

Ivy Leaves

THE MAGAZINE OF DOANE ACADEMY

FALL 2020

Doane Academy alumni
share their stories
from the front lines of
a global pandemic.

#DoaneCares



Ivy Leaves Fall 2020

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Ivy Leaves is published twice per year for graduates, parents, past and current grandparents, students, and friends of Doane Academy, a co-educational day school for students age 3 through grade 12 founded in 1837 in Burlington, New Jersey. We are a school that honors our traditions while celebrating our ability to both nurture and challenge a diverse group of students with a program that is innovative, forward thinking, and demanding.

For further information please visit www.doaneacademy.org or look for our latest news, events and other happenings on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.

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The class of 2021 arrives at Riverbank after canoeing across the Delaware River on the first day of school.



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A Message From the Head of School



As we enter our sixth month of unprecedented challenges at Doane Academy, it is hard to know where to begin my communication to you about our school. I have often said to our community that we will emerge from these difficult times as a school that is stronger and closer than ever. While some of the events since March have caused me to doubt that prediction from time to time, I remain optimistic about the future because of the remarkable resilience our community has demonstrated when facing the many challenges of this spring and summer. Since March, our faculty and students have found collective strength through their commitment to the teaching and learning process, their innovation, and their abiding love for each other and for our school. What we have experienced together has been intensely challenging but extraordinarily rewarding at the same time.

Elsewhere in the pages of this issue of *Ivy Leaves*, you will learn about how our alumni have served the community since March in their work on the front lines of the pandemic. Their inspiring efforts remind us that

Doane is part of a larger community that extends beyond the walls of our school. Supporting that community is one of our core values, as we encourage members of our school to behave ethically and with sensitivity toward social, cultural, economic, and environmental issues. Our students and alumni have answered this call during these last several months in a manner that moves all of us to become leaders in making the world more generous and just.

The commitment of our students and alumni to make a positive impact on our community has been made clear by the work of our alumni involved in the medical field. But the impactful events of this past spring and summer have not been limited to the challenges associated with the pandemic. The killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery—as well as the events in Kenosha, Wisconsin that are unfolding at the time of my writing this letter—serve as painful reminders of the necessity of making substantive changes to secure social justice for all. To this end, our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Task Force, under the leadership of Spanish Teacher Julian Cook and Middle School Head Allison Baratta, has redoubled its efforts to engage students and teachers in the work of combating racism and intolerance. Their work began well before the tragic events of this spring and summer, and will continue in earnest going forward.

The strategic plan of the DEI Task Force includes the following initiatives:

- Improve responsive communication regarding issues and initiatives pertaining to diversity, equity, and inclusion to members of the Doane Community;

- Support faculty and staff with understanding and acting upon the principles of anti-racist practices in and outside of the classroom environment; and

- Engage and inform the collective student body on questions of diversity, equity, inclusion to support students' personal journeys toward cultural competency and anti-racist behaviors and practices.

We begin each year at Doane with faculty meetings in August that help us articulate our priorities and prepare for the coming school year. This summer, these gatherings have focused on the challenges of reopening the campus in a manner that protects the health of our community and the importance of recognizing broader issues of social justice that have gripped our nation since last spring. More broadly, our work has centered on the responsibility that we all have to support a community that is safe, both physically and emotionally. I am proud of all of the efforts that we have made to champion these priorities but I also recognize that our work is ongoing. Doane Academy is a sturdy, resilient community, and we look forward to continuing to demonstrate, and build upon, our strength in the coming months.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. B. Sanderson".

George B. Sanderson
Head of School

ALUMNI *on the* FRONT LINES

Service to one's community has long been a tenet of Doane Academy's values and can be seen at all levels of the school, from the youngest students conducting coat drives, to the senior class working on restoration projects at Civil War battlefields. For many of the school's alumni this sense of duty is carried on well beyond their time at Doane, and many of them have created careers around such service. What follows are glimpses into the stories of several such alumni who have made an impact on the front lines of the battle against COVID-19.



*I am just doing
my job and it is a
pleasure to serve.*

Matt Ferrell '94

I am a lieutenant in the Willingboro Fire Department and have been employed there since 2000. In March of this year our department was placed on “official notice” of the seriousness and veracity of COVID-19. We knew once it was revealed that the virus was spreading so rapidly that we needed to be prepared to the best of our ability for the coming pandemic. Our department immediately took a proactive approach to cleaning our apparatus, equipment and building; this included our normal housekeeping and also the wiping down of door knobs, telephones and periodic temperature checks.

Because of COVID-19, my platoon needs to limit potential exposure while still providing service to our residents. For most calls, only one person (me) will step out from the fire apparatus with a mask to engage a homeowner from the front porch or sidewalk and see if the issue can be resolved without physically entering the property. There are times, of course, when we need to enter a property (EMS situation or fire), or remove a patient from an automobile accident in which the door and or roof need to be removed. All of these incidents require us to perform our

duties swiftly and safely while wearing an N-95 mask, and other PPE. It is also my job to ensure that the members of my platoon continue to practice proper cleanliness with hand washing and the wiping down of spaces that were occupied by them. COVID-19 has changed my approach to how I arrive and leave work as well. I follow new guidelines for cleaning my uniforms and I shower at the end of my shift to ensure I don't bring COVID-19 home to my wife and son.

Earlier this year I was humbled to be recognized by Promise and Possibilities, a non-profit group that commends community workers, as an “Impact Award Recipient for 2020” for my work during this battle against COVID-19. As the saying goes, “I am just doing my job and it is a pleasure to serve.”

I long to instill hope in others by highlighting the silver linings to be derived from these trying times.



Raine Robinson '10

I worked as a Medical-Surgical Nurse at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia, PA during the height of the pandemic. There are no words to justly verbalize the emotional ramifications and occupational difficulties circumstantial to COVID-19 for both providers and patients. Policy and procedures in regard to personal protective equipment (PPE), medical treatment, and patient care were fluid and changing every day, moreover multiple times a day within one shift. These uncertainties, coupled with limited and recycled PPE, instilled much anxiety in us all. Simultaneously, I have never felt more proud and honored to be a nurse ministering to patients in their time of physical and spiritual duress. Patients despairingly were not allowed visitors due to infection control concerns—yet holding the hands of the dying sick, speaking to family members extensively on the phone about their loved ones, and comforting patients during times of extreme vulnerability were humbling memories I will carry in my heart forever. I long to instill hope in others

by highlighting the silver linings to be derived from these trying times. The sense of togetherness, support, camaraderie, and love felt amongst local and global communities is to be celebrated and appreciated. Furthermore, healthcare workers constitute a fraction of the incredible good achieved and still being carried out to this day; we can all be impactful by doing our part with our individualized gifts, talents, and respect for limiting viral spread. I recently changed positions to pursue my aspirations for surgery, and am now working as an Operating Room Nurse at Penn Presbyterian Medical Center while obtaining my degree to be an Acute Care Nurse Practitioner. I hope to make significant contributions in this new role. While COVID-19 is still an ongoing battle every day and across all settings, I sincerely commend everyone for their personal and collective resilience in fighting the pandemic. I wish all of you the best health, happiness, and peace in your lives. (Shout out to the Class of 2010—Love to you all, and still the best class ever!)



*But even in the hardest of times
we are a team and a family and
support one another.*

Kevin Sanders '08

I became an EMT in June of 2018 and have been on the job ever since, but no amount of experience can prepare you for working during a pandemic. As COVID-19 grew, working from home wasn't an option, we still had to respond to calls and enter homes of patients. The hardest part of the pandemic was when I tested positive and had to quarantine for two weeks. But even in the hardest of times we are a team and a family and support one another. It is a privilege to be able to work with Endeavor EMS during these trying times and I couldn't ask for a better squad. My chief has and continues to go above and beyond to make sure that we have the equipment and policy to keep both us and our patients safe.

One of my main concerns was to keep the residents from feeling completely isolated and disheartened.



Gabrielle Perrottet '11

At the time that COVID hit, I was the Director of Resident Engagement at an assisted living community. My main job was to make sure the residents were getting enough socialization, mental stimulation, exercise, and nutrition all while maintaining their spiritual health as well.

When COVID hit, everything changed; your title and job description didn't matter anymore. With 17 cases of COVID, everyone had the same goal; our focus was only on keeping those who were infected alive and comfortable and keeping those who were not infected, safe. I exchanged my heels and blouses for scrubs and sneakers and donned full PPE every day while we battled to care for the sick residents. Seemingly small tasks like feeding them their meals became complex and daunting, especially while coping with their Dementia in addition to the virus.

One of my main concerns, however, was to keep the residents from feeling completely isolated and disheartened. With the new rules in place, families were unable to visit, activities and exercise had to stop, and all meals were brought to their rooms in Styrofoam containers.

I was able to work with loved ones to set up window visits and Facetime calls to keep families connected. We arranged hallway bingo and door-to-door activities such as a happy hour cart and Philly day which included mini soft pretzels and cheesesteaks, Rita's water ice, and a carnival-style wheel game of Philadelphia trivia. We set-up individual exercise sessions and even did religious services on Skype. Oftentimes it would take us 3 hours to do one task for each resident but it was so worth it to see the joy it brought to their faces.

I am happy to report that as of this writing (Aug. 2020) everyone is COVID free!



I am currently most heavily focused on COVID-19 testing.

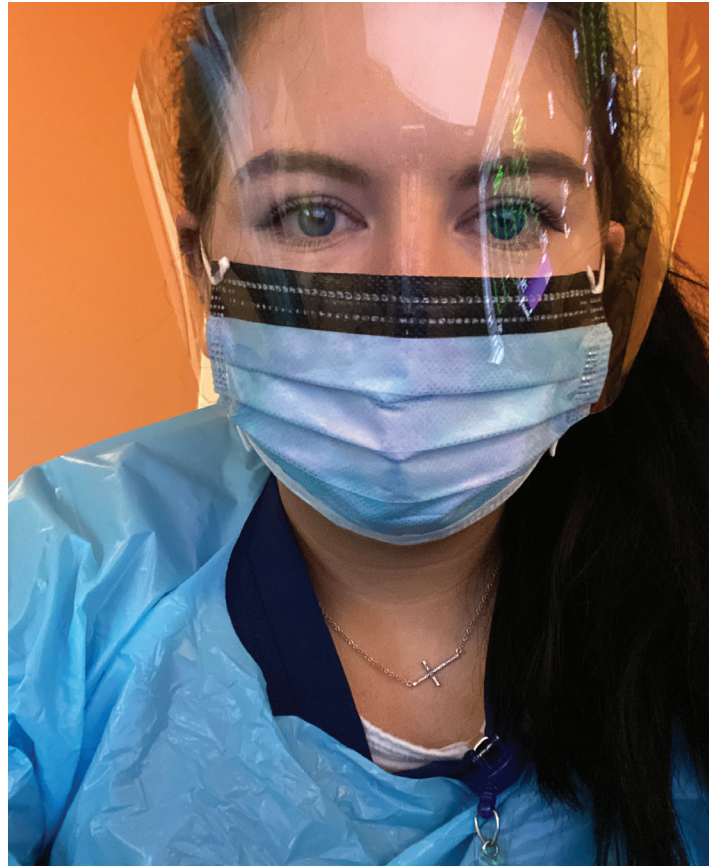
Nettie Boulden '00

When the pandemic began, other illnesses and other medical emergencies didn't stop, so an already demanding job has become even more draining. Protocols and work flow have been constantly changing during the pandemic, so it's important that I am able to quickly adapt to such adjustments. Although I take precautions to minimize occupational exposure, every day that I go to work I am aware that I am still putting myself at risk.

In my work as a clinical laboratory scientist at Bryn Mawr Hospital I am responsible for testing in a number of disciplines including clinical chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and molecular biology but I am currently most heavily focused on COVID-19 testing. In this area I analyze molecular testing on nasopharyngeal swabs for the qualitative detection of SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Photo: I have anxiety about potentially passing an infection to my spouse so I have been removing and leaving my work clothes in a bucket in the backyard to reduce the risk. Aching feet from a long day of running around the lab!

While this is not the year I had imagined it would be, I am grateful for all the wonderful staff that I work with and couldn't imagine doing anything else.



This photo was taken before we started wearing N95 masks. In the beginning, we were told we did not need to be wearing N95s for protection.

Mary Jo Sieb '15

Global pandemics are something I learned about in nursing school but the subject was never something that I dreamed I would have to live through. My first year as a nurse is certainly nothing like I expected it to be and it will surely not be a year that I forget. I work a 60 bed cardiovascular step-down unit at York Hospital (Tower 2). I typically care for a diverse population of heart and vascular patients including surgical patients that are post open heart, ventricular assistive devices, vascular, and thoracic surgeries. There is also a focus on interventional cardiology procedures, heart failure, and acute coronary syndrome. In the beginning of March, that all changed as Tower 2 was designated to be the COVID-19 floor. Staff was at every entrance of the hospital to take temperatures and would ask the same repetitive six words “any cough, fever, shortness of breath?” To which my response was always “no.” Once inside, I changed into scrubs provided by the hospital and went to huddle to see what standard practices had changed from the previous night. We had

“warm” and “hot” nurses. The “hot” nurses were to have direct patient care; do the assessments, check vitals, give medications etc., while the “warm” nurse grabbed all the medications and supplies for the “hot” nurses. Once the “hot” nurse was dressed in full personal protective equipment (PPE) gown, gloves, face mask, and shield they were not to take it off for the remainder of the shift. Fortunately as the daily numbers decreased the COVID-19 patients were moved to a smaller unit in the hospital and Tower 2 has since gone back to our normal patient population. While being on the COVID-19 floor many of my coworkers tested positive and some even had to be hospitalized, but most were able to self-quarantine at home. While this is not the year I had imagined it would be, I am grateful for all the wonderful staff that I work with and couldn't imagine doing anything else.



I have seen firsthand what this disease can do to people, both young and old...

Steve Teitelman '88

In my multiple roles as a Flight Nurse, Ground Specialty Care Transport Nurse, and Paramedic, I have seen many patients affected by this horrible pandemic. Caring for patients with infectious diseases is nothing new for most healthcare providers, especially those in emergency services whose job it is to regularly face the unknown. Caring for them at this magnitude however is something most of us never thought we would see. Life as we know it has changed and we had to change with it.

In my clinical arena, I am primarily tasked with transporting critically ill patients from one facility, often a community-based facility without expertise and capabilities to manage complex patients, to a university hospital setting with specialists and equipment in house to manage these patients. During a transport, it is just me and my paramedic partner managing critically ill patients. We must be extremely careful and wear full protective gear (respirator, masks, gloves, gown, goggles), limit physical exposure to the patient once prepared for transport, and meticulously disinfect the helicopters, ambulances, and ourselves after transfer of the patient. We also have changed the way we approach procedures and medications that generate aerosol-borne particles.

In the middle of all of this, I was nominated by a coworker for a nursing mentorship award and subsequently awarded the “Nurse of the Year” award at my employer, Cooper University Health Care. This was an honor, but I feel that any nurse that works inside the hospital during this pandemic is much more deserving.

It has been stressful, but I am thankful to keep working in the face of this economic near-shutdown, and for the supply chains that keep the necessary protective equipment available to my coworkers and me. I have seen firsthand what this disease can do to people, both young and old, and I can’t unsee what I’ve seen. I cannot stress enough the vital importance of social distancing and wearing a mask. Please just wear a mask—we can debate their efficacy when the pandemic is over, but trust me, this is for real!



... I am hopeful for a vaccine or cure so that we can get back to a new normal in the healthcare setting.

Marnie Lynn Sperling (Johnson) '88

As a cardiac nurse for over 25 years and a cardiac acute care nurse practitioner for a little less than a year and a half, I never expected to be caring for patients in a global pandemic. The hospital facility where I work was not permitted to do any elective cases when the pandemic became evident in Northern NJ. Because my department was one of the few non-COVID-19 units, I became a hospitalist in internal medicine caring for patients who had everything from acute abdominal pain to diabetic complications and even some COVID patients who did not exhibit symptoms until they arrived on my unit. I was doing this while helping in the outpatient testing centers performing urgent cardiac stress testing for patients with chest pains and shortness of breath.

Everyone talks about the impact of caring for COVID patients while our hospitals were inundated with virtually every unit converted to a covid unit, but no one talks about the ones who had to deal with the non-COVID medical cases with very few resources. I was one of those providers. I learned a lot in this new role but was missing my chest pain, NSTEMI, heart failure, and arrhythmia patients for those 4 months. We are starting to get back to 80% cardiac so this fight against covid is still far from over. I also served my community as a Morris County NJ Medical Reserve Corp volunteer working the covid testing lines on my days off from the hospital processing approximately 100-200 community members daily who were undergoing drive through testing. As I write this, I am hopeful for a vaccine or cure so that we can get back to a new normal in the healthcare setting.

Young Alumni Spotlight



Malicka Barro '16

Malicka Barro '16 was born and raised in the Ivory Coast, a West African nation where she witnessed many of the hardships brought on by two civil wars. She also saw young girls being denied a proper education or even the most basic tools for that education, and this stuck with her as her own life changed. Just a few short years after graduating from Doane, Barro founded Backpack Girls Nation (BGN), a non-profit organization which is promoting education and empowerment among Ivorian girls and girls all around the world.

Growing up in the Ivory Coast, Barro noticed at a young age that only the education of boys was prioritized. They're "only girls" is how she described the reason she was given for the educational disparity. And she also took note that most children carried their notebooks and other school supplies around in plastic bags.

Barro's father, then an analyst for the United Nations, moved most of her family to Mt. Laurel when she was 13 years old. Starting as a new student at

Doane Academy in 2014 she began to see new possibilities. "Doane Academy made me realize how blessed I was to have the opportunity to get a private school education in the U.S.," she explained. At Doane she was exposed to role models who inspired her to be a leader, and who "always believed in me", and she wanted to create that same opportunity for young Ivorian girls. She decided to create a platform that encourages and promotes women's leadership, entrepreneurship, and empowerment.

Bringing her vision to life was at first very difficult, but her friend, Zaniya Lewis (also of Doane Academy's class of 2016), who had already begun a non-profit organization, the Yes She Can Campaign, gave her much of the insight and direction that she needed to get things off the ground. Backpack Girls Nation officially launched in 2018, and the difficult but inspiring work began. Having friends back home in the Ivory Coast has helped move things along enabled Barro to successfully delegate tasks from a distance.

Last year BGN partnered with a local non-profit, "Leader De Demain," and was able to promote their fundraiser and donate 1,000 backpacks and school kits to low income students. A short term goal of BGN is to establish a merit-based scholarship fund for low income students that will allow them to cover school tuitions for 1,000 students by 2024. Additionally, a long term goal for Backpack Girls Nation is to open an institution where low income girls and young women will be able to



get a thorough education, professional advice, and be empowered to follow their dreams and passions. Barro expressed that an additional vision for this institution is to have a free and healthy lunch program available to all students and members of the communities served by her organization.

Barro has advice for those who wish to follow her lead:

"Stick to your mission and vision but don't be afraid to make changes and modifications because it is in the process of defining your true mission and vision that you find the purpose of your organization as time goes on. Surround yourself with individuals who are looking to make this world a better place and would love to contribute to your cause. Having an incredible support system is the reason why I was able to bring BGN to life."

Barro had planned to go back to the Ivory Coast this past summer to lead a drive in person, but COVID-19 forced cancellation of her plans. She now plans to do a backpack drive in the U.S. in December and January, to collect some school supplies which she will then bring to the Ivory Coast next summer.

If you are interested in participating in Backpack Girls Nation's efforts you may contact them via social media on Facebook: Backpack Girls Nation, Instagram: backpackgirlsci_ or via email: backpackgirlsnation@gmail.com

Stick to your mission and vision but don't be afraid to make changes and modifications.

Young Alumni Spotlight



Ricardo Dale '16

“Your life will not be determined by the things that happen to you, but how you choose to react to them.” Ricardo Dale '16, who experienced many hardships and even homelessness for a time as a teen, said the above words as a featured speaker at Rowan University's virtual commencement this past May, which also marked his own graduation from the same institution.

The trajectory of his story moves from incredible family strife as a child, through the discovery of mentors and possibilities, to where he now has served as a member of the board of trustees of Rowan University and runs his own non-profit organization, Free All Minds.

With his biological father absent from his life, his step father having died, and his mother battling drug addiction issues, Dale “didn't have a lot of role models who showed me the right way of living,” he explained.

A basketball coach that Dale encountered when he played with the Burlington Islanders program changed all of that. Seigha Omusa became the

mentor that he needed to show him that he could take charge of his own destiny. Omusa motivated Dale, who had been earning very low grades, to start showing up for classes, studying for tests, and doing his homework. As Dale's grades started to improve, so did his motivation to aim even higher. So he reached out to Dan Williamson, boys basketball coach and Dean of Student Life at Doane Academy. As Dale did not have the grades he needed to get into Doane, he knew that it was a longshot request. But the request moved up through levels of the administration, and as Dale kept following up, all were impressed by his determination and resourcefulness. Soon it was agreed to admit him to Doane, where he repeated 10th grade. He made the most of the opportunity.

As Ran Holeman, Head of Upper School, noted, “Doane has rarely been graced with a student so determined to grow. Riccardo showed resolve and resilience every day in transitioning to Doane Academy, and his desire to seek out and respond to feedback defined his academic journey. Because of his growth mindset and self-belief, I am not surprised by his accomplishments since he graduated.”

Upon graduating from Doane in 2016, Dale went on to attend Rowan University with financial assistance provided by the Give Something Back Foundation, which provides college scholarships to students who have experienced financial hardship and adversity. Even before he started at Rowan, Dale had begun to figure out what he wanted to do in life. In the summer before his freshman year, he started volunteering with The Opportunity League, a mentoring program for troubled youth in Burlington County. Most of the kids in the



program came from poverty and didn't grow up in two-parent homes, according to Dale. He helped them with school work and public speaking. He even told them the story of how he advocated for himself and got into Doane.

I wanted to show those kids, ‘You're not alone.’

By 2018 he had started his own non-profit mentoring program, Free All Minds. Dale has since traveled around Southern New Jersey and other parts of the country presenting workshops on how to stay focused on both short-term and long-term goals. He is building long-term programs to help students like himself, from middle school through high school, with the hope of getting 100% of them into college, with full scholarships if possible.

Dale's energy, focus, and determination to share his own experiences and to show people what can happen if they truly believe in themselves is, as he states, just the beginning of this story.

You can contact Free All Minds through <https://www.freeallminds.org> and on Instagram by following: @fam_nonprofit or @freeallminds_

FAM

Dramatically impacting the **lives** of foster and underprivileged youth through mentorship.

Mark Bucher '86 Steps Up In A Time of Need

In the early weeks of the pandemic, when many senior citizens were suddenly isolated and unsure of the simple things, like where their next meal would come from, Mark Bucher '86, owner of Medium Rare restaurant in Washington D.C. as well as co-owner of steakhouses in Cleveland Park, Arlington, and Bethesda, stepped into the void and created a program to deliver over 200 complimentary cooked meals per day to seniors in the Washington D.C. area. Bucher also started giving away scratch-off lottery tickets with each meal. Of this he said “. . . people (were) starting to get down wondering if it's ever going to return to normal, so we're attaching lottery tickets to every meal just in the hopes that somebody wins!”

It is estimated that Bucher and his team have prepared and delivered over 10,000 free steak dinners to home-bound seniors, and he is now also looking to serve the needs of another at-risk group, food insecure students of the D.C. region. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics food insecurity, the state of being without reliable access to a sufficient quantity of affordable and nutritious food, is now believed to affect a majority of students in the D.C. area.

“Fill The Fridge Free School Lunch Program,” Bucher's as-yet unlaunched non-profit organization, plans to place refrigerators at strategic locations throughout the city, where students will be able to pick up meals prepared by nearby restaurants. His goal is to place refrigerators stocked with lunches at recreation centers, public libraries, and firehouses for the duration of distance learning, and to have these restaurant-prepared meals exceed nutritional standards mandated by public schools. Bucher says that “Fill The Fridge Free School Lunch Program” will be open to any student who needs or wants lunch. They will not need to be eligible for free or reduced-priced meals in order to receive these pre-packed meals.

Fundraising is underway, pick-up locations are being selected and approved, logistics planning is moving forward, and several safety and social distancing concerns related to the COVID-19 pandemic are being addressed. There is much work to be done before his plan comes to fruition, but Bucher hopes to have it up and running before the 1st of October.



10th Annual Mark Keays Outing Draws Record Number of Golfers



On July 27th Doane Academy's Athletic Department witnessed once again the care and generosity of the school's graduates, current and past parents, trustees, friends, and sponsors, as a record number of golfers turned out at the Burlington Country Club, in Mount Holly, NJ. The turnout was so exceptional that the golf club ran out of and then had to track down more carts. This event, named in memory of Mark Keays (parent of **Brett '13** and **Andrew '18**), who was an avid supporter of Doane Academy's Athletic Program, serves as the main fundraiser for Doane Athletics each year and has enabled Doane to purchase new outside soccer goals and bleachers, rowing equipment, a Shoot-A-Way machine for basketball training, and to have the gym floor refinished. Thanks were expressed to everyone who made this year's event such a huge success. Anyone who still wishes to contribute to Doane Academy's Athletics Program may do so at <https://www.doaneacademy.org/giving/donate-online>.



With Support from the NJ Historic Trust, Doane Creates a New Preservation Plan

In the fall of 2019 Doane Academy was awarded a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust to fund an update to the school's campus preservation plan. Doane had previously received a grant from the New Jersey Historic Trust in 2005 to create a preservation plan which addressed the needs of the historic campus' buildings, outlined the necessary priorities, and made recommendations for the buildings' preservation.

Since 2005 Doane's campus has undergone major changes, including a campus reconfiguration, the addition of Rowan Hall, and the recent acquisition of the adjacent Boudinot School property. As a result of these changes, the opportunity to apply for funding came at an opportune time. In accordance with the mission of the New Jersey Historic Trust, which advances historic preservation in New Jersey for the benefit of future generations through education, stewardship and financial investment programs, this updated campus preservation plan will allow Doane to address the changing conditions at their historic buildings: The Chapel of the Holy Innocents (1847), Odenheimer Hall (1868) and Scarborough Hall (1912). As part of this assessment, needed work on these structures was identified and prioritized.

Some of the highest priority work identified includes long-standing issues with the roof, the recessed gutter system and the downspouts, as well as interior repairs associated with water infiltration, at Odenheimer Hall. The clear priorities identified in this updated campus preservation plan will allow Doane Academy to apply for additional funding from the New Jersey Historic Trust in the future. Elizabeth Jankowski, Assistant Director of Development stated, "We are fortunate to have the ability to receive external funding that is specifically earmarked for the historic preservation and renovation of our beautiful campus along the Delaware."



Connor McHugh '20, a "Lifer" at Doane Academy, has performed "Taps" during several Memorial Day services throughout the communities of Florence and Roebling, sharing his talents in this manner since he was in the 6th grade.



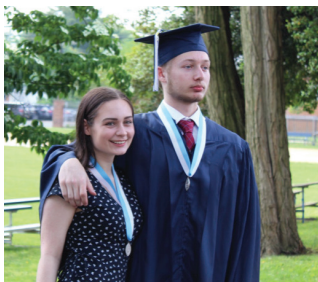
Congratulations to the Class of 2020



Representative Andy Kim addresses the class of 2020.



Myles Jackson



Nick Colavito with sister Dominica '17



Valedictorian Grace Eagleson



Ernsvitha Saint Juste



Junwen (Richard) Zhong



Doane Academy rising seniors lead the way for the class of 2020 as they walk through the historic commencement gates.



Leila Daly



Teachers line the route to the socially distanced graduation celebration in June.



The class of 2020 stands in ceremony at commencement on July 25.



2020 'Head Boy' cup recipient, Nick Kern



Erin Doran



Class speaker, Hasan Pyrali



The Pandemic of 1918 Impacts the School Community

Shortly after the students' arrival for the 1918-1919 school year, one young girl fell ill with influenza. What came to be the 1918 flu pandemic was moving across the globe and would soon dramatically change the school year, the lives of the students, staff and alumni, and even the size and configuration of the campus at St. Mary's Hall.

Even before the pandemic of 1918, the board of trustees of St. Mary's Hall (the name being changed to Doane Academy in 2008) had been thinking ahead in regards to protecting the school community. After a polio scare had gripped the area in 1916, and St. Mary's Hall opened the school year three weeks late as a precaution, an Infirmary Fund was initiated in order to create a new

"hospital" to replace the old infirmary that had served the school since its earliest days. This was in an era when doctors still traveled and often treated patients in their homes or, in this case, schools. Well before the goal of establishing a new infirmary could be met though, it is believed that soldiers and civilians returning from closing days of World War I in Europe unknowingly brought an insidious strain of influenza home with them. The pandemic was now underway in the United States, and St. Mary's Hall was in its path.

An outbreak of flu first hit the U.S. in the spring of 1918, but over the summer it had faded. In late September a devastating reemergence of the deadly flu had occurred. Philadelphia was hit

especially hard, with 12,000 people dying in just over two weeks. In the first week of October of 1918 a student at St. Mary's Hall showed signs of the illness, and over the next four days several more came down with what was definitively diagnosed as the flu. It was quickly decided to close the school for several weeks. Most left for their homes within a day of the announcement, but several students were deemed too ill to leave. Beside the school physician, additional medical professionals came to the school to treat the stricken students and four teachers who also had become sick. Records show that twenty-four girls eventually came down with the flu. While most recovered, sadly, one girl did pass away.

“We are well content for our school . . . and hope all will go well with us; that we may be spared sickness and calamity . . . ” —Ivy Leaves, October, 1917

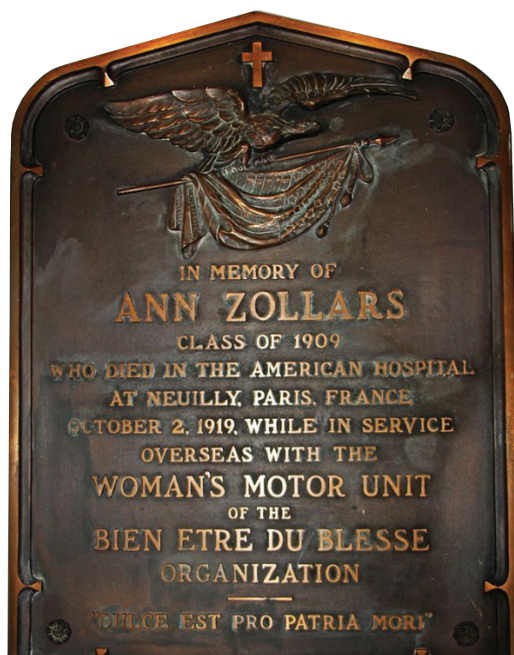
The school remained closed into November while the flu passed through Burlington and the surrounding region. Every surface of the school was thoroughly cleaned and disinfected, and it was announced that the school would reopen on November 14th. The delayed November issue of *Ivy Leaves* that year leads with the story of the armistice ending World War I*, but then moves on to state that St. Mary's Hall “took it as a compliment to the school” that every enrolled student had returned to resume their studies once the wave of influenza had passed. It was also made clear that “there is a lot of work to be made up, but everyone is facing the problem courageously.” The Christmas break was shortened in the hopes of making up much of the lost class time, but shortly after that break ended, on January 29th, school physician Dr. Mulford placed the students under quarantine, after word of an outbreak of influenza in the New York City area reached the school. This incident passed without anyone becoming ill and the school year resumed, but the Easter break was then cut in order to make up the additional lost class time. Tremendous efforts were made by students and faculty alike and the school year did end on time, and with academic “standards uncompromised.”

While records show that some alumni did face tragic losses, there is no further mention of the flu directly affecting the students on campus, and by 1920 the worldwide pandemic was

finally winding down. But the results of the pandemic were still affecting change at St. Mary's Hall. The April 1920 issue of *Ivy Leaves* announces that the house and grounds next door to the school, at the corner of Riverbank and Ellis Streets, owned by William D. Hewitt (a graduate of Burlington College and the architect of Scarborough Hall), were purchased with the intention of turning all into the school's new “Infirmary and Hospital”. The building would indeed go on to be used for that purpose but, with the evolution of health care, it was eventually deemed too large of a structure to be dedicated solely for use as an infirmary. By the early 1950s a smaller infirmary was re-instituted back within the main buildings of St. Mary's Hall. The old Hewitt house became the Headmistress' House and also became known again by a much earlier name, “Fairholm.” The building came to be used for small social events, afternoon teas, and parts of it were converted for classroom space, but it and its extensive gardens, extending from Riverbank to Pearl Street, were razed in the 1960s to make way for a new soccer field.

The influenza pandemic passed into history after infecting roughly one-third of the world's population, and changing approaches to medical care and preventative measures both locally and around the globe. In its wake it ended up claiming an estimated twenty to fifty million lives worldwide, 675,000 lives in the United States, and took one precious life at St. Mary's Hall.

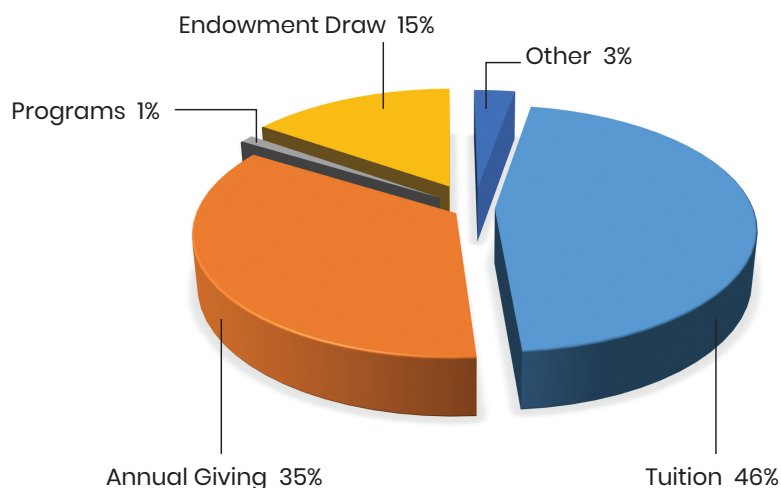
*The article above mentions the 100th anniversary of the armistice that ended WWI and it is fitting to acknowledge the girls of St. Mary's Hall who made direct contributions in war-torn Europe during and after the Great War. Among the alumni who went on to work overseas were; Margaret McElroy (class of 1875), Mary Montgomery (class of 1884), Margaret King (class of 1910), Rosamond McIntosh (class of 1913), Isabel Emerson Waddington (class of 1914), and Ann Zollars (class of 1909). Ann Zollars had



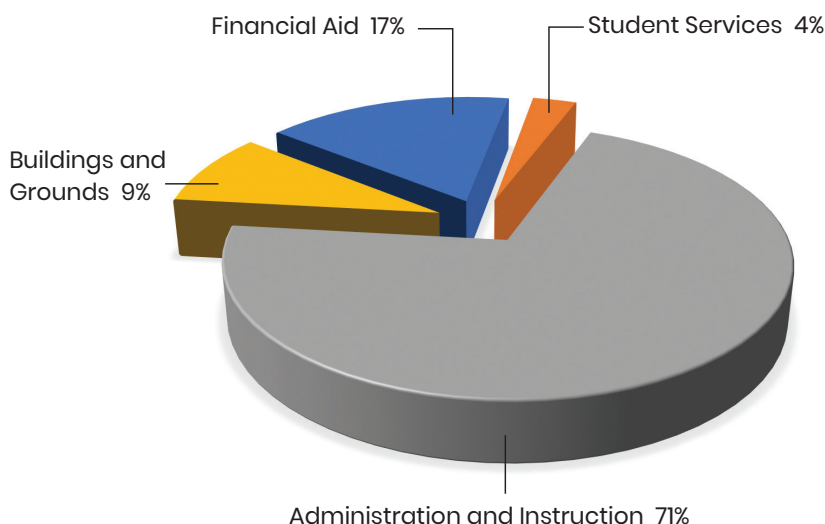
volunteered to work for “Le Bien Être du Blessé”, where she drove trucks full of supplies to some of the destitute people of France and helped with reconstruction in the months after the war had ended. In September of 1919, as she was preparing to come home, she fell ill. Her illness turned out to be Spanish influenza, and Anne died in Paris on October 2, 1919. She is memorialized by a plaque which hangs in the school's chapel.

Annual Report

Revenue



Expenses



Thank you to the trustees, faculty, staff, students, parents, grandparents, alumni, and friends of Doane Academy who supported our fundraising efforts during the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Despite the numerous obstacles presented by COVID-19 we had another successful year of fundraising. Our Annual Fund revenue was up over \$200,000, representing an 8% increase compared to last year. Support of our school took many forms, including unrestricted gifts to support operations, bequests, grants, and participation in our community events over the course of the year. In July, over 100 golfers participated in the annual Mark Keays Golf Outing. Proceeds from this event, which directly benefited Doane's athletic department, totaled over \$20,000. We were fortunate to host our annual Taste of the Best event in February before we were forced to close the campus in the spring. This event raised over \$42,000 for our financial aid program. In April, we re-imagined our traditional day of giving, #DoaneNation, into a week of giving and gratitude that we called the #DoaneCares campaign. Throughout this week we received gracious words of support for our Doane community and raised \$75,000 for our COVID-19 Tuition Assistance Fund, which allows current students to remain enrolled at Doane despite the financial crisis associated with the pandemic. During these challenging times, while we were not able to be physically present with the Doane community, the continued generosity of our donors reminds us that the connections formed at Doane are equally present beyond our campus walls. On behalf of our students and faculty, who benefit so much from your generosity, thank you for your ongoing support of our mission, and the programs we provide to realize our goals.

Right Onward,

Kathleen Lisehora Keays '88
Director of Development

Thank you to our faculty, friends, families, and alumni for your continued support!

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Alice Collins Fisk '61
Hank Healey
Jeff Hedge '87
Ronald and Margaret Pitko
Adam Potkay '78
Douglas Powell
Sandra Stoddart Smith '61
Catherine and Chancellor
Van Sciver '88
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Networking Matters
New Jersey Historic Trust
SJ Alliance Mechanical, LLC
The Estate of Cynthia
McFarland *H
The Diocese of New Jersey

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Kennedy and Sujata Ganti
Steve and Laurie Harrison
Clark and Pamela Borden
Heckert '67
Caroline Kerlin Kemmerer '62
Robert and Margaret
Fenimore Morris '57
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Nordlinger '96
Judith Perinchief '57
George and Carolyn Sanderson
Scott and Lakshmi Stockham
PSE&G

Odenheimer Society \$1,000-\$2,499

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Lepinasse-Aldrich
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Heather Mann Buzick '97
Elizabeth Fineburg '60

David Frank
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Garard '81
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Tim Irons
Kevin and Shaniece Johnson
Keith and Christen Jones
Kathleen Lisehora Keays '88
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Gerald Lodge
Howard and Nancy Mann
John Martin
William Martin
Karen Oliver
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Gleason Rhoads '57
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Elizabeth Sharrier '83
Judith Walters Stein '57
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Jim Warrick and Diane Higham
Warrick '57

Audrey Winzinger '76
Marina Pappas Zazanis x'56
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Lawrence Holeman, II
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Susan Flamm Honig '75

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Jeffrey Johnson
Guy Johnson
Landon Jones '34
Susanna Kanther-Raz '96
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Andrew Keays '18
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Fratellis Italian Restaurant
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Luigi's Pizza Fresca
Marcello's Restaurant
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NexDine
Recklesstown Farm Distillery
Riverview Restaurant
Robin's Nest
Sweet Lucy's Smokehouse
The Brickwall Tavern
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Kevin Herrmann and Alison Sullivan
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Tustin Mechanical
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Gail Durnell Batchelder '52
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Reverend Sandra Alves
Belcher '65
Nancy Carson Berst '65
Martha Mulford Gray '65
Teddi Groff '65
Carolyn Viola John x'65
Muriel Black Betten '65
Bonnie Dix Cavanaugh '67
Pamela Borden Heckert '67
Doris Fischer '68
Melissa Craven Fowler '69
Linda McMillian '69

The 1970's

Victoria Greene Aldrich '70
Lawrence Rogers '70
Patricia Stevenson '70
John Borden '71
Neil Grannick '72
Richard Towle '72
Jim Litsas x '73
Leigh Breslau '74
Fred Mirsky '74
Stephen Fairchild '75
Susan Flamm Honig '75
Jacalyn Ashmore Bak '76
Audrey Winzinger '76
Dreux Doyle '77
Joseph Cavuto '78

Stewart Low '78
Adam Potkay '78
Kenneth Siegel '79

The 1980's

Craig Tobias '80
Nancy Bass Anderson '81
Marjorie Hinckley Garard '81
Pamela Geurds Kabati '81
Sandra Oasin Roachford '83
Elizabeth Sharrier '83
John Stockton '83
Michael Zielinski '83
Christina Cecchi '85
Joseph Garemore '85
Jeff Hedge '87
Kathleen Lisehora Keays '88
Stephen Teitelman '88
Greta van Noordenburg x'88
Chancellor Van Sciver '88

The 1990's

Robin Halaycio '90
Adam Paglione '91
Alexander Betten '93
Susanna Kanther-Raz '96
Neal McTighe '96
Stacy Mullen Nordlinger '96
Alexander Buzick '96 and
Heather Mann Buzick '97
Jordan Bennett '99

The 2000's

Ryan Ellis '05
Ashley Sadar '05
Lacy Hall '07
Timothy Hall '07
Stephen Pizzola '07
Frank Vespe '10
Brett Keays '13
Christiana Sanders '13
Catherine Baldwin '14
Maria Rojas '17
Elle Bukosky '18
Andrew Keays '18

Bequests

The Estate of Cynthia McFarland *H

Grants

New Jersey Historic Trust

The George Washington Doane Heritage Society

The George Washington Doane Heritage Society was established to honor those who have include Doane Academy in their long-term plans through intention to bequests, life-income, or other planned gifts.

Including the school in their will, establishing a charitable trust while maintaining life income, or naming the school as a life insurance beneficiary are just some of the ways these individuals have helped secure the long-term strength of Doane Academy.

Please contact Kathleen Lisehora Keays '88, Director of Development, at 609 386-3500 ext. 166 or kkeays@doaneacademy.org for additional information.



Anonymous
Betty Sue Campbell '64*
Christina Cecchi '85
Melanie Chletcos '69
Bryant and Jeanette Smith Cureton '63
Jasmine Declat
Alice Collins Fisk '61
Victoria Greene Aldrich '70
Marjorie C. Hayes '39*

Pamela Borden Heckert '67
Anne Cramer Hoover '59
Kathleen Lisehora Keays '88
Cynthia McFarland *H*
John and Alice McGee *H*
Margaret Fenimore Morris '57
Mabel Welles Owens '33*
George Sanderson
Jeanne Leach Scott '40*

Ann Pumyea Siner '40*
David and Suzanne Shaw
Smith '61
Sally Garrison Thomas '57
Adelaide Ward '35*

*H – Honorary Graduate
* – Deceased



Class News & Notes

Class agents in this issue:

1936, '39, '42, '44-'45, '48, '50, '52, '56

Alice Collins Fisk

302-690-1876

DoaneAcademy.org/alumni

1949

Betty Budd Breithaupt

ebreithaupt@socal.rr.com

818-892-595

1954

Margaret Stillwaggon Collis

abazeke@gmail.com

1961

Linda Whinney

Finials1@gmail.com

1967

Bonnie Dix Cavanaugh

208-683-2025

bdcavanaugh@hotmail.com

1968

Barba Stults Crear

barbywithay@gmail.com

1969

Linda McMillan

mcmillanlinda4@gmail.com

781-835-6295

1971

Wendy Elliott Russell

Wendyrussell321@gmail.com

1974

Pam Brown

Brownpe24@gmail.com

1979

Mary Ellen (Mimi) Popkin

646-225-6133

Mimipopkin@gmail.com

2008

Kimberly Doell

Kimberlydoell@gmail.com

Please submit your class updates for the next edition of *Ivy Leaves* by January 15, 2021 at www.doaneacademy.org/alumni

1936

We are sad to report that **Georganne Barnes Johnson**, a talented artist, died in Columbia, Maryland on January 12, 2020. She was 102. Georganne attended the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Her classmate **Jeanne Browne Tirpak** turned 103 years young in July and stayed at home instead of having a big birthday party this year.

1939

Kay Phelon Allen, in Lawrence, KS, has been sheltering in her beautiful apartment. Her large family is able to distance-visit outside of it while she sits on her porch. Kay will celebrate 99 years of life on September 19.

1942

Eloise Woodward Gardner had a long vacation in Vermont from March till the first two weeks in July. While she was there she stayed at the homes of two of her daughters.

1944

Mary Cox Morrison is now living with her son and his wife in Louisiana. Mary stayed home while her son took all the family for a vacation in California where her granddaughter climbed the highest mountain in northern California.

1945

Emily Wright Holt now lives with her daughter in Massachusetts. In the summer they go to their family place on Grindstone Island in the St. Lawrence River. The whole family joins her including her granddaughter and her two great-grandsons who are four and two.

1948

Marleigh Morland Baratz is still working on the first two of her planned six operas. All of these are family stories and she has almost finished her own story. She will sing in this opera. **Shirley Lukens Rosseau** lives in California when the weather in Connecticut is cold. In the summer she has a view of the bay near her place. She also enjoys doing crossword puzzles with her grandson.

1949

Maxine Rosenthal Lampert is enduring the summer heat and storms while self-quarantining against the coronavirus. Being indoors does not stop her from enjoying her service as a docent at the Princeton University Art Museum. She also participates in a book club where members read aloud once a week online. Their current book is Jane Austin's *Pride and Prejudice*. Maxine has heard from **Nancy Maurer Swanson** who says

she and Ted are getting along well with the help of their family. I, **Betty Budd Breithaupt**, have been housebound since March. It hasn't been too bad because I have the company of two Maine Coon kittens. I do miss seeing my family, especially great-granddaughter, Dawn, who arrived on December 7th and great-grandson Finlay who is almost three now. We have been fortunate that only one member of the family, Finlay's father, has gotten the virus. I hope other classmates that I haven't been able to contact are safe and well.

1950

Alice Shoemaker keeps busy reading books and now is reading Erik Larson's *Splendid and the Vile* which is about World War II. Much of it is also about Sir Winston Churchill and his family during the Blitz.

1952

Gail Durnell Batchelder enjoys her garden next to a pond as well as watching the deer and bluebirds. Gail enjoys painting what she sees there. Her daughter, Kim, and the grandchildren live close by.

Sandra Krusen Heede lives in South Carolina and **Ann Richards Cook** is in Pennsylvania. Scottie has lived in her house for 62 years. She is lucky

Class Notes

because her daughter lives close by. **Riva Magaril Poor** lives in Massachusetts and is a month away from finishing the writing of her book called *Becoming an Innovator*.

1954

Nothing much to report since we have all been told to lock down. When things opened up a bit, **Bette Birdsall Evans** and I, **Margaret Stillwaggon Collis**, met for lunch at our mid-way point in Florida. So far, we are all managing as best we can in these circumstances. All keep well.

1956

Margaret "Maggie" Siegrist Robbins lives in New Jersey. Her older sister Sallie is now 88. Her other sister Betsy lives in Buffalo, NY and Maggie's brother is in Queenstown, Maryland. In New Jersey, **Vicki Schlosser**'s husband Marvin died in March of 2019, and she is starting to cope with this. Former classmate **Maria Pappas Zaznis** attended St. Mary's Hall for a time but finished at the National Cathedral School.

1961

Susan Kahn Ferry will have total hip replacement surgery in New York City in August and she can't wait. She hopes there is a chance for a mini-reunion with at least a few from our class, outside. Stay well, stay safe. **Trudi Scott Lefavour** and Roy are OK but "locked down". Trudi played the electric piano for her church that live streamed Sunday services on Facebook. Now services are held outdoors. Her 50th medical school reunion was cancelled; Trudi had looked forward to it with a small close-knit class of fifty like our class. Music conferences and trips/visits to grandchildren and families were also cancelled. She is glad to be retired at this point keeping busy with lots to do at home. **Suzi Shaw Smith**'s husband David said they are both doing well and sends regards to the '61ers! **Sandy Stoddart Smith** hopes you are surviving this strange time and doing well. She had a major life change. Her husband, Mike Yount, went into assisted living in late January, not due to the virus, but his body just gave up and Mike died in mid-May. They had often talked on the phone, but

because of COVID-19 she was unable to see him from March until the hospital made it possible for Sandy to visit him on his last afternoon. "At least I had the chance to say goodbye." Now she is reinventing life and starting to do things she loves—playing more golf, reading, doing needlepoint, and having socially distanced lunches with her friends on her deck. Life moves on and still holds lots of joyful days. **Diane Wilson Koger** said there's not much happening and she's really tired of wearing the face covering. She had spoken to **Kathleen Lisehora Keays** '88, Director of Development, who said things at the school were going pretty well. Diane hopes we all can get together for the next Founder's Day. She and Dwight are not doing a lot, and she hopes everyone is doing ok and staying healthy. She sends "Love to all!" I, **Linda Whinney**, am keeping busy. Either I've seen family or communicated daily, and we're doing well. I am happy I was able to visit with **Linn Davies** and, since **Suggie Dorsett Cary** and her husband Rick recently left Florida and moved nearby, I've been able to distance-visit with her too. It was great to see Linn and Suggie! Let us know if you are attending Founder's Day so we can hopefully plan to see you sometime/somewhere!

1967

After **Karen Berger Levin** and Bobby luckily sold their 17-year old business in November, they, on a whim, went to their favorite place, Rehoboth Beach, for her 70th birthday and fell in love with a development in Lewes, Delaware. Lots were selling quickly, they put a deposit on one, listed their house in Maryland and it sold in a day in February! COVID hit, they rented back for two months before going to Delaware to await their house being built, and are living in a two-bedroom apartment with both Weimaraners. Their son Jeremy is playing Mr. Mom and homeschooling his boys while Greg is a producer in Charlotte at NBC News channel. **Pam Borden Heckert** and Clark became grandparents of Wyatt Winfield Burch on April 23. They saw him weekly despite the big V lurking around. Pam spent five grueling weeks last summer in NJ to move her dad to Masonic Village in Burlington Township after 63 years

in the same house on the Delaware River. It was tough in the heat and humidity of the 1850 house built by Pam's namesake Pamela McElroy! Yes, Pamela! **Jane Connors Rehark** has an overfilled animal house. They kept a pregnant mama cat with her four kittens and haven't found a home for any yet. They're becoming part of the family, but only one of their poodles is crazy about them. If a vacation is ever in the future, Jane will have to hire a pet sitter. The grandkids are all returning to school online for the first month. Hopefully they will go in person after that since they are all active in a sport. **Anne Gold Gleason** and Larry had a short Jersey shore vacation with an outside mini reunion at **Nancy Applegate Carlson**'s home. The laughter continues even though it's been over 50 years! They visited their son Rick and his family in PA and are able to see their Ohio grandchildren regularly. The YMCA opened and they attend water aerobics classes three times a week. Anne still enjoys reading, swimming and singing although their chorus has not been performing and at this writing not sure if that will happen at all this year. **Jody Hardenbergh Tucci** hopes all is well! Every day is a new one. She submitted the pictures of the class gathering at **Nancy Applegate Carlson**'s home in Seaside Park, NJ. **Judy Herman** and Bruce are beginning to think about selling the ranch and moving to Olympia, WA, to be near her sister. She is teaching some lessons and taking care of about fifteen horses, but without summer camps (prohibited), life is feeling like a vacation. Of course, they can't think of leaving until she harvests her tomatoes which are not quite ready. **Kay Newberry Dubit** is enjoying her 15-acre farm where she can wander about in these COVID times. Although she had to relinquish her Welch and Shetland ponies, she maintains visitation rights and is thrilled when she visits them and they are glad to see her. She was able to visit her brother in Gatlinburg, TN and while there found a wonderful handmade sign to buy with the words "Jerry's Adobe" which brings her joy in remembering her husband. **Janie Rosenthal Schorr**'s family had many ups and downs recently. They sold their ski house in Sun Valley, are building one in Aspen where their daughter, son-in-law and three-year-

Class Notes

old granddaughter live. Their son and daughter-in-law are expecting a baby girl in September. Sadly, their son-in-law's mother, with whom Janie was very close, passed away from a knee surgery gone badly. She was our age, in perfect health, wanted to get back onto the tennis court and run around after grandkids without knee pain. She was sent home the same day of her surgery and developed an infection. The visiting nurse was not concerned with the infection because vital signs were good, even though the pain was excruciating. She died of sepsis five days later. We must all pay attention to what our bodies are telling us! Happy big birthday, past and future, to all of you. Stay safe and healthy! I, **Bonnie Dix Cavanaugh**, and Tuck remain well in self-isolation on the mountain, and continue with outdoor chores on our 23 acres of evergreen forest. Twelve cords of wood are cut/stacked. The garden is producing fresh fruit and vegetables. We had a very quiet 50th wedding anniversary on June 20th and ordered our first curbside pickup meal, from Olive Garden. We hope within the next summer or two, we will be able to celebrate more appropriately with the trip we had planned. Our son Sean and his wife Kelly are well and work from home in Plano, TX.



1967, L to R: Front—Anne Gold Gleason, Nancy Applegate Carlson; Back—Jody Hardenbergh Tucci, Gayle Van Duzer Carson

1968

Jacqui Thomas has adopted a grey tabby cat from her local animal shelter. It was just meant to be ... in January she'd seen this cat, but it'd already been adopted when she called. As she continued her search, she found out that this same cat was back in the shelter in March! She called and was told the cat wanted to be in a home as "the only cat" ... and now she is! Pepper is a delight. Jacqui would also like to thank all the first responders, like our classmate **Donna Griffing Dovi**, who are there for us during these difficult times. Thank you. **Kate Thropp** and Josh are sailing out and about in the Northeast, taking the boat glitches one day at a time. She says they will not be doing any distance until they have fixes, and that they have been in and out of communication as they travel. In mid-August they were in Newport, RI. **Linnie McLean Livingston** is enjoying her COVID obsessions: embroidery, gardening and lots of swimming. She is able to continue her book club via Zoom. She is also enjoying her qigong classes. Next week she and her husband Tom are going to be helping homeschool her two youngest grandchildren. She feels blessed and very fortunate to live in such an idyllic environment. Linnie asks that we think good thoughts for her daughter, Lara, who is a home health nurse! **Barby Stults Crear** joins the rest of the members of our class in having no specific news to report this time around. BUT our entire class wants to express our unbounded respect and admiration for those people who are out there helping all of us everyday, keeping us healthy and safe and helping to get us everything we need, during these crazy times. Stay safe, People.

1969

Jay Abbott made a five-week trip from San Francisco through Chicago to New York, Montreal and across Canada to Vancouver, Seattle and back to San Francisco, all by train, Metro or walking. Of course, this was pre-COVID, when they were able to enjoy the dining car. Now they are sheltering in place, virus-free, social distancing, and wearing masks, experiencing the stages of grieving and working on accepting it will be around for a while. Jay is in

touch with **Larry Rogers**, **Joe Durr** and **Tom Rose**. **Melanie Chletcos** and her husband Bruce moved to their house in upstate NY after the pandemic shut down her work as a makeup artist in NYC and Bruce's job at Studio Museum. Being surrounded by nature has put them in a more serene place. She is reflecting on the current racial protests and remembering the words of her mother: "If you believe that God made everything, which tree is best?" She learned as a makeup artist that there are no white people. Thousands of shades describe the human race. She takes solace in thinking of this time as ALIVE time that can be used for something good. **Margaret Eysmans** is moving to a 1925 bungalow in Collingswood, NJ with her son. Collingswood is a dynamic town ten minutes from Philadelphia, alive with restaurants and shops. After living in a 55+ community, she is excited for the change. She continues to play duplicate bridge online and she takes her dog for walks. All is well. **Melissa Craven Fowler** spent the winter with her husband in their vintage RV community in the Florida farmland, making and donating quilts to ALS patients. In April, they drove back to Ithaca, managing the road trip with lots of hand sanitizer and gloves. Her daughter, a medical examiner in NYC, reported never having signed so many death certificates in her life. Melissa has recently completed a major family genealogy project dating back to her 5th great-grandfather, is enjoying her garden, and making more beautiful quilts. Attorney **Susan Block Orr** has discovered the benefits of working from home, and her husband Dan, a doctor, uses telemedicine when he can. They saw on Facebook that the Switlik family business was making face shields and she purchased some for her clients' use, in addition to Dan wearing one in the office every day. Susan's son finished his fourth year of medical school virtually, and her daughter, who supervises therapists at a residential treatment center for adolescent girls, has had some staff and kids test positive for COVID. Susan is grateful to be able to see their grandson, almost one. **Nancy Switlik Vaga** has been hunkering down with her husband, daughter, and three

grandchildren under one roof, with her other daughter and three children nearby. Many changes: a celebration for Nancy brought tears from the youngest because it was a driveway birthday, home schooling fights, home cooking, and weekly produce and Amazon deliveries, missing going to the beach when you live at the NJ shore, and pride for the Switlik business now making face shields. She ventured out for a solidarity march for racial justice. I, **Linda McMillan**, feel gratitude for living in a town in Massachusetts with eighty miles of trails. I have walked almost all of them now. Nature provides great solace. I am donating produce from my garden to local food pantries, reading racial justice literature, and volunteering for the NC NAACP Get-Out-the-Vote initiative. My daughter and her husband live in Minneapolis and gave us a first-hand account of the protests arising from the death of George Floyd. This is a transitional moment, and I hope we can make something of it. I am trying to find the best way to contribute to it.

1971

John Borden has not been a working-from-home executive, during the COVID times. He enjoys weekend getaways to Irma's in lovely New Hope, PA and had a peaceful few days on the Chester River near Rock Hall, MD in July. You will remember his dad's house next door to John's, the venue of our last Class Reunion on the Riverbank. It won't be available for our 50th as their father at 93 moved to senior living at the Masonic Village in Burlington Township. **Joe Durr** managed to squeeze in a boys' trip to the beautiful beaches of Lima pre-lockdown which was great fun with plenty of eating and drinking involved. Two weeks later, he and Holly enjoyed a quieter week at the beach in Ecuador to celebrate her birthday. Just in time before Lockdown...masks and not much freedom since. He wishes us all well. **Gayana Jurkevich** says NYC was otherworldly through May: ambulance sirens 24/7; empty streets; refrigerator trucks near hospitals for bodies; shortages of cleaning and paper supplies. There were five COVID cases and one death in her building. She is sure she had it in March, with such dreadful symptoms for five days that she thought she was having a stroke



SMH Class of '71 contemplates next year's 50th Reunion with the Doane Academy boys.

with side effects lasting two months. She is retiring in August, very happy to have celebrated early with a grand trip to northern Italy last year. Our super travellers, **Sheryl Kemp Kittrell** and Ralph have ordered a second RV, but delays, COVID and cancellations in their busy 2020 itinerary meant a more relaxing holiday with children and grandchildren in a beautiful mountain lodge near Asheville, NC. They will spend August away from the Florida heat in Harbor Springs, MI. Like many of us, car trips, masks, and social distancing are the safest way to vacation at this time. I, **Wendy Elliott Russell**, am blessed to be writing from Munich where we have very few cases of the virus. Life is almost back to "normal". Squeezing in holidays by car now to make up for all the cancelled trips. Andy is easing himself into retirement, working from home three days a week. I'm planning to brave a flight to the States to see my 91-year-old mother at Thanksgiving! Risky. There is already interest in celebrating our Class of 71's 50th Reunion next year. Please get in touch with me, John, or Nana if you too would like to see your classmates.

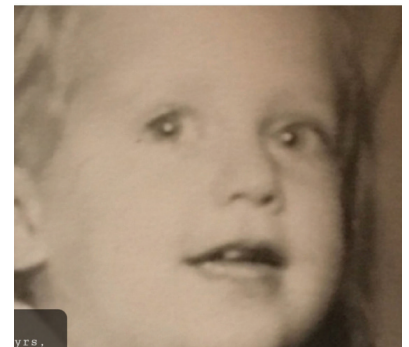


1974

2020 marks our 46th year since graduation! I, **Pam Brown**, have tried to touch base with classmates through those entire 46 years! While I did not receive many responses this time, here are a few. Classmates may contact me any time at the email above.

Rob Kushner is in Lawrenceville, NJ and continues to work in the oil business. His wife, Mindy, is a Pre-K teacher and teaches virtually. Daughter Jan is an international accountant; Beth is an ER Doctor in Hoboken, NJ and Alex is an inventory control manager for Old Navy. All of his kids are close to home, or try to be! Rob says he's run into **Terry Peiken** once in a while and talks to Fred Mirsky and Marc Zingarini's brother, Paul, occasionally. **Fred Mirsky** is celebrating his fifth year in Connecticut with his wife Sharon, since moving from Burlington. Still keeping busy with work and enjoying being close to his three grandchildren: Aliza, 4; Elliott, 2, and newest—Adeline Mira, 3 weeks old in August. We extend

Class Notes



1974, L to R: Pam Brown and grandkids, Aiden and Brooklyn, Carol Tharp's daughter Brittany and husband Marc, Pam, age 3 years (top) and granddaughter, Brooklyn, age 3 years (bottom), Carol and Pam at Carol's daughter's wedding.

our sincerest sympathy to Fred and his family on the passing away of his brother, Merle. **Paul McIlvaine** is still in California. Everyone is doing fine. He and his wife are grandparents to Elenor, who will be 2 years old at the end of August! Paul says being a grandparent is "a true game-changer"! As a LA/Gaffer in Hollywood, he is currently not working, since no one knows when Hollywood will resume production, but is catching up on projects at home...like watching paint dry. Lol. Paul said **Mark Slocum** lives a few miles away from him and is doing well! Mark has a daughter and a granddaughter. (Class agent note: If you are reading this, Mark, please send me an email.) **Terry Peikin** and his wife Diane sold their Queens, NY home and have moved permanently to Margate, NJ! Diane has set up her own public relations biz and is doing well. Terry is still doing his lamp crafts and has a business within "Days of Olde Antiques and Collectibles Center" in Galloway, NJ. **Andrea (Bitsy) Hall Preston** and her husband, Mark, are in Mount Holly, NJ. They are planning to move to Maine and are hopeful that happens soon. Bitsy and Mark are both staying safe, are well, and are hopeful that the pandemic is over soon. They lost a few

very loved and loyal pets this year. Our pets definitely become members of our families. We are all so sorry for the loss of your dear family friends. **Carol (O'Neill) Tharp** lives in Toms River, NJ and is a Regional Manager for Impac. Her daughter, Brittany, married Marc Patricelli in May 2019. They are engineers for the Department of Defense at Lakehurst Naval Base, NJ and are very involved with their local cat rescue. Her son, Adam, is a teacher/band director at Space Coast Junior/Senior High School in Florida. He was due to get married in June 2020 in Orlando to Kim Brazina. However, they have had to postpone their wedding due to COVID19 and will now be married in December 2020. Carol is planning a trip to Ireland next year! **Jeff Wegard** is living in West Palm Beach Florida. He's retired and like all of us, is doing his best trying to stay safe! **Andrena Burgess Wishnie**, a lighting designer for her local community theater, has so far during the pandemic, taken down lighting, watched YouTube videos on cleaning theater lighting, and succeeded in cleaning said lighting. Oldest son, Alex, a structural engineer in Freehold, NJ and his partner, Kady, work for the same engineering firm. Middle son, Eric, a meteorologist for the Navy,

has obtained his M.S. Youngest son, John, married to Lauren, is an online high school Math teacher. Lauren is pursuing a Ph.D. in biology from the University of NY/Buffalo. Bob, Andrena's husband of 40 years, retired from CBS after 37 years working for them. He is learning how to live now at home, 24/7, with Andrena! Your class agent **Pam Brown** is living in Lafayette, IN close to my daughter, Meghan, who works at Purdue University, son-in-law, Rob, a chiropractor, and my very energetic two grandchildren, Aiden, 7, and Brooklyn, 4, who keep me very busy! I'm told Brooklyn looks just like me! My son, Branin, works for First Financial Bank and is a police officer. Most importantly, he's very handsome and single. I continue to work as a Diabetes Sales Specialist for Astra Zeneca Pharmaceuticals and spend time trying to work on my little old house! Last year, I attended Carol's daughter's wedding in Spring Lake, NJ and then left for my trip of my lifetime to Italy for three weeks! It was phenomenal! My favorite spots: Venice, Capri and Pompeii! So glad that trip happened before the pandemic of 2020! Only problem was I couldn't bring back that tall, dark, handsome Italian man... enough said!

1979

Martha-Lisa Mode-Flinsch is doing well during this time of COVID-19. Her husband has set up a home office. Her son William is starting his freshman year of high school doing online-only classes and her daughter has been a big help doing most of the grocery shopping for the family. Everyone in her household is making the most of this unique time. **Charles Monroe** is staying home as much as possible and has been cooking out and enjoying making steaks for his wife Daisy. He is still waiting to hear if Mercer County Community College will be doing online instruction. If he can teach online, he will continue to be an instructor this year. He misses doing his war re-enactments but is excited about a film called "The 24th", about a WWI colored unit lynching. He knows six men in this film from his re-enactments. **Christina Hall-Keenan** is busy working as an LPN taking care of individuals in their homes, challenging but rewarding work. Her son Owen, starting Rutgers this year to pursue a degree in psychology, is keeping up the family tradition; both Christina and her husband are Rutgers alumni. His first year will be different because he is doing online classes. Her eldest son is pursuing filmmaking. Christina intends to spend some of her free time helping the Biden-Harris campaign. **Steven Zimnes** received a kidney transplant on Wednesday morning, August 12, 2020. He was notified one was available and eight hours later he was in surgery. The surgery went well proving great things can happen in 2020. Now the recovery process begins. It varies patient to patient, but the recovery team is confident that Steve will do well. Son Alex has been on "Spring Break" since March. His soccer season was canceled. It has been challenging for a 10-year-old to comprehend canceled activities due to the virus, but he keeps busy riding bikes in the neighborhood with Daddy. Daddy says he is "slower than a turtle", but when Steve posts pictures of Alex on Facebook, Alex looks happy to have Daddy no matter how slow he goes. After 30+ years as a nurse for the Ohio State University hospital system, his wife Shirley will be retiring in November. They are looking forward to her retirement. Until this chaos clears up, their plans to

travel to exotic places are on hold, but in the meantime, they are discussing some interesting destinations. **Marc Gilbert-Widmann** is doing well except for some breathing issues. He is walking his dog, Dice, 5 to 7 miles a day. He gave up his 2 motorcycles but has replaced them with a new hobby: sewing masks. He belongs to Better Breathers Club and due to COVID-19, they are meeting online. He is making masks to give to people in his retirement community and who belong to the Better Breathers Club. He is honing his skills and learning to make specialty masks for people who wear eyeglasses or hearing aids. He also makes 3-layer masks or ones with filter pockets. He is also using his new sewing skills to make Dice some leather boots. I, **Mary Ellen Popkin**, have been teaching ESL online to students in Beijing, China. Our family's summer vacation plans were disrupted by the virus. Jacob stayed busy doing STEM kits and lately, he has been trying to fix an iPhone and an iPod Nano he bought on eBay. **Marc Gilbert** spent time talking to Jacob on the phone about how to repair his iPhone. Jacob also enjoyed talking to **Chuck Monroe** about Georgia Tech and Emory. Jacob will begin his freshman year in high school. Charlyne, a senior in high school, has been busy painting and reading. They are both attending Northwest Early College High School. My husband Corey celebrated 20 years as an ATF agent. He's been with the federal government for over 20 years. He enjoys his career so is still not ready to retire. We are hoping to travel in December, but it all depends on COVID-19.

1990

Robin Baker Halaycio writes that her daughter, Hannah, will be starting Doane for kindergarten in the fall!

2008

Tové Ingram is currently a supervisor of managers for a mortgage company. She is studying to become a licensed loan officer. Your class agent, **Kimberly Doell**, reports that I recently started a new role at the Harvard Innovation Labs, managing programs and grants for Harvard-led venture teams.

In Memoriam

1936 Georganne Barnes Johnson, January 12, 2020

1939 Jane Elizabeth Boswell Quin, February 16, 2020

1939 Mary Elizabeth Winton Winstanley, July 7, 2019

The Honorable Marvin E. Schlosser, former trustee and husband of **Vicki Gutstein Schlosser** '56, March 3, 2019

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