

WINTER 2020

Vol. 11 No. 2 • A Magazine for Alumni, Parents and Friends of Marist Catholic High School • Eugene, Oregon

MARIST



W E A R E O N E

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Advancement used to be called Development and before that it was called Fundraising. The evolution in words and actions reflects the change from a transactional exchange to a relational approach: meaningfully engaging people in the life, mission and vision of our school. At Marist, this fundamental shift in thinking has spurred recent changes.



One example is Preview Day, our traditional January event to introduce prospective families to Marist. For years, Preview Day has consisted of a three-hour set format showcasing academics, Campus Ministry, tuition assistance, sports and activities. This year, we changed the day to an open house style that allowed families to set their own schedule and spend time where they chose. We were intentional about helping our guests authentically experience our welcoming community. It worked! Families responded enthusiastically and positively to the many staff and volunteers who spent their afternoon in support of Marist.

Many of those volunteers are members of the newly formed Core Team — a group of alumni, parents, staff and supporters — all people who love Marist, have good ideas, positive energy and are willing to serve. Core Team members serve as both “think tank” strategists and practical “hands-on” volunteers, as well as ambassadors for Marist in the larger community. They have helped with our Advancement efforts by making personal phone calls to welcome incoming families; inviting prospective families to Preview Day; serving as buddies for transfer student families; analyzing Marist’s strengths and weaknesses; suggesting practical strategies to increase enrollment and alumni involvement; and creating a Marist myth-busting document to inform marketing. That’s just the surface!

Through their efforts, I have witnessed a growth in the level of involvement by many people in our community. This is exciting and inspiring! And it affirms the power of personal invitation, the desire of people to be involved, and the uniqueness of a school community that continues to feel like a family through over 100 years of Catholic secondary education: St. Mary’s, St. Francis and now Marist.

God invites us all to contribute to the Marist family — to consider how we can keep our school healthy, relevant and a place where students and families seek to not only join but to actively engage in the life, mission and vision.

Advancement has another meaning: moving forward. After much prayer these past few months, I feel that God is calling me to spend more time with my family. Therefore, this is my last year at Marist. I’m not sure what this “advancement” will look like for me personally, but I have loved being a part of the Marist family and know that our school will continue to move forward with the support of our caring and generous community.

We Are One.



Lenten blessings,

Suzanne Graf

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Photo by Lauren Barry, '20

ON THE COVER:

Senior Bella Zachem proudly hoists the 2019 4A state championship trophy with her teammates in November after the OSAA Cross Country State Championships held at Lane Community College.

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VOL. 11 • NO. 2 • WINTER 2020

Magazine Editorial Board:

Toni Cooper, Suzanne Graf, Nancy Kiesewetter, Rebecca Larson, Chris Miller and Katie Underwood

Suzanne Graf: Publisher

Toni Cooper: Managing Editor

Chris Miller: Graphic Design & Layout

Rebecca Larson: Advancement News

Nancy Kiesewetter: Proofreader

Katie Underwood: Alumni News

Becky Boyd: Proofreader

Heather Boyles: Circulation Coordinator

Marist Catholic High School
1900 Kingsley Road
Eugene, Oregon 97401
541-686-2234

Other Marist Phone Numbers:

Advancement Office: 541-681-5470
Finance Office: 541-485-7879
Foundation Office: 541-686-0251

Marist Magazine is a publication of Marist Catholic High School, ©2020 MCHS. The magazine is published three times a year (Fall, Winter and Spring/Summer) and is the product of contributions from staff, students, alumni and friends of Marist. Views expressed on these pages do not always represent those of the Marist administration.

Magazine Website:
marisths.org/marist-magazine

Send Comments or Ideas to:
magazine@marisths.org

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bouncing
singing
dancing

bowling

playing

fundraising

It's all
for the

babies

praying

The Mr. & Ms. Spartan Program

26 years of raising money for NICU babies

By Bill Ferarri



ast December, Pope Francis visited the mountain village of Greccio where in 1223 St. Francis created what is now known as The Shrine of the Nativity, the first nativity scene in celebration of Christmas. At the same time Pope Francis was delivering his homily to honor that occasion, many current Marist seniors were in the process of applying for a position on this year's Mr. and Ms. Spartan team. The timing is fitting. As Pope Francis says, "The birth of a child awakens joy and wonder, [setting] before us the great mystery of life."

The Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program is part of the Kids Helping Kids initiative — a collaboration of local high school programs committed to working with the Children's Miracle Network (CMN) in support of Sacred Heart at RiverBend's neonatal intensive care and pediatric units. In the spring of 1995, the first-ever Mr. Spartan Pageant crowned senior David Jaspers '95 as Marist's original Mr. Spartan. On April 4 this year, a Mr. and Ms. Spartan partnership will wear the crown. While it has evolved over the years, the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program has remained steadfast in its commitment to the program's defining mission: saving the babies.

As Fr. Jaspers (as he is known today) says, "At the time of doing the first Mr. Spartan, it was a chance to have fun, and the most impacting experience was visiting the NICU and learning how precious life is." Current Ms. Spartan Teagan Peterson '20 echoes Fr. Jaspers as Teagan

recalls feeling "most connected to [her] Spartan teammates visiting the NICU," and Teagan's teammate McKenna Priske '20 believes that this year's team "is most connected by a big enthusiasm to do everything for the babies and have fun doing it."

If, as Pope Francis says, "The nativity scene is like a living Gospel rising up from the pages of sacred Scripture," then the NICU tour allows the Mr. and Ms. Spartan team their own annual pilgrimage to a holy place.

"The NICU at RiverBend is really an amazing unit," says Dr. Misty Carlson, a pediatric cardiologist and mother of 2019 Ms. Spartan Ariel Carlson. "I don't think you can find a NICU in the state that provides better care ... the babies who are cared for in the NICU are not just premature infants, but also infants who may need surgery shortly after birth, infants who have a congenital problem that may need specialized care or infants who had an unanticipated complication at delivery ... the NICU provides high quality care to the most fragile children in our community."

For 26 years, Mr. and Ms. Spartans have responded to their aware-

ness of the hundreds of babies who are treated annually in the NICU (610 in 2019) by designing fundraising events that range from school dances and car washes to Bunco and bowling nights. They have written thousands of letters asking for donations to CMN, and they have hounded hundreds of their peers for spare change for their Mr. and Ms. Spartan jars. These Marist seniors model what Pope Francis sees when he finds in the crèche the presence of shepherds, blacksmiths, bakers and musicians: "everyday holiness, the joy of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way."

The Marist community has always responded. At last year's Spartan Pageant, Kids Helping Kids coordinator and PeaceHealth Pediatric Program Director of Development Alexa Sharps announced that the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program has donated more than three-quarters of a million dollars since its inception. As Alexa says, "The Marist community makes a huge impact on our ability to provide the resources we have. These funds allow families in our community and outlying communities to stay close to home in some of the most challenging times of their lives." Dr. Carlson adds, "It's important for the Marist community to know that when they support CMN and the NICU they are also supporting the families of our community. I can't even imagine what it might be like for the families of newborn infants who need care far from home for an extended period of time."

Pope Francis calls this "the vocation of Christ and the vocation of Christians, as well. To go to others, those in need, whether their needs be material



2015 Mr. Spartan team members Courtney Alldrige '15 and Jack Kiesewetter '15 tour the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Sacred Heart RiverBend.



(Left) Fr. David Jaspers '95 is crowned the first-ever Mr. Spartan in 1995. (Right) Elizabeth (Jaspers) Fox '01 with husband David Fox '02, son of history teacher Walt Fox, in the NICU with their boys Beckett and Hudson in 2014.



“We will never forget the tubes that breathed life into our boys or those isolettes that held them safe and enabled them time to grow when it was not safe for them to experience the world on their own — those things will always be a part of their story and their survival and we will always be thankful to programs like the Children’s Miracle Network for the tireless work they continue to do to make it possible for babies like ours to lead full and healthy lives.”

— Elizabeth (Jaspers) Fox '01

or spiritual and bring peace there.” 2014 Mr. Spartan Darren Nelson’s lasting memory of his experience is “the Marist staff, my fellow Marist students and their families, the selfless nurses and doctors, the brave parents of those helpless babies in the NICU all coming together for one reason: to help those most in need.”

Assistant Director of Campus Ministry and Marist theology teacher Julie Ferrari served as the Mr. Spartan moderator from 2003-2013, inheriting the role from past program moderator and art teacher Lex (Bonzer) Schmidt '71. “I will always be grateful for [my teams’] baby saving efforts,” says Julie, who appreciates that “the money we raise goes to our Catholic hospital that serves our local community, including those living in poverty. We are called to protect the vulnerable, and supporting the NICU allows our students to do so in a very meaningful way.”

When Marist seniors take on their Mr. and Ms. Spartan responsibilities, they do so with an impressive enthusiasm and desire to support babies and families they do not know personally. It’s true that various Mr. and Ms. Spartans over the years may have had siblings or cousins who

spent time in the NICU — 2019 Ms. Spartans Jane and Sarah Barker (and brother Sam) were NICU triplets — but the vast majority of Mr. and Ms. Spartans enter the program simply motivated by a desire to make a positive impact without any real personal connection to the NICU.

This was certainly the case for 2002 Mr. Spartan David Fox '02. David recalls his experience as “humbling, unforgettable, and so much fun.” Twelve years later, David and his wife Elizabeth (Jaspers) Fox '01 found themselves spending the first 42 days of their twin boys Beckett and Hudson’s lives in a Las Vegas NICU. “There wasn’t even a thought in my head that we would

be NICU parents until the moment it happened,” says David.

“Being a NICU parent is being on your knees and at your most vulnerable — humbly praying these machines and these people trained to operate them will save your babies,” Elizabeth says. “During our time in the NICU, the irony was not lost on us. I was very aware that the direct work done by my brother, my husband and our high school was impacting babies like our very own. Much like the Mr. and Ms. Spartan participants can attest, the NICU experience never leaves you.”

As David says, “It’s like a roller coaster. Every day there is a new milestone or setback, yet as a Mr. Spartan

Photo from the 2001 yearbook



Former Mr. Spartan staff coordinator Lex (Bonzer) Schmidt '71 and the members of the 2001 team.



Past Mr. Spartan staff coordinator Julie Ferrari is crowned by the 2006 Pageant participants.

alum there was never a day I didn't carry all of those positive memories with me into the NICU."

Current Mr. and Ms. Spartan co-moderator Jamie (Ferrari) McIntyre '13 has attended every Mr. Spartan Pageant since she started first grade. Jamie and her husband Andrew McIntyre '12 had two children born in the NICU. Alistair arrived nine weeks early and spent his first 54 days of life in the RiverBend NICU. Two years later, Al's little brother Joel spent his first three weeks of life in the same room. Like David, Jamie calls her time with the boys in the NICU "a roller coaster," and she continues to stay active with

the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program because "this is one way I can show appreciation to CMN, the NICU, and the Spartan program for all that they have done for my family."

"Seeing the bright eyes of a young couple gazing at their newborn child, we understand the feelings of Mary and Joseph," says Pope Francis, "who, as they looked at the infant Jesus, sensed God's presence in their lives."

"I am pleased that something that started my first year at Marist has endured and has had a positive impact on so many children, families, and Marist students," says current Marist Spanish teacher and original Ms. Spartan Nicole Mombell '98. In those first days, the program "was run by Student Council," says Nicole. "I remember cold-calling area businesses asking for donations. It was the first time I had ever done anything like that and I was terrified!"

The current Mr. and Ms. Spartan team now builds off the successes of the 25 Mr. and Ms. Spartan teams that have come before them, always far more "committed to the cause rather than the crown," as Julie

Ferrari likes to say, and inspired to continue to fulfill the vision and mission the program established in 1995.

Just as the NICU at RiverBend will continue to offer the highest level of treatment to future infants and their families in need of critical care, the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program will continue to embrace its role in saving those babies by generating the funds necessary to help pay for the cardiopulmonary monitors, Bili-Bassinetts and pediatric scales necessary to maintain the 52-bed neonatal and pediatric units. The program moves forward into the 2020s, fortified by the first Mr. Spartan himself, Fr. David Jaspers, and his prayer that "the Mr. and Ms. Spartan Program continues to be a unique testimony to Christ." ✠



English teacher Bill Ferrari is the current Mr. and Ms. Spartan program moderator and the proud grandfather of NICU babies Alistair, now a healthy 4-year-old, and Joel, a healthy and active almost 2-year-old, and older sister Amelia who will be 7 in May.



A sampling of Mr. and Ms. Spartan teams over the 26-year history and their commitment to raising money for CMN. Photos from the Marist archives.

ADVENTURE THERAPY

Currin Cooley '59 and his marathon to health

Educating the whole student — mind, body and spirit— is a hallmark of Catholic education. This concept was well known and practiced by Currin Cooley '59 throughout his teaching career that spanned more than two decades and numerous schools around the globe and included an all-girls Catholic school in Tokyo, Japan.

But what happens when the mind has to wrap itself around the unalterable fact that the body has failed — in a life-threatening way — and only a strong spirit protests “wait — my journey is not yet complete!” and battles its way back to health? What happens when the teacher again becomes the student, re-learning such elemental skills as swallowing and walking?

Adventure Therapy tells that story.

By Currin Cooley '59

All adventures begin with a dream and flow through a series of processes. These include facing the unknown, commodifying equipment, understanding certain technologies, playing within the environment and facing the prospects between life and death. During the past four years, my life has incorporated these fundamentals of adventure in both magical and nightmarish ways.

After attending St. Francis High School (1955-1959), I was not certain where my life would lead, except that the University of Oregon was my next destination. Who knew that a Bachelor of Science degree in health, physical education and recreation (1963) and a master's in recreation (1969) would lead to a global lifestyle of living and teaching in Switzerland, Denmark, Japan, New Zealand and Asia for more than 20 years, including 26 years teaching and researching in universities in the U.S. and New Zealand. I was leading a rich life of unparalleled experiences. Until I wasn't.

Photo courtesy of Currin Cooley, '59



Hale and hearty, Currin visits Taipei, Taiwan to lecture at De Lin University in April of 2013.

998 Days Inside a Medical Facility

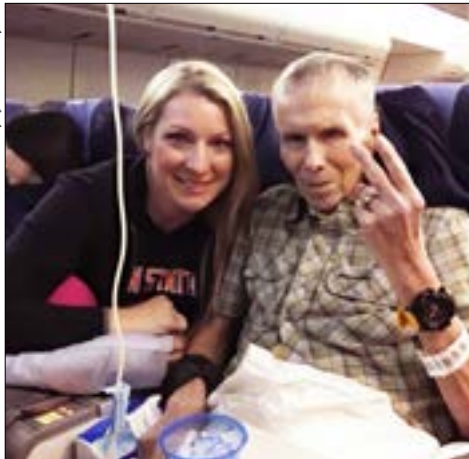
On Sept. 8, 2015 my life came to a screeching halt. While living in Hong Kong and preparing to develop an Outdoor Education Program for Hong Kong intermediate schools, I received a giant interruption of life as I knew it: a literal punch in the gut. Attending

a delightful dinner party, I suddenly began to feel terrible and decided to return to my flat. Feeling even worse, I called my flatmate, who was at the dinner. He rushed home, called the ambulance and off we went to the Princess Margaret Hospital in Kowloon, some distance from our village of Pui O, on Lantau Island.

I learned that my stomach had ruptured ... and emergency surgery was required to save my life. (Note that being in a hospital in Hong Kong is a good place to be at such a time. Doctors who practice Western medicine receive their medical training in English.)

The “Adventure” Begins

What happened next was surgery and then a horrible nightmare of a coma: as far as I could tell it was real life and I could not escape. I have no idea how long I was in this coma condition. All of a sudden, I heard my fiancée, Che, say, “Currin, I am here!” I woke up in the ICU ward. Che had



"V" for victory. Currin flies off to surgery in Portland in November of 2016 with the help of his friend Amy Brown, a nurse.

been contacted in the Philippines and had flown to Hong Kong, since she was told, "If you want to see him alive, you better come now." Che visited me every day for a whole year and I credit my survival to God's will, my personal resilience and Che's care, comfort and encouragement. Though I had not died, I would require reconstructive surgery to connect my esophagus to my jejunum and ilium, since I had no stomach (re-learn your human anatomy)!

I was not an official resident of Hong Kong, therefore, this specialized surgery would be at Providence Hospital in Portland, Oregon. It took nearly six months to make the arrangements, but on Nov. 22, 2016, Che returned home and I flew from Hong Kong to San Francisco to Portland, 20 hours in all. During that fateful year, I had been kept alive (barely) on tube feedings of Nestlé's "mush." I had lost 50 lbs. off my slender frame and in order to survive the reconstructive surgery, I would have to gain weight and strength.

Not many people enter a rehab center to prepare to exit for surgery, and then re-enter for post-surgery, but that was my next six months. My routine at Mt. Tabor Marquis Acute Rehab Center was physical therapy, rest and activities. I was getting better every day but then ... ah, Medicaid stood in the way. Only 100 days of physical

therapy treatment were permitted and had to stop just as I was getting stronger (need for better health care in the USA personified). On June 2, 2017, after three more months, I was deemed by the surgeon to be fit and ready for surgery. At last I headed to Providence, not really knowing whether I would actually survive the ordeal, just trusting in God's will (and a different kind of providence).

Post-surgery, I returned to rehab, but now with a new lease on life and was soon disconnected from the feeding tubes and suction machine. But wait! I could not swallow and required swallow-therapy; I had to learn to eat again. Then, it was time to relearn to walk, one tiny step at a time. Climbing up stairs was akin to climbing a rock wall. Stopwatch time trials measured my pace at 30 ft. in 30 seconds ... aided by a walker. (This for someone who had the St. Francis record for the mile and was an Oregon high school cross country co-champion in 1958.)



In January of 2017, Currin completes his 15-minute workout at the Marquis Rehab Center in preparation for reconstructive surgery.

Simply put, I recovered and began venturing out in the community. First in a wheelchair, then a four-wheel drive walker, and finally, with my steady friend, the cane.



Wearing his Ronald McDonald socks from a previous race, Currin finishes last, but first, in the co-ed Girls On the Run Race in May of 2018.

I was ready to do more. On May 5, 2018, I entered a Ronald McDonald 5K walk/run race and completed one of three miles. Progress! Two weeks later I entered the co-ed Girls on the Run 5K, accompanied by a Marquis attendant. I ran two miles, and, although I finished last out of 2,500 participants, I medaled. I was first in two categories: my age group and the disability group. Matthew 20:16 come true: "The first shall be last and the last shall be first." My adventure spirit was alive, restored and energized after 998 days of hospital and rehab!

Recovery Amid the Firs

On June 2, 2018, I "escaped" the Marquis Rehab center, ironically, in a Mercury Grand Marquis and began six months of camping in the National Forest campgrounds of Oregon and Washington. With my car, tent, sleeping bag and pad, camp stove and supply of sundries, gasoline, food and maps, I was an able wanderer, off on adventure into the deep forest. Except for sojourns into shops for espresso, exploring various city libraries and

Photo courtesy of Currin Cooley '59



Soaking up the healing elements, Currin continues to recuperate while camping in 2018.

replenishing supplies, I was seeking a peek into the world outside the walls of confinement — going from complete dependability on others, to complete independence on my own resourcefulness.

Adventurers are, in so many ways, defined by weather conditions and their ability to cope. I'd weathered 998 days of hospital and rehab. Now, I reveled in the sounds of nature: silence, winds, rapids, the companionship of tall Douglas firs and wildlife. One hundred days without rain, then some sprinkles, and later frost and ice. The elements were my friends.

Fire

These days, the collection of firewood at \$4 a bundle seems to reduce the ancient primitive way of retrieving it from downed trees and branches ... but it is abundant and effective! As the orange and blue flames contrast with the total darkness, crackling in the stillness and as smoke circulates, one moves around the circle when the wind changes course. An ambiance is created that is not easily explained. Pure relaxation is one way, contrasted with the medical hygienic confines of a rehab room, with nowhere to escape.

Water

Most choice campsites are near

water, whether an easy-flowing stream or rapids racing between the boulders. The negative ions refresh the air and the mind is stimulated. Depending on the season, immersion by swimming and bathing were part of my intrepid steps at the edge of the shore.

Earth

Finding a flat place to pitch the tent is a minor challenge. Then, setting up the tent is a potential piece of labor, especially while working with one hand and wielding a cane for steadiness. Soft or hard earth determines the ease or difficulty of pounding the tent stakes. For me, laying down the ground cloth, then pitching the tent and installing the poles, followed by the rain fly, took a considerable amount of time. Therefore, I would usually spend 14 days at each site, as was the maximum length of stay in the National Forest during the main season. However, that was a good thing and permitted me to learn about the nearby communities, and even meet people and gain some insight about rural Oregon and Washington lifestyles. This was a form of new enlightenment that I would never have known had I not found and valued the so-called "salt of the earth"!

Air

Scientifically, it's oxygen, the air. It's the earth's fresh breath; the aroma that emits when the breeze blows through the trees, when the rains fall on the ground, when the currents from the rivers stir the invisible, but the senses absorb.

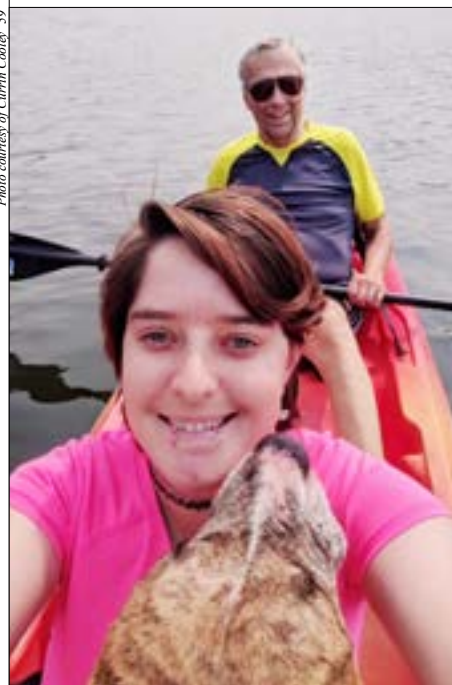
This outdoor adventure therapy was the greatest contrast from the indoor form of rehab therapy. A camp chair was my perch in nature and I had nowhere special to go. Nowhere special that is, except a revelation of the mind and reexamination of my "second chance at life."

Terrain determines what one sees and the eyes have the power to

rejuvenate! That was exactly what I was seeking and found on this wandering journey of uncertainty. I cast off the "spell of doom" and re-engaged with life, granted a second chance at the craft of living.

Sometimes in life it takes deprivation and the unknown to really live our lives in the realm of the unexpected. To forge through all that takes faith in God's plan, perseverance and a personal will to survive. It also takes wonder and curiosity about the next stage of the adventure. As Viktor Frankl, Holocaust survivor, reinforced in *Man's Search for Meaning* "There is more purpose ahead, immersing and imagining the next outcome."

Photo courtesy of Currin Cooley '59



Currin, his niece Cassidy and her dog Desmond kayak in the Columbia Gorge, in August of 2018.

Going places and doing things is my mantra. Adventure therapy — combined with the care of medical teams, my fiancée, family and friends — saved me. In 2019, my "to do" list included planning the 60th reunion of St. Francis High School with the help of a great group of alumni. What will 2020 bring? New opportunities and new challenges on this continuing adventure. ☘



Photo by Rebecca Larson

Currin Cooley '59 stands with the 2019 girls and boys cross country teams.

HOW FAR THEY'VE COME

Cross country girls earn second consecutive state title

The roots of Marist's state championship girls cross country team began in the fall of 1958 — the year Currin Cooley '59 was a senior at St. Francis High School. (St. Francis, now the site of O'Hara Catholic School, was moved and renamed Marist when the Brothers built the new Catholic high school on Kingsley Road in 1968.)

Girls sports were barely existent in 1958. Girls certainly did not run cross country. "They were told it would make their calf muscles too big," recalled Currin.

Sixty years later, our Marist girls have muscled their way to victory, winning the 4A OSAA State Championship Cross Country meet two years in a row!

At the state meet held in early November 2019, senior Lucy Tsai led her team to victory by finishing fourth with a time of 18:39.20, followed closely by her younger sister, sophomore Jennifer Tsai in fifth. They were followed by junior Emilie Nelson (13th), senior Isabella Zachem (14th) and senior Sally Moore (27th). Junior

Valerie Ponce and freshman Reeve Helvoigt finished 32nd and 64th respectively.

"It feels awesome to end like this and I would never have expected it," said Lucy, who was also a part of the 2018 state team that only lost one senior to graduation.

The boys team finished fourth place at the state meet and were led by senior Wiley Watts, who finished 6th after a first place finish at the Sky-Em District Meet.

Currin was on hand for the 2019 cross country team award night to help celebrate the teams' accomplishments. When he had heard the news of the girls' win, he wanted to meet them in person and congratulate them — and show them how far their sport has come in 60 years.

He had this advice for the 33 students gathered that evening in the Marist ARC for their team banquet: "Keep running," he said, "And if you can't run, WALK!"



Photo by Lauren Barry '20

The Marist 2019 Girls Cross Country State Champions on the podium.



Photo from the Marist archives

Photo by Rebecca Larson

Miles to go before they sleep. Currin Cooley '59, co-state champion in cross country in 1958 and St. Francis record-holder in the mile in 1959, stands with Wiley Watts '20, the 2019 Sky-Em District 5000-meter champion.



MARIST ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Marist has a rich 50+ year history of excellence in athletics.

Marist's Athletic Hall of Fame was established in 2019 and the school inducted the first class in October. Inaugural inductees included: Kayla (Braud) Berney '09, Joe Holvey '81, Coach Ed Hummel†, Kristina (Andersen) Mosley '97 and Marist's 1973 Football Team.

The next Athletic Hall of Fame celebration is planned for this fall. Athletic Hall of Fame recognition demonstrates school spirit, pride and a sense of community, within the great tradition of Marist athletics. Visit <https://athletics.marisths.org/hall-of-fame.html> to learn about eligibility criteria and to submit a nomination today!

Nomination deadline: April 10, 2020

Please contact Kevin Cave, Athletic Director with any questions.
(541) 731-6174 | kcave@marisths.org

The 2019 Athletic Hall of Fame inductees. (Not pictured: representatives from the family of Ed Hummel†)





Jack Tucker '68 remembering his time at St. Francis in the Marist front office.

Photo by Rebecca Larson



Bob and Mary Tucker at their kitchen table circa 1980s.

EVERY GIFT TELLS A STORY

Marist's Legacy Society has a new member: Jack Tucker '68. A St. Francis graduate, Jack is one of six children, all of whom were given a Catholic education.

Jack's parents volunteered "a lot" during the 20+ years that spanned their children's enrollment.

"My dad was a cabinet maker and it was hard to put six kids through Catholic school, but he did it," said Jack. "My mom proofread thesis papers for the University of Oregon. It was something she could do from home and still take care of us kids."

Jack's planned gift is both paying back — a gift of gratitude for his education made possible by his parents' sacrifices — and paying it forward to help support future students.

His parents' commitment to Catholic education inspired Jack to make a bequest but he has an extremely practical reason as well. "I can't rent a U-Haul and take it with me," said Jack. "What the heck, I might as well give it to Marist."

And Marist is thankful.



The Marist Foundation
 Rebecca Larson
 rlaron@marisths.org
 541-681-5460



Photo by Toni Cooper

After 23 Years, It's Time to Go Home

In January, Marist staff gather around Rick Truitt (center) in the ARC while celebrating his retirement.

Rick Truitt retires from Marist

By Rebecca Larson

Walk into Marist and notice the floors. Despite being 50 years old, they shine like a mirror—smooth and polished perfection. For the past 23 years, those floors have been the work of custodian Rick Truitt, whose retirement was celebrated January 10. Rick took his work seriously. Woe be it to the person whose shoes made black scuff marks on his pristine canvas!

One day (sadly) it was me, but redemption was provided with his simple instruction: “Put your foot on the mark and spin around.” It worked! While Rick was removing a few in the hallway, I was twirling around near the front office only to discover a family watching me from the bench by the door. “Uh... we’re joyful here!” I offered as an explanation and we all smiled.

“Joyful” might not be the very *first* word that comes to mind when you think of Rick.

“Ornery,” offered Nancy Kiesewetter, who’d occasionally be startled by Rick’s teasing face looking in through her office window.

I have to concur. Many times my cheerful “hello” to Rick would be greeted with a literal growl, “GRRRRR!”

But he has a softer side.

It was four years ago and the end of my first week at Marist. Few cars were left in the staff parking lot on this late Friday afternoon. My old, REALLY old, Subaru refused to start. A co-worker was leaving in her pristine SUV but I was too embarrassed to ask for help, so I pretended to be on my phone. As if I were calling ... hmmm, a tow truck.

The ruse worked. She waved and drove off.

Then Rick happened by and said with his characteristic directness, “Car won’t start? Let me jump it.”

He did. It didn’t.

But at the end of his own long week, Rick was there to help. Without judgment or fanfare. I was so embarrassed and near tears when I thanked him, but he just smiled and said, “It’s okay, sweetie. We Are One.”

I’m not the only person who has experienced Rick’s kindness. Journalism teacher Toni Cooper recalls how he’d come and find her working far into the evening to tell her it was getting late, he was leaving and it was time to go home. And then wait for her. “I’ve always felt loved and protected by Rick—even when he was giving me grief for letting kids eat in my room,” Toni said.

The reason for the “grief” was that keeping Marist clean was more than just a job for Rick. English teacher Bill Ferrari described it this way: “Rick’s professionalism validates the ideal that the Marist staff sees employment as a vocation rather than a job.” Vocations happen off the clock. Ferarri added, “For many years, Rick would put in a full week ... and then drive up to St. Benedict’s to work in the kitchen for a weekend Metanoia. Rick Truitt is a colleague for all time.”

After over two decades of his faithful service, we’re saying goodbye to our colleague. Someone else will have to volunteer at retreats, clean up thousands of messes, spin and badger, growl and serve. Someone else will have to baby those glossy floors. We will always be grateful and remember this good man’s dedication, but it’s getting late, Rick. It’s time to go home. ☩

Editor’s Note: Shortly after this story was written, and shared with him at his home in Eugene, Rick passed away from cancer on February 14. “It’s good to know you are loved,” was his sentiment upon reading this story, delivered with his characteristic grin.

2020 All Catholic Schools Mass: the Tradition Continues

Photo by Toni Cooper



▲ Students, staff, families and clergy gather at the 2020 All Catholic Schools Mass.

Catholic education is not just for the student, but for the world, was the message the students from Marist, O'Hara and St. Paul heard when they gathered in the Marist gym for the 23rd annual All Catholic Schools Mass to celebrate National Catholic Schools Week this past January. At its best, Catholic education instills in its students, from a young

Sue Paiement, Executive Director at Catholic Community Services and alumni parent, was on hand before Mass to receive the food and hygiene products collected by the students to help CCS help those in need.

At the conclusion of the Mass, Marist president Suzanne Graf thanked everyone involved, including the wonderful choir formed by students from each school. She also recognized the 15 seniors in the congregation that were in their 15th year in attendance at the All Catholic Schools Mass. "It was really cool, looking out and seeing all the younger kids and remembering when I was that small and looking out for the seniors. Now I'm one of those seniors," said Emmerine Helbling '20, one of the 15.

Photo by Sydney Frey '19



▲ Max Whittaker '21 helps a preschool student drop her donation into the Catholic Community Services collection box.

age, the virtues of taking care of others. When these virtues become habits, the world around us changes for the better. This was just a part of Fr. Ron Nelson's message about the importance of Catholic education that he shared with over 1200 students, faculty and families of the three Catholic schools.

Photo by Toni Cooper



▲ Twelve of the 15 Marist students who were attending their 15th All Catholic Schools Mass. Each student either went to O'Hara or St. Paul grade schools.

Coach P. Earns Recognition

Photo by Dawn Barth



▲ Head volleyball coach Shari Pimental cheers on her team with assistant coach Ryan Moser.

Head volleyball coach Shari Pimental has been selected as the 2019 Northwest Section Coach of the Year for girls volleyball by the National Federation of State High School Coaches Association. She was chosen based on her performance in 2018, lifetime community involvement, school involvement and philosophy of coaching. Coach P. has been the head volleyball coach since 1993 and has won two state championships and multiple top-six finishes in those 27 years.

Teacher, Students Honored by VFW

Photo by Daniella Giannante '19



▲ Marist President Suzanne Graf celebrates with Senior Lauren Englet and history teacher Walt Fox, both receiving awards from the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

In December, Marist history teacher Walt Fox won both the local and district High School Teachers Award from the Veterans of Foreign War Eugene Post 293. The VFW annually recognizes the nation's best elementary, junior high, and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and traditions effectively. The VFW also holds an annual essay writing contest for high schoolers labeled "Voice of Democracy." Senior Lauren Englet placed first in her

local Post 293 and second in the district and senior Niko Sušec placed first in his local Post 9448 with his essay titled “The Anthem of a Neighbor.” Englet and Sušec both received monetary prizes as well.

Junior Violinist Honored



▲ Violinist Logan Griffin '21 performs at a Marist Christmas prayer service.

Junior Logan Griffin is the first-ever Marist student chosen by the Oregon Music Education Association to perform in the All-State Orchestra which comprises Oregon’s best high school musicians. One of the 100 students who were selected out of over 1,000 applicants, Griffin played violin with the All-State Orchestra at First Baptist Church in Eugene in January.

Watts Spends Year in Japan



▲ Amelia Watts '22 in Japan.

At the end of her freshman year, sophomore Amelia Watts learned she had earned a Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship through the Southtowne Rotary Club and is now spending the year as an exchange student in Japan. She attends school taught in Japanese, will live with three different host families and is getting the opportunity to explore Japan both with the program

and with her host families. She learned about the Rotary program from current Rotarian Nick Balthrop '07 who gave a presentation at Marist about his high school experience in Sweden. The Rotary Youth Exchange has been promoting peace through cultural understanding, one student at a time, since 1959.

Teachers Join with Eugene Symphony for Performance



▲ After performing with the Eugene Symphony, teachers Ryan Moser and Erica Gingerich celebrate with Emmerine Helbling '20 (middle).

Science teacher Ryan Moser and art teacher Erica Gingerich were selected, through an audition process, to perform Mozart’s *Requiem*, a choral masterpiece written by Mozart in 1791. The performance took place at the Hult Center in mid-November with the Eugene Symphony. Moser said his experience unexpectedly resulted in him reviewing the constant advice he gives his students — “not giving up” — when learning something that seems near impossible at first glance.

Students Join In Giving



▲ Marist students help St. Vincent de Paul hand out food for holiday meals at St. Paul Parish in December.

On the first day of Christmas Break, several Marist students spent their Saturday in the rain at local parishes helping St. Vincent de Paul distribute food boxes to families in need.

Senior Moves On to State

Senior Nikola Sušec recently won the 2020 Lane County Oratory Contest sponsored by Oregon Right to Life. He presented his essay at the ORL Conference in Portland in February.



◀ Nikola Sušec '20 presents his essay in an ORL oratory contest at St. Paul Catholic Church in February.

Juniors find Camaraderie in Competition



▲ Tori Letourneau '21 and Britten Johnson '21.

For the first time, junior friends Tori Letourneau and Britten Johnson have found themselves leaping, flipping and tumbling in the same age group and at the same level as gymnasts with Gymnastics Northwest. Both talented and hard-working athletes have had success competing at Level 9 this year and each plans to compete in college. At the Reach for the Goal meet in Salem in early January, Letourneau finished first in All-Around, Vault, Bars and Beam, and Johnson finished second in All-Around and Beam. At the mid-January Winter Sun Invitational in Arizona, Letourneau was second in All-Around, first in Beam and finished in the top-3 in the other events. Spending upwards of 10 hours a day together (six hours of school and four hours of practice after school) Letourneau and Johnson have developed a special bond through the sport they love. “I love that gymnastics pushes you to do things that many people think they are incapable of. It’s such a unique sport, and it prepares you for so much in life as well,” Johnson said.

Senior Equestrian

Photo courtesy of Jacqueline Potwora '20



▲ Jacqueline Potwora '20 with her horse, Bentley.

This summer, Jacqueline Potwora '20 took home first place at the National Snaffle Bit Association World Championship show in Tulsa, Oklahoma, which features the best riders in America. She won the 14-18 Hunt Seat Equitation division with her horse, Bentley. The pair was judged on their execution of patterns, their positions and their ability to maintain harmony with each other. She qualified by placing high in the eight shows she competed in over the year.

Winter Sports Update

Photo by Whitney Korth '21



▲ Alec Vendetti '21 pulls up for a jumpshot.

BOYS BASKETBALL: The Marist boys basketball team has momentum on their side. They have rolled to a 20-3 record, including an undefeated 10-0 league record. They are currently the No. 1 ranked 4A team going into the state playoffs which start on March 7 with a first round game at home. The boys say the key to their success has been taking the season one game at a time. Studying film and building strategies to exploit each opponent's weaknesses has increased their readiness for every game like the gritty 42-39 win over the then No. 1 ranked Cascade Cougars in early January. Coach Bart Pollard says their discipline on defense is key to their game; on average, they give up only 45 points per game. Meanwhile, the JV team finished 19-3, while the freshman team, coached by Kamerun Smith '13, celebrated an undefeated season. The state quarters, semis and finals are March 12-14 in Forest Grove.

Photo by Madeline Mathiak '21



▲ Jessica Roth '20 races the ball up the court in the final minutes of a last-second 36-33 victory over Cascade High School.

GIRLS BASKETBALL: The lone senior on the girls varsity basketball team, Jessica Roth, has embraced her leadership role as the only upperclassman on the roster — there are no juniors. “This year I’ve really had to step up and become that person that everyone on the team looks up to both on and off the court,” Roth said. Head coach Britten Reeser commends Roth, “She has always led by example and she’s an extremely hard worker.” Roth and the other returning varsity player, sophomore Madison Fuller, have led the team to a 13-8 record and second place in the Sky-Em league with an 8-2 league record. They are a gritty team and have pulled off many last-minute wins including beating Cottage Grove, the No. 1 team in the league, 34-31 in the last game of the regular season. The Spartans start their playoff run on Feb. 24.

Photo by Donna Moore



▲ Charlie Moore '20 competes at Mt. Bachelor in January.

SKI TEAM: The Marist ski team started practicing in mid-November and began competition in January, competing most weekends at Mt. Bachelor, Hoodoo or Willamette Pass. As a part of the Oregon Ski School Association, they compete against schools of all sizes from across the state in both the short and fast Slalom races and the longer

Giant Slalom races.

Senior Sally Moore has led the Marist girls team so far in the competitions and twin brother Charlie Moore has been leading the boys team. Races continue until Feb. 29.

Photo by Tom Cooper



▲ Aubrie Ellison '20 races to the 100-yard butterfly win at the district swim meet.

SWIM TEAM: The team prides itself on feeling “like a family” and together put in a solid performance at districts this February. The boys, with both talent and numbers, won the 4A/3A/2A/1A Special District 3 meet with a win in the final event of the meet: the boys 400-yard freestyle relay. Knowing that the district team championship was within their grasp, all four members swam personal records to eek out the relay win, which put them two points ahead of Salem Academy for the team title. Sophomore Trent McQuaid was on the relay team and also qualified in two individual events: the 200 and 500 freestyle. Freshmen Jackson Anderson and Kyler Lajoie, also on the winning 400 free relay, each qualified in one more relay and one individual event. Interesting to note: although the boys did not have a single individual winner at the district meet, they qualified six swimmers to state in two relays and four individual events. A great display of teamwork!

The girls were second at the district meet with some exciting races as well. Senior Aubrie Ellison placed first in the 100 butterfly and second in the 100 backstroke. Senior Lauren Barry was first in the 50 freestyle and third in the 100 freestyle. Both seniors were also on two relays including the winning girls 400 freestyle relay with senior Katie Thompson and sophomore Sofia James. James also qualified in two individual events and Thompson in one. In total, the girls qualified seven competitors in three relays and five individual events to the state meet in Beaverton on Feb. 21-22.

ALUMNI NOTES

1960s



◀ **Penelope Schreiner Gross '61** of St. Francis High School was re-elected to her seventh four-year term on the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors on November 5, 2019. She also serves on

the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and chairs the Potomac Watershed Roundtable. She graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in political science in 1965.

1990s



◀ **Kris Jeremiah '93** and **Katie Jeremiah-Fisher '97** are a brother and sister executive team that has made Aggregate Resource Industries the largest drill and blast

company in the Pacific Northwest. They were recently featured in *Aggregate Manager* magazine for their accomplishments.

Sarina (Passarelli) Bronson '99 and husband Greg were blessed with a baby boy in December 2019. Baby James joins a very busy household in northern California, along with his five older siblings.

2000s

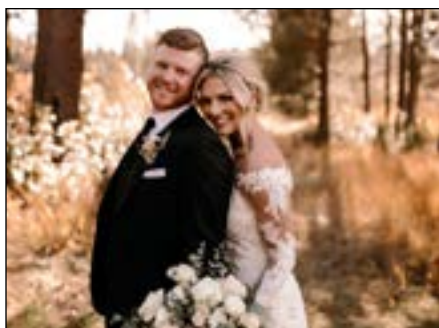


▲ **Heidi (Hoffman) Mooney '03** and her husband Marty welcomed a son, Martin Edward Mooney IV on Jan. 16, 2020.



◀ **Colleen Conklin '07** (pictured with her mother Sandy Conklin) is working on her Doctorate in Clinical Psychology (PsyD) at George Fox

University. She also provides psychological assessment and therapy at George Fox's Counseling Center full time. Her dissertation focused on the relationship between shame, sexual attitudes and religiosity in the previous and current Catholic female population.



▲ **Nick Stiltner '07** married Melissa Voogd on October 26, 2019, in a ceremony at the Great Hall in Sunriver, Oregon. The bridal party included alumni **Carlee Stiltner '11**, **Brian Burns '07**, **Brady Kirkpartrick '10**, **John McCallum '06**, **David McMahon '07**, **Brent Pollock '12** and classmate Todd Waters.



◀ **Alyssa Berryman '08** and Michael Dyer welcomed their baby boy James Michael Dyer on December 7, 2019.

Alyssa works as a medical device sales representative in Scottsdale, Arizona.



▲ **Emelia Gubrud '09** married Craig Hutto on December 31, 2019. The New Year's Eve ceremony included several

Marist alumni in the bridal party: **Jacob Gubrud '11** was Emelia's Man of Honor, **Kayla (Braud) Berney '09**, **Erin (Kerns) Green '09** and **Erica May '09** were bridesmaids, **Braden Bollinger '13** was a soloist and **Lilly Storment '14** was a candle lighter.



▲ **Erin (Miller) Roger '09** married Jonathan Roger on August 24, 2019. **Caylee (Wagner) Swanson '09**, **Caitlyn (Whitley) Larson '09** and her sister **Amy Miller '12**, were bridesmaids. Erin graduated with a master's in health administration from the University of Washington in June of 2018.



◀ **Conor Baumgart '09** is working in the software industry in Boston and appreciates the East Coast's four distinct seasons. In his leisure time, he enjoys club rugby, CrossFit training and travel.

2010s



▲ **Mercedes (Downer) Baeverstad '10** is currently a director of operations at a private preschool in Erie, Colorado. She married her husband, Brett in 2016 and

ALUMNI NOTES

in 2018 they welcomed their daughter, Linden Rose. This past June, their son Luke Emmaus was born. They are having so much fun exploring and going on many adventures in Colorado.



▲ **Tianna (Cardani) Schaeffer '10** and her husband David Schaeffer and 3-year-old son Vern welcomed a new baby, Veronica on December 4, 2019. Tianna has been a nurse for five years and is currently a medical staff nurse on the Medical/Acute Care of the Elder unit at Sacred Heart University District in downtown Eugene. Tianna, David and their children are pictured above with Tianna's parents Chris and Sheryl and siblings **Michael Cardani '15** and **Adri Cardani '12**.



◀ **Ben Damewood '11** received his Doctorate of Pharmacy from Washington State University in May. He graduated from the University of Portland in 2015 with a Bachelor of Science in biochemistry. He is beginning his career in pharmacy in Eugene.



▲ **Luke Manning '11** and his wife Taylor were married in September of 2018 and welcomed a daughter, Mahlia on July 1, 2019. Mahlia joins her 7-year-old brother Mason. Luke is an electrician at J & K Electrical in Eugene and is enjoying coaching 6 to 8-year-olds in Babe Ruth baseball.



▲ **Julie Grimes '12** was named #1 Real Estate Agent by Readers' Choice for the second year in a row. Julie recently joined the team at Triple Oaks Realty in Eugene.



◀ **Heidi Sibole '16** graduated from the University of Denver with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (Marketing) in November. Her AP classes from Marist, along with excellent support from teachers and staff, enabled her to graduate two quarters early including spending a quarter abroad in Portugal.

COMMUNITY



▲ Sid Voorhees and Mary Fechtel were married November 23, 2019. Sid was recently named Eugene Chamber of Commerce's First Citizen on January 28 for his contributions to the Eugene community.

REUNIONS

Class of 1970 - 50 years

Pat Brown '70 and **Lex (Bonzer) Schmidt '70** are planning the 50th reunion for the Class of 1970 for Friday, September 25: no-host cocktails and optional dinner at the Knights of Columbus (1140 Charnelton); and Saturday, September 26: no-host social at Roaring Rapids Pizza (4006 Franklin Blvd). Sr. Mollie Reavis and Bro. Dan Grogan have confirmed their attendance! For more information, please contact Pat at lpatrikbrown@gmail.com or Lex at schmittlex@aol.com.

Class of 1980 - 40 years

Tina (Wilson) Bowden '80 and **Kelley (Olsen) Kline '80** have begun planning for the 40th reunion for the Class of 1980 scheduled for July 18-19. To help or for more information, contact Kelley at kmokline@msn.com or Tina at tinabowden29@gmail.com.

Class of 1990 - 30 years

Brittany Carlin '90 and **Jeff Kast '90** are working on the 30th reunion for the Class of 1990. Make plans to join them August 7-9 for a meet & greet and drinks on Friday and at Marist on Saturday. For more information, contact Jeff 541-729-8345 or jeffkast@gmail.com.

Class of 2000 - 20 years

Kirsten (Cussins) Howard '00 and **Alexandra (Edmundson) Westover '00** are the 20-year-reunion coordinators for the Class of 2000. For more information, email marisths2000@gmail.com.

Classes of 1950, 1960 or 2010

If you are interested in organizing a reunion for these milestone years or need additional information about other reunions, please contact alumni@marisths.org.





Dorothy Eva Green passed away on August 16, 2019. Her daughters are **Claudia (Green) Iles '72, Sylvia Green '75, Julia (Green) Schnabel '78** and **Gloria (Green) Pogue '84**.

Bruce Craviotto passed away on September 14, 2019. His father, Robert Craviotto, passed away in August. Bruce's brothers are **Paul Craviotto '70, John Craviotto '71** and **Kevin Craviotto '76**. His niece is **Caitlyn Craviotto '13**.

Theresa "Terry" James passed away on September 16, 2019. Her children are **Tony James '96, Maggie (James) Beggs '98** and **Karen (James) Reeves '03** and her niece is Monica (James) O'Donnell.

Mary Schor passed away on September 23, 2019. Her grandchildren include **Michael Schor '05, Krista Schor '11, Alex Schor, Chris Gates '10** and Nick Gates.

Mary Jane (Campbell) Fleener '53 passed away on September 30, 2019. **Karen (Fleener) Higgins '74** is her daughter.

Susan Mashak passed away on September 30, 2019. Her children include **Stacy (Mashak) Hudson '98** and **Kenneth Mashak '99**.

Mike Cary passed away on October 7, 2019. His children are **Justin Cary '87, Shannon Cary '89** and **Sean Cary '91**. His daughter-in-law is **Melissa (Bushman) Cary '91** and his grandchildren include **Maegan Cary '19, Logan LaFavor Cary '19, Brody LaFavor Cary '19** and **Ryan Cary '22**. **Kevin Cary '01, Connal Cary '05, Nora (Cary) McDonald '06** and **Moira Cary '10** are his nieces and nephews.

Rilda "Willie" Tykeson passed away on October 10, 2019. Her daughter is Amy Tykeson and her son-in-law is **John Teller '74**. Her daughter-in-law is **Anitra (Reaney) Evans '80**.

George Hecker passed away on October 19, 2019. He was preceded in death by

his brother, **Dan Hecker '53**. His sisters include **Tillie (Hecker) Murray '53** and **Caroline (Hecker) Haniuk '57**.

Iris Elizabeth (Henrikson) Peters '65 passed away on October 23, 2019. Her sisters are **Rosemary (Henrikson) Brady '63** and **Daphne (Henrikson) Turner '68**.

Richard "Dick" Stokes Jr. passed away on October 23, 2019. His children are **Julie (Stokes) Baldwin '87** and **Michael Stokes '90**. Dick served as president of the Marist Foundation from 1983-1984.

Delores Strankman passed away on October 23, 2019. Her son-in-law is **Ray Paiement '74** and her grandchildren are **Kim (Paiement) Smith '00, Dyan (Paiement) Sultz '00, Christine (Paiement) Penwell '03** and **Josh Paiement '12**.

Jim Mischkot passed away on November 25, 2019. His children include **J.P. Mischkot '99**.

Dennis "Joe" Anderson passed away on November 26, 2019. His grandchildren include **Haley Anderson '13** and **Abigail Anderson '17**.

Gary Nicholson passed away on November 26, 2019. His daughter-in-law is Assistant Principal Christi Nicholson. His granddaughter is **Camryn Nicholson '23**.

Bob Biegler passed away on November 29, 2019. His grandchildren include **Mitch Biegler '05** and **Rachelle (Biegler) Kirsch '07**.

J. Douglas "Doug" McKay passed away on December 4, 2019. His daughters are **Tracie (McKay) Shojai '83** and **Amy (McKay) Romero '87**. His granddaughters are **Madeline Shojai '17** and **Danielle Shojai '19**. His great-nephews are **Alex Korth '16** and **Austin Korth '16** and his great-nieces are **Libby Korth '21** and **Whitney Korth '21**.

Shirley Mae Ewoniuk passed away on December 18, 2019. Her children are **Gayle (Ewoniuk) Krupka '62, Jeanie (Ewoniuk) Meharry '65, Richard Ewoniuk '69, Karen (Ewoniuk) Lewis '76, and David Ewoniuk '78**. Her grandchildren include **Christopher Ewoniuk '98, Andrew Ewoniuk '01** and **Richard Ewoniuk '95**.

Marcella Ann Murphy passed away on December 19, 2019. Her children are **Peter Murphy '80, Mark Murphy '81, Amanda (Murphy) Langdon '82, Anna (Murphy) Coey '85** and **Marcella Murphy '87**. **Katherine (Murphy) Malouf '93, Margaret (Murphy) Wright '97, Alexandra (Murphy) Hermes '03** and **Christina Murphy '06** are her nieces. **John Murphy Jr. '99** is her nephew.

Ila Eugene "Gene" Coughran passed away on December 25, 2019. His children include **Danielle Coughran '89, Brian Coughran '91** and **Kevin Coughran '93**. His granddaughter is **Claire Coughran '19**.

Shirley Brown passed away on January 21, 2020. Her grandchildren include **Matthew Killgore '95, Christopher Killgore '97, John Killgore '99** and **Emily (Killgore) Beutler '03**. Her daughter, Sally Killgore, is a member of the Marist School Board.

Gayle (Ewoniuk) Krupka '62 passed away on February 1, 2020. Her spouse is **Ed Krupka '55**. Her siblings are **Jeanie (Ewoniuk) Mehany '65, Richard Ewoniuk '69, Karen (Ewoniuk) Lewis '76, and David Ewoniuk '78**. Her nephews include **Richard Ewoniuk '95, Christopher Ewoniuk '98** and **Andrew Ewoniuk '01**.

Rick Truitt passed away on February 14, 2020. Rick was a custodian at Marist for the past 23 years. (See Rick's story on page 12.)

Remembering Loved Ones

If you know of an alumnus, family of an alumnus or friend of Marist who is in need of prayers due to the passing of a loved one, please let us know at alumni@marisths.org.

Although care has been taken to ensure the accuracy, completeness and reliability of the information provided, we are sometimes incorrect. If any information in this publication is inaccurate, please let us know at alumni@marisths.org.

Brother Norbie

1922-2019



Brother Norbert Rodrigue, FMS passed away November 13, 2019 at the age of 97. He was born on Feb. 17, 1922 to a family of 19 children on the East Coast. He made his first vows in 1941 at the age of 19 and was a Marist brother for nearly 80 years. He retired from his many years of teaching, coaching and counseling in 1994, and continued to help in high school libraries until 2010.

Brother Norbie is fondly remembered for his years of dedication to Marist Catholic High School in Eugene as a Spanish teacher and wise guidance counselor from 1975-1992. He was one of the last two Marist Brothers on staff in

Eugene during the 1993-94 school year. However, Brother Norbert continued to return annually to the Marist campus to visit, wearing his signature sailor hat. He often enjoyed walking proudly with Marist staff in the commencement ceremony during his many visits, most recently in 2018. Brother Norbert and his kind, gentle spirit will always be a cherished part of our Marist family and legacy.

He certainly lived out the mission of the Marist Brothers, "to make Jesus known and loved." This was evident in the numerous posts made to the Marist Facebook page when his passing was announced. A sampling of these sentiments is included below.

"I will not forget his smile and laugh and warm welcome whenever I went to his office. He shared God's love through his presence, care and concern for all of us. I will hold on to those good memories. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace." — Anie (Makyadeth) Helbling '92

*"Norbie was an angel on this earth and he will be missed by everyone who knew him."
— Alexis (Bonzer) Schmidt '71*

*"Br. Norbert will be missed. He was a great spiritual leader that led with a quiet voice and a kind heart."
— Shelly Pentecost-Klaas '84*

"Most definitely one of the nicest, most genuine teachers and influences for me at Marist. Rest in Peace Brother Norbert. Job well done. Always my friend." — Joe Conklin '81

"Such a good man and sweet servant of God! May eternal light shine upon him!" — CeCe Beauchamp '88

*"Rest easy sweet Brother Norbert, thank you for tucking us all under your wing when we needed you the most."
— Theresa (Ensminger) Morris '79*

*God speed Norbie, we loved your spirit during our years at Marist.
— Amy (Smith) Moore '93*

*"Brother Norbie was the epitome of kindness and giving. I know he will be watching over us in heaven."
— Brooke Marshall '88*



"I don't know of a kinder person than Brother Norbie. He will be missed by many. He truly earned his ticket to heaven." — Dave Schmidt '73

*"He had a good memory for former students. Always greeted with a smile, a chuckle and a bear hug. His kind spirit left an impression on many."
— Lynda Atto '85*

*"Ya know, Norbert changed the direction of my life. He and Peter Murphy both suggested Loyola Marymount when I was a senior. Br. Norbert helped me with my application and sure enough, I got in! I told him I just needed to be somewhere where I could wallow in show biz, and he and I did it! After 35 years, I had enough of tinseltown but what a thrill it was! It represents the bulk of my career and I loved every minute."
— Rob Easterla '80*

TAKE

Sandy (Bringe) Murray '72

answers *five* questions in *five* minutes

Sandy (Bringe) Murray '72 is a Eugene native and member of the first freshman class at Marist. Her two sisters, Luellen (Bringe) Laurinet '69 and Nora (Bringe) Fehringer '76 also graduated from Marist. Sandy graduated from Oregon State in 1976 and joined the Air Force, enjoying a 20-year career as a dietitian and improvement advisor. In 1996, she and her husband returned to Eugene to grow the business they started in 1994 as process improvement consultants with a focus in health care. Although they both retired in 2019, they find themselves "busier than ever!" They have two children, Bo '18 and April '20.

Your involvement at Marist has spanned 51 years. What has changed and what has stayed the same?

When I entered Marist, so much was incomplete. I remember my dad helping build the track and field facilities that first year. I would say that the physical aspects have changed but not the essence, the sense of oneness. The spirit of community, of caring for one another, has stayed the same. That and the fountain!

Where did life lead you after Marist?

On adventures! After OSU, I joined the Air Force and lived in D.C., Florida, Texas, Ohio and Germany. While in Germany, my consultant duties included work in Greece, Spain, Crete and Turkey. (Terrible, but someone had to do it!) I also had the privilege of being the "hostage dietitian" as part of the treatment team for U.S. hostages who were returned to our hospital from kidnappings or hijackings; it was touching and challenging. I married my wonderful husband Byron in 1980, then got my master's degree in management before retiring in 1996 as a Lieutenant Colonel. We became the oldest parents in the world when we adopted Bo in 2002 and April in 2004. Life has truly been an adventure and our kids are the best part of it.

We hear you are writing a statistics textbook. Was math your favorite subject?

We are writing the second edition of our book, *The Healthcare Data Guide*. I actually didn't do well in math; it's one of life's cosmic ironies that I

wound up working so much with data in my career! Marist instilled a realization that learning doesn't stop just because school is over and also a strong desire to make a difference. Health care genuinely needs a book like this. I view it as one way of making a difference in life.

What did you take from Marist that has impacted your decisions personally, spiritually and professionally?

For me, it was the deep discussions at Marist about what we believed and the kind of people we were going to be. Most schools don't foster this kind of spiritual exploration; Marist did and does. Of course life is full of difficult decisions and a spiritual center and moral code are more necessary than ever. I have carried my decisions and my Catholic moral code into my everyday life, including many difficult decisions.

What would you say to a parent considering Marist for their child's education? What would you say to a student?

To a parent I would say, "Don't hesitate!" It's always challenging to raise a child and our society is certainly full of additional challenges. Having great teachers, calm classrooms and a school that reinforces social justice and personal responsibility and knows and cares about my teenager deeply is a tremendous help. To a student I would say, "Grab it! It's the opportunity of a lifetime." Marist is a caring community where you matter, where people know you by name and where many friends are there to support you and enjoy some great times with you. It is special.

Photo courtesy of Sandy Murray



Sandy (Bringe) Murray '72 with her husband and children Bo Murray '18 (left) and April Murray '20.



THE MARIST OLYMPIAD

49TH ANNUAL AUCTION
MAY 30, 2020



THE THRILL OF VICTORY



The 2020 Auction Chairs:
Nancy Crowe, Andrea
Malpass & Caryn Kimble

Experience the thrill of victory with '72 Olympian and Honorary Chair Jon Anderson, auction chairs Nancy Crowe, Caryn Kimble and Andrea Malpass and the entire Marist community as we *Go for the Gold* at Marist's 49th Annual Marist Auction — the school's largest fundraiser and most important community event of the year.

This year's auction is sure to be one for the record books, so pick your favorite country or Olympic sport and meet us at The Marist Olympiad!

MAKE SATURDAY, MAY 2 A GOLD MEDAL EVENT!

- Purchase tickets and attend
- Sponsor a Patron table
- Make a donation

BUY TICKETS TODAY

541-284-7505
auction.marisths.org

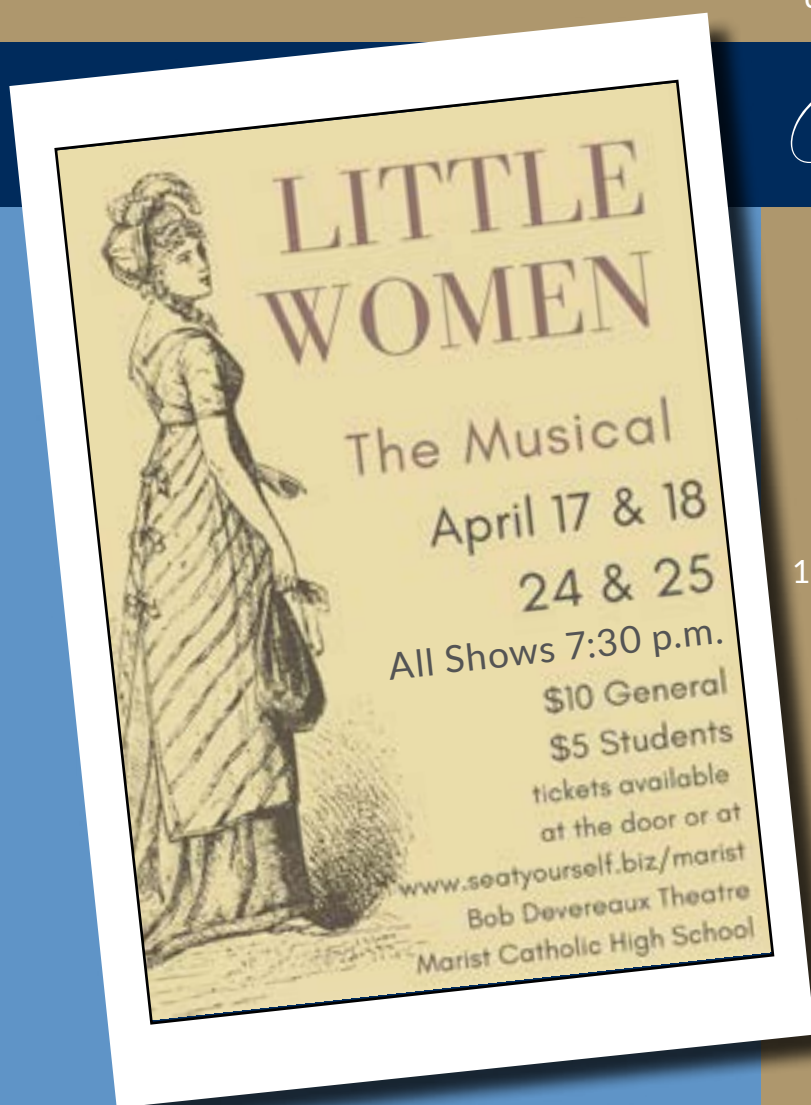


Support our students, teachers and mission with a gift today!



STAY IN TOUCH!

Please email us with current contact information for family members at alumni@marisths.org and we'll see that the Marist Magazine gets sent directly to them. Thank you!



Upcoming Events

MARCH

- 6, 13 Friday Lenten Masses: 8 a.m.
- 18 Wednesday Lenten Mass: 9 a.m.
- 18, 19 End of Winter Music Concerts (all shows 7:30 p.m.)
- 23-27 Spring Break

APRIL

- 1 Wednesday Lenten Mass: 9 a.m.
- 4 Mr. & Ms. Spartan Pageant: 7 p.m.
- 17,18,24,25 Marist Theatre Presents: Little Women, The Musical (all shows 7:30 p.m.)

MAY

- 2 49th Annual Marist Auction: 5 p.m.
- 5 Founder's Day Mass: 10:21 a.m.
- 19, 21 Spring Music Concerts (all shows 7:30 p.m.)
- 20 Academic Awards Ceremony: 2 p.m.
- 28 Senior Farewell Mass: 10:21 a.m.

JUNE

- 5 Baccalaureate Mass: 7 p.m.
- 6 Graduation: 11 a.m.

Visit Marisths.org for complete calendar listings.