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Earl Hartman, SHA66, Editor Paulette Andres Green, SHA64, Newsletter Chairperson

HOMECOMING 2015

Irish HOMECOMING FRIDAY OCTOBER 9, 2015... Homecoming and the Annual Alumni and Friends Reception in the evening at the Parish Hall will be Friday October 9, 2015. Parade will be in the afternoon and doors to the Hall will open at 7:30 PM. Mark your calendars and come join us! 1965 and 1985 are planning reunions that weekend and we'd love to see you too!

GRAND MARSHALS NAMED

1975 (40 years ago!!!) was a good year for athletics at Sacred Heart Academy. That class produced the last undefeated football team at the Academy, a top ranked baseball team, saw the continued development of sports for the ladies, AND a State Championship in basketball!

The 1975 State Championship basketball team will be honored as Grand Marshals of the Homecoming parade on October 9, 2015.

Confirmations so far include Tom Nolan from Australia and Mike Milan from Thailand. The group will ride in the parade

and be honored at halftime of the football game.





RISI

STEM INITIATIVE HAS IMMEDIATE IMPACT

A completely new Science Lab and Chromebook computers for 7th through 12 graders will be available when school starts in the Fall, thanks to the generosity of alumni and friends. More than \$500,000 was recently raised in a STEM Initiative major gift effort for the specific purpose of raising the bar for educational instruction at SHA.

STEM - science, technology, engineering and math - programs are garnering much attention at both the elementary and secondary level. STEM skills help students best prepare for college and life after high school. Surveys of our current students (performed in February of this year), show more than 60 percent of our 7th through 12th graders have an interest in a STEM career. At one grade level, 85 percent of the students indicated their goal is a stem-related career.

SHA teachers and administrators agree the planned improvements will not only benefit every student, but will also boost the marketing value of the school.

Science Lab

Think back to your SHA science classes . . . perhaps you had Sr. Faith? Sr. Dennis Marie? Sr. Jenny or Sr. Diane? Mr. Reid? More recently, Ms. Konwinski, Mrs. Dafoe or Mr. Slate. In the courses available, SHA has always offered solid instruction in science. However, recent grads have shared feedback that they were not as well-prepared as some of their college colleagues were in lab experiences.

The value of STEM-focused education and the goal to best prepare our students led to an effort to create a wholly new Science Lab. Designed as a check-out lab which will be available to grades DK through 12, the space includes both hands-on and classroom/virtual instruction areas, built-in technology and many "extras" to improve the level of science instruction and engagement of students.

Plans call for the lab to be completed this summer and ready-for-use the opening day of school. "The new science lab is one very real way we can positively impact our mission at SHA," said Marie Richards, SHA Academic Advisor. "Other schools might have more space, but we are creating one of the best possible learning environments for science in an effort to give our students the best experiences."

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STADIUM RE-DEDICATION

The Community Memorial Stadium in Mt Pleasant is marking its 50th anniversary on August 28, 2015 with a doubleheader beginning with Sacred Heart versus Beal City at 5:00 PM and MPHS versus Midland Dow at 8:00 PM.

The stadium, which was built by community donations and volunteers in 1965, is undergoing upgrades thanks to fund raising by a community group that includes former Irish quarterbacks **Frank Hackett '65** and **John Hunter '97**. The group has raised over \$600,000 of it's \$750,000 goal thus far so the installation of an artificial surface for the football field began in the spring.

Plans includes a re-dedication ceremony on Thursday August 27th and acknowledgments Friday at each halftime. MPHS is organizing a reunion of it's 1965 football team and we'd like to have as many of our 1965 team introduced at our game also. If we get a large enough number we'll introduce as a group on the field, otherwise we'll read names and have players stand. Please check in at the entry gate if you come so we'll know who is there. Halftime would be around 5:45-6:00 pm.

TROPHIES AND AWARDS AVAILABLE TO ALUMNI

Sacred Heart Academy is well-known for its athletic programs. Storage areas and display cases in the school are crowded with winning trophies and honors, evidence of the success of both our male and female student athletes over the years. We are proud of our teams and the individual athletes who earned accolades and honors wearing an Irish uniform.

As you can imagine, storing decades worth of trophies, plaques and other awards has become challenging. We have learned from colleague schools how to solve this dilemma, and we are happy to announce we will be offering the awards back to SHA Alumni.

SHA will forever keep district, regional and state trophies and banners on display at the school. This is our heritage, and we are proud of it. However, trophies for invitational play, conference championships, and other contests have become cumbersome and are available if any alumni would like to cherish the memories personally.

A complete list of the awards will be available on line September 1, 2015. Check the new SHA web site (www.sha. net) for details. The pieces will be on display at the Alumni Homecoming Reception, scheduled for Friday, October 9 in the Sacred Heart Parish Center, and available for the taking. It is our hope to find loving homes for as many awards as possible.

If you are interested in a specific piece, please contact **Connie Veit McCann '81** at (989) 772-1385 or cmccann@sha.net. We welcome your involvement and are happy to share the memories with you.



Sacred Heart's 1965 Football Team:

Kneeling, from left to right: Dave Heintz, Phil Thering, Ed McQuaid, Mike Heintz, Bob Sweeney, Mike Soriano and John Hubbell. Standing, left to right: Coach Utterback, Dick Thering, Earl Hartman, Steve Galgoczi, Tony Croll, Marty Naumes, Tom Plachta, Mike Hackett, Jim McCormick, Jake McDonald, Tim Cotter, Mick Natzel, Jim Cotter, and Tom Nowland and Coach Whalen.

RIP MVH

Former teacher/coach, Marc Van Hala passed away in Big Rapids on June 24, 2015 of pancreatic cancer. Marc taught history and coached girl's basketball and boy's track and cross country at the Academy for four years in the early 1980s. For the past 30 years he has been a teacher, youth minister and driver's training instructor in Big Rapids.

YEARBOOK COLLECTIONS

The Development Office at Sacred Heart is looking to acquire a complete set of Sacred Heart Academy yearbooks. This reference collection is in need of Cor Jesu books from the following years:

- 1940s and '50s: 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1959
- 1960s: 1961
- 1970s: 1972, 1974 and 1975
- 1980s: 1983, 1984 and 1985
- 2000s: 2005 and 2014

Anyone willing to donate a yearbook can contact **Connie McCann '81**, Sacred Heart Development Director, at (989) 772-1385 or cmccann@sha.net.

On the flip side, SHA has multiple copies of certain issues of Cor Jesu. These extras will be available at the Alumni Homecoming Reception on Friday, October 9. Alumni may feel free to grab an extra copy. Look for the special display that evening in the Sacred Heart Parish Center.

WELCOME: CLASS OF 2015

The Alumni Association gained 29 new members during graduation ceremonies on June 3, 2015.

The class includes alumni offspring Jordan Bishop (Karen Bollman Bishop '84), Elizabeth Ervin (Mike '85, Bob '62), Tristen Fox (Linda Epple Gould '90, Jim Epple '59, Alphonso Epple '27), Ben Goenner (Jim '87 and Teresa Audretsch Goenner '89), Raeleigh Grinzinger (Jeff '80), Spencer Hackett (Todd '91, Frank '65 and Carol Wezensky Hackett '65, Jim Purtill '66, Jim Hackett '29), Colton Jacobs (Cindy Coughlin Jacobs '89, Terry Coughlin '56, Mae Grisdale Coughlin '27), Jessica MacDonald (Keith '85), Mikale Rudoni (Steve '92) and Bainbridge Scully (Dan '84, great-grandmother Anna O'Hara Scully '17).



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1:1 TECHNOLOGY

Fundraising for the STEM Initiative also directly benefits students in grades 7 through 12 who will be issued Chromebook computers for their use throughout the school year. "The internet has changed countless aspects of our world, but none more profoundly than the field of education," says Mary Kay Yonker, SHA Principal.

Chromebooks offer many benefits and features: They are lowcost, notebook computers that offer access to vast knowledge available on the Internet. Because Chromebooks have a simple operating system (as opposed to a PC or laptop), they boot up instantly and connect rapidly to the Internet. Students and teachers benefit from security which allows increased control of applications and content. Chromebooks can be maintained, managed and updated at a lower cost than traditional personal computers.

Chromebooks provide a level of functionality similar to that of a PC without the traditional and expensive desktop applications. Instead, they use a cloud-based computing model. At SHA, students will use Chromebooks to fulfill classroom requirements. Students will run Web applications, create and edit documents, use e-mail and the Web browser, and videotape/record classroom projects and personal reflections according to teachers' curriculum requirements.

The key, says Mrs. Yonker, is the integration of Chromebooks into teacher lesson plans. "We are taking the time to offer instruction and provide best practices to our teachers, which will greatly increase the value of the Chromebook as a classroom tool."

Additional Benefit

The STEM Initiative major gift fundraising effort provided monies for two specific projects/programs at the Academy. Any contingency dollars not spent on these programs, or money raised above and beyond for the effort, will be placed in a STEM Fund within the SHA Foundation. That way, the school's endowment will continue to spin off income for the sustainability of these important programs.

For additional information about the STEM Initiative at SHA, or to find out how you can help with these or other projects, please contact **Connie McCann '81** at (989) 772-1385 or cmccann@sha.net.



Mary Kay Reetz, Admissions Director

As we make plans to begin our 126th year of educating students in their Catholic faith, knowledge and service, I am pleased with where Sacred Heart Academy is headed. Last year we saw an enrollment increase of 25 students. As of newsletter deadline time, it appears we may have another increase in enrollment for the 2015-16 school year. For that we are very grateful.

An increase in enrollment makes more things possible at SHA. The STEM project underway upstairs (in what was formerly Ms. Konwinski's classroom), the design of a new website for both the school and the church, and the plan for providing one-to-one technology for students in grades 7-12 are just a few of the exciting things going on that are keeping us all very busy during the summer months.

My involvement has been primarily in the design of a new website. Last May we were able to hire Cherry + Company,



Mr. Phil Durocher promised the students if they met their Miles for Miracles (cancer) fundraising goal, he would get a Mohawk haircut.



At Kindergarten round-up, big brother Wyatt Browne is pictured with his little brother Eli, who will start at SHA this fall. Both are sons of **Jeff '93** and great grandsons of **Luella Hauck Smith '31**.



a marketing firm out of Seminole, Florida to lead us in this endeavor. They work primarily with clients in the education and not-for-profit industry helping them effectively communicate their message to targeted audiences.

Cherry + Company is helping us create a new brand message along with a new website for both the school and the church. Liz Cherry came to campus for two days in late May and met with the various SHA stakeholders--- alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and students. In setting up the focus group meetings, I was reminded of how willing our community members are to help wherever needed. Everyone I contacted (provided they didn't have a scheduling conflict) was more than willing to participate and share their input with Ms. Cherry. She was very encouraged by the feedback she gathered, and is working diligently on creating our new brand message and website design. The plan is to have everything in place by early September. Visit www.sha.net to see our new look.



Third graders play their recorders with style at the Spring musical in May.



Mike and Danielle Zeien admire artwork with two of their children at the SHA Spring Student Art Show. **Danielle (Radawski) Zeien** is a 1988 graduate of SHA.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Mary Kay Yonker, Principal

CHANGING TIMES AT SHA

The end of the 2014-15 school year marked the retirement of two very special teachers at Sacred Heart Academy. Fr. Don Henkes and Ms. Edna Konwinski closed their books and said farewell to their students after a combined total of nearly 60 years at SHA. Their dedication and commitment to our students, families, and traditions at SHA will not be forgotten. In talking with alumni, I frequently hear Miss K. and Father Don stories. They made a significant impression on many young lives and we are so grateful.

The beginning of the 2015-16 school year will be the first time in 125 years we will open the doors without a sister or a priest teaching at Sacred Heart. With the changing times, there are less priests and sisters available for teaching roles. I want to assure you that in spite of this, we will never compromise our Catholic identity. Catholicism was the original reason our school was established, and it is what sets us apart from other schools. It will continue to be a top priority. Personally, Catholicism is the reason my husband and I came to Sacred Heart with our daughters and I would never compromise that for my children, or anyone else's children.

Exciting things are happening at Sacred Heart Academy! In the last alumni news I stated that a science lab and technology were areas that we needed to improve. Thanks



Service awards were given to teachers, from left, Angie Reid (5 years), Lori Smith (15 years), Janet Maddocks (35 years) and Edna Konwinski (30 years). At far right, Fr. Loren Kalinowski, pastor of Sacred Heart, is honored for 40 years in the priesthood.

to generous support from donors (many of them you and your families) our dream has become a reality. The science lab will be ready the first day of school (August 31) and our students in grades 7 through 12 will have one-to-one technology in the form of Chromebooks which will be distributed in the Fall. Our teachers will be trained in how to use these "new, fancy machines" (as I heard them called by one of our veteran teachers). The students and faculty will have many new tools at their fingertips to enhance learning and increase student achievement.

When meeting with a group from the local Chamber leadership program earlier this year, one of the participants stated that her nine aunts and uncles—members of the Esch family who graduated between 1967 and 1984—attended SHA. At the Academy, she said, they always felt "cared for". It is my hope and ambition that all of our current students and their families always feel cared for, as well.

I enjoy meeting you and continue to feel blessed to be a part of Sacred Heart Academy. I hope to meet many more of you at the homecoming reception on October 9. Go, Irish!



Fr. Don Henkes retired from teaching in June and was "roasted" in song by long-time friends Janet Maddocks, Marge Schafer, and **Michele (Pacholka) Reinke '84**. Fr. Don has accepted an assignment as Senior Priest at Sacred Heart Church, where he will still connect with students through Academy Masses and sacrament preparation.

SHA FOUNDATION TO CELEBRATE 40 YEARS

In 1976:

- The U.S.A. celebrated a Bicentennial (200th) Birthday
- Nadia Comaneci won three gold medals at the Montreal, Canada Olympics with seven perfect scores
- The \$2.00 bill was issued
- Gasoline sold for 35 cents per gallon
- The Apple Computer Company was created
- Sylvester Stallone (as Rocky Balboa) won the hearts of Americans playing a small-time boxer fighting for his self-respect
- The Pittsburgh Steelers won Super Bowl X, defeating the Dallas Cowboys
- NASA unveiled its first space shuttle: The Enterprise
- "Oh What A Night" by the Four Seasons and "Don't Go Breaking My Heart" by Elton John and Kiki Dee topped the music charts

Most importantly in 1976, 12 people with great vision created the SHA Foundation to support the mission of Sacred Heart Academy. Since its inception, the endowment has generously contributed more than \$3.8 million to the Academy. The Foundation's sole purpose is to support the Academy's mission to educate students with a strong foundation in the Catholic faith. SHA is forever indebted to the following original trustees of the SHA Foundation: **Robert Sweeney '40**, Alice Goenner, **Betty Powell Johnson '43**, Joseph Hauck, **Gerald Cotter '22**, Earl Hartman Sr., John Ward, Dean Verleger, William Myler, Sr., **Virginia McConnell Cotter '34**, William Brehm and **W.F. "Sidney" Sowle '26**.

To celebrate 40 years, the SHA Foundation will send a special invitation to Alumni and Friends asking for financial support. Currently at nearly \$4 million in the endowment, the SHA Foundation would like to boost the principal balance over \$5 million. This "boost" will help cover the increased costs of overhead at the Academy, specifically teachers' salaries.

Over the years, a majority of teachers at SHA were sisters from a religious order. These sisters worked for lower-than-normal wages as part of their vocation. There are no longer as many priests and sisters available for teaching roles. In order to retain our outstanding teachers—and offer a competitive pay scale—SHA needs to find more sources of sustainable income. The SHA Foundation is a key source.

When you receive the Foundation invitation this year (watch for it in mid-October), please give generously, keeping in mind the teachers who left an impression on you, helped you when you needed it most, and taught you values and skills to succeed in life. The current directors of the SHA Foundation encourage your support and welcome any questions you have about the endowment. Current members include: **Bill Myler Jr. '76, Mike Ervin '85, Shelli Lannen Sias '78, Dave McGuire, '82,** Sonja Baumgarth, **Joe Fox '78,** Eric Janes, Margaret "Tat" Heintz, Dave Hunter, **Mike Kostrzewa '68, Pat McDonald '88, Mick Natzel '67,** Carla Szelag, **Andy Theisen '78** and **Lori Sheppard Trainor '78**.

For additional information about contributions to the SHA Foundation, contact shafoundation@sha.net or (989) 772-1385.

CLASS OF 1946:

Ron Doerr passed away on November 26, 2014 in Mt Pleasant. Ron owned and operated Doerr Heating and Air Conditioning in Mt Pleasant for 25 years and was elected into the Mt Pleasant Bowling Hall of Fame. He is the father of **Steve '68, Lynette Barker '70, Charlene Letson '72, Kevin '76** and **Holly Verwey '84** and the brother of **Willard '56** and **Ed '59**. [This is reprinted from the April 2015 *NEWS* where we inadvertently mentioned Lynette Bowers '70 as one of Ron's children instead of Lynette Barker **'70. Lynette Bowers '70** is Steve's wife and Ron's daughter in law.]

CLASS OF 1947:

Mary Lou Fabiano Claire died in Ludington, Michigan on November 9, 2014. Mary Lou was a Registered Nurse and mother of seven who lived in Ludington for 50 years. She is the sister of Joanne Lannen Withers '51, Joe '54, Dick '59 and Jim '61.

Alice Miller Reihl passed away on June 22, 2015 in Mt Pleasant. Alice was a bookkeeper for Leonard Oil Company and worked on the family farm. She is the grandmother of Jessica Gepford '06, Nate Whitford '06, Ashley Whitford '03 and Hannah Hovey '11.

CLASS OF 1949:

Shirley Honeywell Sheppard died on February 27, 2015 in Mt Pleasant. Shirley was the bookkeeper at Sacred Heart for over 30 years. Shirley is the wife of Bill Sheppard '46, the mother of Dan 76, Mike '71 and Lori Trainor '78 and the sister of Bob Honeywell '51 and Betty Elder '47.

CLASS OF 1955:

Kathryn McKenna Stuefen of Libertyville, Indiana passed away on May 17, 2015. Kathryn is the sister of Mike '53, Jim '54 and Carolyn Mills '60.

CLASS OF 1956:

Margie McDonald Stickney passed away on June 16, 2015 at Canadian Lakes, Michigan. Margie played the pipe organ at Sacred Heart during high school and college and worked for a number of Catholic parishes as a music director. Margie is the daughter of Fred McDonald '19 and the sister of Bill '67, Evelyn Schmidt '64,

Class Notes

Jerry '50, John '51, Kathleen Kearney '58, Mary Worley '52, Bob '59 and Ruth Johnson '60.

CLASS OF 1960:

Sharon Hendershot Wentworth died on May 8, 2015 in St. Louis, Michigan. Sharon was a Day Care provider before working 25 years in food services at CMU. Sharon is the sister of Mike Hendershot '72 and mother of Tim '79, Steve '80, Julie Sanders '80, Mark '81, and Mabel Wanink '82.

CLASS OF 1965:

REUNION NEWS Class of 1965 will be celebrating their 50th Year Class Reunion during Homecoming Weekend OCTOBER 9-10-11. Plans include riding in the Friday afternoon parade, attending game and reception Friday evening, a Saturday morning school tour, Saturday evening dinner at Comfort Inn and Sunday morning Mass.

CLASS OF 1968:

Judy Judge Hein passed away on May 12, 2105 in Hawks,Michigan. Judy is the daughter of Barb Murphy Glavin Judge'42. Judy taught Junior High at St John's Lutheran School in Rogers City, Michigan.

CLASS OF 1977:

Mike McCormick passed away on July 26, 2015 in Mt Pleasant. Mike owned and operated Mr Muffler in Mt Pleasant. Mike is the brother of Sally Davis '66, Jim '68, Patty Breidenstein '69, Kathy Assmann '72 and Karen Mead '83 and the father of Shannon Ley '05.

CLASS OF 1979:

Jeff McDonald passed away in Cadillac on July 13, 2015. Jeff is our 2015 Alumnus of the Year and a 2002 Inductee into the Athletic Hall of Fame. Jeff taught, coached and was a guidance counselor at Cadillac High School for 31 years. Jeff is the husband of Penny Zeneberg McDonald, the son of John '51, the grandson of Fred '18 and the brother of Judy Simons '76, Steve '80, Tim '84 and Pat '87.

CLASS OF 1985:

REUNION NEWS 30 year gathering being planned for Homecoming weekend, October 9-10, 2015. Contact **Chuck Murphy** at cwm6007@yahoo.com or (989)560-1633 for information.

CLASS OF 1994:

Matt and Julie Heintz Wright welcomed their son, Elliott William, on May 1, 2015 in Alma. Elliott joins siblings Maya and Hannah. Grandpa is Joe Heintz '68 and great grandpa is Bob Heintz '40.

CLASS OF 1998:

Joe and Alica Wickert Van Buskirk welcomed their daughter, Adrienne Grace, on April 4, 2015 in Mt Pleasant. Grandpa is Leo Wickert '69.

CLASS OF 2000:

Mike Chase married Brooke McCrory on May 16, 2015. Mike's mom is **Helen Bayer Chase '65**. The couple reside in Breckenridge, Michigan and Mike is employed by UPS.

CLASS OF 2001:

Lucas Verwey and his wife Courtney announced the birth of their daughter on June 6, 2015. Grandpa is **Andy '71** and Great Grandpa is **John '49**.

Dave Schmidt and his wife Julliane welcomed their daughter, Quinn Olivia, on July 10, 2015. Dave is currently pursuing a Masters Degree in Sports Administration at the University of Georgia.

Melissa and **Eric McQuaid** announced the birth of their son, Finnegan Edwin, on January 19, 2015. Grandpa is **Ed '67** and great grandmother is **Edwardine Murphy '27**.

CLASS OF 2003:

Tristan and **Emily Sias Wilson** announce the birth of their baby girl, Effie J Wilson, on April 30, 2015. Grandma is **Shelli Lannen Sias '78** and great grandparents are **Mary Jeanne Buschle Lannen'48, James Lannen '49**. The Wilson family resides in Kalamazoo where Emily is a Physical Therapist for Bronson Hospital and Tristan is an anesthesiologist for Kalamazoo Anesthesiology.

CLASS OF 2005:

REUNION NEWS Class is planning a 10 year class reunion for Friday August 28, 2015 at 6 pm at Hunters Ale House in Mt Pleasant. To RSVP or for more information contact Elena Sias at siaselen@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2007

Ben and **Sara Myler Brown** welcomed their son, Callum Gerald Brown, on June 10, 2015. The couple resides in Saginaw and Sara is an RN at McLaren Bay Medical. Callum's grandfather is **Bill Myler Jr '76**.

CLASS OF 2008

Alex and Rebecca Meisch Hammerle '10 welcomed their baby girl, Harper Hammerle on April 30th, 2015. Alex is working at the Chesterfield detachment for the Michigan State Police and Becky is a medical assistant at Allure Medical Spa in Shelby Township. The couple closed on their first home in Richmond, Michigan in June 2015!



ALUMNI BACRED NEWS

Sacred Heart Parish 302 S. Kinney Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 www.sha.net

Address Service Requested

Alumni News For:







2015 Hall of Fame

The 2015 Hall of Fame honorees are **Steve McDonald '80, Gabe Sheppard '90** and **Amy Gray Fox '95**. The three will be inducted during half time of the Homecoming game on October 9, 2015 and will bring the total number of enshrined athletes to 98.

Steve McDonald

Steve earned nine varsity letters in three sports leading the football team in scoring his senior season as well as

being a member of the 1978 State Football Semi-Finalists. Steve averaged double figures for two basketball seasons and was the leading hitter on the 1980 baseball team. Steve has been with Con-



sumers Energy in Jackson for 33 years and is currently the Senior Field Leader for Substations Operation. Steve and his wife Rachel have one daughter at GVSU.

Gabe Sheppard

Gabe was awarded nine varsity letters and was MVP in football and baseball.

He graduated as the school's all time leading rusher, was the leading scorer and tackler on the 1989 team and still holds the record for the longest run from scrimmage. Gabe is a Logistics Engineer for



Ryder, Inc dealing with building and distribution networks for clients. Gabe lives in Grosse Pointe, Michigan with his wife Anne and two young children.

Amy Gray Fox

Amy was MVP of the basketball team as a sophomore and was All Conference

in volleyball as a junior and senior. Amy graduated as the fifth leading scorer all time in basketball and is currently 14th on that list. Amy is manager of Gray's Furniture and Appliance



in Mt Pleasant where she resides with her husband Paul and two sons.