



ALUMNI SACRED HEART NEWS



August 2018 • Vol. 37 No. 2

Earl Hartman, SHA '66, Editor

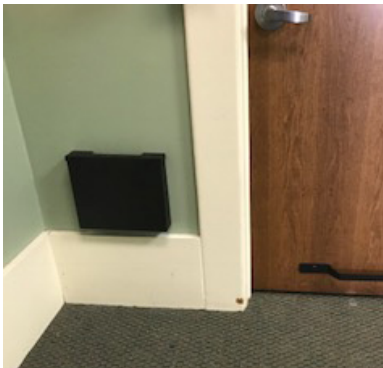
Paulette Andres Green, SHA '64, Newsletter Chairperson

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Sacred Heart installs most advanced school safety system

Soon Sacred Heart Academy will have protective shields on entrances, security devices on classroom doors, and an instantaneous alert system.

The school is the first in Isabella County to partner with the Michigan-based LockOut Co. and install its SmartBoot System, aimed at enhancing school safety. "SHA is the largest single-campus Catholic school installation our company has ever done," says LockOut Co. President and Co-Founder Rob Couturier, who is Catholic and chairs the finance committee of his son's Catholic school near Lansing. "The team at Sacred Heart has a solid plan in place and we are proud to partner with them for the safety of their students, faculty, and staff."



When not engaged, the "boot" is stored inconspicuously in a container near the door(s). If ever engaged, the SmartBoot sends an automatic alarm to local law enforcement, to each room on campus, and to administrator tablets which would inform school leaders where there is a concern.

In July, installers began the work of placing "boots" in doorways and planning for additional pieces of the security project. The system, to be fully implemented by fall, is part of a nearly \$300,000 Safety & Security Initiative driven by a parent and law-enforcement task force. Also as part of the initiative, Sacred Heart Academy is improving lighting for better efficiency, adding additional surveillance cameras, installing direct-dial phones in each classroom, and improving playground, drop-off lanes, and access/entry safety.

"Although we do not think SHA is likely for any kind of

incident or attack, today's world does not allow any school or any organization to consider itself exempt from unsolicited harm. The extra measures provided by this initiative will allow teachers to concentrate on teaching, and children to focus on learning in a safe and caring environment," says Mary Kay Yonker, Principal of Sacred Heart Academy.

continued on pg. 2

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Patty Goenner Bednarz '78, Keith Seybert '88 and Jeff Tyler '93 will be inducted into the Sacred Heart Academy Athletic Hall of Fame during Homecoming ceremonies on Friday,



Patty Goenner

September 28, 2018. The Hall was initiated in 1980 and to date 104 former athletes have been honored. Nomination forms are available on the school web site at www.sha.net.

Patty earned 11 varsity letters including a still-standing school record in high jump and a state championship medal as part of a school record mile relay team. She was also a key performer on softball and basketball teams that earned district titles.

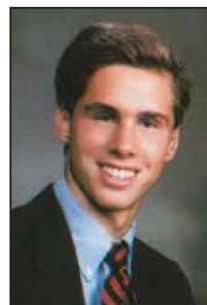
Patty is a retired civil engineer, having worked for the State of Minnesota Transportation Department for many years. She now lives in Huntington, Indiana, with her husband Dave.

Keith was the 100m dash state champion in 1988 and still holds four school records including the 100, 200, and 400 runs and total points accumulated for a season. He also earned three



Keith Seybert

letters in football, gaining all-conference honors in that sport. Keith is currently the Assistant Principal at Northeast Middle School in Midland. Prior to moving into administration, he taught Physical Education and coached track at Grayling High School and Midland High School. Keith resides in Midland with his wife Kelly and three children. He is the grandson of **Earl Seybert '37**, who was a member of the 1933 State Champion football team.



Jeff Tyler

Jeff earned nine letters in golf, basketball, and baseball, including attaining MVP status in basketball and baseball. He scored 730 career points in basketball while averaging 19.8 PPG in 1993, the 12th highest average in school history. Jeff was the leading hitter and run-producer on the 1993 baseball team. He resides in Broomfield, Colorado with his wife Jessica and their two sons. Jeff is the operations manager at the Geological Society of America in Boulder, Colorado.

CLASS OF 1999 REUNION

Cheers to 20 Years - The SHA Class of 1998 gathered June 25, 2018 at Hunter's Ale House for a 20-year reunion. Members enjoyed the opportunity to catch up on life, both personal and professional, and to share memories of good ol' Sacred Heart.

Pictured at the event are: Front row, left to right: **Terry Henkes** (plaid shirt), **Ben Andera**, **Casey Fitzpatrick**, **Callie Neyer** (peeking from behind), **Bryan Bollman**, **Annie (Galgoczi) Sanders** and **Angie (Beltinck) Latham**. Back row, left to right: **Pat Trainor**, **Keith Hutchins**, **Danny Barberi**, **Curt Gottschalk**, **Joe Heintz**, **Sean Bigard**, **Nick Grinzinger** and **Anthony McDonald**.



H O M E C O M I N G
2018

September 28 is the date and we hope to see all of you there! The annual parade will be at 4 pm and include Grand Marshal **Frank Deni '53**, Alumnus of the Year **Larry Campbell '68**, the 2018 Hall of Fame honorees, and, of course, the high school class floats and homecoming royalty. The game will start at 7 p.m. at Community Memorial Stadium and be an opportunity to view the first year of 8-man football led by Coach **John Ruggles '89**. The Annual Alumni and Friends Reception hosted by the SHA Foundation will be at the Parish Hall beginning at 8 p.m.



Safety & Security, continued from pg. 1

"Parents can trust the wellbeing of their children every day because SHA is doing what's right for our students."

"The number of investors who contributed to this effort is evidence of the importance of the safety and security of our students," says Rick McGuirk, local businessman, Academy parent, and organizer of the fundraiser. The Initiative is 100 percent funded by contributions from parents, alumni, parishioners, and friends of the Academy. **Jim Fabiano '61** sponsored an alumni challenge to help boost donations, which to date has brought in over \$20,000. As of Alumni News press time, \$65,000 is still needed to complete each of the projects included in the overall initiative. Projects will be completed as money allows.

"SHA is a small school in a caring community in central Michigan. That doesn't mean we can let our guard down. If someone comes with bad intent, we must protect and manage against the risk. The safety and wellbeing of our students is our number one priority at all times," Mrs. Yonker says.

Interestingly enough, the LockOut Co. partnered with a Traverse City, Michigan, tech company when they first introduced the SmartBoot alert system. When representatives from the Academy met with company leaders, they were pleased to meet Joe Thiel, a nephew of **Maureen Bush Weisenburger '71**. Sacred Heart Academy is well-connected!

WELCOME, CLASS OF 2018

The Alumni Association is pleased to welcome the 33-members of the Class of 2018 who graduated May 25. This class earned over \$1.7 million in scholarship awards, had a class average GPA of 3.57, and included a National Merit Finalist, Henry Armah. This is the second year in a row SHA has had a National Merit Finalist. The Class of 2018 also completed an impressive 5,224 service hours in the community. Seniors are required to serve at least 100 hours as a graduation requirement, but in this class, 17 earned silver cords for graduation by serving 150 hours or more, and one senior, Grace Reetz, volunteered more than 400 hours on her own.

Members of this class will be attending the following schools: Central Michigan University, University of Pittsburgh, Mid Michigan Community College, Michigan State University, Ferris State University, University of Limerick

(in Ireland), Grand Valley State University, North American Lineman Training Center, Parsons School of Design (in New York City), Albion College, New Mexico Highlands University, Cornerstone University, University of Missouri St. Louis, University of Michigan, Hope College, Greater Michigan Construction Academy, and Alma College.

In addition, at least eight graduates will be continuing with college athletics: Colton Hyble (Football at Grand Valley), Lance MacDonald (Baseball at New Mexico Highlands), Bailey McConnell (Cross Country at Cornerstone), Joe Methner (Baseball at University of Missouri-St. Louis), Grace Reetz (Softball at Hope College), Sophia Ruggles (Rowing at Michigan State), Noah Schafer (Cross Country at Mid Michigan Community College), and Hadyn Terwilliger (Softball at Alma College).



Sacred Heart Academy Class of 2018

Pictured in the May 25 graduation photo are:

Kneeling, left to right: **Nicholas Zeien (Danielle Radawski Zeien '88)**, Olivia Tucker, Hadyn Terwilliger, Grace Reetz (great grandmother **Mabel McCormick Lynch 1914**), Hannah Adinkrah, Autumn Willsey, Joshua Lobsinger (**Craig '92**, grandfather **Dave Lobsinger '70**), Carter Lowe (**Sue Carter Lowe '83**), and Keaton Sheffert.

Middle, left to right: **Sophia Ruggles (John '89)**, Chloe Campbell, Kate Goenner (**Jim '87** and **Theresa Audretsch Goenner '89**), Megan Nowak, Natalia Krepostman, Isabella Kostrzewa (**Mike '68**), Maggie Yonker, Ayesha Mohan, Bailey McConnell, and Rowan Fitzpatrick.

Back, left to right: **Jack Pramuka (Caroline Thering Pramuka '84**, great grandmother **Ann McDonald Thering '26**), Landon Fetzer, Zachary Squires, Gregory Janes, Noah Schafer (**Patty Ahlers Schafer '83**, grandmother **Phyllis Theisen Ahlers '55**, great grandfather **Clarence Theisen '23**), Colton Hyble, Andy Gruss (grandmother **Roxanne Endres Gruss '66**), Elliot Yun, Henry Armah, Lance MacDonald (**Keith '85**), Emmanuel Chiejina, Emmanuel Horace, Joe Methner, and Jordan Wybenga.



ACADEMY NEWS

Mary Kay Reetz, Admissions/Marketing Director



EVERY DAY I THANK GOD FOR SACRED HEART

It's a bittersweet feeling when your fourth—and final—child graduates from Sacred Heart Academy. In 1997, my husband, Dave, and I decide to enroll our oldest child, Mitchell, in kindergarten at SHA with the idea that we would give our children the same Catholic education foundation I received as a youngster: my siblings and I attended St. Henry's Catholic school in Rosebush, which offered grades 1 through 6. After that, we transferred to public school for our secondary education.

However, when the time came to make that change, neither my husband nor I, or Mitchell wanted to switch to a different school. By that time, our two younger sons, Drew and Jackson were also attending SHA and we felt like we were part of a big family. We loved the Catholic education provided by the teachers and staff at SHA, and valued the fact that all our children were on one campus and always would be throughout their high school years. We also greatly appreciated the morals and values which were being taught and reinforced from home. I remember attending an all-school Mass on occasion and sitting by one of my children. It was a vivid reminder of the investment we were making in our children's lives. Seeing the students lead the various ministries with confidence, yet reverence, and share their musical talents brought tears to my eyes many times, and still does today.

In 2005, I was offered an opportunity to work at Sacred Heart Academy in a newly created Director of Admissions position. At the time, I had been working as a systems analyst at CMU and had just completed 15 years of service. It was a long and difficult decision but once I made it and started working at SHA, I came to realize the decision should have taken about two minutes rather than two weeks. I realized God was calling me to a position where I could help make a difference for an organization which I completely believed in, and entrusted with my children. Now, 13 years later, I still feel it was one of the best decisions I've ever made. Being able to work in an environment where you can openly practice your faith, market a product you truly believe in, and have firsthand knowledge of the benefits (my four children), is truly a blessing.

When I look back on the unique opportunities that my children had while attending SHA, I think about the March for Life trips, the middle school ship trips and ski trips, and

the Shakespearian Festivals. At Sacred Heart, my children could fill multiple roles. In addition to being athletes on some very successful teams, they participated in the spaghetti bridge-building team, the high school Mass choir and forensic competitions. They held officer positions in the National Honor Society, attended Close Up trips to Washington DC and Hawaii, and completed Mission trips to Costa Rica. However, none of these extracurricular activities was more important than their academics, as they developed strong study habits along the way.

These opportunities came about because of the passionate teachers who made them happen. The life-long memories and life experiences that were created helped to shape each one of my children. I like who they are--- they still volunteer, they are active and engaged members of their communities, and they treat people with respect. They are kind, hard-working, successful individuals who live balanced lives with a strong family commitment. They each have a great network of friends, many of whom they met while at SHA. They didn't just stumble upon their way of life and it didn't come solely from my husband and me. We worked as a team along with the teachers and staff of Sacred Heart Academy to help shape who they've become. In Drew's words, "the close-knit community at Sacred Heart helped provide [him] with a good set of values to live by. The small class sizes and teachers who really care built a sense of accountability that has served [him] well later in life."

continued on pg. 6



The Reetz Family pictured at graduation on May 25, from left: Jackson '16, Mitchell '10, Mary Kay, Grace '18, David, and Drew '12.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Mary Kay Yonker, *Principal*

A GREAT SOURCE OF PRIDE

A milestone event has occurred in my life, and it is something which has given me a tremendous source of pride. It wasn't a big birthday, a promotion, or a mid-life crisis, but something intangible. Our oldest daughter (Maggie) graduated from a Catholic school in May; not just any Catholic school, but our very own Sacred Heart Academy.

Maggie started her Catholic education in kindergarten at St. Michael's in Brunswick, a small area between Fremont and Muskegon. At the end of her first grade year we received a letter from the priest stating that the school was closing. I was devastated! My whole life I dreamed of our kids attending and graduating from a K through 12 Catholic school. After much prayer and conversation, we found a way to get our girls to St. Mary's in Big Rapids, a wonderful pre-K through 8th grade Catholic school. We hired college students to drive when we couldn't; and one of us was on the road three hours a day to keep our girls' Catholic education going.

At the end of fifth grade, Maggie had a near-death experience 17 days after getting her tonsils out which changed her life. She spent a week at the Mayo Clinic and later said to Steve and me, "I've been thinking and I've done the research. I want to go to Sacred Heart Academy in Mt. Pleasant. I want to live by my grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Oh, and I want to be there by the beginning of 7th grade when all of the other 6th grade students are moving to the high school." Clearly our 10-year-old daughter had done her research.

After much prayer, our plans came together and Maggie started at SHA at the beginning of 7th grade. Our daughter Molly was in 5th grade and our youngest, Emma was in 3rd grade. It was not an economical decision and the house we built in White Cloud sat empty for over two years. We took pay cuts and struggled to find a house.

Moving back to Isabella County and sending our girls to Sacred Heart was the VERY BEST decision Steve and I have ever made for our family. The education Maggie received at Sacred Heart has prepared her very well for the future. Maggie will be attending CMU this fall, having earned the full tuition Centralis award for the next four years. This is due to the dedication of our SHA teachers and the quality of education she has received at Sacred Heart, plus the church involvement, extracurricular activities, athletics, and high expectations which have helped her become a well-rounded person who gives back to her church and community.

One of my dreams came true when Maggie walked across the stage and, as principal, I handed her a Sacred Heart diploma. Again, it is a great source of pride for both Steve and me, and other parents like us who have invested in Catholic education for our children.

Sacred Heart Academy has been educating students for 129 years. The tradition is alive!

At left, the entire Yonker Family is pictured at Senior Honors night. From left, Mary Kay, Maggie '18, Emma, Molly, and Steve. In the photo below, Mary Kay and her eldest daughter, Maggie, capture a memory together.



Class Notes

CLASS OF 1958: *REUNION NEWS!* The class of 1958 will gather for their 60th reunion during Homecoming weekend September 28 and 29, 2018. A Mountain Town lunch on Friday, followed by parade watching, social time at Cheers, and then celebrating with other alumni at the Sacred Heart Alumni Party are planned. Saturday breakfast will conclude the class scheduled events.

CLASS OF 1964: **Betty Rea Berryhill** passed away after a short illness on June 24, 2018 in Mt Pleasant. Betty was an LPN and an accountant at the Mt. Pleasant Regional Center for over 25 years. Betty is the sister of **Mary Kozuch '61**.

CLASS OF 1968: *REUNION NEWS!* The Class of 1968 has planned a fantastic 50th Reunion in conjunction with Homecoming 2018. Classmates will participate in the homecoming parade, attend the game, and enjoy the Alumni & Friends Reception on Friday. On Saturday, the group plans a school tour and an alumni takeover of the 5 o'clock Mass at Sacred Heart Church. Cocktails, dinner and a main event gathering is planned at the Soaring Eagle Resort. For information, visit the class Facebook page.

CLASS OF 1975: **Bernie Neff** died on June 16, 2018 at his home in Mt. Pleasant. Bernie was a union pipe fitter for over 20 years. He is the son of **Al Neff '37** and the brother of **Dave '61, Pat '66, Cathy Thielen '68** and **Mike '78**.

CLASS OF 1976: **Robin Greene Stressman** opened a real estate company called Praedium Realty / Robin Stressman

& Associates in February. The firm is located in downtown Mt. Pleasant on the northwest corner of Broadway and Franklin Street. When searching for a name, Robin chose "praedium", the Latin name for land or estate, which Sacred Heart Latin students might recognize. Also employed as an agent at the realty company is her brother, **Joe Wentworth '90**.

CLASS OF 1978: *REUNION NEWS!* The Class will celebrate their 40th reunion enjoying all the Homecoming weekend festivities, then gathering for dinner and drinks on Saturday, September 29 at Hunter's Ale House. A school tour is also planned for 4 p.m. Saturday followed by 5 p.m. Mass. For information, contact Joe Fox at (989) 621-1753 or jfoxden@gmail.com.

CLASS OF 1980: **Mollee McFarlane Simpson** passed away July 14, 2018 in Venice, Florida. Mollee was the daughter of **Rose Marie Neyer McFarlane '56** and sister of **Melissa Townsend '83** and **Mari Campbell '85**. Mollee worked for Venice Schools and is survived by her husband Don and three daughters.

CLASS OF 1983: Central Michigan University bestowed its highest award, an Honorary Doctorate, on **Terry Coughlin** at the May 5, 2018 commencement ceremonies. Terry received a Doctor of Commercial Science award and gave the commencement address at the 6 p.m. ceremony for bachelor's and master's degree candidates. In his address,

I Thank God, continued from pg. 4

In mid-June I was fortunate enough to go with SHA's advanced Spanish students (including my youngest, Grace) on a mission trip to Costa Rica. This was the second time our students made this trip and it came about largely because of the motivation of a few of our seniors who coordinated it with Mrs. Dice, our Spanish teacher. Seeing first-hand the love and faith shared by our students with the children of this third-world country was beyond life changing. Senior Sophie Ruggles said, *"One of the biggest things I got out of my week in Costa Rica was a reminder of the way happiness works. These people had absolutely nothing, pretty much everything we consider a necessity in the U.S. they didn't have, yet they were so full of joy. All they needed was their loved ones and their faith in God. One of the people that we brought food to, that was homeless, said 'All I need is your prayers' which was SO powerful. This week was such a good reminder to remove my worldly worries, Jesus is true happiness."* I could not have said it any better. Our students were fully engaged with the people they encountered throughout the week. To be immersed in a Spanish-speaking community gave them invaluable experience to not only show their support and love for the children and for Jesus, but it also gave them an excellent chance to practice and strengthen their Spanish speaking skills.

Mitchell (2010) graduated from CMU in marketing and logistics and currently works for Tumble Trak. Drew (2012) graduated from MSU in applied engineering and works for TE Connectivity in Winston-Salem, NC. Jackson (2016) will be a junior at MSU and is studying applied engineering and Grace (2018) will be a freshman at Hope College this fall. She has not yet decided what she will be studying.

I thank God every day for Sacred Heart and the blessing it has been to me, my husband, and our children. It is a unique school that offers a challenging, faith-based curriculum by teachers who genuinely care about the well-being of each student. As Mitch put it, "at Sacred Heart, it's hard to fall through the cracks because they keep you on track and as much of a priority as anyone else." The structure, expectations, values and morals are not something you find in most schools and it's not for every child. I pray that it will continue to be strong and provide learning and faith developing opportunities for generations to come.

Terry referenced Sacred Heart Academy and offered college graduates four pieces of valuable advice: 1. Evolve; 2. Take risks; 3. Listen and learn; and 4. Find balance. Terry has managed companies in 50 countries around the world, and operated pharmaceutical companies on six of the seven continents. He and his wife, Glenda, reside in New York with their son Theo.



Terry Coughlin receives an honorary doctorate from CMU President George Ross.

CLASS OF 1988:

REUNION NEWS! The The class of 1988 will celebrate their 30th class reunion during Homecoming Weekend, September 28-29, 2018. Plans are still falling into place.

CLASS OF 1993: REUNION NEWS! The class of 1993 will celebrate their 25th class reunion during Homecoming Weekend, September 28-29, 2018. The class will host their group get-together at Hunters Ale House Saturday, September 29. For information, contact **Jeremy MacDonald** at jeremy@midmichiganagency.com.

CLASS OF 1995: Listening Ear of Isabella County named **Amanda Wickert Hart** as the agency's new Executive Director. Amanda has been part of the Listening Ear team for 14 years. She started at the agency in 2004 as a counselor/case manager for homeless youth. Over the years she worked in a variety of roles, earning kudos for her problem-solving skills and her commitment to advocacy and social justice. She and her family live in Mt. Pleasant. Her father is **Leo Wickert '69**.

CLASS OF 1998: **Annie Galgoczi Sanders** (daughter of **Steve '66**) has been named President and CEO of United Way of Gratiot and Isabella Counties. Annie has been Associate Director of Alumni Relations at CMU for over 10 years. Annie and her husband Ryan live in Beal City with their four children, Blake, Olivia, Taylor and Owen.

CLASS OF 2001: **Mary Galgoczi LaChance** has relocated from Denver back to Mt Pleasant where she is Coordinator for the PEAK Program. Mary, husband Shawn, and son Casey live within a block of Sacred Heart and Casey will begin Pre-K at the Academy in the fall. Mary's father is **Steve Galgoczi '66**.

CLASS OF 2007: In the bride's home state of Florida, **Matt Miesch** married Cristina Leiva on June 2. Matt and his bride both received their medical degrees from Ross Medical School in Miami two weeks prior to their wedding. They are now living in Windsor, Connecticut and serving their medical residencies. Matt's residency at UConn is in Family Practice and Sports Medicine. Members of the wedding party included SHA friends **Chad Lilly '07**, **Paul Bernadatto '07**, and **Billy Hilliard '08**.

CLASS OF 2010: **Taylor Sheahan-Stahl** married Emily Feister June 16th at St. Joseph the Worker church in Beal City. Taylor is a funeral director at Charles R. Lux Funeral Home in Mt. Pleasant. Taylor is the son of **Kathy Sheahan Stahl '74** and the grandson of **Jerry '47** and **Dorothy Voisin Sheahan '47**. **Alison Thering** married Scott Trybe on May 12, 2018. The couple is moving from New Jersey to Easton, Pennsylvania where Alison is a Job Coach for Adults with Disabilities. Alison is the daughter of **Bob Thering '76**.

CLASS OF 2011: Former SHA Volleyball standout **Hayley Kirby** was named the head volleyball coach at Division III Waynesburg University in Pennsylvania in April. Hayley played four years of college volleyball at West Virginia State and was a member of the Earlham College coaching staff in Indiana prior to accepting the Waynesburg role.

CLASS OF 2012: **Randi Fracassi** sent an update from Louisiana. Since graduating SHA, she attended and graduated from Louisiana State University with a degree in Communication Studies. She has now started a wedding and event planning business called Poppy Lane Events, where she puts together the details and logistics for couples in the greater Baton Rouge and New Orleans areas. Friends can get more information about Poppy Lane at www.poppylaneevents.com.

CLASS OF 2013: **Courtney Fracassi** is now living in Frisco, Texas, working for Toyota Motor North American as an analyst. She graduated from the University of Alabama with a degree in operations management in December 2017 and officially moved from Michigan to Texas in January. Courtney said it was a pleasant change from snow to heat.

CLASS OF 2018: **Hadyn Terwilliger** broke the career homerun record when she hit her 24th homerun during the 2018 regular softball season May 22 against Coleman. She added another homerun during playoffs so the record now stands at 25. The record was previously held by **Elizabeth (Lizzie) Albaugh '13**, who sent Hadyn flowers the next day at school with a note which read, "Congratulations, Hadyn. Records were made to be broken." Hadyn tied Lizzie's single season 9 homerun record on June 2; the two now share that honor.



Sacred Heart Parish
302 S. Kinney
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
www.sha.net | 989-772-1385

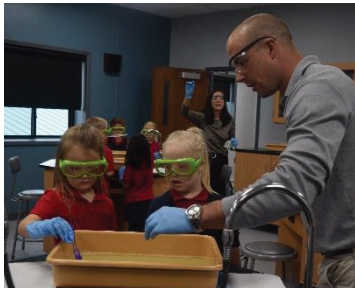
NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Muskegon, MI
Permit No. 429

Alumni News For:



NEWS YOU CAN USE

April Issue Error



Editorial apologies to **Jim Cardon '09** for an omission error in the April issue of the Alumni NEWS. In the "Look Who's Coaching Story", we neglected to mention Jim is an assistant coach for the SHA Baseball Team. Jim has been helping Coach Hartman for three years and is a great

mentor to the players. Jim should also be featured in a "Look Who's Teaching" story, as he is currently working at SHA in the elementary school as an aide in the Kindergarten program. The youngsters absolutely adore him, and his fellow teachers cannot say enough good things about him. His is pictured at left in the STEM Lab assisting with a Pre-K science lesson.

SHA Foundation Increases Annual Gift

The SHA Foundation, an endowment fund created in 1976 with the sole purpose of supporting Sacred Heart Academy, has increased their annual giving to the Academy by \$100,000. For many years, the Foundation has given \$340,000 to SHA, primarily to assist with teachers' salaries. In April, Trustees announced they would increase the amount to \$440,000 to help the school compete with starting salaries of public schools in the region. This will greatly help SHA recruit and retain young teachers.

SHAgala 25 Silver Jubilee

The SHAgala dinner/auction planned for Saturday, February 9, 2019 will be the 25th annual hosted by school and parish volunteers. The premier event raised over \$250,000 for the Academy in 2018 and has become the largest fundraiser for the school. Mark your calendars now!

Jubilarian 2018—70 Years a Sister



Sister Thaddeus Kowalinski, who taught English and Latin at Sacred Heart Academy from 1976 to 2001, is celebrating 70 years of her vocation to God this year. She is currently living at Marywood in Grand Rapids, and keeps in touch with many SHA students, in addition to receiving the Sacred Heart Parish bulletin each week.

Sister Thaddeus kept the subject of Latin alive and thriving in Mount Pleasant long after it had been dropped from the curriculum elsewhere. Roman banquets, attendance at state and national meetings, and other cultural events kept the students engaged while Sister herself regularly attended professional meetings. She was once asked by a local newspaper reporter what she liked most of the teaching profession, and replied, "Seeing the light in a student's eyes when they have grasped something you have taught them... seeing that you can be of service and teaching them they can be of service to others."

Cards of congratulations may be addressed to:

Sister Thaddeus Kowalinski, OP
Aquinata Hall
153 Lakeside Dr. NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

If you would like to make a donation to the SHA Foundation in her honor, she will be notified of all gifts. To donate, visit the school website at www.sha.net and click the on-line donation option, or send a gift to: SHA Foundation, P.O. Box 522, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0522.