation centered on the disheartening resignation of the President and reactions to the email briefings from the Interim President. Talk moved on to news of recent travels, cats, grandchildren, and laments about colleges that feel pressured to subordinate their religious character and customs. These are the friends who planned and hosted our joyous mini-reunion a year after our 50<sup>th</sup>. At that event, many classmates from afar were so pleased to reconnect with Pat, who had left us after sophomore year to pursue a degree in speech and language at the University of Michigan. Pat and her husband live on Casey Keys, just north of Venice where Helen, Eileen, and Betty live, and Mary lives on Palmer Ranch in Sarasota.

A second gathering took place in Geneva. At last June's reunion, **Kathy Wiedl Mettler** and **Joann Vanek** discovered they had different meetings in the same timeframe in Geneva. Both know the city well from such events, and Joann was glad to have Kathy and her husband Steve introduce her to their favorite Italian restaurant.

Back in New York, our Manhattan friends — **Beverly (Barry) Troxler O'Grady, Mary Schuh DeSilva, Joann Vanek,** and **Maureen McCafferty '62** — took me up on a previous book recommendation (*Sisters in Law*), reporting that they met over dinner at Riverpark and enjoyed a vigorous and gratifying discussion of Supreme Court matters and the work of Sandra Day O'Connor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

All for now. I believe you won't see this news till the summer issue. Send news for the fall edition then ... or long before.

## 1964

Mary Ann Curnes Fuller  
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Spring springs eternal... a time for new beginnings. **Mary Jo Kircher Huck** has just moved to Evanston, IL and has begun a new series in her painting on "aging." **Maureen O'Hara Pesta** painted a community bus in Indiana, "The Cool Bus" in psychedelic colors of '64. **Mary Donovan McCusker** is transforming the lives of foster children as a court-appointed advocate as well as volunteering in the ER at a Los Altos, CA hospital. **Jeannette Friedewald Lynch** is training volunteers in pastoral care for the sick and dying in SW Texas. Mary Jo wonders how our classmates are responding to the difficult times within our church.

**Kay Christenson Janiszewski** suffered acute pancreatitis in 2017 and is not coming to Reunion, but she is able to volunteer, read, and play bridge. **Maria Mazza Kompare** and her husband Ed will visit, and she is in contact with **Janet Walton Gisleson, Mary Beth Allen Sweeney, Mary Jane Foley Brisbane, Joann Bukovic Wess, Sally Diggles Muller,** and **Auralea Sharrar Carroll**. If in the DC area, call her.



**Sue Badaluco Gerhard** and her husband John are traveling to visit grandchildren in Illinois, South Carolina and Texas; took a driving trip through Scotland, even Isle of Skye, and had a family reunion in Akumai, Mexico as well as time in Los Cabos. Sue is right off the highway in Rochester, NY by Oak Hill golf club so give her a call.

**Louise Habeeb Anella** and **Mary Ann Roach Butkovich** celebrated their birthdays together and have been in touch with **Bonnie Burns Elbersen**, who has a new home in Florida, and **Elaine Kletter Richardson** and **Nan Tomshack Tulchinsky**.

**Marianne Elliott Morin** wrote that she did not send Christmas cards this year due to death and sickness in her family, but she would like to wish you all well, sends love and healing prayers to the Saint Mary's family, and hopes that God will hold you in the palm of his hands. She and Bob are trying to age gracefully.

**Susanna Hayes** wrote that she is very involved with her grandnephew Warren in pre-K school in Needham, MA and also with her other grandnephew Sam, 18, who is receiving the Bryant-Jordan scholarship in Birmingham, AL for outstanding academic and athletic achievements. Two ends of the spectrum!

Lake Michigan has brought **Denise Cavanaugh** to Evanston, IL (from Washington, DC) after retiring from consulting to nonprofit organizations for 40 years. Denise is looking forward to connecting with alumnae from far and wide.

Peace, Hope, Love

## 1965

Sheila Kelly Ames  
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**Jan McCale O'Neill** sent news of a trip she and her husband took: "Pat and I just got home a few days ago from Cornwall and are still catching up on sleep, laundry, grocery shopping, etc. Our cruise down the Rhine and Mosel rivers was wonderful. The scenery was beautiful with lots of castles on hilltops. As usual, we met many fun people on the both tours. Our Cornwall group was small with



Therese McCaffrey McConville sent news of a Vero Beach, FL reunion in February. Sue Sheridan Joyce, Nancy Wagner LaValle, and Therese attended. (Kathy McAnaney Glaser and Anne Locher Knudten are here in Vero but could not attend.) A good time was had by all!

only 21 people, nine of whom were associated with Notre Dame. We had been to England a couple of times previously, but never to the Cornwall area. The weather was fabulous with only one out of 14 days with a few sprinkles here and there. We walked a lot and climbed quite a few hills. Our walking sticks definitely came in handy. And, for those who are Doc Martin fans, we had a tour and lunch in Port Isaac/Port Wenn."

"I would like to share an Irish tidbit," writes **Eileen Byrne Brennan**. "I have been invited to present my research on autism in mid-May to the teachers of Cork, Ireland. To me this is the real 'Luck of the Irish.' Both of my maternal grandparents were orphans and came to this country alone, and with not a day in school. I am so grateful." Such a lovely honor for Eileen!

**Lil Chard Beshel** attended the SMC mini-reunion in NYC. "Saw **Nancy Wagner LaValle**, **Mary Delaney Willer**, and **Sheila Kennedy**. The Yale Club is an oasis of civility in the midst of NYC. The rooftop terrace was lovely. Sheila gave me her business card. She has had a well-traveled career. Also saw **Karin Vanek Headley's** older sister, **Joann Vanek '63**, who I imagine you might remember — tall and elegant. The SMC Women's Choir sang and there was a brief talk by our Interim President Nekvasil. The four of us just kind of wanted to just gab." Lil also made mention of **Paulette Crouere Gamard**. "This from Paulette's Christmas card: Her granddaughter was married last May and Paulette's 97-year-old mother attended. Paulette works half days at Holy Name School with first graders, and she will become a great-grandmother in March."

And a bit of news from **Beverly Senda Defoe**: "Cameron and I seem to be spending more time on the west coast. With Dean in Phoenix and Patrick in Seattle, we do two three-month road trips. Amazing how fast the not-so-little ones grow (not real exciting, except to us)."

"Here in Colorado we've had record snowfalls," writes **Sheila Flynn Boone**, "and the skiing has been great. Ski season may extend well into late April. Unfortunately, though, we've also had a record number of avalanches. We have a Saint Mary's Colorado Alumnae Club again" (please note that Sheila was the instrumental person who initially formed this club) "and **Elise Meyer**, **Valerie Maracz Perrone**, and I plan to go to the first event in April. We are to bring photos and recount memories from our years at SMC. Always fun to see the young alums gasp at our tales of uniforms, hours, and sign-in sheets. But they are always envious when we tell about the midnight walk through the halls before Christmas." So true — I love the memories of that midnight walk, singing Christmas carols and carrying a candle through the dorm halls. It was magical. We had the world before us!

**Theresa (Teffy) Lyons Brosnan** celebrated her birthday with her sons and said: "I'm enjoying my celebration with my sons in Connecticut, and yesterday I had lunch with **Mary Delaney Willer**. It was so much fun catching up. I'm hoping to go to Reunion next year."

**Therese McCaffrey McConville** sent news of a Vero Beach, FL, reunion in February. **Sue Sheridan Joyce**, **Nancy Wagner LaValle**, and Therese attended. (**Kathy McAnaney Glaser** and **Anne Locher Knudten** are here in Vero but could not attend.) A good time was had by all!

Ladies, the first weekend in June of 2020 is our 55<sup>th</sup> Saint Mary's Reunion! I don't know how this time has passed so quickly, but God willing, I certainly hope to be there. Please note it on your calendars and think about attending. Just being with you all is such a lovely occasion to look forward to. (I'll even bring pictures of my son and daughter-in-law's boy/girl twins, born a month ago.)

## 1966

Mary Kay Duffy Gott  
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**Jeanne Konzen Rowe** wrote on our Facebook page that she and her husband Jack will celebrate their golden anniversary in June. They plan to attend the Golden Anniversary Mass said at Holy Name Cathedral. In the past, Cardinal Blasé Cupich celebrated the Mass for these special couples. Congratulations to Jeanne and Jack and to all our classmates who have 50 years with that someone special.

**Kathie Donovan Dur** attended a reception at the Yale Club in New York City for the Saint Mary's College Chorus. These gifted singers went on to perform at Carnegie Hall. What a unique experience for the students. Interim President Nancy Nekvasil spoke about the happenings on campus.

At the reception, Kathie met **Beverly Troxler O'Grady '63**. Beverly is a former member of the Board of Trustees. In conversation, they both realized that they attend the same church in New York City.

In May, I will be on campus to witness the graduation of my third granddaughter **Caroline Duffy Kennedy '19**. She will graduate with a BA specializing in education. She is the third-generation graduate in education from Saint Mary's College. Her mother is **Bridget Gott Kennedy '91**.

In November of last year, nearly 10 members of our class traveled to Albuquerque to spend time with the late **Gail Marino Meiering**: **Kathie Donovan Dur**, **Mary Dunn Finneran**, **Dede Cotter Delaney**, **Jane McCoach McKee**, **Sharon Priester Lewert**, **Carolyn Hart Irvine**, and **Elizabeth Naes Scofield** and me. **Cathleen Carey Kardas**, who lived near Gail, spent many an hour with us. **Pam Smith Malone** and **Amy Bertorelli** were unable to make the trip.

Gail was suffering from a brain tumor that was diagnosed about a year ago. We had a most heartwarming visit with Gail and her family. Her husband Mark (ND '66) was the perfect host as was Gail's daughter **Peggy Meiering Graham '92**. Our beloved Gail died on January 12, 2019. After graduation, she pursued a master's in education at Rutgers. After a short stay in Kansas, Gail and Mark moved to Albuquerque. Gail was president

of the Saint Mary's Alumnae Club for New Mexico and served on the Alumnae Association Board of Directors. Personally, I always admired Gail for returning to school to receive her BS in nursing. She worked at two hospitals in her neighborhood until her retirement in 2010.

Our group made a donation to Saint Mary's College Scholarship Fund in memory of Gail. Any classmate who wishes to contribute to this scholarship fund should contact Addie Cashore at the College. We will miss you greatly, Gail, but we will not forget.

## 1967

Alyne Theresa Ricker, MD  
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We are a travelling crowd! **Jane Nagle Hargrove** and her husband enjoyed their second visit to Quebec in February for Winter Carnival, returning to the States via train to NYC. Dealing with unfamiliar winter ice resulted in a broken wrist, but didn't lessen the experience. Jane reports that **Susan Stout Redmond** is headed to Paris with friends for her fourth visit. And that **Carol Stanojev Kirwan** and her husband skied Steamboat Springs, CO this winter. High times indeed at 6,000 feet! **Loreli Trippel** is on the road again, to Norway in March for cross-country skiing (Loreli) and Xcountry competition for Frank. She says the mountains are different than at home in Tahoe, and the food too. While there, they tried local specialties like reindeer steak. **Barbara Phelan** and husband Carl went to Cuba with Road Scholar in February, and describes "a beautiful place, loaded with history and hidden gems of architecture," interesting people, and long morning breadlines; the feeling of "change, it's a coming." She also noted that **Karen Haskins Brucks**, besides being a dynamite bridge player, is a frequent visitor to London, where her grandchildren live. And that **Mary Eiff Coyle** travels so often all over the US that it's hard to keep up with her. (Mary, we would love to hear about the highlights from you.) **Mary Geddes Boehler** also seems to spend a lot of time on the road; having visited Portugal and northern Spain, now plans a return trip this fall to southern Spain. She will also be in Quebec City in April with her extended family to celebrate her husband Bill's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday and their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. **Sharon Wilchar** went to El Salvador in January to celebrate the wedding of a friend's daughter, and enjoyed sun, pool, local crafts, and no stress for 10 days. My husband Maury and I made a brief five-day visit to Vienna, Austria to catch sight of our daughter Cate while she was in Europe. Beautiful city and great Christmas markets with hot mulled wine. A four-week visit with Cate is in the works for August in Canberra, Australia. **Susan Williams Quinn** writes that she lives near NYC and was able to hear the SMC Choir during their recent visit. She and Bob plan one or two big trips each year. This June they will be in Switzerland for Art Basel, a huge contemporary art exhibit that includes works of 4,000 artists, and for a few days to savor the country's beauty.

And then the travels that didn't happen, sigh. Sharon, **Lynn DePhilip Cullen**, and I were all signed up for the SMC summer program in China, but the trip was cancelled. Hoping for another chance next year.

In other news, our dyed-in-the-wool Brooklyn girl **Kathy McGrath Russo** is now out West. She writes, "Tom and I moved from Smithtown, NY to Highlands Ranch, CO three years ago. We live very near our daughter Patty and her family. We love visiting our three sons and their families throughout the year. Our oldest son Tom lives near San Francisco, CA and Kevin and Mike both live near St. Louis, MO. We have six grandchildren altogether, ranging in age from 11 to 3 and we love spending time with them. I have such fond memories of our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion and I look forward to our next one!" **Cathy Harmon** is also a Westerner. She is in Phoenix, retired from Mayo, AZ for five years "and not working seems to agree with me." **Mary Nell Hoolihan Reif** has had a full life spent in Wausau, WI, where she taught high school and college Spanish. She raised three sons and now has nine grandchildren living nearby. They range from a 4½-year-old Montessori student to a Marquette University senior. She enjoys getting together with **Karen Haskins Brucks**, **Mary Eiff Coyle**, and **Barbara Phelan** and reminiscing about SMC. **Lynn DePhilip Cullen** spent a rewarding four years after retirement volunteering at the local hospice, then decided to get and certify a therapy dog. Now "Bailey, my Bedlington terrier, takes me on weekly visits to patients (and staff) at our regional cancer center and ... local hospital."

**Mary Geddes Boehler** reflected on the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the historical summer of '68 in Chicago when she, **Karen Haskins Brucks**, **Sara Flecker Nash**, **Kitty Plunkett Freidheim**, and **Mary Eiff Coyle** were single and roommates in the city. That summer they met future spouses or became engaged, and in August 2018 they gathered with spouses to reminisce. She and Bill spent February in Florida where they had wonderful visits with **Sara Nash** and Pat, **Joan Garvey Hermes** and Steve (ND '67), and **Pat Canary McMahon** and Tom (ND '67). With all the travel, it seems amazing that Mary has time to serve on the board of a charter school, has "a bit of a consulting business," and has become an avid pickleball player! If you are in Chicago and it is cold, you may find Mary, Karen, Joan, Kitty, and Barbara hanging out at the Art Institute.

Unlike many of us who have retired or cut way back, **Sharon Wilchar** is still working full time keeping the art world lively in the Bay Area. She writes that having "dusted off my public art consulting hardhat this past year," she saw a 20-foot sculpture by

Blessing Hancock titled *DNA* installed in Emeryville at a biotech and transit hub.

We saw on Facebook and heard from **Jane Nagle Hargrove** that **Susan Rogers Schenkelberg** had open-heart surgery in January. Susan reports that she is recuperating well and thanks all for their prayers. Finally, on a sadder note, **Colleen Moran Tobino**, who had sent a very moving note about finding her paternal birth family for our last report, passed away in December 2018. She finished her note with "And I'm at peace." Peace to you all.

## 1968

Elizabeth Christopher Elmore  
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**Mary Barlett Wolf** wrote there were more than 10 Belles (**Kathy Huisking Sullivan**, **Karen Huisking Coffey**, **Mary Donoghue Brueggen**, **Barbara Gibson South**, **Rosie Van Gelderen Lyons**, **Nancy Root Smith**, and **Harriett Hillebrand Cronin**) who met for lunch in Bonita Springs/Naples in February. There was a lot of laughter and conversation and trading of stories about trips, politics, children, grandchildren, and downsizing and maintaining our homes. She also observed that it is a small world because **Mary Donoghue Brueggen's** son is dating the daughter of Mary's Williamsport neighbor, both who live in New York City. They also commented on the former president of SMC and how that story had changed in the last week! It was Mary and her husband's first "winter trip" to Florida and they have decided to make it every year from now on as definitely one way to keep the SMC connections.

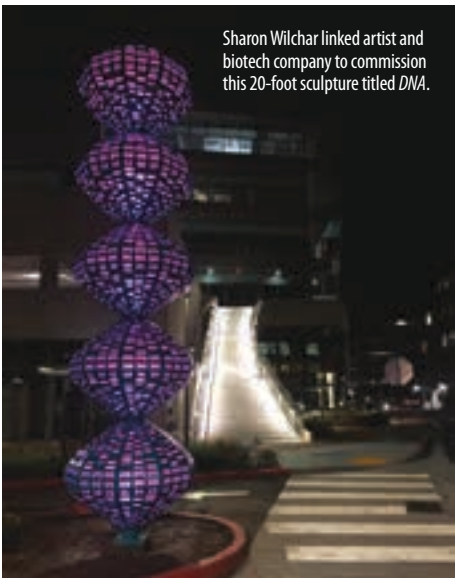
**Margaret Piton** wrote that she is excited that her most recent play, *The Red Book Review* based on *The Red Book of C.G. Jung*, is scheduled to be performed in Montreal at Concordia University in October. While some previous plays had staged readings, this is the first time ever any of her plays have had an actual performance. She plans to record the performance and post it on youtube.com.

Bami Menke Pinckney wrote that her husband and she are well into their retirement and just purchased a winter home in Palm Desert, CA so SMC types who are visiting that area are invited to look her up. Of course, they still enjoy the Pacific Northwest in Tacoma, WA in the summer.

### EXCELSIOR

#### Susan Knight '68

was recently part of a Collection Connection Series at the Museum of Nebraska Art in Kearney. In her program, called "Susan Knight: The Power of Water in Art," she discussed the complexity of water and discovering its unique aspects through art.



Sharon Wilchar linked artist and biotech company to commission this 20-foot sculpture titled *DNA*.



## 1969

Joyce O'Donnell Bussewitz  
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Hello, dear classmates,  
When this column appears, our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion will have been celebrated. I think perhaps that many of you were saving your news to share in person, but I do have a little news to report here.

**Gaile Burnell Koecheler** wrote from sunny California, "The last few years my husband Gene and I have filled our time traveling as much as possible. We've traveled to Boston, LA, and San Francisco to visit our children and have also broadened our horizons traveling throughout China, Hong Kong, and Seoul. Cruising in Europe was also a highlight. We used to get back to South Bend for football games, but we have not in the last five years." Gaile is in contact with **Kathy Walsh** and **Joan Grasberger Ansley**. She is on Facebook and welcomes new friends. "I am sorry I can't make Reunion this year as my daughter is getting married and my time is consumed with wedding preparations. Hope all enjoy!"

**Roz Castrogiovanni Hill** wrote to say that she, **Alice Fanning Horney**, **Sue Morphy Backus**, **Patti Smid Malloy**, **Marty Roark Higgins**, and husband Jack went to St. Louis for Jim Barry's

funeral. **Eileen Kelly Barry** expressed her gratitude in the following note for our class column: "This past January my husband Jim (ND '67), passed away. Some of my Saint Mary's friends came to St. Louis to celebrate his life. Many others reached out to me with cards, emails, prayers, and Masses. I was blessed to have attended Saint Mary's with these wonderful women, who offered such comfort at a difficult time." Prayers continue, Eileen!

My husband Roy and I hosted **Sheila Dwyer Robusto** and Dan (ND '70) when they were en route back to Florida from visiting family in New Bern, NC. A few years ago I gave Sheila a book I'd enjoyed — *Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* — which she also liked and subsequently "blamed" me for their resulting excursion to Antarctica. I think she really meant to say I had "inspired" them. Sheila and Danny had a fabulous trip there and took thousands of pictures, which they are trying to organize and reduce into a type of show, which unfortunately we did not get to see...yet. They also took a trip to the Galapagos Islands — another project to document.

**Kathy Carey Moore** sent lots of class news for us. She and **Mary Ragen O'Rourke** had just visited **Janice Williams** to celebrate Janice's birthday in Gary, IN. Kathy gets together with Janice every month or so and said Janice is a GREAT cook. "She cooks a lovely meal for herself every night and for anyone else who is fortunate to visit her for lunch. When I visit, she teaches me a lot about cooking

— never too late to learn." Kathy added that she and her roommate of four years **Bibbie Conole Withers** have terrific conversations. "I got to spend some one-on-one time with her in June of 2018 at our husbands' 50<sup>th</sup> ND reunion. Bibbie and Dennis came up to Chicago a day early, so Tom and I spent a wonderful evening together with them. She and I can still talk like a couple of 18-year-olds. I love her — she is full of life and funny stories, same as always. She and Dennis have their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this 2019 summer, as do Tom and I. Impossible!" For even more updates on our classmates, Kathy continued, "I see the usual suspects: **Patty Reynolds Walsh**, Mary Ragen O'Rourke, **Mary Beth Barry Hogan**, and occasionally, Marty Roark Higgins and **Kathy Walsh**. Mary O and I met on our first day of kindergarten and went through grade school, high school, and college together. Mary Beth Barry Hogan introduced me to Tom Moore my freshman year. **Barb Crowley Schenck** lives in Cincinnati but often comes to Chicago to babysit for her grandson who lives very near my daughter and right in the city, so we often get together to chat amid grandchildren's chaos when she is here. I also went to grade school, high school, and college with **Susie Madden Darrow**. I am so looking forward to spending time with her at Reunion. She and Dave have created such an interesting life for themselves. They travel the country in an RV for months at a time. Susie hikes and seems to know people everywhere. Susie is very much a "seeker" too.

When I do see her, I learn so much about her spiritual and philosophical journeys, and she's a lot of FUN! I see I have written much more than a few words, because I have all of these wonderful ladies in my life! I am so truly blessed with these friendships. I cannot imagine life without these gals. What's better than friends of 50 or 65 years?!" On a personal note Kathy added that she and Tom have three children and seven grands. FUN, FUN, FUN! Two of the three children are in Chicago and one is in DC with the Justice Dept. Thanks so much and kudos, Kathy, for all of these updates!

Remember that our deadlines for news are April 1, August 1, and December 1. Please send me updates anytime and I'll save them for our next column! God bless!

## 1972

Missy Underman Noyes  
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I received a very joy-filled email from **Mary Ann Maren Sladek**. Her son and only child Kyle (ND '13) was ordained a priest last June in the diocese of Green Bay. Several classmates were in attendance. **Deborah Kerr**, Kyle's godmother, was there with her husband Lewis DeFelice and daughter Audrey as well as **Pat Corn Andre** and husband Rick (ND '71).



Mary Ann Maren Sladek at her son's ordination to the priesthood in June 2018. Pictured are Mary Ann, husband Tom, and son Kyle.

While at Notre Dame, Kyle played trombone in the marching band, jazz band, and symphonic orchestra. He wrote for the *Irish Rover* and was a member of the Knights of Columbus. He was a theology and philosophy major. After graduation, he entered Mundelein Seminary at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL where he received a master of philosophy degree, master of divinity degree, and a sacred theology baccalaureate. Father Kyle is currently assigned as an associate pastor to Holy Cross and St. Katherine Drexel parishes in Kaukauna, WI, which is about 20 miles south of Green Bay where Mary Ann and husband Tom live. Congratulations! Mary Ann asked me to publish her email: masladek@aol.com.

In the Fall/Winter *Courier* news column, I wrote about a European trip that **Carole McRedmond Nadler** took that included a stop in Vienna. While she was there, she thought about Dr. Bruno Schlesinger. She remembered him training, very briefly, as a baker. I guess I could not picture the dignified doctor as a baker with flour on his nose, so I wrote he trained as a banker. Fortunately, I received

an email from Mary Schlesinger, his daughter, who corrected us. She said, "I can hear my father roar upon learning he was trained as a banker in Vienna," and added "not to my knowledge." Since the original email from Carole was deleted months ago, I cannot check to see if she wrote baker or banker — but neither was true! If the late **Sue Weidenbach's** family sees this, Mary said that Bruno thought highly of Sue and never failed to mention her name at his HUST alumnae reunion talks. She ended by mentioning his favorite pastries apfelstrudel and zwetschgendatschi (plum cake).

Speaking of pastries, I always get hungry when I see **Marian Maher Watson's** posts of her cakes and other goodies. She is amazing. We had a very fun Facebook exchange about the old Kubiaks Tavern. We used to go up there on Sundays to drink ... and dance the polka! Marian posted a picture and it still looks the same. I hope I am not telling tales, but both **Maureen (Rene) Mirro Zimmer** and Marian remember riding up there on a boyfriend's motorcycle. Come to think of it, I did that too. Wonder if it was the same guy? We all agree it would be great to visit the place sometime.

Sending love and maybe a few laughs to all.

## 1973

Peg FitzGibbons Higgins  
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Despite my best efforts, I received very little news for this issue. Don't be shy! Please send me information about you and yours. We are interested!

**Nora Barry Fischer** writes: "My husband Don, a retired pediatric cardiology professor at Children's Hospital and University of Pittsburgh Medical Center and retired CMO at Highmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, joined the Saint Mary's Board of Trustees last fall. Don is enjoying his role, happy to share his expertise in STEM. I joined Don in South Bend for the latest meeting. I used the new and improved Angela to work out with my niece Major Meghan Cumpston, US Army, and we can both attest to what a great facility it is! As to my news, I become a Senior Judge on June 14 — Flag Day. We remain very busy with four vacancies to fill. Our criminal load is particularly high."



Pamela King enjoying a January 2019 North Carolina visit with great-niece and great-nephew.

Medicine in Chicago. Pamela remains active with fitness-related activities. Her volunteer activities include the Ronald McDonald House near Lurie

It was also good to hear from **Pamela King (ND '73)**, who shared a picture of a get-together with SMC '77 friends at a local Chicago suburban restaurant. Pamela lives in North Aurora, IL and is employed with Northwestern

(Chicago), which she finds incredibly rewarding. Pamela shared that she'd enjoy hearing from other SMC classmates. You can contact her at elicodpap61@gmail.com.

**Carol Dzikowski-Shamory** shared information about her daughter's recent wedding. Katie Joy Shamory and Christopher Jay Barton Harrelson (son of Jay and Candi Harrelson of Nashville, TN) were married on December 15, 2018 in South Bend at Saint Mary's Polish National Catholic Church. Katie graduated with a BA in theatre from Butler University and is employed at Norcostco - Costume/Theatrical Suppliers of Atlanta. Chris graduated from Vanderbilt University with a degree in corporate law and is employed at Morris, Martin and Manning of Atlanta. The couple reside in Atlanta, GA.

I asked Carol for some information about herself. She served as adjunct in the Department of Music at Saint Mary's, where she taught voice, piano, and music education methods courses, as well as other departmental courses for 22 years. She was then a K-6 vocal music specialist for the South Bend Community School Corporation for eight years before moving on to the New Prairie United School Corporation as a K-6 vocal music specialist, junior high general music teacher, and finally as choir director at New Prairie High School, the position from which she retired in 2010. Carol currently teaches 18 private voice students at Penn High School in Mishawaka. She is a published composer, poet, and has written/co-authored two libretti for chamber operas. Carol also performs opera/art song/oratorio whenever she has the opportunity with groups in the Midwest!

Pamela King shared the sad news of the death of her dear friend and roommate, **Melanie Walsh Flannery**. Melanie passed away on April 28, 2019. She is survived by her husband Bob, five children, and five grandchildren. She will be missed!



Debra Fahey '77, Meg Rockey Chambers '77, Pamela King, and Cindy Kulik Knutson '77.



A fun mini-reunion in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. From left: Terry Trenor Wilkins, Peg FitzGibbons Higgins, Mary Ann Weis Fenimore, and Mary Jo Geffert Lahr.





### Mary Sheeran '76

released a novel in May 2019 titled *Banished from Memory*. Set in Hollywood, the novel highlights the challenges and gifts of acting for women, and conflicting relationships between two legacies of the blacklist.

## 1977

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Unfortunately, I have not received any class notes from my 1977 classmates. I hope that some of you will send notes to me, by my next deadline of August 1, 2019.

So, news from me follows. I hope that I do not bore you.

In December 2018, **Nora Eileen Riley** drove down from Richmond to Durham to spend a few days with her former roommate **Mary McMahon** and her husband Richard. I met up with Nora and Mary in Historic Downtown Apex for some window shopping and lunch. The three of us had not been together since graduation. We discussed Nora's upcoming cross-country trip in her RV. She has subsequently shared her pictures, especially of nature, including birds, on Facebook. Looks like an exciting trip!

In January 2019, I attended the Saint Mary's College 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebratory Mass and Brunch put on by the SMC Alumnae Club of Eastern North Carolina. I was one of 14 alumnae participants. And they convinced me to attend the February meeting of the SMC Book Club. We had a great dinner and then discussed the book *Educated*. I highly recommend that you read this book.

In mid-February, **Mary Beth Conlon Winter** drove up from Fayetteville, met me and some of my golf friends for dinner, and then went to see the Notre Dame women's basketball team beat NCSU. Mary Beth and I enjoyed sitting right behind the ND bench.

This month, April, I plan on attending another SMC Book Club to discuss the book *Varina*.

And I am heading down to Tampa tomorrow to see the ND women play in the NCAA Final Four. Go Irish!

Again, I ask my classmates to please share your stories with us. What are you doing? Where do you live? Which classmates do you stay in touch with and see?

## 1978

Susan Margiotta Salem  
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May this issue find you all healthy and happy.

**Deborah Stanck Krawczyk** is a teacher at St. Thomas Aquinas School in Cleveland. She has a 27-year-old daughter, Theresa Claire, who is a recruiter for industrial trade. Deborah enjoys golf and gardening and weekend day trips.

**Maureen Sajbel Wallenfang** continues to pursue her talent for writing as she works for USA Today Network-Wisconsin. She has always made us proud of her accomplishments in journalism. Mark and

Maureen live in the beautiful town of Appleton, WI. She has two stepsons Ansel and Zack.

Civil servant **Rosemary Rappelli Mandrici** was the first woman elected as St. Joseph County Assessor in 2010. Rosemary is a master's candidate in the School of Environmental and Public Affairs at Indiana University. She is very proud of her son Alex, 22, and a graduate of Trine University. Rosemary is very involved in her community, as you might imagine, with ties to the St. Joseph County Democratic Party, Italian American Heritage Society of Notre Dame/Michiana. She is involved in the League of Women Voters, board member of the Indiana County Assessor Association, and president of the NW District of Indiana County Assessors Association. Sounds like one busy girl, so it is funny that when asked for her advice to her 1974 self (first year of college), she said, "Take some time for yourself!"

**Meridy Therese Niederkorn** enjoys being a grandma in Mundelein, IL with her three daughters and one son living in the area. She is able to enjoy her grandchildren: Gavin, 9, Avery, 3, and Margot, 1, all year round. She said that the kids are pure sunshine, full of so much energy. Meridy is involved in the music ministry at her church.

**Mary Rukavina Kuhnmuensch** retired as a Milwaukee County Circuit Court judge after over two decades of distinguished service on the bench. She was recognized and honored by bar associations and community groups alike. She demonstrated a commitment to her community with service on numerous nonprofit boards. She also is a respected educator and published writer, with extensive experience planning and presenting judicial education programs for the Wisconsin Judiciary. Mary was an enthusiastic mentor to law students, young lawyers, and newly minted judges. She received the Wisconsin Bar Journal Lifetime Achievement Award, and her judicial colleagues remarked that she has left a "lasting legacy and high benchmark for those that follow." She continues to write for legal journals and on social media, and she is currently serving as a regular guest commentator on the Steve Scaffidi morning show on WTMJ radio in Milwaukee.

## 1979

Jean Powley Murphy  
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jpmurphy@flash.net

**Jerri Plumb Kelly** was named "Athletic Director of the Year for Florida 2019!" She is the athletic director for Lake Brantley High School in Central Florida's Altamonte Springs. None of us who remember her days at Saint Mary's can be surprised that Jerri, with her boundless energy and enthusiasm, won this after 40 years in secondary education. Now she says that she is "considering" retirement to spend time with her husband of 34 years Jeff, her three adult children, Corie, Casie, and CJ, son-in-law Andrew, and granddaughter Reagan. Congratulations, Jerri!

**Doris Mannes Derheimer** is also involved in secondary education. She is the AP calculus teacher

at Bishop Dwenger High School in her native Fort Wayne, IN. "I love my job and don't regret for a minute leaving the business world. I currently work with two other Belles, and am happy to report that our high school sends students to SMC every year." Her husband Mike is still farming. Their son Luke (ND '09, '10) works for Ernst & Young in Chicago and is getting married this summer, and their daughter **Emma Kathleen Derheimer '14** is finishing up her MSW through Boston University.

Excited to hear from **Donna Tolomeo Troyanowski!** She wrote, "Two sons got married in 2018. Gary married Geovanna in July. And our youngest son Grant married Carlynn in November. So we're now empty nesters. These four along with our sons Gregg Jr. and Glen will accompany my husband Gregg (ND '77) and me in October for our first trip back to South Bend in about 40 years. We plan to give the grand tour of both the Saint Mary's and Notre Dame campuses. We will also take them to Kubiaks, the place Gregg and I first met at a freshman happy hour. We don't know if that's the place to go these days, but we have to go there to at least get a picture of us by the Kubiaks sign. Of course we will also be going to the ND vs. Bowling Green football game. We are hoping that our daughters Lynette and Jennifer and their families will be able to join us as well. It will be a great time back in our old college town!"

**Mary Ann Murray Kimball** is still living in Pittsburgh with her husband Monty. They have four children. Her oldest daughter **Maura Kathleen Kimball '14** is living and working in Chicago. Her second daughter **Mary Elizabeth Kimball '16** is getting married in October, so Mary Ann has her hands full with wedding plans.

**Denisa Lynk** cryptically told me that her "life is boring and I have nothing to report." But I know that she is alive and well and still entertaining everyone with her antics in South Bend!

**Lynn Roberts Clarkson** wrote that her son Jeff is back in the military and is now a major. "My two daughters **Megan Elizabeth Clarkson '09**, **Lisa Marie Clarkson '14**, and I are giving serious consideration to attending the SMC Reunion." Lynn has long used her SMC nursing degree! In the last year she says she has participated in two "Patient Flow National Summits" as a speaker and she also received her American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) Board Certification as a "Nurse Executive" last August. "I am pretty proud of both those accomplishments," she writes, and deservedly so! "The bad news is my director position was eliminated/repurposed. I had been with Carle Foundation Hospital in Urbana, IL for 35½ years and I am now looking for new opportunities in nursing." She and husband Tom (ND '77) will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in August and she says she loves being a wife, mother to four wonderful kids, and grandma to two grandsons.

**Rene L. Bauman**, Lynn's roommate freshman and sophomore year who went back to Ohio halfway through college, works in banking these days.

**Maureen "Mo" Rothfuss Canter** of Painesville, OH told me that her oldest son Joey is a junior at the Farmers School of Business at Miami University in Oxford, OH, and second son Sammy is a freshman in the pharmacy school at Ohio Northern University.



### Maureen McFadden '79

received the Sagamore of the Wabash, which is the highest award any Hoosier can receive. This award was presented just prior to her retirement from WNDU-TV in South Bend after nearly 40 years with the network.

Her husband Don is in hotel construction and is often working far from home. For the first time in years, he is working now in Ohio. Mo is an accountant at a local hospital and also works as a full-time real estate agent. "Crazy life, busy, and can't believe how fast time goes," she says. "All is well and just trying to get the boys through school (five more years) and we will never retire! Dang!"

**Mary Liz Dunne Dudek** writes, "My family is very much looking forward to Reunion 2019. It is a special year for us as I will be celebrating my 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion along with my mother **Mary Ellen Deibler Dunne Gleason '49** and my daughter **Kathleen Dudek Douglass '09**. As an added blessing, we welcomed Elaine Mary Douglass into the family this year. Future Saint Mary's graduate of 2039! Wishing Saint Mary's continued success educating today's women."

As for me, I am still a reporter with both *The Daily Herald* newspaper in Arlington Heights, IL and its offshoot, Town Square Publications, which produces chamber of commerce directories for chambers all over the country. I produce the editorial content for about 30 of them every year. This May I got to spend about 10 days traveling in Scotland with my sister **Carolyn Powley Head '67** to find our roots! My husband Ed (ND '77) and I celebrated 37 years of "wedded bliss" in January and our three sons are all grown and living on their own. In fact, our youngest Andy is planning a wedding for June 2020.

So I have decided that 40 years of acting as class reporter for *Courier* is enough and hope that someone else is willing to take over. If you are interested, please contact the *Courier* office. Have a wonderful Reunion! I will be missing it.

## Reunion 2019!



Class of '09 attendees Samantha "Sammy" Marra, Emily Wickstrom Ruiz, Meredith Fantom, and Martha Smid Cosgrove





### EXCELSIOR

#### Anne M. Connolly '80

was named Division Chief of Neurology at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. In hand with her new role, Anne will also be a professor at The Ohio State University College of Medicine.

### EXCELSIOR

#### Shawn Kinter Nelson '80

has been appointed as the Special Assistant to the President for Board and Governmental/Community Relations at Carlow University in Pittsburgh.

## 1982

Susan Metallo  
sаметallo@gmail.com

From **Anne Purcell Bufalino**: Long-time reader, first time writing in! I am lucky that I was able to connect with lots of SMC '82 friends over the past year. Always nice to pick up where we left off no matter how much time has passed! Seb and I saw **Patti Brandy Connor** and Frank Conner (ND '82) along with **Anne Hesslerau Dondanville** and Dan Dondanville (ND '82) at the October 13 ND-Pitt game. We then went to ND-Northwestern with **Joanne Glockner Haley** and saw **Leslie Griffith Murphy**.



Susan Metallo, Anne Hesslerau Dondanville, Patti Brandy Connor, Beth Armstrong Perron, and Maria Valdivia Morgan.

We had a mini reunion in November with **Leslie Vite Dashiell**, **Sally Vita McNulty** and Tom McNulty (ND '82), **Mary Gene McLaughlin Davis**, and a few more ND '82 alumni hall alums as well to see our daughter Claire sing. Hoping to see all in the fall!

From myself and Anne: We are reporting from our annual reunion in John's Island at **Patti Brandy Connor** and Frank's (ND '82) home anticipating the arrival of **Beth Armstrong Perron** and **Maria Valdivia Morgan**. Between us we have five sons being married in the next year. Beth has a couple of grandchildren who are almost as cute as she is, and Anne and Dan are fighting Dan's ALS diagnosis by traveling and enjoying the moments. They are grateful for the love, support, and laughter shared with many of our classmates! Patti hosted Anne's oldest son's engagement with help from Maria. Sue is a Realtor in Cleveland and her son is now selling homes or renting homes in Chicago to many of our kids! Sue is also looking forward to her first grandchild's birth this spring. She also seems to have a radar for women wearing the French cross necklaces, having recently run into the late **Mary Helen Kenny Hammer's '83** daughters who are also the late **Florence M. Hammer's** nieces. Mary Helen and Flo would have been so proud of these young women who continue the family SMC legacy. For information on SMC crosses designed by Anne Hesslerau Dondanville, see [adesignandsons.com](http://adesignandsons.com).

## 1983

Sue Poss Harrison  
susanpharrison@gmail.com

Hi there classmates, I hope this finds you and your loved ones happy and healthy. Before I get to this issue's news, I just wanted to say that I send an email to all classmates three times a year asking if anyone has news for this column. I might not have all of your correct emails, so if you don't hear from me but would like to, please drop me a line with your current email address and I'll add you to my list. Thanks!

**Erin Foley Almanza** writes: "Our youngest Bella went off to Harvard last fall. She is playing volleyball for the Crimson and enjoyed her first season as a starter. Boone and I didn't miss a home match and even traveled to a tournament at Michigan last fall. Our middle child Madalena attends the University of Texas, and I love having her so close to home.

She pops in with her club volleyball team and we travel to watch her play. It was really fun to watch them compete and win the National Collegiate Club Championship in St. Louis last year. Albert, my oldest, is currently working on his MBA. I stay busy by working for the Austin real estate division of an oil and gas company based out of Midland. I am currently on the board for Catholic Charities of Central Texas and involved with my parish as one of their wedding coordinators. I really enjoy spending time outside whether it's in the yard, running, hiking, or hanging out at our home on the coast of Florida."

From **Melissa McLean DeBot**: "Steve (ND '83) and I always wanted six kids. I always wanted their names to start with M — we both got our wish. Margot (ND '12) graduated from Rush Medical College last April and is in her first year of Surgical Residency at the University of Colorado-Denver. She and her lovely fiancé Mollie are enjoying Colorado. Our oldest daughter Maddie (ND '09) is an academic advisor at Community College of Philly. She and husband Matt were married in 2017. Our oldest son McLean is launching his sales career, and his brother Michael is planning a 2020 graduation from Marquette University. We now live in downtown Milwaukee, which is thankfully very close to the airport so we can visit all of our beloved M's."

It was reported by **Mary Eileen Shelley Morrissey** that there was a third annual St. Patrick's Day lunch held for DC metro area classmates at The Irish Inn in Glen Echo, MD, where there was beer, Irish music, and dancing. Attending were: **Mary Loeser Shawhan**, **Maura O'Neil Kahn**, **Kelly Frances Craven**, **Sue Valpone**, **Heather Quinn Muckinhrn**, **Cathy Gibbons Morrissey**, **Aggie Roberts Mannix**, and **Mary Eileen Shelley Morrissey**.

From **Trish Sheehan Pearl**: "My husband John (ND '83) and I still live in Connecticut. He flies for American Airlines and I substitute teach. We have four daughters, three sons-in-law, and four grandchildren. **Christine Pearl Rostello '07** and her husband Erik are majors in the Army and based in Monterey, CA. They have three children. Our daughter **Lynda Marie Pearl '09** is a lieutenant commander in the Navy. She's an aviator and flies the Seahawk helicopter. She is based in Norfolk with her husband Cody, who works for Lockheed Martin, and they have one child. Our daughter Michelle lives in Ohio with her husband Dan. She works for an insurance company and Dan is a captain in the Air Force. Our youngest daughter **Alexa Meagan Pearl '15** is a first lieutenant in the Air Force. She is a navigator on the C-130 and is based in Atlanta. We were so fortunate to have everyone together last year over Christmas and are so very thankful for all our blessings. In the fall, we enjoy returning to South Bend for football and getting together with many of our college friends and family! Shout out to **Theresa Lynch Dockery** for always welcoming so many of us into her beautiful home!"

**Carol Knych Stephens'** youngest daughter **Joanie Stephens '21** spent her last spring semester in Rome and loved it. Carol was "anxious for her to come home, but grateful she had the opportunity to live in Rome."

## 1985

Elaine Suess  
laineysisnow@gmail.com

Greetings, classmates! I've been following **Anne Monastyrski StuerkeWeaver's** journey on Facebook. She lost her home in Paradise, CA and I especially wanted to share this with you. She and her daughters are safe.

"I have lived in the beauty of the Northern California foothills since 2000. My family and I had moved into our dream home in September 2017, after 17 years of roughing it in an older farm home in Paradise, CA. We were finally beginning to feel some fruit of our labors of love for the past 18 years, when the Fire of November 8, 2018 came. That day, I sat in stalled evacuation traffic while the town burned in front, behind, and alongside me for 3½ hours, traveling a mere five miles at a time. I was separated from Evelyn, my 12-year-old daughter, whom I had just dropped off at school. She evacuated safely to Chico with a school teacher. My 17-year-old daughter Julia was out of town, safe from the flames that consumed her cherished memories of her deceased father and her childhood.

In 2013, I had expanded my home-based practice of 12 years and opened an alternative and holistic healing center called O'Hana Health, serving local communities with compassion, offering many affordable services such as massage therapy (my passion), acupuncture, and yoga classes. Within hours of the fire, all of it was gone.

"We are blessed to have friends who opened their home to me, Evelyn, and Julia for months. To buy a home in nearby towns like Chico requires \$100K over the asking price. If you ask us, we will tell you we just want to go home. Evelyn and I are now in Kauai near my brother and his family, and Julia is staying with friends in California finishing up her senior year of high school. I applied for Red Cross help and find myself dealing with the trauma in small doses. If you feel called to help, send gift cards. Most of the millions being donated is not getting to the people who need it.

Through all of this I've been a witness to kindness, generosity, and compassion most of the time. And, I get to be ... grateful, practice acceptance, and remember that I live in abundance and serve a big God."

We are all on singular journeys, in many places around the globe, but our time at Saint Mary's

connects us in important ways. My heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to all who are struggling in some way and all classmates who have lost parents recently. Perhaps we can keep one another close in prayer and thought as a body of '85ers.

Please share any news here: [laineysisnow@gmail.com](mailto:laineysisnow@gmail.com). Blessings!

## 1988

MaryKay Kathleen Scheid  
marykay\_scheid@yahoo.com  
(909) 913-3013

Spring is in the air. We've moved the clocks ahead and we are fitting more into our days. We are all so busy!

In the two weeks before spring break, using funds from an arts grant I was awarded, I directed or stage managed three different productions.

Thank goodness I didn't have plans for any exotic expeditions; I needed some rest. But I fit in fun, too. I had a chance to connect with **Katy Kronenberg**

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**Penna** and **Moir Marie Michiels** as we volunteered to box up the final LA Club ornament (a beautiful French cross; visit [www.smcclub.org](http://www.smcclub.org) to order). I was thrilled to host **Mary La Sata Spiegel** and her daughter Eileen on their tour of the Claremont colleges. For the record, I am always happy to show folks around one of my favorite towns.

Many of us find ourselves doing the college thing again. **Rachel Bir Stroop** shares:

"Our daughter Beka is in her freshman year at IUPUI (Indianapolis). She is studying English education with a special ed endorsement. It has been a transition for all of us having her in college! Our other daughter Beth is a junior so we still get another 1½ years with her home. Currently she's thinking of studying elementary education. I'm still counseling at the high school I attended and am also co-president of our education association and Andy is still a district sales manager. Life is busy ... but we like it that way!"

**Anne Malespina Smith** is "getting ready for hip bursitis surgery (ugh)." But she too is part of the college scene, as her twins Justin and Dylan are "knee deep in college" planning. She will have three boys in college next year.

There are fresh starts for some of us too; **Kathleen Mary Moran** started a new job this year. She explains: "I am now working back in my specialty area, which is autism and communication disorders. I am in a self-contained special education classroom, still in Chicago."

Thanks to everyone for sharing your news. I look forward to hearing from you next time!

## 1989

**Karen E. Crespy**  
[kcrespy@yahoo.com](mailto:kcrespy@yahoo.com)

Reunion is over, but your news and updates are still needed for our next class report! Please send to the email address noted above.

**Mimi Tuohy O'Leary** and her husband Mike (ND '89) started a new adventure in February opening a new business, Class 101 of the Treasure Coast, where Mimi does college planning with high school students and SAT/ACT test prep courses. Their youngest son Jack is heading to Notre Dame this fall, which means that all three of their children are in college: Joe at Auburn, and Mary Kate and Jack at Notre Dame.

Living in Franklin, TN, **Carolyn Hawthorne Slandzicki** joined the marketing team of a boutique physical therapy group and is enjoying being back into the workplace after several years as a stay-at-home mom. Carolyn and her husband Jamie (ND '89) took a fabulous spring break trip to Italy with their son Michael, a senior at the University of Tennessee, and daughter Mary Cate, a junior at Father Ryan High School, to visit their daughter **Bridget Nicole Slandzicki '21**, a Saint Mary's College rising junior biology major who was studying in Rome through Saint Mary's study abroad program. The family dined with other SMC study abroad students and saw how Bridget was living life to the fullest during her time in Europe! Carolyn only wishes she had taken advantage of the study abroad programs during her college years.

**Tammy Suth Crowe** and Tom (ND '89) celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 11 and are officially empty nesters! Three of their daughters live and work in Boston, MA: Chelsey is married to Cameron Vens and manages an office for Atrium Staffing; Kiersten is a nurse at Massachusetts General Hospital; and Madeline is working for Oracle. One lives in Chicago: Gabriella is in medical sales for Bausch & Lomb.

NOTE: Many of your email addresses are out of date, so please take a moment to update your information with Saint Mary's or through your class reporter. Keep in touch!

## 1990

**Sue Elizabeth O'Connor**  
[sueoc17@gmail.com](mailto:sueoc17@gmail.com)  
[facebook.com/sue.oconnor](https://facebook.com/sue.oconnor)

Hello, Class of 90! Just a short update this time around!

**Tina Donahue Hatch** writes in with the following news: "After six years in compounding pharmaceutical sales (custom/specialty), Tina was laid off in the fall of 2018. Instead of interviewing in Big Pharma, she decided to use the money from her side gig as a commercial actor to invest in an accelerated real estate course. Her younger brother in Charlotte, NC has been a Realtor and broker for years and kept encouraging her to do this, but with a full-time job it was not something she had considered. After passing the class and state exams, Tina is now licensed as a Realtor in the Commonwealth of Virginia! She is very excited about this new career venture (at age 50!) and still does the commercial acting as well."

Don't forget to join our SMC 90 Facebook group to reconnect with your fellow classmates. We're now nearly 200 strong in the group! Just type in SMC 90 in the search bar on Facebook!

## 1991

**Lisa Kosty Dincolo**  
[smcbelles91@gmail.com](mailto:smcbelles91@gmail.com)

Hello, ladies!

Many of us are celebrating a milestone birthday this year! In my group, we celebrated the first 50<sup>th</sup> of 2019 in Highland Park in January for my roomie **Maureen O'Neil Butler**! Belles both near and far were in attendance, including **Anne McCullough Day**, **Erin Cusack Micklo**, **Anne Parker Baker**, **Ann Brennan Cooper**, **Maureen Nicknish Goldin**, **Kristen Sullivan Lynch**, and of course, yours truly! **Lowell Ann Lehmann** was unable to attend; however, our always thoughtful girl did send a case of bubbly to toast our sweet friend! Great party, planned and coordinated by Mo's hubby Mike (ND '91).

In her role as director of marketing and communications for the Michigan West Coast Chamber of Commerce in Holland, MI, **Caroline McNeive Monahan** traveled to Washington, DC with the Great Lakes Metro Chambers Coalition. She met with legislators at the White House to lobby on issues related to the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, trade and tariffs, education and workforce development, and infrastructure. In March, she presented on innovative digital sales and marketing techniques at the National Sales Conference for Chambers in Dallas, TX. She has also been invited to present at the National Conference for Chamber of Commerce Executives in Long Beach, CA in July. Congrats, Carol!

**Judith (Jody) Eckrich Julian** shares: "For the last 10 years, I've been speaking to the Intro to Speech Pathology class at Saint Mary's, coincidentally taught

by our classmate **Susan Olney Latham**! I share how both book knowledge and creativity play a key role in teaching children on the autism spectrum. My son Frankie, who has autism, has benefited greatly from such methods. Also, the Saint Mary's grad program for autism studies begins this summer! This will be huge for our community! One of their programs is called Autism Mentoring, and Frankie and I will be participating. One of the grad students will be paired with Frankie and shadow him for 10–15 hours this summer. Through time at home, summer school for health class, driver's ed, the student will be able to learn about Frankie one-on-one this way! He and I are very excited about this! Way to go, Jody and Frankie!

**Lynne (Toni) Olivieri Barton** has been doing some amazing work. She is the director of global and tech integration at Fountain Valley School, a boarding school in Colorado. She has traveled to the Dominican Republic, Thailand, and China with her students! Toni and her husband are now empty nesters and enjoying life on the thousand-acre campus in an adobe house! How cool!

As for me, my husband and I took a trip to San Juan for my big birthday! I've also had fun visiting with various nieces and nephews who are under the Dome, including my sister's oldest, my nephew Sean, as well as Una, daughter of **Ann Brennan Cooper**, and my godson Matthew, son of **Shug aka Amelia Savelle Bartilotti** and Rich (ND '90).

Speaking of Shug, she is heading back to school! She'll be joining the Educational Leadership and Policy program at the University of Virginia this year! Congrats! Oh, and our little DIY girl has also learned how to upholster furniture in her spare time! Move over, Chip and Joanna!

Don't be shy, ladies! Please continue to share your good news with your fellow Belles. Reach out to me on Facebook or at [smcbelles91@gmail.com](mailto:smcbelles91@gmail.com)!



**Rachel Thomas Morgan '91**  
won one of the South Bend Common Council At-Large seats in early May.

## 1992

**Patsy McGowan Donahue**  
[smc92news@yahoo.com](mailto:smc92news@yahoo.com)

So great to hear from **Sharon Zint Marts** as 2018 was quite a year for the Marts family. They moved from the San Francisco East Bay to the North Bay, and had their high school daughter Erika finish senior year in their old hometown. Erika now attends Cal Poly. Their two other children Kira and Cole attend Saint Rose Catholic School, which was badly burned in the Santa Rosa/Wine Country fires in 2017. Rebuilding is slow in Sonoma and Napa but it is happening! Sharon finished her doctorate in 2013 but then lost both of her parents to Parkinson's disease not long after. After a career pause, Sharon has a one-year post-grad fellowship that started in the fall of 2018 at UC Davis to learn about neurodevelopmental disabilities. She released a co-authored self-published book called *Fruits of Care* on family caregiving last year.

**Mimi Brennan Gehres** and **Becky McMahon Ronan**, who were roommates freshman year, recently connected on Facebook and realized they are both raising daughters with Down syndrome. Mimi's daughter Abby, 16, and Becky's daughter Frannie, 8, both recently participated in national Special Olympics events. Frannie was the youngest gymnast at the USA games that took place in Seattle from July 1–6, earning two silver and two bronze medals. Abby participated in the Special Olympics 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in Chicago later in July —she competed in cheer at the Global Day of Inclusion, winning a gold medal with her team JOY from Montgomery County, MD and cheered at the first Unified Soccer Cup that took place during the celebration weekend.

Please let me know if you have any news to share with your class. You can send an email or DM at our Saint Mary's Class of 1992 Facebook group, which now has 226 members.

From Michaeline Feldman Barnes:

"My husband Lee and I have been happily married for almost 25 years and continue to raise our family in Naperville, IL. Lee continues to manage his consulting company, Utopia Solutions, as it approaches its 20-year anniversary. I 'retired' from my software consulting position at Accenture in 2001 and continue to care for, and manage, the day-to-day family responsibilities of our family of nine. Our oldest daughter Nicole graduated from Marquette University in 2017, where she played volleyball for four years and double majored in finance and IT. She married her 'college sweetheart' in June 2018 and they reside in Milwaukee, where she works as a financial analyst. Our second oldest and only son Lee will graduate from Marquette in May 2019 with a double major in finance and IT. He played hockey at MU for a couple of years before starting an IT internship, and after graduation he will start his job as an IT analyst in Milwaukee. Our third oldest Lauren is a sophomore at the University of Minnesota, where she plays on the volleyball team and is studying in the Carlson School of Business. We celebrated with Lauren and her Gopher teammates as they captured the BIG Volleyball Championship in 2018! Our fourth oldest Kathryn is

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a senior at Benet Academy and will be attending Saint Mary's College next fall as a member of the Class of 2023! I took her to visit my niece **Rachel Louise Moore '18** and she loved everything about the campus and school. I couldn't be more excited for her to continue her education at my alma mater! Our fifth oldest Caroline is a sophomore at Benet Academy and has verbally committed to study and play volleyball at the University of Illinois as a member of the Class of 2025. Her dad couldn't be happier that she will be studying (engineering or business) at his alma mater! Our sixth oldest Jennifer is an eighth grader at Covenant Classical School in Naperville and will be attending Benet Academy in the fall of 2019. Our youngest Jillian is a fourth grader and is also at Covenant Classical School. Life is very busy, but wonderful!"



EXCELSIOR

### Stacy Lynett '94

was named one of the "Notable Women in Tech" in 2018 by *Crain's Detroit Business* for her career accomplishments, involvement in nonprofits, and mentorship to others in their field. Stacy is the Executive Director and CIO, Global Information Technology at General Motors.



EXCELSIOR

### Megan Bruchas Brunson '96

was elected President of the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses. She has been involved with the organization for over 15 years.

## 1999

Bridgett Sullivan  
SMCBelles99@gmail.com

Hello, fellow class of '99 Belles. I just got back from attending my first Reunion, where I was inspired to take a more active role in our Alumnae opportunities. I am especially excited for the opportunity to be able to help share all the amazing things happening in the lives of our classmates. As for myself, my husband and I have five kids; Abby, 17; Eleanor, almost 15; Jeb, 12; Louisa, 10; and Hugh, 7. My husband is active duty military, so we have moved eleven times in the last 20 years. We are currently living in Fort Bragg, NC, but probably won't be here for much longer before we call a new place home. I spend most of my free time volunteering for both military family programs and my kids' various schools. Last year, I was honored to be elected a member of the Fort Bragg School Board. I am eager to hear from all of you and to pass along your updates as well. Contact me at SMCBelles99@gmail.com.

## 2001

Alyson Leatherman  
alysonleatherman@gmail.com

Dearest 2001 Belles, I hope that the warm weather and sunshine is upon you. Here is the latest and greatest from our class.

**Molly Gast Holzrichter** checked in with an update. "In July, our family relocated a few blocks away into a new home, so we've been busy decorating and making it ours."

In January, my company, Barry-Wehmiller, promoted me to an HR director in our BW Papersystems Division. Luckily I get to stay at the same facility, but just do a little extra travel to our other locations. This year our family also has the privilege of hosting a foreign exchange student, Jay, from Japan. It has been a delight to have him in our home."

And **Jillian Koepke Pantano** added, "I'm still loving living in the Sunshine State of Florida, in Tampa! On February 1, I went back to the company where I had my very first sales job in 2004, iHeartMedia (then it was Clear Channel). I'm very excited about this opportunity, as the nine years I was elsewhere really prepared me for the role I currently sit in, which is focusing on growing iHeartMedia's digital capabilities within the CPG (consumer packaged goods) community. My husband Patrick and I are looking forward to spending time with **Emily Swiss Bennett '02, Molly Banahan Edwards, Jessica Claes Mumaw, Missy Bittner Sharpe**, and their husbands over Memorial Day weekend in Cape Cod!"

And lastly, all is well in my corner of the world. Like many of us, I celebrated my 40<sup>th</sup> birthday and I'm excited to see what this decade will bring. I also just returned from a lovely few days in Victoria, Canada for spring break. Until next time, my best.



EXCELSIOR

### Megan McKeon '01

was named Clark Hill's Director of Business Development in January 2019. In her new role, she will oversee domestic and international development efforts across 25 offices in places as diverse as Ireland and Mexico.

## 2002

Jaime Dineen Gleason  
irishlass12@hotmail.com

**Kristen Priganc Hackl** : "I'm happy to share that I married James Hackl on September 17, 2016. **Katy Heil Conway** was by my side as maid of honor to celebrate our big day. We welcomed our first child Henry Dennis Hackl on April 15, 2017. He was born at 24 weeks and six days, weighing 2 pounds, 2 ounces. After a 20-week stay in the NICU, we brought our son home and have enjoyed watching him grow and spread joy to everyone he meets. While I was sad to miss our Reunion, spending those weeks watching my little guy endure surgeries and come out so strong was one of the most powerful experiences of my entire life. I am in my third year with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools as a new teacher support coordinator for Title I schools. I support teachers in their first three years through coaching and targeted professional development."



## 2003

Meganne Hoffman Brezina  
meganneh@gmail.com

Receiving your updates is such a great joy and something that I look forward to every year. Thank you for staying in touch!

**Bethany Schmidt Beresheim** and her husband Tom, along with their son and daughter, lovingly welcomed their third child Lucy Nelle on December 21, 2018.

**Katie-Nell Scanlon O'Connell** and her family welcomed a new daughter on October 10, 2018. Ainsley Regan O'Connell was warmly received by her older brother Finn and sister Addie! Katie Nell's husband accepted a new position in downtown Chicago with his company of 15 years, Northern Trust. So for now, they will stay put in the Midwest.

**Jessica Saxton Fraser** was recently named in this year's class of the *Indianapolis Business Journal's* 40 under 40! <https://www.ibj.com/articles/72381-forty-under-40-jessica-d-fraser>. Congratulations, Jessica! She and her family reside in Indianapolis.

**Tami Kozlowski Frankmann** married her best friend and love of her life Jacob Frankmann on October 20, 2018 at Saint Valentine Catholic Church in her hometown of Redford, MI. The unseasonably wacky weather did not stop them and their loved ones from enjoying a fall-themed, heated tent reception at Island Lake Recreation Area in Brighton, MI. **Lisa Gill Grabowski** and **Teri Neer Meucci** stood lovingly by their former roomie's side, and **Amy Greene Smith, Lauren Dasso Stalter**, and **Megan Gill Stempin '08** attended and added to the fun and laughter of the day. **Adrienne Dorbish Pietropaolo** and **Jena Morreale Corsello** were unable to attend and were greatly missed!

Tami and Jacob met through their work in the mental health field. They enjoyed spending time together at their home in Redford, MI after the wedding as they enjoyed a "pre-honeymoon" when they visited **Teri Neer Meucci** and her husband Claudio Meucci in Rome and spent a few weeks traveling Italy this past August.

It was really wonderful to hear from **Meghan Hajduch-Hamilton**. Meghan writes, "My update to share is that after 12 years of practice, I opened

my own dental practice in September of 2018, Brookridge Dentistry and Orthodontics in Overland Park, KS. I have two beautiful children, Vivienne, almost 4, and Beau, almost 2. I still keep in close touch with **Emily Storer Perkins**, who lives in South Bend and has two boys of her own."

**Bridget Myers Mullins, Lauren Hofer Damron**, and I had the joy of attending the marriage of **Valerie Joy Gillis** to Scott Brown and their subsequent celebration at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago on September 14, 2018. It was a beautiful affair and the bride was radiant!

In personal news, my husband Chuck, son Sam, and I welcomed our daughter Sofia Madden on March 21, 2019. With her dark hair and healthy appetite, it's safe to say that her Italian heritage is already shining through! When I head back to work in July, I'll be taking on a new role at Emarsys as a senior manager of global commercial enablement.

Keep sharing your news with us! It is so much fun to hear how you are doing.



EXCELSIOR

### Abby Van Vlerah '04

has been named Vice President for Student Affairs at Manchester University, North Manchester, IN. Before transitioning into her new role, Abby was at Long Island University as a Dean and Chief Operating Officer at one of the regional campuses.

## 2006

Ellen Louise Riley-Davis  
erileydavis@gmail.com

As I write this, spring break is about to start, and as you read this, summer is just beginning!

**Marisa Frances Sandahl** and Levi Beach were married on July 28, 2018. Marisa is now the proud stepmother to Levi's daughter, Lydia Beach.

Nicole Kusack Zamorano married Carlos Zamorano on August 25, 2018. Saint Mary's friends in attendance were **Sarah Michna Betustak, Elizabeth Palasky DiPoalo, Jennifer Parker Sandstrum, Danielle Lerner Porteus, Jill Funnell Savage, Sarah Borkowski Henderson**, and **Kristen Vokaty Thomas**.

**Jennifer Warfel Juszkiewicz** returned to Saint Mary's as the director of the Writing Center and part of the faculty of the English department. She began in August 2018. Jennifer and her husband Ryan Juszkiewicz adopted their foster children Amelia Anne and Mitch Javier on December 13, 2018 and welcomed Zella Lynn on January 23, 2019. **Colleen Patricia Bruen, Molly Terese Burns**, and **Rachel Claire Trinkley** all joined her for the baby shower.

**Margaret Jennifer Barreto** married her husband, Andrew Smith, on October 13, 2018. **Esther Maria Probst** was a bridesmaid. **Ximena Williams-Olivera**, Terriss Conterato (ND '05), and David González (ND '07) were in attendance.

**Kimberly Smith Miller** and her husband Logan Miller welcomed their son Rowan Thomas Miller on November 19, 2018.

**Angela Rizzo Gay**, Matt Gay, and big sisters Katherine and Audrey, welcomed Elliott Matthew Gay. He was born on December 18, 2018.

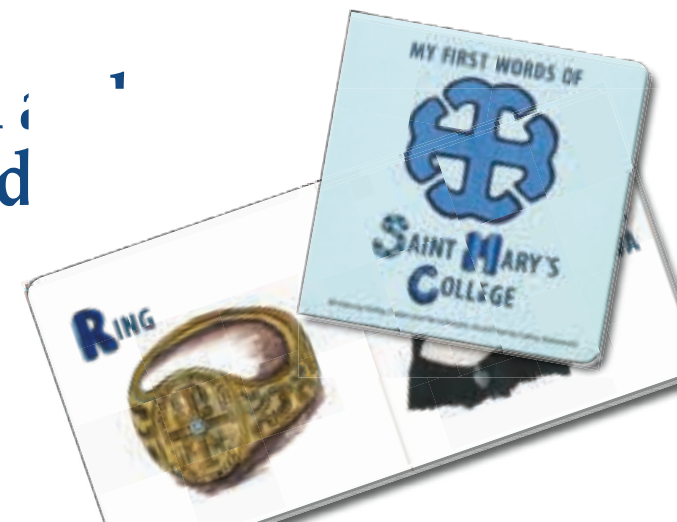
**Maria Francesca Muscarello-Sotelo** and her husband Danny Sotelo, Jr. welcomed Giuliana Ilaria Sotelo into the world on January 19, 2019.

**Katherine Kelly Valent** is happy to report that she has been promoted to member at her law firm, Scheef & Stone. Scheef & Stone is a full-service business law firm in Texas. Her primary practice area is construction, real estate, and business law.

## New Children's Book Written & Illustrated by Saint Mary's Students

This book was published in honor of the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Saint Mary's College. The proceeds for the book benefit Moreau Nursery and Primary School in Uganda.

Order yours today at [bkstr.com/saintmarysstore](http://bkstr.com/saintmarysstore) or call (574) 284-4719.





## 2007

Lisa Victoria Gallagher  
lgalla01@gmail.com

On March 5, 2019 at 1:28 p.m., **Jennifer Pehling Eve** and her husband LJ Eve welcomed their first baby Elizabeth Roselyn Jane Eve. Mama and baby Ellie are both doing great!

**Sarah Mullin Scheuer** and husband Matt welcomed fifth child Callahan Louise Scheuer on March 11, 2019. Her older four brothers are in love!

**Julie Malone Hum** and Houston Hum (ND '07) celebrated the baptism of their daughter Hazel Maeve this past summer. Hazel's godmother is **Katie Osmack Shute**. On November 19, 2018, their family welcomed a third daughter Harper Grace. She joins big sisters Hadley, 4, and Hazel, 1. Julie is an assistant professor at Marian University's College of Osteopathic Medicine. She has enjoyed teaching some future Belle physicians. She was named the co-director of Marian University's Bone and Mineral Research Group and elected as a counselor to the Indiana Physiological Society.

## 2008

Cate Cetta Scola  
catherine.cetta@gmail.com

Natalie Elizabeth Grasso  
natgrass@gmail.com

**Corey Duff Troia** and Andrew (ND '08) welcomed their second child, daughter Shea Katherine Troia on March 11, 2019.

### EXCELSIOR

#### Razia Stanikzai '08

is now the Deputy Director of Education Programs for The Asia Foundation in Afghanistan.

## 2010

Michelle Alyse Giannola  
SaintMarysCollege2010@gmail.com

Hello, Belles! We only had a few updates this time around, but I foresee with the warmer weather approaching and summer beginning soon, there will be many more updates in the coming months!

**Heather Quick Ginevan** and Mark Ginevan welcomed their little girl Reese Elizabeth into the world on July 21, 2018.

**Maggie McNicholas Sayles** and husband Michael Sayles (ND '10) welcomed their third baby Rori Katherine on October 15, 2018. Big sister Ava and big brother Keegan are proud siblings to their little sister.

**Michele Peterson O'Sullivan** married Patrick O'Sullivan on September 28, 2018 at Rhinegeist Brewery in Cincinnati, OH. Her matron of honor was **Kara Rusnak Schwitters**, and bridesmaids included **Jacqueline Cattie DeGulis** and **Samantha Peterson Harty '08**. Michele's aunt **Jenny Douthart Peterson '96** was also in attendance. Michele and Patrick live in Cincinnati, where she works at a shopper marketing agency.

**Brigid Kathleen Diaz** married Ernie Krause in Minneapolis on July 7, 2018. Bridesmaids included **Megan Marie DeShetler**, **Morgan Rebecca Light**, and **Stephanie Anne Strasser**. Other Belles in attendance were **Kristen Starkey Hanauer** and **Carly Anne Zagaroli**.

Remember, you can send your marriages, births, reunions, graduations, new career opportunities, traveling, becoming homeowners and pet owners via email throughout the year!



Trip to Colorado at Saint Mary's Glaciers with Jody Kathleen Brezette (right) and Amy Leicht Kilbur.

Peace out, Belles!

## 2011

Christina Kolling Carlson  
cmkolling@gmail.com

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and that this issue finds you in good health and happiness. As always, if you have any class news you would like to submit, you can email it to me at any time. Congratulations to everyone below on your exciting news! Go Belles!

**Kristen Marie Metzger** married William Joseph Cernanec (ND '12) on September 16, 2017 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Indianapolis. Mother-of-the-bride was **Eileen O'Brien Metzger '84**. Fellow 2011 Belles who stood up as bridesmaids included **Rachel Newkirk Barsella**, **Andrea Danielle Deja**, **Maura Sommers Rahm**, and **Christina Marie Rising**. In attendance were many SMC grads spanning several generations: **Kathleen O'Brien Miller '75**, **Colleen O'Brien Scheidler '79**, **Maureen O'Brien Kohler '81**, **Anne Patricia Welsh '84**, **Caroline M. Gillespie-Rhinehart '87**, **Christeen O'Brien Paulison '90**, **Charleen O'Brien Vierhile '91**, **Monica Cernanec Morin '99**, **Katie Miller Kuhn'04**, **Katie Kohler Dalhoff '09**, **Megan Miller Stickley**, **Maggie Williams Gratson**, **Anna Kastelic Florencki**, **Marie Naylor Rehagen**, **Colette Anne Bradley**, **Molly Haigh**, **Megan Louise Haigh**, **Katie Ciresi O'Brien '12**, **Julia Humphrey Everett '12**, and **Maddie Rose Kohler '16**. William and Kristen welcomed their son

Brady O'Brien on July 25, 2018. Brady weighed 7 pounds 9 ounces and measured 20 inches long. The Cernanec family is happily residing in South Bend.

**Anne Maureen Maguire** completed her MSN in Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner with an HIV Specialty, August 2018 from Duke University. Anne relocated to New York City, where she is working as an NP in HIV Primary Care at Mount Sinai West.

**Chelsea Victoria Mitchell** and husband Carter Whitton welcomed their daughter Ave Maria Mitchell Whitton on August 27, 2018 at 5:24 p.m. Ave Maria weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces and was 20 inches long. The Mitchell Whitton family is currently residing in Shelbyville, KY.

**Nicole Taylor Dent** and husband Rick welcomed their first son Jack Dorwin on October 8, 2018 at 3:41 p.m. Jack weighed 7 pounds 14 ounces and was 20.25 inches long. The Dent family is currently living in Fort Wayne, IN.

**Lina Birute Jarasius** married Ryan Costello on October 13, 2018 in Denver, CO. **Kendra Fallet Greenmyer '10** was in attendance. The newlyweds are living in Portland, OR.

**Claire Marie Schaffner** married Matthew Watson on October 26, 2018 in Indianapolis, IN. **Kayleigh Christine Young** and **Katie Staak Flowers** were readers at the wedding. The newlyweds are currently living in Denver, CO.

**Emily Treat Fox** and husband Nathan welcomed their first son Liam Thomas on October 30, 2018 at 2:56 a.m. Liam weighed 8 pounds 10 ounces and was 21 inches long. The Fox family is residing in Indianapolis, IN

**Brianna Lamp Wessel** and husband Drew welcomed their first daughter Clare Joan on November 29, 2018 at 2:12 a.m. Clare weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces and was 19.5 inches long. They are so in love with her and hoping she will join the SMC Class of 2041. The Wessel family moved to Hampshire, IL in February 2018.

**Alison Chudzinski Miller** received her master's of nurse anesthesia in December 2018 and passed her national certification exam. She is now practicing as a nurse anesthetist in Toledo, OH.

**Jessica Schott Lezynski** and husband Nick welcomed their second daughter Bryn Noelle on December 14, 2018 at 10:57 a.m. Bryn weighed 6 pounds 9 ounces and was born at Memorial Hospital in South Bend. Their oldest Sloane is excited to be a big sister.

**Sara Hickey Crandall** married Michael Fanger on March 2, 2019, in Grosse Pointe, MI. In the wedding party, one of her bridesmaids was Erin Hurley (ND '11) and one of the readers was **Elizabeth Reed Young**. Sara and Mike moved back to Sara's hometown, Grosse Pointe, in October 2018 after living in Chicago.

**Kristina Marinelli McCorry** and husband Andrew are thrilled to have welcomed their first son James Gregory on March 5, 2019 at 10:40 p.m. James weighed 7 pounds 13 ounces and measured 20.5 inches long. The McCorry family is residing in Chicago.

**Maire Ready DeLand** and husband Ben welcomed their son Alden Patrick into this world on March 6, 2019 at 4:58 a.m. Alden weighed 9 pounds 3 ounces and was 21.25 inches long. The DeLand family is residing in Ann Arbor, MI.

## 2012

Kate Alycia Kirbie  
SMCclass2012@gmail.com

We have a number of exciting and spectacular updates this season:

**Danielle Brink Pettifor** graduated from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine in 2018 and now works as a veterinarian in Holland, MI.

**Carrie Altick Maierhofer** will move to Cambridge, MA this August to attend Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, where she will work towards a master's degree in international education policy.



### EXCELSIOR

#### Elizabeth Munger '12

was honored with the Golden Apple Award from the Diocese of Toledo in Ohio.

**Lindsey Jean Stuss** married Tyler Gillen on November 17, 2018 at St. Mary Catholic Church in downtown Indianapolis, IN. **Caitlin Mary Puntillo** was her matron of honor and **Natalie Barten Sharbrough** was one of her bridesmaids.

**Kelley Murphy Enzweiler** got married to Matthew Enzweiler (ND '13, ND Law '16) on December 15, 2018 in Kansas City, MO. She also graduated with her DNP-FNP advanced practice nursing degree in April from Rush University College of Nursing and is seeking family nurse practitioner jobs in the Chicago area.

**Alicia Carroll Dreyer** married Paul Dreyer on January 12, 2019. **Madison April Carroll '15** was her maid of honor. Alicia and Paul live in Denver, CO.

**Stephanie Cherpak Clary** was promoted to assistant director of communication for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Burlington. Stephanie also had two articles published by Catholic News Service: "Learning to Lose Control" about her experience as a new mom and "This Lent, Go Without," a reflection on the Gospel reading for the first Sunday of Lent.

**Kate Alycia Kirbie** is transferring within the Milwaukee Public Schools to work at Bay View Montessori School as a lower elementary Montessori teacher.

**Joan Lawrence Moore** began a new job as a clinical trial manager with Nektar Therapeutics in November 2018. She is managing the startup of a Phase II metastatic urothelial carcinoma study. **Angela May Willson-Conrad** and her husband James Conrad bought a home in Palmetto, FL as Angela began a new job at Keiser University in Sarasota as a chemistry instructor.

**Brittany VanSnepton** won a National Native Media Award for her feature article in a tribal magazine and started a new position at Saginaw Valley State University as content editor and developer after relocating upon the death of her beloved twin brother on December 22, 2017.

**Noelle Doundoulakis Hubbard** left the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs and started as chief, congressional affairs with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

**Alicia Smith Albertson** was named partner at her law firm, Ryan, Moore, Cook, Triplett, and Albertson, LLP as of July 1, 2018. Alicia and her husband Nathan Albertson (ND '12) also welcomed the birth of Patrick Nicholas Albertson on July 30, 2018. He joins Alicia, Nathan, and their 2-year-old daughter Charlotte in the family.

**Brittany Sinka Szuba** and her husband John welcomed their daughter Leighton Valerie to their family on July 18, 2018.

**Peggy Dobihal Torbert** moved from Seattle, WA to Eagan, MN in August 2018. Peggy and her husband Charlie Torbert (ND '12) welcomed their second child, a baby boy named Brandon Louis Torbert on December 23, 2018.

**Lauren Toth Vassar** and her husband Ryan Vassar welcomed the birth of their daughter Hope Elise Vassar on January 3, 2019. The family recently moved to a new residence in Highland, IN.

## 2013

Amy Elizabeth Tiberi  
tiber01@gmail.com

Meaghan Kathryn Feasel  
mkfeasel@gmail.com

Hello, Class of 2013! Here are some of the recent happenings for the women of our class.

**Taylor Clarice Hans** began a job as the lead clinician at Beacon House, a residential and outpatient addiction treatment center in Pacific Grove, CA. **Kaitlyn Elizabeth Takach** graduated

medical school and is starting an emergency residency in July. **Brittani Hradsky** started a position as an associate manager for commercial planning with PepsiCo in White Plains, NY. Her updated address is 167 Henry, Greenwich, CT.

**Therese Ferrera Salinas** married her husband Steven at the Church of Our Lady of Loretto, Notre Dame, IN, on May 13, 2017. **Briana Sydney Berwick** and **Maria Christine Sheehan** served as her maids of honor. Steven and Theresa also welcomed their first child Isla Luz on December 6, 2018. **Bethany Emenhiser Falvey** was wed to her husband Matthew Falvey. **Mary McMahon Keller** and Peter Keller celebrated the birth of their first child Olivia Rose Keller in May 2018.

If you have something that you'd like to share in an upcoming edition of *Courier*, please email us. As a reminder, we are unable to publish engagements or pregnancies until after the date of the wedding has passed or after the baby has been born. Thanks so much, Belles!

## 2014

Kathleen Elizabeth Sullivan  
belles2014news@gmail.com

Galicia Chantal Guerrero  
belles2014news@gmail.com

As we write this report we are eagerly counting down the days to our first Reunion! It is hard to believe it is coming up so soon! We are excited to spend a few days on campus catching up with you all and reliving some of our favorite memories. We hope to see many of you there!

In light of it being wedding season, we have quite a few weddings to celebrate! **Liz Concepcion** married Patrick Raycroft (ND '14) on August 11, 2018. Bridesmaids **Megan Elizabeth Harr**, **McKenna Leigh Schuster '15**, and **Clare Maureen Maher '15** proudly celebrated this special day with Liz. Next, **Catherine (Grace) Connolly Powers** said "I do" and married Spencer Powers on December 8, 2018 in Chicago. Last, **Erin Duffy Correll** married in November 2018. She is proud to report that she is now a double Belle, graduating from Saint Mary's graduate Speech Pathology program. After graduation, she moved to Wisconsin to start her career as a speech pathologist.

Many of our classmates are starting their families and have blissfully welcomed their first children! **Lisa Soper Soegaard** and Javier Soegaard (ND '10) welcomed their first future Belle Magdalena "Maggie" Devine Soegaard on February 15, 2019. **Ashley Plenzler Walsh** and Colin Walsh welcomed their own baby girl Maeve Marguerite Walsh on November 24, 2018. Last, **Megan Golden Ganser** and Lou Ganser (ND '13, '14) were blessed with the birth of baby boy Maximilian George Ganser on March 4, 2019.



It comes as no surprise, but we also have many Belles taking on the world and advancing their careers. **Brianna Rose Stanbrough** started graduate school at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology for clinical mental health counseling. **Hannah Marie Richmond** is finishing up her second year of law school at Ohio Northern University Pettit College of Law in Ada, OH. She was just accepted into the Rural Summer Clerkship Program and will be working with a law firm in Coshocton, OH this summer. **Katie Mary Pummill** received her social work license and is loving her new job working directly with kids who are on the autism spectrum. **Arianna Teresa Bonomi** received her broker's license and is beginning a career in real estate in the Chicagoland area. **Gabby Elyse Sanchez** is excited to begin her new job as a school-based clinician through the University of Maryland School of Medicine in a School-Based Mental Health Program serving the Baltimore city schools. In June 2018, **Katie Ann Haemmerle** graduated with a master's of fine arts in creative writing (poetry) from the University of Oregon. She now happily lives and works in San Francisco. **Claire Gerard Creely** also graduated with her master's degrees in clinical mental health counseling and expressive arts therapy from Lesley University. She moved to Chicago and began a new position as a young adult therapist at Compass Health Center.

It is truly exciting to continually see our classmates make a tremendous difference in their own communities and carry on the mission of what it means to be a Saint Mary's woman. We can't wait to see everyone soon at Reunion. Continue to keep in touch! #GoBelles

## 2015

Nicole Elizabeth O'Toole  
nicoleotoole128@gmail.com

From the *Courier* Office

**Nicole Elizabeth O'Toole** has offered to become our class reporter for the Class of 2015. Please send any updates and news to Nicole. Looking forward to seeing '15 news in *Courier*!



### Nicole Brown '15

won the Elementary Teacher of the Year Award from School City of Mishawaka in May. Nicole is at Beiger Elementary School, where she teaches kindergarten.

## 2016

Jennifer Anne Vosters  
smc16news@gmail.com

Happy spring, Belles!

This past March, **Miranda Elizabeth Oltmanns** married Thomas Hoy in the couple's hometown of Olmsted Falls, OH. Many Belles were present, including **Carrie Ann Dubeau, Sarah Eiker Schiferl, Colleen Michael True, Anna Cronin Lacey, Andree Wilson-Nixa, Olivia Mary Beck, Allison Natalia Lukomski, and Rose Katelin Krzemiens**. Congratulations and best wishes, Miranda!

**Allison Leigh D'Ambrosia** was elected the graduate student body president at Oxford University in England! The entire student community elected her into this prestigious office, and she will focus her term on mental health policy and other university policymaking and lobbying. She is currently completing her master's of theology in applied theology and will be in England for the next year. Congratulations, Allison! You're making your Belles proud!

Don't forget to submit your class news to smc16news@gmail.com! Updates like weddings, babies, graduations, accomplishments, new jobs, new homes, new cities, and Belles reunions are always welcome.

## 2017

From the *Courier* Office

**Deidre Lyons Brower** married Brandon Michael Brower on September 29, 2017. They are happy to announce the birth of son Olen Dean Brower on January 29, 2019.

# Climbing Le Mans

Sisters of forty-five years,  
Today I climbed Le Mans,  
Trudging narrow steep steps,  
Bracing between cold stone walls  
Lacking railings to guide my way,  
Catching my breath  
Landing after landing  
Turn after turn  
In the darkness until

Four Tudor arches drew me into dazzling white sun,  
Directing my gaze across patterned chimney pots  
Towards the basilica spire and golden dome.  
Our Lady whispered softly to me in words that were  
Tender, strong, and true.

Yet my heart turned back to Loretto,  
Her towers calling me home,  
Her bells pealing memories of great women  
Who lived and learned here,  
Who once climbed Le Mans  
To discover themselves  
Their world  
Their place.

Today, my sisters of forty-five years,  
I climbed Le Mans  
To find you and me  
Once more  
Together along the path,  
Marked by the Holy Cross,  
Our legacy,  
Our birthright.

— Laurie Bracken Flanagan '74

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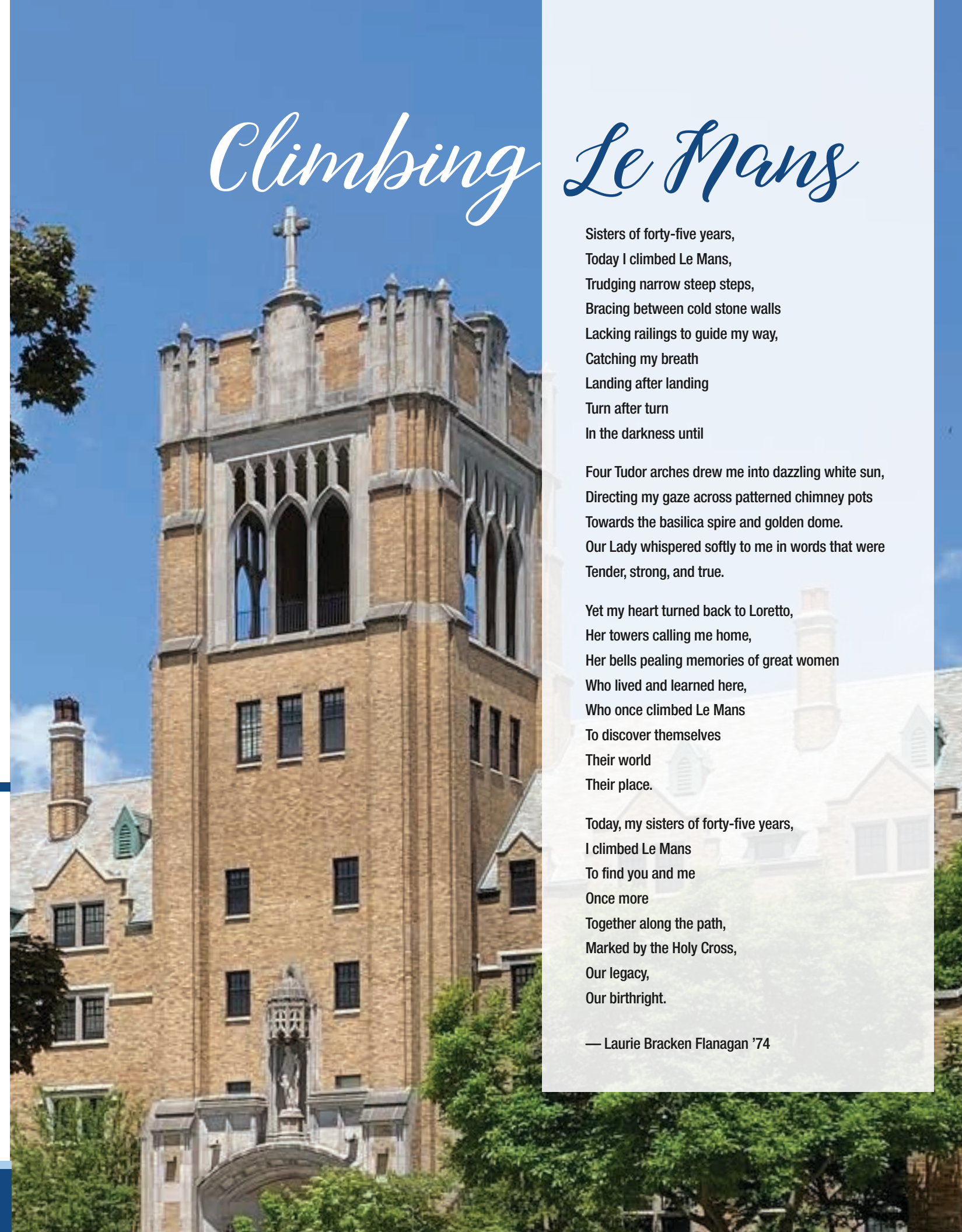
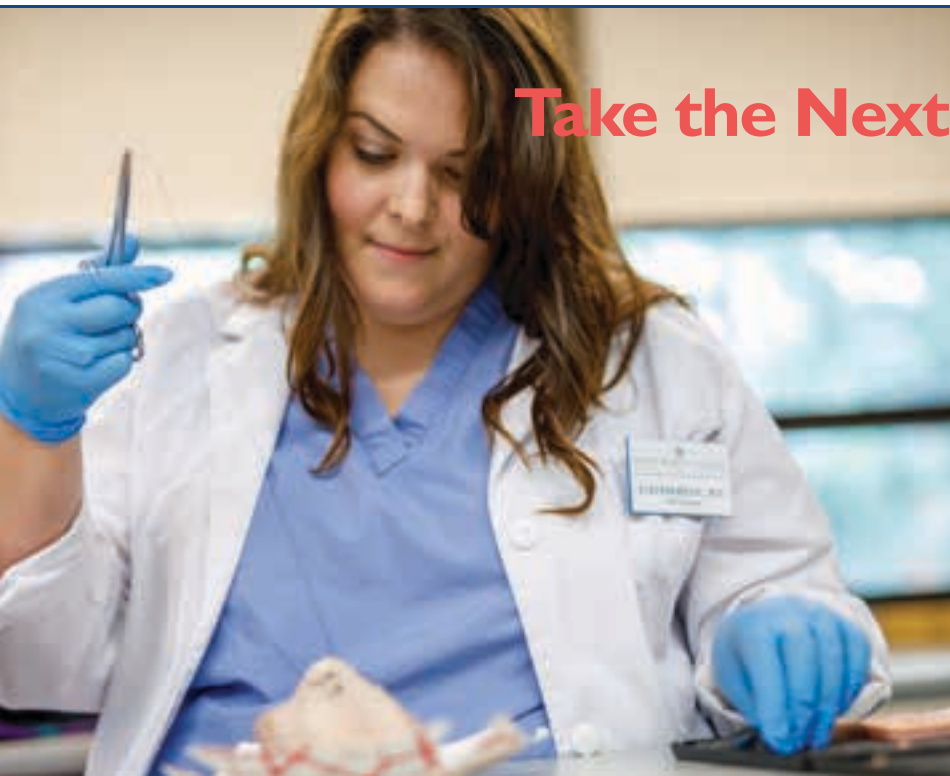
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Save the date for this inaugural event Nov. 9!

## Saint Mary's College National Literary Festival

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