



ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
of Maryland



SPRING 2016

**GIVING
BACK**

*Connecting
through the Arts*

**“I GOT
YOUR SIX”**

*Internships Shift
into High Gear*

ST. MARY'S COLLEGE
of Maryland



The
MULBERRY
TREE

SPRING 2016, VOL. XXXVII, NO. 2

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Editor

Lee Capristo

Alumni Editor

Kathy Cummings

Design

Skelton Design

Photographer

Bill Wood

Editorial Board

Karen Anderson, Lee Capristo,
Kathy Cummings, Carolyn Curry, Missy
Beck Lemke '92, Nairem Moran '99,
Karen Raley '94, Grace Davis '15

Publisher

Office of Institutional Advancement
St. Mary's College of Maryland
47645 College Drive
St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686

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Photo by Bill Wood

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Photo from the College collection

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ASPIRING TO LIVE BY THE ST. MARY'S WAY

AS THE SPRING SEMESTER RACES TO ITS FINISH, WE ARE PROVIDED with occasions to recognize our students' achievements through Awards Convocation, Phi Beta Kappa inductions, St. Mary's Project days, and Commencement. These are joyful days – days that inspire confidence in the public liberal arts mission of St. Mary's College.

We've had some tough, challenging days on our way to these pleasant ones – days where we did not, as a community, live by the St. Mary's Way. Some campus unrest is reflective of the national climate in this election year, but incidents of racial discrimination and acts of arson on our campus are not

something to be proud of. We came together in a Day to Pause, on April 6, to recommit to the St. Mary's Way and to one another as a community worth the effort.

Growth is incremental, whether as a student scholar, a professor or a College administrator. Let us acknowledge brave steps in our students' "Speaking of Race" performances last fall and their publication this winter. Let us also acknowledge those faculty, students, and staff working on the issues of inclusion, diversity and equity. And finally, let us recognize our entire community, including alumni, who are providing final input to our strategic plan, which will be presented to the Board of Trustees this spring.

We held a tribute to the legacy of Lucille Clifton on March 1, bridging Black History Month to Women's History Month. During that very special evening, arranged by Lucille's longtime friend and professor emeritus poet Michael Glaser, we all were reminded, through her poems, of the type of community she wanted and worked for at St. Mary's College. Let us continue the work that she started: to aspire to live by the St. Mary's Way, to urge correction when we get off course, and to celebrate success along the way.

I've had the privilege to meet alumni from near and far during this past academic year – from Prince George's County, Md. to Boston, New York, and San Francisco – and their pride in this institution is unflagging. It proves, without a doubt, that this is a community worth our effort. And, it is as a community that I have no doubt that we – students, faculty, staff, and alumni – will be able to "sail through this to that" to take the College from here to there.



TUAJUANDA C. JORDAN, *President, St. Mary's College of Maryland*

Let us continue the work that [Lucille Clifton] started: to aspire to live by the St. Mary's Way, to urge correction when we get off course, and to celebrate success along the way.

Editor's Note

THERE'S A COUNTRY SONG BY Tim McGraw that's getting a lot of air play these days, and a line from it makes me think of St. Mary's alums, who come back to their alma mater in big numbers to give of their time and talent after they've gone on to make their careers. The song says, "When you get where you're goin', don't forget, turn back around, and help the next one in line, always stay humble and kind."

It's a great thing about this college, the generosity that alums have for their alma mater and their willingness to share their life experiences to mentor current students. It's like how the St. Mary's Way (page 7) describes the College as a community "where people contribute to a spirit of caring and an ethic of service" and where its members contribute to its future.

As you'll discover in "I Got Your Six" on page 14, mentoring can be life-changing. The student interns chosen for the Beltway Companies' internship are assigned a mentor from the company who brings them along until they are able to contribute with confidence to the overall company goals. The mentors themselves take pride in their work: they are building, day by day, intern by intern, the company's future workforce.

So it is with the faculty who mentor the students at St. Mary's: class by class, semester by semester, project by project, year by year, they lay the sticks in the nest, teach their "birds" to fly, then nudge them out of the nest into their post-graduate lives. Gone but not forgotten; students reconnect in a request for a grad school recommendation letter, and share what they're doing and learning. They remark on what they miss, what they're trying to move toward. The faculty member's role may change, from teacher to colleague, but always there is a connection.

Not all small colleges have this; my own alma mater does not draw me back like St. Mary's draws back its own. It's remarkable and wonderful.

LEE CAPRISTO, *editor*

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY NEWS



PING NABS CATHEDRAL GIG

Under the direction of Larry Vote, professor of music, the PING vocal ensemble performed at the National Cathedral in Washington, DC, on March 6, 2016.

SMCM Secures MIPS Grant

St. Mary's College has been awarded a \$97,361 grant, jointly funded by the Maryland Industrial Partnerships (MIPS) program and vCalc LLC. The grant will fund student research and development of high-value, college-level math formulas and data for vCalc.com, a Wiki-based crowd-sourced calculating encyclopedia with over

7,000 calculators and users in over 100 countries. Chief Executive Officer Kurt Heckman and Chief Financial Officer **Dave Reumont '75** of vCalc joined President Tuajuanda C. Jordan on February 23, 2016, to kick off the project, which commences this summer with eight undergraduate students.

Biochemistry Receives Accreditation

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at St. Mary's College of Maryland announced that its biochemistry program has received accreditation from the American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology through 2023. Current students enrolled in the program can participate in the 2016 ASBMB certification exam this April. St. Mary's College is the first public institution in Maryland to receive this prestigious accreditation, and one of about fifty schools in the country holding the designation.

"We are really excited and proud to have earned this accreditation," said Pamela S. Mertz, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry. "Our chemistry program has been accredited by the American Chemical Society since 2003. This new accreditation makes it clear that both St. Mary's chemistry and biochemistry programs fulfill or exceed national standards."



St. Mary's College No. 2 in Maryland

St. Mary's College of Maryland has ranked among the top 100 public colleges and universities in the country – and second out of 12 Maryland

institutions – according to a new statistical analysis by The Business Journals, where the relative quality of 477 public colleges and universities across the country were analyzed in six areas: selectivity, prestige, advancement, cost, diversity and community using data from the National Center for Education Statistics and the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey.

Flyr Published in the Sun

Matthew Flyr '16 (economics) wrote an OpEd published in the **Baltimore Sun** on **February 25, 2016**, in which he weighed the comparative advantage and opportunity cost of the presidential ambition of Dr. Ben Carson, the neurosurgeon who, 21 years ago, saved his life. Flyr's piece was the output of a two-credit independent study with Professor Asif Dowla.



Left to right: Josh Grossman, Dave Reumont '75, Richard Platt, Shizuka Nishikawa, Emek Köse, President Jordan, Kurt Heckman, and Randolph Larsen

“This past year, we have celebrated the past while we forged the future.... What a difference a year makes. I look forward to the ascent.”

— PRESIDENT JORDAN, FROM THE 2016 STATE OF THE COLLEGE ADDRESS



Students of Eco-House

Top Row, L to R: Matthew Jeffers '17, Michael Connaughton '17, Luke Barber '17, Barry Muchnick (faculty adviser); Front Row, L to R: Elizabeth Kontos '18, Caroline Spath '17, Sarah Fellerman '18, Allison Graf '17, Lauren O'Connell '17.

Two New LLCs Offered this Fall

The African/African Diaspora House and the Eco-House will be two new Living Learning Centers this fall. LLCs are an opportunity to immerse students in a particular field of study advised by faculty members to create a seamless learning environment between in-class and out-of-class experiences. “The College’s Women in Science House has been around for years, and we are excited to add these two new options to enrich our campus life. Their topics are very timely,” said Joanne Goldwater, associate dean of students and director of residence life.

PRESIDENT'S NEWS

The 12th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Prayer Breakfast held on January 18, 2016, was emceed by President Jordan. She welcomed keynote speaker Maj. Gen. Linda Singh (29th Adjutant General of Maryland) and the Honorable Steny Hoyer as well as returning performers from Spring Ridge Middle School and First Missionary Baptist Church.

On January 27, 2016, President Jordan showcased the range of talents at St. Mary’s College to the Maryland legislators in attendance at the **Legislative Reception in Annapolis** (below).



President Jordan with Governor and Board Chair Gail Harmon at St. Mary’s.

Governor Hogan also met with political science students and **Todd Eberly** (associate professor of political science) and discussed Maryland politics.



President Jordan poses with Lucille Clifton’s daughters Alexia (l) and Gillian (r).

event, President Jordan announced the establishment of the Lucille Clifton Award, to honor a staff, administrator or faculty member whose interactions with students have both modeled and encouraged the qualities that Lucille Clifton lived in her teaching and in her poetry. The first awardee will be identified in 2017.

Purdue University has named President Jordan one of its Distinguished Women Scholars for 2015-2016. The award recognizes alumnae who earned a Purdue doctorate and have made significant scholarly contributions to their academic communities. The award ceremony was held at Purdue on March 3, 2016.

Nearly 40 alumni and prospective students and families turned out for a reception hosted by President Jordan and members of the Alumni Relations team at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco on March 19, 2016.



Left to right: Mia Bullock '14, MAT'15, a first-year teacher; Carrie Patterson (prof. of art) with Sophie Caradine-Taber '17 for the Tony House Project; and Dario Durastanti '16 with Troy Townsend '07 (visiting asst. prof. of chemistry) for spray-on solar cell technology.

President Jordan delivered her State of the College address on January 28, 2016. Its theme was “What a Difference a Year Makes” and a transcript is available at www.smcm.edu/president.

Governor Hogan and his family toured St. Mary’s College on February 27, 2016, and were hosted by President Jordan at a research presentation by anthropology and museum studies students of **Julie King** (professor of anthropology) on Piscataway Indian history and culture.

of both speeches are available at www.smcm.edu/president.

President Jordan joined with the VOICES Reading Series on March 1, 2016, to present “Creating the Compassionate Community: An Evening to Honor the Legacy of Lucille Clifton.” This inaugural event featured readings of Lucille Clifton poems by College and community friends of the former Distinguished Professor of the Humanities, National Book Award winner for poetry, and Poet Laureate of Maryland. At the

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS

Sandy Ganzell, professor of mathematics and **Casey Douglas**, associate professor of mathematics, have been awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation valued at \$283,864. The grant will support a research program for undergraduate students, to be held three summers over a five-year period at St. Mary's College. The seven-week program is a designated NSF Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) Site and will commence summer 2016. The grant builds upon an 11-year success record of Emerging Scholars Programs at St. Mary's College, helping underrepresented students prepare for majoring in mathematics, for graduate school and for careers in STEM fields.



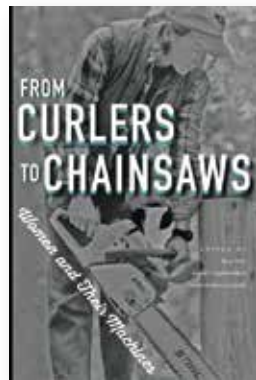
Jeffrey Hammond, professor of English and George B. and Willma Reeves Distinguished Professor in the Liberal Arts,

published "Confronting Death: The Early American Elegy" in "The Cambridge History of American Poetry" (Cambridge Univ. Press) and "Michael Wigglesworth" in "American Poets and Poetry: From the Colonial Era to the Present" (Greenwood Publishing Group) in 2015. He also published the creative nonfiction essay, "Eight-per-Five" in "Under the Sun" (underthesunonline.com, issue 3).



Katharina von Kellenbach, professor of religious studies, has been awarded a grant to fund a network of scholars over the next three years. This news follows a talk von Kellenbach was invited to give at the German film premiere of "Regina: The Story of the World's First Woman Rabbi, Regina Jonas" in Berlin in November 2015.

Jerry Gabriel, visiting assistant professor of English and director of the Chesapeake Writers' Conference each summer at St. Mary's, was selected from among 1,763 eligible applicants to receive the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) creative writing fellowship. His most recent work of fiction is "The Let Go" (Queen's Ferry Press, 2015).



In her new collection of essays, "From Curlers to Chainsaws: Women and Their Machines" (Michigan State University Press, 2016), Professor of English **Jennifer Cognard-Black** and her 23 contributors explore the many roles machines play in women's lives.

Leonard Cruz, assistant professor of theater, movement, and dance, performed his original work "Falling Man" at the Judson Church Theater in New York City on March 14, 2016.



Lew Jenkins, varsity baseball coach, will hang up his hat at the end of this season. Jenkins is now in his 22nd year as the team's head coach, with over 700 games under his belt. He started as an assistant with the Seahawk baseball program in 1994 before taking over the reins at the start of the 1995 season.

The all-time winningest coach in the 45-year history of the program, Jenkins' 300-plus career wins include four 20-win seasons. The Seahawks also set team records for most wins (26) and best winning percentage (.788). St. Mary's earned a berth in the Capital Athletic Conference playoffs in all but one season under Jenkins.

Karen Leona Anderson, associate professor of English, has published "Receipt: Poems" (Milkweed Editions, 2016) which was featured on Food52's "Weekend Reads" and earned praise in a review in Literary Mama magazine.

Sue Johnson, professor of art, was a participating artist in the exhibition "Consumption: Food as Paradox" at Galerie Myrtis in Baltimore. Urban farmer **Emma Reisinger '13** was a panelist in a related panel discussion, "Are You Gunna Eat That?" on March 20, 2016. From April 5 - July 4, Johnson's "Banqueting Table" - a part of her "American Dreamscape" project - is on display in Glyndor House at Wave Hill public garden and cultural center in the Bronx, NY.

Sue Johnson, Mac & Cheese T.V. Dinner with Venison, 2007, slip-cast vitreous china, 6.5 x 6.5 x 2.5 inches. Created in the Arts/Industry program of the John Michael Kohler Art Center.



This issue of The Mulberry Tree is dedicated to the St. Mary's Way and how it serves as a touchpoint for current students, faculty and staff as well as a reminder for alumni of what makes St. Mary's College a special place. Ask a current student what they love about the place and they'll say things like "people really care about each other" and "the campus is so beautiful and we want to keep it that way." For an alum, the relationships forged with faculty that have continued well after graduation are as memorable as those famous sunsets on the St. Mary's River. Family and community keep the welcome light aglow.



THE ST. MARY'S WAY

St. Mary's College of Maryland lies in a setting of natural beauty and historic meaning which enhances our ability to reflect on our lives in an increasingly complex, technological, and interdependent world. As a member of St. Mary's College of Maryland, I accept the St. Mary's Way and agree to join in working with others to develop this College as a community...

...where people respect the natural environment and the tradition of tolerance which is the heritage of this place.

...where people cultivate a life-long quest for disciplined learning and creativity.

...where people take individual responsibility for their work and actions.

...where people foster relationships based upon mutual respect, honesty, integrity, and trust.

...where people are engaged in an ongoing dialogue that values differences and the unique contributions of others' talents, backgrounds, customs, and world views.

...where people are committed to examining and shaping the functional, ethical values of our changing world.

...where people contribute to a spirit of caring and an ethic of service.

By choosing to join this community, I accept the responsibility of helping to build on its past heritage, of living its ideals, and contributing to its future.



GIVING BACK

CONNECTING THROUGH THE ARTS





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By LEE CAPRISTO, EDITOR

EVERY COLLEGE HAS ALUMS, BUT NOT EVERY COLLEGE has alums as rabidly devoted to their alma mater as St. Mary's. They graduate, go off to build careers, lives, families, and when they want a touchpoint, they find it (and repay it) at St. Mary's. Such has been the case for Lorraine Robinson '92, Jolene Schafer '01, Matt Hollis '03, Joe Hall '04, and Cheryl Quimba '05, all who've made careers in the arts with help from St. Mary's. In return, they've given of their time and talents to help the next generation of SMCM alumni do the same.

JOLENE SCHAFER '01 *(art)*

Shortly after graduating, Jolene Schafer was selected for a year-long internship with the Das Puppenspiel Puppet Theater during which time she was trained in westernized bunraku puppetry and performed in dozens of shows including Puppenspiel's award-winning original production, "Pictures at an Exhibition." She did graduate work at the New York Studio School, and the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, where she studied costume design, mask construction and comic art. In 2012, Schafer started PlatyMorph, a handmade leather mask art company, which she continues to run today.

Q: To what do you attribute the "family" connectivity at St. Mary's? Why does it persist?

A: SMCM is uniquely special. The campus is far enough away from the noise of town that there is more of a focus to stay on campus and connect with people who are there for the same purpose. As such, interconnection with fellow students and professors is inevitable. Fellow students are contemporaries in the process of creative and academic development. Professors are mentors, demonstrating and sharing their processes as active scholars, role models for what students can aspire to become later on in their own careers. Life at St. Mary's allows for rampant free-ranging between academic specialties. Students become more aware of whom they are by joining together. Within my graduating class and beyond there was a unity within St. Mary's that I have not felt elsewhere.

When it was time to graduate it felt like leaving home. I didn't feel like I was done yet, but it was time to begin a different stage of my journey. As St. Mary's is a true home to my spirit in so many ways, I feel that it is a part of me that I continue to carry, and it was a very large influence on who I have become as an adult. The chance to come back, as it must be to other returning alums, seems like a way to extend my timeline of experience at St. Mary's a bit further. I am eager to bring what I have learned during my walkabout in the world back to the nest and share it with current students who will eventually emerge from their own collegiate cocoons and embark on their part of the cycle.

Q: At what points in your post-SMCM career have you been sparked by a former professor to take a chance or a risk that you might not otherwise have done? What was the risk/chance and how did it turn out? What did you learn from the experience?

A: Professors sparked me to take risks both while I was a student and after graduation that rippled outwards and positively affected my post-SMCM career. Barbara (Barby) Kahl, professor of scenography and world theater at St. Mary's from 1996-2001, asked me to carve

and paint a large foam Ganesha sculpture for a production of "Naga Mandala" in 2000. I would never have attempted making something like that without her invitation! Though I wasn't sure I could do it, I learned how to carve a large form and create a distressed stone effect with joint compound. The skills I learned from making Ganesha translated directly to building a nine-foot-tall Styrofoam self-portrait puppet I made as part of my senior art project. The creation of this puppet and my experiences in the theater department led to an internship with Das Puppenspiel Puppet Theater after graduation. In addition, Barby also introduced me to mask building and theatrical makeup techniques in her classes that I refer back to daily in my current mask making business.

Sue Johnson's "Scientific Illustration" class during my senior year enabled me to meet Stephen Godfrey, the curator of paleontology at Calvert Marine Museum, who was a guest speaker during the course. With Sue's encouragement, I met with Dr. Godfrey and applied for a summer internship illustrating fossil specimens at the museum, which led to my first full-time job with its Exhibits Department after I graduated.

As recently as 2015 when I wrote to Sue Johnson asking for advice on how to apply to art residencies, she proposed that I participate in the Artist House program. The prospect of the residency made me aware of the skills I wanted to develop in order to be ready for its challenges. Returning to St. Mary's as an artist among art students is a chance to create new work in a familiar environment, an opportunity to experiment, to risk failure and success, and to simply see what happens.

Q. What kind of push or approval/validation did you need to pursue mask making as a career?

A: Due to various shifting life events and geographical re-locations I found that my career path had spun in a widening arc away from art-related work. I had jobs in several marketing departments doing basic graphic design, at a roadside animal park caring for North American wildlife species, at a blood donation center as a phlebotomy technician, and



“My professional life has been a tapestry with crooked seams, unsightly bulges and inside out sleeves. I am honestly waiting to feel like I have even achieved a professional life!”

—JOLENE SCHAFER

finally as a financial technician processing travel vouchers for the military. It was at this point that I felt very drone-like, where none of my skills and experiences were special, acknowledged or valued. In a way, the decision to make mask making a career was granted by Fate. After one year as a contractor, the Finance Center downsized and I was laid off with over 80 other people in 2011. I thought about how to go back to school, tried to find another job, and in the meanwhile started drawing a bunch of mask patterns.

While experimenting with a scrap piece of leather that was bought for a costume proj-

ect, I made my very first leather mask. I put this mask along with several other papier mache pieces for sale at a friend’s art co-op. After several weeks I sold one mask and the customer wanted me to make her a custom one. The motivation to experiment further and learn the skills to make more sophisticated masks launched from there. With seven leather masks and no online sales experience, I opened PlatyMorph, my Etsy shop with a flying platypus mascot, in March of 2012.

My professional life has been a tapestry with crooked seams, unsightly bulges and inside out sleeves. I am honestly waiting to

feel like I have even achieved a professional life! Some of my many jobs have helped more than others, but all have contributed to bringing PlatyMorph into existence. Of course my internship at Das Puppenspiel showed me, at the very beginning of my post-SMCM experience, how magical and transportive the vehicles of puppetry and mask performances can be. It is so appropriate that at this stage I find myself back at St. Mary’s again, the place of many winding brick paths. It is time to touch down and launch once more, creative course corrections accepted.

Jolene Schaffer '01 (below) preparing a mask for the application of whiskers while artist-in-residence at St. Mary's College of Maryland. At left, students in Schaffer's workshop.

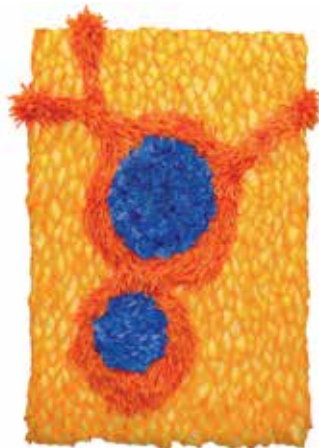




PHOTO COURTESY MATT HOLLIS

MATT HOLLIS '03 (*Art*)

Living and working out of his “fantastic jungle of a studio” in the historic 52 O Street Artist Studios in Washington, D.C., Matt Hollis creates nature-inspired, abstract art that plays with notions of the power that the natural world holds over the human psyche. He has exhibited works ranging from wall hangings to large-scale installations in numerous galleries throughout the D.C. area. In 2015, Hollis was one of three artists chosen to travel to France for an artistic research trip made possible by the D.C. Commission of Arts & Humanities. This year, DCCAH awarded him an artist fellowship.



*Art by Matt Hollis:
drop circles, 2015, 4' x 5',
faux flowers & fabric on canvas.*

Hollis says:

“When Sue Johnson invited me for a five-week residency at the Artist House this past winter, it was a great honor and it marked a new phase in my artistic career. I had recently quit my day job and was pursuing new opportunities and this invitation was the validation I needed to prove that I was moving in the right direction.

“The St. Mary’s Project in the final year of the studio art major was like an intense boot camp that toughened us up and gave us the skills to navigate the daunting world of art.”

JOE HALL '04 (*English*)

Valedictorian of the Class of 2004, Joe Hall is a teacher, poet, and critic. He is the author of “The Devotional Poems” and “Pigafetta Is My Wife” (Black Ocean, 2013 & 2010). With Cheryl Quimba, he co-authored “May I Softly Walk” (Poetry Crush, 2014). Hall recently published his first academic article on water-waste in Palestinian literature. He teaches at SUNY Fredonia while working to complete his PhD. He and spouse Cheryl Quimba live in Buffalo, New York.

Hall says:

“Members of the faculty are a big part of what makes St. Mary’s a place of lifelong learning and exchange. They take the time to keep track of what students and alum are up to, envision and organize events, and just show up. Even before I had finished my master’s degree, Jennifer Cognard-Black invited me back to campus to work with her Intermediate Fiction courses and she and Karen Leona Anderson plugged me into the VOICES Reading Series after each



*Poets Joe Hall '04 and Cheryl Quimba '05
have found publishing success beyond SMCM.*

“After working some odd jobs after graduating, I decided to carve out more time for writing, even at the expense of pursuing a better defined career.”

—JOE HALL

of my book publications. I remember being delighted when Jeff Coleman showed up to a dinner at the Alumni Lodge last year. He’s got kids and a long commute – but there he was!

“After working some odd jobs after graduating, I decided to carve out more time for writing, even at the expense of pursuing a better defined career. I remember Jennifer Cognard-Black returning drafts of my stories dripping in ink. This was both terrifying but, also, validating in the scope of her warmth and rigor. Looking back, I realize that if they hadn’t taken me seriously outside of the classroom, I wouldn’t have taken myself seriously enough to take the plunge into the writing world. Every time I get an email from JCB about a writing contest or award, I learn how to be a lifelong teacher and mentor to my own students. It’s something to be thankful for.”

CHERYL QUIMBA '05 (*English*)

Cheryl Quimba followed St. Mary’s with an MFA in creative writing with a concentration in poetry at Purdue University. She now lives and works in Buffalo, New York, as a publicist. Her first book of poetry, “Nobody Dancing,” was published in December 2015 (Publishing Genius Press). She is married to Joe Hall '04.

Quimba says:

“During my time as a student and in the years since, I’ve felt that the faculty with whom I was close have been genuinely enthusiastic about the work I was doing, and were actively interested in supporting that work when they could. Just a few examples -- they’ve invited me to contribute to anthologies they edited (Jennifer Cognard-Black, for “Books That Cook”), they’ve asked me to take part in alumni literary readings (Cognard-Black, again), they’ve written blurbs for me, letters of recommendation, and offered thoughtful feedback on my writing (Kaia Sand), and

they’ve imparted stories and wisdom that I still think about to this day (Lucille Clifton). I think these types of relationships can be attributed, at least in part, to a college environment that fostered real mentorship, so these faculty members and I were able to relate to each other and learn from each other even outside of the classroom.”

LORRAINE ROBINSON '92 (*Psychology*)

Lorraine Robinson is senior director of programs at the Sitar Arts Center in Washington, D.C. She holds a master’s degree in theater, film and media from Brown University and ran her own non-profit theater company, MuseFire Productions, for seven years. She has been guest director and visiting faculty for St. Mary’s College’s theater department. Each year, she recruits St. Mary’s theater students to help with Camp Sitar’s summer musical program, which she directs.

Robinson says:

“Artistically, taking experimental directing with Joanne Klein was all about exploration and risk and that exploration is what woke me up to plethora of stylistic choices that theatrical directors have at their disposal to play with. That type of artistic investigation fuels me to this day and is definitely what made me want to continue in the field beyond college. I hope I can continue to reach back to St. Mary’s and help other students do the same!” ❖



Lorraine Robinson as Glinda in the 2014 production of “The Wiz” at the Sitar Arts Center.

KAREN LEONA ANDERSON (associate professor of English):

“Being someone’s professor is a lifelong responsibility – but it’s also a lifelong pleasure.”

JENNIFER COGNARD-BLACK (professor of English):

“It’s particularly rewarding when a former student becomes both a colleague and a friend. At first, I maintained connections with Joe and Cheryl in the form of writing them letters of recommendation for graduate school and the like. But as they became academics and published writers in their own right, our relationship evolved into that of fellow writers and teachers. I respect them not only as teachers and writers but as human beings. They epitomize the best of St. Mary’s.”

SUE JOHNSON (professor of art):

“One of the core missions of the Artist House Residency program is to bring emerging and established artists and scholars to the College, and within that mission we bring back successful alumni of the College to share their experience while at the same time offering them time and space to create new work. They share their time and experience with our current students, who have the unique opportunity to see someone who used to be where they are as a student. It’s a powerful connection and an important support network.”

JOANNE KLEIN (professor of theater):

“Lorraine provided me with one of my all-time best classroom memories when, after the performance of her final project, an adaptation of “The Lottery,” performed in the style of Dada, she handed me her written component, chopped up in small Dada-esque pieces in a baggie. It was classic Lorraine hilarity, followed instantly by classic Lorraine conscientiousness, when she also presented me an intact version of the paperwork.”

“I got



Tygee Shakir '15 (left) and Dante Chestnut '13 (right) strike a pose with Michelle DiMenna '15 in front of a Beltway Companies' "big rig." All three were chosen for internships with the company; Shakir and Chestnut went on to become full-time employees at its Idealease facility in Baltimore. DiMenna now works at St. Mary's College.

your six.”

BY LEE CAPRISTO, EDITOR

INTERNSHIPS SHIFT INTO HIGH GEAR

In today's competitive marketplace, undergraduates feel pressured to gain real-world working experience relevant to their degree long before they have their diploma in hand. Internships provide the opportunity to work in a research, corporate, or other professional environment for a short time, and to be mentored by an expert in that field. Eager students fill their LinkedIn profiles with these experiences, hoping that they lead to a connection for a full-time, paying job after graduation. Here are some of their success stories.

The Alum with the Vision

Jack Saum '89 took over from his dad in 2009 as president and CEO of Beltway Companies. In 2012, he expanded with an Idealease truck rental facility and two auto parts retail stores followed by a used truck center in 2014. Today, Beltway Companies has business in 10 locations across Maryland. By any measure, this is big growth in a competitive market. Saum's employees know their market and pride themselves in listening to their customers. He says that success was a natural outcome of solidifying his leadership team. "When I took over," he says, "I thought a good catalyst would be to redefine our corporate culture." What emerged through the process was "confidence in our brand, our promise, our technology." He says his leadership team works well together toward common goals. They measure success by the enterprise, avoiding silo thinking. "I got your six" (meaning "I got your back") is part of the company culture.

He speaks of an event in 2012 as a defining moment. "I was sitting at my desk and noticed there were 10 different charitable golf tournament flyers in front of me. It made me think about how I might contribute. What would be the best way to express our corporate core values while giving back to the community and being involved in that community?"

What resulted was the Beltway Companies internship and scholarship experience, established through an endowed gift to St. Mary's College Foundation and supported each year by a Beltway Companies annual golf tournament. The internship and scholarship provide a St. Mary's student from Baltimore the opportunity to continue their college education and ultimately be a positive influence



LEFT: *All in the Family*: Sam Eitel, Beltway Companies rental manager and mentor; Jack Saum '89, Beltway Companies president and CEO; marketing intern Michelle DiMenna '15; former intern, now Beltway employee Tygee Shakir '15; former intern, now Beltway employee Dante Chestnut '13.

"If positive corporate culture is the key to success in any market how can the message of the internship not be the foundation of that success?"

JACK SAUM '89, PRESIDENT AND CEO, BELTWAY COMPANIES

on the place where they grew up. "St. Mary's was very influential in my life and in my wife's life (Jeanne Brady Saum '88). Beyond that, two of my wife's sisters are alums as well as my sister. When we combined our love of St. Mary's with our corporate core values, the investment made sense."

How does the investment pay off? To Saum, it's multi-faceted. "We challenge our interns to do strength and weakness analysis on various parts of our business as well as critique our digital marketing. Their unique and unbiased opinions help me and the directors think about our challenges and opportunities differently. At Beltway Companies, this program is a point of pride with the people who mentor our interns. If positive corporate culture is the key to success in any market how can the message of the internship not be the foundation of that success?"

The Interns



Dante Chestnut '13
(economics)
▪ intern 2012
▪ employed at Beltway Companies' Idealease facility in Baltimore since 2013

As an intern...

"I was shocked to learn the major role that commercial transportation plays in all our lives. Trucks haul all of the products we use and consume every day!"

As an employee, I use my liberal arts education to...
"Apply critical thinking skills to be efficient when managing a customer's transportation needs."



Tygee Shakir '15
(political science)
▪ intern 2013 and 2014
▪ employed at Beltway Companies' Idealease facility in Baltimore since 2015

As an intern...

"No two days were ever the same. One day might be invoicing, followed by visiting a customer with our own personal snow cone truck."

As an employee...

"I get the help and support I need to grow in a family-like environment."



Genia Gavin '17
(economics)
 ▪ intern 2015
 ▪ performed website SWOT analysis
 ▪ career goal: business marketing

What surprised me...

“For the first few weeks, I was very confused about the trucking business but with the help and support of the employees I met, this confusion turned into confidence.”

An aspect of a successful workforce is...

“Communication and how well a business can do this among both departments and locations.”



Michelle DiMenna '15 (political science, psychology)
 ▪ intern 2014
 ▪ performed market SWOT analysis
 ▪ employed since 2015 at St. Mary's College of

Maryland as research data analyst

Can the “St. Mary’s Way” be found in the workplace?

“Jack Saum lives out the St. Mary’s Way every day in the way he does business. From the way the company treats customers to the way it treats its employees, it is a company rooted in respect and mutually beneficial relationships.”

What surprised me...

“I was asked to debrief the company’s leadership team on my market SWOT analysis!”

“A workplace can also be a family.”



Stephanie Denzer (left) mentored Michelle DiMenna '15 (right) and Genia Gavin '17 in marketing and web.



Muluberhan “Mulu” Bahre '16 (psychology)
 ▪ intern 2015
 ▪ performed front-desk customer service and truck rental SWOT analysis
 ▪ career goal: work in

Africa through Doctors Without Borders

I learned...

“Interacting with customers helped me gain more confidence in my communications skills.”

What surprised me...

“I thought the work environment would be stressful, but working with people who are passionate about their job was really fun.”

The Mentors

Sam Eitel

- rental manager at Beltway Companies' Idea lease facility in Baltimore
- mentor to Dante, Tygee and Mulu

“When I knew I was going to be a mentor to the interns, I thought, ‘If I was in their shoes, what would I like to gain from the experience?’ I thought about all the daily activities and interactions: the most valuable to the intern is real-world experience.”

“It’s truly a blessing to get to know their families and the impact each of them has made in their respective communities.”

Stephanie Denzer

- marketing director at Beltway Companies' Used Truck Center in Dundalk
- mentor to Michelle and Genia

“We teach them, challenge them, and value their opinions like any other team member.”

“We start any internship with an overview of everything we are involved in so they can see how many opportunities there are in the

“I thought the work environment would be stressful, but working with people who are passionate about their job was really fun.”

MULUBERHAN "MULU" BAHRE '16

world of marketing. From there, we figure out what they seem to have the most interest in. In Genia’s case, she gravitated towards data. Having her on board last summer gave us the opportunity to collect research and data that we may have dreamed about but wouldn’t have been able to get to ourselves.”

“Fun fact: Genia visited all 10 Beltway locations during her internship!”

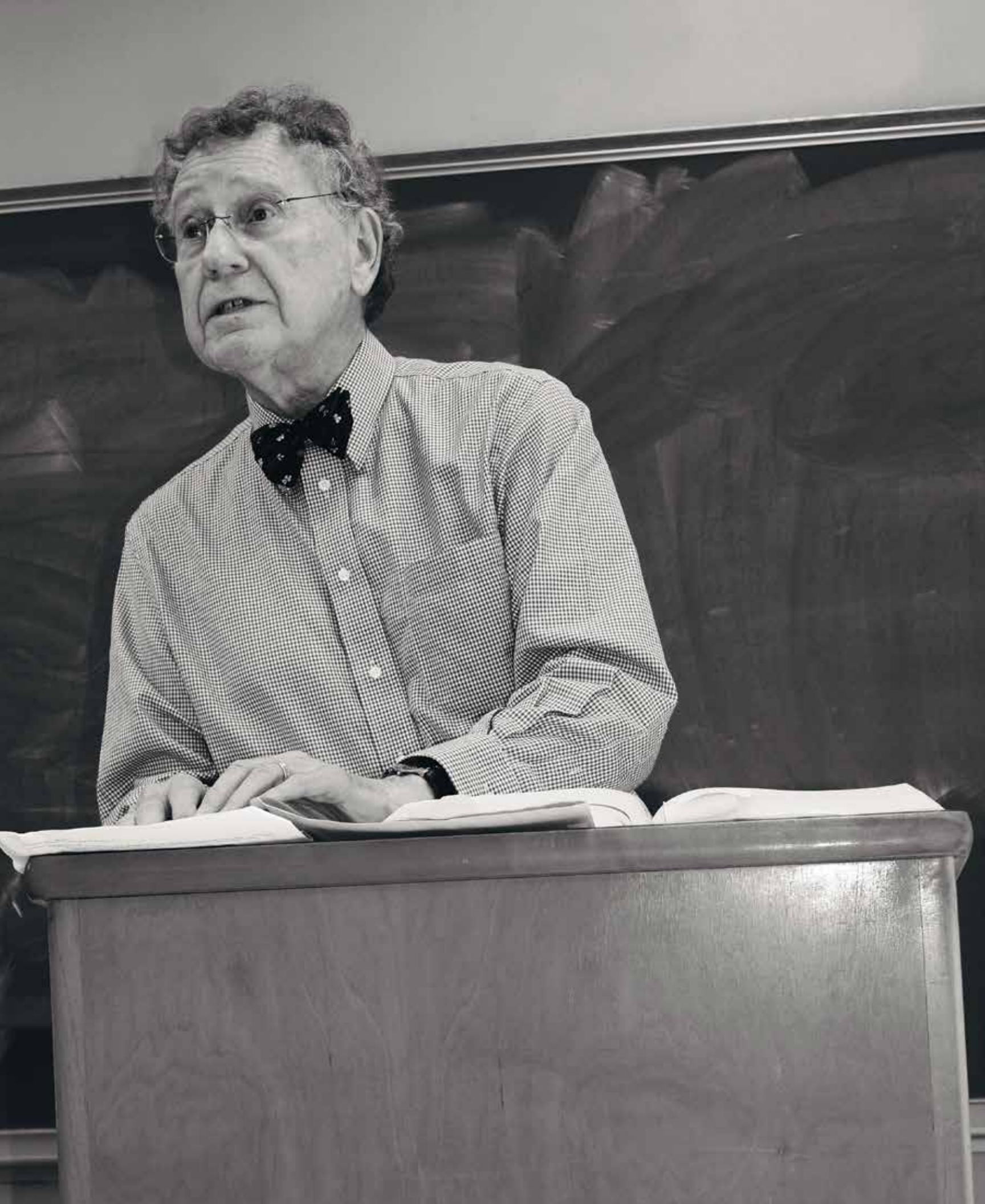
“Michelle and I learned together (I came to Beltway two weeks before she started her internship), and she definitely had a hand in framing what the marketing department is today.”

The Career Adviser

Dana Burke

- director of Career Development at SMC

“When the Career Development Center initially promotes the Beltway Companies internship and scholarship experience, students often question how an experience at a commercial trucking company is relevant to a liberal arts education. After completing their work with Beltway, they are easily able to see how they have used the liberal arts skills including communication and critical thinking. Additionally, they have gained a strong work experience and transferable skills that will be valuable in their future careers.” ❖



“Jim Kenney is simultaneously intimidating and inspiring.... Students really like and respect him. We have two long-term adjuncts and because of their experience and qualifications, we welcome the classes they have created and added to our curriculum. If you have a master chef on staff you don’t ask him to make grilled cheese. You ask him to create and to share his skills.”

– TODD EBERLY, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND
CHAIR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

A Case for Endurance

JIM KENNEY HAS TAUGHT AS AN ADJUNCT PROFESSOR at St. Mary’s every semester since the fall of 1964 without interruption. That, in itself, is remarkable, but Kenney has given his time and talents to the College in other ways, too. He’s supported the College during the administrations of every president from May Russell forward. He was a founding member of the College Foundation with Deak Reynolds under President Renwick Jackson in 1971, serving through the presidencies of Weigle, Lewis, and O’Brien, and as the Foundation’s president from 1993-1999. For his service to St. Mary’s through the College Foundation, Kenney was honored with the Order of the Ark and Dove in 2000.

A local attorney, Jim Kenney was in private practice with a concentration on real estate, land use, regulatory practice, business transactions and litigation from 1963 until 1997. From 1997 to 2007 he was associate judge of the Court of Special Appeals of Maryland, the first and only judge from Southern Maryland to be appointed to that court. He continues to serve as a recall judge on the Court of Special Appeals today.

PHOTO AND INTRODUCTION BY LEE CAPRISTO, EDITOR

How did you get the job?

I met President May Russell at a luncheon in Lexington Park during the summer of 1964. In casual conversation, I mentioned that had I not gone to law school, I might have gone into education. A week or so later, she called me and asked if I’d been serious about teaching; she was in a pinch with a faculty member who would be unable to teach for the fall semester. I imagined myself teaching English literature, in the fashion of “Goodbye, Mr. Chips” only to learn that she needed someone to teach a course on federal government.

In 1964, the institution was still three years away from having a four-year curriculum. How were the courses you taught then different from the ones you teach now?

There was no political science major at that point, so the course on federal government was broad. The classes were larger and taught in the early years in the original Anne Arundel Hall. Most of the students were women and many were legacies, whose grandmothers and mothers had also gone to St. Mary’s. After teaching the course, I started moving it toward “Constitutional Law” and eventually that got to be too much for one semester and I advocated that it be split into two parts, one given each semester. The context of the courses changes over the years to be relevant to the political issues of the time, be they civil rights, gay marriage, representation for the poor. The courses now, in the major, are smaller, deeper, and more narrowly focused, like “Religion and the U.S. Constitution.”

What is it about teaching that has kept you at it as an adjunct for 52 straight years?

Being around the students keeps me sharp, keeps me young at heart. I get energized by them. I’ve also been able to develop and teach new courses over the years. The “Law and Society” course that I teach is a standard for many students considering going on to law school, and I see former students as lawyers at Bar Association meetings and even in court. Not too long ago, I had a student come up to me after class and say, “My grandmother said to say hello.” ❖

ALUMNI CONNECTION

CLASS NOTES

1950s

Bettie Pass DeBelius '53JC would like her classmates to know that her husband, Chuck, a long-time supporter of the College and a retired U.S. Army colonel, passed away on Jan. 16, 2016. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery on July 1, 2016. Betty, for many years, was an Army Arlington Lady. An Army Arlington Lady attends, in an official capacity, each Army funeral held at Arlington National Cemetery and represents the entire Army family to the deceased's family members. Betty lives in Annapolis, Md.

1990s

Kenny Neal '91 [1] is an educational media producer at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. A music major, he worked for MCI as a senior communications specialist for almost 15 years, gaining skills in video web production, writing and editing. When Verizon purchased MCI, he took the opportunity to change career fields and, using his communications and media production skills in the arts, started working for the Kennedy Center. In September 2010 he began to freelance as a theatrical sound designer and recently received his first Helen Hayes Award nomination for outstanding sound design for his work on the 2015 production "Old Wicked Songs," at 1st Stage in Tysons, Va. Kenny lives in Silver Spring, Md.

Sean Martin '94 has been a school principal in Howard County, Md. for 11 years but recently made his YouTube debut with a video showing how he spent a "principal snow day" at his school, Waterloo Elementary, in Columbia, Md. after a January blizzard shut down many Maryland schools for days. Filmed and edited by his daughter, Gwen who's in eighth grade, the video was intended to make his staff and students laugh after being snowbound at home but it quickly went viral with over 810,000 hits in two weeks. His video also was posted at baltimoresun.com, today.com/parents, abcnews.com, Business Insider, Inside Edition, and Entertainment Tonight. To check out Sean's re-creation of Tom Cruise's famous "Risky Business" scene, search YouTube for "Principal Snow Day at Waterloo." Sean, his wife **Jennifer Fleck Martin '93** and their children live on Kent Island on Maryland's eastern shore.

John B. Bratt '95 has been named to the 2016 Maryland Super Lawyers Top 100 List which is comprised of lawyers who were ranked top in the Supers Lawyers nomination, research and blue ribbon review process. In 2015 he was recognized as one of the top one percent of attorneys in the nation by the National Association of Distinguished Counsel. John concentrates his practice in personal injury cases and civil appeals of all types. He also serves as counsel to Rocky Gorge R.F.C., Inc., the 2012 and 2014 USA Rugby Men's Division II National Champions. John and his family live in Lutherville, Md.



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Jennifer Mott Beach '97 is the new reference and instructional services librarian and an assistant professor at Longwood University's Greenwood Library in Farmville, Va. Jennifer and her family live in Rice, Va.

Deanne Grayson '97 completed her residency in psychiatry in June 2015 at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. A captain in the U.S. Army and board certified, she is practicing psychiatry at Weed Army Community Hospital, Fort Irwin, Calif.

Karie Lew '98 is the legal research attorney for the Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne in Sonora, Calif. She's responsible for conducting legal research, analysis, and writing on matters pending before the court, as well as assisting with court operations, such as revision of the Court's local rules. She previously worked for nine years as a senior attorney with the Law Foundation of Silicon Valley. Tuolumne County, located in the heart of California's "Mother Lode" gold mining towns and Yosemite National Park.

Nick Novak '98 is Maryland's 2016 Outstanding Leader Using Technology. Selected by the Maryland Society for Education Technology, he was recognized for demonstrating outstanding use of innovative and effective educational technology practices. Nick is the principal of Howard High School in Ellicott City, Md. He and his family live in Elkridge, Md.

Alisa Bralove-Scherr '00 [2] has been a member of the Maryland Office of the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division for 11 years and recently was promoted to deputy director of the mediation unit and arbitration administrator. Alisa and her husband, Rich, live in Owings Mills, Md.

Matt Hollis '03 [3] was the College's Artist House artist-in-residence from Jan. 19-Feb. 22, 2016. Inspired by flowers and nature, he creates "abstract-organic soft sculpture, photography, mixed media, and large scale installations in bright colors, faux flowers, and appealing textures." He has

transformed his home/studio at the historic 52 O Street Studios in Washington, D.C. into a "full-scale botanical forest installation." Matt also spends countless hours finding new and exciting gardens to visit, photograph and review for his garden review blog, gradinggardens.tumblr.com. In 2016 he was recognized for his contribution to D.C.'s culture with an artist fellowship grant from the D.C. Commission of Arts & Humanities. To see more of Matt's work go to www.enoughforall.com.

Sarah Jardeleza Winger '03 is the new assessment coordinator at Salisbury University. This position will allow her to impact and influence continuous improvement of student outcomes across the institution. Sarah, who received her doctorate in plant biology in 2010 from the University of Georgia, previously spent five years as an assistant professor at Michigan State University. Sarah, husband **C. J. Winger '03** and their three children are excited to be back on the east coast near family and friends. They live in Sussex County, Del.

Norah Harwood Hibbits '05 is a small business owner. She discovered Baby Boot Camp, a stroller fitness program, while living in Sunnyvale, Calif. and staying home with her daughter Clara. When the family moved to Minnesota in October 2015 Norah tried to find a similar program to no avail. So she has started her own Baby Boot Camp in Minneapolis' northwest suburb of Hopkins, Minn. It's a franchise of the parent company, Inspiring Wellness LLC and offers stroller fitness and stroller yoga programs. Check out Baby Boot Camp's



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facebook page at www.facebook.com/minneapolisnw. Norah used her life science background to prepare for taking the American Council on Exercise (ACE) personal trainer exam and hopes to focus on exercise physiology and the neuromuscular response to exercise when Clara is older. Norah and her family live in Medina, Minn.

Annelise Montone '05 is the new executive director of Creative York, an organization whose mission is to nurture imagination, creativity, and innovation in York, Pa. Her résumé includes working for two years as an outreach specialist for the Maryland Science Center and another year as the patron services director for Olney Theater Center. She served for three years as the creative director/writer-in-residence for Open Space Arts, a community arts center in Reisterstown, Md., before joining the staff of the Star-Spangled Banner Flag House as its visitor services coordinator in 2008. During her six years at this national historic landmark and museum, she became the organization's deputy and then executive director. From March 2014-October 2015 she was the executive director of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra. Annelise lives in Baltimore, Md.

Sara Bodde Healy '06, MAT '07 [4] has been living in Kuwait since 2013 when her husband David was assigned there. She works at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait City in the regional security office which is part of the Diplomatic Security Bureau. Her office acts as the embassy's law enforcement arm and handles all counterterrorism and security related issues. Sara, shown here with the entire regional security office staff, also works part time as a childbirth educator and birth doula serving expectant families in Kuwait. Living in the Kuwait has been challenging and educational but Sara is looking forward to returning to the U.S. this summer.

2010s

Brian Boyle '10 will be the opening speaker for the Arc of Maryland's state convention on May 13, 2016. Boyle is a healthcare advocate, motivational speaker and author of "Iron Heart" (Skyhorse, 2009) and "The Patient Experience" (Skyhorse, 2015).

Sofia Sokolove '11 and her father, journalist Michael Sokolove, did a reading for the College's VOICES program on Jan. 28, 2016. Since graduating, Sofia has lived and worked in Austin, Texas. Currently assistant editor

of *TRIBEZA* magazine, an Austin-based arts and culture magazine, she also is a freelance writer whose work has appeared in *Texas Highways*, *Eater Austin*, *ArtDesk*, and *CultureMap Austin*. Sofia says she's bringing a little bit of the St. Mary's Way to the Lonestar state.

Kevin Wehmuller '11 is a strategic writer for Taoti Creative, a digital strategy and web design firm in Washington, D.C. After St. Mary's College, he spent two years in Korea teaching English as a foreign language, followed by a year handling marketing and publicity for Queen's Ferry Press, a small, independent publisher of literary fiction. Before joining Taoti Creative, he worked as an editor for Diplomatic Language Services where he produced a 14,000 page, four-language curriculum for adult students learning Arabic, Tagalog, French and Indonesian. Kevin lives in Arlington, Va.

Colleen Brummitt Anglin '13 is living on the Italian island of Sicily. Her husband Justin is in the U.S. Navy and the couple is stationed at Naval Air Station Sigonella. Colleen works for the U.S. Army as a veterinarian technician at the base's Veterinary Treatment Facility; Justin, a Petty Officer Third Class, works at the base hospital in the optometry department.

Emily Burdeshaw '13 has joined eTERA Consulting, an internationally recognized and award-winning leader in data and technology management, in the new position of campaign and content manager. She will play a major role in building eTERA's marketing strategy, in particular, the development and management of the company's educational programs and strategic training initiatives. Emily began her public relations career with Naval Air Systems Command at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Md. Starting as an intern in the Pathways Program, she progressed to deputy public affairs officer for the program executive office for unmanned aviation and strike weapons and then to public affairs officer for the maritime patrol and reconnaissance aircraft program. Also at eTERA is **Cassey Elder '13** who joined the company in March 2015 as its manager of public relations.

Kelly Heyde '13 has finished her first season as the assistant men's and women's swimming and diving coach at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. Along with Southwestern's other coaches, she was awarded the Men's Coaching Staff of the Year for the Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference. While at St. Mary's, Kelly became the first swimmer in conference history to win the same three individual events in four consecutive years earning her 12 individual gold medals. She also was the Capital Athletic Conference (CAC) Rookie of the Year; four-time team MVP; two-year St. Mary's Female Athlete of the Year; and a two-year Scholar All-American. Kelly still holds school records in three events along with two CAC records. She was the assistant swimming coach at Goucher College for two years while working on her masters of education degree in athletic administration which she received in May 2015. Kelly lives in Georgetown, Texas.

Alumni Spotlight



Marybeth Gallagher Cale '96 shared that her public relations and executive coaching firm, Cale Communications, celebrated ten years in business in 2015. A longtime communications expert, publicist, and professional and personal development coach, she started her career as an admissions counselor for St. Mary's College. She started

Cale Communications and today with her co-owner, husband Tom, runs multi-faceted communications campaigns for clients from all over the United States; develop websites, logos and branding; public statements, and messaging; and manage media relations, corporate community relations programs, and public appearances. Marybeth is also a certified life coach specializing in communications coaching. Learn more about her work at calecommunications.com or marybethcale.com. (St. Mary's alumni discounts available!) She and her family live in her hometown of Rhinebeck, N.Y.

Meet Your Alumni Council: Danielle Troyan '92

The Winter 2016 issue of Mulberry Tree contained an article from Alumni Council Parliamentarian **Mark Fedders '74** introducing the College's Alumni Council. He also indicated that future issues would contain profiles of current council members.

This article, the first in a series, was supposed to profile **Danielle Troyan '92** whose term as president of the Alumni Association ends in June. Instead she asked that her profile be more about encouraging alumni engagement and less about her. So here are some thoughts about Danielle. Early in her career, she was given a military challenge coin with the inscription, "Do the mission. Have fun." This phrase, along with "Leave it better than you found it," sums up her approach to leadership. Danielle joined the alumni council by chance when she responded to a call from then President Maggie O'Brien for young alumni to get involved with the College. Since St. Mary's is where she found her voice, she wanted to help ensure future students would have the same experience. Joining the council in 2002, she first served as parliamentarian for eight years, followed by two years as vice president, and since 2012, as president and a member of the College's Board of Trustees. She says she is privileged to represent and work with the most talented college students and graduates on the planet. Passionate for purpose-driven organizations and teams, she uses her expertise to foster strong relationships between them and their audiences by reaching out, forging connections, and making sure the right message reaches the right people. This is true for her "day job" as vice president, external relations for the Business-Higher Education Forum, the nation's oldest membership organization of Fortune 500 CEOs, college and university presidents, and other leaders who collaborate and form strategic partnerships to develop a highly-skilled future workforce as well as her role as president of the Alumni Association.



In Danielle's words:

"The Council is a group of extraordinary people from across the decades. They remember when St. Mary's was a junior college and Kent Hall was the largest building on campus; when the only residents in the fields behind Admissions were butterflies and deer; and when the student surge sent everyone to eat in a B.A.T.

The Council is your voice to the College and the Board of Trustees, the governing body of the College, which approves its annual budget, tuition, new curriculum, tenure appointments, and the like.

The Council is some of the best people I have had the privilege of knowing and working with for nearly two decades. They are extended members of my QA and Townhouse families, mentors, respectful critics, and confidants. So much has changed, but so much remains the same.

What's new? The Council, like the Alumni Office, is coming of age. Just as Alumni Weekend continues to refine its focus to meet the needs and desires of alumni, so has the Council. We restructured ourselves to be more transparent and serve alumni better. We encourage open debate and work together to bring the spectrum of alumni perspectives to the College and Trustees. We nurture alumni engagement through a growing base of chapters, which grew from a handful in Maryland to sites coast to coast. We set new standards for alumni philanthropy through Giving Tuesday. We empower alumni to participate in the Council, then move on. We know we've succeeded when an alum's commitment to SMCM is so entrepreneurial

he/she takes on a special project in conjunction with the College.

What's not new? The smiles that reach our eyes, and the sentiment we feel when we go around the bend on Route 5 enroute to a Council meeting. The desire and commitment to give back to and reconnect alumni with the place that means so much to us in so many different ways.

We understand how life intervenes and impedes your ability to come back to campus. But we know St. Mary's remains in your DNA, through shared memories with life-long friends, a spouse, and possibly a son or daughter who comes to love the river as much as you do.

My term as Alumni Association and Council President ends in June. Before that day arrives, I ask you to give in to that gentle nudge and find the time, no matter how small, to continue your legacy with St. Mary's. Do a little harmless self-promotion ... talk about your glory days ... encourage a high school student to attend. If you have a chapter nearby, go to an event. If you haven't been back to campus in a while, come and enjoy the waterfront during Alumni Weekend or Hawktoberfest, or rent the Alumni Lodge for a long, lazy summer weekend. Stretch your mind at one of the College's distinguished lectures with a national thought leader, or make your mark as a member of the Council or as an alumni ambassador.

These resources wouldn't be possible without you and the College. While a separate 503c organization, the Association principally fundraises for scholarship, and we appreciate your enduring commitment. However, our operating budget, which covers alumni activities, such as our reunion events, comes from the College. I am deeply grateful for the support from the Board of Trustees, especially former Chair and current Trustee Molly Mahoney Matthews and current Chair Gail Harmon; President Tuajuanda Jordan; Vice President for Institutional Advancement Carolyn Curry; and Vice President for Finance & Administration Chip Jackson. They respect and appreciate the role and responsibility alumni play in St. Mary's future and success.

As a shared stakeholder, I encourage you to build your St. Mary's legacy. Take advantage of the high-quality opportunities for alumni. Volunteer. Donate. Participate." ❖

Alumni Spotlight



Matt Norkunas '99 is “the happiest CFO in bio-tech” although his career path to becoming chief financial officer (CFO) for SomaLogic Inc. has had its share of “interesting twists and turns!” A biology major at St. Mary’s, he went to medical school at the University of Maryland, did his anesthesiology residency at Mt. Sinai Hospital, became board certified and was an attending anesthesiologist at

Maimonides Medical Center. However the more he practiced medicine the more he realized he never loved medicine. So while practicing medicine full time, he expanded his horizons by serving as vice president of new business development for a private physician group; actively participating in clinical trials, authoring scientific publications and presentations; and developing two medical devices (whose patents are pending).

He also began pursuing an MBA in finance from Columbia University. After graduation he joined Marsico Capital Management whose founder and visionary thinker, Tom Marsico, has made significant financial contributions to medical research. Working on Wall Street as an equity analyst helped Matt build a broader vision of how investment is a key component of patient care or as he says, “truly disruptive technologies really do bring a much higher patient quality of life.” For example, his second stock pick at Marsico was a company, Gilead, which had presented some unbelievable data on a Hepatitis C cure that ultimately became known as Sovaldi/Harvoni. The stock was a win for his investors as it quadrupled in value in two years but it also was a win for Hepatitis C patients who ended up getting a side-effect-free cure.

Matt credits St. Mary’s and its general liberal arts environment and his parents for teaching him to “think big” and to be intellectually curious. As a result he has approached life differently than most traditionally trained physicians as reflected in his multi-faceted career path which led to his “cool new job” as SomaLogic’s CFO. He still is helping patients as part of a team managing paradigm shifting proprietary technology called the “SOMAmer.” This technology, used in proteomic discovery, has the potential to identify biosignatures and biomarkers which measure changes in an individual’s protein biochemistry. SOMAmer technology already has helped transform the detection, diagnosis and treatment of diseases. As the technology matures even further, SomaLogic ultimately will create a “Wellness Chip” in the form of a single cost-effective and reliable blood test that will identify multiple diseases and conditions in real time. An easy way to think of the Wellness Chip is it’s a “complete physical exam in a blood test.” This simple blood test taken repeatedly over time will enable healthcare providers to precisely monitor an individual’s state of health and wellness before symptoms ever appear and will drive true personalized preventative care, instead of today’s mass-produced, reactive care. Matt lives in Denver, Colo.

Les Walker '13 has been hired by the American Anthropological Association as manager of its public education initiative in Arlington, Va.

Lauren Taylor '14 is the newest member of the College’s Alumni Relations staff. In her role as the assistant director, she manages the alumni website and event management system, and is also responsible for all of the digital marketing that goes out to alumni through electronic newsletters and social media. Lauren lives in Park Hall, Md.

Maura Glascock '15 is the concert production and facilities manager for the University of Denver’s Lamont School of Music. She manages all internal concert operations from stage set-up to house managing and also oversees the entire facility. Previously she worked as an administrative and production assistant for The Chesapeake Orchestra and, while at St. Mary’s College, interned with the River Concert Series, The Chesapeake Orchestra and The Maryland Youth Symphony Orchestra. Maura lives in Denver, Colo.

Xuan Huajie '15 celebrated his graduation from St. Mary’s College by bicycling cross country. Leaving Washington, D.C. on July 2, 2015, he spent sixty days riding through 16 states before arriving in Seattle, Wash. Xuan calls the trip the most meaningful thing he did in his four years in the U.S. Now living and working in Chendgu, in Sichuan Province, China, he’s already planning his next big solo ride from Chengdu to Yunnan then through Southeast Asia and ultimately to Australia.

MARRIAGES & UNIONS

Brian Conlin '05 and **Amy Horton '06** [1] were married Sep. 25, 2015 in Baltimore, Md. The wedding party included officiant **Lindsay Pack '05**, maid of honor **Holly Stone '06**, and best man **Paul Conlin '00**. Wedding guests included 2004 alums **Brad Newkirk, Dan Gordon** and **Eric Jackson**; 2005 alums **Kristin Martin Conlin, Whitney Fahrman, Dave Thomas, Joe Glynn, Amy Stancavitch Stanton, Mitch Stanton, Jimbo Wise** and **Minhlann Nguyen Jackson**; 2006 alums **Ed Stockmeyer, Kristin Gray, Cassie Clemente, Will Tipton, Katie Lange Newkirk** and **Veronica Berruz**; 2008 alums **Halley Pack** and **Neil Feldman** and honorary alum **Chris Curcio**. Brian is the content marketing manager for Cision; Amy is a senior risk analyst at PayPal. The couple lives in Baltimore, Md.

Lindsay Pack '05 and **Chris Curcio** [2] were married Aug. 14, 2015 at the Baltimore Museum of Industry in Baltimore, Md. The wedding party included maid of honor **Halley Pack '08** and bridesmaids **Amy Horton '06, Kristin Gray '06**, and **Emma Gerald Boyer '05**. Wedding guests included 2004 alums **Dan “Gordo” Gordon** and **Brad Newkirk**; 2005 alums **Brian Conlin, Whitney Fahrman, Jennifer Estevez Meyer, Kevin Meyer, Amy Stancavitch Stanton, Mitch Stanton**, and **Jimbo Wise**; 2006 alums **Veronica Berruz, Cassie Clemente, Katie Lange Newkirk, Holly Stone**, and **Will Tipton**; and **Neil Feldman '08**. The couple enjoyed a



1 JEN RYNDIA



2 REBECCA REPLINSKI



3 PIPER WATSON PHOTOGRAPHY

Southeast Asian honeymoon visiting Bali, Singapore and Thailand. Lindsay is the director of communications for Nexight Group; Chris is the controller for NFM Lending. They live with their dog Butters in the Federal Hill neighborhood of Baltimore, Md.

Sarah Sloane '05 and **Patrick Donovan '06** [3] were married Oct. 31, 2015 at historic Woodlawn in St. Mary’s County, Md. They held their rehearsal dinner at the College. Members of the wedding party included 2006 alums **Randy Deltuva, Seth Quinn, Jeff Luoma** and **Matt O’Neill**; and **Ali Cannavino '05, Matthew Rowland '06** and **Richard Barr '07** were wedding guests. The couple will honeymoon in Costa Rica in the spring. Sarah works at Johns Hopkins Hospital as a mental health therapist.



EMILIE INC. PHOTOGRAPHY

pist for adolescents; Patrick is a fifth grade teacher with Baltimore County public schools. They live in the Patterson Park neighborhood of Baltimore, Md.

Elizabeth Crockett '07 and **Ben Chidester [4]** were married Sep. 19, 2015 at Wentworth Lodge in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. It was beautiful 75 degree summer-like weather for an amazing Maine coastal wedding with a nautical theme. **Allyson Sarigianis Homung '06** was a bridesmaid; **Marianne Wood Forest '08**, **Michael Rohrs '08**, **Rick Besore '07**, and **Alex Wenger '10** were wedding guests. In January, the couple spent three weeks honeymooning in Australia and New Zealand, enjoying the summer weather down under. Lizzie and Ben both work in the emergency departments of Norfolk and Virginia Beach, Va.; Lizzie as a physician assistant and Ben as an attending physician. The couple lives in Virginia Beach, Va.



CASSIE CONFORTI

Dustin Reichard '07 and **Elizabeth Schultz [5]** were married Oct. 24, 2015 in Bloomington, Ind. Fellow 2007 alums in the wedding party included best man **Landon Southerly** and groomsmen **Kevin Boyle**, **Kevin Parks** and **Julian Brunner**. Wedding guests included 2007 alums **Spencer Bykowsky**, **Josh Herber**, **Chris Kauffman**, **Liz Lewis**, **Rachel Markey** and **Nathan Straus**; **Carlo Olivi '13** and **Jacob Smith '08**. The couple honeymooned in Negril, Jamaica. Dustin and Elizabeth are professors in the Zoology Department at Ohio Wesleyan University. They live in Delaware, Ohio.



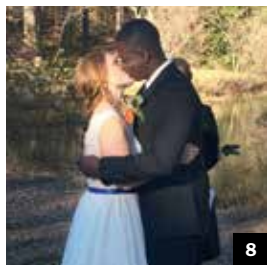
KIRSTEN ZAREK

Rachel Baum '09 and **Kathryn Perez [7]** were married Oct. 11, 2015 at the Floyd Eco Village in Floyd, Va. Wedding guests included **Katey Nelson '09**. The couple honeymooned by doing a day at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom followed by two days at Universal Studio's Harry Potter World and concluding with a five-day cruise to Mexico. Rachel is a veterinarian with Banfield Pet Hospital; Kathryn works as an instructor at the Virginia



NATALIE GIBBS PHOTOGRAPHY

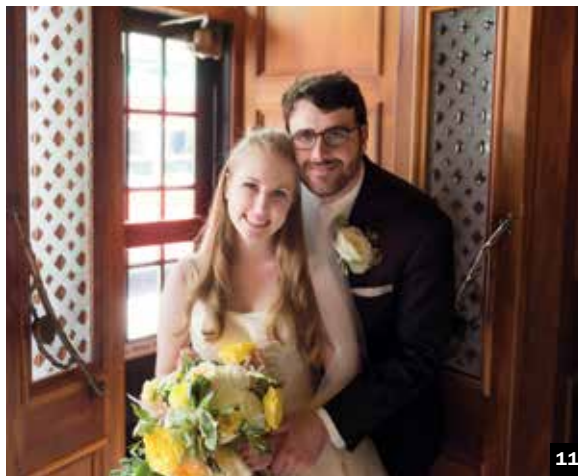
Nicole Chaplin '08, **MAT '09** and **Thomas Lewis** were married Sep. 24, 2015 in Dublin, Texas. Nicole teaches history at Godley



CATE BURGESS '09



DANIELLE BOGGS



BOUNCING LIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

High School and is an adjunct instructor of history at Hill College; Thomas is a mechanic for Classic Chevrolet. The couple lives in Tolar, Texas.

Laura Walker '08 and **Christopher Greeley [6]** were married Sep. 19, 2015 at Caboose Farm in Sabillasville, Md. The wedding party included maid of honor **Stefanie Matthews '08** and bridesmaids **Rebecca Schmidt '08** and **Nicole Cronin '08**. The couple honeymooned on the island of Aruba. Laura is a development research analyst at Johns Hopkins University; Christopher is a salesman at Safeway Services. They live in Baltimore, Md.

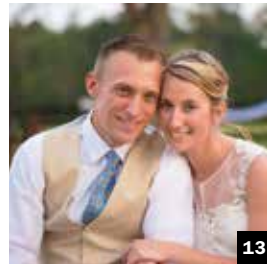
Rachel Baum '09 and **Kathryn Perez [7]** were married Oct. 11, 2015 at the Floyd Eco Village in Floyd, Va. Wedding guests included **Katey Nelson '09**. The couple honeymooned by doing a day at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom followed by two days at Universal Studio's Harry Potter World and concluding with a five-day cruise to Mexico. Rachel is a veterinarian with Banfield Pet Hospital; Kathryn works as an instructor at the Virginia



KEELY EDWARDS, ANCHORED IN LOVE



AMY WILKINS, AGE 1 PHOTOGRAPHY



ERICKA MORGAN, ELMFOTOGRAFIE

Institute of Autism. They live in Charlottesville, Va.

Emma Prasher '09 and **Richard Tyano [8]** were married Jan. 16, 2016 in Atlanta, Ga. Wedding guests included **Cate Burgess '09**, **Erin Stott Stapleton '09**, and **Gary**

Stapleton '07. The couple has planned a cross-country road trip in late April in lieu of a traditional honeymoon. Emma worked as a public health advisor at the Center for Disease Control but in May will begin an accelerated nursing program at Emory University where she will earn both a bachelor of science and a master of science in nursing in less than three years. Emma will be specializing as a family nurse practitioner. Richard recently emigrated from Burkina Faso, where the couple first met, and is learning English while he waits for his green card to be approved. The couple lives in Decatur, Ga.

Beth Bowers '11 and **Kevin Richman [9]** were married Oct. 11, 2015 at Sunset Hills Vineyard in Purcellville, Va. Wedding guests included fellow 2011 alums, **Katherine Swiggett**, **Emily Kershner**, **Claire Solinsky**, **Pat Carr**, **Brian Van Parys** and **Cody Brack**; and **Kate Monahan '12**. The couple will have a spring honeymoon in Italy and Morocco. Beth is a senior associate for proposals and reporting for the United Nations Foundation; Kevin is a director for the General Services Administration. They live in Arlington, Va.

Michele Johnson '11 and **Luke Huffman '11 [10]** were married June 20, 2015 in Candler, N.C. **Kevin Paul '12** was best man and **Joe Clemens '11** was a groomsman. Michele and Luke were joined by beloved St. Mary's buds from all around the world including 2011 alums **Kylie Robillard** (Japan); **Lauren Hilbert** (Italy); **Blair Saffren Bossie** (Pa.); and **Cat Holland Thomas '10** (Md.). **Frank McGough '11** and **Ben Lang '11** also brought some of

the St. Mary's spirit to North Carolina. The couple honeymooned in St. Pete's Beach, Fla. Michele is an English instructor at High Point University; Luke is finishing his master of fine arts in poetry at the University of North Carolina Greensboro and also teaches there part-time. They live in Greensboro, N.C.

Brendan McCarthy '11 and **Hallie Colegrove '12** [11] were married May 30, 2015 in Cleveland, Ohio. The wedding party included **Kevin Turek '10**, **Matthew Miller '11**, **Frank McGough '11**, **Alexandra Payton '12**, **Jennifer Stewart '12**, **Kay Zagrodny '12**, and **Brittany Creeden Miller '11**. **Chelsey McGlynn '11** did a reading. The couple honeymooned in California, driving down the Pacific Coast Highway. Brendan is pursuing his doctorate in history at Ohio State University; Hallie works at Fifth Third Bank. They live in Columbus, Ohio.

Kathryn West '12 and **Kevin Baier '12** [12] were married Oct. 17, 2015 at Celebrations at the Bay in Pasadena, Md. The wedding party included fellow 2012 alums **Brittany Thompson**, **Katelyn Heydt**, and **Julia Furey**. **Mike Snow '12** was the officiant. The couple honey-

moonied in Puerto Plata in the Dominican Republic. Katie is an occupational therapist at Medstar Health at Union Memorial Hospital; Kevin is a research assistant at the University of Maryland Baltimore County. They live in White Marsh, Md.

Elizabeth Keesler '13 and **Benjamin Landrum '13** were married March 21, 2015 on Amelia Island, Fla. The wedding party included **Glenna Wong '14** who played the violin. Elie is a research assistant for BlueWater Reporting; Ben is a lawn professional with Nader's Pest Raiders. The couple lives in Yulee, Fla.

Colleen Walls '14 and **Taylor Neuarth '14** were married Aug. 14, 2015 at the chapel on Joint Base Andrews in Prince George's County, Md. **Claire Huckenpoepler '14** and **Keighly Bradbrook '14** were bridesmaids; **Matt Bennett '14** was a wedding guest. The couple honeymooned in Asheville, N.C. Colleen is a museum guide at the Annapolis Maritime Museum; Taylor is serving with the U.S. Air Force and is stationed at Joint Base Andrews. The couple lives in Galesville, Md.



14 BRENT FORBES PHOTOGRAPHY

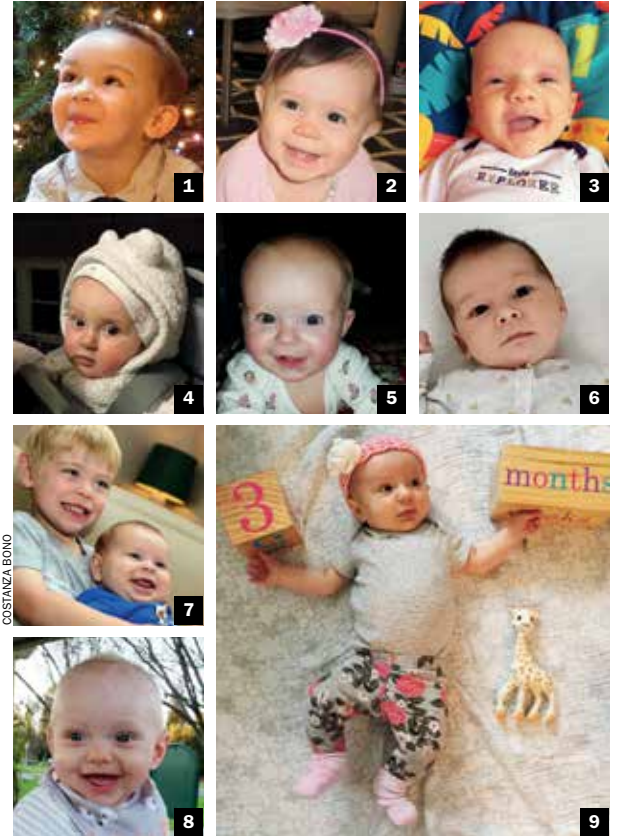
BIRTHS & ADOPTIONS

Jennifer Sands McMonagle '95 and **Timothy McMonagle**, welcomed a son, **Eric William [1]**, age three, adopted Dec. 17, 2015. He joins big sisters **Colleen**, age 16 and **Abigail**, age 11. The family has been fostering since 2010. Jen is a stay-at-home mom; Tim teaches at a local school. The family lives in Troutdale, Ore.

To **Deborah Brown '00** and **Neal Peckens '02**, a daughter, **Sydney Taylor [2]**, born March 30, 2015. She joins big sister, **Madison Avery**, age four. Deborah and Neal are both veterinarians in the northern Virginia area. The family lives in Herndon, Va.

To **Carolina Calonje Obando '01** and **Richard Obando**, a son, **Victor Anthony [3]**, born Nov. 17, 2015. The couple works for Montgomery County, Md. public schools; **Caroline** is a media assistant at Flower Hill Elementary School and **Richard** as a social studies teacher at Watkins Mill High School. The family lives in Rockville, Md.

To **Kelly McGarvey '01** and **John Smith '01**, a daughter, **Sienna Jean [4]**, born Aug. 22, 2015. Kelly analyzes mammalian genomes as part of the RefSeq group at the National Center for Biotechnology Information; John has worked in events production and as a waterman, and is currently renovating their home while caring for Sienna. The family lives in Fairhaven, Md.



COSTANZA BONO

To **Meghan McGinnes Vickers '01** and **Jason Vickers**, a daughter, **Lucy Rose [5]**, born July 12, 2015. Meghan is the museum program coordinator/curator for the Jefferson County, Colo. Open Space Program; **Jason** is a manager for the Kroger Company. The family lives in Idaho Springs, Colo.

To **Nathan Crowe '03** and **Stephanie Crowe**, a daughter, **Talia Rose [6]**, born Dec. 10, 2015. Nathan and Stephanie both work at the University of North Carolina Wilmington; Nathan as an assistant professor of history and Stephanie as a librarian. The family lives in Wilmington, N.C.

To **Jessica Goldstein '04** and **Fabrizio Motta**, a son, **Maxwell Domenico [7]**, born March

24, 2015. He joins big brother, **Giulio James**, age 4. **Jessica** is a teacher and translator; **Fabrizio** is a palliative care doctor. The family lives in Savigliano, Italy.

To **Craig Stauffer '04** and **Megan Hawn Stauffer '07**, a son, **Cole Elam [8]**, born Aug. 28, 2015. Craig is a urologic surgery resident and biodesign fellow at Stanford University; Megan is a high school math teacher for the Palo Alto, Calif. schools. The family lives in Palo Alto, Calif.

To **Katie Snyder Walsh '04** and **Mike Walsh**, a daughter, **Grace Campbell [9]**, born Nov. 5, 2015. Katie teaches English at the Bryn Mawr School; Mike works in brokerage at Cushman & Wakefield. The family lives in Lutherville, Md.



To **Tiffany Deutscher Soderholm '07** and Justin Soderholm, a son, Noah Benjamin [14], born July 28, 2015. Tiffany is a teacher for the Perth Amboy, N.J. Board of Education; Justin is a bilingual history teacher at the Green School in Brooklyn, N.Y. The family lives in Avenel, N.J.

To **Kimbrey Pierce Whiteford '08** and **Brooks Whiteford '08**, a son, Camden Pierce Whiteford [15], born Oct. 4, 2015. Kimbrey recently graduated with her master's degree in pastoral counseling; Brooks is an engineer for Harman International Industries. The family lives in St. Leonard, Md.

To **Sarah Weisse Featherstone '09** and **Reid Featherstone '09**, a son, Luke [16], born Dec. 16, 2015. Sarah is a digital publishing coordinator for the American Society for Microbiology; Reid is a performance auditor for the U.S. Agency for International Development's Office of Inspector General. The family lives in Edgewater, Md.

To **Sarah Jordan-Crowe '10** and **Colin Jordan-Crowe '11**, a son, Gabriel Patrick [17], born April 27, 2015. Sarah will graduate from medical school at Case Western Reserve University in May 2016 and then start her pediatrics residency; Colin works in the casualty insurance industry as an underwriter with National Interstate Insurance Company and is studying to become an actuary. The family lives in Cleveland, Ohio.

To **Emma Gerald Boyer '05** and **Gary Boyer '05**, a daughter, Iris Monroe [10], born Aug. 3, 2015. Emma is the Waccamaw Riverkeeper at the Winyah Rivers Foundation; Gary is project manager and director of builder services for Edge Energy. The family lives in Georgetown, S.C.

To **Lorien Evans Covelly '05** and Graham Covelly, a son, Marshall Robert [11], born Jan. 9, 2016. Lorien is a math teacher for the Harford County, Md. public schools; Graham is a mason. The family lives in Pylesville, Md.

To **Patricia Councill Stengel '05** and **William Cordle Stengel III '05**, a daughter, Julia Faye [12], born Oct. 10, 2014. Patricia is a paralegal for The Law Offices of Peter T. Nicholl; William is a senior branch manager for M&T Bank. The family lives in Annapolis, Md.

To **Sally Bradley Szydlowski '06** and Michael Szydlowski, a daughter, Hannah Bradley [13], born Sep. 20, 2015. She joins big sister, Claire, age 2. **Jill Bradley '09** is the proud aunt. Sally is a technical analyst for Water Stewardship Inc.; Michael is an accountant for J.J. Haines. The family lives in Dundalk, Md.

IN MEMORIAM

Norma Gridley '46JC, of Saint Petersburg, Fla., died Oct. 20, 2015, at age 88.

Cherie Kiefer Middleton '46JC, of Hanover, Pa., died Nov. 16, 2015, at age 88. She was born in Flint, Mich. Cherie is survived by her husband of 66 years, T. Edward; her four children, Ted, Jay, John and Laurie Middleton Johnson; 10 grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

Isabel 'Becky' Manlove Thomas '46JC, of Galena, Md., died Dec. 9, 2015, at age 88. After junior college, she worked for Johns Hopkins University until 1955 when she moved to Pittsburgh, Pa. In 1976, she moved back to Md. Becky is survived by her children, Laurie Thomas Shockley, and Sally Thomas Smith; her siblings, William Manlove, Katharine Manlove Jester, and Emily Manlove; three step grandchildren; and four step great-grandchildren.

Mary Wessells Butler '48JC, of Lake Mary, Fla., died Nov. 23, 2015, at age 86. Born in Baltimore, Md., she was a long-time resident of Florida. Mary is survived by her children, Rick, Bill, David, and Casey; six grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Shirley Frounfelter Megahee '48JC, of Bradenton, Fla., died Dec. 7, 2015, at age 86. Born in Baltimore, Md., she grew up in Westminster, Md. In 1949 she moved with her husband, Phillip, to Bradenton, Fla. where she attended the University of South

Florida. After briefly working as a librarian at Manatee Community College, she taught English grammar and literature at Manatee High School for over 30 years. A 43-year breast cancer survivor, she loved to play bridge, garden and travel. Shirley is survived by her three daughters, Sharon Megahee Lowrey, Barbara Megahee and Lisa Megahee; eight grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Mary Lou Pinder Merriken '49HS, '51JC, of Royal Oak, Md., died Nov. 25, 2015, at age 84. Born in Wilmington, Del., she graduated from the University of Delaware and worked as a physical education teacher in Denton, Md. In 1955 she married John Merriken and moved to Severna Park, Md. Lou and John moved to Royal Oak in the 1970s. She was a long-time member of the Miles River Yacht Club and volunteered at the Hospital Commission Shop in Easton, Md. Lou is survived by her husband of 60 years, John; her sons, Robert, Dave, Brian, and Bruce; four grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and her sister Anne Pinder Horton.

Dolores Willoughby Snyder '51HS, of Dayton, Ohio, died Dec. 11, 2015, at age 82. Born in Washington, D.C., she worked as a paramedic and phlebotomist and was a founding member of and long-time volunteer with the Union Township Life Squad in West Milton, Ohio. Dolores is survived by her children, Mary Anne, Rebecca, Sharon, Kenneth, Fred and Robert; thirteen grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; two great-great grandsons; and her nine siblings.

“A top-tier stadium is a game changer that will propel Seahawk field hockey, lacrosse, and soccer to the next level, attract top student-athletes, and provide an invaluable resource for both the College and local communities.”

PRESIDENT TUAJUANDA C. JORDAN

BUILDING A STADIUM:

An Investment for St. Mary's College & Southern Maryland

By raising \$2.5 million, our state will grant us an extraordinary \$70 million for:

- an academic building
- an auditorium
- a state-of-the-art stadium

The athletic complex will greatly enhance the appeal for collegiate and Southern Maryland events. It would be available for regional and community organizations to use.

WE REALLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT AT THIS CRITICAL TIME

We still have just over \$1 million to go to complete the \$2.5M Capital Campaign Challenge by summer 2016 so we can secure the state funding and take advantage of the state's investment. Naming opportunities are available, for example: stadium, fields, and scoreboards.

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Wilbur H. Kirby '61JC, of Hollywood, Md., died Jan. 16, 2016, at age 75. Born in Baltimore, Md., he grew up in Arbutus, Md. His family moved to St. Mary's County, Md. in 1953 where he graduated from Charlotte Hall Military Academy. After briefly attending St. Mary's Seminary Junior College, he left to attend baseball training camp in Florida and pursue a baseball career. In 1963 he enlisted in the U.S. Army and was trained in crypto repair. He deployed to the Dominican Republic as part of the U.S. response to an uprising. In 1966 he began working as an electronics technician at the Naval Air Test Center onboard Naval Air Station Patuxent River. He managed test flights on the Atlantic Test Range. After 30 years of civil service, he retired and for nine years worked as a logistician at Wyle. Bill is survived by his wife of 35 years,

Linda; his three children, Ellen Kirby Young, Patricia Kirby Schmalgemeyer, and Bill, Jr.; and four grandchildren.

Barbara Pfeiffer Kahan '74, of Arlington, Va., died Jan. 26, 2016, at age 63. Born in Bayonne, N.J., she grew up in Laurel, Md. and Mt. Holly, N.J. near military installations where her father, a U.S. Army Colonel, was stationed. She worked for many years as the officer manager for Giuliani Associates-Architects, Inc. Barbara and her husband Jonathan annually celebrated his birthday and Washington, D.C.'s cherry blossoms by spending a night in early April at the Willard Hotel. Her greatest joy was her children and as they were growing up, she spent many weekends attending soccer games, tennis matches, and crew regattas. Barbara is survived by her husband, Jonathan;

sons, Paul, David and Adam; stepdaughter, Rachel; a grandson; her sisters Mary Margaret Pfeiffer McGinnis and Eleanor Pfeiffer Lyman; and her sister-in-law, Patricia Pfeiffer.

Marsha Titus Evans '04, of Park Hall, Md., died Feb. 8, 2016, at age 33. A native of St. Mary's County, Md., she worked for J.F. Taylor, a defense contractor. She and husband Brian Evans were the photography team of “I Love Photography,” specializing in couples and family portraits. Marsha also was a Scentsy consultant. A diehard Green Bay Packers fan, she even owned a share of the team. Marsha was active in the local volunteer fire and rescue communities including St. Mary's County Advanced Life Support, the Hollywood Volunteer Rescue Squad where she served as its lieutenant, and since 2003, following in her

family footsteps by serving with the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad. A founding member of the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad Auxiliary, she was its first chairperson and last served as its treasurer. One of her proudest accomplishments was growing the auxiliary's annual brown bag auction into a well-attended community fundraising event that provided significant financial support to the Ridge Volunteer Rescue Squad. Marsha is survived by her husband Brian and her mother Frances Bean Titus, both St. Mary's College employees; and her sister **Jessica Titus Snyder '02**.

FRIENDS OF THE COLLEGE

Edward O. Clarke, Jr. of Winchester, Va., died February 27, 2016, at age 86. A native of Baltimore, Md., he graduated from Loyola High School, Loyola

University of Maryland and the University of Maryland Law School. He served in the U.S. Navy, where he was stationed in Norfolk, Va., and rose to the rank of lieutenant. An attorney with Piper and Marbury, Clarke served as managing partner and helped establish the firm's public finance practice. He also served for more than a decade as chairman of the Maryland Higher Education Commission. He served on the Board of Trustees of St. Mary's College of Maryland from 1983 – 1994 and as its chair since 1989. For that service, he was named to the Order of the Ark and Dove by President Edward T. Lewis. He is survived by his wife, Pearl “Peggy” Clarke; a son, Edward O. Clarke III; daughters Catherine Ann Clarke, Deborah Clarke, and Carolyn Clarke Gartner; a brother, James O. Clarke; six grandchildren; a niece and two nephews.

ST. MARY'S STEPS IN

College records reveal the true story behind the fictional "Scott's Tots"

If you were a fan of the popular American comedy, "The Office," starring Steve Carell as the well-intentioned but flawed Michael Scott, you probably remember a particularly cringe-worthy episode called "Scott's Tots," wherein he is invited to a reception hosted in his honor by a class of high school seniors that he had promised college tuitions to nine years previously. Unfortunately, "The Michael Scott Foundation" had become defunct and he tells the students during the ceremony that he cannot afford to pay for any of their college tuitions and then promptly leaves the classroom of angry students whose dreams he has crushed.

This episode is based on a real-life scandal that happened at the Bruce-Monroe Elementary School in Washington, D.C. Like the fictional Michael Scott, in 1995, a "would-be philanthropist" named George Abel promised sixth grade students full scholarships to college if they stayed in school. However, fundraising efforts through his Phoenix Foundation were ineffective and it folded several years prior to the graduation date without the students' knowledge.

In the chaos that followed this scandal, St. Mary's was the first to step in and offer a solution. President Maggie O'Brien made an offer of full scholarships to students that could meet the admissions criteria. St. Mary's further led the charge by establishing the Bruce-Monroe Task Force along with Governor Parris Glendening, which pulled in other colleges, universities, and organizations to offer students the aid required to attend college.

From the time the scandal broke in December of 2000 to the students' high school graduation in May 2001, St. Mary's and the task force managed to provide a happy ending for the 42 Bruce-Monroe students. Two students who met St. Mary's admissions standards attended college here while the task force found other placements for the rest. Unlike "The Office" episode where Michael is only able to buy them laptop batteries and pay for one student's books, all 42 Bruce-Monroe students ended up getting the funding



to go to college. Ultimately, even though the fictional Michael Scott and the real life George Abel failed to provide the resources for their students, St. Mary's was able to make the Bruce-Monroe students' dreams come true.

Guest column written by Lina Mann '16, student worker in the College Archives. The Bruce-Monroe file is part of a collection of records from President Maggie O'Brien's years which are now better arranged and described as a result of the work of students like Lina.

Recruitment efforts by St. Mary's College of Maryland to the Bruce-Monroe students at Cardozo High School in 2001 resulted in additional Cardozo high schoolers applying to and being accepted at St. Mary's. These photos were taken at a post-graduation celebration in 2005 to recognize the accomplishments of the Bruce-Monroe and Cardozo High School students.

Layla Wynn '05 (top) and Adrianna Cofield '05 (above) were the first in their families to graduate from college. Wynn currently works in DC providing support services for veteran families at Housing Counseling Services, Inc. Cofield did graduate work at Howard University and currently works with DC's Parks and Recreation as a teen program leader.

Calendar of Events

Art SMP Final Exhibition
April 18 – May 3, Boyden Gallery

“Machinal”
by Sophie Treadwell and
directed by Amy Steiger
April 21 – 23 at 8 pm
April 24 at 2 pm
Bruce Davis Theater

Awards Convocation
April 22 at 3 pm
Michael P. O’Brien Athletics
& Recreation Center Arena

Spring Jazz Concert
April 22 at 8 pm
Auerbach Auditorium
of St. Mary’s Hall

Bay to Bay Service Day
April 23 at 9 am
Register at [www.smcm.edu/events/
calendar/bay-bay-service-day](http://www.smcm.edu/events/calendar/bay-bay-service-day)

PING Concert
April 23 at 1 pm
HSMC Great Brick Chapel

Chorus Concert
April 30 at 4 pm
Auerbach Auditorium
of St. Mary’s Hall

**Historic St. Mary’s Half
Marathon and 5K Race**
May 1 at 8 am
St. Mary’s College of Maryland

**Young at Art: Artwork from
St. Mary’s County Schools**
May 9 – 31, Boyden Gallery

**Economic Inequality Film
Series: “Inside Job”**
May 12 at 8 pm
Cole Cinema

Commencement
May 14 at 10 am
Townhouse Green

Alumni Weekend
June 9 – 12

River Concert Series
June 17 – July 22
Friday evenings at 7 pm
Townhouse Green
www.smcm.edu/events/riverconcert

**Chesapeake Writers’
Conference**
June 19-25
To apply: [chesapeakewritersconference.
submittable.com/](http://chesapeakewritersconference.submittable.com/)

Golden & Beyond Reunion
(for classes celebrating 50th,
55th, 60th anniversaries)
June 23 – 25

**43rd Annual Governor’s Cup
Yacht Race**
August 5 – 6

Zero Year Reunion
(for the Class of 2016)
August 6

Check for event updates and
additions: www.smcm.edu/events/calendar





PHOTO: BILL WOOD

Lew Jenkins Leaves the Nest

Before every game this season, the varsity baseball team called “Lew, Lew, Lew!” to have Coach Lew Jenkins join their huddle. Jenkins retired at the conclusion of the spring 2016 season after 22 years and more than 700 games as head coach. See story on page 5.