

SPRING 2015

# IMPACT

The Magazine of Notre Dame High School

## Notre Dame's Arts Program Takes Center Stage





# Letter from the President

Dear Friends,

For most of us, it's been a winter to remember, given our record-level snowfalls and temperatures to make even the hardest of souls wish for warmer climates. Yet despite the harsh realities of the weather outside, the environment inside ND has offered a heartwarming contrast—one I hope you will enjoy immersing yourself in.

In the context of our overall strategic plan, Notre Dame has enjoyed a dramatic upsurge in the number and quality of incoming students. A 60 percent increase in our current freshman class in the past six years, coupled with a 20 percent increase in the student body (see article on page 12) is making a huge difference on our campus. In academics, our expanded offerings in college-credit and online courses have attracted students striving hard to qualify for half-tuition benefits at Sacred Heart University. In athletics, we are now able to field freshman teams in several sports and have added wrestling to our options.

In this issue of *IMPACT*, you will meet a number of recent graduates (most from the Class of 2011) whose lives have moved in different directions, each reflecting innate talent built upon a strong educational foundation. You will also “catch” the enthusiasm generated in school by ND’s rejuvenated program in the arts—drama, dance, music, and art: traditional and graphic alike.

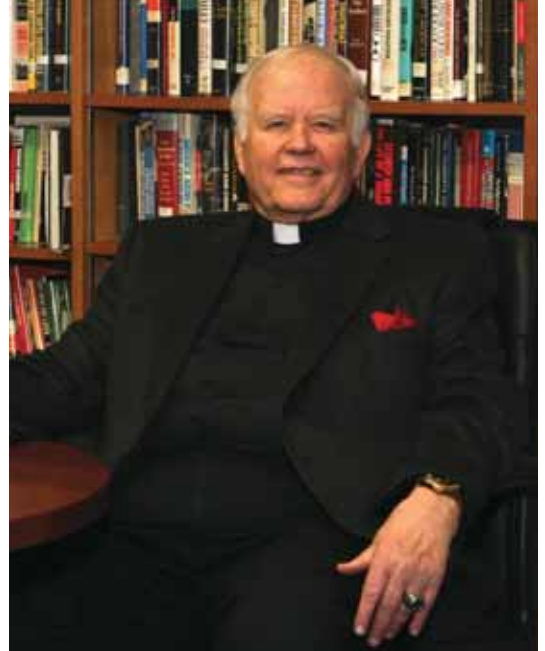
Each stepping stone leads to expanded options for our students, and builds Notre Dame’s attractiveness to a wider variety of talented, aspiring, and diverse young men and women. Many Notre Dame alumni are making positive contributions to this process. The Class of 1964, for example, opted to use the occasion of its 50th anniversary to create a \$30,000 scholarship (page 33) to “pay their gratitude forward.”

Other alumni, through the example they set on a daily basis in their professional, community, and family lives, do their *alma mater* proud. Formed and anchored in the spiritual, such character creates a powerful force for good.

Thank you for being part of that force, one greatly needed in our world. I hope as you read through *IMPACT*, you will recognize at Notre Dame a serious and purposeful effort to do our job well.

Sincerely,

Fr. Bill Sangiovanni  
President



Each stepping stone leads to expanded options for our students, and builds Notre Dame’s attractiveness to a wider variety of talented, aspiring, and diverse young men and women.

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The Magazine of  
Notre Dame High School  
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Fairfield, CT 06825

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## ON THE COVER

Music! Art! Dance! Theatre!  
The Arts program takes center  
stage at Notre Dame.

# IMPACT

The Magazine of Notre Dame High School



Notre Dame's program in the arts ends the year on a high note.



## 08 Arts Program Takes Center Stage

Music! Art! Dance! Theatre! Notre Dame has expanded its arts offerings, giving students lots of options to get—and keep—their creative juices flowing.



## 12 Booming Enrollment

Six years ago, with sharply declining enrollment and rumors circulating about shutting down, many wondered if Notre Dame would exist in 2015. Today, four years deep into a stellar five-year strategic plan to drastically turn things around, the future of Notre Dame is alive.



## 14 Class of 2011: The Next Chapter

The Valedictorian, the Salutatorian, the Most Outstanding Senior . . . and other leading members of the Class of 2011. Where are they now, as they get ready to graduate from college? Some of our youngest alumni reflect on how Notre Dame prepared them for college and to begin a new chapter in their lives.

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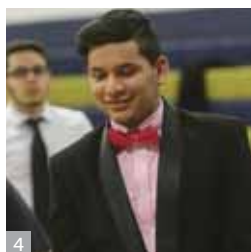
Reconnecting in Fun Ways

## Academic Awards Banquet & Honor Society Induction

In November, the fifth annual Academic Awards Banquet and Honor Society Induction ceremony took place at the school. Ten juniors and seniors were inducted into the French Honor Society; 16 into the Spanish Honor Society; and 15 into the National Honor Society.

In addition to the Society inductions, 86 students were recognized for superior academic achievement, each having earned a 90 or higher overall average during the 2013–14 school year. Several juniors and seniors were honored for the second or third time.

1. Ashley Maitland '15, Norwalk
2. Mario Nunes '15, Stratford
3. Michelle Onofrio '16, West Haven
4. Yamil Cobo '15, Bridgeport
5. Jenny Goldstein '17, Milford

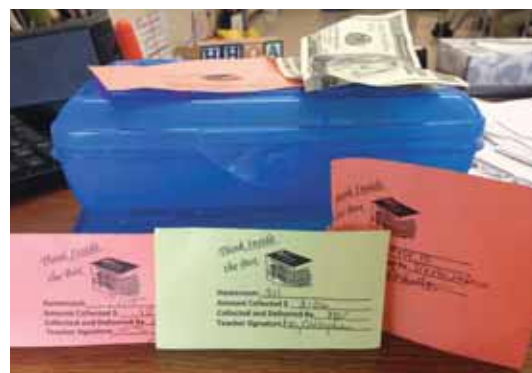


## Campus Ministry Launches Mite Box Campaign

Campus Ministry has introduced the Mite Box Campaign at Notre Dame, adding a charitable dimension to the academic Advisory Days held every two weeks during homeroom period. Students from each homeroom compete to raise money for various worthy organizations, which to date have included the Bridgeport Rescue Mission, St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (M.A.D.D.).

**"This form of almsgiving allows each student to 'be an imitator of Christ' by generously assisting people in need, both locally and across the globe."**

—JESSICA MEDOFF, CO-DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY



The latter funds helped sponsor the Notre Dame team that joined other Fairfield-area schools for an October 25 Walk-a-thon. Other recipients have been Save the Children; Fred's Team for Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Research Center; C.H.I.A. —Catholic Health Association of India; the Fight with Frank Foundation, for salivary gland cancer research in honor of Frank Camputaro, father of alumni Jenna '08 and Drew '07.



## Patrice Lauture '15: Medicine in her Future

Based upon her academic achievement, leadership potential, and determination to serve others in a field of medicine, **Patrice Lauture '15** (Norwalk) represented Connecticut at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders in November. Patrice spent three days in Washington, D.C., in a program for honors students who want to become physicians or go into medical-research fields.

"I had applied for several internships online," says Patrice, "and when [former White House physician] Dr. Connie Mariano noticed my application and essay, she decided to nominate me for this particular program." While there, Patrice met with people from different fields of medicine, attended a series of goal-oriented talks, and even watched a laparoscopic surgery procedure.

"My dream is to become an OB/GYN," she says, "so witnessing a surgery that removed a tumor from a woman's uterus was amazing. Now, God willing, she might be able to have a baby with the impediment gone." Other of her dynamic encounters that weekend were a stick-to-your-goals talk by a former NFL player, an inspirational message from a neurologist who herself had a stroke in the 1990s and spent seven years relearning (successfully) every life function she



had lost, and a talk by a physician who had treated Ebola patients in Liberia. "I was so thrilled to have my picture taken with him," she says.

Patrice, grateful for her science preparation at ND, has participated during high school as a mentor in the Amazing Girls Science Foundation held at Norwalk Community College. She plans to major in biochemistry at Loyola University Maryland. "Ultimately," says Patrice, "I want to help women become mothers, and teach them that they have the capacity not only to give birth, but to love and nurture their children."

## Veterans Day Prayer Service

On Veterans Day, Notre Dame remembered all veterans, including those who graduated from Notre Dame, and their families for their many sacrifices. More than 100 names were read, with a brief description of their military service,

including six alumni who were killed in action: five in Vietnam and one in Iraq.

To conclude the prayer service, **Fernando Moreno '04**, currently a sergeant in the U.S. Army, spoke to the student body about his Notre Dame and military experiences. Last year, Notre Dame collected and sent an assortment of school materials to Sgt. Moreno which he distributed to local schoolchildren in Afghanistan.

In gratitude, he presented Notre Dame with a flag and certificate which reads: "This certifies that the accompanying flag of the United States of America was flown in the Intensive Care Unit at SPC Jordan Byrd Trauma Center at FOB Sharana, Paktika, Afghanistan. It bears witness to a collaborative international effort to destroy terrorist, oppressive forces who threaten the freedom of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the United States of America, and the world."



## ND President Receives Prestigious Honor



Fr. Bill Sangiovanni, president of Notre Dame High School, received the Catholic Educator of the Year Award on March 22 at a communion breakfast sponsored by *Centesimus Annus Pro Pontifice* (CAPP), a

foundation dedicated to the promotion of Catholic social teaching in action. Held at Sacred Heart University, the event included Mass celebrated by Bishop of Bridgeport Frank J. Caggiano, a talk by Mother Dolores Hart, O.S.B., of the Abbey of Regina Laudis, and remarks from the honoree, ND's very own Fr. Bill.

Fr. Bill, now in his 35th year at Notre Dame, has served as a teacher, chair of the Religion Department, director of marketing, principal and, since 2010, school president. From 1986 to 1991 he took an additional role with Sacred

Heart University where his faith, energy, and enthusiasm made him an effective director of campus ministry.

Fr. Bill is no stranger to the principles of Catholic social teaching, which recognize the innate dignity of each person, the call to solidarity with the poor, and the commitment to justice. While a parish priest, Fr. Bill did ministry at the Bridgeport Correctional Facility. Before that he did extensive service work in Appalachia, founded an Appalachian Volunteers program, and worked as a teacher and chaplain at Kentucky State Penitentiary in Frenchburg.

Ultimately, he brought the breadth and depth of his experience to Notre Dame, where he has continued to influence young lives. "I am honored to have received the Catholic Educator of the Year Award from CAPP," said Fr. Bill, "especially because it reflects so well on Notre Dame and the spirit of service that permeates the school."



## Senior Retreat

On November 11, the seniors experienced their class retreat on the Sacred Heart campus. The theme of the retreat was *Time: Looking Back and Looking Ahead*. Special thanks to the Sacred Heart Campus Ministry Team for their assistance and to all the families of seniors who wrote *palanca* letters to help complete the day.

Seniors wearing their senior sweatshirts

## Spirit Week

The Student Council sponsored the annual fall Spirit Week. With a different theme each day, students showed off their creativity and school spirit. On Monday, students and staff enjoyed "Cozy Day;" Tuesday focused energy on the annual ND Walk-a-thon; Wednesday brightened the week with Class Color Wars; Thursday created Twin Day (creatively), and Friday inspired all as Halloween Dress-Up. The Student Council also sponsored a Door Decorating competition, in which students purchased materials and decorated a specific teacher's door.



Students getting ready for the annual Walk-a-thon

## A Roman Adventure

When **Olivia Keden '17** (Easton) left for Rome in August, Notre Dame's first student to spend a semester abroad had no idea what it would be like to immerse herself in another culture. Nor did she realize how different the cultures of various European countries were. "Here in the States, we can travel 1,000 miles and the culture is still basically the same. In Europe, the distances between countries are smaller but the way of life is dramatically different in each. That surprised me and expanded my outlook."

Olivia stayed with her mother's friend, who had moved to the center of Rome years earlier, and studied at the International School on the city's outskirts. "Everyone spoke English, so I was able to manage quite well," she says. From her residence, Olivia could walk to the Colosseum, the Vatican, and other tourist sites, but saved a lot of that sightseeing until her mother and sisters visited in November. "I took them to the Vatican the day Pope Francis was canonizing saints," she says, still amazed by their accidental good fortune. "When he got in his 'Pope-mobile' and began moving through the crowd, we were close enough to get a great picture of him."

For Olivia, the idea to study abroad took root during her freshman year, when she met some of the international students studying at ND. "Notre Dame has hosted international students for years," she says, "and I wondered why we



Mary Keden '19, Olivia Keden '17, Sara Keden '15

didn't send anyone out. I offered to be the school's guinea pig." Given the appropriateness of Olivia's housing option and the reputation of the International School, Principal Chris Cipriano helped facilitate the details. "When I was approached by the Keden's about this opportunity for Liv, being supportive of the idea was a no-brainer," says Mr. Cipriano. "How many students have the opportunity to study abroad during high school? Liv is one of our top students. What better way to grow in character, faith, and intellect than to study in Rome for a semester?"

**"I am truly grateful," says Olivia, "to have had such a broadening experience while still in high school."**

## New Chaplain Named



In October, Bishop Frank Caggiano announced the appointment of **Father Luke Suarez** as Notre Dame's new episcopal chaplain, Bishop Caggiano's representative in the school. During the past three years, Fr. Luke served at St. Rose of

Lima Church in Newtown where, he says, "I was privileged to minister to a faith community during a time of tremendous suffering." Fr. Luke says he was a part of a "winning team" at St. Rose, one that confronted the evil of the 2012 Newtown shootings as a decidedly Catholic community built on the expression of faith.

Now Fr. Luke is part of a different team, on a high school campus that is—literally—a new experience

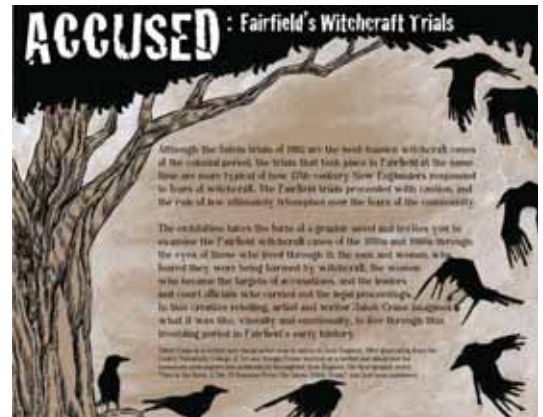
for him. "As I told the students when I introduced myself," he says, "this is my first day of high school." That's because he was home-schooled in Indiana, Delaware, and New York before leaving to attend college at Ave Maria University in Florida. While there, he discerned a call to the priesthood and was invited by the Diocese of Bridgeport to enter its seminary process after graduation.

"I grew up steeped in the Catholic faith, and while I realize this will be a year of learning and observing, I hope to continue the core work of Notre Dame of handing down the dynamic deposit of our faith," he says. "Talking with individual students about their devotion makes the depth of their faith apparent. It blows me away." In the coming years, Fr. Luke hopes to promote opportunities for students "to express their faith and to experience an encounter with the Risen Christ, especially through the sacraments."



## Students Visit the Fairfield Museum and History Center

On October 2, students in Mrs. Kelli Fitter's World History classes attended an exhibit at the Fairfield Museum and History Center to examine primary sources related to the witchcraft trials that occurred in Fairfield. In addition, they analyzed the artwork created for the exhibit *Accused: Fairfield's Witchcraft Trials*. In 17th century New England, religious beliefs and folk tradition instilled deep fears of magic, evil, and supernatural powers. How else to explain unnatural events, misfortune, and the sudden convulsions and fits of local townspeople? In this exhibition, students were exposed to the fascinating history of Connecticut's witchcraft trials.



## Sophomores Attend Performance of *Intimate Apparel*



In October, sophomore English classes attended a performance of *Intimate Apparel*, by Pulitzer Prize-winner Lynn Nottage, at the Westport Country Playhouse. Accompanied by Mrs. Joanna Cipriano, Mr. Marc Sulzycki, Mr. David Salce, and Dr. Mary Callaghan, the class was transported into this

moving drama, set in New York City at the turn of the 20th century. Riveting performances by five actors focused on labor history, women's issues, immigration, migration, and the African-American experience, and the play touched the audience with poignant, humorous, and heart-wrenching moments. The Westport Country Playhouse, through its many benefactors and a sincere desire to engage young people in live theatre, offered ND students a very generous transportation/ticket price.



## Student Newspaper Debuts

The ND student newspaper is produced weekly by the students in Mr. Radley Manzo's Period F Yearbook/Publications class. Students are responsible for all aspects of *The Lancer Times*, from story ideas and writing to photography and distribution. The paper can be found on the cafeteria tables during all lunch waves, and is also posted on the ND Facebook page as a pdf file.



## Student Council Leadership Retreat

At the start of the school year, Student Council and class officers traveled to Camp Hazen YMCA in Chester to complete a day of team building and leadership development training. The YMCA counselors led the group through a series of “low ropes” activities meant to challenge and build cooperation. After each activity, the group processed what was successful and what could be improved upon. Following lunch, the group participated in two “high ropes” courses—the Leap of Faith and Islands in the Sky. Both of these activities challenged each group member and proved to be an excellent experience. A ride down the 300-foot zip line rounded out the day’s schedule.



## Turkeys and Food Donated to Daughters of Charity

Many, many, many thanks to all those in the ND family who donated turkeys and food for the Key Club’s annual food drive. ND students and teachers delivered 209 turkeys and countless non-perishable food items to the Daughters of Charity in Bridgeport.

## Grandparent Mass/Breakfast



LEFT: Brendan Briones '18 with Grandmas Carmel Balchius (l) and Claire Briones Kumpel (r).

RIGHT: Rebecca Rogalski '17 and her grandmother Dulvi Gaudio

In the fall, more than 50 grandparents joined their grandchildren at Notre Dame’s annual Grandparents’ Mass and Breakfast. Making this a truly multigenerational event, members of the Parents’ Association provided a wonderful assortment of homemade treats for all to enjoy.



The orchestra practices under the guidance of new Music Director Mr. Stephen Chuba.

# Arts Program Takes Center Stage

By Nina M. Riccio



Mr. Stephen Chuba

## FOR NOTRE DAME MUSIC DIRECTOR STEPHEN CHUBA, IT WAS A TRIAL BY FIRE.

This past December, the second-year teacher was rehearsing several pieces with his band and chorus students, prepping them for the Winter Arts Celebration. The combined group was collaborating on a beautiful rendition of “Let There Be Peace On Earth”, when Mr. Chuba was asked if the group would be willing to record the song for a potential Christmas greeting to the Notre Dame community.

“Once I made sure that enough of my students would be able to commit to doing a recording, and the sound crew at Sacred Heart agreed to record it, it quickly became booked for the next Thursday afternoon,” says Mr. Chuba.

All well and good, but before Thursday afternoon rolled around, Mr. Chuba’s students had the daunting task of performing the Winter Arts Celebration dress rehearsal on Wednesday afternoon, the concert itself on Wednesday

evening, and an in-school performance on Thursday morning.

“As a teacher, you’re always looking for ways to push your students, but four concerts in a 27-hour period? I really pushed them that time,” he notes with typical understatement.

It’s no secret that the arts program at Notre Dame has been in the middle of a renaissance, fueled in no small part by a commitment to the arts in the 2011 Strategic Plan and the influx of some passionate teachers who have a knack for encouraging fun in the midst of commitment. Take musical theatre director Maria Vee, who recently directed *The Drowsy Chaperone*, her fifth show at ND.

“Ms. Vee is one reason the arts has exploded,” claims Sam DeMattio ’15 (Weston), who has worked with Ms. Vee for four years. “We have twice the number of kids auditioning as we did four years ago, and the drama club now has about 70–80 active members.” Ms. Vee is unique as a director because she was an actor first, says Sam. “She’s very sensitive to the artistic process, and





1



2



3



4

1. Practicing in Mr. Chuba's band room.
2. Members of the dance class strike a pose from *The King and I*.
3. A van Gogh-inspired project in different mediums, produced by art club members.
4. Ms. Hong leads a rehearsal

Expanding the arts at Notre Dame has long been a goal, says Mr. Chris Cipriano, principal. Not only is a solid arts program part and parcel of a well-rounded curriculum, it was clear there was plenty of student interest.

you will never hear her raise her voice. She lets you take time to cultivate your character."

Joshua St. Onge, drama club moderator, notes that Ms. Vee has built the drama program from the ground up, and in a very student-centered way. "Maria is like a bottle of sunshine, and the kids react so well to her joy. I'm more firm with them, so we play off each other," he says.

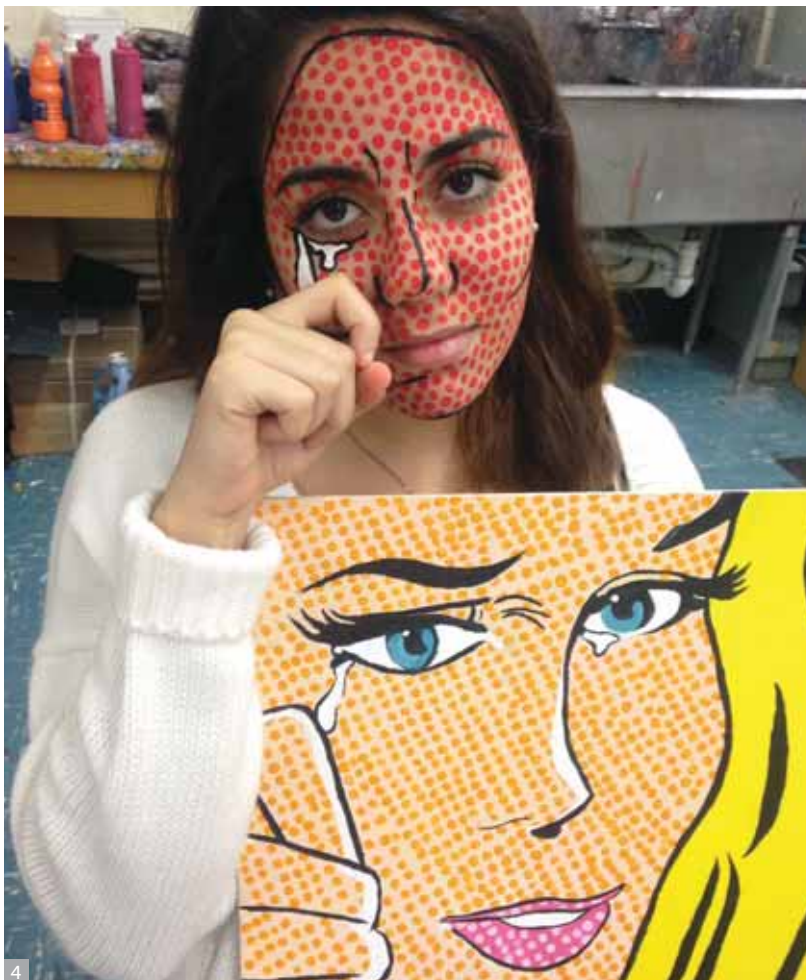
A religion teacher first and foremost, Mr. St. Onge has had extensive experience as a singer—he is a professional Catholic cantor, and has sung at hundreds of Masses. He even had a Glee Club scholarship while a student at Fairfield University.

"When I came to Notre Dame eight years ago, the arts program was just beginning to grow. Because of my background, I took on the task of directing the chorus for a year. Now, we have Stephen, who is a real musical coach."

"My wish is for the group to continue to grow so much that they no longer fit in the classroom," says Mr. Chuba.

Expanding the arts at Notre Dame has long been a goal, says Mr. Christopher Cipriano, principal. Not only is a solid arts program part and parcel of a well-rounded curriculum, it was clear there was plenty of student interest. As proof, he notes that when Mr. Damon Testani came onboard as a part-time art teacher four years ago, he taught two classes of 10 students each. "Today, he's full-time and students are jockeying to get into his classes," Mr. Cipriano says. And who could blame them, with a host of out-of-the-box offerings like T-shirt painting, printmaking, and 3D art? "We play music in class so the kids can chill and be creative. It's a great, fun outlet, and the expansion of the program gives students the opportunity to explore different media," says Mr. Testani. "Plus, they have lots of ideas for future classes, such as photography and woodworking."

"As we continue to broaden our offerings, the expansion of music and the inclusion of dance have been a natural part of that growth," says Mr. Cipriano. Classes can be taken for credit to fulfill elective requirements, and there are also



1. Scene from the 2014 spring musical, *Hairspray*.
2. Nick Pond '14 as Edna Turnblad.
3. Alyssa Bergamasco '15 as lead Tracy Turnblad.
4. Yasmin Namane '15 replicates a Lichtenstein work as part of a study in pop art.
5. An Andy Warhol-esque collage, using the principles of color, line, and texture.

clubs for theatre, dance, art, and music. For the last two years, Notre Dame has offered \$2,500 scholarships for incoming students interested in chorus, band, dance, and the visual arts. "The intent is to attract students with artistic backgrounds to continue to build up our arts program," says Mr. Cipriano.

Down the hall from the band room, the Whitney Houston ballad, "One Moment in Time", can be heard through the lower level; Ms. Sally Hong's dance class is warming up, getting ready for midterms. Now in her second year at Notre Dame, Ms. Hong has 19 students taking dance for credit; there are another dozen in the dance club.

A former Rockette, Ms. Hong taught her students the "Parade of the Wooden Soldiers" number from her Radio City days; they performed it at last year's Winter Arts Celebration. "It's a number that's very near and dear to my heart, and they did a wonderful job! I was very proud of them," she says.

This year's challenge came on the heels of Mariah Carey's less-than-stellar performance at the

Rockefeller Center tree lighting. "She sang 'All I Want for Christmas is You', and was really off key. But it's a great song and I thought a dance video would be a good way to send out some positive energy involving that song." The result: a four-minute, choreographed video showcasing student talent and filmed all over Notre Dame, as well as in Grand Central station and on Metro North. Students pulled it off within nine days, Ms. Hong and Graphic Arts teacher Radley Manzo had just an hour to edit it, and the e-greeting hit everyone's inboxes just before Christmas break.

Whether it's music, theatre or dance, participation in the arts tends to carry significant benefits for academics as well. Speaking of her own experience in high school, Ms. Hong remembered that "dance taught me to be dedicated, focused and passionate; you go on even on days when you're sore or tired. You learn discipline, you learn to push yourself."

Just ask Jordan Crawford '17 (Bridgeport), one of her most dedicated students. "Freshman year, my grades were all over the place," he admits.





## Whether it's music, theatre or dance, participation in the arts tends to carry significant benefits for academics as well.

6. Mr. Testani's printmaking and T-shirt printing class.

"But Ms. Hong told me that my passion for dance should set the bar for academics, and that I should expend the same energy in both areas. She said colleges look for someone who is strong in both." It worked. Jordan took those life lessons in discipline and focus, applied them to academics, and brought his grades up in every subject this year.

Getting creative encourages students to get out of their comfort zones, tackle new challenges—often in a public way—and work with others to get the job done together. Collaboration is key, not just within each class, but also across disciplines. Ms. Hong choreographs numbers for the play, and Mr. Chuba is musical director.

"As a freshman, I was so shy and nervous," recalls Marleena Reed '15 (Bridgeport). "But the drama club welcomed me with open arms, plus Ms. Vee is amazing and taught me so much. By junior year I could try out easily. Besides acting, I'm doing

fundraising for the theatre, and my mom and I work on props. I'm definitely not shy anymore." In addition to that new-found confidence, involvement with the theatre has given Marleena, who would like to pursue a career in graphic design and photography, an outlet for her photography skills; her pictures have appeared in the yearbook, the school newsletter, and the local newspapers.

"I love working here," says Ms. Vee of her experience at Notre Dame. "From the staff to the students and their parents, it feels like family. It's a genuinely supportive atmosphere of trust, which fosters great theatre." 🙌

# BOOMING *Enrollment*

By Jill Caseria

**PRINCIPAL CHRISTOPHER CIPRIANO IS ALREADY ANTICIPATING** how busy he'll be in the upcoming months, interviewing potential new staff to bring in to Notre Dame before the start of the 2015-16 school year. With the freshman class population growing faster than ever lately—that's nearly 60% in the last six years—he needs several new teachers to keep class sizes low.

He admits it's a good "problem" to have.

But six years ago, it was a much different story at Notre Dame. With several years of declining enrollment, the school's future looked uncertain. Things needed to turn around before it was too late.

So in 2009, the school assembled a team to bring Notre Dame back to a place of strength and pride, and a school that reflected the academic luster and strong community that its teachers created, its students lived, and its alumni remembered.

The new steering committee of parents, alumni, teachers, and board members began to chart a new course via a five-year strategic plan aptly titled, "Aspire and Achieve." Written in 2011 as a "template for growth," says Mr. Cipriano, the plan carefully outlines every step to reaching every goal by 2016.

There was some resistance at first, and rumors about the future of the school circulated. "What we were hearing was, 'Why is Notre Dame talking about 2016 if the perception is that we might be closing?' It was disheartening," Mr. Cipriano admits.

But the team forged ahead. With this new plan in their hands, they were ready to take on the challenges and reach the goals at hand.

Today, more than four years into the strategic plan, and with less than a year to go, the plan has worked.

Having an enhanced admission office has been a key component of the plan. Of primary importance? Installing a full-time director of admission. "Fifteen years ago, having a full-time admission director wasn't considered a necessity in a private school of our size," Principal Cipriano explains. "But today, more and more schools understand the importance of having a single voice delivering a consistent message."

Enter Mr. Gaetano Marra. He had been dividing his time at Notre Dame between school counselor and admissions for three years prior, and rose to the top as the ideal choice. Since last fall, Mr. Marra has devoted all of his time to recruiting new students, meeting with families, and delivering a consistent

message in the community. Plus, there's a new admission suite. "Now we have dedicated space to meet with families who are considering sending their children to Notre Dame," Mr. Marra says. He also leans on his colleague Denise Ayala P'08 to keep the daily influx of applications and other paperwork in order. "I couldn't do it without her help," Mr. Marra adds.

Campus visits are also a key component of students' decisions to choose Notre Dame, he continues. Accepted Students Night starts to build community

among incoming freshmen months before the first day of the school year. Group Shadow Programs invite potential students to visit in groups of 20 to sit in on various classes—anything from computer science to history.

Harnessing a consistent message in the community to address every audience—prospective students and families, current students and families, alumni, donors, and more—was also a big part of the plan. Keating, an educational brand consulting and communications firm located in Worcester, Mass., partnered with Notre Dame to revitalize the school's brand and craft a message that would extend across the suite of communication media—print and digital. President and





# INCOMING FRESHMEN CLASSES

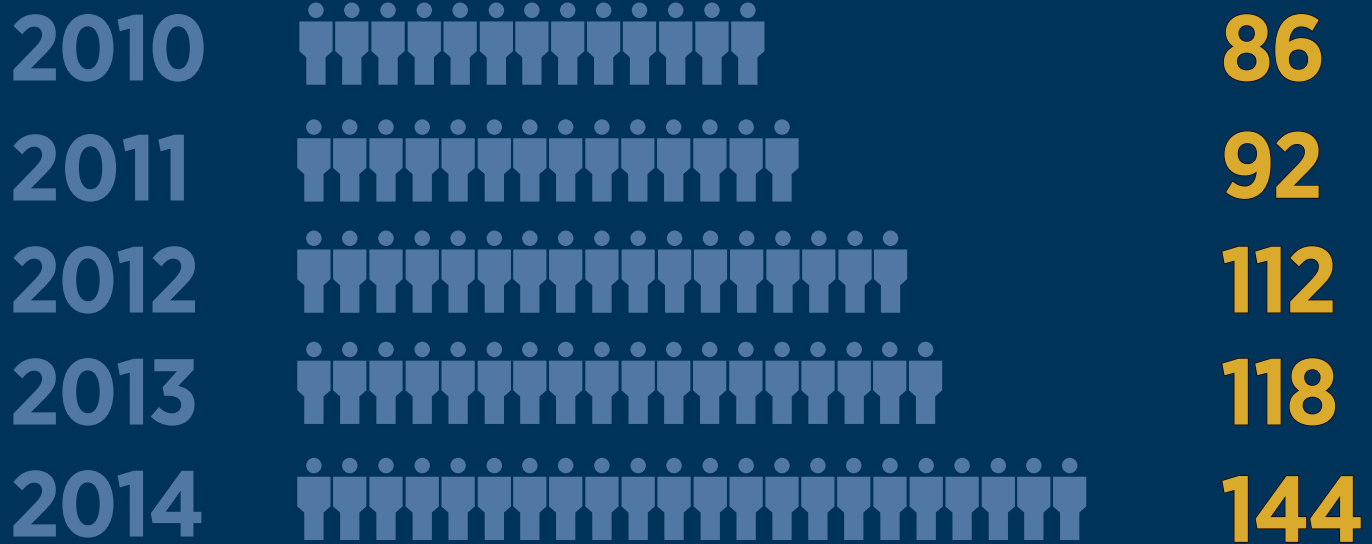
STUDENTS

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*“We received more than 300 applications for fewer than half as many spots,” reports Mr. Cipriano.*

founder Stephen Keating and his team conducted in-depth interviews with groups of faculty, staff, students, parents, and others to understand the culture, personality, and strengths of Notre Dame. The new message, “Building Character, Faith and Intellect,” was then developed to convey the essence of the Notre Dame brand and applied to all school materials: a new graphic identity, logo, mission statement, viewbook, application, postcard, advertising, and a web and social component, including an enhanced website, online videos, and more—in addition, professional photography depicting students in everyday Notre Dame activities—in classrooms, on athletic fields and doing service work are displayed throughout the school. “Our new materials give us a first-class appearance and truly capture the spirit of Notre Dame,” says Mr. Cipriano. “They send the right message of who Notre Dame is.”

The results of these four years of hard work to increase enrollment are already evident. “We received more than 300 applications for fewer than half as many spots,” reports Mr. Cipriano. “That continues the recent trend of year-over-year increases.” What’s more, he adds, with an increase in applications to select among, the class will be stronger academically. The goal is a total student enrollment of 550 within the next couple of years. Year 2015–2016 should close in around 500.

“We are in a much better position today than we were six years ago,” summarizes Mr. Cipriano. “The future of Notre Dame is alive and well. We’ve turned it around. We have direction.”

## ENROLLMENT TRENDS BOLSTER ND ATHLETICS

With a freshman class of nearly 144, and a rise in overall student numbers of 20 percent in five years, Notre Dame’s athletic programs are enjoying something of a resurgence. “We’ve been able to reintroduce freshman basketball and football,” enthuses Athletic Director Rob Bleggi ’93, “and will be doing the same for baseball in the near future.” What this means is that incoming students will have a seamless experience in the sports they enjoy as they develop their skills and potential as future varsity players.



# CLASS OF 2011: THE NEXT CHAPTER

By Jill Caseria

**A**t the beginning of each school year, Notre Dame High School opens its doors to a new freshman class filled with students who embody the determination to strive for excellence. For four years, extraordinary teachers and administrators guide them through an exceptional classroom education and a profound growth in character and faith that provides students with the tools to move on after college to further achieve individual dreams of success. Today, Notre Dame's reputation for excellent teaching and talented alumni continues as these Class of 2011 graduates complete their undergraduate studies and get ready to contribute to the world.

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?





## Caitlin Shea-Vantine 2011 Most Outstanding Senior Award

**ON THE GALAPAGOS ISLANDS**, off the coast of Ecuador, Caitlin Shea-Vantine encountered a landscape awash in some of the world's most unique ecology and wildlife. "For three months last spring, I was truly living a dream," she says, recalling the fish, rays, underwater plants, and coral she had only heard or read about. "I conducted research, snorkeled, learned Spanish, and went scuba diving. It was amazing."

With a team of other study abroad students, Caitlin collected data on the effects of El Niño on intertidal communities. A biology major at St. Michael's College in Vermont who has been fascinated by marine life for as long as she can remember, this trip was an opportunity for Caitlin to merge her studies and her interests.

As a child, Caitlin spent many weekends and summers at the Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, mesmerized by the fish and other ocean life. But she attributes much of her pursuit to study marine biology to her Notre Dame experience, specifically her sophomore year biology class. "Mr. [David] Salce explained how everyday systems—like



photosynthesis—*work*, and how science changes every day," she says. "And knowing that makes me appreciate life even more. I feel grounded and connected to everything around me."

Last summer, Caitlin conducted field research with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. She plans to pursue graduate studies in coastal management.

**Caitlin attributes much of her pursuit to study marine biology to her Notre Dame experience, specifically her sophomore year biology class.**



## Shyam Desai

**AROUND THE WORLD**, mental illness carries a stigma that can lead people to avoid getting help for themselves or a loved one. Shyam Desai, a biology and neuroscience double major at Wesleyan University in Middletown, has been on the front lines in rural communities in India, getting a first-hand opportunity to try to dispel misconceptions around mental illness.

In recent years, Shyam spent two summers in India, working alongside local mental health professionals,

physicians, and school administrators to educate local villagers about mental health signs, symptoms, and treatment. "That trip set the groundwork for my interest in studying medicine," he says. Shyam visited psychiatry wards in hospitals, assisted pharmacists in clinics, conducted screenings, and developed a teaching module on mental illness for elementary schools. "I saw aspects of the society that not many get to experience. It was such an interesting time."

Shyam's interest in volunteering among people of all ages, from young children to the elderly, began at Notre Dame. "Out of everything I was involved with in high school, volunteering with Campus Ministry and Key Club made the biggest impact on my future," he admits.

Now, Shyam is studying for the MCATs and exploring the possibility of an M.D.-Ph.D. program—to pursue his interest in the research aspect of medicine. "I'll either be a physician and/or teach medicine. I'm not sure yet," he admits. "But an M.D.-Ph.D. program will open up the option for me to do both."

**Shyam's interest in volunteering among people of all ages, from young children to the elderly, began at Notre Dame.**



## Jess Harper 2011 Valedictorian

**JESS HARPER VIVIDLY REMEMBERS** the week-long service trips to Neon, Ky., she took with Notre Dame faculty and students at the end of her junior and senior years. “We repaired homes, worked on yards, and tore down a house destroyed by fire,” she recalls. “It was so gratifying to help the community rebuild. And it was also a bonding experience for all of us who worked together on the different projects. My favorite Notre Dame memories are from those trips.”

From her first moments as a student at Hamilton College in New York, Jess again jumped into volunteering by helping the homeless, serving the elderly in the community, and tutoring children. She quickly became a member of the Executive Board for Hamilton Association for Volunteering, Outreach, and Charity (HAVOC)—the largest student group on Hamilton’s campus.

Last summer, she took her efforts overseas to Ghana, where she spent six weeks with a group called Unite for

Sight. “In the poor rural villages, people with eye diseases or vision problems have no access to medical care,” she says. “Working with local clinics, we distributed glasses and medications, transported patients to and from surgical centers, and spent time getting to know the residents of the area. It was an incredible experience.”

A neuroscience major, Jess said the trip also solidified her interest in merging her academic accomplishments with travel and service work into her career goals. “Helping others is engrained in me,” she says. “And it’s important to me to continue for as long as I can.”

**“Helping others is engrained in me,” Jess says. “And it’s important to me to continue for as long as I can.”**



## Maggie Fallon

**MAGGIE FALLON ADMITS** she’s not a light packer. The trouble is, she’s allowed only one checked bag on her flight to Florence, Italy, where she’s on her way for a semester abroad.

Technically, she wrapped up her college studies at Mount St. Mary College in New York, in December 2014. So, as a reward to herself, Maggie is spending her final semester on the other side of the ocean doing something completely different. In Florence, she will study Italian medieval history, sociology, and art history, and tour some of the country’s most famous museums and galleries.

A mathematics major with secondary education certification, Maggie credits her “four fantastic” math teachers at Notre Dame—especially the late Mr. LaTorre—for her success. (She made the Dean’s List every semester.) Her teachers’ passion for mathematics only fueled her interest in delving further and excelling in the field in college and beyond.





## DENIS WHELAN '10 FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR

Denis Whelan, who has been living and teaching in Madrid, Spain, for the past several months, has had to change his morning coffee routine. For one, he's had to plan ahead. He's observed that Spaniards consider it rude to eat meals or drink coffee on the go. "Spanish meals are considered celebrations, and not simply a means of providing the body with sustenance," Denis explains. "Therefore, lunch—the biggest meal of the day—is called *la comida*, which literally means 'the meal,' and is typically 'celebrated' around 2 or 3 p.m." Dinner, he adds, takes place around 9 or 10 p.m.

Denis is an English Teaching Assistant through a Fulbright grant through the U.S. Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs. Since September, he has been assisting in a bilingual high school in history, science, and English classes. Students range in age from 11 to 18. He has also implemented the Model UN Global classroom project, which opened the door for 10 students to participate at a conference this past January.

"This experience has been an incredible opportunity for self-discovery and personal growth," Denis says. "Best of all are the conversations that I've had with my students, roommates, and friends here. Each brings different cultural aspects into dialogue and promotes authentic critical thought."

In addition to teaching, Denis is conducting a statistical analysis at an epidemiology research center in Spain, where he is examining the links between environmental estrogens and breast cancer. It's an experience that aligns well with his upcoming work toward a Ph.D. in biostatistics from Emory University in Georgia, a program he begins this fall. With his eventual degree, he hopes to pursue a position in biomedical research in clinical trials or infectious diseases with an institution such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

"Notre Dame completely prepared me for college," Maggie remarks. "There, I learned valuable study and time management skills, and I felt ready for just about anything."

While at Mount St. Mary College, she also completed two student teaching assignments: the first at a small suburban Catholic middle school, and the second at a large, public high school, with more than 3,000 students. "I loved both positions, especially the one at the high school level," she admits.

Voted "Most Likely to Teach" at the end of her senior year at Notre Dame, Maggie is applying for teaching positions at high schools in Connecticut. She plans to teach for a year or so before pursuing graduate studies.

"Notre Dame completely prepared me for college," Maggie remarks. "There, I learned valuable study and time management skills, and I felt ready for just about anything."



Denis enjoying his time in Spain with students and friends.



## Ben Cohen 2011 Salutatorian

**BACK WHEN HE WAS A SOPHOMORE AT NOTRE DAME,** Ben Cohen had no idea how much Mr. Salce's biology class would influence his career decision. "Mr. Salce taught us about vertebrates and invertebrates. Learning about animal biology was fascinating to me," he remembers. "In college, my interest in biology led me to study human anatomy and physiology—including knees, joints, organs, bones, and muscles."

A summer stint at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport between college years introduced Ben to what a career as a hospital research associate can be like. Together with other college interns, Ben conducted various health surveys with patients in the Emergency Department. "We asked questions relating to smoking, breast cancer, and other health issues," he remembers. "It opened my eyes to what transitioning from college to a hospital career in the real world will be like."

Now in the last leg of his undergraduate program at Wesleyan University, Ben looks forward to starting nursing school in the fall, followed by choosing a specialization, and ultimately moving into a position with a hospital in the northeast.



A summer stint at St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport between college years introduced Ben to what a career as a hospital research associate can be like.

## Marcus Ortiz

**AS A BIOLOGY MAJOR ABOUT TO GRADUATE** from Eastern Connecticut State University in Willamantic, Marcus Ortiz is prepared to begin the next phase of his life: graduate school. He's applying to nursing programs in Florida, Georgia, and Connecticut with his sights set on becoming a nurse anesthetist or anesthesiologist assistant. Now getting ready, he credits Notre Dame with instilling a strong work ethic.



In high school, Marcus played basketball and ran track all four years. He balanced academics and service work. By senior year, he was in the top of his class, won awards for athletics, and stood among a handful of students nominated by his teachers and peers to represent Notre Dame on the ballot for the Barnum Festival's King and Queen. (*Editor's note: Maggie Fallon was also among the nominees.*) Ultimately, Marcus was named King in the Barnum Festival in 2011. The title provided an intense summer internship at People's United Bank, where he learned the inner workings of banking and finance.

"I loved my time at Notre Dame," he says, "from the small class sizes, to the tight community of teachers and friends. We had each other's backs. And now I'm in the thick of the application process for graduate school," Marcus adds, with a smile. "I'm headed where I want to be, career-wise. I can't believe it."

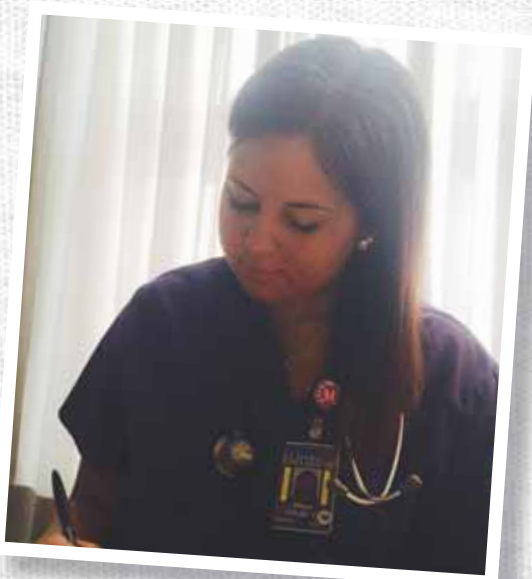
Marcus was named King in the Barnum Festival in 2011. The title provided an intense summer internship at People's United Bank, where he learned the inner workings of banking and finance.



## Megan O'Reilly

**IT'S A GOOD THING** Megan O'Reilly has always enjoyed listening to music in the car. Had it not been for her wanting to hear her favorite tunes on the way to school one morning when she was in eighth grade, she may not have considered applying to Notre Dame. "My dad was driving me to middle school and we heard an ad on the radio for an Open House at Notre Dame that evening," Megan remembers. "It sounded interesting to me, like a place I would want to be. So we went to the Open House—and I fell in love with the school!"

Megan's younger sister, Colleen '14, followed in her footsteps a few years later. And Megan's mother, Margaret, was hired to coach the Notre Dame cheerleaders from 2008–2014—leading the team to multiple wins at the state level.



Megan makes it a point to visit Notre Dame almost every time she's home on a break from Elmira College in New York, where she is studying nursing. She checks in with favorite former teachers—namely, Mathematics Chair Sherrie Zembruski—and likes to see how the school has changed since she graduated. "Notre Dame was a great place to go to high school," remarks Megan. "Every morning when we walked in, we greeted each other and made everyone feel welcome. It felt like we were all family."

After graduating from Elmira in May, Megan will likely get to visit more often. Her post-graduation sights are set on a nursing position on a medical-surgical unit in a Connecticut hospital. 🏥

**"Notre Dame was a great place to go to high school," remarks Megan. "Every morning when we walked in, we greeted each other and made everyone feel welcome. It felt like we were all family."**

## DR. BERNADETTE BOYLE '03 SOLVING THE EQUATION

Bernadette Boyle, Ph.D, has solved thousands of math equations throughout her academic and professional careers. But it was one particularly challenging problem in Mr. LaTorre's calculus class nearly 15 years ago that determined the trajectory of her future.

One morning during class, she was called down to the main office for just a few minutes. Weeks later, the very equation taught during those 15 minutes appeared on the test. Bernadette panicked—but only for a moment. "I took a deep breath and reflected on everything Mr. LaTorre had taught us. Most importantly, I considered how to understand the problem," she recalls. "And that's when it hit me: I can do this. I can solve just about anything."

That confidence in her math skills carried her through her college career, earning her a B.A. in mathematics from Providence College in 2007, an M.S. from the University of Notre Dame in 2009, and a Ph.D., also from the University of Notre Dame, in 2012. She specializes in Commutative Algebra and Algebraic Geometry, focusing on Pure O-Sequences.



Pam Pillo '03, Bernadette Boyle '03, Andrea Canuel '03

Catholic education has always been at the core of her schooling. "My faith is very important to me and my family," Bernadette says, adding that she and her three sisters all graduated from Notre Dame High School. "When it came time to choose a college for my undergraduate degree, I wanted a school with a foundation in the Catholic tradition. I felt like I could learn even more about my faith that way."

Today, Bernadette is an Assistant Professor of Mathematics at Sacred Heart University, teaching three to four courses a semester. She loves exposing her students to the beauty of mathematics while teaching them how to break down equations in order to solve them.

Several of her students are Notre Dame grads. Many are there due to the partnership established in 2012 between the two institutions that extends a 50 percent tuition discount to academically qualified students who attend SHU full time.

"Becoming a member of the faculty at Sacred Heart really is a dream come true," Bernadette says. "SHU is a small, liberal arts Catholic school that's dedicated to teaching. It's in my hometown. I am the faculty mentor to the cross country and track teams, which I really enjoy. It's a lot of fun and the perfect situation for me!"

And teaching calculus is her favorite. "It's the class where my love for math solidified," Bernadette concludes. "And I hope I'm doing the same for my students."





Nursing home residents enjoy a fiesta hosted by ND's Care Club.

# Care Club Celebrates 30 Years

By Jill Caseria



Mrs. Jan Haffner

**R**etired religion teacher Mrs. Jan Haffner is accustomed to having three or more cardboard boxes stacked in her garage filled with gently used eyeglasses. Or dozens of discarded cell phones. Or numerous DVDs and paperbacks . . . countless bottles of hand lotions and shampoo . . . pacifiers and diapers for babies . . . or brand-new backpacks full of school supplies.

Mrs. Haffner's rotating stockpile reflects her huge heart and the generosity of scores of Notre Dame students and families over the past 30 years. For three decades as the well-loved faculty advisor to Notre Dame's Care Club, Mrs. Haffner has opened her garage to hold scores of items where they wait for delivery to non-profit organizations throughout Fairfield County, mothers and babies in need, the elderly, the incarcerated, and even military troops abroad.

Since its founding in 1984 by then-Student Council President Patrick Domkowski '84, the students in Notre Dame's Care Club have served thousands of children and adults in the surrounding community.

Right from the start, students connected with Care Club's mission to help others. The Club's first project was a Christmas party for first graders at Blessed Sacrament/St. Mary's School in Bridgeport, where Notre Dame students played games and directed activities with the children. "This project was such a success that we continued it for several years," remembers Mrs. Haffner, who adds that several of the youngsters later went on to attend Notre Dame. "When the school closed, the children of St. Peter's School became the recipients of fun and gifts from Santa."

Since then, Care Club has made countless visits to day care centers, hospitals, and other schools, bringing joy to everyone they meet.

A favorite event is the "Senior Prom" that the Club holds at the Jewish Home for the Elderly in Fairfield—an annual spring tradition for the past 15 years. The best part? "We love dancing with the seniors," says Lauren Jones '13, a four-year Care Club member, who is now studying





First Care Club event in December 1984. From left are Maurizio Viselli '85, Tina Duda '86, Mary Lou Larcheveqis '88

psychology at Sacred Heart University. "Some of them can't stand on their own very well, but we still have fun! The whole event puts smiles on their faces and brightens their day." Students also visit the Jewish Home other times of the year to exercise with the seniors, share stories, perform a few songs on the piano, and play games. "I see how the visits to the Jewish Home benefit the students as well as the people we visit," remarks Mrs. Haffner. "Spending time together helps make a difference in their lives."

Over the years, collections have been a cornerstone of Care Club, and a way for the extended Notre Dame community to get involved. The Club regularly helps collect items for several local organizations, including Project from the Heart, the Lions Club, Bridgeport Project for the Homeless, and Operation Hope. Last year's eyeglass drive brought in so many frames, that when the Club members delivered them to the assigned drop-off location, there was hardly enough room for the collection boxes. Lately, requests for items begin via word-of-mouth. "I'll get a message from an organization that has heard about how Care Club can help get donations," says Mrs. Haffner. "I no longer have to go searching. It comes to us. Care Club is that well-known in the community."

Care Club members also come together in crisis. Following the 9/11 tragedy, an event that took the life of Fr. Bill Sangiovanni's cousin who was a New York City firefighter, Notre Dame students and their families baked 130 lbs. of cookies for the firefighters of Engine Company 54.

Students and alumni of Care Club remain close, even after graduation. Michael Lenard '13, former co-president and officer of Care Club, is among the many Notre Dame graduates who stay in touch with Mrs. Haffner. It's a connection that Care Club alumni felt from the start, thanks to her traditional form of communication while they were students: a handwritten update on the Club's activities. Club officers personally distribute the updates to all members by delivering them to their homerooms. "It's rare to get that kind of personal message these days," says Michael. "Going from room to room helped us maintain an even closer connection to the members of the club. Looking back, I did enjoy distributing those letters."

**Since its founding in 1984 by then-Student Council President Patrick Domkowski '84, the students in Notre Dame's Care Club have served thousands of children and adults in the surrounding community.**

"When I started my freshman year at Notre Dame, there were so many clubs and organizations to join," remembers Lauren. "But Care Club found my heart. I wanted to help people who wouldn't necessarily ask for help."

"Mrs. Haffner is an amazing person," Michael continues. "She has an energy and passion for helping people that rubs off on all of us. We all admire her time and dedication to each cause," he adds. "Care Club played a key part of my Notre Dame experience. It perfectly demonstrates the motto of the school: Be imitators of Christ." 🕊



Faculty and students enjoy past Care Club activities.



Eric Franco '16 and Sara Keden '15 both say their online courses are challenging.

# The Brave New World of Online Learning By Nina M. Riccio



Mrs. Joanna Cipriano helps a student navigate an online class.

**F**or a school the size of Notre Dame, offering out-of-the-ordinary classes like Mandarin Chinese, videogame design, the psychology of crime, and bioethics would have once been an impossibility. But with the introduction of online courses to the ND community three years ago, the range of interesting and deeply focused classes has mushroomed.

"Once you open up the world of online course offerings, it expands the list of subjects you're able to offer your students exponentially," says Mrs. Joanna Cipriano, English teacher and online program coordinator.

At Notre Dame, online classes are offered to juniors and seniors through The Virtual High School in Massachusetts, a nonprofit dedicated to expanding learning offerings, especially supplemental classes such as STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and AP classes, to students all over the world. Teachers can come from across the globe but must take

a professional development course before they are assigned a class. Since the structure of each course is designed by the organization, each teacher knows exactly what he or she has to cover and what standards must be adhered to. Because Mrs. Cipriano teaches two such classes, she is able to "buy" 50 online slots for Notre Dame students. And just about all those slots were filled this year.

But make no mistake about it: signing up for an online class is not for those looking for an easy A.

"My online teacher is super-smart and a fantastic teacher," says Sara Keden '15 (Easton), a bass player and honor student who is taking a full-year AP music theory class. Still, she admits to struggling with the material and has enlisted the help of a tutor to help with some of the concepts. "Taking the class online has made me realize how different the educational experience is when it's only written, and how valuable it is to have a teacher who can unpack the text and open you up to things you can see and hear." Music theory is



## NDHS Helping Expand Online Courses

a particular challenge, she notes. "It's a lot easier to learn if you can associate the concepts with sounds in music. Online, you're just discerning information from a text."

Students enrolled in an online class have it scheduled into their day just like any other class; during that period they go to the computer lab to work. "But the classes are tough, and my guess is that 99% of them also do quite a bit of work at home," says Mrs. Cipriano.

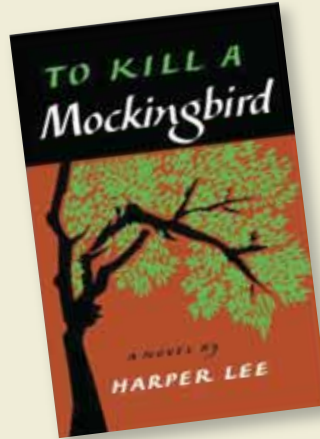
Eric Franco '16 (Bridgeport) plans to study game design in college and knows that a solid background in computer science would be essential. He signed up for an online AP computer science class and now, halfway through the yearlong course, admits "it's challenging enough to keep me on my toes."

Because they are both in AP classes, Sara and Eric have access to the AP practice exam as well as the online text; as in college, they read on their own, and the teacher is available to answer questions. And, like college, they are given all their assignments in the beginning of the course and must learn to budget their time to complete them successfully.

Collaboration within the class is not only expected, but has proven to be extremely helpful. "When I have a question, I post it to the class, and one of my classmates might answer," he says. "If not, the teacher will step in. There were times I had no clue what I was doing and other students suggested ways I might change the code to make it more effective. I always get feedback by the next day." His class is full at approximately 20 students, many hailing from Nepal and China (instruction and conversation are all in English).

One of Eric's class projects involved altering the code for a Chatbot. (For the uninitiated, Chatbots are those pop-up images of a person with a bubble asking "Can I help you?" when you're online.) "Chatbots are 99% fully automated," explains Eric. "When you type in your question, the program searches for keywords, and answers your question based on those keywords. Our challenge was to rewrite the code to change the responses to various keywords, and to add keywords that would output additional responses."

One major challenge for students is figuring out how to use their academic coping skills in a whole different environment. There's plenty of interaction, but it's online only, and the organizational skills needed are different than they are in a traditional classroom. The qualities that make for student success—independence,



Mrs. Cipriano teaches a pretty cool online class of her own: a semester-long English course based on the 1960 novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee. "We examine it from the point of view of race and politics in America at that time, poverty, mental illness, and the legal system," she says. "The best part is that you never really know who is going to be in the class. My students come from all over the world, including

Malaysia, so the online discussions can be really interesting and lively. Plus, doing this allows me to expand my own skill set as well."

**The book to read is not the one that thinks for you but the one which makes you think.**

**—HARPER LEE**

motivation, good organization and communication skills, and the ability to ask for help—are tested in an online environment.

"Anyone taking an online class should be prepared to have outlets to find extra help," Sara adds. Though she admits it's been challenging at times, she feels she's learned a lot. "Besides, taking a class online helps you determine what type of learner you are, and that's going to help you be better prepared for college."

**One major challenge for students is figuring out how to use their academic coping skills in a whole different environment. There's plenty of interaction, but it's online only, and the organizational skills needed are different than they are in a traditional classroom.**

While the learning style is not for everyone, there are a lot of benefits to giving students such a broad choice of courses. "They're excited and eager about what they're taking," notes Mrs. Cipriano. "To see a student get excited by a topic is fun. It's generally not until college that they get to focus in a particular area like this." 📖



# Seven ND Teams Compete in State Tournaments



2014 Baseball SWC Champions

In the past year, several ND teams have made steady gains in skill and reputation, with seven teams earning their way to league championships and/or state tournament play.

The **softball team** had to rebuild after the magical 2011 season that saw the team get to the state quarterfinals—and then watched most of the key players graduate. Moved from assistant coach to head coach in 2014, Ron Barber took up the challenge. “In 2013, we won just four games, but we were a young team with very few reserve players. Most of the kids returned for 2014,” he says, “and we surprised everyone by qualifying for the state tournament.” The team advanced to the quarterfinals, losing in that game to the ultimate champion (Thomaston), but ending the season with 11 wins. “Now,” says Coach Barber, “they’re hungry for more!”

The **baseball team** had previously won the state tournaments in 2003 and 2009, when second-year Head Coach Bill Mazzucco '90 was an assistant under Paul Fabbri '83 and pitching coach Bob Sorrentino '68. “ND has a long, proud tradition in baseball,” says Coach Mazzucco, “and our 19-6 record last season was a reflection of that. The key was the seniors, who assumed a leadership role and ran with it.” That effort led to Notre Dame’s first-ever South-West Conference (SWC) League championship. “At the end of the game, we were hugging and jumping on Bethel High’s field for so long that they finally turned out the lights,” laughs Coach Mazzucco.

*The Connecticut Post* and *Fairfield Citizen News* took special note of **ND’s girls’ soccer team**, which until 2014 had never had more than four wins in a season. “Last season was a perfect



storm, with good players returning and new players contributing," says Coach Wayne Mones, also a guidance counselor at the school. "No one expected us to do anything, but a convergence of spirit inspired not only the team, but our parents, administrators, and the broader ND community." The team racked up 15 total wins for the season, qualifying for and earning semi-final berths in both the CIAC and SWC Tournaments (falling in a nail-biting, penalty kick decision against the team (Portland) that ultimately won the latter.

**ND boys' soccer** qualified for the State Tournament for just the second time in school history, having won more than 50 percent of its matches during the season. "Soccer is a great sport for youth," enthuses Coach Whitey Budrekas, now in his 13th season. "It teaches them self-discipline, team skills, and lessons that last a lifetime."

In the last five years, the **ND boys' basketball** team has ended the season with an impressive record: 23, 21, 17, 17, and 21 victories. That's 99 wins in five seasons. Twice in Head Coach Vin Laczkoski's nine years at ND, the team has progressed to the state semi-finals and, in 2015, reached new heights: competing in the CIAC State Finals (Class S) before a crowd of thousands at the Mohegan Sun Arena. "On January 20, our record was just 5-5, and no one expected us to go far," recalls Coach Laczkoski. "But these kids had the talent and the determination to win, and we ended the season with the 21-7 record that qualified us for the state tournament." Although they ultimately lost to powerhouse Weaver High School in Hartford, the ND team's characteristic persistence and perseverance did the school proud.

"My kids have really bought into the program," says Coach Laczkoski, noting a heavy emphasis on preseason weight training and area summer and fall league play. "By the time the season began, they had already formed the bonds that make a team cohesive. Next year may well be our year!"

The **girls' basketball** team had an outstanding season, reaching the finals in the SWC tournament by defeating Newtown in double overtime, 79-74. Although they lost in the league finals, they played well in the state tournament (Class S), making it to the semifinal round before losing to Canton, 52-42. "The team played outstanding defense," said Head Coach Eric DeMarco in an article in the *Connecticut Post*. "I thought our effort was really, really good."

Steve Hetherman has coached **ND hockey** for four seasons and, in 2014 and 2015, guided the team into state tournament play. In 2014, the team won the SCC/SWC Division I Championship and went into the CIAC Division I State Tournament as a number-one seed. "It was a lot of fun," he recalls, "because at the beginning of the season, no one gave us a chance to succeed. Our guys only had each other, and they all played hard for each other. Belief is a powerful tool and it certainly was on display." Never more so than in the state semi-finals, played at Yale University to a sellout crowd. Although they lost 3-1 to Darien, team pride never wavered.

The 2015 season, one of rebuilding after some key graduations, saw the team finish with a 12-10 record and a berth in the CIAC State Tournament, where they defeated New Canaan in the first round and lost a nail-biter in double-overtime to Glastonbury. Prospects for the coming year remain strong, notes Coach Hetherman: "There's good talent on this year's team and the pipeline for prospective players will only grow given the overall enrollment trends." 🏒



## Playing on a Bigger Stage

This fall and winter, Notre Dame's basketball and hockey teams had the opportunity to play on a bigger stage—the 7,000-seat Webster Bank Arena in Bridgeport. Participants in the Notre Dame Hockey Invitational included the host team, Fairfield Prep, Bergen High (N.J.), and Boston College High. "It was great exposure for Notre Dame," says Mr. James Olayos, ND's director of athletic advancement. "The games were widely covered in the media. Tons of families with young kids attended, and among them, I hope, will be a number of aspiring students!"

Likewise, the Martin Luther King Classic drew large crowds of basketball fans, as eight high schools in the Bridgeport and New Haven areas squared off: Kolbe Cathedral, Bassick, Sacred Heart, ND, Wilbur Cross, Harding, Hillhouse, and Bridgeport Central. "The basketball team is becoming used to playing in bigger settings," notes AD Rob Bleggi '93. Not every high school in the area can offer as many ways for its players to be seen, and we look forward to continuing the relationships that my colleague, Jim Olayos, has forged."

## Running With Simon Wheatcroft

On October, 29, ND Principal Mr. Chris Cipriano, six members of the cross country team, and Nancy Sweeney '78, joined the ultra-marathoner Simon Wheatcroft for a 5.5-mile run down a stretch of the Post Road in Fairfield. This was the fourth leg of the British runner's trek from Boston to New York to compete in the City's legendary Marathon. Wheatcroft, who suffers from a degenerative eye condition that has left him nearly blind, had invited area runners to join him during each of the nine days it took him—at 26.2 miles per day—to reach New York City. "He was a tremendous inspiration to all," says Principal Cipriano.



## ND Introduces Wrestling to the Athletic Program

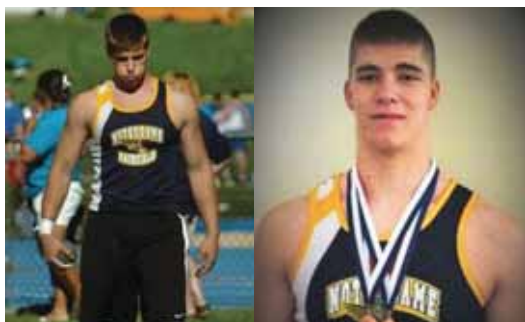
Notre Dame introduced wrestling to its athletic program this winter, and discovered in **Hakim Fleming '16** (Bridgeport) a real standout. Head Coach Steve Fulco, who brought 10 years' experience and a staff including former FCIAC and state-experienced wrestlers with him, was delighted with the team's energy and commitment. By the season's end, Fleming had wrestled his way to the SWC championship title and then earned Class S state champion honors and All-American status.

**THE WRESTLING PROGRAM** is trying to raise money for equipment. If you are interested in making a donation log on to <http://www.gofundme.com/sqrqew>



## Indoor Track

Congratulations to **Christian Turner '15** (Norwalk), who won the shot put event at this year's SWC Indoor Track Tournament. Christian subsequently placed third in both the CIAC state tournament and the State Open, qualifying him for the New England championship tournament.





# Lancer Legacy Gala

School spirit wove its way through the 2015 Lancer Legacy Gala, as alumni, parents, and friends of Notre Dame gathered on February 28 to celebrate ND's best. Three alumni received prestigious ND honors, each award reflecting one of the school's core values: education, leadership, and community impact. In addition to these honors, Notre Dame inducted five alumni into its Alumni Hall of Fame and into the Athletic Hall of Fame, six individual athletes and three outstanding teams.

As Notre Dame's largest fundraiser, the annual Gala benefits the school's current students, providing support for academic and athletic programs. Held this year at Sacred Heart University, the Gala featured a fabulous selection of food, drink, and music, as well as a silent auction that included "must-have" or "really want" items such as trips to Vermont and Florida, a bottle of Dom Pérignon, sports memorabilia, and the use of a Maserati for the weekend.

To generate more auction items, a "Gala Giving Tree" graced ND's main office during the month before the event, with ornaments suggesting a variety of auction gifts that students and families could donate in advance—gift cards, an iPad, a large-screen TV (and everything in between!).

At the Gala, Notre Dame honored the following individuals:

## Carole Christy Surina Educator Award

**Carl Philipp '61**, ND Assistant Principal and 50-year member of the faculty and administration

## Sister Marion Rielly Leadership Award

**Betsy Peddle Browne '88**, Fairfield Town Clerk and longtime member of ND's Sr. Marion Rielly Scholarship Committee

## Notre Dame Community Impact Award

**Stephen J. Sedensky III '76**, State's Attorney for the Judicial District of Danbury

## Notre Dame Alumni Hall of Fame Inductees

**Noreen Swaller Kokoruda '65**

**Bernadette Baldino '67**

**John Hardiman '75**

**Louis DiPalma '79**

**Thomas McCarthy '92**

## Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees

**Charles Brophy**

**Louis Tranquillo '70**

**Peter Tranquillo '71**

**Dennis McLaughlin '72**

**Martha Cleary Peck '91**

**Elizabeth (Liz) Cleary Gonzalez '91**

## Team Inductees

**1969–1972 Hockey**

**1972 Boys' Basketball**

**1987 Girls' Basketball**



1



2



3



4



5



6

1. The Philipp Family - Matthew '01, Kevin '99, Carl '61, Pat, and Jane '05 and Juliette
2. Stephen J. Sedensky, III '76 and Chris Cipriano
3. Noreen Swaller Kokoruda '65 and Chris Cipriano
4. John '75 and Donna Hardiman
5. Chris Cipriano, Liz Cleary Gonzalez '91, Jim Olayos
6. Kay Kenny, Tom McCarthy '92, Jan Haffner, Pat Land



Emily Schofield '16 (Stratford), recipient of the Sr. Marion Rielly scholarship, with Rebecca Stefanos '15 (Norwalk), recipient of the Kevin Comer scholarship.

## So Many Ways to Give

By Nina M. Riccio



Kevin Comer '80 (red jacket) with good friend Tony Ciofani '80.

For those who knew Kevin Comer '80, his death in 2012 on his 50th birthday was a tragedy.

"With certainty, anyone who knew Kevin would say he was one of the nicest, most universally-liked people they'd ever met," says lifelong friend and classmate Tony Ciofani '80.

"Kevin always looked back at Notre Dame as the foundation of his success," continues Mr. Ciofani. "He felt he owed his intellectual development and his character to lessons learned in high school."

With that in mind, Mr. Ciofani and fellow classmate Mike Clancy '80, along with Kevin's brothers and sisters, established the Kevin S. Comer Memorial Scholarship to help a student with tuition at Notre Dame. The group has made a commitment to fund the scholarship for four years, though anyone who wishes to honor Kevin can contribute as well.

**"Scholarships not only provide added incentive to come, they provide the school with top flight students, as they tend to attract very good applicants."**

In fact, many scholarships have been created to honor those who have a connection with Notre Dame and that, year after year, benefit a current student.

Each June, for example, a rising sophomore, junior, and senior are chosen to receive a \$2,000

scholarship in memory of Sr. Marion Rielly, SND, former principal, biology teacher and theatre arts director, and arguably one of the most important lynchpins in the formation of today's Notre Dame.

"She could be formidable, but in a good way, and she loved to laugh," says her former student and good friend Christine (Mahoney '71) Hughes of the woman who was principal during the merger of the two Notre Dames. That merger brought with it talent in terms of teaching staff, greater enrollment, and a more fiscally solid high school, due in no small part to Sr. Marion's leadership and the respect she commanded.

A fundraising Mass and breakfast is held each year to keep the scholarship funded, and someone who knew her always speaks. After all, Sister Marion died in 1983, and "as the years go on there are fewer people who have a connection to her so it's more difficult to raise money in her name," says Director of Advancement and Alumni Affairs Mrs. Theresa (Saia '79) Marzik.

"Many students struggle to afford the tuition for private schools such as ours," admits Fr. Bill Sangiovanni, president. "Scholarships not only provide added incentive to come, they provide the school with top flight students, as they tend to attract very good applicants."

Fr. Bill is involved with all the scholarship committees, but particularly with the Carrano Memorial, named for Frank Carrano IV '99, former captain of the State Championship Ice Hockey Team, who was killed in a car accident. "His parents found something positive to do in the midst of their grief and set up a scholarship in his name. They raise money all year, and the funds generally go towards helping someone on the hockey team who could use some assistance."

He tells of a fortuitous meeting with co-founder and former CEO of World Wrestling Entertainment (WWE) Linda McMahon. "My friend mentioned that she is very generous, so I wrote and told her a bit about Notre Dame. Now, each year the Vince and Linda McMahon Family Foundation, Inc. sends a donation for \$10,000, which goes to one student from Bridgeport and one from Norwalk." It's an extremely generous contribution from a woman with no personal ties to the school. "And by the way, she doesn't get any publicity for this," he adds. 📧

**TO CONTRIBUTE** to an existing scholarship, visit [www.notredame.org](http://www.notredame.org) and click on the link for "Giving". To establish a new one, contact Theresa Marzik at [tmazik@notredame.org](mailto:tmazik@notredame.org).





## Service Memorial Planned

At the Lancer Legacy Gala, plans were announced for an attractive outdoor display the school hopes to build, one that will feature as backdrop a wall dedicated to all ND graduates, family, and friends who have served in the military; an LED display board announcing important school activities; three flagpoles; and a beautifully landscaped seating area.

"We wanted to find a specific way to honor all veterans, and to create a visual 'anchor' to define our campus," says Mr. Chris Cipriano, principal. At an estimated \$100,000, the project is an ambitious one, but one Mr. Cipriano is confident ND alumni, parents, and friends will rally to support.

**"We wanted to find a specific way to honor all veterans, and to create a visual 'anchor' to define our campus."**

**TO CONTRIBUTE** to the Service Memorial, please contact Chris Cipriano at 203.372.6521 or by email at [ccipriano@notredame.org](mailto:ccipriano@notredame.org). You may also visit [notredame.org](http://notredame.org) to review our giving levels.

## Buried Treasure



Reunited at last:  
John Sidorow '63 with  
his long-lost ring.

It was the summer of '62, and Notre Dame junior John Sidorow '63 was checking out the campus of the University of Connecticut with his family. On the way home, they all stopped for a picnic at Hurd State Park in East Hampton.

"I just remember horsing around with my five-year-old cousin, and at some point I realized that my brand new class ring was missing from my finger," recalls Mr. Sidorow. A search ensued, but the ring was nowhere to be found.

Mr. Sidorow ended up attending Fairfield University, where he graduated with a degree in mathematics. He served in an army artillery unit in Vietnam for a year, then came home and worked at Handy & Harman and the U.S. Postal Service, where he spent 21 years before he retired. A few years ago, he moved up to Beacon Falls. His old class ring, of course, remained a very distant memory. Until a few months ago, that is.

Late last fall, Mrs. Theresa (Saia '79) Marzik was in her office at Notre Dame when she picked up a phone call from a man in East Hartford who said he had found a Notre Dame ring, class year 1963, with the initials JJS inside. A few minutes of sleuthing with an old yearbook led her to the only possible owner: John Sidorow '63. The contact information she had for him was out of date, but someone from a recent class reunion remembered he had graduated Fairfield University, and it was the alumni office there that helped her track him down.

Going above and beyond the line of duty, Mrs. Marzik got in her car and drove up to East Hartford to pick up the ring just before Christmas.



"It's as good as new!" says Mr. Sidorow, gazing proudly at the solid ring with the faceted blue stone, which appears to have weathered the years in the underbrush with nary a scratch.

"I'm very happy to be reunited with this ring. To me, it's a symbol of my learning experience at Notre Dame High School. It brings back a lot of memories of the wonderful teachers and students I met. It was all boys then, and I believe the school helped me build my character."

Accompanying the ring was a note from Kevin Freeman, the man who found it in East Hampton. "It's the best find I've ever had with my metal detector," he wrote, noting that the ring was at least a foot underground and took quite a bit of digging to uncover. "I'm so happy the ring is getting back to you after all these years. I do believe in karma, and it's rewarding to think the ring will be in your family for many years."

Mr. Sidorow remains very grateful, to both Kevin Freeman "for finding the ring, and to Theresa Marzik for being instrumental in getting it back to me."

By Nina M. Riccio

## Alumni Association Easter Egg Hunt



Jason Bleggi, son of  
Rob Bleggi '93

For the second consecutive year, the Notre Dame Alumni Association sponsored an Easter Egg Hunt for children of alumni on the Saturday before Easter. Scores of enthusiastic youngsters vied for hundreds of eggs and were delighted by a surprise visit by the Easter Bunny.

## Michelle Marella

Michelle Marella '93, a figure skating coach who resides in Monroe, was thrilled when one of her students, ND freshman Marisa Panuczak '18 (Seymour) won gold medals in each of the solo programs she skated at the ISI Lake Placid Championships. Her artistic program earned her an entry into the final-round competition, where she earned a silver.





## Gintoli Brothers Bring Hockey Talent to Olympic Level

Brothers Peter and Garrett Gintoli of Shelton participated in the 18th Winter Deaflympics, held March 28–April 5 in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, where they brought home the Bronze Medal. The competition included teams from Canada, Finland, Russia, and the USA.

Selected for the team after a rigorous tryout process by the American Hearing Impaired Hockey Association (AHIHA), the brothers have been involved with AHIHA since 2003. Peter, a member of the Class of 2010, played hockey and ran cross country at Notre Dame, before going on to play hockey for the Bay State Breakers Junior Teams in Rockland, Mass., and the Eastern Junior Hockey league. He is currently a junior on the Salve Regina University men's hockey team (NCAA DIII).

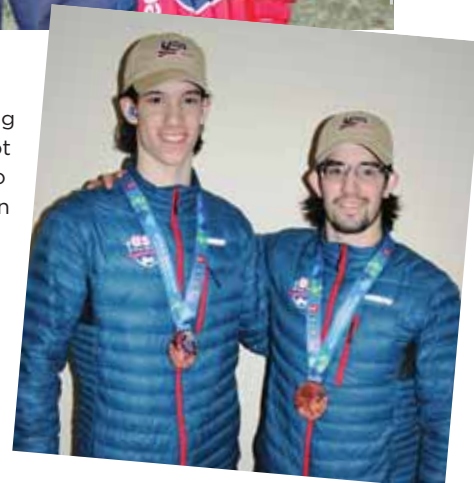
Garrett '14, played ND hockey as well as varsity lacrosse while at Notre Dame; he is currently with the South Shore Kings U18 Tier 1 team in Foxboro, Mass., in the USPHL.

Both young men were born with Melnick-Fraser syndrome, which causes a progressive moderate-to-severe hearing loss, and for which each now wears bi-lateral hearing aids. To qualify for the games, an athlete must have a hearing loss of



at least 55 dB in the “better ear.” Assistive devices, including hearing aids and cochlear implants, are not allowed in competition, in order to assure that athletes are on an even playing field.

Peter was named to the 2011 U.S. Deaflympic team (High-Tatras, Slovakia), as well as the 2009 (Winnipeg, CA) and 2013 (Vantaa, Finland) U.S. World Championship teams. Garrett made his first appearance at the 2013 World Championships.



Garrett and Peter Gintoli

## Serving with Confidence

Sean Cronan '14 continues to carry on the volunteer spirit ignited at Notre Dame during his service trips to Appalachia. Now a freshman at Sacred Heart University, he was selected to welcome SHU's Class of 2018 during Orientation last fall, where he spoke about the university's volunteer opportunities before an audience of 1,400 people.

At Sacred Heart, Sean has participated in the weeklong Community Connections Program in inner-city Bridgeport, working alongside Mr. Larry Carroll, assistant director for Catholic Mission and Identity (former ND chaplain and assistant principal). This spring Sean completed a weeklong Habitat for Humanity trip to Chicago.

Sean's ties to Notre Dame remain strong, not only through his ongoing relationship with Mr. Carroll, but in his gratitude to two faculty



Sean Cronan '14 (left), SHU freshman Monica Macchio, and Larry Carroll, assistant director for Mission and Identity at SHU.

who helped him become a confident public speaker. “All those debates in Mr. Winkler’s history class,” he says, “and the formal presentations in Dr. Callaghan’s English classes put me at ease when speaking at Orientation.”

# ND Named a Top-Ten School in NFL/ACS Partnership



Breast cancer awareness ribbon at the 50-yard line

For the last four years, ND parents Mariann and Ray Cirisoli '06, '15 (Ansonia) have spearheaded an endeavor at ND that raises awareness of and funds for cancer research. The umbrella program—a partnership between the National Football League and the American Cancer Society called Crucial Catch—depends on the efforts of the local community.

Enter Mariann Cirisoli, herself a cancer survivor who lost her mother and a sister to cancer in recent years. Looking to channel that sorrow into positive action, she found her focus when son Noah '15 made the football team four years ago. (Their son, Justin '06, was involved in a host of other activities at ND as well.)

"First, Ray and I talked to the ND football coach and to Mr. Cipriano, the principal, and both were enthusiastic about having an annual 'pink game,'" recalls Mariann. "Ray and I contacted the state coordinator of Coaches vs. Cancer to make the fundraising commitment official. Then it became my obsession!"

Obsession? During one pre-selected game each season, ND's home field has screamed pink—whether through 10-yard lines painted neon pink, fences lined with "ribbons" cut from 600 pink paper cups; fans wearing as much pink as possible; and players wearing pink wristbands



or socks or armbands. "Mr. Cipriano welcomed my OCD," laughs Mariann, whose efforts also included game-week bake sales and dress-down days; social media reminders; and game-day gift baskets and raffles of goods and services donated by local merchants.

To ensure that the day's spirit included a serious side, the most recent game opened with a 58-second countdown on the clock, held in silence to remember those who have died and to remind the crowd that, even now, 58 people learn every minute that they have cancer.

"In four years, we have raised more than \$5,000," says Mariann, "despite having had monsoon conditions for the 2014 game." In recognition of the Cirisolis' efforts and the generosity of the wider ND community, the Crucial Catch partnership named Notre Dame a top-ten school this year.

With this strong foundation in place, ND hopes for a smooth and seamless handoff to another set of parents or alumni volunteers, so the annual Pink Game can remain both a proud tradition and a witness to the spirit of hope.



**FOR INFORMATION** about this once-a-year volunteer opportunity, please contact Mr. Cipriano ([ccipriano@notredame.org](mailto:ccipriano@notredame.org)) or Athletic Director Rob Bleggi '93 at [rbleggi@notredame.org](mailto:rbleggi@notredame.org).

## 30-Year-Old "Egg Baby" Still at Home with Alumna



Dr. Jo-Anne Flynn Jackson '86, met up with Mrs. Mary Guarino (Spanish, at left) and Ms. Jan Haffner (Religion) while in town during the Thanksgiving holiday. "It was a joy to meet up with the women who inspired me," said Jo-Anne, who brought along her 30-year-old egg baby from Mrs. Haffner's class! Jo-Anne is now a middle school administrator in Georgia.



# Class Reunions

## Class of 1964 Raises \$30,000 as Reunion Gift



More than 260 members of the Class of 1964 enjoyed a full weekend of activities June 20–22 to celebrate their 50th reunion. “Finding and inviting people was made so much easier by the various social media,” says Paul Gleason ‘64, co chair of the event. A Friday-night “meet and greet” offered a casual, comfortable way to recognize and reconnect with friends from long ago. As ‘60s music played in the background, sounds of joy, laughter and conversation filled the air.

At Saturday night’s Reunion Gala, more than 200 alumni and spouses danced to a live band, enjoyed the meal provided by Vazzy’s Four Seasons, reminisced while ambling through a “memorabilia room,” and deeply appreciated two tribute displays: one for deceased classmates and the other in honor of those who served in Vietnam. Sunday’s memorial mass, celebrated by Rev. Bob Crofut ‘64, included a final tribute to deceased classmates.

In recognition of their 50th, members of the Class of ‘64 established the Class of 1964 Scholarship, raising \$30,000. To help reach that goal, two generous classmates made matching gifts to any funds raised. Says Paul Gleason, “The new scholarship is one small but significant way we can pass forward the benefits we received some 50 years ago, and future gifts will add to its value and impact.”

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE** periodic Class of ‘64 updates, e-mail your contact info to [ndhs64@gmail.com](mailto:ndhs64@gmail.com); to view pictures of the event, go to [snapfish.com](http://snapfish.com), using [ndhs64@gmail.com](mailto:ndhs64@gmail.com) password.

### REMINDER

#### Class of 1965 50th Year Reunion

September 25–27, 2015  
Vazzy’s Four Seasons, Stratford  
Contact: Steve and Diane Parker Cavallo  
at [cavallo01@optimum.net](mailto:cavallo01@optimum.net)



**1. Class of 1964 Reunion**  
Members of the Class of ‘64

**2. ND Girls High School Class of ‘69 Reunion**  
Members of the ND Girls’ Class of 1969

**3. Class of 1974 Reunion**  
(l-r) Maribeth Sarnacki, Lynn DiCamillo Wetmore, Nancy McCarthy Pashley

**4. Class of 1979 Reunion**  
(l-r) Rita Kinsella Estrada, Paul Sacramone, Cindy Patavino Sacramone, Fran Delmore Leonard, Kim Milo Fay, Nancy Peters Saad, Lisa Bedini Olson, John Cerreta

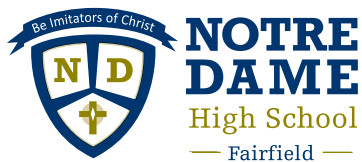
#### 5. An Unexpected Encounter

It’s been 50 years since Paul Gleason ‘64 ran cross country for Notre Dame High School . . . and 50 years since former teacher Ed Wysocki coached Paul’s cross country team. What a surprise, then, when they ran into (and recognized) each other at Yankee Stadium last fall, both wearing apparel indicating they have more than Notre Dame in common!

### KEEP US INFORMED

Please remember to inform the Alumni Office of any changes in your name, address, employer, or email/phone number by either:

- E-mailing the Alumni Office: [tmazrik@notredame.org](mailto:tmazrik@notredame.org)
- Logging on to the alumni page of ND’s website [www.notredame.org/pages/alum.html](http://www.notredame.org/pages/alum.html)
- Sending changes through our Facebook pages



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# Lancer Open Golf Tournament in memory of Bob Shea

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 | REDDING COUNTRY CLUB  
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More than 75 percent of those who play in this special golf tournament—now in its 15th year—are Notre Dame alumni, making it a friendly, fun, and meaningful event. Fun and friendly because of the people! Meaningful because of its purpose!

For information on playing or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Theresa (Saia '79) Marzik, director of advancement and alumni affairs, at [tmazrik@notredame.org](mailto:tmazrik@notredame.org) or Jim Olayos, director of athletic advancement at [jolayos@notredame.org](mailto:jolayos@notredame.org).

