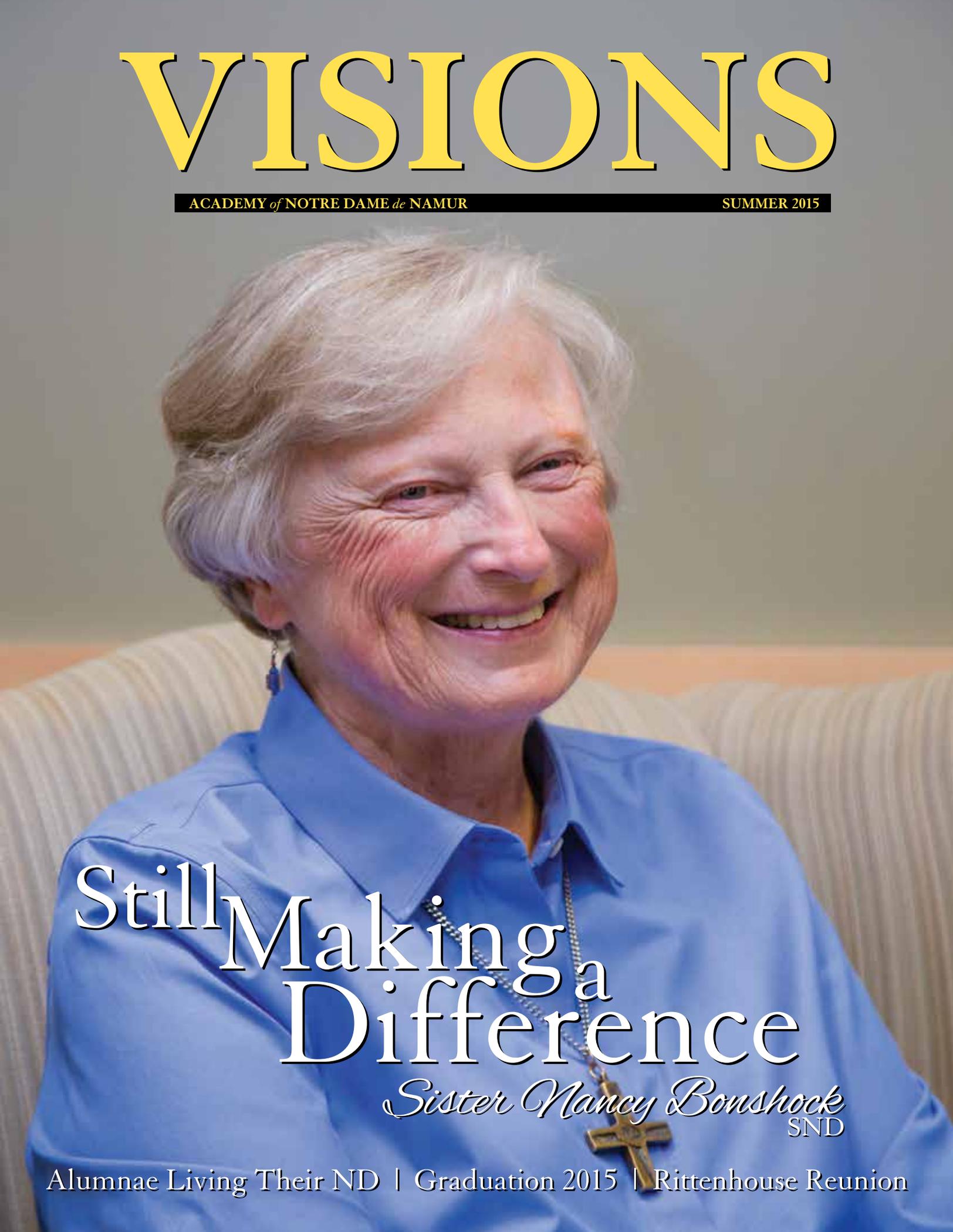


VISIONS

ACADEMY of NOTRE DAME de NAMUR

SUMMER 2015



Still Making a
Difference

Sister Nancy Bonshock
SND

Alumnae Living Their ND | Graduation 2015 | Rittenhouse Reunion



ACADEMY of
NOTRE DAME
de NAMUR

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VISIONS is a publication of the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur for alumnae, parents, alumnae parents, grandparents, and friends.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Monday, September 14
White Manor Country Club
www.ndapa.org/ND-golf



October 23-24
Academy of Notre Dame
www.ndapa.org/reunion



Friday, November 13
Academy of Notre Dame
www.ndapa.org/athletics

For more information on Notre Dame events, contact Heather Godley, Event Coordinator, at hgodley@ndapa.org or 610-971-4916.



President's Perspective



Lives That Inspire

We are blessed at Notre Dame. Inspiration is all around us.

This issue of *Visions* features the unwavering dedication of several members of the Notre Dame community who inspire us with “hearts as wide as the world” (Saint Julie).

In the last few months of the school year, we had the opportunity to pay special tribute to Sister Nancy Bonshock, SND. For over forty years, Sister has been a vibrant part of the Notre Dame community as a member of the Social Studies department; she is admired for her guidance, enthusiasm, and academic rigor. Students appreciate Sister as a master teacher, while our faculty respect Sister as an extraordinary mentor.

In the fall, Sister Nancy will enter the Pastoral Care Program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital where she will attend classes one day a week and participate in a fifteen-hour internship at the hospital. We are very pleased, however, that Sister will also remain at Notre Dame by joining our Advancement Office as Senior Alumnae Advisor. She will assist in Notre Dame’s outreach to Alumnae and plans to initiate a book and speaker series.

We sincerely thank Sister Nancy for her years as teacher and mentor, and we are delighted that she will remain an active member of the school community in her new role. Sister Nancy and the many other members of the Notre Dame community featured in this *Visions* live the charism and pioneering spirit of Saint Julie every day. Enjoy their compelling stories.

May God continue to bless you and your family this summer.

Dr. Judith A. Dwyer
President



OUR MISSION

The Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, a Catholic, independent, college preparatory school, commits itself to the education of young women of grades 6 through 12 for responsible living in a global society. The Academy, rooted in the faith tradition of the Catholic Church, and the charism of Saint Julie Billiart, provides its students with a challenging academic curriculum within a rich spiritual community in order to

- inspire them to live the prophetic nature of the gospel with a passion for justice and love for the poor,
- enable them to develop the skills and desire necessary for lifelong learning,
- empower them to be honorable, compassionate leaders.

AROUND NOTRE DAME



HONORS CONVOCATION



Congyu Xu, Maura Dougherty, Meredith Hughes, and Kirsten Mansfield received special honors for their academic excellence at the 36th annual Academic Honors Convocation. Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., presided over the ceremony at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul, which acknowledged 156 distinguished students from thirty-two private and Archdiocesan Catholic high schools,

representing the top three percent of the graduating class of 2015. We are proud of our students and congratulate them on receiving this recognition. Pictured with the students are (left to right) Mrs. Kim Eife, academic dean; Mrs. Jacqueline Coccia, principal; Hannah Fuss '16 (far right), the newly elected president of 5 Main, who served as the school's flag bearer; and Dr. Judith A. Dwyer, president.

ACADEMICS

American Mathematics Competition



This year, twenty-seven Notre Dame students participated in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC), which is

the first contest in a competition series leading to the United States of America Mathematical Olympiad (USAMO). From the USAMO participants, finalists are chosen for the USA Team to compete in the prestigious International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO), the premier international high school-level, problem-solving contest. Special congratulations to Notre Dame's top scoring student, Janet Wu (left). Notre Dame's team score consisted of the highest three scores that included Congyu Xu (center) and Anne Marie Crinnion (right).

JV Mathletes Place in Regional Competition

The junior varsity Mathletes had a stellar 2014-2015 season. The sophomores placed second out of fourteen schools, and the freshman placed fourth out of thirteen schools.

New England Writers Conference

Julia Walton and Kathleen O'Connor (both class of 2017) were accepted into the prestigious New England Young Writers' Conference at Middlebury College, Vermont. (This event is the high-school equivalent of the venerable Bread Loaf conference for writers.) The girls were both winners in the fiction category: Julia for her story "Clair de Lune" and Katie for her story "Perfect in His Generations."

Medal Winners in Spanish Oral Expo

Congratulations to four students (below, left to right): Brianna Heffernen, Nicolle Hughes (both 11th grade), Kathryn Stavish (12th grade), and Sarah Crinnion (9th grade), who represented Notre Dame at the Spanish Oral Expo held at Haverford High School. The local chapter of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese sponsored the event. Sarah Crinnion won a gold medal in level 2, while Kathryn Stavish and Nicolle Hughes won gold medals and Brianna Heffernen won a silver medal in the advanced level 4 and 5 debates.





ROBOTICS TEAM EXCELS

The high school robotics team, the Sparks, competed at the Lehigh Valley Regional FIRST Tech Challenge Qualifier in which the students won the Connect Award, and were the second place Motivate Award winner, and the second place Inspire Award winner, which is the highest award presented at the qualifiers. They also made it

to the final match of the day and were one of only four teams at the competition who qualified for states. Their accolades continued when, for the first time, they advanced to a competition at the Pennsylvania State Championship at Millersville University held this spring.

The Sparks took their exhibition on the road with a demonstration of their robot to engineering professionals at the Philadelphia Navy Yard as part of a National Engineers Week celebration. The girls explained the design and programming of their robot to the engineers and had the opportunity to speak to professionals in the field.

awards, and fifteen students received second place awards. Freshman Corina Damian and sophomore Catherine Oliver received perfect scores, with sophomore Julia Goldschmidt following close behind with a score of 4.8/5.0.

Diocesan Scholars

Each year, Catholic independent high schools and Archdiocesan high schools are invited to nominate eligible juniors to apply for the Diocesan Scholars Program. Through a partnership with local Catholic colleges and universities, the Diocesan Scholars are able to engage in college course work during their senior year. Anne Marie Crinnion, Catherine Henry, Julia Saile, and Janet Wu were chosen as Diocesan Scholars for the Class of 2016.

Best in Class

Senior Congyu Xu represented Notre Dame in the annual 6ABC Best in Class salute to academic excellence. She joined student leaders from surrounding schools for a day of activities, guest speakers, and networking at Temple University. Highlights from this event were aired on Saturday, May 16, on Channel 6.



Reading Olympics Team Earns Blue Ribbon

Notre Dame's high school Reading Olympics team earned a blue ribbon for its outstanding performance in the Delaware County Reading Olympics Competition hosted by Springton Lake Middle School. The team prepared for this annual event by reading more than thirty books throughout the school year. They competed against three high schools and answered a total of 120 questions. Eight middle school students competed in the Delaware County Intermediate Unit's Reading Olympics for middle school students. The team performed admirably and earned white ribbons.

Students Win Big at PJAS Meet

Thirty-six students (pictured below) in grades 9-11 competed this year at the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science (PJAS) competition at Penn State University. Twenty-three students received first place



AROUND NOTRE DAME



MIDDLE SCHOOL MUSICAL

Middle School students performed “Beauty and the Beast” by Nick Mellersh, a pantomime musical comedy stage production designed for family entertainment. The performance included songs, slapstick comedy and dancing, combined with topical humor of a story loosely based on a well-known fairy tale. Students engaged the audience to sing along with certain parts of the music and shout out phrases to the performers.



ARTS

Notre Dame Ensemble Takes 1st Place in Music Competition

The high school instrumental ensemble competed in the Festival of Music Philadelphia competition this spring. The girls took first place again this year getting a rating of excellent in the High School Full Orchestra category narrowly winning over the Wilton High School Concert Orchestra from Connecticut. Eighth grader Katie Lennon was the featured soloist in *The Grieg Piano Concerto in A Minor*, one of two pieces the girls played for the judges.

Students Display Artwork at PAEA Exhibit

Three Notre Dame artists recently had their work displayed at the Pennsylvania Art Education Association’s (PAEA), “Youth Art Month” exhibit. The show reception was held at the Pennsylvania Department of Education building in Harrisburg. Seniors Angela Cinaglia and Jane Gallagher along with junior Molly Stevenson represented Notre Dame from among national student competitors.



Spring Concert

The Spring Concert was held on May 8 to a packed audience, who enjoyed the performances of the freshman chorus, freshman ensemble, high school ensemble, and the women’s chorale.

Women’s Chorale Performs at State Capitol

The women’s chorale traveled to the State Capitol and presented an hour-long concert in recognition and support of Music in our Schools Month (MIOSM). The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association sponsored the day as part of a month-long program in which concerts were presented by Pennsylvania schools in the Capitol Rotunda.



Middle School Evening of the Arts

Cuvilly Gym and the Airport Lounge were transformed to showcase the fine and performing arts achievements of the middle school students. Parents, students, and guests enjoyed an evening of musical acts and dance performances, as well as religious reflections based on the theme of the evening, “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”



ALUMNAE/STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



Senior Inquiry (pictured)

Alumnae Susie McKernan '83, Kim Tierney Pegg '88, and Cheryl Ann Kennedy '83 returned to their alma mater to speak to students about career choices and opportunities. The alumnae shared stories about their chosen fields of interest and memories of their experiences while at Notre Dame.

Alumna Discusses Novel Genres

Tabatha Barton '11 visited Notre Dame to speak to 6th graders about graphic novels/manga/anime, an up-and-coming genre in the literary world. Tabby is a senior at Bryn Mawr College with a double major in archaeology and classical languages, and will attend Durham University in northeast England to earn her master's degree.

COMMUNITY

iGod Video Competition

Margaret Burke, Nohelia Ortiz-Landazabal, Cynthia Masai, and Julia Scanlon (all class of 2017 pictured below with Mrs. Bridget Bonner) are Notre Dame's winners in the annual iGod Video Competition sponsored by WordNet Productions, for which students use Biblical passages to inspire short videos driven by



particular themes and motifs. Taking as their cue the "Godly Woman" of Proverbs 31 (and excerpts from other books), the girls photographed Notre Dame students and their family visitors to capture empowering aspects of woman. Mrs. Bridget Bonner, contest coordinator, presented the girls with their \$50 prize from WordNet.

Helping Deliver Food to the Patrician Society

The Patrician Society is the largest food cupboard in Montgomery County feeding 1,500 families with donations from schools, clubs and businesses. Eighth graders Rose McDonald, Emma Ciccotosto, Madison Gaffney, and Sophia Skorup helped move 15,000 lbs. (7.5 tons) into the facility's pantry. Notre Dame and the Patrician Society have enjoyed a service-learning relationship since 1989.

Student Council's Spring Fest Raises \$3,200

One hundred twelve high school students participated in Student Council's Spring Fest. The event was filled with music, great food, and fun activities. The participants raised \$3,200 to benefit the Laurel House, a transitional housing and counseling organization for victims of domestic abuse located in Norristown. The money raised will be Notre Dame's team donation to Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, in which six of Notre Dame's male faculty members have agreed to participate. (Read full story on page 15.)

Students endured pies in the face among other challenges to raise money for their cause.



AROUND NOTRE DAME



BEYOND THE GATES

Building Cultural Community Connections with the Bryn Mawr Film Institute



Notre Dame has recently become a community partner with the Bryn Mawr Film Institute (BMFI), which gives teachers and students the opportunity to view films in a truly theatrical context accompanied by experts on cinema and film history, who speak to the students. Eighth grade Language Arts students traveled to BMFI to view *To Kill a Mockingbird*. The trip aligned with discussions of the acclaimed novel in class. The students found it to be a valuable experience that helped them to deepen their understanding of the novel.

Notre Dame Welcomes Spanish Exchange Students



Notre Dame welcomed five international students and their chaperone (pictured with Principal Jacqueline Coccia) to campus as part of the school's exchange program with the Real Colegio Alfonso XII School in Spain. Since 2010, this program has provided opportunities for Notre Dame students to integrate into a host institution to explore the international dimensions of academics and culture. This year, four

Notre Dame students—Derby Allman, Erin Mongeluzi, Taylor Mordy, and Emily Brown—went to Spain during Christmas break and stayed at their exchange students' homes. The Spanish students enjoyed attending classes and traveling to New York. This program hopes to bring a better appreciation and understanding to students of other cultures and their international contemporaries.

Students Appear on Rachel Ray Show in Support of 9 Million Meals Program



Two Notre Dame seniors, Megan Marshall and Taylor Leonhardt, were inspired by talk show host/author/chef Rachel Ray's crusade to fight hunger, 9 Million Meals. As a result, they decided to start their own campaign to raise money for the cause. "We wrote letters to family and friends, had a bake sale at school,

and set up donation jars in local stores," says Megan. As a result they raised \$5,700 toward the goal. "We were a little nervous [being on the show], but it was fun. Rachel Ray was so nice," Taylor added. Megan's mom, Janet, and Taylor's mom, Danielle, were in the audience.

OUR TIME TO INSPIRE



In May, Notre Dame initiated its bold, strategic vision, “Our Time to Inspire.” Copies of the plan were mailed to the Notre Dame community. The brochure outlines what has been months of collaboration, reflection, and action all rooted in the extraordinary tradition of the Academy and its vibrant Catholic mission inspired by the pioneering legacy of the Sisters of the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur.

The first stages of the plan have already begun. The new turf fields are officially blessed and being fully utilized by myriad sporting activities. Launfal Field House now offers clean, spacious dressing, meeting and storage areas for our high school and middle school athletes and athletic managers.

Notre Dame’s journey to shape a future of promise and new possibilities has just begun.

If you did not receive a copy of the “2015-2020 Strategic Vision: Our Time to Inspire,” contact the Advancement Office at 610-687-3867.

Launfal Field House Renovation

After many months of remodeling, Launfal Field House is now open for use by the school’s student-athletes. Improvements include a new locker room for the high school students, as well as a separate new locker room for the middle school students.

Gathering space for the teams has also been created with the addition of a new lounge. The Launfal Field House will also serve as a center of hospitality for visiting teams and fans. In addition, several rooms have been designated for much-needed storage space for the school’s athletic equipment.

Special thanks to Trustees Vince Tague and Don Pohlig for overseeing this important improvement to the campus.

Renovated Launfal Field House



AROUND NOTRE DAME



AWARD RECOGNITIONS

InterAc All League Honors were announced for the spring sports athletes:

Lacrosse: Caroline Allen and Claire Nappi, first team; Julia Dambly, second team

Golf: Meghan Fahey, Maddie Keane, Bridget Pyott, and Olivia Traynor, first team; Maggie Cass and Brianna Marmorstein, second team

Softball: Sophia Marlino, first team; Marissa Mycek, second team

Track: Danielle Bunten, Alessandra Ciampi, Quinn Maguire, Monica McGinnis, Sophia Recchilungo, Mikayla Schneider, and Aliyah Stokes.

SAVE THE DATE



Friday, November 13
www.ndapa.org/athletics
hgodley@ndapa.org
610-971-4916

Crew

The crew team had a stellar year. The team rowed in the 5th Manny Flick Regatta with the varsity double finishing in third place, while the junior varsity quads took second and fourth in their heat. The lightweight doubles finished strong in first and third places. The first place boat consisted of seniors Jenny Zack and Lexi Costa. In its maiden voyage, the novice quad finished fourth against some tough competition. Overall, the team finished with the second highest point total out of twenty-four schools in the 5th Manny Flick, and sixth out of twenty-four in the 5th Manny Flick. The team also competed in the City Championships with Jenny Zack and Lexi Costa finishing second in the lightweight doubles, earning a silver medal. Their time was six minutes, seventeen seconds over the 1,500-meter course on the Schuylkill River. As a result of their performance, the Notre Dame lightweight double qualified to race in national championship races, and the girls have received an invitation to compete in the U.S. Rowing Youth National Championships in Florida. In May, the team participated in the prestigious Stotesbury Cup Regatta on the Schuylkill River. Twenty-one rowers competed, which was the most ever to represent the Academy.



Fencing Club

Notre Dame introduced its new fencing club this spring for both middle school and high school students. Led by Milos Vasic and John Carroll, the team learned the fundamentals of foil and next season will be competing in matches with other schools.

Golf

Congratulations to the high school golf team for repeating as InterAc Champions for the seventh consecutive year and for remaining undefeated for the sixth consecutive year. The team also set a Notre Dame school record with a low of 203 points in their match against Springside/Chestnut Hill Academy. Olivia Traynor set a





Photo courtesy of JJ Gilroy

new Notre Dame record with an individual score of thirty-six for nine holes. She also hit a hole in one recently during a practice round at the Overbrook Country Club. Additionally, the golfers made team history at the Philadelphia Country Club when they set the program's low score record with a 205-267 victory over Agnes Irwin.

Congratulations to the team and their coaches, Mary Jane Wetzel and Tom Verdi for a record-breaking season.

Save the Date

The biannual Athletic Hall of Fame will be held on November 13. More information is forthcoming.

YOGA COMES TO CAMPUS

Notre Dame's new fitness/yoga club for both middle and high school students is a complete success. Students were introduced to the benefits of how yoga creates core strength, breathing techniques, and muscle tone. Classes met every Wednesday for an hour session.



AROUND NOTRE DAME



Varsity Lacrosse



JV Lacrosse

Lacrosse

The middle school junior varsity lacrosse team had an overall record of 13-0 and a league record of 6-0. This earned them the title of Catholic Academy League junior

varsity champions. The high school team played in the PAISAA (Pennsylvania Independent Schools Athletic Association) state tournaments, advancing to the quarter final round.



Sailing

Notre Dame is the defending Bell Cup winner (for the overall championship) and currently in third place in its quest to defend its title heading. The high school rowers kicked off the 2015 season with wins over Malvern Prep and Conestoga. The highlight of the regatta was junior Catie Cullen and her crew, freshman Mary Jane Tague, who won their first two races of the season and finished in second place in their third race.

Track

The high school track team finished in second place in the InterAc Championships and was fifth out of fifteen teams in the Pennsylvania Independent Schools Athletic Association state meet. Congratulations to the high school track team for finishing undefeated in the InterAc League with a 6-0 record. Additionally, seven runners were named to the InterAc All League Track Team.



Photo courtesy of Garen Meguerian

OFF THE FEILD

Lacrosse Team Moves to the Kitchen for Good Cause

The lacrosse team made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Patrician Society in Norristown as part of their community service project. A special thank you to Mrs. Maggie McHugh for coordinating.

Golf Team Volunteers at the First Tee

The high school golf team volunteered at The First Tee of Philadelphia, a nationwide program with the mission of "impacting the lives of young people by providing educational programs that build character, instill life-enhancing values, and promote healthy choices through the game of golf." On May 19, the golf team traveled to Walnut Lane Golf Club, one of two First Tee sites in Philadelphia, where they assisted the First Tee golfers in making watering cans for their gardens, which were planted earlier in the year to teach sustainability. To end the day, the girls played a few holes together.



Softball

The high school softball team had a good year with a record of 8-8. Their offense averaged seven runs a game with big wins against InterAc opponents Penn Charter, Springside/Chestnut Hill, and Agnes Irwin. Two freshman softball players hit home run balls over the new softball outfield fence. Congratulations to Sophia Marlino (left) and Anita Bilotta for accomplishing this feat.

Soccer

Ben Davey has been named the new varsity soccer coach. Davey previously coached at Friends Central.



Special Recognitions

Congratulations to senior Meredith Hughes who is this year's Notre Dame Award winner for the InterAc Athletic Directors' Dinner, held at the Springfield Country Club. This award is given to multi-sport student athletes from

each InterAc school, who are chosen not only for their excellence in sports, but also for their leadership and commitment to their schools and teams.



AROUND NOTRE DAME



Academy Appoints Principal, Academic Dean



The Board of Trustees unanimously appointed Jacqueline Coccia as the school's principal based upon the recommendations of President Dwyer and the Trustee Search Committee chaired by Mr. Eric Rubino. Dr. John DeFlaminis, executive director, Penn Center for Educational Leadership at the University of Pennsylvania, was the consultant for this modified process. Since coming to Notre Dame in August 2014, Coccia served as the academic dean then interim principal. She previously served as the Director of Elementary Education and Superintendent of Elementary Schools and Special Education for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Assuming Coccia's vacated appointment as the school's academic dean is science department chair Kim Eife. Eife has been a faculty member at Notre Dame since 2001, serving as the departmental chair for the past four years. Dan Cushing, a faculty member in the school's science department, is now chair of that department.

Two Faculty Members Chosen to Present at NCGS Conference

The National Coalition of Girls Schools invited two of our faculty members—Terry Maksymowych and Kim Eife—to present at the 2015 From STEM to STEAM: Girls' Schools Leading the Way conference in Richmond, VA. The conference unites educators to engage in hands-on activities, participate in content-based discussions, share classroom materials, learn about web-based teaching resources, and exchange best practices for teaching girls. Mrs. Eife's proposal, "Planning a STEM Career Day," was accepted for inclusion in the conference programming. The sessions were held in an intimate, round table-style format with a group of eight to ten people per session.

Director of Counseling, College Counselor

Notre Dame welcomes Lauryn Roth as the new Director of College Counseling. Roth holds a master of science in education in psychological services from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor of arts in human development from Boston College, and is a certified College Counselor through the University of California, Los Angeles. Roth has more than ten years experience working with high school students in all areas of their academic, social, and career development with a specific focus on guiding students through the college application process. Also joining the college counseling staff is Adriana Cornell, who will serve as a college counselor. Cornell earned a master of science in education from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education, from which she recently completed a graduate assistantship focused on school-to-career transitions.

She earned a bachelor of arts from Skidmore College (New York) and served as a college counselor at the University of the Sciences, organizing and facilitating outreach workshops in college classrooms. Additionally, Cornell was an interim college counselor at the Agnes Irwin School.

Faculty Member Presents at National Conference

Science faculty member Terry Maksymowych attended the National Science Teachers' Association's annual conference this spring in Chicago. Her presentations, "Incorporating Bioethical Case Studies into the Science Curriculum" and "Dynamic Topics in Genetics: Reproductive Technologies and Genes and Aggression," are based on her experience teaching bioethics at Notre Dame and her work on the Personal Genetics Education Project for the Department of Genetics at Harvard Medical School. Additionally, Maksymowych was invited to participate in pgEd's (a Personal Genetics Education Project out of Harvard Medical School) third congressional briefing in Washington, D.C. The briefing highlighted her research on microbial genomics and applications in health and forensics. She has also been named to the editorial committee of the Catholic Library Association's publication, *The Catholic Library World*.

Faculty Attend STEM Conference

Emily Giannantonio and Mary Monck attended the STEM Conference at Agnes Irwin School. The event was sponsored by STEM Partners as an initiative to unite K-12 educators, university administrators, and senior industry executives to generate a robust exchange of ideas with the goal



CUSHING



Da CREMA



EIFE



GIANNANTONIO



MAKSYMOWYCH



MONCK

of best practices in STEM education and workforce practices.

Da Crema Earns Ph.D.

Norma Da Crema, department chair of religion, received her doctorate from Temple University on May 8. Her Ph.D. in religion was awarded with distinction upon her successful defense of her dissertation, “Transcending the Feminine: Negotiating Gender in the Mysticism of Ibn al-Arab and Francis of Assisi.” Da Crema’s doctoral studies focused on medieval literature representative of the Abrahamic traditions, especially how Muslims, Jews, and Christians wrestled with parallel theological

issues in their love poetry, and how such works complement and challenge one another.

Male Faculty Members Raise Money in “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes” Fundraiser

Five of Notre Dame’s male faculty members participated in the annual International Men’s March to Stop Rape, Sexual Assault and Gender Violence event, “Walk a Mile in Her Shoes,” held on May 2 at Heebner Park. Dan Cushing, Andy Foreman, Tyler Gaspich, Evan Thomas, and Tom Verdi literally walked one mile in women’s high-heeled shoes and raised \$3,200 making Notre Dame the top fundraising team.



Students and faculty were in attendance to cheer on the team. Proceeds from this event benefit the Laurel House in Norristown.



Foreign Language Department Faculty Once Again Receives Golden Globe Award

The Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA) announced their awards for exemplary foreign language programs, and Notre Dame is once again a recipient of the top award, the Golden Globe. The award is given to schools that can provide evidence that their programs meet the rigorous criteria established by PSMLA. Notre Dame is the only school in Pennsylvania to have continuously won the Golden Globe since 2005.

AROUND NOTRE DAME



BLAST 2015

BLAST (Building Lasting Academic Social and Ties) is the Academy's most exciting event of the year. Held every spring, it brings together parents, alumnae, faculty, staff, and friends for an evening of fun, great food, and exciting bidding on hundreds of donated items.

The year's theme was "The British Invasion." The evening included silent, live and luxury auctions, a raffle, dinner, and dancing.

Every area of the Academy has benefited in some way from BLAST. Over the years, BLAST proceeds have been used to purchase computers, furniture, books, and research materials; to contribute to building renovations; and to improve technology. Finally, BLAST provides much-needed financial aid to qualified students.

2015 Blessing of the Fields, Sunflower Run, Family Fun Day

On Saturday, April 25, Notre Dame officially blessed and dedicated its new athletic fields and facilities. The blessing was a touching start to the day as members from the Notre Dame community celebrated the primary stage of the strategic planning process for providing state-of-the-art facilities for all activities.

Following the ceremony was the kick off of Notre Dame's annual Sunflower Run, which was held

for the first time on Notre Dame's campus. More than 90 5K runners, 50 2K walkers, and even some four-legged friends participated and crossed the finish line on the new track.

After the race, family and friends enjoyed Philly food trucks, dancing, moon bouncing, face painting and much more as part of Family Fun Day. We are grateful to our many student and faculty volunteers who helped make this event a success.





Dr. Naoko Kurahaski Neilson

Inaugural STEM Career Day

On March 27, Notre Dame hosted a STEM Career Day.

Citing the significance of STEM education for women, Principal Jacqueline Coccia notes, "We must take an interdisciplinary approach, which is why there is such a focus on collaboration between science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, as well as the humanities, social sciences, and the arts."

The day began with a special assembly featuring keynote speaker Dr. Naoko Kurahaski Neilson, an astrophysicist from Drexel University. Dr. Kurahaski spoke about the huge role science and technology play in everyday business with the hopes of sparking an interest in STEM careers for women. Students were fascinated by her discussion on the Ice Cube collaboration, a high-energy neutrino telescope operating at the geographic South Pole and her studies on neutrinos as high-energy messengers from

the universe. She also shared her journey from high school through college, noting that everyone has doubts, but "don't let the doubt in your head be the reason you quit something."

Following Dr. Neilson's address, students participated in six different STEM sessions for hands-on activities or interactive presentations to learn about the myriad STEM career opportunities. Among the more than thirty presenters were several Notre Dame alumnae working in the fields of engineering, physics, neuroscience, and health care. In addition to these presenters were professionals in the fields of civil, chemical and environmental engineering; nutrition; robotics; programming; biostatistics; astrophysics; cryptology; bioengineering; physical therapy and athletic training; project management; environmental law; and architecture.

Hope for Haiti

Notre Dame students joined other area schools to stage a performance of acts in a variety of talents, including song, dance, guitar playing, and choreography. The event served as a fundraiser for donations to the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur Mission Office and to the sisters in Haiti, who allocate the contributions to where they are needed.

Former Ambassador Visits Campus

On March 19, Notre Dame welcomed Mr. Eduardo Ramos-Gomez, a former ambassador of Mexico to Singapore. Ramos-Gomez spoke to students about the changing global landscape and how knowledge, confidence, and determination on a global basis are to be nurtured by girls, who can become instruments for change and peace. President Dwyer announced that Ramos-Gomez will serve as a member of Notre Dame's International Advisory Board for the newly established Center for Leadership and International Studies (created through the strategic planning process), which is now in the process of being developed.



Sister Nancy Bonshock, SND



The Next Chapter



For forty years, Sister Nancy has inspired students, faculty, and alumnae at Notre Dame. What's more? She's still here, still working, and still touching lives as only she can.

Walk into the classroom of Sister Nancy Bonshock, SND, and you'll feel an energy that a first-year faculty member exudes. But after forty years at the Academy of Notre Dame de Namur, Sister Nancy's lessons continue to bring her enthusiasm, relevancy, and passion for teaching to young learners.

So what is it about Sister Nancy that makes her such a vibrant presence on Notre Dame's campus? For those who know her, the answer is simple: She possesses a genuine love of everything Notre Dame—past and present—and the Notre Dame community loves her.

"Sister Nancy represents the embodiment of education and compassion for women, which is characteristic of Saint Julie's legacy," says President Judith A. Dwyer.

To say she is universally loved, revered, respected, and cherished by Notre Dame students and alumnae is an understatement. That's why her transition this September from the classroom to alumnae engagement in the Academy's Advancement Office is the perfect fit.

"Teaching has been my passion—my greatest gift—because of the wonderful

women I have met over the years," says Sister. "And I am excited and grateful to continue these relationships with Notre Dame women and an institution that has meant so much to me."

In her new part-time role, Sister will assist with Notre Dame's alumnae engagement; start an alumnae book club and a speaker series; and support fundraising efforts for the restoration of The Mansion. Paige LeGrand, Director of Advancement, is thrilled that she will be joining the advancement team. "Sister Nancy is truly beloved by our alumnae and has a great connection with them. I look forward to working with her to build these relationships, which will continue to embody the mission of Saint Julie

and the Sisters of Notre Dame."

Sister Nancy's fifty years with the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur began at the age of 18, when she entered the congregation's novitiate program in 1965. Following her apostolic preparation, she received a bachelor's degree from Trinity University in Washington, D.C., then taught for three years at Little Flower High School in Philadelphia. She spent two years at St. Michael's on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona and received her master's degree in anthropology from the University of Pennsylvania during her early tenure at Notre Dame.

Though longevity often does breed admiration, Sister's influence both in and out of the classroom can be attributed to her personal approach and sincerity.

"Sister Nancy is my

'gold standard,'" says fellow teacher and former student Joan Turner '77, who admires Sister for her tenacity, courage, and mentorship. "She inspired me to become a lawyer and a teacher. Now, as her colleague, she continues to be the standard by which I measure myself as an educator and a member of this community."

Her students admire her for the guidance, enthusiasm, and academic rigor she brings to the classroom. Past and current students appreciate her ability to connect on a personal level.

Susan Carney Fahey '77, alumna, Notre Dame parent, and Board of Trustees member, recalls when she and six of her classmates managed to convince Sister to take them with her to teach summer school to Pueblo Indians in New Mexico. "We had an amazing and truly transformative experience, both working with the Pueblo Indian children and families, and taking car trips and excursions throughout the Southwest—New Mexico, Utah and Colorado," recalls Fahey. "While we did manage to give Sister Nancy a few 'adolescent issues' to deal with, over all, I believe she will attest to our good behavior so far from home."



“Sister Nancy is one of the best huggers I have ever known, and she can do it with just a smile.”

Current students Marygrace Hallinan, Katherine Tague, and Marie Guyer admire the academic rigor and attention to the students’ concerns that she continues to bring to her classroom instruction.

“Each day, Sister Nancy conducts our class with a modern grace that is exemplary of her dedication to excellence in Catholic education for women combined with [her] fervor for current events, and human rights issues. In this way, Sister Nancy not only provides us with academic instruction, but lessons on humanity, and how to be a better human,” says Tague.

Hallinan couldn’t agree more. “Sister Nancy has truly instilled in me a greater love of learning and understanding the world. Her class has prepared me for college, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be taught by someone who is so dear to the Notre Dame community.”

“Sister Nancy’s drawing presence, which feeds classroom excitement, in combination with her vast knowledge of the subject matter, which is so pertinent in today’s global world, is simply awe-inspiring,” adds Guyer.

Sister Nancy’s knack for connecting with her students does not end at graduation. Former students Jessica Turner ’06, Angela Guarino ’00, and Kristen (Sander)

Makatche ’95 still hold admiration for her.

“I learned so much from her, not only in subject matter, but also in writing skills, life lessons, and especially the importance of a good comforting hug,” laughs Turner. “Sister Nancy is one of the best huggers I have ever known, and she can do it with just a smile.”

“As a teacher, Sister Nancy taught me and my classmates the greatest lesson of our academic and professional lives: to be unafraid to ask challenging questions. At the same time, as a trusted mentor and friend, she has served as a model of strength and faith as to how to navigate life’s more challenging periods, when there do not appear to be answers,” says Guarino.

“I not only had the privilege of having her as a teacher, she also supported me on the lacrosse field,” notes Makatche. “She is a truly remarkable woman, whose courage and strength can only be matched by her heart and love of the Notre Dame community.”

Sister Nancy’s courage during her nine-year battle with cancer showed her tenacity and the unity of a supportive environment of alumnae, educators, and students. Yet she remained undaunted by her illness and continued to teach. She rearranged the management and treatment of her illness

so that it would have the least possible impact on her teaching schedule. While a difficult period in her life, she recalls when she lost her hair due to chemotherapy.

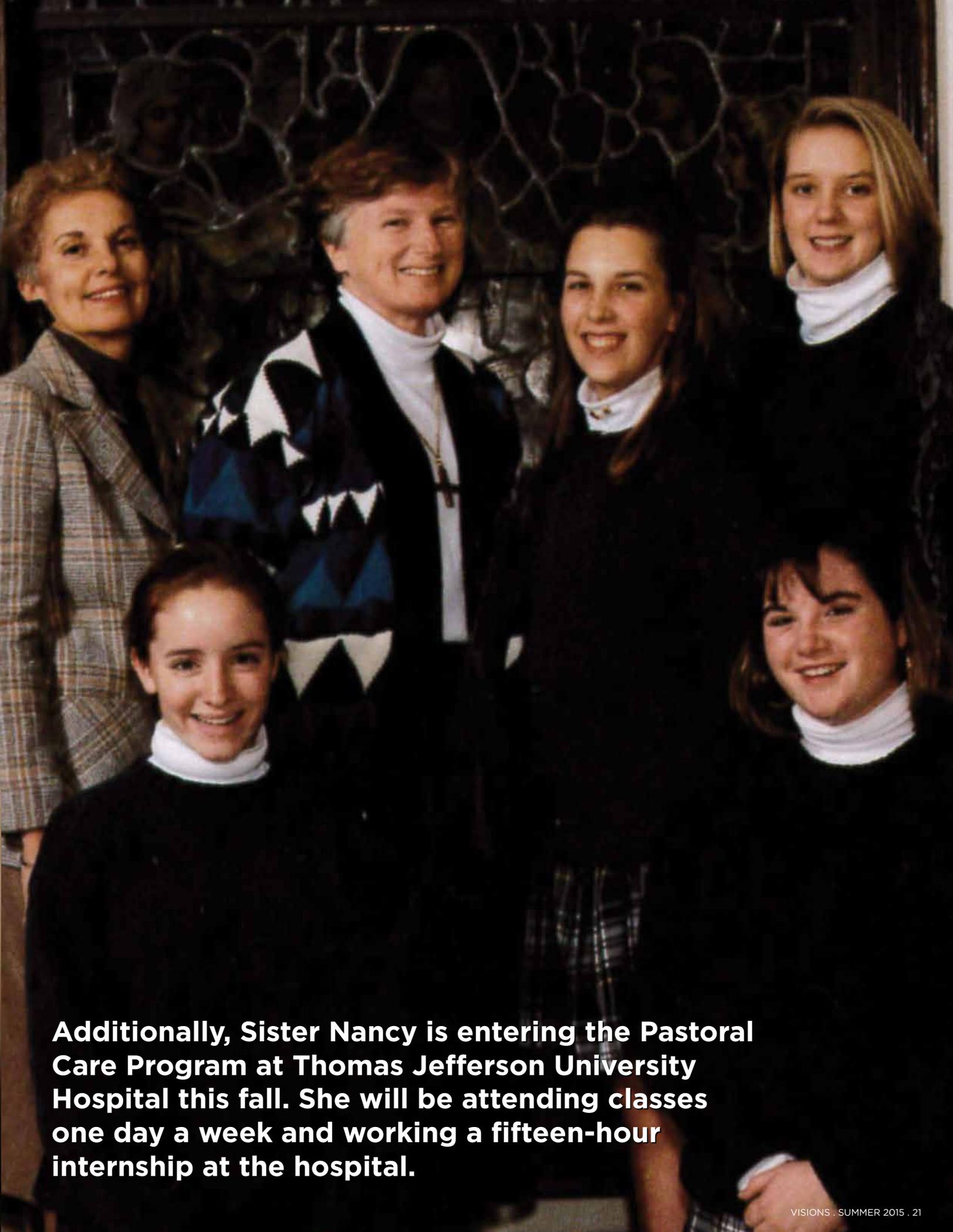
“I told my classes I was having chemo a few days before my treatment,” recalls Sister. “The day of the treatment when I walked into my AP U.S. History class (class of 2001), the students were all wearing decorated, tricorn, Colonial hats to support my losing my hair. They wore them every day. I looked at them and thought, ‘There’s no way I can’t get well and keep teaching.’ It was their energy and love that sustained me during this difficult time.”

This September, Sister will celebrate her golden anniversary as a Sister of Notre Dame de Namur. While excited about her new journey at Notre Dame, Sister is also melancholy about her four decades in the classroom and sends a message to her past and current students.

“Teaching is my passion and greatest gift because of what I’ve received over the years. Thank you for the gift you’ve been in my life. You have made me a better teacher by your questions and comments. Thank you for laughing at my attempts at humor. Thank you for your concern for other people. Please remember ours is a small world. We are world citizens. We have a responsibility for each other.”



Pictured left to right with Sister Nancy (far right) are Sister Sallie Bradley, Sister Mary Hyde, and Sister Patricia Kaupas.



Additionally, Sister Nancy is entering the Pastoral Care Program at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital this fall. She will be attending classes one day a week and working a fifteen-hour internship at the hospital.

Four stories of love, hope, passion, and commitment in Saint Julie's tradition

Filling Big Shoes

The sudden death of her father inspired Christine DiBona Lobley '99 to continue his generous legacy to others. She knew he would expect no less.



It wasn't until his death that the family of G. Fred DiBona Jr. realized the magnitude of his generosity. On January 11, 2005, at the age of 53, DiBona lost his battle against cancer. For months after his passing, the family heard an outpouring of stories about how DiBona helped others who were struggling with some kind of hardship. Christine DiBona Lobley '99 and her family knew they had an obligation to continue his philanthropy and dedication to helping others.

"My dad believed that 'to one who much is given, much is expected,'" says Lobley, who admits her father had a generous spirit, but he was also a businessman. "While I know he would certainly be proud of the work we are doing, he wouldn't be surprised that we chose to continue his legacy in this way. He raised us to appreciate philanthropy and have a strong sense of community."

So the question was how to build upon her father's legacy and his two greatest passions—children and health care. The answer was Fred's Footsteps. Established in 2005, the organization takes a unique approach to helping seriously ill, injured, or disabled children and their families by addressing their overwhelming financial expenses over a period of one year.

Fred's Footsteps is a family affair with Lobley acting as the executive director, her mom serving as board chair, and her brother participating as an active member. Lobley has built the organization from the ground up, spearheading the initial set up, and constructing program guidelines, financial models,

and fundraising plans. She also crafted a strategic plan and communications model, whose structure has succeeded where other nonprofits failed during the unstable economic climate of 2008. Celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, Fred's Footsteps has assisted more than 500 families, providing \$3 million in funding, which is used mostly for mortgages, rent costs, and utilities.

Recipients learn about Fred's Footsteps through the group's partnerships with local hospitals such as the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and Nemours/Alfred I. DuPont Hospital. Social workers and health care representatives refer families to the program, then a committee reviews the applications and selects families who meet the criteria. Additionally, the committee helps the families identify the areas where they need support.

The mother of a special-needs child, who is also a Notre Dame alumna, knows the organization's generosity firsthand. "Their help has lifted us from what seemed like a never-ending life with debt. It has been yet another reminder of how much good is still in the world, and that we are never alone in the special-needs world. [Fred's Footsteps] provides miracles to families like ours, and we are forever grateful for this generosity."

While much of her spirit in giving comes from her family, Lobley credits her experiences at Notre Dame as being integral to her altruistic nature. "I always felt cared for [at Notre Dame] and invested in by my teachers, friends, and parents. This helped me to want to help others in the same fashion." Without a doubt, her father would be proud.

Fred's Footsteps
www.fredsfootsteps.org

From Cope to Hope

After suffering the devastating loss of her son, Karen Holloway Perry '76 turned her grief from coping to helping. She vowed to help make sure no family should suffer a loss like her family did.

Karen Holloway Perry '76 had no idea how her Notre Dame experience, beyond textbooks, would prepare her for what would be the ultimate challenge a parent would ever have to endure—the devastating loss of a child. But in 2003, Perry's worst fears became real.

Perry's son, Rich, was a friendly, compassionate, and funny young man. He played sports, had lots of friends, and was a great older brother. But an experiment with marijuana in high school led to further substance abuse and a near-fatal overdose. The family sought treatment, and Rich appeared to be doing well. However, unbeknownst to them, he had relapsed.

While away at college, Rich frequently called home, so when he had not returned his mom's phone calls in several days, Perry grew concerned. Then her worst

fear became a reality; Rich, had died from an accidental drug overdose.

Trying to find the strength

to cope, the Perrys sought comfort through their faith and families. "My faith, the support of my family and friends, along with the tools and self confidence I was given at Notre Dame, provided the strength and direction I needed to survive when times were at their most unbearable. For that I will always be grateful."

Perry and her husband transformed their pain into passion by finding an outlet to share their story and educate youth and their families, so that no other parent, brother or sister, would have to suffer the devastation they had to endure. As a result, they created a legacy that changed everything in their lives and began their healing process.

In 2004, they co-founded Narcotics Overdose Prevention and Education (NOPE) Task Force, Inc., a non-profit organization that works to combat the illegal use of prescription drugs and narcotics, as well as other abuse substances. Since its inception, NOPE has served over 600,000 students and families across the nation.

The program consists of a high-impact, multimedia presentation that is delivered by a moderator, law enforcement officer, and two family members (who lost a loved one to a drug-related death) to parents, community groups, universities, and middle and high school students.

These presentations are purposefully

blunt and evoke powerful emotions.

NOPE also provides emotional support services to families through discussion groups, candlelight vigils, and anniversary remembrances. Through partnerships with treatment facilities, NOPE provides information, assessments, and remedial resources for families. NOPE also produces several customized publications on the dangers of substance abuse including useful tools and tips on how to combat substance abuse in the home and community.

By creating national chapters, NOPE has extended its message and impact through community partnerships, training, and support in Florida and Pennsylvania. The organization also collaborates with numerous organizations that are dedicated to reduce drug overdose deaths nationwide, including the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; the Office of the Attorney General of Florida; The Clinton Foundation and The Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Prescription Drug Abuse; and myriad schools, police, sheriff and health centers.

NOPE has also been a leading advocate for numerous legislative initiatives in the area of substance abuse at both federal and state levels. In recognition of their efforts, NOPE has received accolades from several organizational boards and councils related to substance abuse.

"Helping others in honor of my son has been a blessing," says Perry. "Knowing that Rich's life and the lives of so many others are remembered—and serve to prevent the loss of another life to this cause is healing. With each new day, we are all driven to fight the fight, and we continue to strive for new hope... We cannot fail, if we do not quit."



NOPE Task Force
www.nopetaskforce.org

From Crop to Cup

Research for her thesis led Nora Burkey '06 to discover her altruistic career path.

Nora Burkey '06 is an admitted coffeeophile. She loves its taste and smell, and even worked as a coffee shop barista. But Burkey's obsession took on new meaning, one she did not expect, while working toward her master's degree in sustainable development from the School for International Training.

Burkey's graduate thesis, "Recognition of the Unpaid Work of Women," required her to travel to Nicaragua to connect with what she refers to as "a link in the chain" of the coffee industry—women in a coffee cooperative. This firsthand experience of the human side of the industry was an eye-opener.

Burkey discovered the journey from crop to cup commonly overlooks a fundamental facet of the supply chain—the human factor. "There are so many people involved in the [coffee] supply chain, but often we only focus on relatively few parts of the process," notes Burkey.

This experience, along with her fascination with sustainable development, inspired her to action. Burkey wanted to work with an organization that served as an intermediary between workers and sustainable coffee development organizations. But she quickly discovered there were no organizations that made this connection. The answer seemed obvious: Create an organization that did.

Working alongside Mike Morgenstern and Tina Kim, Burkey founded The Chain Collaborative (TCC) in July

2014. Its mission: Serve as an intermediary between coffee farmers and origin-focused retailers of the coffeelands to guarantee a sustainable coffee industry. In this capacity, TCC creates, facilitates, and develops projects and connections, which help farmers gain more control over the sales process; support nonprofit programs, training, and donations to producers from coffee companies; help farmers efficiently get their product to market; and improve the coffee growers' overall livelihood.

"We want to get coffee to the consumer in the most humane, sustainable way possible," states Burkey.

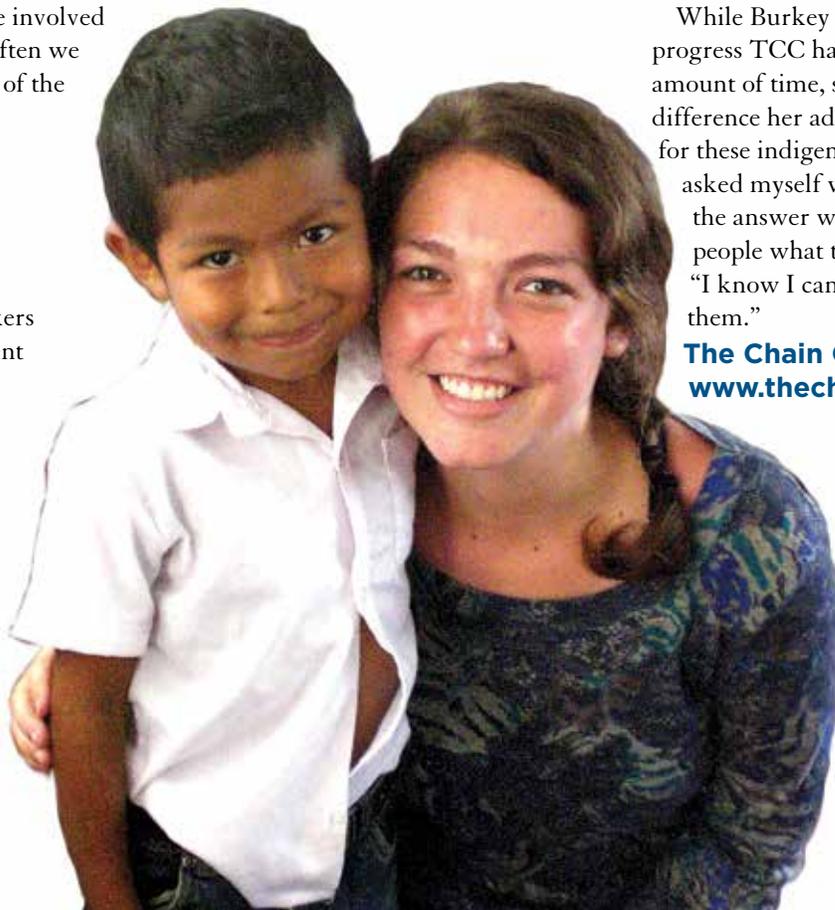
One such collaboration is with Planting Hope, an NGO that supports grassroots initiatives and fosters cultural exchange between Nicaragua and the United States.

TCC is currently helping with Planting Hope's project, Coffee Camp, which provides health screenings, education, and meals for the coffee farmers' children. The group hopes to help revamp the food system for the children; write a Coffee Camps manual in English and Spanish; and build connections with sustainable-focused cooperatives and businesses.

While still waiting for its nonprofit status to be official, TCC founded its own profit-building enterprise in order to finance its overhead expenses. Rumours—appropriately named after a Fleetwood Mac album on which the song, *The Chain*, is featured—is a coffee-roasting venture TCC instituted, which buys green coffee beans, roasts then sells them to suppliers who distribute the product to stores.

While Burkey is encouraged by the progress TCC has made in such a short amount of time, she feels rewarded by the difference her advocacy efforts can make for these indigent farmers. "One day I asked myself what job I wanted, and the answer was that I wanted to ask people what they wanted," says Burkey. "I know I can find a way to give it to them."

The Chain Collaborative
www.thechaincollaborative.org



A Legacy of Love

Sisters Christine Kondra '96 and Erin Kreszl '99 continue the legacy of a beloved family member in fighting brain aneurysms.

Anyone who knew Jennifer Sedney describes her as a vibrant twenty-seven-year-old, who danced through life and left a smile on the faces of everyone she met. She loved to travel, was interested in all things culinary, became a certified health coach, and created a health blog, *WellNest*. She was a daughter, sister, soul mate, niece, cousin, colleague, student, partner, and most important, a true friend. So when she unexpectedly died from a ruptured brain aneurysm on Christmas Day 2013, her family and friends found themselves confronted by an array of emotions—shock, disbelief, and denial.

Christine (Doherty) Kondra '96 and her

sister, Erin (Doherty) Kreszl '99, cousins of Jenny, were overwhelmed by the devastating loss. “Jenny was like a sister to us,” says Christine. “She was one of the happiest and healthiest people you ever met,” adds Erin. When the family learned that Jenny had died from a brain aneurysm, they were stunned. No one saw it coming; however, looking back there were clear warning signs.

While shocked and grieving, the sisters channeled their emotions into a positive energy by making a change the way Jenny would have. They began to research brain aneurysms and were shocked by the statistics: One in fifty people will develop a brain aneurysm in their lifetime; and a brain aneurysm ruptures every 18 minutes with 40 percent of those being fatal

They also discovered that there was minimal awareness, education, and research funding of brain aneurysms. They thought, “If this had happened to one of us, Jenny would have been the first to stand up and proactively fight this cause.”

Inspired by Jenny’s contagious spirit and positive attitude, Christine and Erin founded The Bee Foundation in May 2014, whose name came from her health blog’s slogan to “Bee Curious, Bee Radiant, Bee Well.” Christine, a previous biopharmaceutical director, successful entrepreneur and private chef, and Erin, an institutional investment consultant, combined their talents and expertise to work at promoting awareness and raising funds for

innovative research, a major deterrent in the fight against brain aneurysms. The Bee Foundation’s mission is to educate others on the warning signs that may be masked as something else and potentially be overlooked or disregarded. It is equally as important to raise awareness among the general public and medical community. “Saving others’ loved ones is what motivates us and is why what we are doing is so important,” notes Christine.

One thing they discovered was the lack of a medical community focused on investigational and translational research. “Minimal research has focused on prevention or how to treat those at risk,” says Erin. “There is so much we don’t know. We need to connect the medical communities and the general public to build research, funding, and awareness. The need for The Bee Foundation is a result of the lack of organizations focused on brain aneurysm research and awareness. Innovative and impactful research focused on prevention is our pillar for eradicating this devastating disease,” Christine points out.

In less than two years, they have received 501(c)(3) nonprofit status for the foundation; started a community platform for researchers and investigators to begin a conversation and connect; organized fundraising events across the United States; and established an annual gala in Philadelphia, The Honey Bash. In 2014, they raised more than \$120,000 and contributed \$50,000 of that directly to their first medical research grant in July of 2015 to Dr. Aichi Chien of the Division of Interventional Neuroradiology at UCLA .

Christine and Erin feel they have just begun. “Jenny always believed in a ‘go big or go home’ mentality. She always wanted to leave a mark in the world. Jenny is now having her mark.”

The Bee Foundation
www.thebeefoundation.org



Juliette Mary Abbonizio*
University of Maryland

Christina Marie Adams
George Washington University

Gabriella Rita Agnes
Drexel University

Alexa Katherine Andrisani
University of Delaware

Corin Renee Barker
University of Colorado at Boulder,
Honors Program, College of Arts & Science

Erica Biancaniello
West Chester University

Caroline Adams Bole
Pennsylvania State University

Kerry O'Shea Boles
College of Charleston

Sarajane Bradley
Drexel University

Elizabeth Violet Flounders Brower
George Mason University

Danielle Elizabeth Buntin
Saint Joseph's University

Emily Kay Burns
University of Pittsburgh

Gabrielle Marie Carlini*
Vanderbilt University

Gillian Olivia Chandler
George Washington University

Meghan Rose Cicchitti
University of Maryland

Corinne Marie Cichowicz*
Ursinus College

Angela Nicole Cinaglia
University of Pittsburgh

Karla Mariana Cortes
University of Delaware

Alexandria Paige Costa
George Washington University

Emma Gannon Coyne
University of Alabama

Margaret Elizabeth Curry
Catholic University

Devon Ashley DellaValle
Florida State University

Taylor Balie Denniston
George Mason University

Julia Claire Devine
Southern Methodist University

*Member of National Honor Society



Commencement

On Saturday, June 6, Notre Dame recognized the accomplishments of its ninety-seven graduates at a commencement ceremony held on The Mansion patio. Alumna Dr. Trish Henwood '98 addressed the class of 2015 and guests urging them to imagine the best version of themselves in order to lead and achieve.

"You do have the power to change the world," said Dr. Henwood. "Don't let the world deflate your idealism; cling to it like it is your lifeline. You are capable of so much more than you (or others) might currently imagine."

This year, Dr. Henwood received nationwide attention for her recent efforts in Africa, in which she served as a volunteer physician with the International Medical Corps providing medical treatment to Ebola victims. Her efforts were highlighted in a 2015 *60 Minutes'* feature, "The Ebola Hot Zone," as well as in numerous articles in local publications, including the *Philadelphia Inquirer* and *Philadelphia Magazine*.

Dr. Henwood addressed the graduates in the form of a letter written during her tenure in Margibi County's (Africa) Ebola treatment unit in January. "Each day working in an Ebola treatment unit is like a rollercoaster," Dr. Henwood explained. "You see the triumph of the human spirit with patients doing a happy



Continued on next page



2015



Karen Michelle DiGuiseppe*
Pennsylvania State University

Katherine Ann DiMeo
Villanova University

Laydon Doelakeh
West Chester University

Maura Colleen Dougherty*
Drexel University, Pennoni Honors College

Jane Elizabeth Dudzinsky
Dickinson College

Alexis Earhart
Pennsylvania State University

Kerri Ann Finley
West Chester University

Ariah C. Fish
University of Mississippi

Hannah Kathryn Friel
The University of the Arts

Sophia Elizabeth Galantino
Villanova University

Jane Elizabeth Gallagher
Drew University

Kelsey Anne Glancy
Villanova University

Sophie Taylor Graeff
Cornell University

Marie Theresa Guyer
University of Miami

Marygrace Victoria Hallinan*
Saint Joseph's University

Kaylynn Hanna
University of Delaware

Elise Marie Higgins*
Dartmouth College

Juliet Mary Howard
Florida Southern College, Honors College

Meredith Leigh Hughes*
University of Virginia

Alyson Marie Hurlock*
Drexel University, Pennoni Honors College

Kristen Emelia Karlson*
Gettysburg College

MacKenzie Lauren Kennedy
Drexel University

Olivia Elisabeth Klenn*
College of the Holy Cross

Paige Hammill Koedding
Drexel University

Amanda Deanna Lafferty
Delaware Valley College

**Member of National Honor Society*

Kathryn Joyce Land
Dickinson College

Taylor Christine Leonhardt
Saint Joseph's University

Caitlin Siobhan Livesey*
University of Richmond

Grace C. Ludin
University of Colorado at Boulder

Kerry Josephine Lynch
Saint Joseph's University

Kirsten Noelle Mansfield*
Northwestern University

Megan Anne Marshall
Loyola University Maryland

Alexandra Leigh Mastrangelo
Ursinus College

Kaitlyn Kristina May
Drexel University

Kayce Margaret McCue*
Boston University

Kelly Ann McDevitt
Drexel University

Maura Casey McDonald
Fairfield University

Kelly Leigh McNeill*
University of Notre Dame

Lindsay Anna Michel*
Drexel University, Pennoni Honors College

Meagan Murphy Milligan
Pennsylvania State University

Mary Kathleen Moran*
Pennsylvania State University,
Schreyer Honors College

Taylor Kathryn Mordy
Boston University

Maeve Caitlin Mulvanerty
James Madison University

Amanda Marie Odgers
Pennsylvania State University

Martha Rose Elizabeth Osisek
Boston University

Cassie Lynne Palumbo*
University of Delaware, Honors College

Morgan Elizabeth Patton
University of Delaware, Honors College

Maura Patricia Pawlowski
University of Alabama

Isabel Victoria Pellegrino*
George Washington University



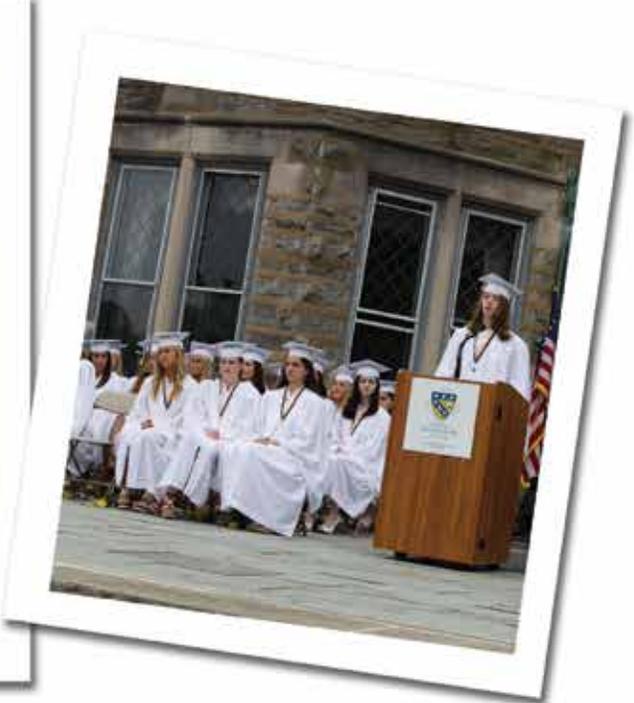
Continued from page 27

dance at discharge against the daily toll of death pronouncements for patients.” While working under extenuating circumstances and adverse conditions, she attributed her endurance and altruistic service to the lessons of life and problem solving she learned while attending Notre Dame.

“Instilled in me were high expectations and a sense that I could accomplish whatever I set out to do,” she said. “I never wonder if I shouldn’t do something ‘because I’m a girl.’ Honestly, more often I think I do some things better because I’m a girl. I hope you all think the same.”

President Judith A. Dwyer, along with Sister Nancy Bonshock, presented student academic achievement and conferred diplomas to the students. Alexa Andrisani served as mistress of ceremony, while Caitlin Livesey was salutatorian and Jennifer Zack was valedictorian. Distinguished awards were presented to Marygrace Hallinan, this year’s recipient of The Notre Dame Alumnae Award; Kirsten Mansfield for the Aimee Willard Scholar/Athlete Award; Jane Dudzinsky for The Sister Rose Carmel Award; Corin Barker and Rachel Smith for The Sister Mary Augusta Award for French; Caitlin Livesey and Kathryn Stavish for The Irma Alonso Award for Spanish; Corin Barker for The Rittenhouse Square Award; and Kelsey Glancy for The Distinguished Service Award.





Jamie Poduslenko*
Vanderbilt University

Hailey Maureen Pohlig
Pennsylvania State University

Erin Marie Price
Fairfield University

Meghan Joyce Reckmeyer*
Northwestern University

Carolyn Anne Riegel*
Pennsylvania State University,
Schreyer Honors College

Grace Elizabeth Rodden
Pennsylvania State University

Victoria Anne Rooney
Pennsylvania State University

Samantha Sacchetta
Drexel University

Katherine Emma Sarmiento
Pennsylvania State University

Emily Elizabeth Schanz*
Virginia Tech

Kimberly Anne Schmidt
West Texas A&M University

Katrina Jacinta Seykora*
University of Pennsylvania

Emily A. Sheehan
Gettysburg College

Rachel Lynne Smith
Boston University

Emma Michele Spaeder
University of Delaware

Kathryn Marie Stavish
Northeastern University

Margaux Maria Steltz
University of Pittsburgh, Honors College

Alexandria Celeste Suydam*
University of Pittsburgh

Katherine Anne Tague
Boston College

Laurel Michele Trevlyn
University of Alabama

Michalina Maria Viola
Catholic University

Abigail Catherine Wolanin
Drexel University

Congyu Xu*
University of California San Diego

Jennifer Lynn Zack*
Georgetown University

**Member of National Honor Society*





Class Notes

In Memoriam

Diane Pellicotti Durso '64 passed away February 5, 2015.

The brother of alumnae **Lizanne Backe Barone '79** and **Karen Backe O'Brien '82**, Louis Jerald Backe, passed away on May 25, 2015.

Mary D. Cugini passed away April 26, 2015. Mary was the mother of current Board of Trustees chair Mary Ellen Maggitti, and grandmother of **Andrea Shank '90**, **Elizabeth Maggitti Dixon '92**, and great-grandmother of **Emily Grace Shank** (class of 2020).

Gertrude L. Keegan passed away on April 13, 2015. She was the mother of **Mary Ellen Keegan Keyser '70** and grandmother of **Elizabeth Keyser '05**.



1994
Kathryne Meakim

1956

Faith Christensen Johnson welcomed a new granddaughter, Finley Kathryn Johnson, from her son, Christian Johnson, and his wife, Sonia.

1961

Noreen McQuade O'Neill and her husband moved from Novato, California, to The Landings on Skidaway Island, Savannah, Georgia.

1964

Sally Bauer writes about an incident that occurred while coming home on a train from Berwyn in April: "A lovely group of high school-aged ladies boarded the train at Suburban Station. They sat in seats around my husband, myself, and my friend (also an ND graduate) and her husband. They were having fun with each other and were obviously very close. When the conductor came to collect tickets, some of the ladies behind us did not have the right cash. The other girls immediately checked their wallets and lent the money to the others. We also offered to help and discovered they attended Notre Dame. They asked us a million questions about our class color, what NDA was like when we went there and shared fun conversation. They then started singing our school song, and we joined in. Other passengers were smiling and clapping. The four

of us were so impressed with these ladies and proud to be NDA grads. It is encouraging to know that you are sending such wonderful people into this world."

1973

D'Arcy Rudnay, Comcast Corporation's chief communications officer, was promoted to executive vice president, the first woman in Comcast history to serve in that role.

1976

Emily Calio Giannantonio participated as a speaker in the STEM Day held at Notre Dame. Emily is a graduate of St. Joseph's University with a degree in biology. She has also completed graduate-level work at West Chester University, Immaculata University, and St. Joseph's University. Emily first taught biology at Notre Dame from 1981 through 1985, then 1998 to present day teaching chemistry, honors chemistry, and environmental science, as well as coordinating the independent research program. She has been involved with the Delaware County Science Fair, the Delaware Valley Science Fair, and the Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science for many years, and has twice been invited to attend the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair. In 2014, she was awarded the DuPont Excellence in Teaching Award for her

"Outstanding dedication to science teaching and inspiration of students to achieve excellence in Science Fairs."

1984

In February 2014, **Johanna Kelly Schwalm** turned a part-time hobby into a full-time job. Along with a partner, Johanna owns Soldier58 LLC (soldier58.com). They specialize in vintage, hand-painted furniture and decor. Their workshop is located in Wayne, PA, and the brick and mortar store is in Bordentown, NJ.

1987

In 2014, **Jennifer Holsten Maddaloni** was sworn in as the Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court of Delaware County, PA. She is the first woman to be elected to this position since the county was formed in 1789.

1991

Julia M. Rafferty was elected chair of the Corporate Council of the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. She is a member of Stradley Ronon's litigation, life sciences and emerging companies practice groups, focusing her practice on general litigation, primarily in the areas of products liability and mass tort.

 Denotes Reunion Year



1994 Alisa DiCaprio



1994 Alicia Downs Rhodes



1994 Claire Prestel

1993

Stephanie Johnson Volturo

continues her career in public service. Since 2011, she has served as Delaware's Chief Conflicts Counsel.

1994

Alisa DiCaprio ran the Pyongyang Marathon on April 12, 2015, in the DPRK. She was awarded second place female amateur with a time of 3:41. She says she would have run faster if her usual accompanist, **Helena Plater-Zyberk**, had been able to join her.

Kathryne Meakim and her husband, Matt Fornwalt, welcomed their fourth son, Finley Jameson, on December 30, 2014. He joins big brothers Brian, Kevin, and Patrick. Kate will soon begin her 12th year working for the New Jersey State Police as a DNA analyst.

In 2014, **Claire Prestel** joined the law firm James & Hoffman, P.C. as counsel; her principal client is the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Claire lives in Washington, D.C., with her husband, Christopher Babbitt, and her children, Eli (6) and Catherine (3). Pictured is Catherine with her grandfather, Hon. Bruce Babbitt.

Alicia Downs Rhodes lives in Haverford with her husband, Brian,

and their four children, Savannah (11), Alex (8), Shelby (6), and Eden (2).

As an engineer on the Hubble mission operations and systems engineering team, **Morgan Bracken Van Arsdall** participated in the 25th anniversary of the launch of the Hubble Space Telescope tours and events on April 24.

1995 ✦

Nicole Fenlon McKeown is an affiliate professor at Eastern University and a student teaching supervisor at Saint Joseph's University. Nicole Resides in Havertown, PA, with her husband, Paul, and her two children, Sienna and John.

1996

Beth Fischer Folino is married to Joseph Folino since May 3, 2008, and together they have two daughters: Anna Lucia (6) and Mia Elizabeth (3). Beth works as a Special Needs Pediatric Registered Nurse in Rosemont, PA.

Colleen Young Moore and her husband, Donnie, welcomed Samuel Campbell Moore on March 6, 2015. He joins brother Donnie (2) and his two sisters, Ella (6) and Makenna (3).

1997

Anne Caprara, vice president of campaigns at Emily's List, which supports female candidates for public

office, will be moving to Priorities USA, as its executive director. Anne's experience includes working on political campaigns for senatorial races throughout the United States.

2000 ✦

Christina Casey-Young married Eric Young in 2012 and welcomed Rory Gabriel Young into the world in September 2013. She has taken over the family chocolate company.

Kathleen Kennedy Char and her husband, John, and her daughter, Audrey, welcomed a baby boy, Peter John Char, to their family on March 9, 2015.

2001

Kiera McKendrick McElrone and her husband, Paul, welcomed their daughter, Fionnuala "Finn" Grace McElrone, on January 4, 2015. Kiera is a physician currently doing a residency in internal medicine and pediatrics at Maine Medical Center in Portland, Maine.

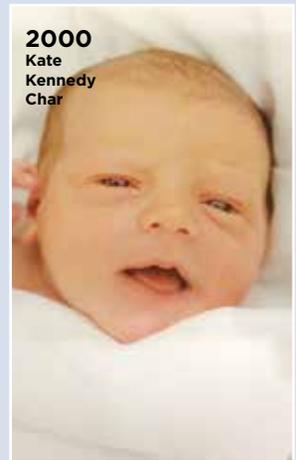
Maya M. Noronha welcomed **Sr. Anne M. O'Donnell, SNDdeN** to Georgetown University Law Center to teach about the writings of the patron saint of lawyers, Saint Thomas More. Sr. Anne taught current Notre Dame teacher **Sr. Nancy Bonshock, SNDdeN**, and fondly remembers so many of Maya's other teachers at Notre



1996
Colleen
Young
Moore



2000
Christie
Casey
Young



2000
Kate
Kennedy
Char



1996 Beth Fischer Folino



2002
Denise Fraider Compton

Submit your Notre Dame Class Notes

We would love to hear from you. Send us your address updates, career changes, marriages and birth announcements, or other news you would like to share. Submit online at www.ndapa.org.



Class Notes



2005
Elena Gallagher O'Rourke

Dame who passed away after Maya graduated: Sr. Mary Hyde, Sr. Veronica, Sr. Patricia Kaupus, Sr. Anne McDonald, and Sr. Regina Finnegan.

Lina Sestokas Scroggins and husband Steven welcomed daughter Klara Jane Scroggins on April 24.

2002
Denise Fraider Compton and her husband, Steve, welcomed a baby girl, Harper Frances, on December 11, 2014.

2004
Meghan Acker O'Brien graduated from the University of Virginia with a bachelor of science degree and worked in New York for Sotheby's for five years. In May 2015, she received her executive MBA from Georgetown University's McDonough School of Business with honors. She has accepted a position with T. Rowe Price in Baltimore. Meghan and her husband reside in Washington, D.C.

Alexandra Burtoft received her master's degree from Wharton.

In addition to her job at CHOP in the NICU, **Allie Moppert Corabi** is the owner of two Etsy shops: FancyPrintsAC specializing in wedding calligraphy and celebration decor; and NewbieStyleLove focuses on accessorizing children and celebration decor.

2005 ♣
Kate Devlin participated as an alumna guest speaker on March 27 at STEM career day at Notre Dame. She earned her bachelor of science in neuroscience from Brown University, graduating with honors. She presented a thesis, "HIV-associated Neurocognitive Dysfunction in the HAART Era and the Effects of Hepatitis C and Substance Abuse." Kate is currently working on her doctor of philosophy in clinical psychology at Temple University.

Sarah Janson Fallon and her husband, Tim, welcomed a baby boy, Jacob Anthony, on July 22, 2014.

Stephanie Ferrone participated as an alumna guest speaker on STEM career day at Notre Dame. Stephanie completed her undergraduate degree at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County in 2009. She majored in physics and minored in French and religious studies. Upon graduation, she worked at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division, as a physicist, specializing in underwater electromagnetic signatures and technology. In 2014, she graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a master of science in applied physics with a concentration in materials and condensed matter.

Elena Gallagher married Patrick O'Rourke on May 23. Fellow alumnae **Juliette Gallagher '07**, **Rosemary Saveri '05**, **Anne**

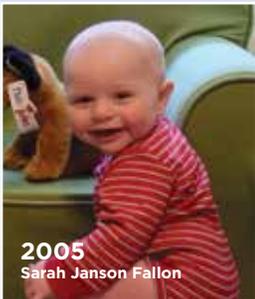
Kingston '05, and **Mary Grace O'Rourke '07** were members of the bridal party.

Kelly Snow co-founded a tech startup in 2013 called Mixette, which recently launched its product into private beta.

2006
Laura Kennedy-Rynne received her doctorate in physical therapy from Temple University in May 2015.

On July 11, **Maggie Cummings**, an actress now based in New York, performed in the regional premier of her one-woman cabaret, *Sorta Love Songs at Plays and Players in Philadelphia*. Maggie successfully debuted both this show last summer, as well as a follow up Christmas cabaret in December in New York.

2008
Paige Adack participated as an alumna guest speaker at the STEM career day at Notre Dame on March 27. She earned her bachelor of science in chemical engineering from Villanova University, where she received the Dean's Award for both Meritorious Service and Academic Excellence, and was the 2012 recipient of The Robert E. White Chemical Engineer Award, which is presented to a graduating senior who best combines performance in chemical engineering studies with scholarship, dedication, leadership, and other qualities desirable for



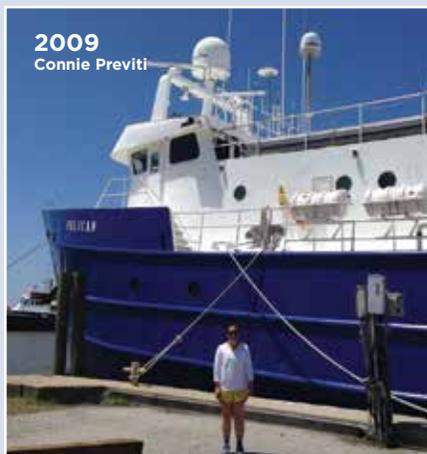
2005
Sarah Janson Fallon



2006
Laura Kennedy-Rynne



2008
Kathryn Pall



2009
Connie Previti



2013
Morgan Sanel

an engineering education. Paige is employed as an associate engineer at Merck and Company, where she assists in the development, scale-up, and launch of commercial-solid dosage manufacturing processes.

Katie Kuester is now working at Loyola University of Maryland as the assistant coach for women's basketball.

Kathryn Pall received her doctorate in physical therapy from the University of Maryland, Baltimore, in May 2015.

Mary Emily Pagano graduated from Villanova Law School with a Juris Doctor on May 15. She will be returning to Villanova Law in the fall to finish up her master of laws in taxation (LL.M.) and working in the Villanova Federal Tax Clinic, representing low-income taxpayers in controversies with the IRS.

Kara Schultheis received a master of science in counseling from Villanova University on May 15.

DeAnna Supplee just completed her third and final year at the Actors Studio Drama School where she received her master of fine arts in acting. Her thesis production of Anna Deavere Smith's *Fires in the Mirror: Crown Heights, Brooklyn, and Other Identities*, is a documentary theater that chronicles the various points of views following the Crown Heights riots of 1991. DeAnna portrayed numerous characters from both black and Jewish communities. The performance received astounding praise from faculty and guests including Dean Emeritus/host of Inside the Actors Studio James Lipton, who called her work "brilliant," and was quoted saying "now THAT'S some good theater." DeAnna is currently a working finalist at the Actors Studio.

2009

Connie Previti recently finished a research trip on the Pelican, a research ship in the Gulf of Mexico. She graduated from Clemson in 2013 with a bachelor of science degree

in chemistry. She is now studying to receive her master's in chemical oceanography at Texas A&M.

2010

Kate Acker received her bachelor of science degree from Penn State in May 2014 majoring in biology with an ecology concentration. She was a member of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars. She currently lives in Cambridge, MA, and is employed by the Dana Farber Cancer Research Institute.

Juliana Swiniuch earned a bachelor of science in engineering from Villanova University. Previously, she interned at Constellation, an Exelon company, that is a leading competitive supplier of power, natural gas, and energy products and services for homes and businesses across the United States.

2011

Jamie A. Sweeney was selected as the student marshal for the industrial engineering baccalaureate degree program at the College of Engineering at the Penn State's commencement ceremony, in which she received a bachelor of science degree in industrial engineering. She participated in two study abroad programs while attending Penn State: one in China and the other in Cape Town, South Africa. As a Schreyer Scholar, she served as president of the student chapter of the Institute of Industrial Engineers and was active in the college as a Career Envoy mentor, as well as a mentor for the Women in Engineering Program. Following graduation, she plans to spend a month backpacking through Peru before joining the Operations Leadership Development Program at Siemens.

2013

Morgan Sanei had the opportunity to act as the lector of the National Shrine in Washington, D.C., during the live televised Mass on the morning of the March for Life.



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Just a few sentences are all that are needed to name Notre Dame as a beneficiary of your will, retirement plan, life insurance policy, or trust.



To learn more, contact Sally Orr, Associate Director of Advancement, at 610-971-4919 or sorr@ndapa.org.



IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

A popular option for outright gifts

As part of the America Gives More Act of 2015, Congress recently passed legislation to make the IRA Charitable Rollover permanently available to taxpayers. This ruling allows individuals who have reached age 70 ½ to make tax-free contributions of up to \$100,000 each year from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to qualified charitable organizations. The IRA Charitable Rollover provides an attractive opportunity to make lifetime gifts from your IRA.

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How it works

1. Contact your IRA provider to request an IRA Charitable Rollover to the Academy of Notre Dame. Follow the simple procedure of your IRA provider.
2. Contact the Notre Dame Advancement Office (610-971-4919) after you request the transfer so we can watch for the check, as IRA administrators don't always include the donor's name on distribution checks they send.
3. If you have retirement assets in a 401(k), 403(b) or another type of qualified plan, you must first roll those funds into an IRA. Then you can direct your IRA provider to transfer the funds directly from your IRA to Notre Dame.

Thank you for your support of Notre Dame. If you have questions about the IRA Charitable Rollover, contact Sally Orr, Associate Director of Advancement, at 610-971-4919 or sorr@ndapa.org.



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Rittenhouse Reunion



The Academy of Notre Dame's Rittenhouse Square Alumni gathered together on Saturday, April 11, for their annual Mass and luncheon. They celebrated Mass in The Mansion's chapel then retreated to Overbrook Golf Club for their luncheon. Loretta Salvadore Hartnett '55, President of the Alumni Association of Rittenhouse Square, and Janet Salvadore Colella '59, Treasurer, planned and coordinated the event. During the luncheon's program, alumna Livia Guarini Cristella '61 presented President Judith Dwyer and Marielle Mazda '06 with a brick from Rittenhouse Square, which she had kept after the site of the school had been demolished.





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Classic

Monday, September 14, 2015
 White Manor Country Club
 11:00 a.m.: Registration and Lunch
 12:30 p.m.: Shotgun Start
 5:00 p.m.: Cocktail Reception

Sponsorship Opportunities still available.
 Contact Heather Godley at
hgodley@ndapa.org or 610-971-4916.



Terri and Dom Nappi

Why We Give

“Our daughters developed a strong sense of self and a bounty of friends, who are still connected and always supportive.”

Most people may wonder why Terri and Dom Nappi would send their daughters 31 miles to school when there are both a Catholic girl’s school and suitable public school within a few miles of their home. But once the Nappis discovered Notre Dame, distance was not a consideration.

“Our older daughter, Katie (Class of 2012), saw Notre Dame and was immediately convinced it was where she wanted to go,” recalls Terri. “Our entire family loves the school so naturally our younger daughter, Claire (Class of 2017), wanted to attend as well.”

Beginning with Katie’s first day of school, Terri and Dominic knew they made the right choice. They saw her grow and flourish in ways they don’t believe she would have had she gone to another school. “From day one, Katie took the Honor Code to heart; she got the determination and grit to excel,” says Dominic. “She developed a strong sense of self and a bounty of friends, who are still connected and always supportive.”

The Nappis have embraced Notre Dame as evident by their involvement as parents. As multi-year Annual Fund

supporters, the Nappis have also supported the Golf Classic, the 2008 Capital Campaign and BLAST, which Dom and Terri were the 2012 chairs. Terri was also a past president of the Parent’s Association and has served on their board. She has chaired the Christmas luncheon and continues to work on parent outreach and engagement opportunities.

Giving back to Notre Dame in time, talent and financial support is what it is all about for the Nappis. They have seen one daughter go forward and continue to flourish in her college career. “Our daughters can hold their own thanks to their Notre Dame experience,” believes Dominic. “Katie came [to Notre Dame] as a little girl but left as a well-balanced woman. We are grateful to

the school for all that the teachers and students have done for our daughters.”



Pictured are (back row, l-r): Claire, Dom Jr., Katie with Terri and Dom Sr.

FROM THE ARCHIVES



GRADUATION

winwin

At Notre Dame, we like to say that EITC and OSTC are our win-win programs. They are a win for our participating businesses and a win for our young women. They power student scholarships at the Academy!



Notre Dame salutes the following companies for their current participation in EITC or OSTC, Pennsylvania's tax credit programs that offer a substantial tax credit in exchange for a donation to support scholarships. Since 2004, these and other businesses have given over \$1.8 million to benefit Notre Dame students. We thank them for their continued generosity!

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