



ALUMNI SACRED HEART NEWS



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HOMECOMING 2013

Homecoming 2013 is set for Friday October 4th. The Classes of 1958, 1963, 1968, 1973, 1993 and 1998 are planning to be there for their reunions and you can be too! The parade will be in the afternoon, the game versus Vestaburg at 7:00 PM at Community Memorial Stadium (including half time Hall of Fame induction and honoring debate squad from 50 years ago) and the Annual Alumni and Friends Reception in the evening at the Parish Hall. Doors to the Hall will open at 8:30 PM. Mark your calendars and come join us!

GRAND MARSHALLS



Pictured from the 1962 yearbook are John Johnson and Janet Johnson along with Debate Coach Loren Gray.

GREAT DEBATE... It was 50 years ago when the 1962-63-64 Debate Teams generated three consecutive State Championships. According to yearbooks and school papers, **John Johnson '63, Janet Johnson Patrick '64 and Kathleen Gallagher Mellon '64** comprised the two person teams that competed in the championship round of those years. Loren Gray coached the first two years and then John Johnson himself coached the 1964 team the year after his graduation. John, Janet and Kathleen have been invited to lead the parade on October 4, 2013 as Grand Marshals. John and Janet will definitely be there but, as of press time, Kathleen has a conflict so that she might not be able to attend.

John graduated from CMU and spent three years in the US Peace Corps in Brazil before earning a Master's Degree in International Economics from Johns Hopkins in 1972. He then spent seven years with the US Treasury before beginning a 27 year career with the World Bank as a senior economist. Being fluent in three foreign languages allowed John to spread his economic assessments to five continents.

Jan earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History at CMU and later, completed a Master's degree in Interdisciplinary Social Science at MSU in East Lansing. She taught high school government and history at Muskegon Orchard View, Port Huron Area Schools and Lansing schools.

After the move to Lansing, she accepted a job in the state's Office of Community and Economic Development, where she continues working today. She is a manager in the Michigan Energy Office assisting small businesses, municipalities and schools with energy efficiency.

Kathleen graduated from Marygrove College and the University of Detroit Law School before working as an assistant prosecuting attorney in Oakland County. She is currently a senior counsel concentrating on trademark and copyright law in Young Basile's Troy, Michigan office, where she has been since 1978. Kathleen and her husband Jim have been married for 44 years and have two daughters in Chicago.

John and Janet's dad is **Dr. Phil Johnson '21** and Kathleen's mom is **Marjory Kane Gallagher '29** and her grandmother is **Cloris Sweeney Kane (1902)**.

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Terry Coughlin '56 is our 2013 Alumnus of the Year. He is shown at left with his children, **Scott '86, Cindy Jacobs '89** and **Terry Jr. '83**.

Terry has been a dedicated supporter of the Academy since graduation and has served two terms on the School Board, more than two decades on the Athletic Association and has worked tirelessly on the Famous Lenten Fish Frys, Parish festivals and auctions and behind the scenes doing maintenance of facilities. After serving two years in the Army, Terry worked at Dow Corning for 40 years as an Instrument Technician Crew Leader. Terry is also a Knights of Columbus member. Terry and his wife Evelyn will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in January 2014.



WELCOME CLASS OF 2013



Twenty-eight students became alumni during graduation ceremonies in May including alumni offspring **Elizabeth Albaugh** (grandmother **Sonja McGuirk Albaugh '57**), **Jeremy Bowlby** (great grandmother **Ruth Milloy Olson '31**), **Kyle Campbell** (**Shelly Schafer Campbell '88**, grandmother **Bethel Berg Schafer '52**), **Shaun Collin** (**Dennis '69**, grandmother **Dorothy McNerney Collin '29**), **Sheridan Ervin** (**Susie Fountain Ervin '90**, grandparents **Ron '63 and Kathy Anton Ervin '63**), **Erica Hansen** (**Kelly Epple Hansen '82**, grandfather **Jim Epple '59**, great grandfather **Alphonso Epple '27**), **Leah Hauck** (**Bill '79**), **Nick Hire** (**Dave '81 and Kim Epple Hire '83**, grandfather **Jim Epple '59**, great grandfather **Alphonso Epple '27**), **Mitchell Myler** (**Bill '76**) and **Steve Rudoni** (**Steve '92**).

CLASS SIZE

Although we'll call the stats "unofficial", our information shows 3701 graduates in 119 graduating classes (no seniors in 1894 and 1895) for an average class size of 31. 1941, 1957, 1995 and 2000 can be considered truly average as they each have 31 graduates. Our smallest class was 1898 with only two graduates while 1968 and 1972 are each recorded with 73 graduates.

MR. RIGHT

How about the name choices of Sacred Heart females? **Betty Beltinck '47** and **Marie Kenney '19** both followed dad's advice and married Mr. Rich while **Julie Heintz '94** and **Noreen Hovey '43** both chose Mr. Wright! **Karmen Chippeway '99**, **Amy Gray '95**, **Deb McDonald '81**, **Margaret O'Brien (1910)**, **Rosetta O'Brien (1914)**, **Vada Simmer '44** and **Donna Vogel '78** all married foxes ...no really, they married guys named **Fox!** In the last newsletter we noted that **McDonald** was the #1 surname of Sacred Heart graduates with 69 followed by **Theisen** (55) and **Campbell** (52) and **Murphy** (52). Sacred Heart females followed similar patterns in choosing a mate as **Campbell** (12) leads the married names while **Theisen** (9) and **Murphy** (9) share third behind **Schafer** (11). **McDonald** (6) trails **Fox**, **Johnson** and **Wilson** (all at 7).

CLASS OF 1983 REUNION



The Class of 1983 met to celebrate their 30th anniversary on Saturday, June 29, 2013 at the Home of **Lori Schafer Moscardelli** in Mt. Pleasant. Pictured are (from left) High School Science Teacher **Mr. Rod Reid**, **Jerry Neyer**, **Alan McCoy**, **Lori Schafer Moscardelli**, **Jamie Hovey Majeske**, **Mary Frick Haering**, **Angie Quinlan McCann**, **Patty Ahlers Schafer**, **Sue Carter Lowe**, **Bill Collin**, **Dana Rudoni**, **Scott Cluley**, Grade School Teacher **Mrs. Shirley Phelps** and **Jeff Fussman**.

SUPER COACH

Tim McDonald '84 received a call this past winter that he had been selected by the Michigan High School Baseball Coach's Association (MHSBCA) for induction into the Hall of Fame. On the heals of winning his 500th game during the 2012 season, this was a great acknowledgment for his coaching success. But then McDonald's dream year continued as he led his Bay City Western High School team to the State Championship with a 42-2 record and was named the MHSBCA 2013 Coach of the Year. Tim was an All State pitcher who led the 1984 Sacred Heart team to the State Semi-Finals, earned All American status at Central Michigan University with a 16-1 record his senior season and was drafted by the Oakland Athletics. Tim has taught English at Western for 28 years and lives in Bay City with his wife Chris. He is the son of **Jerry '51** and grandson of **Fred '18**.

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Sacred Heart senior **Nick Hire** was named the 2013 Morning Sun Male Athlete of the Year for 2013. In football, Nick established seven school records and is listed in the top five in six other categories. In baseball, he was a two time MVP and All State selection who led the team in hitting and runs scored for two seasons and finished in the top ten in seven categories on the all time top performance list. Nick is planning to attend Delta College in Saginaw on a baseball scholarship. He is the son of **Dave '81** and **Kim Epple Hire '83**, the grandson of **Jim Epple '59** and the great grandson of **Alphonso Epple '27**.

ALUMNI IN ACTION

SHE WANTED TO BE A SAINT

As a youngster at Sacred Heart Academy going to both school Masses and weekend Mass, **Lorraine Strauss Malone '76** thought she wanted to be a saint. "Then I found out you had to die first," she said. This has not stopped Lorraine from living a saint-like life. Staying true to Catholic beliefs, connecting to her religion and reaching out to others in need at countless points in her life, she has surely set an example for others to follow. To say Lorraine's life hasn't been easy is putting it mildly. Her mother **Anne McConnell Strauss '54** had a stroke when she was a junior in high school. She served strenuous years in the military, moving from assignment to assignment, not able to establish roots or connections. Once married, she relocated away from family and then lost her husband at an early age, leaving her to raise three boys, each of whom have their own difficulties, ranging from physical needs to depression to functioning autism. Her own physical troubles have recently intensified, causing her to take stock of life, and her purpose. "I'm not quite sure how I have managed it all," she said. "But my faith played a role, and I credit Sacred Heart Academy for my deep connection."

Lorraine said "giving back" was instilled in her at an early age. "I loved actively showing my faith at Sacred Heart Academy, and I have continued my involvement with the Catholic faith wherever life has taken me." And life has taken her many places. In the Army, she moved from South Carolina to Kansas to Hawaii and New York. In those assignments, she found time to be a youth minister and a religious education teacher for kids on the army bases. Lorraine also picked up an Army Commendation Medal just before she was discharged in 1984. Back home, Lorraine earned a degree in secretarial science and word processing, then moved to Milwaukee in 1988. She married Pat Malone and moved to Griffith, Indiana, where she has been actively involved in the Catholic community over the years. Her most rewarding roles, she says, have been as an RCIA sponsor, bringing others into the church; and a lay director for the women's retreat when she was able to offer "witness" of her faith. When her husband passed, she again realized how important faith is, not only that you have it, but you pass it along to your children and others.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER?

The **ALUMNI NEWS** has been mailed to alumni on record since 1976 with the exception of a few periods when funding or mail list issues came in to play! The first issues were produced on a mimeograph machine with volunteers addressing and sorting letters for the post office. Copy machines and mailing labels improved production and distribution shortly thereafter and then...the computer!!!... and records are now computerized, mailing lists are created, programs sort letters and machines do the labeling! Welcome to the 21st century! But in this day and age of "paperless" processes, should we be looking toward emailing the letter instead of posting it?

The Academy has always been a small school where you not only know your own class but usually the students two or three years before and after! In fact, with the large families and inter relations of cousins and aunts and uncles, many alumni have connections to the school that spread over several years! The **NEWS** was conceived to help communicate milestones and help retain a closeness even after graduation. The Address Requested option on the bi-annual mailings allow us to obtain new addresses when alumni move and for assistance in planning for class reunions but have proved to be quite costly.

On one hand it is good to have a "hard copy" mailed and sitting on the coffee table to read at leisure and to share with family or friends. But with so many doing nearly everything on their electronic gadgets now, it might be time to offer to send the **NEWS** electronically.

If you would prefer to be on an electronic mailing list rather than receiving the **NEWS** in the mail, please send us your email in a note to alumni@sha.net.



Lorraine Strauss Malone '76 is pictured with her sons, from left, Sean, Robert and Steven.

Lorraine vividly remembers building her faith at Sacred Heart Academy and says when she receives an issue of the SHA Alumni News, it's like a Christmas card from a friend you want to read and re-read. "I enjoy reading stories about other graduates and wanted to reach out to tell mine," she said.

Her fondest memories of high school include the 1975 State Basketball Championship. "I specifically remember **Bill Myler's '76** free throws," she said. "It was so exciting." She also fondly recalls sacramental events such as First Communion and Confirmation with her class. Lorraine says her favorite teacher was Karen Fredericks, who taught English, but she does have to give credit to the tough—and legendary—Sr. Euphemia. "I learned to recite regulations thanks to Sr. Euphemia," Lorraine says. "From Shakespeare to the U.S. Army, those study skills stayed with me."

If there is one thing people should know about Lorraine, she says, it is that her background—including years of Catholic education and values at Sacred Heart Academy—played a role in who she is today. As a mother, a sister, a volunteer at the church and her local library, and a citizen, Lorraine provides comfort to anyone in need and lets her faith guide her day-to-day.

If you would like to reach out to Lorraine, feel free to contact her at 219.924.4319 or send a note to 817 East Woodside Drive, Griffith, IN 46319.



ACADEMY NEWS

Mary Kay Reetz, Admissions Director

As I write this article I find it to be a very exciting time of year for SHA. The decision to choose a child's school can be much like "back to school shopping"--- it's done in late August. But that works for us as we certainly have room in most of our classrooms for additional growth. I especially enjoy seeing our alumni come in with their eldest child who is now school age and they say things like "they want their child to have what they had, that's why they're choosing Sacred Heart Academy." While giving them a tour, alums speak about the many fond memories (and some not so fond) that occurred while they themselves were attending SHA many years prior. I'm not sure if incoming developmental kindergartener Hank MacDonald learned more from me or his father, **Jeremy (Rit) MacDonald '93** during the tour. Nevertheless, Hank is excited to pick up where his father left off, and we hope the teachers feel the same way (the ones who are still here from when Jeremy attended).

Even with all the activity, preliminary projections look like enrollment will be down slightly in comparison to last year's starting enrollment of 427. However, we still offer two healthy size classrooms at each grade level, with an average of 16 students per class in the elementary. Alumni, you can be our best form of advertising so keep in mind we appreciate and welcome referrals from you.

We recently benchmarked ourselves against seven colleague schools in the state and SHA is a top performer. In addition to our favorable academic comparison to local schools, we measure up well when we look at colleague Catholic schools.

We anticipate a great 2013-2014 school year. We are excited to greet our returning students and to welcome new students to Sacred Heart Academy. This year, we are blessed with an enrollment around 412 students, of which 45 are new students representing 34 new families. This brings us to 246 families, and we warmly welcome all to one community, one spirit, one heart: Sacred Heart.

"Your children are the greatest gift God will give you, and their souls the heaviest responsibility He will place in your hands. Take time with them, teach them to have faith in God. Be a person in whom they can have faith. When you are old, nothing else you've done will have mattered as much." --Lisa Wingate



The end-of-the-school-year Picnic is fun for all SHA students and their family members.



Middle school students in Mrs. Lori Smith's Social Studies class are pictured at "International Day" an event celebrating cultures in countries around the world. The annual event features presentations by students and a luncheon.



SHA First Graders prepare to welcome their parents for "Writers Cafe" with muffins they helped make. The highlight of the event is sharing bound books of their personal writing collections with their parents as a gift.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Denny Starnes, *Principal*

Dear Alumni of Sacred Heart Academy,

I pray this edition of the Sacred Heart Academy Alumni Newsletter reminds you of some wonderful memories shared at SHA and the value of your Catholic education.

As you know, we are blessed each year with new staff members. I am very pleased to announce the hiring of three new teachers for the upcoming school year:

Grade 9 & 11: Language Arts Teacher, Brian Wyzlic

Grade 5: Terese McNelis

Grade 6: Laura Hunter

Remember your favorite teachers/staff members during your tenure at SHA? Here is a list of current staff with years of service of 10+ years.

Name	Position	Years of Service at SHA
Janet Maddocks	Kindergarten	33
Phil Durocher	HS Social Studies	30
Fr. Don Henkes	HS Religion	29
Edna Konwinski	HS Science	29
Sally Wood	Café Cook	29
Sharon Cook	Café Cook	27
Jo Ann Neyer	Aide-EK	22
Mary Beth Roberts	DK	20
Rick Roberts	HS Math	20
Michele Reinke	4th Grade	20
Marla Schneider	1st Grade	19
Kathy Wyman	6th Grade	17
Nancy Hemmingson	Jr/Sr High Art	15
Tracey Natke	Café	14
Larry Haddon	Maintenance	14
Lori Smith	Jr High Social Studies	13
Kelly Hansen	2nd Grade	12
Susan White	5th Grade	12
Steve Sacco	Jr/Sr High Religion	11
Erin Binger	Latch Key Director-Aide	10

Last year marked the beginning of new student initiative at Sacred Heart Academy when "Student for Student" groups formed within the secondary building. Students from 7th through 12th grade joined together to form a group which participated in various activities to encourage the choice of kindness when interacting with peers. The goal for this year is further acceptance and communication among the student body, and utilization of the skills and talents of each group

member to demonstrate our theme this year: "Sharing the Gift of Service". Collectively, the "Student for Student" group will work to help members of the community in a variety of ways, while also taking advantage of the opportunity to work with a diverse group of people. It is a program we hope the senior class will lead and improve with each school year.

The "Student for Student" program is just one of the many positive happenings at Sacred Heart Academy. When SHA students received their schedule request forms this past spring, they were happy to find many additional course offerings for the 2013-2014 academic year. Students could choose from new English electives related to novel studies and communications, and also a new Forensic Science elective. With the recent legislation passed by the state of Michigan which allots funding for private school students who dual-enroll, the number of SHA students taking a college class has dramatically increased. More than 30 SHA students will be enrolled in a college course this fall. For the first time, Mid Michigan Community College will be teaching a college course on the SHA campus. A MMCC instructor will have students from various grade levels in his Psychology 101 class, which will be followed by an introductory Sociology course in the winter. SHA administration is working toward increasing the opportunities available to students as the expectations of colleges and educational standards continue to evolve.

Hopefully the expanded curriculum will continue to motivate students to pursue academic excellence, which they have demonstrated through their standardized test scores. SHA students ranked highest in the surrounding area in almost every academic category on both the MEAP and MME assessments. The Class of 2013 exemplified SHA's strong academic standing with all 28 members planning to attend college. Multiple students will be furthering their education at in-state institutions like the University of Michigan (4), Michigan State University (2), and Central Michigan University (8), while others will be traveling to Alfred University in New York and the University of Chicago. One senior even earned a full academic scholarship to Mid Michigan Community College which covers all expenses for two years. Congratulations, Class of 2013! Your accomplishments are well deserved and we wish you continued success in the future.

If you want to know what's happening right now at your alma mater, visit www.sha.net and look at sections on academics, sports, newsletters, and alumni. There's a wealth of information available. If you're ever in the area and wish to stop by for a visit, please do. Sacred Heart Academy--- One Community, One Spirit, One Heart.

Blessings, Denny Starnes

360 DEGREES



Connie Veit McCann '81
Director of Development

The Alumni magazine published by one of our colleague schools is appropriately titled “360 degrees”. It features stories and materials for and about the school’s alumni, whom staff members hope to bring 360 degrees—back to their alma mater—to connect for outreach and financial support. I wasn’t in my position very long at Sacred Heart when I realized how important “coming back” was for me (not that I have been too far away).

SHA Admissions Director Mary Kay Reetz, a dynamic and faith-filled individual who represents the Academy well, showed me around the school. Throughout the hour-long tour, I had flashbacks of my school experience. Elementary school teachers, high school classes, hours spent in the yearbook room, student council meetings, indoor track practice, homecoming poster contests and more came flooding back. Honestly, I had a mental block when Mary Kay introduced me to Mr. Steve Sacco who is teaching religion in the room which, for me, was biology and physiology with Mr. Rod Reid. Spaces had changed. Senior hallway had moved. How could this be?

It was later when I realized: the Academy can’t be exactly as I left it 32 years ago. As alumni, it is our responsibility to reach back, say thanks, and make the Academy better for the next group of students to come through. The school grows and changes for each generation to come. And wow! The school has grown — in many positive ways. I am amazed at what exists at SHA (and have already been caught bragging a time or two). I also discovered I wasn’t the only graduate who has come “full circle” and is now an employee. There are seven of us. I am humbled by the passion I discovered in the others, and decided to feature all six in this issue of the **Alumni News** (pages 7, 8 & 9). They are true examples of what makes Sacred Heart Academy special: teachers and staff who go above and beyond for students each and every day, just like when I was in school.

Share your memories with me anytime. I look forward to hearing from you. I can be reached at 989.772.1385 or cmccann@sha.net.

There are always events happening and news to share from the Sacred Heart Development Office. Please note the following, and call or e-mail if you have any questions or want to get involved. Your participation is both welcomed and appreciated.

Wish lists

As a private parochial school, Sacred Heart Academy greatly appreciates voluntary support to enhance our mission and educational experiences at all grade levels. The teachers and staff have created a “Wish List” of items to make the Academy experience more interesting, educational and fun. An updated

list is now available at http://sha.net/wish_list.aspx. For specific information, call 989.772.1385.

Alumni Basketball

The age-old rivalry continues! The SHA Athletic Association will host Alumni Basketball featuring Sacred Heart vs. Beal City on Saturday, December 28, 2013. The evening’s events will feature a 5 p.m. Women’s game, followed by 6:30 and 8:00 p.m. Men’s contests. It has not yet been determined whether the men’s games will be “even years vs. odd years” or “J.V. vs. Varsity”. This will be decided based on registration/sign up. Players, please register by December 1 so teams and practices can be organized. Cost is \$20, which includes your t-shirt/uniform and a donation to the Athletic Association. Men, contact **Dan Simons ’70** at 517.719.3078 or dans@michco.com. Women, contact **Kelly Epple Hansen ’82** at 989.205.4686 or khansen@sha.net.

20th Annual SHAgala

“A Platinum Celebration: 20 Years of Irish Pride” is the theme of the 20th Annual SHAgala Dinner/Auction, scheduled for Saturday, February 15, 2014. To donate an item for the auction, secure tickets for the event or for further information, contact Volunteer Chairperson **Bryan Neyer ’86** at 989.330.0572 or bryanneyer@yahoo.com.

Parish Golf Outing

Mark your calendar. The 2014 Sacred Heart Parish golf outing will be held Saturday, May 10, 2014 (Mother’s Day Weekend). Location and details are yet to come, but you should reserve the date on your calendar now!

Holiday gift-giving

As the holidays approach and you again wonder what to get that hard-to-buy-for person on your list, here are a few stress-free ideas:

- Contribution to the SHA Foundation in honor of [the person]. Sacred Heart will produce a lovely card for gift-giving, and your donation benefits Catholic education in perpetuity.
- Item from the Sacred Heart Academy Wish List in their honor. SHA students will provide a handmade thank you card.
- SHA Athletic Association lottery ticket—20 chances to win! See description below.

For details on any “gift-giving” ideas, contact **Connie Veit McCann ’81** at 989.772.1385 or cmccann@sha.net before December 13, 2013.

Athletic Association Lottery

It’s a tradition! The annual Athletic Association Lottery begins Thursday, December 5 and will run for 20 weeks. Purchase of a \$25 ticket gets you in every drawing for the opportunity to win \$500 each week. The drawing is based on the daily three evening drawing of the Michigan lottery. Proceeds directly benefit athletic programs at Sacred Heart Academy. To purchase tickets, contact Michele Houston at 989.621.7801 or houstonmich@winntelco.com or James Yun at 989-400-0855 or jsy0829@msn.com.

"THE LORD CHOSE ME"

Although she sent resumes to a number of schools when she was looking for a teaching role in the Great Lakes Bay Region of Michigan, **Michele Pacholka Reinke '84** says there is a reason only the Catholic schools contacted her for interviews. "The Lord chose me to teach in a Catholic school, to express my faith in daily life," Michele says. After teaching two years at St. Helen's Elementary School in Saginaw, Michele was offered a Fourth Grade position at Sacred Heart Elementary. In 2013, she celebrated 20 years of service to the Academy, her alma mater, and, she says, she will be here "another 20 years if the Lord wills it."

Michele, a graduate of Aquinas College who taught English in Japan for a year before returning to Michigan to finish her student teaching, says there were cosmetic differences continuing at SHA when she returned to teach, such as the creation of the courtyard and the new gymnasium. "But the difference this school makes in students' lives—like it did in mine—is the same. Sacred Heart is a special place," Michele says, adding that she came back to SHA just as SHAgala was gearing up for the first time, and now the number one fundraiser for the Academy will host its 20th event.

When she was in fourth grade, Michele said she remembers learning the states, state capitals, and regions of the country. "My students learn those, too," she said. Michele says her lesson plans are guided by curriculum requirements, but she especially tries to work on organization, thought processes, and study skills to best prepare students for success in their years ahead. Special times of year for her students include the Advent season, when class members prepare "Christmas Bingo" as an outreach effort to local nursing homes.

Michele's daughter, also named Michele, is currently enrolled at SHA. "I would love for my daughter to have the same experience I had," Michele said. "The friendships with classmates and Academy families, the connection to our faith, and the values education. There is a guiding hand here which makes Sacred Heart graduates successful."



Michele Pacholka Reinke and her daughter—also named Michele—are pictured at the Sacred Heart Academy 100-year historical marker. Mom Michele is a 1984 graduate, and daughter Michele is in the SHA Class of 2020.



Kelly Epple Hansen '84, a 12-year employee of Sacred Heart Academy, is pictured at the 2013 graduation of her daughter, Erica, with her father, Jim Epple '59. They represent three generations of SHA graduates, with Alphonso Epple '27 being the fourth.

FAITH + FAMILY + TRADITION

"I could not imagine doing this anywhere else." Simply stated, that's what **Kelly Epple Hansen '82** says about teaching Second Grade at Sacred Heart Academy. "I get to start each day with prayer. I like that we can talk about what Jesus would do. Kids attend mass with their friends. It's the ideal learning environment," Kelly says.

A third-generation SHA graduate (her Dad is **Jim Epple '59** and grandfather is **Alfonzo Epple '27**), Kelly says most important to her was enrolling her three daughters—the fourth generation—at Sacred Heart. "I wanted my daughters to have what I did," she said. "Excellent academics, good athletic experiences, and the instant 'family' which forms from smaller class sizes and the true community at SHA." But along the way, Kelly started volunteering as a parent, then coaching. Her husband's job moved them away from the area three times and back again. Kelly says when they "came home to stay", she took a part-time job teaching physical education, then helped out in the lunch room and at recess. Before long, she was even filling in as the secretary. When the Second Grade position opened in 2003—"her grade", she calls it—Kelly interviewed and got the job. Altogether, she has been at the Academy 16 years and says it is "where she belongs".

Second Grade was Kelly's favorite grade as a youngster, and, in her opinion, it's the most important grade for growth. Not only are students putting math, reading and writing into everyday practice, but they are gaining their independence and self-assuredness. "Second Grade is also an important year for sacraments, which makes it very special," she says.

Since she graduated in 1982 and went on to Northwood University, then Central Michigan University for her teaching degree, Kelly says SHA has changed in many ways. There are no longer any nuns teaching at the school, the technology has been updated, and there have been minor improvements to the facility. What Kelly is most impressed by is what hasn't changed: the importance of weekly mass, a professional dress code, high-quality education, dedicated teachers and committed families. "This is a great school. It's a great place to be, and a great place to have [my] kids. I hope anyone who has come through Sacred Heart has thanked their parents for the sacrifice of going here," she says.

For Kelly, teaching second grade at SHA is all about faith, family and keeping the tradition alive for the next generation.

"I LOVE THIS JOB"

Most often, when a former graduate calls Sacred Heart Academy for their transcript, all they have to do is say their first name. The friendly voice at the other end—High School Secretary **Shelli Lannen Sias**—can usually fill in the last name and year of graduation without them telling. Shelli, a 1978 SHA graduate, has become familiar with the families and students over the years, and seems to have incredible recall for graduation years, siblings, college choices and more. “It’s a lot like being a mom with a big family—200 kids,” she says. “I’m even a mom to the teachers who leave their keys or notes in my office.”

Her long history with SHA helped her get the job originally. Shelli’s parents, **Mary Jeanne Buschle ’48** and **James Lannen ’49** graduated from SHA, as did her six siblings and two daughters. “Catholic education was very important to my mother,” Shelli said. “She was widowed in 1964 and managed to send all of us to the Academy.” Shelli was married, had her children baptized, and a funeral for five-year-old daughter Julia, all at Sacred Heart Parish. She recalls walking into the Parish Administration office one day selling printing for E & S Graphics and coming out agreeing to be a Eucharistic Minister. Shelli served as Treasurer of the Athletic Association for several years, and is currently Secretary of the SHA Foundation. While her husband, Doug, was serving on the SHA School Board, he mentioned they were having trouble replacing the high school secretary position in 2004. Shelli applied for the position, gave up her sales rep job, and has been working for SHA ever since.

“I love this job,” she says. “The best part is there’s no typical day.” Shelli says the students and teachers make her job fulfilling and she enjoys her office being a place people come for answers.

Officially, Shelli is the secretary for the 7th through 12th grade building, which is a change from when she graduated. Shelli says the physical plant hasn’t changed a lot, the family atmosphere is still here, and the religious retreats—especially Senior Retreat—make memorable and rewarding experiences.

“Alumni should know Sacred Heart Academy transcends time,” Shelli says. “SHA continues to graduate good thinkers with good values who become successful young people.” She is most proud of her own successful daughters, **Emily Sias Wilson ’03**, who earned a Doctorate in Physical Therapy and is working in St. Louis, MO; and **Elena Sias ’05**, who has a degree in biosciences and is working in Portland, Oregon.



Shelli Lannen Sias '78 is pictured with her daughters, from left, Emily Sias Wilson '03 and Elena '05.

A GREAT FIT

Stephanie DeNoyelles ’06 interviewed at three other schools but says now, after her first year, she could not have imagined a better experience than Sacred Heart Elementary. The 2006 SHA graduate is teaching First Grade in the same classroom she attended the grade. “I tell my students that,” Stephanie says. “They can relate to it. Teaching at the school where I grew up is a great fit.”



Stephanie DeNoyelles '06
in her inaugural teacher photo:
Miss DeNoyelles First Grade Class at SHA.

Stephanie, a basketball standout who earned an athletic scholarship to Ferris State University, says teaching wasn’t really something she planned. She always liked kids, and found a real passion in coaching, but planned to go into business. At Ferris, she changed her major several times, discovering she really enjoyed elementary education. She completed a student teaching experience with Kelly Hansen at SHA and said what she most enjoys about teaching is engaging her students in classroom lessons along with life lessons.

“Academic excellence starts young,” Stephanie says. “In First Grade there is a daily plan, but flexibility is the key. There is such big growth in First Grade that structure in the classroom is important during foundation math, reading and sentence lessons.”

Stephanie says making the transition from student to teacher has been interesting. “I see everything from the other side now. The staff and teacher relationships—which are very strong—the supportive administrative system, the sense of community among the parents. . .even the SHAgala event.”

Not taking her position for granted, Stephanie says she had to earn her role and, as a graduate of the Academy, feels even more strongly about the traditions at SHA. She continues to coach, and has recently added middle school volleyball to her high school girls basketball duties. Stephanie says the school hasn’t changed much since she graduated in 2006. “It has the same look, the same smell,” she says. As a teacher, she sees the need for more alumni and donor support, especially for upgrades in technology.

Just starting out, Stephanie can’t say if she will be teaching at SHA 5 or 15 years. “What I know is that this is where I belong for now,” she said. “I could not have imagined a better place for my first teaching experience. SHA is a great fit for me.”

THE PERFECT JOB

When **Sally Schafer Wood ('59)** called **Sharon Henry Cook ('67)** and asked her to fill a job opening in the Sacred Heart Academy kitchen, Sharon said she jumped at the chance. "I knew Sally through our sons, I loved being at school with the kids and I loved having summers off with my kids," she said. "It was the perfect job then, and it is still the perfect job for me. I am not ready to sit home yet."

Sharon has lots of fond memories from her years attending Sacred Heart. One of 11 in her family who all graduated from SHA, she recalls going to Mass every day (when ladies/girls covered their heads for Mass); nuns/sisters teaching almost every grade; and the navy blue-checked uniforms. Pep assemblies and Senior Retreat were special times, according to Sharon, who married just out of high school and still sees some of her classmates every "now and then" around town.

Sharon, whose husband died unexpectedly in 2010, has three sons who graduated from the Academy: **Chad '89, Greg '97 and Kevin '99**. She was a stay-at-home mom when Kevin was five, but was always involved volunteering at the school. Sharon is a faith-filled woman whose religion continues to connect her to the Academy. "It was important for me to have my sons attend SHA because I attended SHA," she said.

On the job 27 years, Sharon says she has seen lots of changes in the school, and a few in the kitchen, too. The use of computers for ordering and creating menus and the eating habits of youngsters has changed. What hasn't changed? The same menus (for Apple Crisp and coney sauce), the feeling of being "welcomed" at Sacred Heart where everyone looks out for everyone, and the exemplary manners of the students. "The Health Department inspector was there when the junior high students came through last year and he said he was 'in awe of their manners'—that made me proud," Sharon said.

Sharon said she finds rewards in her work every day, and appreciates that she and Sally are treated with respect by the students, teachers and other staff. In 2009 they were Grand Marshals at the annual Homecoming Parade. "We were so honored they wanted us," Sharon said. "That was a memorable time."



Sally Schafer Wood '59 (left) and Sharon Henry Cook '67 say they have been friends so long, and worked together so many years, that they could have written each other's stories for this issue of SHA Alumni News.

CATHOLIC INFLUENCE A DRIVING FACTOR

Sally Schafer Wood '59 was one of five siblings, children of **Eileen Hackett Schafer '37**, who graduated from Sacred Heart. She worked in the kitchen of the local hospital, then as a practical nurse at the hospital and in a local physician office. When she started putting eight of her own children through the Academy, she volunteered in the office and in her kids' classrooms. In 1984, the school asked if she would accept a paid job in the school kitchen and she has been there ever since. "We practically lived at the school, with kids in sports," Sally said. "I would get out of work, take a nap. Wait for someone at practice or go to a sporting event. With three in high school at once, there was never a free night."

For Sally, the commitment to SHA, and to Catholic education, is a labor of love. "Catholic influence was a driving factor for me, and why I wanted my kids to attend SHA," she said. "They might not appreciate it immediately upon graduation, but further down the road, they realize how important these values are." Sally's eight kids are all gathered close to central Michigan, and she takes pride in their individual successes, her 22 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

At Sacred Heart, where she and co-worker Sharon Cook serve approximately 225 to 250 meals each school day, Sally takes pride in providing healthy, homemade food. She says the biggest change to the school since she graduated has been the introduction of computers, used even in the kitchen.

Sally gathers in June each year with six or seven of her high school girlfriends who meet in Pentwater, Michigan at the home of **Marjory (Molly) Gallagher Basile '59**. "We share stories and experiences and our lives. . . It's just plain fun to keep in touch that way," Sally says.

Speaking of sharing stories, some of the fondest memories Sally shares from her almost-30 years at Sacred Heart include the visitors who have come to the cafeteria. "Bishop Joseph Cistone ate in the school cafeteria last year, and that was the first time we've had a Bishop come through," Sally said. She also fondly recalls Fr. David Genuine stopping by with two nuns, and coffee breaks with Fr. Thomas McNamara. "The visitors we enjoy the most are parents and grandparents who come to eat with their children," Sally says. "Families are always welcome in our cafeteria."

CLASS NEWS

1933: One of our oldest and most faithful supporters, **Don Sowle** of McLean VA, passed away March 22, 2013. After graduation from CMU, Don joined the U.S. Army Air Corps (later the Air Force), and was sent to Canada to study radar and electronics with the Royal Air Force. After several wartime assignments, he established and directed the Air Corps School of Communications and Radar in Orlando, FL until the end of World War II. He then earned an MBA from the University of Chicago, and received several assignments included heading the Air Force Contract Management Office for thirteen states, the USAF Air Materiel Command in Madrid, Spain (1955-59), and serving in the Pentagon Office of the Air Inspector (1959-1962). He was then assigned to the Department of Defense under Secretary Robert S. McNamara and became chief of the Air Staff's Procurement Policy Division. He was also adjunct faculty at American University and Georgetown University. After retiring from the Air Force as a Colonel in 1965, he became assistant director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology and he then served as group vice president for Gulf & Western Industries. In 1970, he returned to Washington to become the Director of Studies for the Commission on Government Procurement, and Director, Contract Administration Services, Office of the Secretary of Defense. In 1981, he was appointed by President Ronald R. Reagan to be the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget, a position in which he served until 1985. Don was preceded in death by three brothers, **Theodore '29, William Francis (Sid) '26** and **Harold** and is survived by his daughters, Lisa Sowle Cahill and Maryann Sowle.

1942: **Mary Kathryn Sheppard Huber** passed away on June 2, 2013 in New Baltimore, Michigan. Mary was a librarian for the Anchor Bay School System. She is survived by her brother **Jack '47**. She was predeceased by **Joe '39, Maurice '40, Bill '46, Donna Merrill '49** and **Jim '50**.

1946: **Ann Louise Bechtel** passed away May 1, 2013, after a year-long battle with cancer. A life-long resident of Mt. Pleasant, she was a dedicated member of Sacred Heart Church her entire life. She worked at Log Cabin Records for nearly 30 years. She was preceded in death by her sisters, **Rose Marie '51, and Helen Lenore "Ellie" Schuckman '51**.

1947: **Donna Grisdale Milliman** passed away on July 5, 2013 in Lansing, Michigan. Donna was a teacher and coach at Beaverton, Michigan after college and then began a career at the Lansing State Journal. She is survived by her

sister **Betty Haggert '53** and was predeceased by sisters **Kathleen Corcoran '35, Margaret Wood '37, Jane Williams '38, and Mary Grisdale '49** and brothers **Tom '51 and Gerald '56**.

Maurice Claus passed away on May 23, 2013. Maury was in the Marine Corps after graduation, stationed in Guam. After discharge he graduated from Michigan State and worked at Chrysler in Utica and California before beginning his own design firm in Anaheim, California. He returned to Mt Pleasant and finished his career as an architectural project manager for General Motors Central Foundry in Saginaw.

1948: Received word that **Marcillin McGuire Sweeney** passed away in 2011. She was the wife of **Bill Sweeney '45** and sister of **Marian McGuire '54**.

1949: **Jean and Bob Hovey** of Rosebush celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 30, 2013.

1951 AND 1952: **Mary Ann Sheahan and Marinus (Bill) Verwey** celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on May 9, 2013.

1953: **REUNION NEWS:** **Shirley Landwher Reed** has informed us that the class is meeting to celebrate their 60th reunion with dinner at 6:00 pm at Cheers on September 21, 2013.

John T. Murphy died after a long illness on February 20, 2013 in Kingston, New York. John was employed by IBM, retiring in 1992 as a Senior Financial Planner. John was an avid skier and a licensed New York State Hiking Guide. John is survived by his sister **Mary Jo Revitte '54** and was predeceased by his twin sister **Blandid Ann Murphy '53** and his mother **Blandid Sweeney Murphy '13**.

Also received word that **JoAnn Fleming Kneisler** passed away on April 17, 2012 in Kansas. Jo Ann was a kindergarten teacher in Lenexa, Kansas. She was preceded in death by her mom, **Ann Quinlan Fleming '28** and brother **John '58**. She is survived by her brother **Mike '52**.

1958: **REUNION NEWS:** The class of 1958 will celebrate their 55th reunion during Homecoming weekend, October 4-5, 2013. Plans include parade watching from Max and Emily's downtown, happy hour at Cheers and the Alumni Reception at the Parish Hall on Friday then breakfast Saturday morning. Please contact **Elaine Hackett Salisbury** at 616-691-6501 or desalisb@comcast.net with questions and suggestions.

1963: **REUNION NEWS:** SHA class of 1963 will celebrate their 50th reunion on October 4 & 5, 2013 during Homecoming weekend. Among the class plans are a high school tour, riding in the parade, attending the game and Annual Reception on Friday followed by a Saturday dinner and dancing at the Soaring Eagle Casino.

1967: **Bill McDonald** passed away on May 31, 2013. Bill attended CMU on a football scholarship and received his degree in Education which he put to use at Kearsley High School in Flint. Bill also coached at Powers Catholic High School in Flint. Bill is the son of **Fred '18** and brother of **Evelyn Schmidt '64, Jerry '50, John '51, Kathleen Kearney '58, Margie Stickney '56, Mary Worley '52, Bob '59** and **Ruth Johnson '60**.

1968: **REUNION NEWS:** The class of 1968 will also be celebrating during homecoming weekend, October 4 & 5, 2013. Plans include riding in the parade, attending the game, joining the Annual Alumni & Friends Reception on Friday evening. They will then meet for dinner at Cheers on Saturday and the 1100 AM Mass Sunday morning will be dedicated to the class followed by a school tour. The class would love RSVPs. Please contact **Maureen Murphy Rondy** at rondy1mr@cmich.edu or **Linda Stankwitz Glover** at fourhglover@aol.com.

Judy Judge Hein is welcoming prayers as she was diagnosed in May with cancer after abdominal pain. She has been going through treatment at the U of M Cancer Center in Alpena and has consultation scheduled in Ann Arbor in mid-August to see if surgery or more chemotherapy is the next step.

1969: Marilyn and **Leo Wickert** celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 15, 2013. The Wickert's daughters are **Amanda Hart '95** and **Alicia VanBuskirk '98**.

1970: **Phil Esch** died on May 15, 2013 in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Phil graduated from Allied Institute of Technology and served in the Army in Korea from 1983-86. He was a supervisor at Classic Party Rentals in McCook, Illinois. He is survived by his siblings **Helen Miller '67, Mike '69, Kathy '72, Tom '74, Pete '76, Chris '77, Marie '82** and **Joe '84**.

1971: **Betsy Pollard Rau** was inducted into the Michigan Journalism Hall of Fame in April 2013. Betsy was previously inducted into the CMU Journalism Hall of Fame in 2009. Betsy taught at Vestaburg Schools from 1977 to 1988 and then spent 20 years at Dow High School in Midland. She is now an instructor at CMU.

1973: **REUNION NEWS:** The class of 1973 will celebrate their 40th reunion on October 4 & 5, 2013 during Homecoming weekend. Please contact **Jackie Thering Heintz** at 989-773-3841 or heintzjackie@hotmail.com or contact **Kim Sheppard Allan** at 248-931-9527 or michflies@aol.com with any questions. Current plans include riding in the parade, a get together for those not attending the football game hosted by Jackie Heintz and Kim Allan at Jackie's residence at 1405 Crestwood Drive in Mt.Pleasant. The class wishes to extend this invitation to

any and all alumni beginning at 7pm. Then onward to the Parish Hall for the Alumni reception following the game. Saturday Oct. 5th the class will gather at the PohlCat for hors d'oeuvres, drinks and lots of laughs.

1990: **Chris Clark** passed away on June 20, 2013 in Ann Arbor. Chris was a painter with All Seasons Builders in Mt Pleasant.

1993: **REUNION NEWS:** The class of 1993 is finalizing plans for a 20-year reunion at Homecoming. For information, contact **Bridget Conde Ervin '93** at bridgetconde@yahoo.com.

Jeff Tyler married Jessica Lin Vick on August 3, 2013 in Mt. Hood, Oregon. Jeff is an endowment accountant for Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon.

1996: **Joe Albaugh** and his wife Dacia welcomed their daughter, Layla Jane, on June 26, 2013 in Mt Pleasant. Layla joins siblings Kennan and Darren.

1998: **REUNION NEWS:** The class of 1998 will celebrate their 15-year class reunion at Homecoming 2013. Plans include a tour of the Academy at 4 p.m. Saturday, followed by dinner at Hunters Ale House. For information, contact **Angie Beltinck Lathom '98** at (989) 621-9860 or anjosh1@yahoo.com.

Annie Galgoczi Sanders and her husband Ryan welcomed home their daughter, Taylor Marie, on June 13, 2013. Grandpa is **Steve Galgoczi '66**.

Ryan and **Rheanna Cooper Klunzinger** of Dewitt, Michigan welcomed their daughter, Taryn Louise, on March 25, 2013. Taryn joins older brother Troy.

1999: Thomas and **Jennifer Ouvry Burke** of Weidman announced the arrival of their son, Brayden Lee, Feb. 12, 2013, at Mid-Michigan Medical Center in Midland.

Lisa Zitzelsberger Roebke and her husband Bryce had a baby girl, Avery Elizabeth, on June 3, 2013. The Roebke family resides in Chicago.

Tracy Pieprzyk Barber and her husband Justin welcomed their daughter Dakota Mae on January 11, 2013 in St Johns, Michigan. Dakota joins older brother Connor.

2004: Heath and **Katie Olivieri Block** announced the birth of their son, Hudson Joseph, on May 9, 2013.

2008 AND 2010: **Alex Hammerle** and **Becky Meisch** were married in Mt Pleasant on July 6, 2013. Alex is employed by the Michigan State Police and is a member of the Army National Guard. Becky attends Ferris State University.



ALUMNI NEWS

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Alumni News For:



2013 HALL OF FAME



Tom J. Horgan

Four new members will be inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame during halftime ceremonies on October 4, 2013, bringing the total enrollment in the Hall to ninety-two. **Tommy Joe Horgan** and **Jim Youngs**, both from the class of 1963, will be joined by **Diana Wood Martinez '95** and **Tim Groves '98** in this year's induction.

Despite his family moving out of town and not being at Sacred Heart his senior year, **Tommy Joe** earned an amazing ten varsity letters in only three years, starting as a freshman in football, basketball and baseball. He led the basketball team in scoring as a junior (16.3), was second as a sophomore (11.1) and fourth as a freshman. T.J. lives in Mt Pleasant with his wife Dorothy and has two children, **Steve '96** and Darla. He has been employed at the Soaring Eagle Casino for over

twenty years having worked previously at Ferro Manufacturing and the Mt Pleasant Regional Center.



Jim Youngs

Jim earned eleven varsity letters including being MVP of the 1962 football squad, leading rebounder of the 1962-63 district champion basketball team, running anchor on the 4x100 relay team that finished 4th in the state and leading the baseball team

in hitting and pitching. Jim attended and played football at CMU for two years and finished his education and football career at Northern Arizona University. After a two year stint in Germany with the US Army he returned to Arizona before marrying and moving to Southern California to start a 38 year career in engineering, the last 25 years in San Diego. Jim still visits the mid-west as he has three daughters—one in Grand Rapids and two in Chicago.

Diana earned varsity letters in volleyball and basketball but softball is where she really excelled, lettering four times and being named MVP three years. She graduated with single season records in triples, home runs, RBIs and wins and as well as topping several career record lists. She still holds the mark for wins in a career. Diana teaches third grade at Weiss Elementary in the Saginaw Township School system and lives in Hemlock with her husband John and three children.

Tim was a two time MVP and leading hitter and run-producer for two #1 ranked baseball teams and still ranks in the top five in nine baseball career categories. A three-year starter in basketball he tallied 675 points while in football he ranks in the top five in six offensive categories and led the 1997 team in scoring. Tim is a manager of distributors for North American Breweries in Cleveland, Ohio. Tim and his wife Kyle have a four year old daughter, Lydia, and are expecting another daughter in September.