

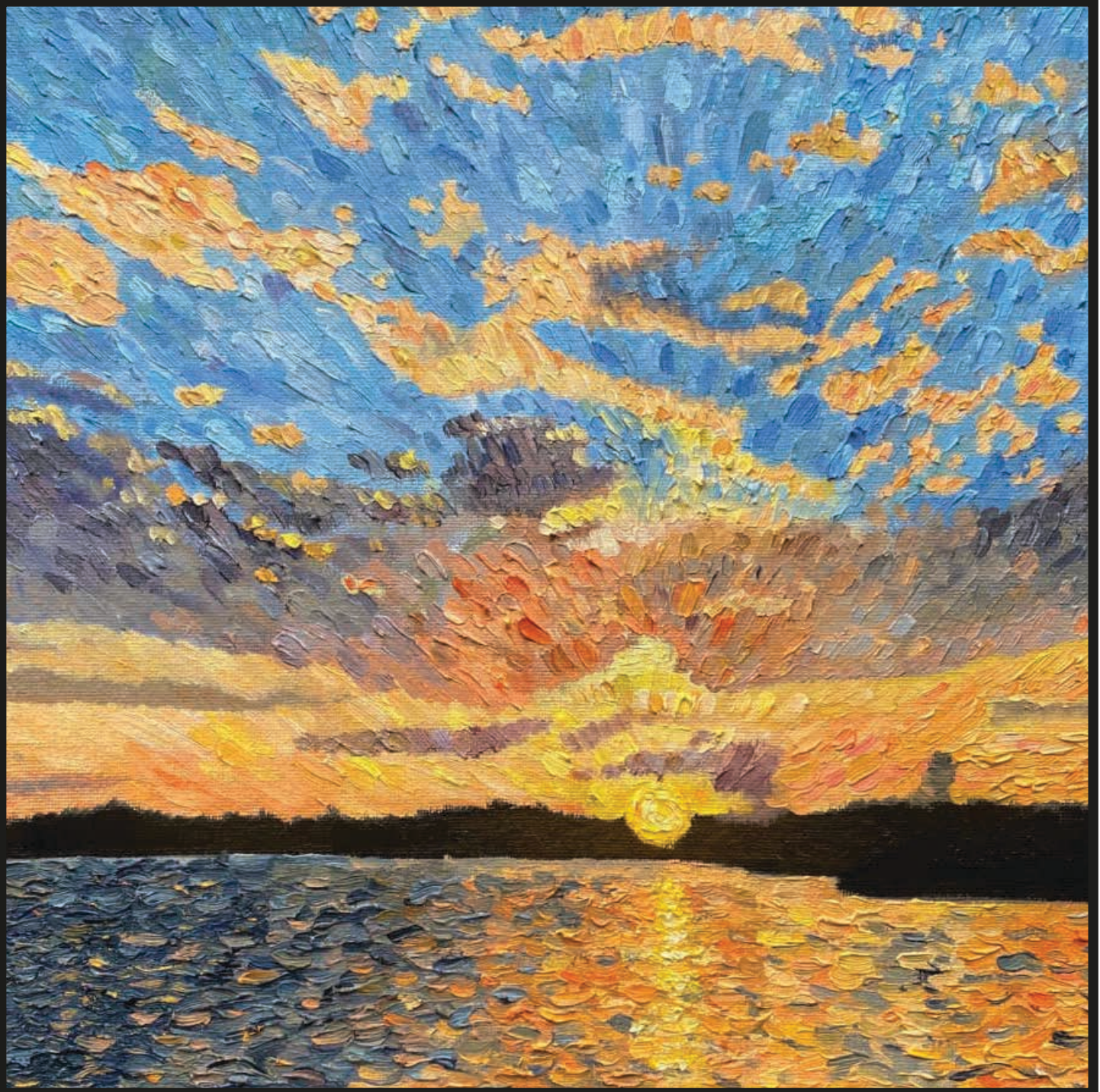
IRISH

ISSUE 26
Winter 2021

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NOTRE DAME

IRISH

Winter 2021 | Issue 26

IRISH magazine is dedicated to alumni, parents and friends of Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy and our heritage schools, including Notre Dame High School, Pontiac Catholic High School, Oakland Catholic High School, St. Michael High School and St. Frederick High School.

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In an era of a diminished library and media center presence in education, Notre Dame is investing and strengthening its library technology and capabilities.

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The painting ("Light VII") by alum Abigail Wodrich NDP'20 was chosen for this edition's cover because it represents a brighter future and a new beginning as we transition through what we hope are the waning months of this terrible pandemic and a most challenging year.

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Science + Art

With its award-winning visual arts program and one of the state's most comprehensive science curriculums, it's no surprise that students like Jason Stewart thrive at Notre Dame Prep.



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The year 2020 was quite a year. In January, no one anticipated how quickly life would change for the world and our school. Let us be honest. Did anyone really know what Zoom was before the pandemic? The small teleconference business app has grown to become the world leader in social interfacing with nearly 300 million users daily.

Other terms and expressions known previously only to scientists and epidemiologists, such as pandemic, flattening the curve, asymptomatic, isolation, quarantine, contract tracing, community spread, herd immunity, personal protection equipment, antigen testing, and social distancing have now become commonplace in every water cooler conversation. Except there are no water-cooler conversations anymore as everyone works from home!

Institutions of higher learning like Notre Dame are not generally noted as incubators of innovation. The process of education follows tried and true methods evolved over generations. But sometimes necessity is the mother of invention. I would argue that our school has changed more in the last 10 months than in the last 10 years.

At Notre Dame, the health and safety of our student body is job number one. It is part and parcel to our mission to educate children, pandemic or not. The challenge quickly became how to do so without jeopardizing the health and safety of our teachers and staff who we count on as the front-line offense in the delivery of our mission.

Our teachers take great pride in generating specific learning outcomes, but how do they do that when students cannot come to class? Terms such as synchronous, asynchronous, virtual and hybrid learning all sound great on paper, but imagine the fear and anxiety in transitioning from tried-and-true learning practices to any and all of the above options with little training and even less time to prepare.

One of the great takeaways at our school is that our teachers are even more creative than we thought. They were able to move to a remote learning environment in the spring, transition back to in-person learning in the fall, offer synchronous learning options for students with medical issues

in their households, meet the needs of students in quarantine, transition back to remote learning around Thanksgiving, then return to in-person learning in January. Whew! Talk about exhausting. And, when talking about the integration of technology into the teaching process, you cannot "put the genie back into the bottle." Thanks to the support of several key donors and hundreds of alumni that have increased their giving to the school's annual appeal, we are investing approximately \$500,000 into enhanced classroom technology, including new speakers, computers, microphones, projectors, software, bandwidth and digital cabling. The enhancement will make it easier for teachers and students in every learning environment necessary to deliver our academic content. Thank you to everyone who has supported or intends to support the school in this endeavor.

Athletic coaches faced some of the same challenges as teachers. More than 60,000 students in Michigan, including 80 percent of the Notre Dame student body, participate in at least one sport each year. Fall sports were on, then off, then on, then canceled, then reinstated, then postponed, then finally finished in mid-January. Winter sports, other than ski, went through the same processes and spring will be no different. The amount of scheduling, canceling and rescheduling of events, only to have them postponed on multiple occasions was exhausting for all.

Some of the biggest collateral damage from the pandemic were the students who lost cherished events and life passages, such as proms, dances, field trips, religious retreats, Irish Week games, band and choir concerts, art shows, plays, robotic competitions and sports. The mental toll on our student body has been noticeable. We were proud to be one of the few schools in the state to offer the conferral of diplomas in-person during a socially distanced and protocol-compliant Baccalaureate Mass, providing last year's seniors a chance at some "normality." We also take pride in being one of the first schools in the state to return to in-person learning and have helped create the case that schools can operate safely during the pandemic.

The school received a big boost in morale when board member, alum parent, current parent and alumnus Dr. Fabian Fregoli (ND '89) assisted

in securing vaccination appointments for more than 100 faculty and staff in late January and early February. The early vaccinations could not have come at a more needed time as we were facing a rise in the number of student cases coming out of the holidays.

At the time of this writing, the school has had about 50 positive cases of COVID-19 among its population of roughly 1,200 students, faculty, staff and coaches during the course of the school year, but never more than 1 percent of the population at any given time. Almost the entirety of infections was traced to contact outside of the school day or school events. These results have validated our contention that schools, with proper safety protocols, are among the safest places for kids to be.

One of the questions most frequently asked is "When will we ever return to normal?" In complete honesty, I am not sure that things will ever be the same as they were pre-pandemic, but certainly there is hope on the horizon that we will be able to resume much of the lifestyle we were accustomed to in the coming months as more of the populations becomes vaccinated.

One of the most pleasant surprises in all of this is that kids are finally admitting that they like school and want to learn. They like their teachers and need the social interaction of in-person learning. They love their Notre Dame experience.

We miss welcoming alumni to homecoming and campus visits and look forward to a time when that can resume. In the meantime, we will continue to live our Catholic, Marist mission and do everything in our power to educate students in a loving and faith-filled environment so that our students can grow and develop into good Christian persons, upright citizens and academic scholars.

Please remember to keep the Notre Dame community always in your prayers.

Go Irish!

Andrew J. Guest

Andrew J. Guest ND'84
Head of School



Irish News

FOUR SENIORS FROM NDP SIGN TO PLAY SPORTS AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL



In an event livestreamed last month on Facebook, four senior student-athletes from Notre Dame Prep signed on to play athletics at the college level. Brockton English signed with Drexel University to play golf; Kendall Lance signed with the University of California Davis's equestrian program; Andrew Meny signed to play baseball at Cornerstone University; and Caleb Webb signed to play football at the University of Dayton.

ANOTHER BIG YEAR FOR NOTRE DAME STUDENT-ARTISTS

Continuing a streak of top performances in the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards, student-artists from Notre Dame Prep earned 40 awards in the annual celebration of the arts.



According to Sandy LewAllen, Notre Dame's art chair, 24 NDP students received a total of 40 awards (16 Gold Keys, 13 Silver Keys and 11 honorable mentions) for the Southeastern Michigan region. All of the art was created in calendar year 2020 and submitted to Scholastic on Dec. 15, 2020.

"It's been a challenging year, to say the least," said LewAllen. "Switching from face-to-face learn-

ing to online learning and then back again is exceptionally difficult for the arts. Receiving 40 awards by Notre Dame art students is no small feat. These art students balanced their full-curricular load of online learning, stayed motivated, found their creative spark, and pushed through to complete their projects."

A virtual awards ceremony honoring the Detroit-area Scholastic winners will be held in March, LewAllen said. Due to the pandemic, Detroit's College for Creative Studies is unable to host the awards ceremony or the exhibition this year. She said the National Awards will be announced in late March.

LewAllen said that distance schooling presented other challenges for her art students as well.

"Sharing authentic feedback during their art-making process definitely posed a challenge," she said. "It's problematic to view true colors and critique artwork through tablets, screens and Zoom. But, like most students across the globe, they persevered. This speaks to the integrity, resilience and determination of this group of students. Receiving 40 awards during 'normal' times is quite an achievement. Doing this during a global pandemic is, quite frankly, super impressive. We are beyond proud of them all!"

TWO SENIORS NAMED CANDIDATES IN U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Lars Boehme and Maria Donato, both seniors at Notre Dame Prep, have been named candidates in the 2021 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program. They were selected from nearly 3.6 million students expected to graduate from U.S. high schools in the year 2021.

Inclusion in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is one of the highest honors given to graduating high school seniors. Scholars are selected on the basis of superior academic and artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities. Boehme and Donato were chosen along with about 4,500 others in the U.S. as candidates in the program.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by Executive Order of the President to recognize some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors for their accomplishments



Notre Dame seniors Lars Boehme and Maria Donato.

in many areas: academic success, leadership and service to school and community. It was expanded in 1979 to recognize students demonstrating exceptional scholarship and talent in the visual, creative and performing arts. In 2015, the program was expanded once again to recognize students who demonstrate ability and accomplishment in career and technical fields.

TWO FROM NDP NAMED STATE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE FINALISTS

Elena Schwegman and Cole Bennett, both seniors at Notre Dame Prep, have been named among the state's 120 finalists for the Michigan High School Athletic Association's Scholar-Athlete Awards for the 2020-21 school year.



Notre Dame seniors Elena Schwegman and Cole Bennett.

The program, in its 32nd year, has recognized student-athletes since the 1989-90 school year and again this winter will honor 32 individuals from MHSAA member schools who participate in at least one sport in which the Association sponsors a postseason tournament.

"I join the entire Notre Dame family in sharing how very proud I am of Elena and Cole," said Betty Wroubel, Notre Dame's athletic director and assistant principal. "Not only for their academic and athletic accomplishments but also for their spirituality, enthusiasm and the overall type of people they have become. Truly two more great examples of the embodiment of our school's mission."

Farm Bureau Insurance underwrites the Scholar-Athlete Awards and will present a \$1,000 scholarship to each recipient. Since the beginning of the program, 8,323 scholarships have been awarded.

NO INJUSTICE ZONE

On Jan. 18, 2021, the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was celebrated. For students in the nation's primary and secondary schools, it's also an opportunity to learn about and reflect upon what King and his teachings really mean to them as Americans on the cusp of adulthood.

However, specific lesson plans for teachers around MLK Jr. Day oftentimes revolve around King's "I Have a Dream" speech without moving too far beyond. In reality,

the movement King helped lead was deeper and much more complex.

For Kala Parker, Notre Dame's director of diversity and inclusion, bringing King's legacy into the classroom, especially the fact that he always felt compelled to help the marginalized in our society, is a point of emphasis this year.

"As we work toward moving the needle further in terms of diversity, equity and inclusion work at Notre Dame, we're really striving to make an effort to ensure that we connect all departments and divisions as they all own a piece of this work," said Parker, a 2000 NDP graduate. "For the last few years, I've worked closely with Head of School Andy Guest (at the board and administrative levels), campus ministry (i.e., grade-level retreats and workshops), and with teachers on lesson planning that incorporates inclusion. This year, our goal is to continue this dialogue with a specific focus currently on our sixth, seventh and eighth grade classrooms."

To that end, Parker piloted a diversity, equity and inclusion series in the middle school this year to create a comfortable "space" where students can have those types of conversations on a regular basis. She has been working on spending at least two sessions with each grade covering age-appropriate material specific to their specific needs.

"For the eighth graders, we facilitated an 80-minute class period on allyship, which is the practice of emphasizing social justice, inclusion and human rights by members of an 'ingroup' to advance the interests of an oppressed or marginalized 'outgroup,' and to not be a bystander," she said.

Students discussed "the bystander effect," which is a theory that the more people there are around when something occurs, the less likely someone will take action. Parker focused on the idea that God calls everyone to be their brother's keeper and when

one sees something going on that doesn't feel right, it's up to each individual to act (whether it's intervening if safe to do so or letting someone know who can intervene, like an adult).

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS MASTER NATIONAL VOCABULARY COMPETITION

A team representing Notre Dame Middle School achieved Highest Honors in the recent WordMasters Challenge, a national vocabulary competition involving nearly 125,000 students. The Notre Dame eighth-grade team scored an impressive 161 points out of a possible 200 in the first of three meets this year, placing eighth in the nation.

Competing in the difficult blue division of the WordMasters Challenge, sixth-grader Alec Wernis earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Nationally, only 26 sixth graders achieved this result. Wernis and his teammates were coached in preparation for the WordMasters Challenge by NDMS teachers Kelly Simon, Meredith Scott and Tina McLaughlin, who were proud and pleased with their achievements.



Alec Wernis

"Alec is an exceptional student," said McLaughlin, who teaches sixth-grade reading and writing, and seventh-grade religion. "He is a hard worker, organized, and always puts forth his best effort. His perfect score was well deserved. I'm very proud of him as well as our eighth-grade team, which also performed admirably in this year's challenge."

The WordMasters Challenge is an exercise in critical thinking that first encourages students to become familiar with a set of interesting new words (considerably harder than grade level), and then challenges them to use those words

to complete analogies expressing various kinds of logical relationships. Working to solve the analogies helps students learn to think both analytically and metaphorically.

NOTRE DAME ANNOUNCES NEW TRUSTEE



Sandra Favrow

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy announced in December that its Board of Trustees appointed Sandra Favrow as a member, effective Dec. 9, 2020. The appointment was approved by Fr. Frechette, s.m., provincial superior of the Society of Mary, U.S.A. Province, with the unanimous consent of the Marist Council.

Stephen V. Pangori, board chair, said the board and school administration welcome Favrow as a new trustee and are grateful for her longtime commitment to Notre Dame.

"I look forward to working with Sandy on taking Notre Dame to even greater heights for the benefit of our students, faculty and staff," Pangori said. "As we transition through these uncertain times, her experience and dedication to our institution will serve to further strengthen and secure the school's mission."

Favrow has been active in the NDPMA community since 1995 when she became the first principal of Notre Dame Middle School, which opened the year after Notre

Dame Prep was founded. She also was the founding principal at Notre Dame Lower School when it first opened in 2003 in Waterford and served on the Board of Trustees from 2000-2009.

As a member of Notre Dame's administration and strategic planning committee, she was instrumental in major changes and improvements to school accreditation and curriculum, including the introduction of the International Baccalaureate program to all three school divisions.

Since retiring from Notre Dame in 2010 after a total of 40 years in education, Favrow continued to maintain a close relationship with the school, having served on several committees supporting school's March on to Victory (MOTV) capital campaign as well as participating in the school's ongoing capital campaign readiness study.

NDP TENNIS TEAM SERVES UP FOR THE COMMUNITY



In late November, members of Notre Dame Prep's tennis team circulated in the community to pick up boxes and bags of donated food items and gift cards from school families.

According to Notre Dame parents Nancy Bennett and Linda

SEE IRISH NEWS ON PAGE 36

PLEASE PATRONIZE NOTRE DAME RESTAURANTS AND BUSINESSES

Early in the pandemic, the Notre Dame Alumni Association reached out to members of the Notre Dame community, including current families and alumni, who own or operate restaurants and small businesses that may have been negatively affected by the pandemic. While many of them have been struggling mightily since last spring, there is newfound hope that the future holds better days ahead and that the retail and service sector of our economy will recover sooner than later. In the meantime, we encourage readers to patronize our NDPMA family businesses, including those listed on our website at ndpma.org/promoting-notre-dame-family-owned-restaurants-and-small-businesses.

A 'loving and caring place'

Young family says Catholic environment and the Holy Spirit were factors in decision to send their children to Notre Dame.

When Notre Dame opened up its lower school in 2003, joining the existing middle and upper schools, it set up a unique academic journey for students that could mean as much as 15 years of a Notre Dame/Marist education.

For the Stetson family, their children's Notre Dame journey couldn't have started soon enough.

"We chose to send our kids to NDPMA as soon as our daughter, Hannah, was old enough to attend Pre-K3," said Kim Stetson. "Guidance from the Holy Spirit, its Catholic environment and location really were what drew us to the school."

CHILDREN ARE THRIVING

Stetson added that after she and her husband, Mike, toured the lower school with admissions two years ago and then met with Principal Diana Atkins, they felt very comfortable and safe and decided to enroll.

"Fortunately, our son, Noah, also was able to attend the toddler program last year and then continue on to Pre-K3 this year," Stetson said. "Notre Dame Lower School is such a loving and caring place that allows our children to thrive. Hannah and Noah both really love going to school."

And they tell their parents about it all the time, according to mom.

"For the first couple weeks of this school year, Hannah, now in kindergarten, reenacted her classes for us each day," Stetson said. "Noah also is really coming into his own and talks constantly about his teachers, fellow students and classroom activities."

She added that as parents, it's been amazing to watch how quickly their children are learning and how well they're already responding to the IB curriculum.

PANDEMIC PROTOCOLS

Meanwhile, like nearly every other person on the planet, Kim and Mike Stetson and their

two kids have had to endure all of the fear and disruption that the coronavirus pandemic has wrought, including the way their children's education is delivered.

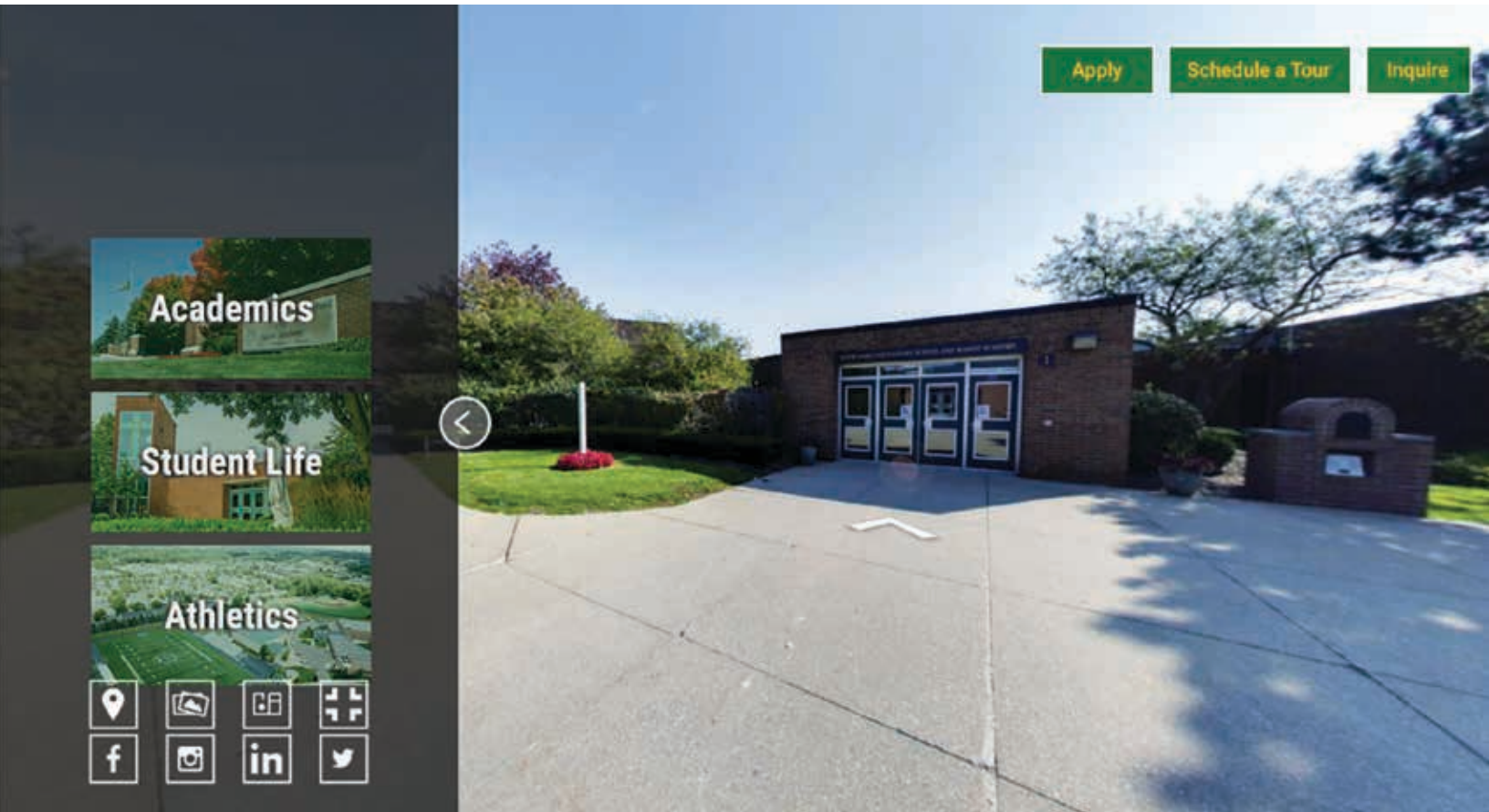
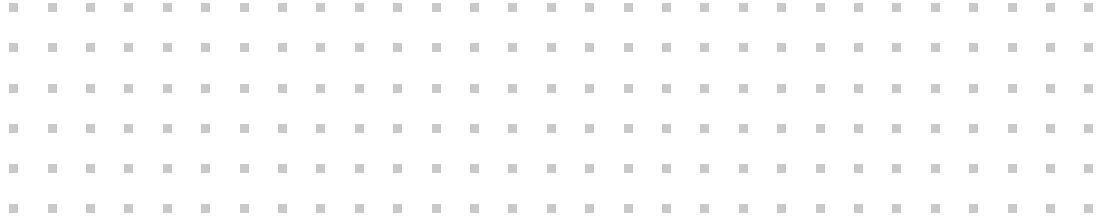
But they're happy with how Notre Dame has adapted and adjusted.

"The school has done an amazing job handling the pandemic," Kim said. "The virtual learning last school year actually was fun for the kids. But it is such a blessing having in-person learning so far this year and Hannah and Noah have adapted well to the COVID-19 protocols and mask requirements."

Now, looking forward to hopefully a more normal second half to this school year and another 13 or 14 after that, Kim said that even after their relatively short time on campus, they are completely sold on Notre Dame.

"We definitely would recommend this school to others!" «

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NOTRE DAME

www.ndpma.org/virtualtour





FOR THE LOVE OF LIBRARIES

Today's world requires school librarians and school libraries to navigate an increasingly complex information landscape. Yet many school librarians—a unique position in the academic environment for understanding the questioning, selection and creation of knowledge from this landscape—continue to fight for their very survival. However, that's not the case at Notre Dame, which maintains a healthy investment in this still-vital component of K-12 education.

In an era of a diminished library and media center presence in education, Notre Dame is investing and strengthening its library technology and capabilities.

Darrin Camilleri represents the 23rd District in the Michigan House of Representatives, serving several downriver communities. He and a group of other state legislators are mounting an effort to require that all schools in Michigan reinstate librarians.

He says the data is clear that schools that employ librarians do better than those that don't.

Camilleri is facing an uphill battle. In 1996, the state's largest school district, for example, employed 139 full-time certified librarians. Today, that number is two in a

He added that the faculty is exceptionally bright, talented and giving, and working with them is super enjoyable.

"One of the most important roles librarians play in the academic life of both faculty and students is teaching and assisting them on how to effectively find credible and relevant material," he said. "However, every librarian also finds value in promoting reading just for the fun of it."

He believes that the love of learning and the love of reading go hand-in-hand, no matter the media.

ACCESS IS KEY

"Without a doubt, the digital world has both helped and hindered the nature of libraries," said Palizzi, who holds English and library science degrees from Michigan State University, Wayne State University and the University of Toledo. "On the positive side, information is significantly more accessible, but the downside is that that deluge has adulterated the quality of what is available to kids these days."

He said that's exactly why a librarian is critical in academia.

"As a librarian and educator, it's about helping students understand how to find the best information depending on the need, whether it's digital or ink on paper," he said. "Interestingly though, the preference of ebooks over print books in regards to reading for pleasure, for example, has not been as great as originally predicted."

For Tim Madej, who oversees the Eugenio D'Agostini Media Center in the lower school, locating and promoting good reliable resources for students is the most important part of a media specialist or librarian's job. And even more so for younger students and their teachers.

"Good-fit books, articles, artifacts and digital information for teacher's lessons and student's research are all top priorities for us as librarians," he said. "Additionally, our job includes being able to navigate both the digital and print world successfully and to show students how as well."

Few other teachers and students in Michigan can expect that same level of help since the number of school librarians in the state has dropped to the point where only 8 percent of Michigan schools have one. Experts say that's due in part to new technology and funding shortfalls, which was exacerbated by the 2007-08 economic downturn.

TECHNOLOGY AND THE PANDEMIC

At Notre Dame, it's that same technology that is helping to drive innovation in its libraries. It's also the reason why



PHOTOS PGS. 10-13

The 7,000-square-foot St. Peter Chanel Library, which serves the middle and upper schools, underwent a \$300,000 renovation and technology upgrade that included new audio-visual technology for presentations and student collaboration; two glass-enclosed private study carrels and modular furniture among many other upgrades. (2018 photos courtesy of TMP Architecture, Inc.)

district with about 100 schools and 50,000 students. And that scenario is not unusual across the rest of the state and nation.

It's a rather disturbing trend, especially when you consider that literacy rates and reading scores in public schools across the country have been stagnant. And the pandemic no doubt has accelerated the need for reading and media help for students who've spent most of last year in virtual mode.

Meanwhile, Steve Palizzi, one of two full-time certified librarians at Notre Dame, says he is very grateful that the school places such a high value on libraries, media centers and yes, librarians.

READING JUST FOR FUN AND RESEARCH

"I sincerely love working at NDPMA," he said. "It's been a remarkable fit for me. I find the student body to be kind and genuine. As an employer, Notre Dame also has been very supportive on many fronts."



there's a real need for personnel to assist with navigating that technology.

Since Madej came to the lower school more than four years ago, the D'Agostini Media Center experienced a major upgrade to its circulation and card catalog system to better align with the 21st-century learner and with the middle and high school library. Additional technology improvements included barcoding all collection materials, upgrading the sound system, lighting and the recent addition of AppleTV.

"Our library collection materials are regularly updated to better support classroom teacher lessons in both the IB-PYP curriculum, the Catholic identity of our school, and with student needs and interests," he said.

The past 12 months also ramped up the urgency for new technology in the library, added Madej, who holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's in library and information science.

"The last half of the 2019-2020 school year especially was a big adjustment for everyone," he said. "But the students did a great job of adapting to virtual lessons. Each week when the lower school was on virtual learning, our library lessons always had an overarching theme. We had a cooking week where students created a digital cookbook; a Lego build week; a Star Wars week; a puzzle week; a National Library Week and, of course, an Easter Week. Students also

worked on handwritten letters and pictures that were sent to nursing home residents along with many, many Zoom meetings."

Palizzi said that as tragic as COVID-19 has been for the country and the world, it has provided both an unexpected benefit and more opportunities for work for himself and Madej.

"The pandemic has resulted in students seeking more access to our online material for both pleasure reading and for research," he said. "Additionally, there has been an increase in individual questions via email, which doesn't sound like it would be an issue until you realize that the questions are very open-ended or vague and usually require dialogue. A one-sentence question from a student can easily result in a multiple paragraph response with screenshots to help illustrate."

Given all of the recent turmoil in educating students at all levels and the drastic changes in media and technology, Palizzi nonetheless remains optimistic.

"With technology growing at such a rapid rate, the possibilities are endless," he said. "And I know that as times change, our libraries will continue to adapt to help best meet each student's academic, social, personal and spiritual needs." «



I KNOW THAT AS TIMES CHANGE, OUR LIBRARIES WILL CONTINUE TO
ADAPT TO HELP BEST MEET EACH STUDENT'S ACADEMIC, SOCIAL, PERSONAL
AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS.



ABOVE

Notre Dame seventh graders are taking a deep dive into the world of nonfiction literature in the St. Peter Chanel Library during a recent Independent Reading Challenge.

LEFT

Notre Dame Lower School librarian Tim Madej conducts a reading session for Pre-K 4 students.

OPPOSITE

Librarian Steve Palizzi said working at Notre Dame has been a remarkable fit for him.



ART FOR UNC



ERTAIN TIMES

We recently interviewed Notre Dame faculty and alumni and asked them to talk about one of the most influential artists in the last 200 years and why a review of his life's work is perfect for today's uncertain times.

This past Dec. 31 was the 151st anniversary of the birth of French artist Henri Matisse, arguably one of the most influential artists of the last 200 years and, along with Pablo Picasso, a painter who helped define a revolution in the visual arts during the first few decades of the 20th century.

But in many ways, Matisse's art also is the perfect antidote for the most recent 12 months of the 21st century.

"Matisse often is called the painter of happiness, and for once the legend is true," said Aurélie Verdier, who commissioned "Matisse: Like a Novel," a retrospective mounted at the Pompidou Centre in Paris running through Feb. 22, 2021. "Matisse's goal was to give happiness to people who looked at his work. His art is just what we need in this anxious, dark time."

In 1908, Matisse himself wrote of his own aspirations: "What I dream of is an art of balance, of purity and serenity, devoid of troubling or depressing subject matter — a soothing, calming

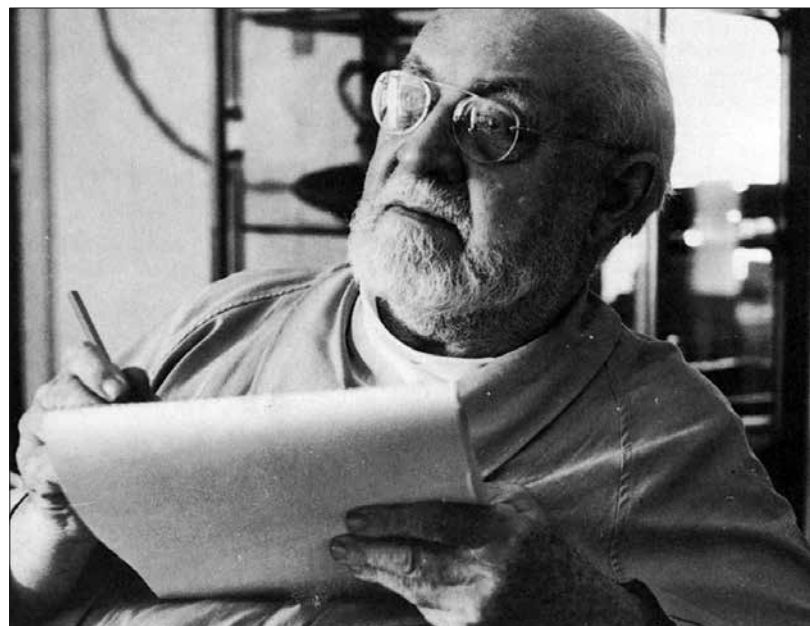
influence on the mind."

Further, French poet Louis Aragon (1897-1982) weighed in years ago: "The optimism of Matisse is a gift to our ailing world."

Sandy LewAllen, chair of Notre Dame's art department and teacher in the upper school, noted that optimism when discussing the artist's later years as a debilitating illness prevented him from painting in the conventional sense and he moved on to the equally important and notably more optimistic body of work called cut paper collage.

Not so coincidentally, that Matisse optimism also is on display in LewAllen's home as she has a copy of one of his works, *Tree* (1951), which, she says, is a reminder for her every day that "in life, when one door closes, another will open."

"What I also love about Henri Matisse is that he was a multi-faceted artist who was perhaps best known for painting, but was also a prolific draftsman, sculptor and printmaker," she said. "I appreciate an artist who works in different media and I'm drawn to



Matisse's sense of adaptability. For example, when he could no longer stand at his easel to paint due to illness, he created a brand new technique."

FAUVISM, MORE FANS AND COMPOSITION

Alum Joe Borri ND'80, a successful painter himself, remembers being fully introduced to Matisse when he was studying art history at

ABOVE

Henri Émile Benoît Matisse (Dec. 31, 1869 – Nov. 3, 1954) was a French artist, known for both his use of color and his fluid and original draftsmanship.

OPPOSITE

The *Snail* (*L'escargot*) is a 1953 collage by Henri Matisse. It is pigmented with gouache on paper, cut and pasted onto a base layer of white paper measuring approximately 9 feet by 9 feet. The piece is in the Tate Modern collection in London.

FOR ME, MATISSE PERSONIFIES THE RE-INVENTIVE NATURE OF
CREATIVITY. MY STUDENTS WHO LEARN ABOUT MATISSE ALWAYS SEEM TO
BE INSPIRED BY HIS WILLINGNESS TO TAKE RISKS.



ABOVE

Notre Dame art teachers Sandy LewAllen, left, Lauren Zajdel and Michelle Zimmerman said Matisse continues to have a profound influence on art and art education.

BELOW

Joe Borri graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1980 and earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Northern Michigan University. A true "Renaissance man," Borri is an author, painter, designer and caricaturist.

Northern Michigan University where he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

"Our professor, Wolfram Niessen, introduced us to many of the various art movements and the artists that populated them, and Matisse obviously was among them," he said. "Wolf wasn't very fond of decorative work as he was a German sculptor, and as such, didn't seem overly praiseworthy of Matisse's work. But he couldn't

emphasize enough his contribution to the Modernist movement during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. After seeing more and more of the work by Matisse, I, however, was totally impressed by his use of color and most importantly, his composition."

For alum Sophia Gunterman NDP'17, the impact Matisse had on fauvism, a style of painting favored by another group of early 20th-century artists, is what she most appreciates about him.

"Matisse's heavy influence on fauvism allowed for the freedom of colors to be used within a painting," said the current College for Creative Studies student. "In a time when Cubism was popular, Matisse rejected it and sought to use color as the foundation for his paintings and for its own form of expression."

Michelle Zimmerman, who teaches art at Notre Dame Lower School, said it was a visit to the Detroit Institute of Arts as a 15 year old that first opened her eyes to the genius of Matisse.

"It was an immediate like for me," she said. "His raw colors and simplified figures showed me that imperfection had a place in the art world. His style, unlike the perfection of Renaissance painters, seemed 'doable' to me. I purchased two posters of his work that day and I still have them framed and hanging in my home."

Each year, Zimmerman also includes Matisse and his cut paper collage technique in the lesson plans for her lower school students.

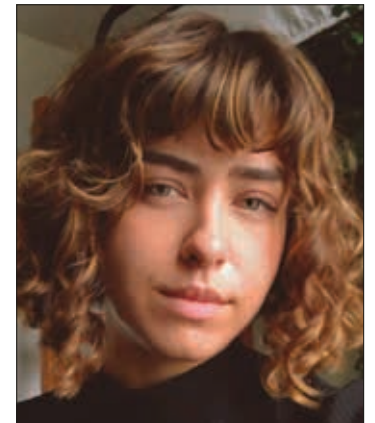
"For me, Matisse personifies the re-inventive nature of creativity," she said. "During his life he changed and adapted to his

circumstances rather than allow himself to be limited by them. He was a lawyer at first, then became a painter and when he could no longer paint, he worked with colored paper shapes instead. My students who learn about Matisse always seem to be inspired by his willingness to take risks."

Painting with scissors

That willingness to take risks and try new creative directions also inspires Notre Dame Middle School visual arts and makerspace teacher Lauren Zajdel.

"Henri Matisse is best known as one of the major painting artists



of the post-Impressionist era," said Zajdel. "But like many other artists of his time, he became afflicted with health problems that included a diminution of eyesight. To compensate for being partially blind and restricted to a wheelchair, Matisse's colorful style evolved to painting with scissors during his collage period."

Zajdel noted that that style in the beginning wasn't taken as seriously as other creative techniques.

"But I think it's important to





point out — and I always do to my students — that no matter the age, a true artistic individual cannot just stop their need to create.”

Alum Borri adds that Matisse also was a significant influence in the design world, especially for the pioneering Modernists and those working in contemporary art during the mid-to-late 20th century.

“The design of any Matisse work is never unintentional,” said Borri, who also is a noted author and illustrator. “Although he preached being instinctual, whether it was his numerous paintings or the work he became more widely known for — paper cut outs — his work always had a careful design to it. Artists have borrowed from

each other since the beginning of time and with Matisse it was no different. You can see his influence in the works of artists like Andy Warhol and even in brilliant graphic designers like Milton Glaser.

“Matisse, in my opinion, is one of the most important figures of art in any century.” «

ABOVE

The Fauvist art movement was the inspiration for a Notre Dame Middle School art exhibition in 2012. Two years ago, Notre Dame Lower School artists created Matisse-inspired collages in Michelle Zimmerman’s art class.

OPPOSITE

Alum Sophia Gunterman NDP’17 currently is enrolled at the prestigious College for Creative Studies in Detroit.

LEFT

At the age of 77, Matisse began work on the Chapelle du Rosaire de Vence (Chapel of the Rosary), often referred to as the Matisse Chapel or the Vence Chapel, a small Catholic chapel located in the town of Vence on the French Riviera. He spent more than four years working on the chapel, its architecture, stained glass windows, interior furnishings, murals and the priests’ vestments. Some regard it as one of the great religious structures of the 20th century.



With its award-winning visual arts program and one of the state's most comprehensive science curriculums, it's no surprise that students like Jason Stewart thrive at Notre Dame Prep.



AT THE INTERSECTION OF

ART SCIENCE

W

When Notre Dame Prep senior Jason Stewart found out last year that he earned a National Gold Medal for his drawing, "What Looks Back at Me," which also garnered the National American Vision Award, the highest honor from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition, the first thing he remembers saying — rather loudly — was, "Let's go!"

He's not sure why that immediately came to mind, but if you ask those who know him, it makes perfect sense.

"Jason is an amazing person," said Ned Devine, one of Stewart's art teachers at Notre Dame Prep. "He's really hard-working, incredibly talented in art, math and technology, and he literally is always ready to go to the next level. He also definitely has the mind of a great engineer. I love this kid. I respect him for his work ethic, his standards that he holds himself to, and his attention to our school mission."

BALANCING ART AND SCIENCE

Stewart first came to Notre Dame as a freshman from Walton Charter Academy, located just down the street. By then, he already was a talented artist after years of work and practice.

"Ever since I was able to hold a pencil, I was interested in art," he said. "I started off trying to draw the cartoons I saw on TV, and then made my own comics. I definitely got serious about art in middle school where I started practicing more and more to help get to the level I'm at now."

One of Stewart's other teachers acknowledges his incredible artistic talent, but says that talent translates well into other subjects, especially science.

"There is this misconception that art and science are in no way connected," said Jocelynn Yaroch, teacher and chair of the science department. "But this could not be more untrue, and Jason is a case in point. He takes a genuine interest in the material being covered in science, and to his credit and our benefit, he has this unique perspective where critical thinking is concerned."

Yaroch thinks it's this creative side of Stewart that allows him to view a problem in an almost three-dimensional way and see possible solutions in ways that are not available to others.

"He really is the kind of student that



teachers feel fortunate to have in their classroom," Yaroch added.

DREAMING AND DESIGNING

Now focused on finishing up the semester and hoping to stay in-person for the duration, Stewart reflects on his time at NDP.

"It has at times been a bit difficult, but at the same time, it has been very rewarding," he said. "I'm taking a lot of IB and AP classes, but I manage pretty well, I think."

Beyond NDP, Stewart is looking forward to college.

"Notre Dame absolutely has prepared me for college, particularly with helping me manage my assignments and free time," he said. "I'm sure I will come to appreciate it even more when I actually get into college. I plan on going to college to get a mechanical engineering degree and eventually get a master's in biomedical engineering. I may get a minor in art as well."

"My dream school is Northeastern University, and my dream career is to be a biomedical engineer who designs and develops prosthetics."

Those dreams look to be in capable hands with Jason Stewart. «

LEFT

"What Looks Back at Me," a graphite drawing by Stewart, earned a 2020 National Gold Medal and the National American Vision Award from the Scholastic Art & Writing Awards competition.

Notre Dame grad publishes fifth crime novel, working on two more

Edward Izzi, a 1977 graduate of Notre Dame High School, published his fifth novel, "El Camino Drive," this past summer and is currently working on two more. His writing has been compared to Dan Brown, author of "The Da Vinci Code" and "Angels and Demons," but his day job in Chicago, where he currently lives, continues to be as a CPA.

These seemingly diametrically opposed professions coexist nicely, he says, despite logic, some discouragement early on from family and perhaps, most importantly, because of advice he received as an NDHS student.

"Donald May, who was a 1969 NDHS graduate and taught composition for a few years there, was always very interested in my writing," Izzi said. "I remember him asking me what my long-range goals were after graduation. When I mentioned that I wanted to pursue a medical or a legal career, his exact words were 'you're wasting your time.' Mr. Bob Kelly also saw my creative writing talents early on and tried in vain to convince me not to be ashamed of it. But coming from an old-school Italian family, neither of my parents saw a career in writing as a fruitful means of being successful, so I never pursued it until later in life."

What he did pursue, career-wise, was accounting.

After graduating from Central Michigan University in 1981, Izzi began working for an accounting firm in Chicago until passing the CPA examination and starting a firm of his own in 1985. In those 35 years, he's had many successful clients in the Chicagoland area, including those in construction, small business retail, wholesale, nonprofit, restaurant, grocery retail and many other variations of business commerce.

"I am the principal partner of my firm, Izzi and Associates, and we have several employees, which include my daughter and my son," he said. "I am still very active in the company and enjoy working with my clients in assisting them with their financial goals."

But he has certainly also enjoyed creative writing once again over the past several years.

"After a somewhat difficult divorce, I was advised by a therapist to 'take up writing again or you'll end up on the six o'clock news,'" he said. "But I guess every good writer has demons, and some have learned to deal with those demons in very different ways. I've come to realize that many novelists live their lives vicariously through the characters in their stories. Some writers have dealt with their demons successfully. Some have not and I'm sure you can think of several well-known writers who have led very tragic lives. But sometimes, dealing with those demons through writing is the only means of successfully defeating them."

Izzi said writing crime fiction can replace all of the potential drama in a writer's life, but he's found satisfaction in hearing from readers of his books who tell him they were on the edge of their seats and couldn't put the book down.

"My ideas usually come to me at about three o'clock in the morning," he said. "For me, sleeping has always been very 'over-rated'. I can usually get by with four hours of sleep. If I ever slept longer and got a good night's sleep, I'm certain my writing would suffer."

It seems a bit strange that a successful writer like Izzi was not able to benefit from one of Notre Dame High School's most celebrated English teachers, Conrad Vachon, who has influenced generations of professional writers. But that's because when Izzi was at NDHS, Vachon was not in the classroom.

"Unfortunately, I never had Mr. Vachon for English," he said. "He was our school principal when I was there, but I tried to run cross country for him for a few weeks as a freshman. After one cross country meet, he kindly pulled me aside and told me to 'find another sport.' (I've run several marathons since). Conrad was known for being pretty blunt back then [Ed. note: When was he not?], and I always tried to avoid him after that." «

CRIME SCENE



LEFT

Late-blooming novelist Edward Izzi has been compared to Dan Brown, author of "The Da Vinci Code" and "Angels and Demons."

DO NOT CROSS
DO NOT CROSS

THIS INVESTMENT GIVES OUR TEACHERS THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO PROVIDE THE VERY BEST LEARNING OUTCOMES WHILE DELIVERING ON OUR MISSION TO FORM YOUNG MEN AND WOMEN INTO CHRISTIANS, CITIZENS AND SCHOLARS.

Notre Dame invests in classroom technology to adapt to remote learning.

Like many schools around the country, this year at Notre Dame is unlike any other. Teachers and students are continuously adapting to in-person and remote learning shaped by the coronavirus pandemic. And while a new vaccine offers hope for a return to "normalcy" in the future, school administrators are not letting their foot off the gas when it comes to improving technology for ease of learning, regardless if students are physically present or streaming in from the comfort of their home.

Beginning this spring, technology upgrades will be installed in classrooms across campus made possible by a few donors as well as gifts to the 2020-2021 Notre Dame Fund.

Eden Konja, director of information and academic technology, said the funds will be invested in items such as auto-tracking cameras, high-powered laptops for teachers, ceiling speakers in classrooms, digital HD projectors, and increased internet bandwidth, among other tools designed to better support hybrid learning and teaching.

"Teachers need a system that allows each student to clearly hear and view the lesson from any location," Konja said. "We wanted to offer a learning experience as close to traditional in-person classes, using a blended synchronous model in which the teacher and half the class are live and the other half are remote, while still conforming to all the health requirements and guidelines from the state and county."

Konja said the plan will improve the audio-video

experience between teachers and students.

"Masks, physical distancing, and other guidelines have given rise to the need to enhance the classroom technology," Konja said.

In December and January, teachers were able to preview the hardware, test it out in a concept classroom and share their feedback to help best fit needs.

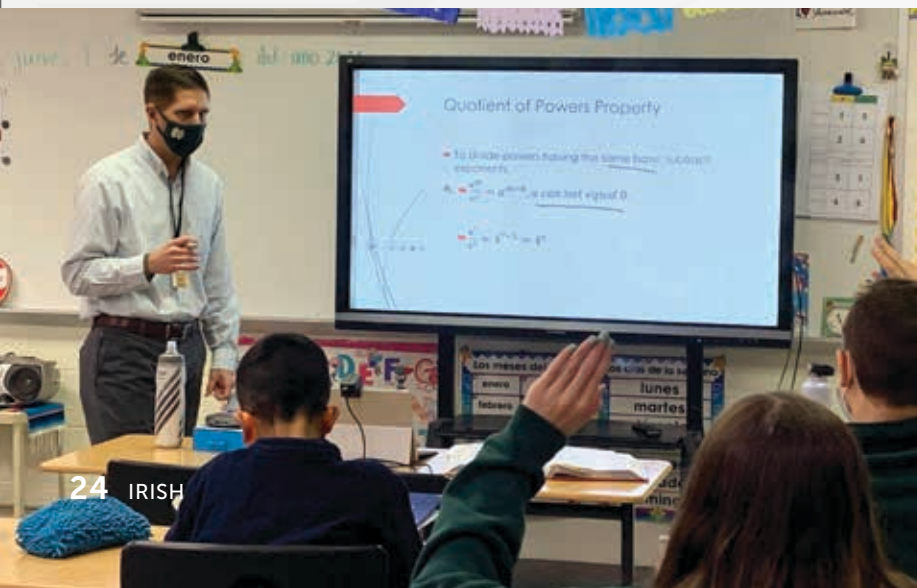
"We wanted to make sure that whatever we were investing in for teachers, they would be able to use effectively," Konja said.

Teachers and students at the lower school currently use Apple iPads, while middle and preparatory school students use Microsoft Surface Pro tablets. Konja said with the increased demand on tablets, teachers will need newer devices to best manage hybrid learning.

"The new devices have added peripheral ports and increased hardware specifications giving way to less technical constraints and easier transition between content delivery methods, which can lead to less stress for the teachers," he said.

Perhaps one of the biggest advantages will be improved standardization of sound and visual output quality across all classrooms.

"The school has 82 classrooms; each classroom is setup



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CUS TECH

individually with most using sound from the projector unit or some type of computer speakers. Many also have analog connections and projectors that lack brightness or clarity," Konja explained. "This project will provide speakers placed in the ceiling providing coverage to the entire classroom, improving audio clarity. It also includes laser projectors that will last nearly 10 years, offering improved brightness and higher definition quality."

Classrooms will also be outfitted with portable lapel microphones and a wireless presentation device to easily broadcast to the projector. The cost to outfit each classroom ranges from \$1,500 to \$5,000.

"The investment in new technology will enhance the learning experience for students, whether in-person or virtual," said Head of School Andrew J. Guest. "COVID-19 is not going away anytime soon ... and neither is technology. The virus has taught us that we need to remain nimble to accommodate all learning scenarios and being up to date on the latest tech trends will help us to maintain our leadership position in education.

"As we plan and provide various options for our families, we want to have multiple resources available to ensure student success. This investment gives our teachers the tools they need to provide the very best learning outcomes while



ABOVE

Students in the St. Peter Chanel Library view a presentation on a digital HD projector.

OPPOSITE

Notre Dame Middle School Principal Brandon Jezdimir tests out an auto-tracking camera and digital projector.

delivering on our mission to form young men and women into Christians, citizens and scholars," Guest added. "Teachers will always be the experts on how students learn, but a strong technology platform can engage, enhance and extend the learning experience."

Board member and Notre Dame Prep parent John Wernis was one of the first donors to sign on in support of the technology upgrades after seeing the swift response the school took with virtual learning in March 2020.

"My wife, Stacy, and I are very concerned for students and their academics. We feel the last thing any student deserves is to fall behind academically due to an event or action that takes place outside of their control," Wernis said. "As a family, we feel so blessed to have our children attend Notre Dame. The transition the school made into immediate virtual learning at the onset of the pandemic was amazing. As usual, our administration and faculty did everything possible to put the students' best interests into action. We have immense respect for all our faculty and staff at the school."

Wernis said he is looking forward to seeing the impact new technology has on student learning.

"At the time the technology plan was presented, Stacy and I felt compelled to lead with the first major gift to support it. It was imperative to implement the upgrades as quickly as possible," Wernis said.

Three additional donors also made major gifts to support the project. Tim Easterwood, whose daughter will graduate this spring, contributed to the classroom upgrades. He named the school's Science, Art and Technology Wing in 2019 during the March on to Victory campaign. Sandy Favrow, the founding principal of the middle school and a newly inducted member of the Board of Trustees, and her husband, Roger, stepped forward to help the school accomplish its goal. Parents Steve and Teresa St. Andre contributed as well. Their oldest son graduated last year, and their youngest children are in 10th and 11th grade.

While some items are on back order, Konja said he is confident the rollout and classroom installation will begin in late spring.

State of Connection

To better engage and effectively communicate to our community through technology, Notre Dame launched an updated modern cloud portal for parents, students, teachers, and staff at the start of 2021. The rollout began with onboarding students, parents and teachers, and adding modular parts of the system during the spring semester.

Currently, families have multiple systems to access with different usernames and passwords. The unified platform, called MyNotreDame, gives users improved access to student schedules, assignments, grades, and the latest news and announcements all in one place. Families will also be able to review and submit updates to their account to ensure the school has the latest information, i.e. mailing and email address.

"We know that parent and family engagement can be an important part of student success," said Eden Konja, director of information and academic technology for Notre Dame. "The new portal is part of our ongoing commitment to invest in technology that allows for more transparency, operate more efficiently, and provide a consistent user experience using leading-edge cloud innovation."

Transitioning to a unified platform has been a top goal for Konja, who said his department has fielded "numerous questions over the years from parents confused on where to find information or needed resources." The transition was also catapulted to priority status when Blackbaud, the school's software provider announced that it was sunsetting Notre Dame's current student information system called

Education Edge.

"We had to decide what we wanted to do," Konja said. "During the analysis phase, we realized how many different platforms we were sending parents and students to i.e., PowerSchool Learning, our current learning management system for course material; NetClassroom, where students go to get their grades and schedules; SchoolAdmin for families applying online; NetCommunity for families withdrawing a student; not to mention all the other services that faculty and staff access."

After reviewing comparable software systems such as Veracross and Skyward, and reaching out to peer schools across the region, Konja said the school ultimately chose to reinvest in Blackbaud and moving to their cloud-based K-12 education software suite.

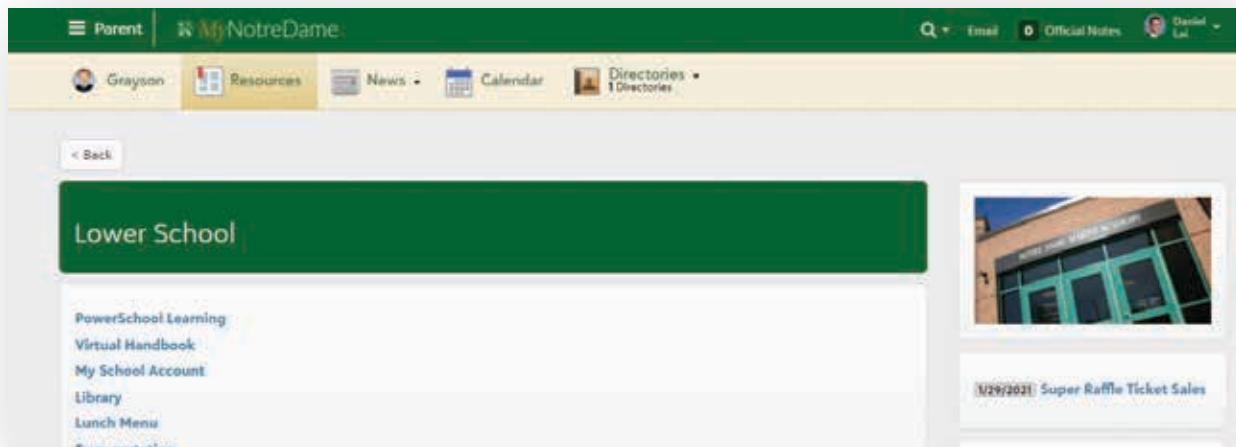
"The software solution will drive even more digital transformation at Notre Dame and have a positive impact to our school offering more flexibility and scalability to work the way we need it for our school," he said.

Once the rollout is complete, parents will only need to sign on to one system to access all their child's information regardless if they have multiple students across the three divisions. As part of this integration, the school will also implement a billing management system.

"Parents will be able to view their financial tuition details online including specific breakdown of the charges instead of receiving an emailed PDF statement," he said.

In addition, links to other resources often accessed by

New *MyNotreDame* portal will connect all aspects of the school processes to improve communication and better support the entire learning experience.



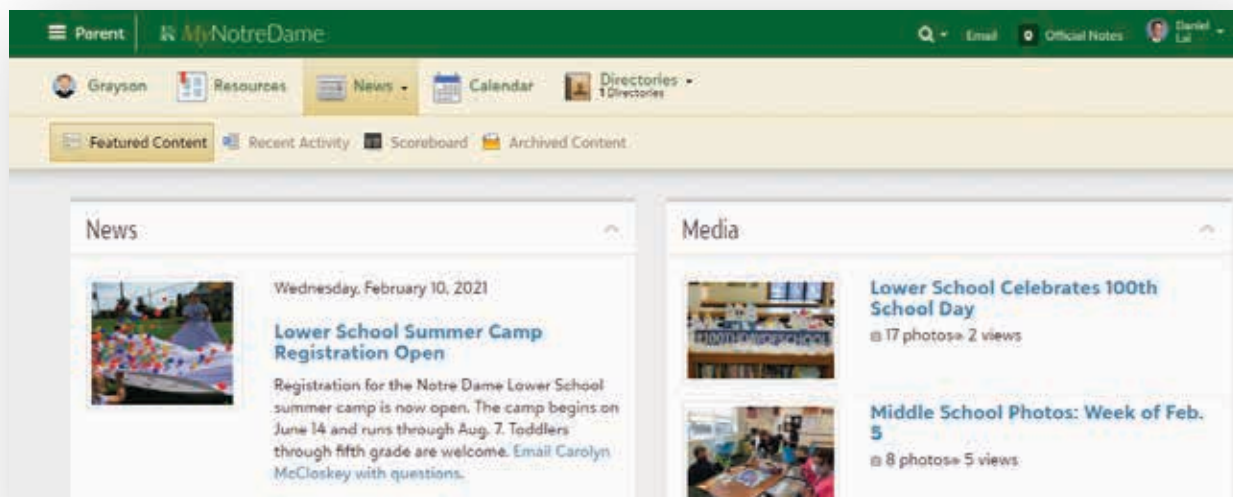
parents, including transportation and school forms, meal menus, calendars, athletic information, and even digitized school division-specific forms will be located on the portal dashboard for easy access.

A PHASED ROLLOUT

Implementation of MyNotreDame will be conducted in phases, with training focused on the education module (grades, attendance, forms, etc.) for staff and teachers already underway. PowerSchool Learning will continue to be used during the 2020-2021 school year, with most divisions moving to the new platform in 2021-22. Once complete, parents, faculty and students will also be able to view the latest school announcements, upcoming events, and information specific to their school or grade level when they login to the portal.

Parents will eventually access the portal at www.ndpma.org by clicking on the MyNotreDame tab located at the top right of the home page and clicking on the "parents" dropdown option. More information is forthcoming regarding login procedures and other specific details to parent and student accounts. Families will be able to sign up for virtual workshops on navigating and using MyNotreDame this spring and summer. A Q&A section on the school website and "how-to" resources are also planned.

For more information on MyNotreDame, contact Konja at ekonja@ndpma.org or visit <https://ndpma.myschoolapp.com>. «



HONORING OUR TEACHERS



Parents, alumni and friends fund programs, classroom upgrades with gifts during Giving Tuesday



Alumni, parents and friends sent a clear message on Giving Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2020, to the faculty and staff at Notre Dame—421 donors contributed \$120,194 to honor teachers on this year's global day of giving. They also wrote heartwarming messages to thank the staff for the role they play in students' lives as the coronavirus continues to impact most of Michigan and the United States.

Their gifts will be invested in the school's response to the pandemic, which includes a new broadcast system to keep constituents informed by text and phone, state-of-the-art classroom technology, a new learning management system, and financial aid for families seeking a Catholic education.

"The good will we heard for teachers and staff on Giving Tuesday was incredible," said Mark Roberts, vice president for advancement,

who oversees philanthropy, alumni relations and communications. "Our goal was to talk with as many constituents as possible over a few days and let them know that every gift matters."

"Not everyone said yes to a gift. We understand some families weren't in a position to support us this year," Roberts continued. "The economic impact of COVID-19 has been far greater on some families more than others. We hope people remember that gifts of every size make a difference. Small gifts add up quickly when a community like ours comes together like it did on Giving Tuesday."

Roberts also pointed out that 179 alumni and parents made their first annual gift to the school on Giving Tuesday.

Beth Lockhart, director of alumni and donor relations, was instrumental in planning the

A RECORD-SMASHING DAY

By the Numbers

424

individuals contributed on Giving Tuesday.

The most we've received in a single day!

115

made their first gift ever to the school.

New donors are awesome!

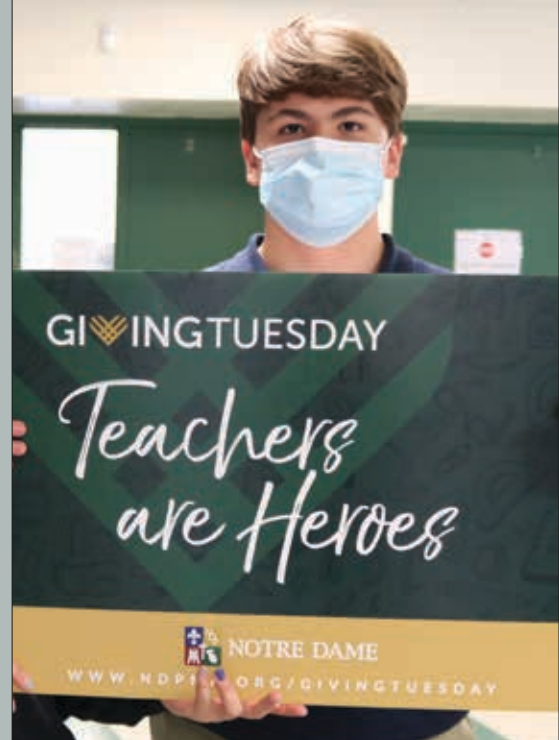
25%

of the gifts were less than \$100.

Gifts at every level make a difference!

school's outreach. She said several alumni and parents volunteered to make it a successful initiative. Volunteers included members of the Board of Trustees' advancement committee: Mia Burbank, Mike Genord and Jill Seitzinger as well as the Notre Dame Alumni Association's board of directors Liz (Halabu) Casselman NDP'09, Brian Dooley ND'85, Lisa Healy NDP'98, Amy Tkac NDP'02 and Meredith (Gifford) Scott NDP'02.

"We'd also like to thank alumna Sarah Brown, current and alumni parents Dan and



Dame families, which is why the Board of Trustees and administration are investing in infrastructure and other upgrades to safeguard the school against the virus."

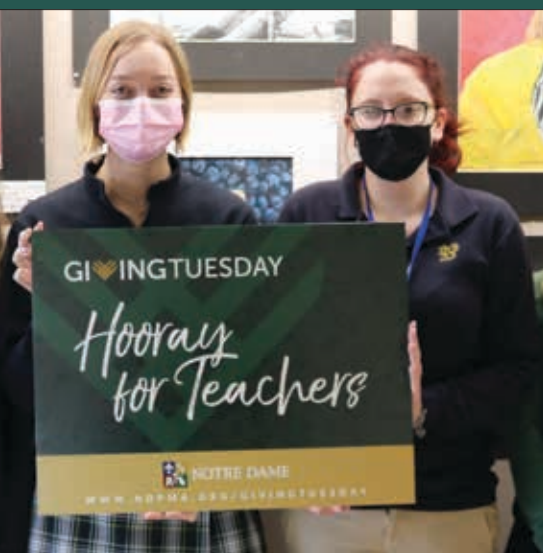
Gifts that were made on Giving Tuesday are part of the school's 2020-2021 Annual Appeal, which kicked off in the fall and runs through June 30, 2021. Donors may choose to support the Notre Dame Fund, Financial Aid Fund, or Faculty Excellence Fund. For more information about annual giving, please visit www.ndpma.org/support. «

JP Beaudoin, alumni parents Mike and Mary Durkin, and alumnus Kris Powell for signing our emails for Giving Tuesday. We are grateful to them and everyone who took the time to help us make this a record-breaking day for the school," she said.

As a follow up to Giving Tuesday, teachers at all three schools were provided a gift that included specially designed cookies from alum Brooke Wilson NDP'05, owner of Love & Buttercream in Birmingham, and lunch catered by parents Robert and Kellie Reyson P'24.

Annual gifts from alumni, parents, grandparents, parents of graduates and other friends play an important role for Notre Dame.

"It's not well known that tuition only covers 80 percent of our operating expenses, much like other Catholic schools," said Seitzinger, chair of the advancement committee. "Donors help us bridge that gap so we can go on educating students in a typical year. This year has been anything but typical for Notre



A STUNNING SHOW OF SUPPORT

In February, a giant display was erected at the main campus and the lower school to recognize the more than 800 donors who made a gift to the Notre Dame Fund, Financial Aid Fund and/or Faculty Excellence Fund from July 1 to Dec. 31, 2020. The display features the names of families, alumni, individuals and friends who are supporting the school financially during the pandemic.

Gifts to the school are being invested in the school's response to COVID-19, including: a broadcast communications system to keep our constituents informed by text and phone; state-of-the-art classroom technology; MyNotreDame, a learning management system for teachers to connect with students and parents; and financial aid for families seeking a Catholic education. «



How we honor the men and women of Notre Dame



What's in a name?

Notre Dame is a community of 24,000 individuals who live out our mission as Christian People, Upright Citizens and Academic Scholars daily. The grandparent who cheers on the Fighting Irish at a game; the parent who spends a Saturday morning helping their child catch up on homework; or the alumna who sets the example for others by volunteering at a local Catholic charity—each one of them personifies what it means to be Marist.

In IRISH magazine and other publications, we have begun to recognize our community in a special way by including their affiliation with us. A "letter" and "the year of graduation" for their child, grandchild or themselves is listed after each name.

Parents	P
Grandparents	GP
Parents of Alumni	P
Alumni of: Notre Dame Preparatory School	NDP
Notre Dame High School	ND
Oakland Catholic High School	OC
Pontiac Catholic High School	PC
St. Frederick High School	SF
St. Michael High School	SM

These "codes" allow us to share information about our constituents with the rest of the community as well as honor each person for the role they play at our school. Here are some examples:

John and Mary Smith P'21

Parents of a senior.

Don and Lisa Jones P'26, P'28, P'31

Parents of a second, fifth and seventh grader.

George and Abigail Ott GP'22, GP'24

Grandparents of two students, a freshman and junior.

Luke Barns NDP'00 and Jill Barns

A graduate of Notre Dame Prep and his wife, who also supports the Notre Dame Fund.

Matthew Davis ND'78 and Laurie Davis P'18, P'20

An alumnus from Notre Dame High School and proud parents of two alumni from Notre Dame Prep or one of our legacy schools.

Charles Dean SM'53 and Rebecca Dean SF'53

High school sweethearts who met at our legacy schools, St. Mike's and St. Fred's.

If you would like more information about how your name appears or would like to correct an error, please contact the Office of Advancement at advancement@ndpma.org.



‘A Generous Heart’

Notre Dame community mourns loss of beloved security guard Jim Travis

Jim Travis’s devotion to Notre Dame started over a decade ago. His love for the school and its students and staff was evident in his big heart and gentle smile. For 14 years, Travis served as a security guard and eventually supervisor at Notre Dame Prep, assisting with traffic control. However, his eagerness to lend a helping hand to whomever needed it touched all aspects of school life.

“Jim breathed Notre Dame green and gold,” Rick Winiarski, the school’s facilities manager, said. “Each time we changed security companies, Jim hired on with the new company in order to continue to work at the school.”

At the end of the 2019-2020 school year, Travis retired from his position but could be seen on campus this past fall helping to train new security staff. Earlier this year, he tragically passed away unexpectedly at home.

Athletic Director and longtime friend Betty Wroubel recalls with fondness Travis’s larger-than-life personality.

“He cared so deeply about all things Notre Dame and particularly about the safety of our students and staff,” she said. “He helped with security in the morning and after school, but also all football contests and many other events.”

Wroubel said whether it was a theatre production or athletic competition, Travis was often one of the first to volunteer his time.

“He would help build sets for the drama classes, help the band or robotics, set up for athletic events, fix or repair things for us when emergencies arose,” she said. “He was a self-starter who always looked for ways to make Notre Dame a better place. There wasn’t a group or activity here that Jim did not find a way to get involved with in some way.”

Wroubel said on a personal note, Travis reached out to her after her parents passed away and offered to repair and repaint a crucifix that had been in her family for nearly 100 years.

“(The crucifix) is now above the doorway leading to the Grimaldi gym ... every time I see it, I think of Jim and my folks,” she said. “He’d drop by my office frequently to see how he could help or just to talk. He was so proud of his military service and would share experiences from that. He was just a great guy to have around and I will miss him tremendously.”

Duane Holmes, who serves as an athletic assistant and former dean of students at Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods, forged a relationship with Travis after many years of working together during home athletic events.

“He wanted to do everything he could for the kids. We would talk about his excursions with his wife, Barbara, who also worked security for the school, and share stories about his time in the military,” Holmes said. “Jim and Barbara are good people. Anytime you saw Jim at an event,

it made you feel better because you knew everything was taken care of.”

Holmes said he saw Travis a few weeks before his death and was grateful to have that interaction.

“I didn’t expect it to be a goodbye,” he said. “Jim will be missed. I learned a lot from him. He was a very generous man and would help anyone without thinking twice.”

A real fixture on campus, Travis’s generosity and kindness embodied what it means to be Marist. When news of his passing was announced, it came as a shock to the community.

“Jim enjoyed working at Notre Dame. He knew so many of the students and parents by name and always greeted them respectfully. He was a proud veteran and a talented artist, often doing pencil sketches during his long hours at the desk in the school. He was always ready to volunteer when something needed doing. He had a generous heart,” Fr. Joseph Hindelang, s.m., said.

Head of School Andrew Guest said, “Jim was a good friend and an integral member of the Notre Dame community. He served our Marist mission with respect and dignity and was a role model for all.”

Travis is survived by his wife, Barbara, three children (James Travis, Katie McNabb-Williams, Jill Ward), 10 grandchildren, three siblings, his first wife, Denise, and his mother. «

Faith, family and Notre Dame

School
community loses
a champion of
youth education
and spiritual
well-being

Beloved former Notre Dame Campus Ministry Director Tony Morici died Feb. 2, 2021, at the age of 74 after a life well-lived and well-devoted to the Church and to Catholic education.

Morici was ordained a deacon in the Archdiocese of Detroit in 1987 at the age of 41. He said he decided to take that step at that point in his life because it just seemed the logical next step for a layperson devoted to his faith.

“Every Christian is called to love one another as Christ has loved us,” Morici said in a 2010 profile in Notre Dame’s Blarney Stone newsletter. “That mission leads us all in many directions. In my case, I was led to love and serve through official ministry in the Church. I began taking classes at Sacred Heart Seminary in the fall of 1981 and, after the formation process, was ordained in October of 1987.”

After his ordination, Morici was first assigned to St. Jane Frances de Chantal parish in Sterling Heights for six years and then to St. Louise in Warren for the next seven years. In May of 2001, Morici began serving as pastoral associate at St. Lawrence in Utica.

He first hired in at Notre Dame as a religion teacher and taught the Morality and Spirituality course for the first four years. He was then asked to take over the campus minister position, which is where he served until he officially retired. He also managed to fit in teaching accounting at NDP among his many duties. His wife, Betty, also taught at the school, including religion classes for sophomores and seniors.



According to current Notre Dame Prep religion teacher and department chair Amy Preiss, the Moricis were the ideal example at the school of a loving, Christian marriage.

“Their marriage was a powerful testimony to true love and friendship,” Preiss said. “They delighted in each other and were true partners in every sense of the word. This was obvious through simple things, like their Sudoku games and lunches together. Tony spoke openly about his love for Betty during his homilies at our Masses, and for students and staff, they were a beautiful model of the vocation of marriage.”

For Deacon Tony, he said that Notre Dame felt like home to him from the moment he first arrived on campus.

“I was impressed from the first time I walked into the school and saw the mission

statement right on the wall in front,” he said. “The fruits of those efforts depicted in our mission statement have consistently been borne out in the accomplishments and growth of our students, which have been truly impressive.”

He also said in that Blarney Stone interview that during his time at Notre Dame, he had witnessed a consistent advancement in the school’s academic programs and offerings.

“Especially with the IB program, and the fact that we have advanced in the campus ministry area with so many new offerings and accomplishments, including in the retreat area,” he said. “I believe the continued commitment to our mission is what led to so many accomplishments, both academic and spiritual.”

NDP Principal Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m., said

Morici was an essential part of the school faculty over the 11 years he and his wife were on campus.

"He was appreciated by the students and respected by his colleagues for his intelligence and gentleness, his humor and holiness," Hindelang said. "I think people felt comfortable going to him because he was willing to help when there was a need and he always worked hard to make things better. Just as he assisted at liturgies here at school and in his parish assignments, I'm sure that Deacon Tony is assisting now at the heavenly banquet table."

Preiss added that Morici's demeanor and helpfulness always made everyone he met feel comfortable and welcome.

"Deacon Tony was such a warm and inclusive person," she said. "I always felt like family around him and it wasn't just me. If there was a new staff member who walked into the teacher's lounge, Tony was the type of person to say, 'Come sit with us!'"

She said that as a teacher and campus minister, Morici brought that same sense of accommodation to his students.

"This left a lasting impression upon many of them, as is evidenced by how many

weddings and baptisms he has been asked to celebrate long after they had graduated," she said. "I shared a classroom with him one year and students would often linger afterward to talk to him. No matter where they were on their faith journeys, students felt comfortable opening up to him. He knew the faith, and he knew how to counsel in a gentle and engaging way."

Morici held degrees from Sacred Heart Seminary and Madonna University, and earned an MBA in pastoral planning and church management from the Graduate Theological Foundation. Morici also was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served as a medic during the Vietnam War.

Morici is survived by his wife, Betty; four children: Michelle (Scott) Shader, Gina (Robert) Nowicki, Margaret "Marji" (Matthew) Lasky and Andrea (Fabrizio) Petrilli; seven grandchildren: Emily (Paul) Parzynski, Thomas (fiancé Laurie) Nowicki, Elizabeth "Libby" Nowicki, Hanna Shader, Jonah Shader, Lucas Lasky and Lainey Lasky; one brother, Vincent (Ann) Morici; and one sister, Santina (Stephen) Hurley. «



LEFT

Betty and Deacon Tony Morici are with a granddaughter after her pre-school graduation.

OPPOSITE

Deacon Tony Morici was a fixture on the Notre Dame campus for more than 11 years.

From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB)

FAQs about deacons

WHO IS A DEACON?

A deacon is an ordained minister of the Catholic Church. There are three groups, or "orders," of ordained ministers in the Church: bishops, presbyters and deacons. Deacons are ordained as a sacramental sign to the Church and to the world of Christ, who came "to serve and not to be served." The entire Church is called by Christ to serve, and the deacon, in virtue of his sacramental ordination and through his various ministries, is to be a servant in a servant-Church.

WHAT ARE THESE "VARIOUS MINISTRIES" OF THE DEACON?

All ordained ministers in the Church are called to functions of Word, Sacrament, and Charity, but bishops, presbyters and deacons exercise these functions in various ways. As ministers of Word, deacons proclaim the Gospel, preach, and teach in the name of the Church. As ministers of Sacrament, deacons baptize, lead the faithful in prayer, witness marriages, and conduct wake and funeral services. As ministers of Charity, deacons are leaders in identifying the needs of others, then marshaling the Church's resources to meet those needs. Deacons are also dedicated to eliminating the injustices or inequities that cause such needs.

WHY ARE MARRIED MEN DEACONS?

The Second Vatican Council decreed that the diaconate, when it was restored as a permanent order in the hierarchy, could be opened to "mature married men," later clarified to mean men over the age of 35. This is in keeping with the ancient tradition of the Church, in which married men were ordained into ministry. Also in keeping with ancient practice is the expectation that while a married man may be ordained, an ordained man, if his wife should die, may not marry again without special permission.

IS A DEACON ORDAINED FOR THE PARISH OR THE DIOCESE?

Whenever a person is ordained, he is to serve the diocesan Church. Deacons are no different in this regard: they are assigned by the bishop to ministries for which the bishop perceives a great need, and for which the deacon may have special gifts or talents. Most often, this will be within a parish setting, just as most priests serve in a parish.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BECOMING A DEACON?

The best place to start is with your pastor, who can put you in touch with the director of deacons for your diocese. The director will be able to outline the various requirements and processes to be followed.

IRISH NEWS FROM PAGE 7

Brouns, the items were delivered to Pontiac-based Lighthouse Michigan, which provides emergency shelter, food pantries and housing assistance programs to those in need, among other social services.

"James McQueen, Lighthouse's community outreach and pantry manager, and Susan Beverly, who works in the pantry, were beyond delighted with the 25-plus bags and four overflowing boxes of donated items that included pasta, pasta sauce, canned fruit and veggies, mac and cheese, tuna fish, toilet paper, baby food, baby wipes, diapers and gift cards among other necessities," said Bennett.

"Lighthouse was thrilled at the team's generosity at a time when so many families are struggling and in such dire need and pleased that our donations were sorted by type of food/item, which facilitates their job of organizing everything so it can be packaged and distributed more rapidly," Bennett added.

FOUR SENIORS SIGN IN THE FALL TO PLAY SPORTS AT THE COLLEGE LEVEL



In an event live-streamed on Facebook, four senior student-athletes from Notre Dame Prep were honored during a lunch-period ceremony after committing to play collegiate athletics. Jacob Anderson has signed with Michigan State University to play baseball; Lindsey Creek signed to swim for the University of Toledo; Kaden Hovey signed to play lacrosse at Colorado College; and Olivia Kowalkowski signed to play volleyball at Georgia State University.

Congratulations to Jacob, Lindsey, Kaden and Olivia! You will

continue to make the Fighting Irish proud!

NOTRE DAME REMAINS FULLY ACCREDITED BY ISACS

The Independent Schools Association of the Central States' (ISACS) accreditation committee announced in November that they had reviewed and accepted Notre Dame's response to its recommendations after last year's evaluation, and determined that the school continues to be a fully accredited member school in good standing.

According to ISACS, Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy has met all ISACS Standards for Membership, which included a comprehensive and thorough self-study in which all aspects of the school's program and practices have been disclosed and reviewed, and a visit by a team consisting of ISACS peer teachers and administrators for the purpose of observing congruence between mission and program.

Head of School Andrew J. Guest thanked the school's ISACS steering committee and said it's still another positive step in both the school's history and future.

"ISACS visited us a year ago and evaluated the school on two primary factors: adherence to mission (Are we who we purport to be?) and adherence to ISACS standards," said Guest. "During the visit, the team examined every aspect of the school from governance to curriculum, culture, athletics, arts, facilities, advancement and business operations."

Guest also noted that much of the overall success of the school over the years can be attributed to the continuous improvement process undertaken with ISACS.

"They challenge us to be the best version of our mission that we can be," he said. "But while we are proud of what the school has accomplished over the years, we recognize that none of this would be possible without the grace of Our Mother, Mary, who continues to watch over and guide our Catholic, Marist school."

FORTY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS HONORED FOR SPANISH PROFICIENCY

Spanish students from Notre Dame Middle School attained national recognition for their excellent performance on the 2020 National Spanish Examinations, according to Marisol Aguilar, who teaches Spanish at Notre Dame.

The awards are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, which promotes the study and teaching



of the Spanish and Portuguese languages and their corresponding Hispanic, Luso-Brazilian, and other related literatures and cultures at all levels of education.

"Attaining a medal or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examinations is very prestigious," said National Director of Exams Kevin Cessna-Buscemi. "The exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with more than 140,000 students participating this year."

Aguilar said she was very pleased with the students' performance this year.

"These medal winners are great examples of students from our middle school who consistently demonstrate dedication and discipline when it comes to learning a second language," Aguilar said. "I am proud of all of them, especially when you consider they took these exams in April when we were all locked down at home."

EXPERIENCED ATTORNEY, CPA JOINS BOARD'S FINANCE COMMITTEE

Notre Dame announced last fall that Aaron M. Silver had agreed to serve on the Board of Trustees finance committee, effective immediately.

According to school officials, Silver, who is the father of three current Notre Dame students and an alum, will be an invaluable resource to an already distinguished committee.



Aaron Silver

"Aaron comes to the board highly recommended," said Stephen V. Pangori, board chair. "His finance and legal acumen along with his dedication to Notre Dame will serve as real assets for our school community and I look forward to his help as we navigate through both exciting and challenging times. We welcome Aaron's expertise and willingness to serve our Catholic, Marist mission."

SENIOR SCORES PERFECT 36 ON ACT

The average ACT composite score nationally is 20.8 and for Michigan, it's 24.4. A perfect ACT score of 36 is rare in the state as well as in the U.S. — fewer than one-half of 1 percent who take the test achieve a 36.

For Notre Dame Prep senior Patrick Mullen, who says first and foremost, his high school has given him a strong foundation of faith and the opportunity to help people through Christian



Patrick Mullen

service, it took him a brief minute or so to realize he was among that less than one-half of 1 percent.

"I went online recently to see if the scores had come out, and when I saw five 36s across the screen, I thought the website was just explaining the highest possible scores for each section of the test and the composite," he said. "It took me a little more time and some extra scrolling to realize that they were actually my scores."

As a leading college admissions test, the ACT measures what students learn in high school to determine their academic readiness for college with tests covering four skill areas: English, math, reading and science reasoning. Each area is scored on its own scale of 1 to 36. A student's composite test score is the average of those parts.

"Your achievement on the ACT is significant and rare," said Janet Godwin, ACT interim chief executive officer, in a letter congratulating Mullen on the achievement. "While test scores are just one of the multiple criteria that most colleges consider when making admission decisions, your exceptional ACT composite score should prove helpful as you pursue your education and career goals."

SPANISH STUDENTS SCORE HIGH IN NATIONAL EXAM



Congratulations to the Notre Dame Prep students who in late 2020 attained national recognition for excellent performance on the 2020 National Spanish Examinations, which are sponsored by the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

A gold medal was awarded to Loretta Alonso (11); silver medals went to Therese Allard (11), Lars Boehme (12), Pedro Cabral (11), Amishi Mahajan (12), Patrick Mullen (12) and Nikhil Simon (12); and bronze medals were earned by Mia Daher (10), Santiago Plazas-Leguizamo (12), Eli Seitzinger (12) and Eli Thummel (12).

A total of 13 NDP students earned honorable mentions: Elena Schwegman (12), Kather-

ine Dooley (12), Maggie Miklas (12), Andrew Phillipart (12), David Nemmert (12), Nathan Vogel (12), Guadalupe Gaytan (12), Mya Fromwiller (12), Charlotte Milback (12), Elizabeth Scheer (12), Marisa Ricci (11), Theresa Fadool (11) and

Alexander Hein (11).

"Attaining a medal or honorable mention for any student on the National Spanish Examinations is very prestigious," said Kevin Cessna-Buscemi, national director of

the exams. "These exams are the largest of their kind in the United States with more than 140,000 students registered in 2020." «

PRAYERS

Notre Dame mourns the loss of our dear brothers and sisters and invites our community to join with us in prayer.

Jonathan Banaszek ND'02, brother of Jason ND'96 and Steve ND'97, Dec. 17, 2020

Frederick Baumgartner SF'49, Dec. 12, 2019

Jon Bozich ND '93, Dec. 27, 2020

Hugh Edward Cronin ND '77, brother of Stephen ND'75, Dec. 28, 2020

Doris (Heaphy) Drapek SF'43, June 20, 2020

Lawrence Francek ND'61, brother to Jim ND'59, Tom ND'61, Jerry ND'63, Dave ND'68, Dale ND'71, Ron ND'74 and Terry ND'76, Jan. 13, 2021

Michael A. Grajewski ND'69, Sept. 24, 2020

Eugene Gruca ND'60, brother of Paul ND'68, Nov. 30, 2020

Ted Hollenkamp ND'60, brother of Dan ND'68, June 14, 2020

Catherine Hoover SF'37, Sept. 1, 2020

Nancy (Johnston) Hunt SF'52, July 26, 2020

Charles Husereau SF'50, Nov. 24, 2020

David Jones SF'56

Walter Kempinski ND'69, Feb. 9, 2020

Leonard Lada SF'53, July 25, 2020

Louise (Landry) Lyons SF'60, Dec. 5, 2020

Sharon (Talbot) Maloney SF'58, Dec. 12, 2020

Gregory Maryanski ND'64, Oct. 21, 2020

Joseph Mazur ND'68, Dec. 2, 2020

Thomas P. McEvoy ND'59, brother of Tim ND'64 and Charles ND'62, Nov. 30, 2020

Esther (Doherty) McInnis SF'49, Oct. 22, 2020

Richard Paperd ND'59, Dec. 23, 2020

Mark Popp ND'72, Sept. 20, 2020

Joseph Przybycki ND'64, Nov. 17, 2020

Ron Rakovich ND'76, brother of Richard ND'64 and Robert ND'67, Nov. 3, 2020

Roger Rubis ND'62, Jan. 1, 2021

Mary Kay (Jenkinson) Scott SF'60, May 30, 2020

Philip J. Stevens ND'69, April 10, 2020

Lucille (Yapo) Thomas SF'52, July 26, 2020

Salvatore Urso ND'65, Nov. 25, 2020

Sal Ventimiglia ND'60, brother of Jack and Tony ND'74 and Joe ND'75, Sept. 22, 2020

Donald Younce SF'55, Jan. 27, 2021

Marvin Zmudczynski ND'64, Aug. 3, 2020

Patricia (McMahon) Zurbruggen SF'49, Aug. 16, 2020

Paul Zwicker SF'47, Jan. 21, 2021

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

If you would like our community to remember a loved one in prayer, please email prayers@ndpma.org.

FRIENDS OF NOTRE DAME

Jim Mandl ND'90, who managed the Friends of Notre Dame (FOND) organization for many years, turns over entire stock of NDHS artifacts to Notre Dame Prep.

Late last fall, representatives from Notre Dame Prep were more than happy to accept the invitation of alum Jim Mandl ND'90 to meet up at his home in Sterling Heights and pick up the Harper Woods Notre Dame memorabilia and artifacts he had graciously decided to entrust to the school.

Head of School Andrew J. Guest ND'84, Athletic Assistant Duane Holmes and Marketing Director Mike Kelly ND'73 picked up many boxes and bins of yearbooks, newsletters, videos, sports memorabilia and other Fighting Irish items that Mandl had been storing at his house since NDHS closed in 2005.

Guest said he was excited that Notre Dame Prep was able to provide a new home for the NDHS material.

"I want to thank Jim, first of all, for keeping the NDHS legacy and materials safe and sound for so many years," he said. "We also are indebted to him for his tireless advocacy

of our beloved school in Harper Woods. We're looking forward to sharing this history to any and all alums who are interested."

For Mandl, while it was a bit tough to see it all leave his home, he nonetheless felt it was time.

"It wasn't easy parting ways with all of the Notre Dame history that I've stored for more than 15 years," he said. "During my tenure running the Friends of Notre Dame Alumni Association, it had been very rewarding for my dad (Jim Mandl ND'66) and me to share items with fellow alumni over these years."

He said there was a lot of history in the collection and he wanted to make sure it found a good home.

"It was certainly bittersweet, but Notre Dame Prep has a good plan to honor and share the memories we all have of Notre Dame High School." «

BELOW

From left, Notre Dame Prep Athletic Assistant Duane Holmes, Jim Mandl ND'90 and Notre Dame Head of School Andrew J. Guest ND'84 show off a few of the many items that were turned over to Notre Dame Prep by Mandl.



ALUMNI NOTES

Notre Dame Prep: (NDP); Notre Dame High School: (ND); Pontiac Catholic: (PC); Oakland Catholic: (OC); St. Frederick: (SF); St. Michael: (SM)

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

Tom Alef ND'66 is retired and living in Florida with his wife Elizabeth, four adult children and nine grandchildren. He is an active member of the Kiwanis Club and the community and serves on the Appeals Committee of Eglin Federal Credit Union, a \$2 billion financial institution.

Gerry Desloover ND'65 has been married to his wife JoLaine for 53 years. The couple has 12 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. They live in Saginaw Township, Mich., and enjoy winters in Florida. Gerry retired from Rehmann Robson CPA in 2016.

Gary Duquette ND'62 serves as treasurer for "Strangers No Longer," a movement in Southeast Michigan that seeks to educate, advocate and support immigrants to the United States.

Bedford Jackson ND'95 is currently performing as an associate advisor for SVN The Equity Group. He specializes in office. He is also the proprietor of www.clubplugltd.com and brand creator of {SFH}. Jackson says he is "still in the hallways of Notre Dame Harper Woods, tucking my shirt in as Mr. Parent tells me to, while looking at the words of the day."

Doug Jardine ND'72 recently retired as professor emeritus in the Department of Plant Pathology at Kansas State University after a 35-year career with the university's Cooperative Extension Service.

Paul Jarosik ND'71 is employed as a corporate

casino executive/consultant in the Southwest.

Ken Karaczewski ND'76 lives in Florida with his wife Heidi. They have been married for 30 years. Karaczewski is employed as a security specialist and supervisor for Port Everglades Cruise Ships Holland American Cruise Line, Princess Cruise Line, Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, Celebrity Cruise Line and Carnival Cruise Line.

John Melnik ND'68 retired from AT&T in 2012 as director of quality. He enjoys spending time with his granddaughter, winemaking, gardening, and daily Kindle reading.

Paul Olinzock ND'78 says he remains hopeful that the challenges of 2020 have built our moral perseverance, increased our patience and created newfound respect for others.

Gary Mahoney ND'80 served four years as a military policeman in the U.S. Marines from 1982-1986. In May 1986 he was hired by the Las Vegas Metro Police Department, where he enjoyed a 27-year career in law enforcement. Mahoney retired in December 2012 as a patrol sergeant.

Keith Popis ND'76 and Doreen Popis are the proud parents of Matthew and Ashley and grandparents of Declan and Lillian.

Jim Strye ND'61 will celebrate his 50th wedding anniversary in August. He retired in 2018. He is the proud father of a son who works as an environmental scientist with a degree from University of Texas-San Antonio; and a daughter, who graduated from Texas A&M University. She is a colonel in the U.S. Army and serves as an instructor at the U.S. War College in

Carlisle, Penn.

NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCHOOL ALUMNI

Shannon Bartlett NDP'o8 works for Berlin, Patten and Ebling PLLC and moved to Sarasota, Fla., with her fiancé. They will get married in October 2021.

Sarah Bonema NDP'17 graduated from Hope College in the spring of 2020. She is pursuing a doctorate degree in molecular and cellular pharmacology working on improving the efficacy of paclitaxel chemotherapy for the treatment of breast cancer. During the pandemic, she developed a "Theology of the Body" study and currently leads the study for young adults at her new parish in Madison.

Max Chambliss NDP'o5 is married and has a one-year-old daughter.

Erik Egner NDP'13 is a platoon leader, providing crash rescue support for the U.S. Army's flight school. He employs his platoon and four UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters to support 24-hour uninterrupted, rapid-response aeromedical evacuation to the Army Aviation Center of Excellence and the entire Ft. Rucker installation's population of 15,700. Egner plans, prepares, executes and assesses training for his nationally registered critical care flight paramedics, warrant officer pilots, and crew chiefs. He was recently nominated by senior pilots to become a Pilot-in-Command.

Chase Glasser NDP'17 was named editor-in-chief of the University of Michigan's Journal of History, one of the nation's premier undergraduate publications.



STAY IN TOUCH



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IRISH E-NEWSLETTER

Receive news and information, emailed monthly. Update your email address at ndpma.org/update.

Nick Kiser NDP'14 is currently employed at Chicago Trading Company as a quantitative derivatives trader living in Chicago, Ill.

Alex Lindemann NDP'04 is married to his wife Amanda for 10 years. The couple has two boys Noah and Isaac and live in suburban Atlanta. Lindemann has been an airline pilot for 14 years, currently flying for United Airlines.

Scott Lockhart NDP'98 married Beth Campbell at St. Daniel Parish in Clarkston, Mich., in August 2020. They were joined at the ceremony by best man Matt Urbanski NDP'98, groomsmen Jeff Healy NDP'98 and Mike Juszczakiewicz NDP'98, and Lisa (Syrowik) Healy NDP'98.

Anita Mallya NDP'05 earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in neuroscience at Kenyon College. She went on to complete two graduate degrees prior to completing her medical degree at University of Toledo College of Medicine in 2016. She matched into Neurology Residency at Albany Medical Center, finishing as chief resident in 2020. She is currently a neurocritical care fellow physician at Emory University in Atlanta and considering a career in combined neurocritical care and epilepsy. She hopes to continue her passion for global health, an interest that stemmed from her years taking Spanish (with Sra. Anderson) and diving into the heavy science subjects during her time at Notre Dame. In her spare time, she enjoys baking, running, astronomy, and traveling the globe.

Tim Malter NDP '10 graduated in March 2020 from Life University with a chiropractic degree. He got married in June. He and his wife Lindsey are expecting their first baby in April 2021.

Megan (Okoniewski) Morrison NDP'06 and Chad Morrison welcomed their first child Connor Gregory on June 27, 2020.

Mark Paulauskas NDP'98 has been working in the trucking industry for the last 15 years. Recently, he purchased his first truck and will be starting his own company.

Nik Plonski NDP'18 is currently enrolled in classes at University of Michigan, and is interning as a venture associate at a venture capital firm based in Los Angeles, Calif.

Kennedy Quirk NDP'15 has been working as a research team through Arizona State University (ASU), studying mental health in China and the stigma behind it, and what can be done to improve the behavioral health conditions. Her findings will be presented to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and published in medical journals. She has been tapped to be the lead on a research team studying the same issues in India. She is also co-authoring a textbook about mental health in Asia. In her spare time, she serves as a grad assistant, helping to teach a psychology class at ASU.

Rob Sassack NDP'14 is currently working at Michigan State University as a junior analyst for the Executive Support team as of December 2020.

Nicholas Trentacost NDP'06 and wife Kaitlin NDP'07 welcomed their son Remy Patrick Trentacost on July 30, 2020.

PONTIAC CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

Fr. Randy Payne PC'85 says he misses everyone from Pontiac Catholic from 1982-87 and would love to keep in touch.

NOTRE DAME ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bobbie Hall NDP'00, Vice Chair

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Dean Aldo PC'76

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Liz Casselman NDP'09

Brian Dooley ND'85

Lisa Healy NDP'98

Mike Kastler ND'75

Patty Dean Phillips SF'52

Meredith (Gifford) Scott NDP'02

Amy Tkac NDP'02

BOARD MEETING DATES

April 13, 2021

May 11, 2021

August 10, 2021

September 14, 2021

October 12, 2021

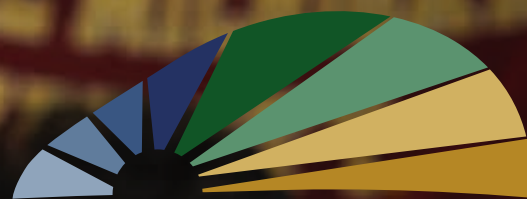
REUNIONS

INTERESTED IN PLANNING A CLASS REUNION?

Contact Beth Lockhart, Director of Alumni and Donor Relations, at alumni@ndpma.org or 248-630-7722.

EVENTS

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Notre Dame Alumni Association will host events online only. For more information on upcoming virtual events, visit www.ndpma.org/alumni.



Everyday Moments Come True

Many alumni, parents and friends are already supporting the next generation of students by including Notre Dame in their estate plans.

BEQUESTS THROUGH A WILL OR TRUST

One of the easiest ways to create a legacy with Notre Dame is through a bequest in your will or trust. You can leave a specific amount, percentage, or the residue of your estate.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

Naming our school the beneficiary of a retirement account, insurance policy, or bank or brokerage account only takes a few moments and allows flexibility if your plans change in the future.

For more information about how you can support the next generation of students, please visit

www.ndpma.org/planalegacy

A class act

October 3, 2020, was a big day for Notre Dame High School as its Class of 1960 celebrated their 60-year reunion at the Milford, Mich., home of Eddie Kay and his wife, Nancy, the event's gracious and generous hosts.

According to Kay, who was instrumental in organizing the event and getting 38 people, including 21 alumni from the Class of 1960, safely together in the middle of a pandemic, all the participants were very enthusiastic and upbeat.

"There were so many interesting conversations on what people had done in their lives," he said. "A truly exciting experience with old, old friends!"

Classmate Gary Wilson ND'60, who put together a website dedicated to the Class of 1960 (notredamehw1960.org), also was on hand at the reunion. He recounts the event below.

NOTES FROM THE CLASS OF 1960 60-YEAR REUNION

By Gary Wilson ND'60

A big Class of 1960 "thank you" goes to Eddie ND'60 and Nancy Kay for hosting our 60-year reunion! Their beautiful home was the perfect site for our reunion, given all of the concerns of COVID-19. Each attendee was tested for a fever upon arrival, with hand sanitizers placed throughout the house, and face masks (green and white and showing the ND logo and Class of 1960) were passed out to everyone.

In total, 38 people were in attendance, which included 21 NDHS classmates. Also in attendance was Beth Lockhart, the Director of Alumni Relations for Notre Dame Prep and Marist Academy. Beth was a tremendous help to Eddie, Nancy and the 60-year reunion organizers, including George Garascia, John Kessler, Dennis Lang, Jerry Rumph, Roy Slongo and myself. It was an extremely well-organized event.

Our time together spanned from 1 p.m. to last call at around 8:30 p.m. It was a wonderful opportunity to reminisce, share stories of past years and re-establish old friendships. A few points of interest:

A professionally made reunion booklet including classmates' names, addresses, biographical information and photographs was given to each classmate. A well-done keepsake. (Thanks to Beth for putting it together.)

Beth also led us in a thoughtful prayer before our meal. In

addition, she provided a few examples of how Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods had been blended with Notre Dame Prep and Marist Academy in Pontiac. She referenced a number of NDHS graduates who are on staff at NDPMA, including three Marist priests. Specifically, Beth highlighted the following fellow NDHS alumni:

Andy Guest ND'84 (Head of School), Tony Block ND'80 (Chief Financial Officer), Mike Kelly ND'73 (Director of Marketing and Tom Kelly's son), Fr. Joe Hindelang ND'68 (High School Principal), Fr. Leon Olszamowski ND'65 (Corporate President), Fr. Jim Strasz ND'70 (Campus Ministry), Gregory Simon ND'89 (Dean of Admissions) and Mark McGreevy ND'76 (Notre Dame Middle School Religion Teacher).



Beth also talked about several artifacts from NDHS that are on display at NDPMA, including the Stations of the Cross, now in the school chapel, and other statues placed around the NDPMA campus. It was good to hear that the newer "Fighting Irish" school is keeping the original "Fighting Irish" school's spirit alive and well. A donation to NDPMA is encouraged in appreciation.

Each classmate and spouse were given name tags. Fortunately, the lettering was large (ha!) and they also included our graduation photos. It was fun to see what we

RIGHT

The hosts for the Class of 1960 reunion: Nancy and Eddie Kay.



looked like back in the day. Thoughtfully, name tags for the six spouses who graduated from Regina High School also were prepared, which was a nice piece of recognition.

Two poster boards also were on display showing the photographs of our deceased classmates. The display provided an opportunity to recall our time together with them in school. Classmate Roy Slongo also offered a prayer granting them peace and eternal rest.

A few of Eddie's classmates then presented him with a framed certificate of appreciation and roses were also presented to Nancy for her assistance and support of the reunion.

Our thanks again to Eddie and Nancy Kay for their hard work in organizing and hosting our reunion. Thinking back,



FAR LEFT

Deceased classmates were honored at the reunion.

LEFT

Among the reunion attendees: George Garascia, Dennis Lang, Roy Slongo, Jerry Rumph, Eddie Kay and Gary Wilson.

BELOW

At the reunion: front row, George Runstadler, Vito Marchese, Rich Caloia, Joe Trompeter, Paul Kuntzler, Eddie Kay, Jim Mazrum, Ron Steffens (not pictured: Mike Lueck). Back row, Mike Jeakle, Terry Sullivan, Fred Schultz, Richard Dau, George Garascia, Jerry Rumph, Dennis Lang, Mike Marlow, Frank Jaminet, Gary Wilson, Joe Lupo and Roy Slongo.

Eddie has hosted our 50-year reunion in 2010, a class picnic in 2011, a reunion in Florida in 2017 and now our 60th in 2020. We all should be thankful for his leadership and efforts to keeping the spirit of Notre Dame's Class of 1960 alive and well. Hopefully, the many photographs on our website (notredamehw1960.org) will help capture our meaningful time together.

Let's hope that this was not our last time together. Several ideas have been discussed that might allow us to meet in an alternative way. Details will be shared when they become available. In the meantime, stay well, stay safe, keep in touch, maintain the spirit of Notre Dame High School and God bless all of you!

Go Irish! «





NOTRE DAME

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