

# The Hill

McDANIEL COLLEGE | Autumn 2021



**TOGETHER AGAIN**  
*Rooted in Tradition*



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*On the cover:  
Whether welcoming new students to the Hill or bringing alumni back for Homecoming, this fall semester was rooted in traditions old and new.*

*Photo by  
Tae Kerney*



After the Alumni Association Awards Banquet and Green Terror Sports Hall of Fame induction ceremony on Friday, Oct. 15, guests were invited to enjoy s'mores and a champagne toast to continue the celebrations.

## FEATURES

### 12 Growing from strong roots

How the McDaniel Commitment gave two grads a career boost — with a little help from faculty and alumni

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How two students and one faculty member provided nearly 500 pounds of produce to the community in one summer

## DEPARTMENTS

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Don't forget to check out the online edition for exclusive videos and other digital content at [mcdaniel.edu/magazine!](http://mcdaniel.edu/magazine!)







**“It’s time for cookies to be made, and friends and family to gather together to celebrate all that the season has to offer. It is also the perfect time to reflect on the year that has passed and share hopes for the year to come.”**



Dear McDaniel Community,

It’s that time of year again. There is a nip in the air, the spirit of the holiday season surrounds us, and the end of yet another year is just around the corner. It’s time for cookies to be made, and friends and family to gather together to celebrate all that the season has to offer. It is also the perfect time to reflect on the year that has passed and share hopes for the year to come.

While I acknowledge the many challenges faced by our community this year, I am grateful for the many ways faculty, staff, and alumni have rallied around our students — and one another — throughout this pandemic. It’s that strong sense of community that makes me especially proud of the opportunity to officially call McDaniel home. In early July, my husband, David, our two sons, Iain and Kyle, and our dog, Kira, moved into the President’s House on campus. Our transition was made more meaningful thanks to the warm welcome we received, and we are looking forward to opening our home to many events and activities in the weeks and months ahead.

In August, we were thrilled to welcome nearly 600 first-year and transfer students to McDaniel. Once again, we saw our campus community rally around our newest Green Terrors. Faculty, staff, students, and alumni could be found providing orientations to new families, delivering suitcases to residence halls, and exemplifying the caring community for which McDaniel College has long been known. As a mother of a first-year college student myself, I understand the dual feelings of excitement and anticipation that swirl around parents on move-in day. However, our energetic move-in crew did an incredible job of putting everyone at ease and making them feel right at home.

As we continue welcoming new students, families, employees, and friends into the McDaniel family, I remain committed to ensuring our college is a welcoming, equitable, and inclusive environment. In September, the college named Richard M. Smith, sociology professor and a 2000 alumnus of McDaniel, as the college’s inaugural associate provost for equity and belonging. Richard has been an integral part of diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts at the college for many years, and I am thrilled to welcome him into this new role. I know he will do great work.

As we wrap up 2021, I want to thank you for your continued support of the college — whether in time, talent, or treasure. Your generosity makes McDaniel College a special place and allows future Green Terrors to find their home on the Hill. I wish you all the best as we enter into the final weeks of 2021 — may it be filled with gratitude for the good that has happened and hope for an even brighter 2022!

Warmest wishes,

President Julia Jasken



“Great edition of *The Hill*. Have literally absorbed each feature. Thanks for doing such an outstanding job.”

— Dolly Snyder M.Ed. ’63, Hon. D.H.L. ’89, McDaniel College Trustee

“*The Hill* did a great job featuring President Julia Jasken and her new team [in the Summer 2021 issue].”

— Jill Kortvelesy ’81 Mennicken, McDaniel College Trustee

“Great issue of *The Hill* magazine. In future issues, I would encourage the editors to include a full list of the trustees in each issue, as a reference to others to those who govern, and as a recognition to those whose commitment to the college is superlative.”

— Sherry Fischer ’65, Hon. D.H.L. ’79 Manning, Former McDaniel College Trustee

**Editor’s Note:** While we cannot list every member of the Board of Trustees in each issue, we encourage readers to go to [mcdaniel.edu/trustees](http://mcdaniel.edu/trustees) to learn more about the Board of Trustees and the dedicated leaders who govern McDaniel College.

## CONGRATS TO OUR COMMENCEMENT CHALLENGE WINNER!

Congratulations to Kathleen Golub, mother of Stephanie Golub ’18, for winning the drawing for a McDaniel sweatshirt with the correct answer that two Commencement ceremonies have been held at Kenneth R. Gill Stadium.



## SOUND OFF

The Mail department is your place to sound off about what you read in *The Hill*.

Letters should include your full name, address, and phone number or email address so we can contact you for confirmation.

Letters may be edited for length, style, clarity, and/or civility.

**Mail:** Lindsay Sherman, The Hill magazine, McDaniel College, 2 College Hill, Westminster, MD 21157.

**Email:** [ocm@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:ocm@mcdaniel.edu) with “The Hill magazine” as the subject line.

## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD



**WE KNOW YOU LOVE THE HILL, BUT DO YOU LOVE THE HILL MAGAZINE? NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO LET US KNOW!**

Take the 2021 readership survey to let us know:

- What you love about the magazine
- How you think *The Hill* could be improved
- Stories you wish we’d cover — or not
- How you prefer to receive your magazine

**GO TO [mcdaniel.edu/magsurvey](http://mcdaniel.edu/magsurvey) TODAY TO SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS!**

It’s important to us that we are serving your needs in the pages of *The Hill* to the best of our ability. Your responses are confidential and secure, and will help us make *The Hill* even better for years to come!





## Sociology professor Richard M. Smith '00 named inaugural associate provost for equity and belonging

McDaniel College has named Richard M. Smith '00 as the college's inaugural associate provost for equity and belonging. Smith has been a Sociology professor on the Hill since 2010. For the past three years, he served as special advisor to the provost and has led diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) academic programming, including faculty professional development and training.

In this new role, Smith provides vision and leadership to the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. He also works in collaboration with the provost to co-lead the college's DEI administrative committee and guides the Bias Education Response and Support Team.

"Richard is the perfect choice for this new role where he will both aid in the promotion of an institutional culture that values and supports diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as in connecting the college's DEI initiatives with the surrounding community," says Provost Rosa Rivera-Hainaj.

Born and raised in Baltimore, Smith attended Temple University after graduating from McDaniel, where he earned both his master's degree and Ph.D. His teaching and research has been focused on race and racism in the United States, African American culture, race and justice, and racism and religion.

In addition to serving on faculty committees, he has been an advisor to the Black Student Union and Brothers Elite student organizations and a first-generation student mentor. He was the 2020 recipient of McDaniel's Ira G. Zepp Distinguished Teaching Award, which recognizes inspired classroom work and dedication to students.



## Erin Giles '15 Benevento named associate dean for student development

Erin Giles '15 Benevento has been named associate dean for student development and will lead the Center for Experience and Opportunity (CEO). She was most recently the director of the First Year Experience and also spent two years as the CEO's associate director of community engagement, where she helped build partnerships between the college and downtown community.

Benevento will now not only lead the CEO but also serve as the conduit for additional collaborations between Academic and Campus Life in the Provost's Office and play a key role in student success endeavors. By having the First Year Experience within the CEO, all components of the McDaniel Commitment (My Place, My Design, My Career, and My Experience) are now under the same organizational structure, providing a unique synergistic opportunity for growth and advancement.

"Erin has been a highly engaged member of the McDaniel community since 2011 and brings a novel and energetic vision to the CEO," says Provost Rosa Rivera-Hainaj. "Her servant leadership, extensive background in the foundational components of the McDaniel Commitment including My Place and My Design, and work with multiple campus and community partners for experiential learning opportunities for My Experience will serve her well in this role."

Learn more about the college's DEI efforts at [mcdaniel.edu/dei](https://mcdaniel.edu/dei).

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR THE INAUGURATION OF  
JULIA JASKEN, PH.D.  
AS THE TENTH PRESIDENT OF MCDANIEL COLLEGE

*save the date*

SATURDAY | APRIL 9 | 2022  
INAUGURAL EVENTS APRIL 7-9 | 2022



## Three graduate students run four-week McDaniel College Reading Clinic

Each summer, graduate students in McDaniel's Reading Specialist: Literacy Leadership program conduct a comprehensive four-week experience providing reading and writing assistance to elementary school students enrolled in Carroll County Public Schools. The McDaniel College Reading Clinic was founded in 1973 and is a required component of the master's degree program.

This year, three graduate student clinicians worked with 12 students during the clinic, which was themed "Under the Sea." Graduate students Brittany Smith, Jessica Lane, and Sarah Sitton helped students read and write about ocean habitats and animals.



## President Julia Jasken expands the President's Cabinet to provide greater representation of the college's needs among leadership

President Julia Jasken has announced the formation of an expanded President's Cabinet, which meets on a biweekly basis. This change allows for greater representation at the leadership table and the inclusion of more voices within our campus community.

### The President's Cabinet is composed of:

- Rosa Rivera-Hainaj, provost
- Eric Simon, vice president of administration and finance
- Janelle Holmboe, vice president of enrollment management
- Bill Torrey, interim vice president of development
- Wendy Morris, dean of faculty
- Liz Towle, dean of students
- Vickie Mazer, dean of Graduate and Professional Studies
- Richard M. Smith, associate provost of equity and belonging
- Jenni Glennon, associate vice president for administration
- Heidi Reigel, associate vice president for alumni and admissions
- Julie Fisher, controller
- Adam Hertz, director of athletics
- Bill Leimbach, chief information officer
- Marissa Lander, chief of staff

## Reconnect with the Hill today

Are you looking for ways to get involved and stay connected with your alma mater? Are you ready to take your relationship with McDaniel to the next level? Do you know someone worthy of recognition? We've got you covered with a variety of ways to reconnect with the Hill.

**The Alumni Council:** There is no more impactful way to give back to McDaniel College than to participate on the Alumni Council, the leadership body of McDaniel's Alumni Association. The Alumni Association's officers comprise the Alumni Council, which provides opportunities for enthusiastic alumni to become more engaged with the college and serve its needs. Alumni Council membership is a privilege, and prospective members must be nominated to be considered. To learn more, go to [mcdaniel.edu/alumni/connect/alumni-council](https://mcdaniel.edu/alumni/connect/alumni-council) or email [alumni@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:alumni@mcdaniel.edu).

**Share the love — nominate an alum:** Honor and celebrate an alum by nominating them for an Alumni Association Award or the Green Terror Sports Hall of Fame. Your nominations help us recognize the impacts our alumni have had on our athletics teams, the college, their communities, and the world. Nominate someone today at [ilovethehill.mcdaniel.edu/awardnomination](https://ilovethehill.mcdaniel.edu/awardnomination) or [ilovethehill.mcdaniel.edu/shofnomination](https://ilovethehill.mcdaniel.edu/shofnomination).

**Volunteer your time:** We work hard to create a variety of opportunities that allow you to maximize your talents and your time giving back to the college. We offer long- and short-term volunteer opportunities, and you can make an impact even with a limited time commitment. From volunteering to plan your Reunion to being a class reporter, we encourage you to explore the many ways you can volunteer at [mcdaniel.edu/alumni/volunteer](https://mcdaniel.edu/alumni/volunteer).

**Stay in the know:** Connect with fellow alumni by joining the McDaniel College Alumni Association Facebook group! As an alum, you are already a member of the McDaniel College Alumni Association. Now, we are providing the opportunity for you to become even more engaged and connected with your fellow Green Terrors through the college's Alumni Association Facebook group. Join today and stay tuned for announcements, event information, dates to know, and more. Plus, have the opportunity to network and share your news and achievements in real time. Join today at [facebook.com/groups/mcdanielcollegealumniassociation](https://facebook.com/groups/mcdanielcollegealumniassociation).



## McDaniel is #1 "Best Value" for third consecutive year

McDaniel College is again a top "Best Value School" by U.S. News. This is the third consecutive year that McDaniel has been named No. 1 for academic quality and affordability on U.S. News & World Report's "Best Value Schools - Regional Universities North" list.

McDaniel also ranked as one of the best regional universities in the North by U.S. News in its "2022 Best Colleges" rankings. Institutions on the Regional Universities lists offer a full range of undergraduate degrees and master's degree programs.

U.S. News looks at factors such as class size, admission selectivity, and retention and graduation rates to determine its overall rankings.

Additionally, McDaniel once again made the list of "Top Performers on Social Mobility," which highlights schools that are successful in graduating students with Pell Grants.

### Other recent rankings include:

- McDaniel ranked high among best master's universities in the nation and as a "Best Bang for the Buck" by Washington Monthly.
- McDaniel also appeared as one of "The Best 387 Colleges" in The Princeton Review's 2022 edition of its annual college guide and on its "Best Northeastern" regional colleges list.
- McDaniel was included among the 600 best institutions in the nation on Forbes "America's Top Colleges List."

Learn about McDaniel's other accolades at [mcdaniel.edu/about-us](https://mcdaniel.edu/about-us).



# by the numbers

Class of 2025

In August, over 500 first-year and transfer students planted their roots on the Hill by taking part in time-honored traditions including move-in, "ringing in" on Old Main Bell, introduction convocation, and the Westminster Welcome Walk.

# 20 STATES

Students come to the Hill from 20 states and the District of Columbia, including: California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia



# 40%

Over 40% of incoming students are the first in their families to attend college



# 40%

MORE THAN 40% OF THE INCOMING CLASS IDENTIFIES AS STUDENTS OF COLOR



"I loved WMC, so it's surreal for me. I never thought that Kate would go here. I thought, 'We'll apply, see what happens.' The Alumni Legacy Scholarship is great and they've made it an outstanding experience. I feel so comfortable having her here. This is the perfect setting for her. She's going to do awesome."

— RAY PICKERSGILL '94

"We did a tour back in April and it was a lot smaller because of COVID. Before that, my dad was showing me around, telling me, 'This is this building, this is where I worked, this is where my boss was.' It was really fun to be able to see that and hear all these facts that you might not hear from a tour guide."

— KATE PICKERSGILL

# 10% LEGACY

Ten percent of the Class of 2025 are recipients of the Alumni Legacy Scholarship, following in the steps of parents or grandparents

MEET TWO OF OUR LEGACY FAMILIES



"Reagan is going to a much better school than I went to. This place has progressed so much in terms of the campus facilities, diversity, the ability to study abroad, etc. The overall diversity of the classes offered is much better than what I had, so I think the academics are as good or better. I had a great experience, but hers will be an even better one."

— BOB PICK '92

"Dad was actually perhaps dissuading me from attending. He just kept saying, 'No pressure. No pressure.' But it was one of the few colleges I toured because of COVID. I came here and y'all were very responsive. I applied early decision and I got in, so here I am!"

— REAGAN PICK

# 11 COUNTRIES

McDaniel's global community continues to grow with students hailing from 11 countries: Chad, El Salvador, Eritrea, Honduras, India, Nepal, Nigeria, Peru, South Korea, the United Kingdom, and the United States



# 30% ATHLETES

Nearly 30% of the incoming class will wear the green and gold as Green Terror student-athletes

# 5,000+

THE NEWEST GREEN TERRORS COME FROM A RECORD-BREAKING APPLICANT POOL OF MORE THAN 5,000 STUDENTS



Want to relive your own move-in experience, or catch up on what you missed of your student's first weekend on the Hill? Check out the Move-In Weekend highlight reel and new students ringing Old Main Bell on YouTube at [youtube.com/mcdanielcollege](https://youtube.com/mcdanielcollege).



# double take

*Sights worth a second look*

## Alumni take the field

**GREEN TERROR ALUMNI GET BACK TO THEIR ROOTS TO CONNECT WITH CURRENT STUDENT-ATHLETES**

This fall, the Green and Gold Committee of the Alumni Council hosted several alumni games on campus, providing an opportunity for Green Terror athletes from the past to join in conversation and competition with the new generation of student-athletes.



On Sept. 11, Class of 2020 softball players were invited back along with 74 alumni, family, and friends to celebrate a belated Senior Day and receive their Green & Gold M in recognition of their dedication to Green Terror softball.

### Softball

Women's lacrosse alumni from the classes of 1994 through 2021 returned to the Hill during Homecoming weekend for an alumni game and memorial ceremony attended by nearly 80 alumni, family, and friends of Green Terror Women's lacrosse.

### Women's Lacrosse



It's been wonderful to be together again on campus, and the Green and Gold Committee looks forward to seeing more of our alumni-athletes on the Hill again soon!



On Aug. 21, 28 alumni, family, and friends gathered for the Green Terror football team's final pre-season scrimmage, including alumni from the classes of 1963 to 2020. Alumni took the field to reflect on their experiences as student-athletes and inspire the current team.

### Football



On Oct. 2, more than 150 alumni, family, and friends descended on the Hill for the inaugural Michael Marks '13 Memorial Alumni game. Alumni from the classes of 1968 through 2021 were in attendance, including Richard Tom '72 (above middle), who brought his original wooden lacrosse stick strung with cat gut.

### Men's Lacrosse



growing from  
**STRONG ROOTS**

HOW THE McDANIEL COMMITMENT GAVE TWO GRADS A CAREER BOOST  
— WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM FACULTY AND ALUMNI

By Lindsay Sherman

**Q & A**



**IT'S A  
CLASSIC HIGHER  
EDUCATION STORY.  
STUDENTS ENROLL  
AT A LIBERAL ARTS  
COLLEGE UNSURE  
OF WHAT THEY  
WANT TO STUDY  
OR PURSUE AS A  
CAREER — OFTEN  
MUCH TO THEIR  
PARENTS' DISMAY.  
MAYBE THEY HAVE  
A VAGUE IDEA  
OF WHAT THEY  
WANT TO DO.**

"I want to start my own company!" But should a budding entrepreneur study Business, Accounting, or Marketing, all of which are useful in entrepreneurship? "I've always dreamed of becoming a doctor!" Well, does it make more sense to major in Biology or Chemistry?

For many students, those first steps on the Hill might be intimidating and uncertain. But they soon learn that there is a fierce network of people looking to help them in those early days and beyond.

That has perhaps never been more obvious for many than in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has flipped the world upside down. Navigating a job search or starting that first job out of college in a mostly (or completely) remote environment is something not many were prepared for. And if lockdown restrictions took away the opportunity to complete internships, some students may have felt like they were never going to get ahead.

Luckily, that network of faculty, staff, and alumni keeps growing stronger every day. **Kevin Webster '19** and **Dominic Byerly '20** tackled all of these challenges head-on over the last couple of years. Now, Webster has a master's degree and Byerly is pursuing his, and both are gainfully employed in industries that are different from what they pictured in their first year on the Hill, but have put them on paths to successful and lucrative careers.

How? Simple. It just took a little help from that faithful Green Terror network to help them find a fertile spot to put down strong roots, see their path a little more clearly, and grow into their potential. If you ask the mentors who helped them, that potential was there all along, whether they could see it or not. They just needed a little nurturing.



Dominic  
**BYERLY**

**FINDING  
A PATH  
FORWARD  
WITH A  
McDANIEL  
GRADUATE  
DEGREE**

**Q** WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO THE HILL?

**A** I originally came to play soccer, but I also wanted a smaller college. I really liked the more hands-on approach to learning and the opportunity to actually know my professors. I wanted to be an Accounting major, but I realized about a year and a half in that it actually wasn't what I wanted to do. The nice thing about the McDaniel Commitment is you get to take classes that get you out of your comfort zone. That gave me the freedom to explore what I wanted to do without feeling like I was forced down a certain path before getting a chance to really broaden my horizons.

**DOMINIC BYERLY '20**  
B.A. in Economics and Business Administration  
M.S in Data Analytics student



THE KERNEY

**WHICH PROFESSOR HAD THE MOST PROFOUND IMPACT ON YOUR TIME AT McDANIEL?**

Professor **Kevin McIntyre**. I really, really enjoyed my classes with him, especially Macroeconomic Theory. I loved seeing the big picture, the grand scheme of things, and how big economies interact with each other. Professor McIntyre's classes felt different for me; I actually participated in his classes, I talked in them every day. I started getting close with him and asked him to be my advisor when I decided to go down the path of Economics as my field of study. He's a really good guy, and we're both into Star Wars, so our relationship became personal, too. He was always very honest with me, so we built a relationship on trust. If he told me to take a certain class, I would trust him and take it. That's still true today, and led me to enroll in the Data Analytics graduate program at his recommendation.

**WHAT WAS IT LIKE TO GRADUATE DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?**

First, I didn't get to complete any internships during my time at McDaniel. I went to the internship fair my sophomore year and unfortunately didn't get one. The spring of my junior year in March 2020, I went to it and then COVID shut everything down. That's one of the reasons I decided to enroll in the Data Analytics graduate program. I had no experience in my field and I really wanted to be able to put myself in the best position possible and get a leg up. I also graduated a semester early by taking a test at a community college to get the last four credits I needed. I started searching for jobs in December 2020 into January and February 2021, but most of the callbacks I was getting were for sales jobs and I didn't want to get into sales.

**WHY DID YOU ENROLL IN THE DATA ANALYTICS GRADUATE PROGRAM?**

When I told Professor McIntyre about my plan to graduate a semester early, he called me up and told me about the new Data Analytics program in Graduate & Professional Studies. He said he thought

I'd be a good fit for it. He knows me, he knows what I'm interested in, and knows what I'm good at. Again, I trusted him. I spent a week or two looking into it and talked with my parents. I just thought with everything going on with COVID, the best option was to go into this grad program, continue my education, and further distinguish myself from other graduates in my field to get more employment opportunities in the future.

**WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW?**

I started job searching again in April and I started working in firm-wide operations at Morgan Stanley at the beginning of July. Work so far has been completely remote, and I've been balancing that with my online, asynchronous grad school program. It's nice to be able to go to work during the day and then I can manage my time and pace out my assignments in the evening for school. A lot of what I'm learning in school I'm already able to apply to work. Getting data sets, sorting them, running scripted statistics and regression models, and even just Excel skills. I've learned a lot more about Excel in class, which has already directly helped me at work.

**WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO AS YOU PROCEED IN THE DATA ANALYTICS PROGRAM?**

My classmates are really smart and almost all of them already have jobs in the field. I learn a lot from our weekly discussion board posts and what they share. I think the Data Analytics master's degree is going to bring me more lucrative job opportunities rather than just a bachelor's in Economics and Business Administration. Right now, I'm just focusing on the experience I'm gaining at work and getting the best grades I can in my Data Analytics program so I can come out a year from now with my master's degree, ready to succeed in the Data Analytics field.

*Meet his faculty mentor, pages 16-17*



Kevin  
**MCINTYRE**

**THE FACULTY MENTOR**

**Q HOW DID YOU GET TO KNOW DOMINIC?**

**A** **Dominic** was in my Macro Theory course and he was one of those quiet kids that sat in the back row, but I quickly noticed his scores were very, very good. I was like, “Who is this? I want to talk to this guy.” I found out he was interested in economics and business, and then he asked me to be his advisor. I’ve always been very intrigued by him.

**WHY DID THE M.S. IN DATA ANALYTICS MAKE SENSE FOR DOMINIC, AND WHERE DO YOU SEE HIM GOING FROM HERE?**

He let me know that he was graduating early, but he was stuck in coronavirus purgatory: everyone was locked down and nobody was hiring. So, I told him about the Data Analytics program and how we had just designed an accelerated pathway from one’s undergraduate major into the graduate program, and I thought it would be a good opportunity for him. And now he’s gainfully employed, and it wouldn’t surprise me to see him on the Board of Trustees someday. Hopefully he remembers me and endows a chair or something with my name on it or gives us a big grant. He’s one of our graduates who we are going to know for a long time.



**KEVIN MCINTYRE**  
Ethan A. Seidel Professor of Economics  
Coordinator, M.S. in Data Analytics

**WHAT MAKES THE M.S. IN DATA ANALYTICS PROGRAM SO VALUABLE?**

We are continuously asking — and encouraging our students to ask — what is this doing to help me understand what’s going on in the real world? If you’re working in a field that uses quantitative information, we can help you. It’s an entrepreneurial program and is designed to help people increase their options, to grow and provide opportunity in their current career but also give them options in other fields or industries. We have students working in health care, financial services, retail, logistics, and insurance. It’d be hard to find an industry nowadays that isn’t at some level collecting information and thinking about how to use it more efficiently. That’s the heart of data analytics.

The program also gives students a chance to partner with their employers and prove the worth of their education for their final project. We’ve asked them to come up with a data-using project that their employer wants done, a question they want to find an answer to. We want the students to employ the skills we’re equipping them with, but hopefully it’s also something their employer can monetize or put into action.

**MEET THE NEWEST DATA ANALYTICS FACULTY MEMBERS**



**Anna Lissitz** joined McDaniel as an adjunct in the Data Analytics program in October 2020. She earned her Ph.D. in Measurement, Statistics, and Evaluation from the University of Maryland, College Park, and her primary research areas of interest are value-added modeling, multilevel modeling, learner analytics, and data-driven curriculum design.



**Xuejing Duan** started teaching in the Data Analytics program this fall. She earned her Ph.D. in Educational Statistics and Research Methods from Virginia Tech (VT) in 2018. After graduating from VT, she worked as a biostatistician at the George Washington University for three years, where she was responsible for providing data analysis and statistics support for interdisciplinary research.

**M.S. IN DATA ANALYTICS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**PROGRAM LAUNCHED:** Fall 2020

**ENROLLMENT GOAL:** 150-200 students

**FORMAT:** Hybrid with a three-day residency per semester

**TOTAL CREDITS:** 30

**NUMBER OF COHORTS:** 4 (as of Fall 2021)

**PROGRAM COST:** \$19,800 (\$660/credit)

**STUDENTS CURRENTLY ENROLLED:** 112 (as of Fall 2021)

**AVERAGE COMPLETION TIME:** 24 months

**STUDENTS WHO ATTENDED FIRST RESIDENCY:** 40 (August 2021)

To learn more about Data Analytics and other graduate programs, go to [mcdaniel.edu/academics/graduate-professional-studies](http://mcdaniel.edu/academics/graduate-professional-studies).



Kevin  
**WEBSTER**

**LEVERAGING  
AN ALUMNI  
CONNECTION  
TO FIND A  
NEW CAREER  
PATH**

**Q WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO THE HILL?**

**A** I liked how small McDaniel was and how the campus was pretty isolated. There wasn't any outside interference. I didn't want any city schools. McDaniel felt like a community to me and it still sticks with me. Coming into college, I didn't have an ounce of knowledge about what I wanted to do. I just knew I had to take science classes as prerequisites. I thought I was pretty good at Biology and then did some internships that solidified me wanting to be a doctor.

**KEVIN WEBSTER '19**  
B.S. in Biology  
Chemistry minor



TERENCE JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

**WHICH CLASS OR EXPERIENCE HAD THE MOST PROFOUND IMPACT ON YOUR TIME AT McDANIEL?**

Molecular Biology with Dr. Susan Parrish. She really made me feel like I could do this if I just put a little work in. Even through the hard tests and massive amount of work, she was always there to support and guide me to success. I had several internships, including one at the Department of Forensic Science, where I was able to watch a medical examiner perform an autopsy. It was amazing to me how he knew everything about the body from head to toe. That experience shaped me and pushed me to take more Biology and Chemistry classes. I also studied abroad in Chile and studied health care there. I realized I wanted to be a doctor who helped patients in under-resourced areas.

**WHICH PROFESSOR HAD THE MOST IMPACT ON YOUR TIME AT McDANIEL?**

My relationship with **Dr. Dana Ferraris** is really special. He's like an uncle. He was somebody I could go to at the end of the day, somebody I can always trust and lean on. I still call him to this day and ask him about my 401(k) and benefits. He's always open to talk to me and give me advice. He actually pushed me to pursue the work I'm doing now.

**WHAT ARE YOU UP TO NOW?**

After I graduated, I pursued a master's degree in Biology with a concentration in cancer biology prevention and control at the University of the District of Columbia. I graduated in April and was working at Walgreens, but I wasn't trying to be a pharmacist or anything. Then I was asked to co-host the virtual Green Terror Talk on COVID Research on the Hill during Homecoming 2020 with **Sam Hopkins '80**. I didn't know anything about Sam before that, but Dr. Ferraris was on the panel and since I'd done research with him and Sam is a renowned researcher in the field, we were asked to host it. Afterward, someone from the Hill reached out to me and said Sam wanted to talk to me about a job opportunity, but I thought, "I know what I

want to do. I want to be a medical doctor. I don't want to do research." Then Dr. Ferraris texted me and said, "Kevin, you need to get in contact with Sam. It would be very good for you." I said, "Yeah, sure, I will." Then I didn't. [laughs] Eventually, I got in touch with him and he said he had an offer for me. Basically, he told me if I wanted to work with him at AskBio, they'd get me down to North Carolina as soon as possible. "If you want to leave, you can leave. But this is an option you always have on the table," he told me. "I'm only putting this on the table for McDaniel alums like us." I thought that was the kindest thing anybody had ever said, giving me an opportunity like this. So, I am a research associate here, and I screen individuals to see if they meet the requirements to be part of a study.

**WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO McDANIEL STUDENTS WHO AREN'T SURE WHAT THEY WANT TO DO?**

First of all, internships are what help support what you want to do. They help guide you. If you want to try something, try it. Do an internship. If you don't like it, you go somewhere else. You don't have to have it all figured out. And work the network. McDaniel is a small school. Sam reaching out to me as another alum, I had to take it. You feel honored that someone has reached out to you. I couldn't turn it down. He is such a cool dude and has done so much amazing work in his career. Listen, we are decades apart, but because we have that McDaniel connection, we're on common ground. He was open to the fact that I don't know what I want to do. I can go on to the medical field or I can stay in research and he's open to all of that. He still gave me the opportunity. Everything is still on the table for me. Research held very little weight for me for a long time. This experience has boosted it in my mind. I want to give it a year or so and then think about either pursuing my M.D. or Ph.D. It's still early in this research job, but I think Ph.D. may be the way I go. At the end of the day though, "Dr." is still what I want in front of my name. That's my goal.

*Meet his alumni and faculty mentors, pages 20-21*



# Sam HOPKINS

## THE ALUMNI MENTOR

### Q WHY IS IT SO IMPORTANT TO YOU TO REACH OUT TO STUDENTS AND ALUMNI?

A All 40 of the trustees have an incumbent burden to not only sit on the board itself but to be actively involved in the college. That means every time I go to campus, I want to talk to the science faculty and find out who their best students are and what they want to achieve. We talk a great deal about being a college that changes lives. If I have the ability to create an employment opportunity for our graduates, then by all means, I'm going to match our best graduates with their post-college experiences to openings in my current companies. If we as a community want to be successful, we've got to recruit our own and give them opportunities to launch their careers.

### THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT YOU DID WITH KEVIN WEBSTER. HOW DID THAT CONNECTION COME ABOUT?

Dana Ferraris was very excited about him; then I talked to Kevin. He was enthusiastic, he had good communication skills, he wanted to continue his education, and he had future goals for a career in science. Plenty of people have knowledge, but if they're not excited by what they know or the chance to follow that path, I can't instill desire in anyone. I let Kevin know that this job opportunity could enhance

### SAM HOPKINS '80

McDaniel College Trustee  
Principal Scientist/Therapeutic Area Leader/Company Founder,  
Asklepios BioPharmaceutical (AskBio)



TERENCE JONES PHOTOGRAPHY

his skills from a research perspective and then he could use that to enhance a job application in the future. I told him to simply take the chance, advance this stage of his career, and see what he could learn from it.

### WHY ARE MY EXPERIENCE AND MY CAREER SUCH IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF THE McDANIEL COMMITMENT?

For science students, any laboratory experience a student can gain at the undergraduate level is transformative and shows them whether a career

in research is something they want to contemplate. Learning from an academic perspective is one thing, but doing is something entirely different. If you want to be successful, reach out to an alum in your related field. See if they can make connections for you to bridge you into the working world. When you just come out of college, you have no idea how complex and how competitive the world is. Having an alum who is experienced in your field to help you navigate through the initial transition from college to the working world can be critical to your future success.

# Dana FERRARIS

John Desmond Kopp Professorship in the Sciences  
Associate Professor of Chemistry  
Chair, Chemistry Department



## THE FACULTY MENTOR

### Q WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST IMPRESSION OF KEVIN WEBSTER AS A STUDENT?

A Kevin was in my Organic Chemistry I class. His grades were decent, but he didn't say much in class. Yet in lab, he was Mr. Outgoing, an enthusiastic personality. I asked him whether he was interested in lab work. I don't think it was even on his radar as something that was a possibility beyond a requirement for his major. But once the summer research experience started, he was always striking up conversations about anything and everything, trying to get everybody laughing. Far and away, one of his best skills is his ability to communicate with people.

### HOW DID YOU CONVINCe KEVIN TO EXPLORE RESEARCH?

After the summer research program, I told him, "Kevin, you have a skill set now. You know what it's like to work in a lab as a full-time job. It's all about learning on the fly and applying everything." Then Sam Hopkins reached out to get in touch with Kevin. I texted him and just said, "Even if you don't want to pursue a job in industry, it can never hurt to have a contact like this." I'm sure he'll be good at whatever he does, but I think he's going to enjoy this job, and he might get comfortable and want to stay in industry. My gut says he's going to go for a Ph.D. instead of the M.D. when all is said and done.

### WHY ARE ALUMNI CONNECTIONS SO ESSENTIAL AT McDANIEL?

It's not like Sam has 150 kids per year that he has this connection to. If Sam reaches out, you're maybe one of 10 kids that could qualify for this job. That's exactly what the McDaniel Commitment is all about: setting your career trajectory correctly. Keep making those connections, meet as many people as you can in the workforce. And then give back. I tell my students I am like The Godfather. One day, sometime in the future, I'm going to ask them for a favor and they have to respond, the way that Sam Hopkins continues to respond to McDaniel.



# MAKING AN IMPACT ON FOOD INSECURITY

— one harvest at a time —

**HOW TWO STUDENTS AND ONE FACULTY MEMBER PROVIDED  
NEARLY 500 POUNDS OF PRODUCE TO THE COMMUNITY IN ONE SUMMER**

By Lindsay Sherman

There is just something about the taste of a Maryland tomato harvested fresh from the garden.

This year, senior Jessie Titus and junior Kylie Baker brought that taste of summer to McDaniel students, faculty, staff, and friends, courtesy of their hard work in the teaching garden on campus and at the McDaniel Environmental Center (MEC). From tomatoes and cucumbers to pattypan squash, corn, and herbs galore, the Green Terror community was welcome to take whatever they wanted from the free market stand every Thursday.

## MEET THE FOOD FELLOWS



Jessie Titus

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Frederick, Maryland

**Major:** Environmental Studies

**Minor:** Business, Sociology

**Career goals:** "I would love to own my own food business that is sustainably minded — growing it, making it, and getting it to the people. That would be the dream. But I've also thought about maybe grad school in sustainability in another country."

**Message to the donors:** "If I was at home, I would just be working at Chipotle every day and working out for soccer. But this summer, I got to do that, grow my responsibilities, and do what I really want to be doing. That was all possible because of donors. Thank you."



Kylie Baker

**Year:** Junior

**Hometown:** Frederick, Maryland

**Majors:** Environmental Studies and Political Science

**Career goals:** "With my Environmental Studies and Poli Sci double major, I really thought I wanted to do something related to environmental policy. But after this summer working with my hands in the garden and last summer as a park ranger intern at Cunningham Falls State Park, I'm not sure if I am now leaning more toward a career path in the field."

**Message to the donors:** "I just have so much appreciation and gratitude for the donors for making it possible for us to live on campus and be paid for our work."





Jessie Titus (center) and Kylie Baker (right) overseeing their weekly produce stand in Red Square.

Titus and Baker were the 2021 Food Fellows, overseen by Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Elly Engle before she went out on parental leave in August, as part of the donor-funded Student-Faculty Collaborative Summer Research experience.

Engle, Titus, and Baker's project, "Cultivating Sustainable Food Systems at McDaniel College and Beyond," gave Titus and Baker the opportunity to learn about food insecurity, both among McDaniel students and in the community in Westminster.

Titus found that a lot of the community food programs struggle with a common issue: people simply don't know about them. "If you're experiencing homelessness and you're disconnected from the community, how do you really know without walking by and seeing it?" Titus says. "And it's all canned goods. There's no real option for fresh produce because food waste is a concern if they can't get it distributed quickly enough after it's picked."

Baker's individual research focused on the Hill, and she was disheartened to learn how many students at McDaniel identify

as food insecure or very food insecure (approximately 40%, according to a Student Financial Wellness Survey conducted by Trellis Research in fall 2020). "It's frustrating knowing we have resources like the Home on the Hill program, but that it only reaches about 12 students during the school year," Baker says, referring to the heavily donor-funded program that supplies students in need with home necessities, toiletries, school supplies, bedding, and freezer, fridge, and canned food items. "I want McDaniel to be able to support students in a better way."

Titus and Baker saw their weekly produce stands held at Red Square as a great opportunity to try to do just that, both on campus and beyond. Over the summer, the market was primarily attended by faculty and staff, but Baker says it was a great chance to build connections with McDaniel community members she might not have otherwise met. "It was fun to see recurring faces every week and getting to hear what people did with the produce and what new recipes they tried," she says.

At the end of each week's market, Baker and Titus took the leftover produce to a community fridge in downtown Westminster. Once the semester started back up, they welcomed the sight of their peers coming to see the fruits (and vegetables) of their summer labor.

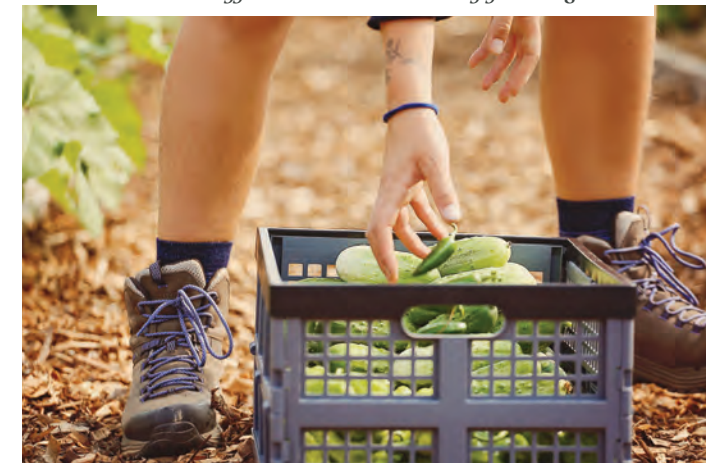
"A lot of students came out the first two weeks they were back on campus," Titus says. "They saw it in campus announcements and on social media and wanted to check it out, and they all just seemed so grateful. It's really nice to see all our hard work is going to people that really appreciate it."

Many students may not even have been aware of the campus garden and the MEC garden before these produce stands. While this year's class of first-year students were brought to the MEC as part of the McDaniel Local orientation program, some older classes (including those who had alternate McDaniel Local experiences due to COVID-19) may not even be aware of the property formerly known as Singleton-Mathews Farm.

"I think it's really cool that they do that so that students don't think 'I'm not an ENV major, so that doesn't apply to me,'" Baker says. "The college is making it a usable property and they're thinking long term for restoration and conservation."



The MEC offers students 8 acres of farming land.



Titus shares the excitement about what lies ahead for the MEC. "Stay tuned. All of the things we have planned right now are really awesome," she says. "Stay involved, see what's going on, and help where you can."

In terms of the on-campus garden, Baker encourages students, faculty, and staff to just take a walk and check it out. "I think a lot of people don't really know where it is," she says, reminding folks that it is behind the North Village parking lot and next to the grounds building. "Feel free to take a peek through the fence, and if you're interested in getting involved, we're always looking for people to volunteer time."

Once Titus and Baker graduate, they predict they will be coming back to see the progress on the gardens and check back in with their faculty mentor. "Even when I'm not a Food Fellow anymore, I would love to lend Dr. Engle a hand in the gardens next year," Baker says.

"I will help Dr. Engle in any way, whenever she needs help, in the next few years," Titus says. "I knew my sophomore year that she and I would be friends after college because she's done so much for my education."

## LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**- What is the Student-Faculty Collaborative Summer Research Program?**  
It is an eight-week donor-supported immersive program for undergraduate students at McDaniel to pursue research in conjunction with faculty members.

**- How many funds are dedicated to this program?**  
Currently, 10 funds are specifically earmarked for research, which is used to support the Student-Faculty Collaborative Summer Research Program. You can help fund continued undergraduate research or other experiential learning opportunities at [mcdaniel.edu/alumni/giving](http://mcdaniel.edu/alumni/giving).

**- How many students and faculty members participated in 2021?**  
Nearly 20 professors led about 50 undergraduate students in research projects on a variety of topics.

**- How do students benefit from the program?**  
In addition to getting hands-on research experience early in their educational journeys, students receive free housing and meals and a stipend over the duration of the program, which ensures personal financial situations don't prevent any student from participation.

**- What is the end result?**  
Some students and faculty members opt to publish their research, take their projects to national conferences, or present at the annual Student-Faculty Research Showcase. All students benefit from the opportunity to conduct immersive research studies and develop lasting mentoring relationships with faculty members.

To help address food insecurity affecting McDaniel students, consider donating to the Home on the Hill program through the Fund for McDaniel at [mcdaniel.edu/alumni/giving](http://mcdaniel.edu/alumni/giving).





## Reflections on five decades on the Hill

*In the early months of retirement, two of McDaniel's biggest supporters look back and think ahead*

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN // PHOTOS BY TAE KERNEY

When retired Professor of Economics and Business Administration Ethan Seidel began teaching at Western Maryland College in 1969, the student center was located in Winslow Hall and the center of campus was a parking lot.

Now the home of the Office of Communications and Marketing, ROTC, and the Wellness Center, Winslow is hard to imagine as a student gathering place in comparison to the newly renovated Roj Student Center funded by nearly 100 donors, and the Hill has become a much more pedestrian-centric campus for residential students. Those are just two physical examples of the way things have changed on the Hill over five decades.

“What’s really interesting to me, is how the college has grown and evolved in some ways, and yet seems so unchanged in others,” says Ethan. “When you’re constantly changing, sometimes you’ll barely notice how much things have transformed. But the constant over the decades has been what attracted me to teaching here in the first place: the focus on the students.”

It was that students-first mentality that drew his wife, Debbie Dale '84 Seidel, to the Hill as well. “I knew I wanted to go to a small school, and my parents were very strong into the liberal arts philosophy,” Debbie says. “I grew up in New Jersey and I didn’t want to go to school too close to home, but about three hours away sounded good. My uncle told me to look at Western Maryland because it had a great academic reputation.”

After graduating with her degree in Economics and Business Administration, Debbie moved back to New Jersey and did not come back to the Hill for five years. “But once Ethan and I married, I realized I wanted to help new generations of students receive the same or better opportunities to succeed than my generation had enjoyed.”

As a faculty member and member of administration, Ethan could have easily “checked out” at the end of each academic year or at the end of the workday. But the Hill has always been a priority for him — and not just because he loves the golf course, which he plans to still take advantage of in retirement.

“McDaniel is a community, and there’s this opportunity to help others grow and become successful,” he says. “Any way you can make that possible is great. It might start out in the classroom as a professor, but you quickly realize there are many opportunities to do many different things to help McDaniel achieve its purpose.”

Whether that’s through philanthropy or volunteerism, the Seidels have answered the call repeatedly over the years. When Debbie was asked to take on the presidency of the Alumni Council in July 2017, she realized there were ways for alumni like her to participate other than showing up for an event or writing a check, and that one of the most important ways is through mentorship of current students.

“

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IN THE FIRST PLACE:  
**THE FOCUS ON  
THE STUDENTS.**

—ETHAN SEIDEL



# invested

“I’ve been mentoring sophomores through the Center for Experience and Opportunity,” Debbie says. “And I’ve also been part of reaching out to local businesses for the Carroll County Student Grant Program. I’ve found that if you ask, people are generally very open to helping. We just have to start engaging on a consistent basis and drawing them back in. That usually benefits everybody.”

From a financial perspective, Ethan reminds donors, alumni, and friends that private higher education is not a profit-making enterprise. “If there’s one thing that we can really do for society, it’s to provide people with access to an affordable education,” he says. “The impact you’re having when you make a gift to the college goes way beyond that particular building or individual classroom or laboratory. Your gift is making the whole enterprise possible; it’s the difference between existence and nonexistence for a college of our size.”

Whether from their time as a student, an alum, or a faculty or administration member, both Seidels have the same fond memories of the Hill that we hear all the time from the community. “These memories revolve around the people,” Ethan says. “I’ve been really fortunate to have had the opportunity to see every aspect of this college over the years. We all say it, but it’s true: The memories of the community are what stand out. What made it possible to stay for 52 years is that it was always interesting.”

And as residents of Westminster, the Seidels also believe that an investment in the college is inherently an investment in their wider community.

“McDaniel is one of the largest employers in the community, as well as a campus that helps seed well-educated people and brings new residents to Westminster,” Debbie says. “As someone who plans to live here for a long time, a vibrant, healthy campus community creates a good environment for the town. My investment not only keeps my alma mater competitive but helps my hometown, too.”

## Looking for ways to get involved?

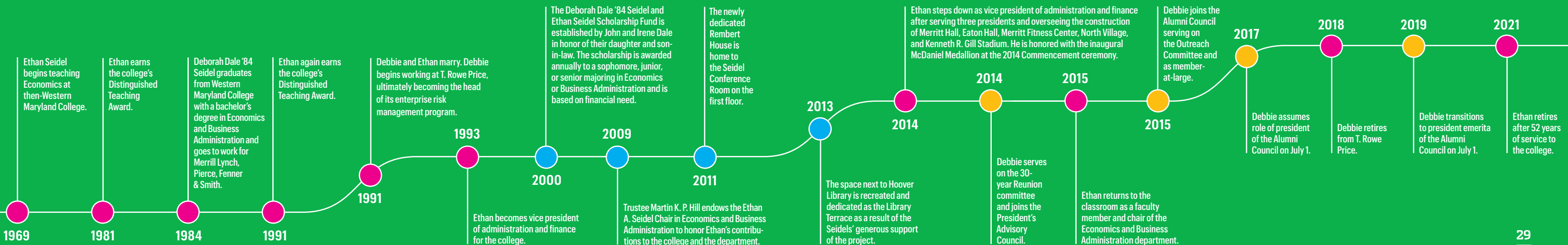
Go to [mcdaniel.edu/alumni](http://mcdaniel.edu/alumni) to learn about volunteer and giving opportunities.



The terrace outside of Hoover Library, funded by Ethan and Debbie Dale '84 Seidel, has become a popular place for students to study, work on group projects, or take a break in the fresh air.

# ONE COUPLE'S JOURNEY THROUGH FIVE DECADES ON THE HILL

PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL ●  
PHILANTHROPY ●  
VOLUNTEERISM ●





# alumni updates

Association news & class notes



## 1960

It seems we've survived another year, despite the pandemic and the resulting isolation that is so hard for us seniors, and we're now looking forward to the future. Several of our classmates have written to fill us in on their lives since 2017 when last we shared our activities. Of the 42 classmates who have valid email addresses with the college, I heard from 20 of you. Sadly, we have lost 38 of our friends over the years; keep them in your thoughts, and remember the good times we had, as you read on.

**Esther Upperco Gay** and her husband, Bob, are still in Williamsburg, Virginia, after moving there in 2004. Esther no longer serves as a church musician and misses that activity, but she recognizes that it affords them more time to plan visits with extended family in Virginia and North Carolina. Esther recently had knee replacement surgery and is doing well with her recovery. Because it was the left knee, she's happy that she can still drive! Bob, in addition to his duties as a church deacon, is providing "nursing" assistance, along with keeping up with the house and yard.

**Jim and Peg Herring '61 Goldring** are loving life in North Bonneville, Washington, which is not too far from Portland, Oregon. Their daughter Amy Schmit's family lives in Salem, Oregon, where she has a pilates studio; her offspring live in Ohio and Oregon. Jim and Peg's oldest son, Steve, is a self-employed pharmacist and lives in Salt Lake City, Utah, where he specializes in hormone education/therapy. Steve's son, Andrew, and his wife, Sharese, are in Nashville, Tennessee, in the music business and the human resources field. Son Dave lives just a block from Jim and Peg; he is co-founder and vice president of sales for a company that grows microgreens and other environmentally friendly products. One granddaughter just graduated from high school and the other is a junior.

**Mina Kirby** hasn't let the pandemic curtail her activities. Thanks to Zoom, she continues with her writing groups, the Ebell Chorale rehearsals, and church events. The chorale choir members have been recording their songs and the very talented music director "puts the voices together to create a performance." Mina and her daughter were so saddened at the death of **Patricia Kurdle Manspeaker**, a dear friend to both of them. Pat had acted as a "substitute mother" for her daughter when Mina was ill for several months.

**Lew Johnston** checked in after a number of years to let us know how he and his family are doing. Lew's wife, **Janet Sutherland '59 Johnston**, passed in

**Alumni were thrilled to be together again on the Hill for Homecoming 2021. After not being able to gather in 2020, the Hill was bustling with activities including the 2020 Alumni Association Awards and Sports Hall of Fame honorees, two years' worth of reunions, and a birthday party for the Green Terror.**



**Don Lowe '60** co-leads "Moving to the Latin Beat," which combines dance movements with Latin and Caribbean rhythms.

2004. They had twin sons, Scott and Mark. Scott graduated from Brown University and enjoyed a career in finance before retiring. Mark graduated from Oberlin and works at a computer design firm in Michigan. Four grandchildren, two boys and two girls, bring joy to their lives. A few years after Janet passed, Lew met and later married Susan, "a wonderful woman introduced to me by a mutual friend." Susan is a retired English teacher. Lew retired as well, from a career in marketing and sales for Black and Decker, GE, and Philips Lighting. They live in Maryland and spend March in Florida. A few years ago, Lew reconnected with **Tom Davies '59** and they have a steady email correspondence.

**Roderick "Rod" Ryon** and his wife, Joan, continue to hang in there "despite the pandemic. Granddaughters' soccer games, cooking and reading a lot, and front porch sitting — dog walkers, baby carriage pushers passing by at all time of the day and night — kept us connected. And sane."

**Ed and Barbara Long Gross** continue to live in their home overlooking Lake Junaluska in the mountains of western North Carolina. Doing well physically, they recently celebrated their 60th anniversary with a carriage ride on the grounds of the Biltmore Estate, a gift from their sons and daughters-in-law. Their five grandchildren are all college graduates, and Ed and Barb now are great-grandparents to three girls who bring a lot of excitement to their lives.

**Sondra Nystrom Leef** still lives near Lewes, Delaware, for half the year. Sondra says, "It is so great to hear Westminster weather, news, and ads for the past 15 years." She and her husband, Marvin (Bud), have sold their place at Ono Island, Alabama, and are building in Gulf Shores, Alabama. Their family is grown and either in college or building careers of their own. She and Bud enjoy their garden clubs and playing golf. When they go to summer concerts and the theatre in Milton, Rehoboth, or Lewes, Sondra wonders if there are any college folks who might also be in the audience. She recently talked with her WMC roommate, **Sue Schomer**, who lives in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

**Don Lowe** is doing fine after open heart surgery several years ago. In 2018, he moved from Virginia to Riderwood Village independent living in Silver Spring, Maryland. His present vocation is writing poetry. He has two self-published books of poetry through the Politics and Prose Book Store in Washington, D.C. The first book is "Destiny;" the second is "An Array of Life-Giving Poems." A third, "Poems That Touch the Mind and Heart," and an autobiography, "My Life Journey," are in the works. Don isn't sitting still; besides attending a group called The Writer's

Guild, he co-leads an exercise group, "Moving to the Latin Beat," which combines dance movements with Latin and Caribbean rhythms. Being in Maryland is great; he enjoys visits from his daughter, Heather, and keeping in touch with his "Triple A's," his grandchildren, Austin, Ally, and Anna.

**Lloyd Musselman** and his wife, Nancy, are doing well in Oklahoma City. For the past 10 years, Lloyd has been reading for broadcast at the Oklahoma City Library for the Blind. He related that this endeavor is not so easy: headphones, a sound booth, technicians, proper breathing, every syllable perfect, and it all must pass the trained ears of the library's staff, as well as a national office in New York City. Visually impaired Oklahomans can hear him read newspaper articles and stories from magazines. Maybe there will be a narration of an audiobook in the future? Besides this work, Lloyd still reads for pleasure, continues to write poetry, and has tried his hand at a short story. One of Lloyd and Nancy's pleasures is trying to "make sense of their two socially stunted cats." Lloyd continues to email with his WMC soccer teammates and other friends from the Hill and always looks forward to college and soccer team reunions!

From one illustrious soccer teammate to another, **John Karrer** sent word that he and Connie are keeping busy with golf and trips to the pool, the latter when the weather cooperates. John is no stranger to the surgery department with two knee replacements and neck surgery (probably from heading the ball too many times), in addition to the usual minor aches and pains from being 83. His son John, in Maine, keeps busy with friends from the family time spent in Presque Isle, Maine. Andrew, in Texas, and his wife have four kids: Andrea and Dakota are both married; Jenna is in college; and Rylan, who had a heart transplant several years ago, just graduated from high school. John sends special greetings to the soccer team of 1959 who will always remember the day "we beat the champs from Drexel in Philadelphia, 3-2, on 10/10/59!"

**Carol "Peddy" Dixon Gable** and her husband, Allen, survived 2020 with the help of their Taylor Community and their children, with whom they Zoomed every Sunday at 4 p.m. On Memorial Day, the whole family had a wonderful in-person reunion in Meredith, New Hampshire, near the Gable home. The occasion included celebrations for graduations of two of the "grands" and an engagement with a wedding to follow in 2022.

Another resident of fourth floor Blanche Ward, **Elma Koons Molloy**, sent a quick note from Ocean City, Maryland. She wrote, "I'm older and slower, but I'm still enjoying life at the beach. I do miss seeing

friends who no longer drive any distance." We can all relate to that one, Elma!

**Ken Nickoles** and his wife, **Doris Miller '64 Nickoles**, have been living in Ashton, Maryland, for the past 46 years. Ken retired from his position as director of labor relations for DC Public Schools and continues to be active in the MD-DC Association of School Business Officials (ASBO), having served as president of that organization and the international ASBO. Education was obviously the career in the family; until her retirement, Doris worked for the Montgomery County Public School system. They have two children and two granddaughters. Ken relates that, as with most folks our age, he has some medical issues: he's had five left hip replacements and one right hip replacement. He considers himself lucky though; he can walk with the aid of a cane.

**Jim Worden** and his wife, **Lynne Rodway '63 Worden**, have spent time this summer downsizing their home and moving into a townhouse in Colorado Springs. All of their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren live in Colorado, so the family is blessed to be able to enjoy frequent get-togethers. Camping, hunting, hiking, sailing, and four-wheeling continue to be on the Wordens' activity schedule throughout the year. Boating on Lake Dillon near Breckenridge, Colorado, is a real treat. Jim writes that he continues with his ministry, Christian Success Ministries, with seminars on the internet.

**Ruth Weer Hutchins** continues to live in an independent living facility near her youngest daughter in Fredericksburg, Virginia. She keeps busy with walking, playing bridge, yoga, and exercising. Her best activity, she writes, is the time she spends with her daughter, and four of her eight grandchildren.

**Bob and Melania "Lani" Stange '62 Anderson** have also made the move to a senior independent living community. While thinking about selling their home in 2020, they fortuitously received a letter from someone looking to buy in their neighborhood. The Boston couple came, they saw, and they bought the Andersons' house! Prior to their move, Bob learned that he had kidney cancer and the surgeon wanted to remove the kidney after they moved, so he underwent the surgery in December. After chemotherapy from February to May, he has recovered and is back to playing golf twice a week. Lani still enjoys working with PEO and getting together with friends. They both love being with their daughter, four grandchildren and their spouses, and two great-grandchildren. Bob says he retired 30 years ago from Eastman Kodak and he has loved every minute of his retirement. He and Lani celebrated their 60th anniversary in October 2020.

**Jon '61** and **Bev Schott Myers** spent the pandemic at their home in Owings Mills, Maryland. Bev said they did a lot of exercising with a trainer on Zoom and playing online contract bridge. They had no holiday celebrations and didn't see out-of-town children and grandchildren for 18 months. There were some big family events that they missed: a med school graduation for granddaughter Mollie; an engagement for grandson Kevin; and the New Year's Eve wedding of grandson Robert. That wedding date was special for Bev and Jon as they were married on the same day 61 years ago! Bev and Jon spent the summer months at their home in Vail, Colorado, this year.

**Ted Kinter** spent most of the summer on the Jersey shore ("not the one on TV"). He sees **Bob** and **Carol Luckemeier Borden** frequently and engages in email political disagreements with **Lloyd Musselman**. Having retired from teaching over 25 years ago, Ted is looking forward to many more years in that "new career."

**Karl and Joan Zajac '61 Silex** celebrated their 60th anniversary in December. They still live in their home of 40 years. Karl continues to play golf and tennis and is still active with several boards and the Baltimore City Rotary. Their three daughters and three grandsons are doing well. Karl wrote: "Bottom line: We are still vertical!"

**Jim and Mil Dickey '62 Thomas** love living in Golden, Colorado. Normally they spend at least one of the winter months in Hawaii, but a 2020 illness and then COVID-19 threw them a curve, so they stayed home ... in the snow. Their daughter, Susan, and family live just a mile away. Her son will enter college in the fall and her daughter is in high school. Son David, having just received his Ph.D. from University of Denver, lives in Denver and works at the university. Steven lives in Carnation, Washington, and has two daughters; he visits Jim and Mil as often as he can. In his role as our illustrious and dedicated class leader, Jim spent time with his committee (**Pat Welk Wolf**, **Don Hester**, and **Rod Ryon**) and the college staff putting together a delayed 60th Reunion. Thanks to those folks for their efforts to make that event a success!

**Glenda Luttrell Rickabaugh** sends greetings from the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. She and **Carey "Rick" Rickabaugh '58** returned from Florida during the early stages of the pandemic. Like others, they followed the rules, wore masks, stayed distant, and got their shots. Their year was filled with reading, following team sports, walking, and trying to keep up with the political arena that surrounded everything. "In addition to getting older, we seem to be doing OK as these years have crept up," she says. "We have definitely joined 'the slow movers' group,' but try to keep moving. We just returned from our first getaway to

**Karl Silex '60** continues to play golf and tennis and is still active with several boards and the Baltimore City Rotary.



# alumni updates

**Rev. Diane Bennekamper '66** retired after 21 years as senior minister of the Congregational Church in Cumberland, Maine, and the first openly LGBT pastor in any church in the state.

Bethany Beach, Delaware, and Ocean City, Maryland, with our daughters June and Pam and their families. So much fun with stories to tell. We all enjoyed a special evening at Hoopers in O.C., where Rick would say, 'Glenda was able to get her annual crab fix!' Looking forward to seeing everyone at our 61st Reunion!"

So, now it's up to me to conclude this update! **Don Rabush '62, M.Ed. '70** and I were on a fantastic trip visiting our "third" (AFS 1984) son in New Zealand when the pandemic struck. We canceled the Australian leg of the trip and spent March to August holed up in our home in Palm Springs, California. We took an Amtrak train back to Maryland to finish out 2020 with very occasional visits with our son Mark and his family. Mark's sons are both soccer players and once they were able to play again, we spent frequent weekends as enthusiastic spectators. Son Keith and his family also "hibernated" throughout the duration. Two of his offspring work for a fire suppression engineering company and the third spent time finishing up her B.A. at University of Maryland. In May, we sold our house in California and bought a small condo in the same community, so we undertook a complete renovation of the unit and will continue to be bicoastal as long as our health permits.

What a pleasure it was for me to hear from so many of you. Before we get together next time in print or in person, stay healthy, be strong, keep kickin', and live well!

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## 1966

**Dotty Chance Strawsburg** says, "Retirement is good; getting older not so much." After the death of her husband, she moved to a lovely and friendly continuing care facility in Washington County, Maryland. COVID-19 interrupted the activities there until recently, and she needed to move her brother to Maryland to become his guardian. Dotty has helped start a group called Elder Care Advocacy of Central Maryland. Thankfully, things are getting back on track, and she is enjoying being outside and taking walks with her dog, Gracie.

**Paula Cullen Young** reports that after a 33-year career at the U.S. Department of Commerce and the Bureau of Economic Analysis, she has enjoyed an

active retirement for 22 years. Her husband passed away in 1989, but she has lived in the home they purchased together and has raised two sons, now in their 20s. She also has two grandsons. She is active in her community and church, and likes to travel, read, and write. She is also part of a talent group that performs in senior centers in Maryland and is busy spreading the gospel.

**Judy Griep Burdette** wrote that she and her husband celebrated their 45th anniversary. They live with their 43-pound Australian cattle puppy who thinks she is a lap dog. They live on 55 acres of land in Frederick County, Maryland, in a building they designed. It contains both their home and her husband's shop, where he does small engine and farm equipment repair. Judy keeps busy with gardening, mowing, raising chickens, and birdwatching. For the past two years she has collected data for the third edition of the Maryland/DC Breeding Bird Atlas. She recently heard from **Sherriel Mattingly**, who has moved to Pennsylvania, and **Jo Ann Henklein McCann**, who is doing well.

**Anne Marlow Vose** enjoys summer in Martha's Vineyard. She spends the rest of the year in Florida, where she and her husband lived during the pandemic and were able to walk, bike, and kayak. They are grateful that several of their family members experienced complete recoveries from COVID-19. As a trustee of McDaniel, Anne has enjoyed her task of redoing the front lobby of McDaniel Hall.

**Marty "Merf" Goode McLaren** lives in Lewes, Delaware. She spends time enjoying nature, with dear friends, playing with watercolors, reading interesting books, being with her loving family, and participating in her church. In the midst of COVID-19, Merf's husband lost his long battle with Alzheimer's, her oldest granddaughter graduated high school and started college, and both of her children changed jobs. She has now switched to an adult trike and is treasuring her mobility. She says slowing down gives her more opportunities to express gratitude.

**Rev. Diane Bennekamper** has retired after 21 years as senior minister of the Congregational Church in Cumberland, Maine, the longest-serving minister in their 227-year history. The congregation declared it "Rev. Diane Bennekamper Day" on her last weekend and named the chapel after her. While at the church, she gave youth the opportunity to serve through mission trips to Central America, as well as home-repair trips up the Maine seacoast. Diane was the first openly LGBT pastor to serve in any church denomination in Maine. She and her spouse, Lorraine, are now playing a lot of golf, making up for lost COVID-19 time. Diane wants to acknowl-

edge that who she is and what she has done were shaped during her college years and the influence of **Ira Zepp '52, Hon. D.H.L. '15**.

**Patricia "Trish" Stahl Reuse** says her biggest blessing during the pandemic was her family staying healthy. Big trips were canceled, but they enjoyed three daytrips to New England and looked at hundreds of slides at home from the '60s and '70s, which she said turned out to be great fun. After getting vaccinated in March, they hugged their family finally in June. Gratefully, they were able to worship in person and go to the YMCA. They recently saw "MacBeth" in Virginia and made a trip to the American Music Theatre in Pennsylvania.

**Pat Thompson McGoldrick Soderman** retired a year ago after working almost 50 years in corrections and fraud investigation. She reports that it is nice to sit with coffee and enjoy the sunrise, and again sit with a cocktail to enjoy the sunset. She is very lucky to have family close by and enjoys her "grands" who are going to college near her.

**Judy Goldstein Macks** writes from Towson University where she is still teaching mathematics to future teachers. Her husband is retired. She has two sons and a daughter-in-law who are also faculty members at Towson, and one other son who is a computer specialist at Harvard University, where his wife teaches. Judy has three grandchildren, including twins who live nearby.

**Mary Lynn Engelbrecht Deckert** lives in Salisbury, Maryland, and continues to volunteer with the food pantry of Salisbury Urban Ministries weekly. For 35 years, she has rung the handbells and leads a church circle. She has two grown sons, as well as twin grandsons headed into seventh grade and a grandson going into the fifth grade. She loves her visits with them in Ashland, Virginia. She and her first roommate, **Kit Reeves Stilley**, video-visit each other often.

**Dave Hoffman** reports that the last 15 months have been interesting and now getting out of the pandemic cocoon feels great. Even with COVID-19, he and his wife managed 32 nights camping, mostly in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Lake Superior. Winter was interesting with snow hiking, snowshoeing, and housebreaking a new Brittany spaniel puppy. They got through the winter with lots of reading, cooking, and binge-watching Netflix. And they managed morning coffee in the garage with friends, thanks to a propane heater and social distancing. This summer they are back to the Great Lakes again, gardening and hanging out with friends.

**Gerald Winegrad** reports that he is staying busy in his retirement as a recovering politician. He spends time speaking at group events, mentoring

students, and writing about environmental advocacy, including articles for The Baltimore Sun and The Washington Post. For eight years he's been focused on Chesapeake Bay-area preservation, including 45 acres of forests near Annapolis, Maryland. Gerry received the Alumni of the Year award at McDaniel in 2019. He and **Bill Falkler** continue to carry on a five-year tradition of hosting family and WMC graduates in Annapolis. Gerry and his wife, Carol, enjoy eco-travel worldwide, but unfortunately COVID-19 cut their trip to Norway short last year. They did visit their daughter and three youngest grandchildren in Florida and had a wonderful time. They returned to Maryland this summer to enjoy Eastern Shore pastimes, especially crabbing.

**Bruce and Anne Spencer '67 Knowles** write from Lake Havasu City, Arizona, where they have lived full time since 2019, after spending 44 years in California. They were visited by two children, four grandchildren, and two dogs for Father's Day in June, which was their first gathering since Thanksgiving two years ago. While they began their time in Lake Havasu boating, they switched to four-wheeling beginning with a Moab, Utah, trip. Church, socializing, and staying cool are their primary activities while they are at home.

**Charlotte Twombly** retired from her job as a college professor on Sept. 1, 2018. She started teaching college classes in 1971 when she was a graduate student, and retired as a full professor. She says she is proud to have designed and taught approximately 25 different courses over the years both on campus and online. Currently she is involved with daily walks, some writing, some time playing her guitar, and helping with her three grandchildren.

**Bob Davis** writes from Thayne, Wyoming, where he and his wife are enjoying retirement after living there for 22 years. He keeps busy fishing in the warmer months and working on a big model railroad and railroad-related book project the rest of the year. Greening up outside in May, he and his wife enjoy watching and photographing wildlife. They recently had a cow, a calf, and a moose come close enough to their house to pet them.

**Carole Roemer Hickey** has written to thank our college for so many opportunities for growth, academically, socially, and creatively. **Ira Zepp '52, Hon. D.H.L. '15** planted seeds of faith in her husband, **Charlie Hickey**, who after developing a successful software company, felt called to become a lay minister in the United Methodist Church, preaching the message that science and religion are compatible. Carole referred to those two years as their stint in "God's Peace Corps." Their 54 years of marriage gave them two sons and a daughter, who have blessed them with seven grandchildren.

Even with COVID-19, **Dave Hoffman '66** and his wife managed 32 nights camping, mostly in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Lake Superior.





## [Departed]

**McDaniel College Board Chair Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Otto J. Guenther '63 passed away on Oct. 14 at the age of 80.**

Guenther majored in Economics and was a member of the Green Terror Battalion Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program at the college. He was also in the College Choir, chaplain of the Gamma Beta Chi fraternity, and played intramural sports. He served in the U.S. Army for 34 years, holding various command and staff positions, and receiving the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Secretary of Defense Identification Badge, and the Army Identification Badge, among others.

Guenther was among the highest-ranking of the 12 military generals to graduate from McDaniel College. After retirement from the Army, he became vice president and general manager for the Federal Division of Computer Associates. He concluded his professional career as general manager and corporate executive vice president of Northrop Grumman Mission Systems' Tactical Systems Division.

In 2006, Guenther returned to the Hill to serve on the McDaniel College Board of Trustees. He served as vice chair and chair of the Building and Grounds Committee, chair of the Institutional Advancement Committee, and a member of the Executive, Enrollment Management, and Student Affairs Committees, and in 2019 was named chair of the board. Guenther's patience, compassion, and strategic approach to complex situations served him well as he helped navigate multiple executive-level searches, a presidential transition, initial stages of a strategic planning process, and challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For his steadfast commitment to McDaniel, Guenther was awarded the college's Trustee Service Award (1996), Alumni Community Service Award (2013), and the Alumni College Service Award (2016). In 2019, Guenther was named to the U.S. Army Communications Electronics Command Hall of Fame and in 2021, he was inducted into the Army ROTC Hall of Fame. He was also named a 2021 Veteran Champion of the Year in Higher Education by G.I. Jobs magazine, which publishes the Military Friendly® Schools list. In May, McDaniel created the Lieutenant General (Ret.) Otto Guenther Leadership Award to honor his lifelong dedication to both the Army and McDaniel.

Since 2016, Charlie has suffered multiple strokes and has end-stage dementia. Carole feels their faith has guided them through many challenges and that their faith and family will see them through this.

John Emens writes that since he retired in 2008, he and his wife have split their time between homes in Atlanta and Scottsdale, Arizona, seeing their daughter's and son's families and their six grandchildren, including 15-year-old triplets. They decided to make Arizona their home before COVID-19 intervened and John was hospitalized. He spent his first week on a ventilator at Emory Hospital, only being discharged in January and remaining in Georgia to re-

cover. Now he is back to walking the dog and playing golf in Arizona, although they just bought a place in Telluride, Colorado, to be able to escape the heat. Even though nearly 20 years have passed since he served on the McDaniel Board of Trustees, he is pleased that the leadership has continued to surpass its former achievements and is able to offer top-tier liberal arts options for today's students.

Kay Coleman Smith reports that she totally isolated for over a year and is still wearing her mask everywhere. She is editing a book she has written called "And Still They Played," a history of the pre-Title IX women's athletics at WMC. The book

celebrates all the talented athletes that were never seen or reported on when they played and have been forgotten. She writes they competed in Blanche Ward Gym, which had no seating and was off limits to males. Since women did not have a field hockey field, all intercollegiate games were away games. Kay also stays busy gardening, quilting, and seeing her grandchildren.

My husband, Jim, and I continue to live in Salisbury, Maryland, where we are involved with our church and community. Both of us had COVID-19 last January but were fortunate that we both had mild cases. Our three children live in New Jersey, New York City, and South Carolina.

We recently bought a small home in South Carolina, where we are able to see more of our grandchildren and also get away from so much cold and ice in the winter. We love our trips to NYC to see our son and daughter also. I recently had a very successful knee replacement; I try to keep in good repair like so many of you. All of the people who wrote notes sent their love to all of you who are reading this column. Please contact me the next time, even if you think you have nothing new to say. We care about all of you, and there will never be another class of 6-6-66, so we are special! Thanks to all of you who wrote. My best wishes and good health to everyone.

Kaye Stevens Thomas  
1966 Class Reporter  
Kaye\_Thomas\_1@hotmail.com

## 1972

Thanks to all of you who wrote in this time! It was a pleasant surprise to hear from so many of you with lots of news. Many of you are celebrating 50 years of marriage — congratulations! That is an incredible achievement, especially from a single person's point of view!

Thanks to all who expressed gratitude to me for writing this column all these years. It takes many days to put this together, and I do this out of love for our experiences together. I still remember my first day walking up and down the Hill and being so tired I couldn't remember my name when I got my SGA card.

This year, the column was particularly challenging for me to write because I have been in San Diego for three months at my cousin's luxurious resort condominium overlooking a pool with fountains. He passed away a year ago, but I am his trustee and executor, so I had to be in San Diego to accomplish the tedious work involved in settling his estate and selling his condominium.

Wilkins "Wilkes" Hubbard, in his infinite wisdom wrote, "Yesterday we were about to enter our senior year — or so it seems. Time merged with hyperspace and here we are, almost 50 years later. Life's path has had twists and turns, ups and downs, but hopefully we are all still with intact recollection to savor the journey. COVID-19 brought new challenges in health care in particular, with a toll taken on all caregivers whether professional or family and friends. Physical, emotional, social, and spiritual challenges impacted all of us, leaving lots of scars. I hope that we will be stronger and wiser. Fortunately, I managed to navigate the pandemic so far. I still miss my bride, Candy Stecker '74 Hubbard, who I met at Western Maryland College and married in Little Baker Chapel, which was probably the best thing

that happened to me on the Hill. I am still pretty busy, teaching medical students and surgery residents at Eastern Virginia Medical School and keeping a full schedule in the office and operating room, but plan to transition to a much-reduced schedule. I have been privileged to work every day doing something I love thanks to the opportunities that started for me at WMC. My daughter, Courtney; son-in-law, Tim; and three grandsons, Taylor, William, and Benjamin — ages 13, 11, and 9 — live outside of Charlottesville, Virginia. I don't want to miss the window of opportunity to be involved in their lives, so I will be spending more time visiting there. My mother passed away this past March at 102 years old. She taught me a lot — determination, discipline, sacrifice — and did more for me than any mother could do for a son. She worked hard and paid for my education from Western Maryland through University of Virginia Medical School. I have always been surrounded by strong women: my mom, my wife, my nurse daughter, and my thoracic surgical partner, who can work circles around anyone. These ladies shattered the proverbial glass ceiling in my world over and over again. I have always had better than I deserve and trust that God has a plan for the next stage of my life. I am grateful for those teachers and mentors at Western Maryland who have gone on and hope that I can have as much impact on others' lives as they had on mine. I look forward to next year and trust that our 50th celebration will refresh the good memories from our years on the Hill."

Roger Young wrote: "We are all now entering middle age — assuming we'll live 'til 142. I am certainly not the same person I was during the WMC years, and I cringe at the memory of some things. The misadventures were pretty mild, and those I remember fondly. However, there were times I wasn't kind to other people, including the professors, and I certainly did not give my best effort in all my classes. A blanket apology seems disingenuous, and specific ones are too embarrassing for both sender and recipient, so I'll leave with this advice to McDaniel undergrads: Treat your fellow students and profs now with the maturity you will find in 2072. Somehow, my roommate, Wally Parce, and others at Rouzer, Whiteford, and McDaniel, found a way. So, I'm sure you can, too."

Chuck Sullivan spent the last two years as Alumni Council president, which was an adventure but not at all what he anticipated when he agreed to take on the role in January 2017. "We were forced to be creative in our approach to alumni engagement and to maintain momentum in the evolution of the Alumni Association. The journey was gratifying and loads of fun. I had the good fortune to establish friendships with many alumni, young and old. Working with cur-

rent students on a variety of projects has also been a blessing. Be assured, McDaniel is still attracting the brightest and the best, and it has been a pleasure getting to know these young adults." Chuck says retirement has been great: "I'm enjoying not racing for airplanes and countless hotel nights. After traveling the globe for 40 years in the spice and seasoning industry, I'm happy to stay closer to home. Much of my time is spent volunteering for the Boy Scouts of America. I am the Heart of Virginia Council's advancement chair and vice president for exploring for the Southern Region, Area 7. Exploring is the work development arm of scouting, creating partnerships with businesses, law enforcement, emergency services, and the trades. I have served on the National Advancement Education Task Force, teaching and training other leaders across the country. Lastly, my most important position is being the Webelos leader for my grandson's den. What a joy that has been." Chuck keeps in regular contact with Dave Downes; Charlie Bowers, M.Ed. '74; Ron Athey; Kevin Hanley; Jay McCabe; Gary Will; Bill Eberhart; John Bennett; Dave Ledford; Dave Webster; and Tom Resau. "We are itching to get these coronavirus restrictions behind us so we can get back to socializing in the manner we have been used to since we left the Hill in 1972." Chuck added, "Our son moved back to the U.S. (Las Vegas) after a stint working on Cyprus for a Department of Defense contractor. Our daughter is a doctor of physical therapy and thankfully lives just 15 miles away from us with her family. My wife, Kathy, and I have managed to get to Las Vegas to see our son and his family, and to Florida a couple of times in recent months."

Ue Lindsay wrote, "The Lindsay clan now numbers 16: two senior citizens, Joanne and I; three grown children (Megan, Geoff, and John) and their respective spouses (Drew, Jamie, and Lauren); and eight grandchildren aged 1 to 13 years old. All healthy and all the adults and one grandchild are fully vaccinated." Ue has been retired for nearly a decade, and even gave up working in various golf stores for minimum wage. "It was fun for a while — until it wasn't. I'm still addicted to golf and soccer (Go, Manchester United!)." Joanne Chatham '73 Lindsay retired from the State of Maryland Department of Social Services about four years ago and immediately went to work for a nonprofit, CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), and is devoted to making life better for kids in foster care that have been abused, neglected, or abandoned. "Her heart knows no bounds; no idea how she puts up with this Preacher (Delta Pi Alpha)," Ue says. "Our COVID experience was just plain weird. Our eighth grandchild was born just as the world was shutting down. Joanne and I walked most days, which got boring after about five

## family

### WE DID!

**Wedding vows exchanged this season:**

Alexandra "Alex" DeJohn '08 to Michael Caplan on June 6, 2020. They reside in Owings Mills, Maryland.

Anne "Annie" McShea '13 to Steven "Steve" Wilson '09 on May 15, 2021. They reside in Short Hills, New Jersey.

Bianca Rieti '09 to Drew Weishaar on June 26, 2021. They reside in Morgantown, Pennsylvania.

Virginia "Ginny" Odierno '10 to Peter Cosentino on Oct. 10, 2020. They reside in Falls Church, Virginia.

Rachel Smirolodo '11 to Brian York on May 22, 2021. They reside in North Beach, Maryland.

Rula Zaru '13 to Roberto Hernandez in July 2021. They reside in Lubbock, Texas.

Alexander "Alex" Dodge '14 to Kiri Semark on Oct. 11, 2020. They reside in Torrance, California.

David Gribben '15 to Emma Shipley on May 1, 2021. They reside in Westminster, Maryland.

Viktoria "Tori" Thompson '15 to Patrick Beiter on June 13, 2021. They reside in Hawley, Pennsylvania.

Sakena Martin '17 to David Castano on May 29, 2021. They reside in Cape Coral, Florida.



# alumni updates

**Rich Tom '72 still frequents Baugher's Restaurant.**

walks. So we visited a graveyard in Frederick County, just west of Taylorsville, where we found about 40 Lindsay gravesites, one dating all the way back to 1833, age 66. So that particular John Lindsay was born in North America before the United States was a country (1767). But that was as interesting as COVID got. We still live in the house we built in 1983, and we are empty nesters except when we get a grandchild for a day, week, or weekend."

**Dave Downes** wrote, "Everyone had a tough year due to COVID-19, and many people experienced struggles, worries, and family health issues. Hopefully we have now passed the critical turning point and can soon get back to a life filled with less restriction and virus exposure concern for our families." In difficult news, Dave wrote, "For **Lenny Swift '73 Downes** and me, there has been another level of concern during the pandemic period. In March 2020, Lenny discovered a lump. Doctors' offices were closed and health care was largely unavailable for months beginning in March 2020. When we were finally able to get an appointment with our primary care physician and subsequently schedule a biopsy, it was June. The cancer had a several month head start, which was very bad considering the cancer was very aggressive. Lenny began chemo in July and by late October, she was so negatively impacted by the chemo that she experienced heart failure. She was admitted through the emergency room and spent 15 days in the hospital (with COVID-19 all around). Nine of those hospital days she was resident in the ICU and for five of those ICU days, she was on a ventilator. It was touch-and-go for several days and was a very scary period of time. Due to her reaction, Lenny was unable to resume chemo and did not finish the entire chemo protocol. However, she did recover enough to allow her to undergo surgery in December 2020 and radiation in February 2021. The current path to recovery is a long one, and at our age, the bounce-back to health is slower, so we are day-to-day on recovery. Lenny is exercising daily and attempting to recover as much vitality as she possibly can. We had been self-sequestered since March, but have recently received our COVID-19 vaccinations, and are only now beginning to lower our guard slightly by visiting restaurants and stores. We are thankful for each day and I would say that through it all, we are blessed!"

**Ken Kester** wrote, "Well, it's been a ho-hum three years of retirement. Love my couch and TV to keep me amused and somewhat sane. Other than an occasional trip to Florida, nothing really new to report. As for offspring, one of my twin sons is a policeman here in a rough Pittsburgh neighborhood. His twin brother is manag-

ing a heavy equipment rental facility in Orlando (formerly Hertz). If you need a bulldozer, he's your man."

**Vivian Higdon Seaman** said that she and **John Seaman '70, M.Ed. '76** have thankfully survived the past year and are so grateful. "Our youngest daughter, Stephanie, 27, has finally left the nest and is managing well in her apartment and job. Older daughter Holly, 43, just graduated as a nurse practitioner with four children, while her husband passed his comprehensive exams for doctor of divinity. Son Jeff, 46, enjoys his job with JPMorgan and his family of five, with three active daughters, in Charlotte, North Carolina. His youngest daughter, Sophie Anne, 9, was diagnosed with systemic sclerosis, but maintains her happy attitude and keeps us all looking forward." John maintains his active lifestyle of hiking, biking, and working out daily while managing a return of prostate cancer that metastasized to his lungs. A hormone infusion every three months at Johns Hopkins keeps him going. "He loves that he doesn't even get out of his car for this modern medical achievement! Tutoring our oldest granddaughter, Julia, 16, in pre-calculus via Skype has kept John honing his math skills, which he thoroughly enjoys! Other than cataract surgery, I have been fortunate so far to maintain my health to still enjoy sewing and crocheting for our local farmer's market and following our seven grandchildren's many sports, dance, and music activities." Vivian and John planned to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in July with her roommate and cousin, **J. C. '70** and **Patti Wade Allen, Bill Griffith '70** and his wife, Marilyn, and **Mike Elliott '70** and his wife, Rose, in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

**Rich Tom** wrote that he still frequents Baugher's Restaurant. He retired from the Department of Defense in 2017, with more than 30 years of service in the education field, from middle school and high school math teacher to administrator to superintendent/director. He worked and lived all over the world on military bases supporting military families. Rich proudly started up the Japanese Lacrosse Team League while stationed in Japan and held the first world super bowl lacrosse tournament at the Tokyo Dome in 1989, with competition between Japan, Austria, and Johns Hopkins. "As I neared retirement, with all the kids in college, I built our dream home on the Chesapeake Bay back in Maryland to retire and wake up to the sunrise each day, with my coffee." Rich married his high school sweetheart, Eva, after graduation in 1972, and they've had more than 50 years of a wonderful relationship. They have three children, daughter Kin and sons Rich and Theo, who served in the U.S. Navy. And they now have grandchildren: Eliza, 10; Vincent, 6; Owen, 1; and Lucas, 1. Rich is proud that Kin followed him in the field of education, and sons Rich and Theo are in

the medical field, as regional directors in telemed. "My vacation in retirement is visiting the grandkids," Rich says.

**Robert Read** wrote that in August 2019, he and **Mary "Chip" Rouse '74** lost their son, Bryan Read, to cancer. Bryan was just 36. He was diagnosed with colon cancer in February 2018. He battled for 18 months and he received the best of medical care. "Bryan, Chip, and I received great support from family, friends, and the student-athletes at Dulaney High School in Baltimore County where he served as athletic trainer. The outpouring of sympathy from the students was especially comforting. Though the pain of losing him persists, the knowledge of how much he was loved and respected professionally is of great comfort. My gastroenterologist has told me colon cancer in young people is rising significantly. I urge folks under 50 to get tested even if insurance won't cover the cost. It's a small price to pay to catch any issues early. The pandemic did affect other plans. My wife, Clare, and I cut short our visit to Siesta Key, Florida, early in March 2020 as things began to shut down. We postponed a trip to Charlottesville, Virginia, and a river cruise in Europe. We went to Charlottesville in early June 2021 for wineries and Monticello and hope to do the cruise in 2022. We are both vaccinated and we are enjoying a granddaughter and grandson courtesy of Clare's daughter and son. Thanks for the kind words of support from all of our WMC friends."

**Don, M.L.A. '77** and **Linda Stevens '70 Mohler** remain very busy enjoying seven grandchildren and watching a lot of youth baseball and lacrosse games. Since Don retired as Baltimore County Executive in 2018, he has operated a consulting firm, Mohler Communication Strategies. He co-hosts a regular podcast called "Baltimore Positive," which was voted Baltimore's Best podcast by Baltimore Magazine. He also writes a regular blog at donmohler.com titled "The Front Porch." Linda is president of the local garden club and is eagerly beginning to plan new travel adventures for the family. Don and Linda enjoy getting together annually with the Black and White and Phi Delt gang throughout the year, particularly the annual crab feast at the home of **Charlie '71** and **Carol Hoerichs '70 Moore**. They also celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August.

**Roger Anderson** wrote that he and **Sue Schull '71 Anderson** also celebrated their 50th anniversary this year as they were married in Little Baker Chapel in August 1971. "It's hard to believe it's been that long. The years have flown by with three kids (now 44, 39, and 34) to keep us hopping (and they still are, as they've spread out between Colorado, Vermont, and Central New York, with grandsons in



Colleagues and fellow alumni Albert Shafer '72 and Cori Lawrence '98 DeMoss pose with a Western Maryland College banner at Albert's retirement party.

the first two states). We split our time between visits to children and being at home in New York or at "camp" (that's cottage, in Vermont parlance) on Lake Champlain. We'll soon have a bit more time as Sue finally plans to retire as a physician assistant in family and internal medicine this fall. Her patients have been threatening to follow her home if she retires, but it's time. Since retiring from teaching biology and other sciences in middle and high schools in Carroll and Howard County, I've been absorbed by fixing up several houses and restoring vintage cars and cycles, with boating and fishing added when we're at the lake. Our DIY cottage is finally nearing completion after many years of part-time work (and less and less of that each year). It's located in an old lake community just north of Burlington where my family, seventh-generation Vermonters, has vacationed since the 1920s. We've been lucky beyond all measure to have had these many years, experiences, and most importantly, a family that makes us so proud every day, as well as decent health so far. Our best wishes to all of the now ancient and venerable members of the Class of '72 of Western Maryland College (it shall always be thus for Sue and me)."

"Well, not much is different than the last time, just less of it due to COVID-19 restrictions," wrote **Mark "Vince" Vidor**. "The good news is I didn't get the virus. Went into hibernation for a number of months, but began playing music at a few 'safe' farmer's markets last July. I continue to do that and to add a few more 'safe' social and music things now that I'm fully vaxxed. It's a gradual re-entry, although I think it will be a while before I feel OK about getting fully back into the world. I just saw **Martha "Marc" Hardisky Lippy, M.Ed. '79** for the first time in several years. What a treat to see a longtime friend!"

**Jim Yates** wrote, "With COVID-19, retirements, and replacements, it's been a busy year to be a McDaniel trustee! We had our second granddaughter this year, and we're looking forward to seeing people post-COVID. Still consulting with my old company two days a week but enjoying my off days more and more."

**Kenneth Wagner** has been living with wife, Rebekah, and four kids in Annapolis, Maryland, since 1979. He is less active in business and enjoying their 12 local grandchildren. They see and visit with John and **Pat Gerstmyer**. Brother **Fred '69** and **Carol Wagner**, and sister **Joyce Wagner '70 Diggs** and her husband, **Rick Diggs '70** live in the area.

In beautiful memory, **James Cregg** wrote, "I am writing this as a short tribute to my wife of 46 years, **Jeannie Meyer Cregg**, who died of complications from breast cancer. Jeannie and I were married in July 1973 and, after our honeymoon in Cape May, New Jersey, moved to Houston, where I was working on my Ph.D. in molecular biology at Rice University. Within a few weeks of our arrival, Jeannie landed a job teaching physical education. She loved the job, but hated the climate (extremely hot and humid almost all year). In 1977, we moved to San Diego, bought our first house, and had our first child, James. In 1979, we moved to Frederick, Maryland, and had our second child, Jennifer. More than anything else in her life, Jeannie loved being a mom. Through the succeeding years, we made several more moves (San Diego for a second time, 1983-1989; Portland, Oregon, 1989-1999; and Claremont, California, 1999-2020), all in connection with my employment. As our kids got into their middle teens, Jeannie went back to school and trained for a new profession, nursing, so we could afford

to send the kids to college. She graduated with an RN from Oregon Health Sciences University in 1996. Going to nursing school in your mid-40s while also being a full-time mom took a lot of courage. I was always immensely proud of Jeannie in this accomplishment. Jeannie was employed as a nurse at a number of places over the years. As she loved working with kids, she liked her last position as a school nurse for the Claremont School District best. Our son, James, graduated from Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, majoring in biochemistry in 1998 and later earned a Ph.D. from the University of California at San Diego in molecular biology (the family business). He works for a biotech company in the San Francisco Bay area, designing and building robots for high through-put biological assays. He says it's like playing with Legos, but getting paid for it. Jennifer graduated from Linfield College in McMinnville, Oregon, majoring in German in 2000. She participated in a junior year abroad program at the University of Heidelberg. There she met a handsome German man, Michael Martins, and essentially never returned home. In 2008, she married him in a beautiful ceremony in the Heidelberg castle. They now have three handsome sons, Magnus, 9; Garrett, 6; and Axel, 2. Jenn said Axel's first word after 'mama' and 'papa' was 'mask,' a sign of the times. Jeannie was diagnosed with breast cancer in the spring of 2011. Over the rest of 2011, she was subjected to all the typical treatments (slash, poison, and burn). She appeared to be clear of her cancer for the next six and a half years, and we were convinced she had beaten it. We both retired and spent our time together cruising (Rhine and Danube rivers, Mediterranean, Alaska, and Northern Europe) and of course traveling to see our kids and grandkids. In the fall of 2017, Jeannie's cancer returned, primarily in her lungs this time. Chemo treatments held the cancer at bay for almost two years. However, around the end of 2018, the chemo just stopped working and Jeannie's health declined rapidly. During the night of Aug. 2, 2019, she died in her sleep. Words cannot express how much I miss her!"

**Dawn Campaigne Miller** married Robert A. Miller III in 1971. "We have two children, now grown, and we have one grandchild. We are both 71 years old, but still enjoying life and each other's company. We celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on June 19. I have a Master of Arts degree in Literature from Washington College. I have been writing poetry since our days at McDaniel. Bob has his Master of Science Education from Slippery Rock College. Bob retired after 33 years of teaching middle school science, having been department head for several years as well. We have been traveling the world

# family

## ARRIVED

**Family additions this season:**

**Penn Sanborn** on May 10, 2020, to **Jennifer "Jenny" Otto '90 Ramirez** and **Howie Sanborn**.

**Mia Elsie Matkovic** on May 15, 2020, to **Paul '96** and **Charis Matkovic**.

**Everett Berry** on April 5, 2020, to **Thomas "Tom" Berry** and **Christina "Christy" Morris-Berry '04**.

**Josephine "Josie" Haddock Graves** on June 17, 2021, to **Tylar** and **Lindsey Grieb '07 Graves**.

**Raenna Grace Wieber** on March 14, 2021, to **Brad** and **Jessica Dittman '08 Wieber**.

**Wiona "Win" McKenna McWhirter** on June 14, 2021, to **Kenny** and **Lee Oliver '08 McWhirter**.

**Caleb Thomas Redmond** on April 17, 2021, to **Chris** and **Kristen Breden '09 Redmond**.

**Madeline Louise Edler** on Aug. 20, 2020, to **Nicholas** and **Rachel Baumgarten '11 Edler**.

**Gracelyn Mitchell** on Aug. 31, 2020, to **Bryan** and **Rachel Thrasher '11 Mitchell**.

**Cora Knower** on April 28, 2020, to **Chuck '15** and **Sydney Kirchhoff '13, M.L.A. '15 Knower**.





PHI DELTA THETA

[Class Noted]

## Phi Delta Theta brings home awards from 2021 convention

At Phi Delta Theta's 83rd Biennial General Convention in Pittsburgh this summer, McDaniel's Maryland Beta chapter of the fraternity was honored with several awards, accepted by senior **Drew Jeffries**:

- **Chapter Excellence: Silver Star** — The Chapter Excellence Awards recognize top-performing chapters based on a list of operational factors during the academic year.
- **Excellence in Philanthropy** — Awarded to any chapter that has raised at least \$10 per member in the chapter for a cause or organization that has meaning to the chapter.
- **Excellence in Risk Prevention** — Recognizes the undergraduate chapter whose risk management program best reflects the policies, goals, and ideals of the fraternity.
- **Excellence in Academics** — Awarded to all chapters that earn at least a 3.25 average GPA among members.

The chapter also earned Iron Phi Chapter status by collectively raising more than \$10,000 in one year.

Additionally, **Donald F. Schenk '71** received the Samuel V. Stone Outstanding Chapter Advisor of the Year award. The Samuel V. Stone Award is given annually to the most outstanding Chapter Advisory Board (CAB) Chairman based on involvement and leadership within the chapter, campus community, and general fraternity. For 50 years, Schenk has served as the guiding light and motivation driving the men of Maryland Beta at McDaniel College to become the greatest version of themselves. Professionally, he served three decades in the U.S. Army, rising to the rank of brigadier general and earning a number of decorations and badges for his service. Schenk accepted the role of CAB chairman years ago in a time of challenge and uncertainty for the chapter and has since been instrumental in pushing Maryland Beta to becoming a thriving chapter through his knowledge, care, and investment in the chapter and its members. Schenk was commissioned through the ROTC program at McDaniel and a key member of the Military Science department at McDaniel from 1979 to 1982.

doing photography in Antarctica, the Galapagos, Australia, Brazil, and Africa. Now that we are vaccinated, we are looking forward to a trip, but we haven't decided where."

**Steve Cox** is now living in Nolensville, Tennessee. He and his wife are enjoying retirement closer to their seven grandchildren, four boys and three girls. They also spend a lot of time in Anniston, Alabama, where their daughter and her family live.

**Albert Shafer** wrote in for the first time: "After 18 years of doing accounts payable for the nonprofit Way Station and closing in on the age of 72, I decided to retire. That is the reason for the banner behind us (see photo on page 39). The banner was a present from my boss. The woman with me in the picture is **Cori Lawrence '98 DeMoss**. I had the auto windshield shade from many years back and saw the photo opportunity. There probably have been others from WMC at Way Station, but I also worked with fellow graduate **Kristina "Krissey" Robeson '04**. Krissey moved on from Way Station some time back."

**Sandy Fargo Geres, M.L.A. '78** wrote: "I'm in my 18th year working 15-20 hours a week as a certified pharmacy technician, my 'retirement job,' following many years as an English teacher. This year, I also did the coursework to become a vaccine immunizer and have been giving COVID-19 vaccines since the end of March. I feel it is one important contribution I can make in getting our country healthier. My husband, Michael, and I have been hunkered down in Connecticut, only going to work and the grocery store for over a year. I still wear a mask daily. Our daughter, Linnea, finally got to have her wedding, which was postponed a year due to the pandemic. Our son, David, and his girlfriend bought their first house last year and are still busy getting it set up just the way they want. Everyone is healthy and we sure hope it stays that way. I'm happily involved in two book clubs and a creative writing group."

**Lily Chen** has been living in California since she graduated from WMC. She has kept in touch with **Kandy Mizell Douglas** who visited her the first time since they graduated more than 10 years ago. "Kandy visited again six years ago in Hawaii as my guest at my high school reunion (my high school was in Rangoon, Burma), which I organized and hosted in Oahu. I moved to the South Bay (in Silicon Valley) a year ago and moved closer to my sister, **Lin Chen '69 Herbert**. I retired from my computer graphic business in 2018, when my sister and I spent time caring for our mum, who turned 100 in February. She passed away two months after her 100th birthday."

"Last year was not a particularly great year," wrote Pastor **John Foster**. "COVID-19 was partially responsible for the end of my part-time job and my ability to continue my ministry to the incarcerated. The prison where I spent my time as a volunteer chaplain and a seminary professor closed its doors

to all volunteer services. Nearby prisons also restricted volunteer services, so I turned my attention to taking my wife, Jan, to her doctor appointments. Six years previously, she had gone into remission for ovarian cancer. It reassured itself in 2019. Soon after the prisons closed, her ovarian cancer accelerated until finally, in September, she died. We had been married just shy of 32 years. Being single again is a challenge. Our son, Jon, is a real help as I discover limitations to what I can do. Despite several medical conditions of my own that have slowed me down, I continue to push forward enjoying the life I have left. Old age is not for the weak, but then it's also not for any age."

"Can it be that the Class of '72 will soon be 72?" asked **David Wiley**. "How fast the time has flown! The beginning of 2020 found us babysitting grandkids during the school year (as we had been for years up until then) — taking them to and picking them up from school, doctor and dentist appointments, dance lessons, and sporting events, etc., while the parents went to work, and going to our summer home in Brigantine occasional weekends (and all summer, of course). Then COVID-19 hit. We had to cancel a planned spring trip to New Orleans (our first ever) and weddings I had been scheduled to officiate were postponed. Then in March, Phyllis and I went down to Brigantine for one of our weekend jaunts when our daughter called and said, 'Don't come back! Schools have closed and are going virtual, and our employers said we can work from home, too, so we won't need you right now and we want you to stay safe!' We've pretty much stayed in Brigantine since then, with occasional visits back to Allendale and Pennsylvania to see our kids and grandkids. We've known a few people who died from COVID-19, but our family was fortunate and managed to avoid infection. We now are fully vaccinated and back to the new normal; I even got to officiate the postponed wedding of my niece in Pittsburgh in May! While on hiatus from babysitting, we did some projects around the house and property, and I worked on an expansion to my book, 'Why Mark: The Politics of Resurrection in the First Gospel.' It includes footnotes this time and some new material, including a lengthy appendix on the Priority of Mark. It is now at the publisher awaiting printing, but probably won't be out for another year or so. We are looking forward to the 50th Reunion and seeing all the changes on campus! Hopefully it will be an in-person event!"

**Dale and Cathy Donaway** are busy at Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and constantly running to grandkids' soccer, baseball, and golf matches. "We saw **Jesse and Bonnie Kimmel Houston** this spring in Florida, and enjoyed seeing their new house. I am still busy running the pool at Lewes Yacht Club and Cathy swims with **Patti Wade Allen** at the YMCA weekly."

Throughout the pandemic, **Keith '70 and Michelle "Chelle" Catington Porter** "think we did quite well and managed to be two retirees in the same house together, pretty much 24/7, and we're still happily married! Admittedly, some days were better than others, but we managed to keep busy, in touch with friends and family, do a lot of cooking and work in the yard, celebrate holidays and special occasions, and keep a sense of gratitude for what we had, as well as a much-needed sense of humor! As so many experienced during the pandemic, there were losses and sadness along the way, too. We're enjoying life in Raleigh, North Carolina, for so many reasons, which also greatly helped us through the COVID-19 situation. The weather here is pretty great most of the time; we're blessed with terrific neighbors and friends, and a wonderful, amazingly supportive church family; and our son, Craig, and his family, and my sister and her family, each live only about a 20-minute drive from us. Craig is a purchasing agent for a major national builder and was able to work from home, and his wife, Mari, is a nurse practitioner at the NICU at Duke Hospital. They were able to juggle jobs along with virtual learning for their sons, Colton, 6, and Benton, 4. We kept in touch a lot and admire the dedication and hard work they all put in to keep things running smoothly. Our daughter, Kerrie, and her husband, Jim, live in Delaware. Jim is a police officer with New Castle County, and Kerrie, a retired police officer, is now full-time mom to their three children, Alexis, 12; James, 10; and Lexington, 2. They, too, did a fantastic job juggling hybrid school schedules, work, and family time. Keith and I have been blessed to be able to help as needed and enjoy watching the kids grow and thrive. It has been great to be able to visit again, have them with us, and give big hugs! We're in year 49 of our marriage that began in Little Baker Chapel on Oct. 1, 1971, with many college friends in attendance and **Ira Zepp '52, Hon. D.H.L. '15** officiating. It has been a wonderful journey, so far, and we're excited for what the future holds!"

"While it has been a challenging year, I have crossed paths with fellow alumni," said **Gary King, M.Ed. '75**. "Recently, my wife and fellow Rotarian, Jan, and I attended the induction of **Hugh Dawkins '69, M.Ed. '71** as Rotary District 7630 Governor overseeing 39 clubs in Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland. As a past president of the Rotary Club of Snow Hill, Maryland, I look forward to working with Hugh to serve the needs of our communities. Speaking of WMC Rotarians, our secretary is **Betsy Gravenor-Stacey '11**. Keeping our members informed and records accurate, she was critical in setting up Zoom meetings

for our club this year. She is the Snow Hill Library branch manager. My sister, **Karen King '70 Slikker**, is living in Dayton, Tennessee, with her husband, Bart. They have taken in our 98-year-old mother using Karen's teaching skills to keep Mom on her toes, figuratively and literally! Her adult children and grandchildren are often visiting mama Rae to keep things bright! In July, Jan and I will be visiting them for the first time in 15 months! Our daughter, **Kelly King '04 Blaine** and her husband, **Jonathan Blaine '04**, have become owners of Jon's parents' glass business in Silver Spring, Maryland. They employ her two brothers, Kevin and Kyle King, who help to keep things running smoothly. While their operations were difficult like all small businesses, they appear to have successfully weathered the storm. They have built a beautiful home in Frederick, Maryland, and are raising Jacob, 14; Kimberly, 12; and Jeremy, 5. Our two other daughters, Nani and Karla, are with their families in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and Santa Fe, New Mexico. Nani and Andy Jacobson have two sons, Tyler, 13, and Gavin, 11, and Karla and Corey Leavitt have two dogs! Jan and I have taken advantage of being locked in at home this year working on our 143-year-old house, making needed renovations. We look forward to having friends over for a backyard bonfire and getting out on the open road. Best wishes to the Class of 1972."

**John Van Horn** said, "It has been a challenging time: We have all shared the loss of those close to us, being physically separated from family and friends, the frustration of watching so many acting irresponsibly, along with limiting many of our usual activities. Susan and I have been very fortunate in that we retreated from our condo on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, to our cottage on the neighboring island of Daufuskie, an island without a bridge. We have enjoyed our isolation with me returning to what the islanders refer to as 'America' once a week on the passenger ferry to shop, pick up the mail, and photograph as the opportunities present themselves. There have been many positives during the past year. Taking the time to read that book that has been on the shelf too long, playing with those art projects that one never seems to have the time to do, editing photos from past years, and starting new and fun projects. I was able to continue on a limited basis my project of photographically documenting the Port of Savannah through most of the past year. And the good things happening in our little island world: the local hospital sending a team to Daufuskie to vaccinate virtually the entire population at the island's firehouse with no age discrimination; watching fiber optic cables be installed on our dirt roads to bring us state of the art communication; and a small community working together to get by every day. As we return to a 'new normal,' hoping we all enter a better version of the world."

## family

### DEPARTED

#### Those who will be missed:

**Mrs. Blanche Scott '40** Jourdan of Darlington, Maryland, on Aug. 8, 2021.

**Mrs. Margaret Myers '44** Briscoe of Fort Myers, Florida, on July 23, 2020.

**Mrs. Anna Rose Beasman '45** Anderson of Granite, Maryland, on June 14, 2021.

**Miss Ann Fullerton '47** of Wilmington, Delaware, on July 13, 2021.

**Mrs. Nan Austin '47** Doggett of Frederick, Maryland, on July 22, 2021.

**Mrs. Mary Janice Divers '47** Twitchell of Haddonfield, New Jersey, on Aug. 7, 2021.

**Dr. Claramay Garlock '48** MacNamee of Novato, California, on Feb. 8, 2021.

**Mr. Donald Clarke '50** of Devon, Pennsylvania, on May 31, 2021.

**Mr. Lloyd Fry '52** of Bel Air, Maryland, on April 8, 2021.

**Mrs. Carolyn Grant '53** DeArteaga of Canton, Georgia, on June 26, 2020.

**Mrs. Ruth Lee '53** Roberts of Naperville, Illinois, on Feb. 8, 2021.

**Mrs. Janet Wagner '53** Taylor of Towson, Maryland, on May 10, 2021.

**Mr. Morgan Clippinger '53** of Sterling, Virginia, on May 17, 2021.

**Mrs. June Lambert '53** Keck of Manchester, Maryland, on May 26, 2021.

**Mr. James Hager '54** of Cumberland, Maryland, on Dec. 8, 2020.

**Mr. John "Skip" Berends Jr. '54** of Bel Air, Maryland, on Jan. 21, 2021.

(Continued)



# [Departed]

**Professor Emeritus of Biology Michael M. Brown passed away on Aug. 30. Brown earned a bachelor's degree in Biology from Lebanon Valley College, and then a doctorate in Plant Physiology from the University of Delaware in 1968. He began teaching on the Hill that same year, where he taught Botany for many years and later, Microbiology. He steadily guided the Biology department as its chairman from 1979-1989, and retired from the college in 2010. Throughout his 42 years at the college, he was a dedicated professor and mentor to students. He is best known for preparing undergraduates to enter medical school and graduate programs and for his strong connections with medical school deans. Brown was also particularly involved in research, serving as director of the Summer Science Institute from 1982-2000, in addition to conducting his own research in the field of microbiology. He organized National Science Foundation-funded workshops for high school teachers and science institutes for high school students. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn Hanchett; daughter Margaret Goodwin and her husband, Robert; and daughter Janet Brown '90 Walton and her husband, Michael Dirr.**

**Nancy Lee Porter** continues to work as a part-time mental health consultant with Anne Arundel Mental Health Agency. "For the last 1½ years I have worked solely from home. Even though my mobility is severely limited, I still am able to get around. We continue to visit regularly with **Ruth Howell, Dru Tresselt,** and **Hugh '71** and **Sue Ball '71 Carew.** It is always fun to get up with old friends from WMC."

**Marcia "Marty" Bosley Miller's** solution to the challenge of retirement has been to work at the public library on a part-time basis. "I am very grateful to be able to continue my library career that began almost 50 years ago at WMC. There have been many changes along the way, but bringing kids and books together has been my lifelong interest. My own granddaughters live far away in Colorado and California, so I enjoy sharing story time with local kids at the library. This summer, our cousin reunion took place at a state park in Southeast Iowa. We have done this every five years for the past 40 years. The cousins and our families all meet for a week of camping and canoeing, s'mores, and storytelling. One tradition is a skit featuring all nine cousins (in costume) that tells the story of our great-grandparents on both sides and what brought them to the Midwest. It is great fun for the cousins, but we can't always attract or hold an audience! We feel so lucky to be able to get together this summer, as last summer travel was not advised. My husband, Ed, and I are grateful for FaceTime visits with our son and daughter and their families — and the miracle of the vaccine that makes travel possible again. Greetings to former dayhops in the Memorial basement lounge! Those WMC years were life changing in every way, and friendships formed at that time live on in memory if not in person!"

"Since retiring at age 62, I've pursued my true loves of reading and writing," wrote **Joan Kaufman Culler.** "I worked for a year as a substitute librarian in Washington County, Maryland, and helped to establish a Little

Free Library at my church, St. Paul's Lutheran in Leitersburg, Maryland. I also edit our church newsletter. I've written a Bible study on the book of Acts, which was published by our denomination (Association of Free Lutheran Churches), and I regularly write articles for the denomination's magazine, The Lutheran Ambassador. I also have a blog, the "Lutheran Ladies Connection" and I hope some of our classmates will visit me there! I Zoom frequently with my college roommate, **Nancy Watson Matthews,** who retired recently from teaching English at Carroll Community College. My husband, Terry, the pastor of our church, will be retiring soon, and this will be another change in our lifestyle. Hopefully we'll be free to travel more and visit family. We have two daughters, Beth and Kate, and three grandchildren, Katelyn, Hailey, and Bradley."

**Steve Easterday** wrote, "Just when I thought that normalization of life was here with the ebb of COVID-19, I had a recurrence of cancer in my liver. I had successful surgery at the end of April and began chemo the next week. My wife, Kim, and I continue to enjoy our five grandchildren. We plan to travel as much as we can next year."

**Margaret Hefferon Finnegan, M.Ed. '75** wrote, "I can't believe it's been so long. In the years that followed graduation, I married the love of my life, Joe, raised two children, Elizabeth and Patrick, and recently retired as professor emerita after 30 years of college teaching and administration. So life is good! My husband and I still own two bed and breakfasts in St. Augustine, Florida, and have managed them for 35 years. We've met lots of lovely people through our time here, and even some of our WMC classmates have come for a visit. We would always welcome more!"

**Barbe Volz Gill** and her husband have four grandchildren, three boys and one girl. "The oldest grandson is into soccer and baseball. He is 8 years old. Our daughter and son-in-law are very athletic, so it is no surprise that he, too, is athletic. Luckily, we

traveled right before everything shut down last year. As soon as we were vaccinated, we left Maryland. We went to Texas for the fourth time; we are those nerdy birders. We traveled along the Texas coast to see the spring migrating birds. We did quite well, seeing birds we had never seen before. We survived a tornado in Alabama on our way home, which hit the area around our hotel. We chose not to go out to dinner that night (excellent choice on our part!). We had leftover sandwiches. The hotel lost power right after we finished eating. We then had no lights nor air conditioning. Luckily, it was not too hot and we travel with battery-powered lamps. There was still no power in the morning. We had to pack up and travel a while to get gas and coffee. I do stay in contact with **Barbara Smeak Wiggs, M.Ed. '78.** We visit with each other when my husband and I go to the Outer Banks in North Carolina. I also see **Louise Gill Hansch** when she and her husband come up to Maryland. We all have noticed we have more aches and pains than when we were younger. We are just enjoying life. I go to the gym three times a week, and I work with a personal trainer. My husband and I travel as much as we can. We spend time with our grandkids. I spent quarantine time reading, crocheting, and cross-stitching."

"It is hard to believe it has been almost 50 years since we graduated," wrote **Nancy Becker Miller.** "We will also celebrate our 50th wedding anniversary. We are planning to go on a cruise with the family. Of course, we had two cruises planned with friends last year, which were canceled. I retired from teaching in 2010 and wonder where the past 11 years went! A lot of the time went into learning how to develop property, as my brother and I created a development on part of my dad's farm. A real learning curve in dealing with county government! Of course, 2020 was not all bad, as a new granddaughter joined our family. Madeline Anne was born two months early and weighed in at 7½ pounds. She had to be in the hospital for a little over a month, but came home to join her big brother, Levi. We felt very lucky because they live next to us and we were able to see them all during the pandemic. Like everyone, we missed seeing our friends and are now trying to catch up with social events since we are all vaccinated. I see **Terri Doyle '73 Kaminski** and **Debbie Rice '73 Cicero,** and we try to keep in good health by walking together since we live close together. Last year, our walking was limited due to hip and knee issues between the three of us. Looking forward to the 50th Reunion!"

**Tom, M.Ed. '77** and **Sandy Gochar, M.Ed. '77 Brown** still live in Catonsville, Maryland. "Sandy is part-time interpreting on site (instead of via Zoom) now, and I am doing some gig driving several days per week," wrote Tom. "Our daughters

and grandkids live near. Sandy gets together with the WMC 'girls' periodically." Sandy added that she retired from full-time teaching and coordinating the Interpreter Preparation program at Community College of Baltimore County back in 2015. "I love the flexibility that interpreting offers, so I'm still doing that very part time. I mostly work for the courts — I find that fascinating — and do some work in medical and various other settings. Zoom works perfectly for video remote interpreting! Our two daughters are grown and married, and we are fortunate that they and their families all live in Maryland, too."

**Jesse** and **Bonnie Kimmel Houston** have settled in Sarasota, Florida. "We moved into our new house last October and recently finished construction of our new pool. That should help get us through the hot months. We made it through last year without getting sick, but our traveling was sure curtailed. Hopefully, that aspect of life gets back to normal soon. Recent visitors include **Gene '71** and **Debbie Dunphy Grosh,** and **Dale** and **Cathy Donaway.** Bonnie is keeping up with her 'Western Maryland Girls' via a monthly Zoom call."

"As for most Americans, 2020 was a confusing year," wrote **Linda Kimball.** "My husband and I were in Southern California in March for our grandson's elementary school spring break when California announced their lockdown. Our grandson returned home while we made arrangements to get back to Maryland. It took us two days traveling through Los Angeles, Chicago, and Philadelphia. Like many people who were stranded away from home, it was a stressful journey. Our grandson's next time in a classroom was a half day in the middle of April 2021 in middle school. After we had been home three months, I was finally able to get an appointment for an annual medical checkup which had been delayed by the pandemic. Unfortunately, this led to the discovery of the need for medical treatments, which consumed most of my time for the next year. The good news is that I have mostly recovered and am now able to go out in public occasionally. We finally saw our daughter and grandson 15 months after we last saw them in March 2020. Now, on a more cheerful note: travel! In 2019, we traveled to New Zealand for a wedding. We included a visit to Hobbiton [Movie Set] while there. We have traveled to Australia twice (once in conjunction with one of my business trips). We have traveled to Stratford, Ontario, Canada, for play festivals several times over the years. We have very much missed being able to do so in 2020 and 2021 because of the border closure. We have visited Ireland, Scotland, England, and Wales. In 2017, we organized a group of 15 friends and family for one of these trips. Really fun to watch

our grandson's reaction to his first international travel at age 8. We have traveled in the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Hungary, Czech Republic, Sweden, and Denmark. It was really interesting to see the places that years and years ago I first saw in History of Art class slides and textbook. We have missed the travel. Our trip to California was my first trip outside Harford County, Maryland, since March 2020."

**Georgine Stephenson Bradbury** lost her sister unexpectedly to lung cancer and because of COVID restrictions, did not even get a chance to say goodbye to her. "We finally had a memorial for her at my shore house, and my West Coast family was able to attend. I was still teaching an after-school art program to gifted kids at the school I taught at, but that all ended when we had to lock down. Hopefully the program will restart next January. I babysit two days a week for my granddaughter. I hope to start seeing people again as the country opens up and will be catching up with some old Phi Alphas in the fall. Hope we will be able to have a 50th Reunion."

**Bob Haynie** said, "We live up here on the mountain with only two neighbors, neither closer than a long pistol shot (don't ask how I know this) and no jobs to worry about and nowhere much to go, so a year of lockdown barely registered. The Cascades ecosystem stops about a mile east of here. We moved up here in November 1999 and have enjoyed every minute of living up here in the woods."

**Gary Clark** of Rockville wrote, "This is my first time reporting in, as far as I can remember. It's been a very difficult past year. Trish, my wife over six different decades, passed last fall from cancer. She was all I could have asked for and much more. Although it was very hard in several ways, we were fortunate to get her out of the hospital while COVID-19 raged. She died at home. My son-in-law, Bobby, a full-time hospital nurse in Michigan, came to stay with me and made it happen. Hospice, my kids, and many others were very helpful. Fortunately, Trish and I have a daughter and son who are healthy. One has been married for a number of years and the other is engaged. Both spouses are wonderful. Also have a granddog and grandcat."

After graduation as an English major, **John Sloan** continued to gravitate toward Philosophy (inspired by Dr. Hartmann) and years later to Computer Science. "I earned the M.S. at age 39 from University of Central Florida and the Ph.D. at age 60 from Florida Atlantic University, both in Computer Science. I retired in 2017 after a 28-year career in health care computing mostly at Allscripts. Judy and I had been married for almost that time with no kids. We're both in good health, knock on wood. We live within walking distance

from the North Carolina state capitol, so I feverishly engage in demonstrations and protests, including Black Lives Matter. Some of the smallest yet most heartfelt demonstrations are non-partisan, like families seeking a pardon from our governor, or children whose parents languished in long-term care facilities, isolated from loved ones by COVID. Much of my travel is by bicycle or bus, since my karma cannot take fossil fuels."

**Christine Schubert McCommas,** who transferred and graduated from University of Maryland and University of Maryland Law School, reports that she is continuing to pursue a second career in teaching social studies and English to disabled students at Langley High School in McLean, Virginia, after retiring from the Department of the Army Legal Services Agency in 2011. Her husband, Michael, is employed by a government contractor in network administration. Identical twins Stuart and Brendan (both University of Virginia Law graduates) are pursuing careers in patent law with Washington, D.C., firms. Her daughter, Loretta, is attending graduate school for marriage and family counseling. Chris and Mike enjoy golfing and spending time with their four grandchildren, ages 2 to 8. Chris has fond memories of her freshman and sophomore years at WMC.

In November and December 2019, I, **Kathy Bryant,** was fortunate to take an amazing bus trip throughout Greece, a place I had never known I wanted to go. A friend organized the trip. I highly recommend a Global bus trip. All you have to do is remember to get up on time every morning! The food and scenery were amazing! As a cautionary tale for everyone, last December, I slipped and fell in the hallway, breaking my hip. Miraculously, I was able to stand up and walk around and had absolutely no pain! However, the next morning I couldn't stand up. Still no pain! But I passed out when the ambulance guys came. I went to the hospital, and the PA said that sometimes happens. That even without pain, the body sometimes just knows it can't stand. Even after surgery, I had no pain. But I had to stay in rehab for 10 days and was discharged on Christmas Day, which was a bummer. Even though I spent many hours in my garden, I was absolutely shocked to learn in January 2021 that my Vitamin D was way below bottom normal. If you Google Vitamin D deficiency, the first thing that comes up is bone breaks. I am still president of the Old Town College Park Civic Association, and I was elected to the board of directors of the Prince George's County Historical Association. And I still tend to my many weeds in my almost one-acre garden.

*Kathy Bryant  
1972 Class Reporter  
kdbryant20740@gmail.com*

# family

## DEPARTED

*(Continued)*

**Mr. Thomas Maier '54** of Ballwin, Missouri, on March 7, 2021.

**Mrs. Marjorie Cherry '54 Stetz** of Oakland, Maryland, on July 21, 2021.

**Mr. Robert Benton '54** of Orangevale, California, on Aug. 2, 2021.

**Col. Bertin Springstead '55** of Carlisle, Pennsylvania, on March 14, 2021.

**Mrs. Suzanne Dorsey '55** Batista of Dayton, Ohio, on June 21, 2021.

**Dr. Louis Manarin '55** of Richmond, Virginia, on Aug. 20, 2021.

**Miss Molly Jane Gilds '57** of Taneytown, Maryland, on July 17, 2021.

**Miss Jeannette Kuhlman '58** of Parkville, Maryland, on April 30, 2021.

**Ms. Patricia Scott '61 Pond** of Atlanta, Georgia, on Dec. 1, 2020.

**Mrs. Sharon Boyer '62 Taormina** of Warren, Michigan, on July 7, 2020.

**Mr. Chester Lynn Wickwire '62** of Arlington, Massachusetts, on May 25, 2021.

**Ms. Caroline Drechsler '62** of Fairfield, Pennsylvania, on June 19, 2021.

**Lt. Gen (Ret.) Otto J. Guenther '63** of Fairfax Station, Virginia, on Oct. 14, 2021.

**Mr. Donald Garrett '64** of Arnold, Maryland, on Nov. 15, 2020.

**Mr. William "Bill" Pullen M.Ed. '64** of Jarrettsville, Maryland, on May 19, 2021.

**Mrs. Carol Davis '64 Blankner** of Maryville, Tennessee, on June 28, 2021.

**Mr. Charles Hickey II '66** of Hamburg, Pennsylvania, on Aug. 2, 2021.

*(Continued)*





## [Departed]

**Jeanne B. Herr, 93, of Westminster, Maryland, died July 26, 2021. Born July 1, 1928, in Hanover, Pennsylvania, she was the youngest daughter of the late Milton Blettner and Cora Miller Blettner. Jeanne was a 1946 graduate of Eichelberger High School in her hometown. She moved to Westminster when she married Ober S. Herr Jr. '49 on April 23, 1950. She was to become a vital part of the Westminster community through her volunteer service, church involvement, and connections to Western Maryland College, now McDaniel College, which was named after her grandfather-in-law, William R. McDaniel. For decades, Jeanne and "The Ladies of Lewis" confidentially pursued their roles in a top-secret government facility that existed for 34 years in the subbasement of the Lewis Hall of Science at Western Maryland College. These women were responsible for sending and receiving coded messages between federal agencies in the event of a cataclysmic attack on Washington, D.C. You can read more about the Ladies of Lewis in the Spring 2018 issue of *The Hill*.**

### 1978

**Susan Terwilliger** is in her 33rd year of private practice as a homebirth midwife. She and her husband, Jeff Stroke, have lived in Eagle River, Alaska, for 16 years. It remains an adventure.

**Jamie and Chris Dryden Mosberg** are enjoying their Winnebago Class A motor home. They traveled to Denver for their son Josh's backyard wedding in July 2020 and also enjoy camping with their granddaughters, Tess, 9, and Ruth, 5. Chris retired from Sanford School in June after 32 years. Jamie continues to manage his recruiting business, GRN Wilmington, which he can do remotely from the RV.

**Nancy Dixon's** retirement life in North Carolina has been enjoyable. It includes line dancing, managing a community swim team, hiking vacations in the mountains of West Virginia, and taking care of all six of the animals her daughters felt the need to adopt during COVID-19. Nancy's twin daughters graduated summa cum laude from McDaniel College and are heading to graduate school at Johns Hopkins for a master's in Environmental Health and West Chester University for a Psy.D. in Psychology. She is quite the proud mom but all too aware that her daughters are now off on their own. Nancy enjoys staying in close contact with **Adele Weinberg Connolly** and **Sally Stanfield**, as they reminisce about the past, share their lives now, and make plans for the future.

**Lisa Hellstrom** is a high school teacher in Charleston, South Carolina, where she is the chair of the science department. She was awarded Teacher of the Year for this past school year. School this past year was wild for everyone everywhere because of the pandemic, with students learning virtually, hybrid schedules, social distancing and masks in school, contact tracing, quar-

antining, and a huge amount of technology for streaming live classes to kids attending from home. Lisa hopes that the new school year will be headed back toward normal. She finds herself thinking more and more about retiring and moving back to Maryland in the next few years.

**Bruce Belt** still spends time down in Northern Neck, Virginia, when he can, working in his garden/orchard/vineyard, as well as crabbing and fishing. He has decided that he has too many hobbies and needs to retire, which he is planning for the end of 2021. Bruce enjoyed a great day on the water watching the Blue Angels perform from **Dave Deitrick's** new boat several months ago, along with **Brian Trumpower**. His children deployed this summer working as directors for the SOAR program — Erich in the Keys and Sadie in Wyoming — basically taking kids fishing and camping.

**Mark Katz**, his wife, Vivian, and cat, Mario, are doing well in Arnold, Maryland. They have weathered the pandemic fine so far. Mark continues to work for the state. He worked remotely during the pandemic, is still doing so, and probably will until he retires. He hopes that everyone has been as lucky going through these bizarre and tumultuous times these last few years.

**Linda Watermeier Landis** continues to work as a transportation security officer with the TSA at Bellingham International Airport and passed the eight-year mark in May. It was very interesting to be an essential worker, especially waiting to be vaccinated. Passengers are returning now, so she is getting busier. Her husband is a professor at Western Washington University, teaching and running a research lab. Their older daughter has a Ph.D. in Planetary Sciences and does research in Boulder, Colorado. Their younger daughter is an illustration artist in Portland, Oregon. The only way Linda knows she is getting older is that her daughters are getting older!

**Dave and Beth Silvius Deitrick** are doing well and thankful that things are getting a little more normal these days. They were thrilled to become grandparents during the COVID-19 pandemic when their daughter had a son last June. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, so it was very hard during the beginning when they could not be with them. Dave had a double knee replacement and finished rehab just as things closed down. He is back playing tennis and golfing, and the knees feel great. Dave regularly plays tennis with **Bill Westervelt '71** and golfs with **Chip Graber '73** and **Steve Vaughn '76**. While on vacation recently, he golfed and randomly got paired up with **John Cochran '79** and enjoyed catching up with him. Dave made the annual boat trip to watch the Blue Angels perform over Annapolis with classmates **Bruce Belt** and **Brian Trumpower**.

**Beth and Dave** are both still working. She is teaching English Basic Skills to second language learners part time through Anne Arundel Community College. Teaching online has been challenging, but she is grateful to still be working. Dave's dental practice continues to be busy. They spend many a weekend with **Chip '73** and **Norma Hamilton '74 Graber** who live nearby and go to their church.

**Sam York** was widowed and is now remarried and retired. They sheltered the past year in their apartment in Punta Cana, Mexico. Since everything was closed everywhere, it was nice being in walking distance of the beach. They are looking forward to traveling again.

**Robin Max Townsend** retired from teaching three years ago, apparently just in time to avoid the craziness of the pandemic, and is loving it. Her big news was two granddaughters born three weeks apart! Sydney was born on Dec. 23, 2019, and Lily on Jan. 17, 2020. She babysits twice a week and is having so much fun.

**Skip Seidel** is doing well. He started a new position in March 2021, as general counsel with Shimadzu Scientific Instruments. Last August, his daughter, Emily, was married — in her car because where they intended on being married virtually had insufficient bandwidth and the state official needed to be able to see them. Like everyone else, he spent a lot of time at home, but before COVID-19, attended concerts with **Hank Caple '79** and **Jim McWilliams '79**, and played in the Green & Gold golf tournament with **Wayne Birely '79** and **Ron Cristy '72**. Skip recently got together with **Chris Parr '79**. He is looking forward to skiing again out west, hopefully in Taos, New Mexico, or Lake Tahoe, California. He heads to Key West, Florida, in October for his daughter's wedding reception. His son graduated from college on the 5½-year plan and is working at Motorola Solutions.

A big part of **Debbie Tull Paulsgrove, M.L.A. '07's** life for the last year and a half has been dealing with the loss of her husband of 41 years, **Gary Paulsgrove '75**. That has made life very difficult, and COVID-19 did not help. Another challenge was her knee replacement on May 10. She had put it off for many years, and it got to the point where the procedure could not be put off any longer. She is thankful for the availability of all of the online meetings. One of the virtual get-togethers has been to reconnect with a group of friends from back in the days of good ol' WMC! On many Sunday nights, she has met to just chat, reminisce, and share experiences! The group includes **Susie Tucker Taylor '80**, **Kim Baugher '80**, **Peggy Gibson '80 Klein**, **Loreen "Lori" Sherwood '81**, **Cynthia Longley '77 Kehr**, **Johna Ruffo**, **Judy Byrd Fox, M.Ed. '79**, and **Robin Oroian '79 Davis**.

**Ed Ginsberg** sold his dental practice this spring to his partners, and is no longer seeing patients at his former offices. He plans on easing into full retirement by continuing to teach at the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and treating children in the operating room at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Ed was also selected to the board of directors of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry in 2020, serving through 2026. So, he will still be busy, but have much more time to spend with his four grandsons. Two live in Baltimore and two in Denver. His wife Jeannie continues her private college counseling business, which was certainly thrown a loop this past year with the pandemic. Their son and daughter-in-law live in Denver and are both psychologists, and their daughter and son-in-law are both attorneys in Baltimore. Ed gave a lecture to the Pre-Health Careers Club and participated in the Admitted Student Day on campus this past year. Being back on the Hill brought back many fond memories.

**Carl and Sally Keck Gold** are busy and well. Carl continues to let his imagination take him to places we have never been. Since the U.S. military is now taking UFOs seriously, he is an upcoming volunteer for either the Space Force or simply to get on the next spaceship that visits Towson, Maryland. If the aliens have time travel, he is going to volunteer to go forward to see what is up. Carl is also hoping to be adopted by a wealthy couple so he can retire. So far all efforts in that regard have been rejected. Sally loves being a grandma. She has a full nursery at the house, highchairs, infant-to-toddler clothes, and lots of brightly colored tripping hazards that make strange, seemingly musical noises when you collide with them, whether you are a baby, an adult, or a dog. Sally dreams of replacing floors, furniture, and fixtures. She retired as the volunteer head of Maryland Destination Imagination and was hoping to have some much deserved "me time." Sadly, Carl's devoted assistant passed away and, as usual, Sally stepped up to the plate and became much more active at Carl's law practice. Carl's membership in the only club (the grandpa club) he ever wanted to be in, has been reinforced with another grandchild, Barrett Reuel Gold, born on Oct. 27, 2020. One silver COVID-19 lining: It gave Carl the time to become a certified Maryland Master Naturalist. He also became certified by the Baltimore City Arborist as a Weed Warrior and Tree Keeper. Training was held outside and virtually this winter, and he has spent a lot of time this spring planting, weeding, and pruning trees. He also officiated his first remote wedding.

Things have been pretty low key for **Jane Trafton-Winch** during the pandemic. She and Eric managed a two-week trip to Colorado exploring Rocky Mountain National Park. Plenty of outdoor activities, the weather was great, and they spied lots of wildlife. They also enjoyed a road trip to Nashville and Memphis in the fall of 2020 with their two daughters. Erin, their eldest, works in the adult beverage industry, so she found them lots of unique drinking establishments to experience, socially distanced and masked of course. Jane is not looking forward to turning 65 and having to start Medicare. It makes her feel somehow that she has to accept that she is getting older! However, with a young mindset and the gradual reinstatement of "normal" living, she hopes to get back to trotting around the globe and experiencing all that it offers.

**Adele Weinberg Connolly** is enjoying retirement, having retired almost three years ago. The pandemic year has been a challenge for volunteering as all volunteer opportunities dried up when things closed down, including the historical society, senior center, and elementary school. Her local museum has since opened back up, so she returned to being a volunteer do-

cent while also working on updating the website. The senior center has reopened by appointment only, so no volunteer opportunities there, and ditto for the elementary school. So, Adele is switching gears a bit, and now looking to getting involved in one of Mt. Airy's town commissions. She traveled to Georgia several times to visit granddaughter Natalie, now almost 5 years old (along with seeing her daughter and son-in-law). Between visits, they FaceTime once a week or so. Her son still lives nearby so she sees him every couple of weeks and they speak frequently. Her house has slowly but surely been converted into what her son calls a "nice old lady house" and she is greatly enjoying it and the yard. The boring, happy existence of a comfortable retiree!

**Tom '80 and Kathy Chandler Armbruster** rode out the pandemic at their lake cottage in Ithaca, New York, with lots to do, including home repairs, gardening, lake kayaking, snow shoveling, and keeping up with family and friends with video calls. Kathy is semi-retired but still doing some work seasonally for Cornell in admissions, pre-reading applications from international applicants, which is a good fit for her. After vaccinations, Kathy traveled to San Francisco to be with their daughter for a week. It felt surreal to be back on an airplane but she loved having some time with her. They also get together with their son, who lives in Virginia, by meeting at some halfway points. They are getting to know Pennsylvania pretty well! They continue to live small these days, enjoying family and their surroundings.

It was fantastic hearing from so many of you. As we have all realized during the last year and a half, our family, friends, faith, and lifetime networks are very important to our health and well-being. Although very busy on the professional front, it has been a time of long walks and reflection, making lists and trying to work my way through them, and planning for future adventures.

Stay well, and please keep in touch!

*Georgeann Morekas  
1978 Class Reporter  
gmorekas@css-inc.com*

### 1984

While I can't say I'm thrilled there was a pandemic, I can say that I enjoyed working from home for 15 months! Here's how the Class of '84 fared. **Ann Blizzard Dell, M.S. '89** was fortunate to be able to continue to work in person in a program for students with emotional and behavioral disorders at Robert Moton Elementary School. She feels blessed by her growing family. Their son, Joe, got married last summer, giving Ann and her husband the opportunity to welcome a daughter-in-law, Jill, into the family! In addition, they adopted two kit-

# family

## DEPARTED

(Continued)

**Dr. Marylou Armiger '67** of Punta Gorda, Florida, on March 15, 2021.

**Mr. Ronald Benecke '69** of Hanover, Pennsylvania, on May 31, 2021.

**Mr. Glenn Wiggs '71** of Frederick, Maryland, on June 5, 2021.

**Mr. James Hobart '71** of Columbia, Maryland, on June 9, 2021.

**Mr. James Mann M.Ed. '73** of Kearneysville, West Virginia, on May 7, 2020.

**Mrs. Pamela Duncan Shirley M.Ed. '73** of The Villages, Florida, on May 11, 2021.

**Lt. Col. (Ret) Larry Wild '73** of Wallace, North Carolina, on July 10, 2021.

**Mr. Leslie Stayer Sr. M.Ed. '75** of Galena, Ohio, on Dec. 7, 2020.

**Dr. William Tanner '75** of Brandywine, Maryland, on June 24, 2021.

**Mr. Steven Smith '75** of Edgewater, Maryland, on July 6, 2021.

**Mrs. Pamela Gonder Lippy '76, M.Ed. '82** of Taneytown, Maryland, on Aug. 3, 2021.

**Mrs. Roseanne Hudson Harrington M.Ed. '77** of Union Bridge, Maryland, on May 2, 2021.

**Mrs. Susan Meyers LeBuffe M.Ed. '77** of The Woodlands, Texas, on May 16, 2021.

**Mr. Steen Westerberg M.Ed. '77** of Westminster, Maryland, on June 10, 2021.

**Dr. Michael D'Andrea '80** of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, on Nov. 26, 2019.

**Ms. Rebecca "Becky" Martin '80, M.Ed. '81** of Westminster, Maryland, on June 8, 2021.

**Mr. Mark Pascal '80** of Westminster, Maryland, on Aug. 5, 2021.

(Continued)



[Class Noted]

# Green Terror football alums gather for fantasy football draft

A group of Green Terror football alumni from the classes of 2010 through 2013 have played fantasy football together since 2010. “The last 5 years, we have required everyone to meet in person to draft,” says Matt Cahill '10. “We typically hold them in different locations, whether someone’s house or a destination Airbnb toward the end of August each year. This year, we held it at the McLister family beach house.”



Standing, left to right: Joe Browning '11, Tom Massucci '12, Paul Smith '11, Aaron Slaughter '10, Steve Wetherhold '13, Ray O'Hara '11  
Middle, holding dog Khloe: Nick Brunner '11  
Kneeling, left to right: Tim McLister '13, Mike Ford '11, Sam Cox '11, Shelby Dolby '13, Tom Little '11, Matt Cahill '10

tens to keep them busy, now that they are truly empty nesters. Ann keeps in touch regularly with **Mark McCullin '83, M.S. '95** and **Jennifer Eisberg-McCullin**.

**Jim Rapp** is looking forward to retiring from government service in early 2024. He and his wife, Betsy, recently bought their retirement home in North Fort Myers, Florida. They are enjoying setting it up when they can get down there. But for now, they still live in Pasadena, Maryland.

**Scott Blackburn** welcomed his second grandson in April, bought a new kayak, and is looking forward to lots of paddling. Each day brings him another day closer to retirement.

No retirement plans yet for **Krystie Adams Herndon**, who successfully defended her doctoral dissertation on March 25, completing her Doctor of Education. The title of Krystie's dissertation is “There's A Lot More Culture in My Life Than I Thought: Studying Folklore as Part of an Undergraduate General Education Curriculum.” Krystie will be celebrating for the next year! Krystie and her husband, Tim, are finally reveling in an empty nest! Their son Matt is in Las Vegas, their son Zach has his own apartment down the street, and their daughter Grace is in Chicago. They are grateful their offspring found opportunities to move away during the pandemic. Krystie claims to have the best job in the world — senior advisor in the Indiana University College of Arts and Sciences — but with doctorate in hand, she plans to work toward getting promoted within the university's academic advising structure and to continue influencing young lives for at least the next 10 years or so.

**Vic Culatta** sends good wishes from Palm Springs in sunny southern California where he's coming out of retirement for the third time, returning to residential real estate sales. Vic's healthy COVID-19 distraction was improving his golf game on his newly installed putting green. He also enjoyed an inspiring return visit to the Hill in May. He was impressed with the growth of the college, its world-class facilities, and signature programs.

**Ivy Silverman Allgeier** just finished her 31st year as a gifted and talented specialist with Carroll County Public Schools. Ivy and **Steve Allgeier '83** are empty nesters now, which feels a little strange, but thankfully, they had a fabulous trip to Paris and Edinburgh with their son and his wife last year in March before COVID-19 shut everything down. Ivy and Steve love their granddads and cats, and Ivy is still riding with her horse, Sadie. Steve and Ivy are still enamored of the beautiful campus of McDaniel, or WMC, as they remember it, often walking around campus and reminiscing. Ivy enjoys keeping in touch with **Sue Damiano-Cohen** via social media and is thinking about retirement!

After a 36-year teaching career, **Kathy King Steinwedel** retired from Baltimore County Public Schools on July 1, 2020. However, she's not completely free of education! Kathy started working part time in the fall of 2019 at a local preschool. She began primarily supervising school-aged children but is now taking courses in pre-K education to expand her credentials. It is very different from her middle school teaching experiences, but so much fun! In the fall of 2020, her directors opened a virtual learning center for school-aged children, and Kathy committed to supporting that as long as the site was needed. As virtual instruction moved to hybrid instruction, the center continued to support kids and their parents along the way. They offered learning support and provided a safe place for children so parents could return to work. The virtual center is open one day a week now, and the rest of Kathy's weekdays are filled with her pre-K children.

**Ann Hilton Horn** is still working as an adjunct professor with Stevenson University Online. She mentors teacher interns and teaches two classes for the Master of Arts in Teaching program concentrating in STEM education. It was different observing teachers online, but Ann was in awe of her teacher interns who went the extra mile so that students could have a quality experience during the pandemic. The classes Ann teaches for the university have always been online classes, so no adjustment there. Ann's husband retired, and they were able to travel to San Francisco and Florida before travel was shut down. They hope to pick up their travel plans in the coming year! They still have a lot of the USA to see! Ann was able to see **Erin O'Connell '83 Peiffer**, **Jane Krug '83**, **Annette Horn Seiler '83, M.Ed. '85**, and **Beth White '83 Werrell** at an outdoor picnic this past fall. If anyone is interested, Ann is always available for wine tastings or bingo!

**Matthew Ponton** is retired from Allstate Insurance and the Army Reserve and is residing in Lewes, Delaware, with his wife, Colleen. To keep busy, he is working part time at St. Jude Catholic Church as the facility manager and maintaining his handyman business. Matthew's wife still works for a NASA contractor, supporting many tasks, including the Hubble Space Telescope and the outreach program.

**Lea Ruggiero O'Shea** sends greetings to all of us almost 60-year-olds — yikes, how did that happen? Lea's sons are now 27 and 24. Conor is an auditor for businesses that trade in cyber currency, and Tim is going into his third year at Georgetown Law. Lea was working for Celgene, a small biopharma that last year got bought out by Bristol Myers Squibb, as an associate director in global risk management learning and development. There's a little jealousy when she hears about friends retiring! Lea is still doing portrait photography as a side busi-

ness, and she decided to take advantage of the booming housing market and sold her New Jersey home to move south. We'll have to wait until the next update to see where she landed. Lea is looking forward to an Alpha Nu Omega reunion in the fall!

**Dennis Oltman** and his wife, Sharon, have been married for 25 years. They have three daughters, Catherine, Cassie, and Caitlin, and one granddaughter, Catie, who is 3. Dennis relocated to Fairmont, West Virginia, about 17 years ago where he works for the FBI Criminal Justice Information Services Division. Dennis enjoys traveling to watch his daughter in swim meets and working with his 2-year-old German shepherd, Thor. He travels to Ocean City, Maryland, for a few days each summer to unwind.

Another classmate is on the move. **Patti Riggs** sold her house in Fallston, Maryland, to her neighbors, who were looking for a house for the wife's mother, and moved to Frederick County to care for her father.

**Tom Zimmer** just finished his 37th year in education as principal of Worcester Technical High School. He and **Beth Chapman '85 Zimmer** continue to enjoy life in Ocean City, Maryland, particularly the part where they get to be Gammy and Pop to their four grandchildren! It is the best!

When COVID-19 hit, **Linda Block's** niece vacated Brooklyn, New York, quarantined, and then stayed with Linda for about five months. Though not always easy, Linda cherished their time together, and Linda loves that her niece stayed local, and they can still visit face to face. Linda's clogging/flatfoot dance classes and performances came to a screeching halt last year, but joyfully, just restarted. Everyone seems to have a COVID-19 loss story, and Linda is no different. She lost the founder of her clogging group, Green Grass Cloggers. The group will celebrate its 50th anniversary this year. It's been about three years since Linda started her part-time work with Children and Family Resource Center and was able to continue through the pandemic by offering all of her parenting classes and support groups via Zoom last year. Linda supplemented her income by driving the back roads of western North Carolina gathering data for the census and kept very busy, as you can imagine, counting and validating thousands of absentee ballots for the Board of Elections. Linda continues to volunteer facilitating dialogues around race and as a community mediator. She helped start a local Braver Angels alliance and is approved to facilitate workshops. Braver Angels exists to encourage more exchanges across the political divide. While there were no cicadas in her neck of the woods, watching synchronous and blue ghost fireflies has been fun! She also keeps busy exercising, hiking, running, fishing, and taking an occasional bike ride. Linda's partner of 12-plus years just retired from his role as a biology professor, so who

knows what the future may bring. Linda enjoys occasional visits with **Lauren Ruberg '85 Jensen**, **Chris Soto**, and **Warren Smith '86**.

**Charles "Chuck" Franke** reports that he is living a quiet life in Montana.

**Heidi Snyder Wethered, M.S. '86** and her husband, Bennett, recently celebrated their 32nd anniversary with a family trip to the beach. Heidi is currently working with her county's adult education office helping individuals earn their high school credentials. She teaches high school English with a local homeschool co-op and loves seeing her students get excited about reading the classics. Heidi is looking forward to being back in person this fall. Despite the COVID-19 restrictions, she was able to see **Debby Neely Kennedy** and **Audrey Adams Bigelow** and had a quick visit with **Krystie Adams Herndon** in January 2020 before travel was restricted. At the top of her “fun things to do” list is spending time with their three grandsons, whom they get to see at least weekly.

Everything is going well for Ethan and **Debbie Dale Seidel**. Debbie retired in 2018 from T. Rowe Price after 28 years; Ethan retired from McDaniel this summer after 52 years! Their new motto is, “Every day is Saturday.” They plan to stay in Westminster, but have increased their time at their home in West Virginia. It has been a great escape during the pandemic. Being retired, they are seeing more of friends and family. Debbie and Ethan keep in touch with a lot of WMC/McDaniel alumni, and frequently see **Ralph** and **Char Wirts Frith**, **Beth Dorrigan Carlin**, **Kathy Lyhus Dixon**, **Katie Wagner Miller**, **Theresa "Tree" Parker Rounds**, **Patty Jones Wooten**, **Anne Cole Heydrick**, **Mimi Fannon Gilinsky**, and **Cindy Leonard Keeney**. Debbie finished her term as the McDaniel Alumni Association president a couple years ago, but continues to volunteer for McDaniel, fundraising for the Carroll County Students Scholarship fund and mentoring sophomore students. She is also on the board of the Carroll Hospital Center, which is part of Lifebridge. Along with **Mimi Fannon Gilinsky**, Debbie volunteers at a Lifebridge COVID-19 vaccine clinic. Several trips are in the works for Debbie and Ethan in the next year.

Nothing earth shattering in **Audrey Adams Bigelow's** report, but sometimes that's a good thing! She and Mike, along with their younger son Drew, now 29, still live in Springfield, Virginia; Drew and Audrey remain coworkers at Kings Park Library, where he outranks her, in the Fairfax County Public Library system. What parent doesn't enjoy that! Her older son Buster, now 31, his wife, Jen, and their dog, Archie, live in Virginia Beach, where they bought a house three years ago. Buster is still a middle school band teacher in Hampton, Virginia, and Jen is an elementary school teacher just blocks away from their home!

## family

### DEPARTED

(Continued)

Mrs. Mary Alice Eckenrode '85 Hallman of Millsboro, Delaware, on May 18, 2021.

Ms. Gayle Adamecz Pickhardt '88, M.S. '90 of Catonsville, Maryland, on Aug. 21, 2021.

Ms. Jennifer Boehles '89 of Sparrows Point, Maryland, on Aug. 18, 2021.

Mr. Peter Kangas '93 of Frankford, Delaware, on June 20, 2021.

Ms. Evonne Thompson M.S. '94 of Port Republic, Maryland, on June 10, 2021.

Mr. Colin Rodriguez '08 of Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, on June 3, 2021.

Mr. Tyler Martin '09 of Baltimore, Maryland, on June 20, 2021.



## alumni updates

**Ann Karn '84 Kehinde continues to work as an administrative law judge and volunteers with refugee families.**

Teaching in a virtual/hybrid environment was tough, but they persevered. Mike continues as the command historian for the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command — 15 years now! They've reached the stage in life when it's necessary to keep close tabs on all of their parental people as well — Audrey's granddad, mom, dad, and stepmom, and Mike's mom. Audrey continues to be involved in music, soloing for the chapel livestream at Fort Belvoir, on both the Catholic and Protestant side. She also mentors for the Moms of Preschoolers ministry and the women's ministry at Belvoir Chapel, and is doing what she can with The City Choir of Washington until they can actually sing together again in person! You never know where you'll meet a fellow alumna. **Lynne Howard '68 Price** is a fellow second alto in The City Choir with Audrey! Despite COVID-19, Audrey has gotten at least quarterly opportunities to hang out with **Heidi Snyder Wethered, M.S. '86**. Their friendship continues to be full of laughter and blessings as they watch their families grow. Audrey was also able to make her second trip to Ukraine in June and July 2019 with Olive Branch International, an international military ministry, where she taught English at a Bible camp. She really enjoyed that, and discovered that she's pretty good at it, too! Finally, Audrey is overjoyed that twin sister **Krystie Adams Herndon** earned her Doctor of Education, having successfully defended her dissertation on March 25, 2021. Krystie was hooded on May 7, and Audrey couldn't be prouder! Like many of us, Audrey embraced the stillness that was COVID-19 and is trying not to whine about the cacophony as life reopens. However, I know, there are others who are embracing the cacophony!

**Chuck Pierpont** is retiring. He and Bill are celebrating with a trip to Spain. They are keeping their trivia game business, which will probably keep Chuck un-busy enough to feel retired, but busy enough to stave off boredom. Bill retired last year, so now they are free to run their business, work on the house, and, most of all, travel.

**Chip Fox** has also made the decision to retire. He'll leave his job as a surface mine inspector for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania-DEP just as his daughter finishes up college at Rutgers University-Camden. Chip hopes to get back to judging marching bands and color guards in the fall as normalcy returns. He also hopes additional college learning can be a part of his retirement!

**Maurice '81** and **Beverly Packard Pitzer** are celebrating their 40th anniversary this year. They became instant grandparents to three adopted siblings and are loving it!

**Werner Winkler** is still living in Indianapolis. He retired this year a few years earlier than planned due to politics, but fills his time by working at an indoor gun range and doing more activities at his church. Werner's daughter is married and living in Colo-

rado Springs, where she works in wholesale housewares, and his son is a first lieutenant in the Marine Corps, currently stationed in Pensacola, Florida. Werner keeps up correspondence with **Wendy Gage Carver**.

**Liz Siegenthaler Rubin** has been enjoying life in Annapolis, Maryland, for the past several years, where she is a solo legal consultant and resides with a very sweet dog, Buddy. On June 1, she had the privilege of attending an NYC book launch for her older daughter **Julia Lynn Rubin '12**. Julia's book, "Trouble Girls," is a young adult novel described as "a queer reimagining of 'Thelma & Louise.'"

**Jeff Trice** is looking forward to his youngest daughter's wedding. He's sure he'll be choking up as he walks Katy down the aisle. Katy lives in Frederick County, Maryland, where she works as a high school honors English teacher. Sarah, Jeff's middle daughter, works locally, which for Jeff is the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He's thankful that he gets to see her often. Their oldest daughter, Bekah, lives in Hoboken, New Jersey, and works for Salesforce. It's nice to visit her and his new granddog on day trips into New York City. Jeff and his wife recently spent a nice weekend in Cape May, New Jersey, with his old roommate **Dwight '83** and **Brenda Jones '83 Eichelberger** to celebrate our significant birthdays (yes, you know the one). Jeff works from home, so the pandemic didn't change his workspace at all, but he is glad to be occasionally traveling for work again.

After editing a conservation magazine for 17 years, **Chris Soto** retired early to care for her mother, but has enough free time to work on a list of things she wants to do. (She won't call it a bucket list.) Her non-bucket list includes seeing friends in person again; traveling; lots of reading; maybe learning to knit; renewing old hobbies, such as playing the guitar; and birding and hiking in her home state of Tennessee, where there are lots of waterfalls. Chris also looks forward to contra and zydeco dancing again when it's safe to do so. She enjoys all the great local music, including bluegrass, old-time, and the offerings of the local symphony. Chris serves on the board of her local land trust, the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. She keeps in touch with **MaryClare Denion Long**, **Debbie Dale Seidel**, **Linda Block**, **Jessica Friedman Chapman**, and **Jeff** and **Mary Chaney Dawson**.

2020 had its wonderful and difficult moments for **Wendy Gage Carver** and her husband, Cecil. Their son got married in California on March 7, 2020. It was an incredible weekend with all of their family, including Wendy's mother and mother-in-law. It ended up being the best "pre-COVID" party ever, though they didn't know it at the time. When schools shut down and moved to virtual, Wendy had to learn how to be a virtual counselor for her elementary school. Having never been especially tech savvy, this

led to many long days, sleepless nights, and lots of tears. Wendy was especially glad to see the students in person again in March and is looking forward to being back in school without masks! This past Halloween, Wendy and Cecil rescued a pitbull named Gracie, and she has become one of the family. They also celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Wendy keeps in touch with **Debbie Hildebrand Hoover** and **Patty McLaughlin**. They have plans to see each other in person soon. Wendy and her family experienced a few scary weeks when her sister and brother-in-law contracted COVID-19. They are still recovering from some of the effects.

For **Gail Leek Klakring**, COVID-19 brought back memories of the measles outbreak during our time on the Hill! Gail spent 15 months teleworking and has just returned to the office. It feels a little strange after 15 months, but also feels good to return to a sense of normalcy! Gail had a second bout of cancer — endometrial this time — just before the pandemic hit, but was fortunate to only need surgery without any follow-up treatment. She's all clear now. Gail's youngest child just graduated from high school. They were grateful that he was able to have a normal graduation and prom, particularly since he had no senior year to speak of. It will make for great stories for his children and grandchildren, however! Gail is looking forward to more get-togethers and beach time as COVID-19 diminishes.

**Darcy Smith Turner** spent 32-plus years in the environmental field doing natural resource assessment and restoration work for both the Maryland Department of the Environment and Biohabitats, Inc., in the private sector. In 2016, Darcy decided it was time to focus more time and energy on their teenage children and the farm, so for the last five years, she has been spending tons of quality time with her son and daughter (now 16 and 20), with her three dogs, and in turning their farm into a small business! Darcy is also looking to start a second career in the fall — timely, given that the kids are becoming more independent, the farm needs less of her time, and she has a strong urge to get out of the house post-pandemic! Darcy thoroughly enjoyed the 35th reunion and looks forward to more McDaniel/WMC gatherings! She still stays in touch with **Debbie Federico**, **Beth Gray Knudsen**, **Heather Rembert Fahmy**, and **Maria Maranto Yanson**!

**Ann Karn Kehinde** continues to work as an administrative law judge. It seems impossible to her that it's been 27 years. She also volunteers with refugee families, is on the planning committee of the Black Lives Matter Interfaith Coalition, and serves on several committees at the Stony Run Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quaker), where she is a member. Ann's husband, Hakeem, has been working from home as an auditor during the pandemic but has been going back into the office more re-

### [Class Noted]

## Job with Pepsi gives Lauren Avery '14 a chance to cross an item off her bucket list

**"I've worked in Pepsi's marketing department for the past three years with my focus being on the southern portion of the East Coast. I started as a marketing coordinator in 2018 and was recently promoted to marketing associate analyst this summer.**

**"My focus has been on bringing our Pepsi brands right to our consumers in large, fun, impactful, and unapologetic ways. I've managed premier events such as CMA Fest in Tennessee, Artscape in Baltimore, and DC JazzFest in Washington, D.C., as well as sampling events throughout those territories. My favorite project so far was to lead the creation of the Pepsi Fan District at FedEx Field in 2019. The then-Redskins came to Pepsi with the opportunity to rebrand this blank space as our own. I worked to wrap the space in all things Pepsi with a nod to the Redskins history. This area has become a destination spot for fans to watch the game with Pepsi/Washington Football-themed drinks and a great viewing spot. We'll be rebranding this space again once the team announces its new name!**

**"For the Orioles, I threw out the first pitch to represent the Orioles/Pepsi partnership, which was a bucket list item! I also managed the signing of the first-ever Orioles player to a Pepsi sponsorship with Trey Mancini, an Orioles fan favorite."**



cently now that the D.C. Superior Court has reopened. Their son, Suraju, graduated from the University of Maryland with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering in May 2020, and their daughter, Sara, graduated last year from the Institute of Notre Dame high school in Baltimore and just completed her freshman year at the University of Maryland, where her major is Public Health.

**Trish Feaga Holmes** reports that she and her husband, **Lee Holmes '87**, are thrilled to have become grandparents! They enjoy traveling to see family spread throughout the Midwest and East Coast. This past year has been one of the busiest and most difficult in Trish's role as CEO of a nonprofit that serves those living with mental illness. The pandemic wreaked havoc for many. However, these incredible individuals handled the anxiety and depression that accompanied COVID-19 with aplomb and an optimism that got Trish through the most challenging of days. She feels inspired and blessed daily!

From hilly Southeastern Ohio, **Yellott Canby** still lives on the farm he bought

straight out of college in 1984. Yellott and his wife, Arla Sue, originally of Western Pennsylvania, raise beef cattle for freezer beef as well as corn, soybeans, and hay. They expanded the farm by two more parcels of land, which lay better than the main farm and are used for row crops, as well as hunting grounds for friends and family. Yellott still makes Victorian wrought iron fencing. This part of his business brought him to Sandy Spring, Maryland, last year for an installation. Arla Sue has a baking business, baking cookies and cakes for local stores, as well as custom caramel apples for sale online, shipped both locally and throughout the country. If that's not enough, Yellott and Arla Sue also work as freelancers on remote television production jobs: Arla Sue as a production assistant and Yellott as a cable utility and production unit driver. They have worked at events around the country, including multiple Super Bowls. Their son, Ethan, is a U.S. Marine Reservist and owns a residential realty and home rental business in nearby Lancaster, Ohio. Yellott still keeps in touch with **Matt Ponton**. Last year

Yellott sent Matt some small, fabricated steel parts for a hand railing at a church that Matt helps maintain.

It was great to hear from **Darlene Kegel**, who says she hasn't always sent updates. So glad you did this time, Darlene. Darlene was born and raised in Carroll County, Maryland. Immediately after graduation, she worked for 10 years in her parents' television and appliance store, which closed when they retired. Now she is selling real estate in Carroll County, as she has done for nearly 30 years. She also owns DK Jewelers at 15 S. Cranberry Road in Westminster, Maryland, a local 5,000-square-foot fine jewelry store. Darlene is letting everyone know that she would love to offer a 10% discount to alumni, employees, and current student body, hopefully encouraging those who are nearby to shop locally and become Darlene's valued customers.

As for me, I decided to take advantage of working at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and go back to school. I'm currently working on my master's degree in Community Leadership. I don't think I



## [Class Noted]

# Mark Bell '14 co-founds fitness company for those looking for alternatives to a traditional gym

**“In the summer of 2020, I co-founded Heroic Performance as a full-service fitness company providing sports performance, pain management, nutrition counseling, and injury rehabilitation services. A friend and fellow trainer and I started it over the summer when we saw the opportunity for at-home and alternate-location performance training due to pandemic-related gym closures. Our first full year has been great! We’ve developed a large network of clientele, ranging from youth sports to professional athletes, and even some well-known actors living in the Los Angeles area. We’ve maintained steady growth, hired additional performance coaches, and have even expanded to include an app offering online training services. We’re very optimistic for the future as the industry continues to shift toward more personalized and convenient training practices outside of the classic gym setting.”**

want to rival **Krystie Adams Herndon** and continue to my doctorate, but I am enjoying the journey of lifelong learning. We live in the home we built on my family’s farm. It was a great place to work from home during a pandemic. Since I was working from home, I could often be found in a field weeding or picking produce before my paying job began. I thoroughly enjoyed it. We’re back on campus now, so I’ve retired, once again, from “field” work. I still miss my mom every day since she passed away in 2018, but I’m very, very grateful to have our three darling granddaughters living only 15 minutes away. Our daughter is also just minutes away, and our youngest son is a musician in Memphis, Tennessee. We make every excuse to visit and see him play. We have continued our tradition of spending New Year’s Eve with **Paul '83** and **Nancy Turner '82 Parlette**, though this year, it was a virtual celebration.

*Michele Hutschenreuter Conner  
1984 Class Reporter  
michele.conner19@gmail.com*

## 1990

**David Dinges** writes: “Soon after graduation, I proudly served in the U.S. Army. Following the military, I found my greatest pas-

sion — teaching — and taught in Maryland public schools for a few years until joining the Department of Defense Schools, where over the course of two decades I taught and served as a school administrator in Japan, Germany, and Korea. I returned to the U.S. and currently serve as the continuous improvement and accreditation specialist for our agency, where I have the privilege of managing the accreditation of eight school districts and the virtual school. I have three amazing grown children with my awesome wife of 30 years. We currently live in Arlington, Virginia. I still keep in touch with old friends **John Kressler** and **Dimitrios Garefalakis '93**.”

**Ken Hammann** just finished up his 28th year of teaching and 17th year as the band and performing arts director at St. John’s College High School in Washington, D.C. Ken writes that he’s looking forward to having a normal school year in the fall and competing in a national competition again in April 2022, after missing the last two years because of the pandemic. Ken’s youngest son, Joseph, just graduated from St. John’s and is headed off to Xavier University in the fall. The two older kids stayed closer to home, so although Joseph didn’t choose WMC, Ken says he and his wife, Karen, are looking forward to their first child attending school far away. They still live in Columbia, Maryland, and Ken occa-

sionally makes it up to Westminster to pay a visit to Coffey Music on Main Street and to meet up with **Todd Bonner '87**.

**John '91** and **Lisa Cantlie Hummell** live in Madison, Alabama, outside of Huntsville. Lisa is still teaching preschool. John retired after 22 years as a special agent with the FBI but was quickly hired back to conduct background investigations. Their oldest daughter, Madelyn, 26, lives in Nashville; son Jack, 24, lives in Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and daughter Susannah, 19, is a sophomore at the University of Alabama, where she is a Phi Mu.

**Mark Jozwiak** and his family are still residing in Baytown, Texas, which is about 30 miles east of Houston. He writes to say: “We have endured the COVID-19 mess and continue to press on.” (Mess and press — wise words for us all.) He and **Jonelle Leith '92 Jozwiak** celebrated their 29th anniversary on June 6. Mark is still teaching, and he’s entering his 32nd year of coaching this fall. Jonelle continues to work part time as a physical therapist in town. Their son, Wes, graduated from high school in June. He will attend Lee College for the next two years and then transfer to Stephen F. Austin University to finish his teaching certification. He plans to teach and coach in high school in Texas. Their daughter, Emily, is entering the 10th grade this fall. She is working as an athletic trainer and plays tennis. They have not been back to the Hill for some time, Mark notes. Living this far away, it’s hard to keep up with fellow Green Terrors. (Luckily, Thomas Edison invented Class Notes.) Mark says they are proud of the education that they both received on the Hill and the people they shared the campus, classes, and teams with.

**Wendy Wilson Leatherman** says that the Leatherman household reached an important milestone in 2021. After homeschooling the twins in every subject for every year K12, Buck and Wally graduated from high school! Wendy writes, “The boys then took full-time jobs as live-in camp counselors and left me all alone. It is now time to decide what I want to do when I grow up. Fortunately, my hardworking hubby has situated our family in a way that gives me freedom to explore my options. Senior care is definitely an element of my employment since my father, who lives alone in his West Virginia hunting cabin, just celebrated his 78th birthday and often needs attention from his only daughter. I continue to teach adult Sunday school in what’s now our 14th year of ministry at Longmeadow Church of the Brethren. We are anticipating renovation of our shop to include my ‘she shop’ on the entire second floor! Since the price of lumber has exploded, my husband has used his sawmill to saw about half of the lumber necessary to complete the project. Gotta love resourceful hillbillies! I will soon be able to organize all of my crochet yarn and

leftover library of homeschool resources. In celebration of this glorious summer, Paul and the boys renovated our pool deck to provide a lovely place for me to contemplate my future! It will be interesting to see what the future brings as the boys start their journey and I continue mine.”

**Lisa Diffenbaugh Maher, M.S. '93** starts off by writing that she and her husband, Dennis, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary last December: “It’s crazy how fast three decades have flown by!” This past spring, Lisa completed year number 11 as an elementary school counselor in the Carroll County (Maryland) Public Schools. All three of Lisa’s children, well beyond elementary school, graduated this year. Brennan, 22, earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Maryland. Rachel, 24, earned her master’s degree in Kinesiology from the University of North Georgia. And Ryan, 25, earned a law degree from the University of Baltimore. Ryan also got married in August 2021. Lisa says that her family has had a lot to celebrate, and they feel very blessed. Lisa stays in touch with **Julie Biddinger Jones** and **Sandy Metz '89, M.S. '93 Borns**.

**Karen Quidas Mayhew** says she and her husband, **George Mayhew '88**, “are still living the dream here in rural Wisconsin.” George continues in bioinformatics full time, while Karen is still working full time at the local post office. Plus, they run their bed-and-breakfast farm-stay, and they garden, “herd” three teens, and wrangle the sheep/goat/llama flock on their 24-acre farm. “It’s not what I expected to be doing when I was back at WMC, but it’s a happy place to be, and it’s never boring!” Karen gives a shout-out to her Phi Mu sisters, and writes, “Y’all have an open invite if you’re ever out this way.”

**Debbie Atwood Marini** writes to say that in 2020 she and her husband, **Jorge Marini '88**, moved from Catonsville, Maryland, where they had lived for more than 25 years, to beautiful Frederick, Maryland. Debbie has been working for the Maryland Department of Human Services for three years, and she currently serves as the director of Frederick County Department of Social Services. Their kids are now 22, 20, and 18, and will all be in college next year. One will be a senior at McDaniel, so Debbie and Jorge are looking forward to coming up to the Hill to see their daughter and all their alumni friends at Homecoming.

**Karen Baldrige Moskowitz** says hello to all her fellow WMC alumni and the sisters of Alpha Nu Omega. Karen writes that she has retired from full-time church music ministry and is now enjoying a new career as a licensed real estate agent in Virginia. (Look her up on Facebook under “Karen Moskowitz, Your Lake Anna Realtor”!) She and her husband, **Dan Moskowitz '89**, whom she met at a Phi Delt

party in February 1987, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary this summer. Karen notes that their children are adults (“When did that happen?” she wonders), and she and Dan are prouder of them with every passing year.

**Rob Paul** lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, with his wife, Wendy, and 16-year-old daughter, Amelia. He continues to enjoy what’s now been 28 years in the field of career-oriented higher education. Helping underserved populations achieve their goals and dreams through education is very fulfilling work, Rob writes. He says he’s looking forward to the post-pandemic return of staple Phoenix-area events, such as the Waste Management Phoenix Open (a PGA golf event), the Barrett-Jackson Auto Auction, and Major League Baseball spring training. Rob enjoyed the SigEp reunion in Atlantic City, New Jersey, last September, masks and distancing notwithstanding. Rob says it was great to see **Jim Mitchell**, **Mark Mulle '90**, **Scott Baily**, **Scott Walton '89**, **Kevin Wright '91**, **Todd Mitchell '87**, and many other SigEp brothers. Rob wishes the WMC/McDaniel family a rapid return to health and happiness.

**Jenny Otto Ramirez** continues to live in Staunton, Virginia, and to teach art history at both James Madison University and Mary Baldwin University. She and her husband, Howie Sanborn, welcomed a new baby in May 2020 on (guess which day) Mother’s Day! His name is Penn, and Jenny writes that he has brought much joy to a stressful, bizarre pandemic year. In May 2021, Jenny’s oldest son, Sander, completed his first year at James Madison, and her daughters, Zoe and Sage, completed 10th and 8th grades, respectively. Jenny says it’s surreal to have the oldest kid in college and the youngest in diapers! She’s looking forward to traveling again and hopes to take family and students either to London or Taiwan for study abroad. (After the trip, Penn will be expected to submit a final report, too, but he can use crayons.) Jenny enjoys getting together with WMC friends **Kelly Wiles Loiacono**, **Kelly Sell**, **Jennifer Dempsey Oberfeld**, and **Tracey Holter Zirfas**.

**Doug Ripley, M.Ed. '02** writes to say that this fall marks his 31st year teaching for the Archdiocese of Baltimore. He has two sons, ages 12 and 9. Doug continues to run and train for cross country and track races.

**Rhonda Mize Sullivan** is still working as a full-time online instructor with Central Texas College — 22 years there, by the way — while her husband, Shane, is in his second year of a three-year command in Michigan. Their daughter, Kate, is a high school senior who hopes to attend college for veterinary science. The “big news,” Rhonda writes, is that their son, Ryan, was accepted to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. They dropped him off the week before July 4 for

“Beast” summer. Ryan’s doing well, Rhonda says, but she herself, “not so much.” Rhonda is happy to have **C. Melissa “Missy” Ridgely Covolesky** back on the “right” coast. They were able to have a Zoom reunion (rezoomion?) with **Glenn '91** and **Lisa Allwine '91 Anderson**, **Stephen Harlan '92**, **Dave Fyfe '91**, **Mike** and **Debbie Camara Kunzer**, **Alex Lauber**, and a few other WMC Green Terror Battalion alums during the pandemic.

**Denise Umland**, the costume shop manager for the theatre/dance department at UC Santa Barbara (UCSB), says she made it through 15 months working remotely from her small apartment. Amazingly, she got costumes to UCSB students for five productions throughout the country and even to China for their Zoom shows. She writes, “I learned a lot about shipping and more about FedEx than I thought I needed to know.” She had a great reunion with family in June, where she saw her nephews graduate college and high school. Denise’s recent splurge has been to buy tickets to concerts and a Broadway show! She says she’s very grateful for the good weather in Santa Barbara, California, allowing her to be outside so much, and for home deliveries of local wines.

I, **Bob Brown**, in violation of the U.S. Constitution serving a third term as your class reporter, feel it is my duty to deliver a public service announcement — that’s a PSA, like a PDA but minus the slobber. It’s so important, I’ll forgo all my usual braggage, except to say in December 2020 I finally completed a M.A. in Christian Ministry from New Geneva Theological Seminary, which certifies me now to go around judging people. But, anyway, here’s that PSA, and forgive me if it’s a bit graphic: Get your colonoscopy when your doctor says to. In January 2020, two months before both my 51st birthday and the beginning of the pandemic shutdown, I got around to that recommended age-50 colonoscopy. Good thing, because the doctors found invasive adenocarcinoma. That’s colon cancer for you CliffsNotes subscribers. I have no idea how it got there — I mean, I brush my teeth after most meals, and I recycle. Anywho, by the end of March 2020, surgeons had cut out a chunk of my colon plus other gizzards. By God’s grace, I’ve been cancer free since then. So, now, among friends and students — even some strangers — I’m a walking billboard for colonoscopies (maybe not the prettiest thought), and I want to encourage all you my beloved classmates to have the guts — haha — to talk to your doctor about whatever cancer screenings you should have. Do it. I need you around so you can continue *not* voting for me as your class reporter.

*Bob Brown  
1990 Class Reporter  
moronmusic@yahoo.com*

**Jenny Otto '90 Ramirez** teaches art history at both James Madison University and Mary Baldwin University.



**Thomas Becskehazy '02 is living in Taipei on a Fulbright grant to train English teachers in Taiwan.**

## 1996

**Pat Flaherty** lives in Newtown, Pennsylvania. He is currently the vice president of sales for Master Nursery Garden Centers. He enjoys coaching his son Patrick's 11-year-old district baseball team and spending time with his girlfriend, Lisa, and their miniature pinscher puppy, Foles Flaherty.

**Dwight Smith** had the pleasure of hosting former Rouzer Third Floor North companions **Ross Hollebon '97**, **Brian Wyant '97**, and **Chip Dickey '97** for an overnight on the Eastern Shore this June, followed by a day of supporting longtime friend **Mike Caldwell '97, M.S. '05** in Cambridge, Maryland, where he completed the 70.3-mile Half Ironman competition in 6 hours and 43 minutes.

**Chiara Berlingo Ogan** continues to enjoy life in foggy San Francisco with her husband, Erik, and their three cats. Her user experience consulting business, 3 Cats Studios, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. She continues to enjoy knitting, general crafting, buying more books than she can possibly read, and gaming, especially board games and D&D (including a campaign this past year with fellow alum **Mark Geary '04**).

COVID-19 has made things challenging for **MaryEllen "Mare" Sheehan Gallen** as she performs high-risk OB ultrasounds at Penn Medicine. She was supposed to go to Switzerland and Slovakia this June and July. Sons Jack and Will were selected for the USA ball hockey U18 and U16 teams respectively. Husband John was the head coach for the U16 team. Unfortunately, the tournament was canceled. She hopes that her youngest son, Ryan, 12, will get to go to his scheduled USA tournament in August in Buffalo, New York. They did get to travel to Pittsburgh in April, and another trip to Massachusetts was planned for the summer. Mare stays in touch with **Holly Roback Plank**, **Christa Mose '95**, **Andrea Romich Sykes**, **Claudia Pyers Eckstrom '95**, and **Krista Shaffer Wilson '95**. A few summers ago, they traveled to Harpers Ferry, West Virginia, for a girls' weekend. This year they met up at Andrea's and then went hiking the next day. She says, "I really only went hiking so I could go to Guinness afterward..."

Second daughter, Mia Elsie, was born to **Paul Matkovic** and his wife, Charis, on his birthday in May 2020. The middle name came from Paul's maternal grandmother. He is still in private practice in psychology on the Upper East Side of NYC, where they recently bought a two-bedroom condo. Paul recently created a YouTube video about anxiety with a friend and colleague.

**Tim Collins** lives in Austin, Texas, with Stacy, his wife of 20 years. They stay busy with their son, a freshman at Sam Houston State, and twin daughters entering their sophomore year in high school. Working with **Brett Young '94**, the two have kicked off development of a new blockchain-based

NFT video game, Robo Rampage, set for release later this year. By day, Tim and his business partner write for multiple financial news outlets including TheStreet.com, Agora, Raging Bull, and his own site. Pre-COVID, he was able to reconnect with Sig Ep brothers **Chad Albertson** and **Tom Marshall '97**, and he's hoping to catch up with more fellow alumni on one of his many upcoming trips to Maryland over the next year.

A new job and a new house were the big changes for **Blair St. Amand**. He got the new job in 2020 as medical editor at PlatformQ in Needham, Massachusetts. He then moved to Frostburg, Maryland, earlier this year. Blair works from home full time, so no need for people to question why he bought a house in Maryland when he works in Massachusetts.

**Cara Ditto** started a new job in higher education at the Maryland Institute College of Art in their Student Counseling Center and is enjoying providing therapy to college students. Her two children are both teenagers, and they're in the midst of beginning the college search themselves. She misses seeing her WMC friends but is glad to have stayed connected with them virtually this year, including **Jen Light Dottellis '97**, **Teaette Louderback-Smith**, **Melanie Phipps Repp**, and **Julie Kuerner Messina**.

I continue to reside in Sterling, Virginia, with my wife, **Amy Rice '97 Mirra**, and our children, Kyle, 16, and Abby, 13. We're really, really looking forward to what will hopefully be in-person school for the kids this fall. Traveling has obviously been limited lately, but we did manage to continue our annual Carolina Beach, North Carolina, tradition each summer.

That's all for this year's report. Best wishes to everyone as we work toward ending this pandemic, and make sure that you keep in touch!

*David Mirra  
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## 2002

**Jeannie Bauder Landgraf** moved to England in 2016 where she and her husband, **Rick Landgraf '03**, and daughter, Layla, had a wonderful three years in a quintessential English village called Hilton. During their time there, they caught up with fellow alum **Rob Taber '00** and enjoyed traveling all over Europe. In April 2019, they welcomed their son Cam in Cambridge, England, before moving back to the States in July. After about a year in sunny California, the Landgrafs moved back to Arlington, Virginia, in August 2020. Over the years, they have kept in touch with **Tom Browne '03, M.S. '07** and **Matt Miller '03**.

**Thomas Becskehazy** is another classmate who has been spending time overseas since he was awarded a Fulbright grant to train English teachers in Taiwan. He and his wife are currently living in Taipei and loving the local food, culture, and hospitality of the Taiwanese people. He will return to his teaching position at Arizona State University in summer 2022.

**Nick '05** and **Allison Burns Pentecost** are pleased to announce the birth of their son Henry Walker Pentecost. All are healthy and well.

**Amy Davidson Latta** is putting her English degree to use as the author of five bestselling books. The most popular one, "Hand Lettering for Relaxation," has sold over 100,000 copies. Amy also enjoys teaching hand lettering and other arts and crafts. Her television segment "Getting Crafty" appears three times a month on the lifestyle show "Good Day PA," and Amy has also had the opportunity to film segments with KSL Studio 5, Midday Maryland, and Hallmark Home & Family.

**Chris** and **Jackie Leazer '01 Englebrake** welcomed a third son to their family, Connor Alexander Englebrake, on May 21, 2020. With the new addition, they have upgraded their traveling game to a fifth-wheel camper and have spent some amazing time traveling and camping around the Mid-Atlantic.

For the past couple of years, **Nichole Christman Hossler** Plan as worked for the Geisinger Health Plan as one of their medical directors. Her oldest son was taught by classmate **Jeremy Merrell** and her daughter is hoping to have him for first grade this year. She also has a child entering pre-kindergarten this year. With travel restrictions changing, Nichole is looking forward to seeing **Kate Boyle Brantley**, **Amanda Lofton Groff**, **Stacey Starleper Scarff**, **Nikki Gaston Davidson**, **Mary-Kate Genova Bishop**, and **Ron Mojica**. Nicole resides in Danville, Pennsylvania.

**Jeremy Keil**, and his wife, Robyn, are still enjoying living in Wisconsin and raising their daughters, Emery, 10, and Harper, 7. Jeremy continues his career in financial planning and even records a podcast, "Retirement Revealed," every week. You'll usually find his family at a school or church event, or swimming at the community pool. Robyn convinced Jeremy to join her gym recently, and he's trying keep up with her during all the HIIT workouts!

**Jill Krebs** is excited to be participating on the Alumni Council and to work with the Sports Hall of Fame Committee. Jill has spent a lot of time outdoors during the pandemic working on landscaping projects at home and hiking with her family. She is looking forward to visiting friends to catch up.

**Amanda Lofton Groff** was challenged and became versed in "Zoom Art," Art on a Cart, and teaching art outside while

teaching elementary art during the pandemic. Backyard happy hour with **Mary-Kate Genova Bishop** helped Amy make it through a tough school year. Her husband, **Jeff Groff '01**, was named the 2019 West Virginia Professor of the Year. The family continues to enjoy the natural beauty of the eastern panhandle of West Virginia and keeping up with Evelyn, 9, and Elliott, 6.

**Nicole Novotny** is a compliance manager at Wells Fargo and continues to enjoy living in Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Melissa O'Brien LaMartina, M.S. '04** lives in Baltimore with her husband, Chris, and their long-haired calico, Madame Leota. This spring, they marked five years of owning their home (not to mention the shed they immediately turned into a tiki bar, aptly named Shedbar). Melissa's alter ego is the horror host Aurora Gorealis, who took her in-person show, "Shocktail Hour," virtual on very short notice in March 2020 and continued to host that show, as well as "Aurora's Bedtime Stories," online regularly during the past year and a half. Aurora also recently hosted the Baltimore Bartenders' Guild's annual benefit, Ryes Up Against Cystic Fibrosis, and the opening show for Blobfest. Melissa and Chris are half of Beach Creeper, a surf band about monsters and cryptids (Melissa is the vocalist and Chris is the drummer). The band was supposed to have its first show in May 2020, but the pandemic nixed that. They're finally scheduling shows and have released four songs on Bandcamp. Melissa continues to act in theatre, film, and the occasional commercial.

After 17 years of teaching music, **Stacey Starleper Scarff** resigned in June 2020. She is now the music director at Highland Presbyterian Church and has also been working on starting a new career as a freelance voiceover artist. She is enjoying spending more time with her children and finally getting a full night's sleep!

Congrats to **Jason** and **Leigh Griffith Wiles**, who celebrated their 17th wedding anniversary in July. They are extremely grateful for the experience that Western Maryland College played in their lives. Jason took over the family business, Outdoor Lawn and Property Services, LLC, four years ago. Now, Jason and Leigh run the business together and have enjoyed seeing it grow locally over their stewardship. They are proud to have survived more than a year of virtual schooling and pandemic projects, which now includes a living room filled with Lego. Since they reside in Westminster, every once in a while, they take their 7-year-old daughter on a drive through campus, and she says she can't wait to go to McDaniel one day. Jason is looking forward to Homecoming activities this year and running into some of his old football teammates.

**Jason** and **Tiffany Putro '03 Wingear**; their two sons, 8 and 6; and dog moved to

Hawaii last May. They survived the first 14 days in quarantine as the hotel staff walked their dog, lived on Uber Eats deliveries, and entertained themselves as best as they could within the confines of their room. Since then, they've taken advantage of visiting neighboring islands, learning to surf, and touring Oahu itself within COVID-19 restrictions. Jason's new job in the Army is serving as the commander of an infantry battalion.

**Erin Mulhern** has been making big moves since we graduated — first living in Cape May, New Jersey, before heading west to Big Sky, Montana, where she works as a hairstylist. For the last seven years she's been loving the Rocky Mountains and all it has to offer, especially snowboarding. She made the move with her awesomely resilient blind pit bull rescue named Squid. Erin keeps in touch with many of her college friends.

Juggling work and family life proved challenging for me (**Emily Wilson Rollins**) during this pandemic, as I'm sure it did for most of you too. My husband, **Ellis Rollins**, and I were only home a short time working remotely in spring of 2020 while our two daughters had to be home much longer from school. Since I continue to work at Mount Saint Joseph High School in Baltimore, there were daily obstacles to ensure we continued to offer a safe and quality education for our students while I also tried to make sure my own children's health and well-being were being taken care of. I'm happy to report that we are all hanging in there despite all the ups and downs. Like many others, we took in a precious pup, Maggie Lu, who needed a home in summer of 2020, and she's been a great addition to our family. I think we've walked well over 700 miles with our dogs since the pandemic started, so at least we can say that! We also took a bit of time during the spring and summer of 2021 to try to get back to a sense of normalcy through local vacations and family time.

As always, many thanks to all who contributed to this class column. When this pandemic is fully in our past, I hope to hear from even more of you about your adventures for the next column. Stay well and continue to let us know how you're doing!

*Emily Wilson Rollins  
2002 Class Reporter  
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## 2008

**Mindy Hirt Vollmer** was promoted to senior academic advisor at the Community College of Baltimore County. She has thoroughly enjoyed working in higher education and is honored to have the new title.

**Timothy Snyder, M.S. '10** recently finished his 10th school year in Frederick County (Maryland) Public Schools (FCPS) as a visual arts teacher. In 2018, Tim was presented with the FCPS Teacher of the Year Award. His experience as Teacher of the Year was both exciting and rewarding, traveling to different areas in the state, mentoring new teachers, and speaking at panels throughout Maryland. He coached cross country for four years at Urbana High School between 2016 and 2019. Outside of coaching, he continues to train and compete after a four-year career as a cross-country and track-and-field athlete at McDaniel College. Currently, he is in McDaniel's Educational Leadership program. Tim's goal is to become a school administrator in the next few years. Having completed his bachelor's degree and master's degree at McDaniel, he is thrilled to be there for the third time. He resides in Frederick, Maryland, with his wife, Kristin (great-granddaughter of Western Maryland College President **Fred Garrigus Holloway 1918, Hon. D.D. '32, Hon. LL.D. '63**), and daughter, Kenna.

**Erin McKeon** recently bought a house in Ramsey, New Jersey, with her fiancé, Chase Heidt.

**Jessica Dittman Wieber** had a baby on March 14, 2021. Her name is Raenna Grace Wieber.

**Brett Foelber** started a new job as director of marketing at St. John Properties in Baltimore on April 5, 2021. St. John Properties has developed, constructed, and owns 21 million square feet of office, flex/research and development, retail, warehouse, and residential space. Brett is proud to work for a company that serves more than 2,500 clients in Maryland, Colorado, Louisiana, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin. St. John Properties was also voted Baltimore Business Journal's No. 1 Best Place to Work in the large company category for 2020.

**Geoff Peckham** recently bought a home in Baltimore County with his wife of five years after living in Baltimore City for seven years. They have two daughters, 3-year-old Ellie, and 1-month-old Evie. Geoff joined Renegade Communications as their director of business strategy and marketing in October 2020.

Since 2018, **Timothy Neeson** has collaborated with worldwide teams and customers to grow two key alternate buying models for Agilent Technologies Inc. He celebrated his 10-year anniversary with the technology company in November 2020. Many of you know that Tim is an avid cruiser and that he enjoys visiting other countries, but that has not been possible since early 2020. He quickly recalibrated and has embraced hiking and photographing the numerous state parks in Pennsylvania. Though mostly solo trips,

**Timothy Neeson '08 embraced hiking as an alternative to his cruising lifestyle during the pandemic.**



[Class Noted]

# Treyana Johnson '20 reflects on her first year in the working world



**“My position as an autopsy technician at the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has been an eventful experience. Working as an autopsy technician is great if you wish to study forensic pathology. I get to learn things such as anatomy, toxicology, fingerprinting, and death investigation. I have been able to use my degree in order to assist the doctors. I’ve helped with facial reconstruction, homicides, and COVID-19 cases. Since COVID-19, the medical examiner’s office has been flooded with cases. We always take precautions and make sure all staff is safe while COVID-positive patients are being autopsied. It’s devastating to see how much this tragedy affects hospitals and medical examiners.**

**“Besides working as an autopsy technician, I also own a business, X-tense. We are a natural, vegan cosmetic and beauty line specializing in lip balms, lip tints, smell goods, massage butters, etc. Having my own business has been fun! It’s an outlet for me because I am a creative person and love to spread beauty into the world. I literally started off by making things for me to wear and others started inquiring about the products. Within the first year since graduating, I’ve been able to land my desired career, while finding a passion of mine. Looking back to 2016, I have the job I’ve always talked about and I’ve found a passion that keeps me happy while also making another stream of income. I beat all odds stacked against a Black woman from Baltimore. Who would’ve known the freshman year version of me would have made it this far? I literally say my dreams became my reality.”**

**Christopher Griffin** joined Tim a few times to explore the mountains and forests of Pennsylvania and the beaches of Delaware and Virginia. After a long hike, you can likely find Tim sampling local beers at a craft brewery.

**Lee Oliver McWhirter** and her husband Kenny welcomed Wiona “Win” McKenna McWhirter on June 14, 2021, at 10 pounds and 21½ inches long. Big brother, Trip, celebrated his second birthday a week after his little sister’s arrival. They are settling into life as a family of four and enjoying some renovations made to their home in Woodbine, Maryland. Professionally, Lee is the director of private clients at Howard Insurance, a private insurance advisory firm in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Meagan Flannery  
2008 Class Reporter  
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## 2014

**Deanna Dicello** returned to school to become a pediatric nurse, and she has been working as a nurse throughout the pandemic. She is currently working on her Doctor of Nursing Practice to become a pediatric primary care nurse practitioner and an academic nurse educator. She was engaged to be married September 2021, and she is mommy to two fur babies. Deanna is still in Maryland and happy to reconnect with anyone and everyone local!

**Elyssa Sykes Bidwell** moved to Rhode Island in 2015. She recently received her master’s in Education from Providence College (PC) and works at PC in institutional advancement as a data processor. She purchased a home at the end of May in New England and resides with her cat.

**Tim Bangerd** is teaching for Baltimore County (Maryland) Public Schools (12th grade Economics) and finishing his seventh year of teaching. He graduated from Towson

University in 2019 with an M.Ed. in Human Resources and Educational Leadership and recently graduated from Liberty University with an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership. He and his wife, Jocelyn, married in May 2019 and are expecting their first child in January 2022. They have been traveling and enjoying themselves in North Carolina’s Outer Banks, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic over the last few years.

**Kathryn “Kate” Dales** graduated from the Dickinson School of Law in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. She currently works as a legal services attorney providing representation for low-income clients. When not working, she has mostly spent time with her family (as much as the pandemic allowed).

**Joe Odierno** married **Colette Kellen '16** in September 2021. He was also elected chief resident for his emergency medicine residency for the 2021-22 year!

After graduating with her bachelor’s degree, **Elizabeth Wolfe Kraft, M.S. '18**

continued at McDaniel to complete her master’s degree in Counseling. After graduating with her M.S., she began working as a substance abuse counselor at Life’s Potential Services and became acting program administrator three months later. She has been there now for the past two years. In April, she bought her first house in the Union Bridge, Maryland, area and has spent the last couple of months making it home.

**Mark Bell** continues to live in Los Angeles. During the pandemic, he spent time golfing, camping, earning his master’s degree, and co-founding a fitness company.

As for me, it’s been a busy few years — even with the pandemic thrown into the mix! When I’m not enjoying my new home in Annapolis, Maryland, I’ve been spending my time at Camden Yards rooting on the Orioles with my mom, **Carol James '79**. I’ve been with PepsiCo the past three years and recently was promoted to marketing associate analyst managing Pepsi’s marketing relationships with the Baltimore Orioles, Washington Football Team, Washington Wizards, Washington Capitals, and Washington Mystics, all while managing all of Pepsi’s major events in the Mid-Atlantic area. I even checked off one of my bucket-list items by throwing the first pitch at an Orioles game in 2019 to represent the new Pepsi/Orioles partnership!

Lauren Avery  
2014 Class Reporter  
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## 2020

**Jackson Neal** was the first to send his class note. Jackson moved to Frederick, Maryland, with **Billy Moos**, and in September was moving to Rockville, Maryland, with Billy and **Jacob Schoenick '19**. He is currently working as an IT delivery manager with Piper Companies in Columbia, Maryland.

**Treyana Johnson** writes, “During my time on the Hill, I served as the Black Student Union’s president, an Edge Experience mentor, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Upsilon Gamma Chapter. I also served on numerous committees and service projects. Although my senior year was cut short, I gathered a lifetime of memories at McDaniel. I am an autopsy assistant at the Chief Medical Examiner’s Office. I am also enrolled at Coppin State University to receive my master’s degree in Investigative Sciences. I have successfully started my cosmetic and beauty product line, X-tense. All of this has been accomplished within a year of graduating. I am a first-generation college graduate and cannot wait to see what the future holds for me.”

**Jade Enright** shared that in the year since graduation, she and **Cooper Hostetler** moved to St. Louis, Missouri, and started

[Class Noted]

# Class of 2021 Elementary Ed graduates start teaching at Carroll County Public Schools



graduate school at Washington University. Jade is pursuing a Ph.D. in Molecular Cell Biology and Cooper is pursuing a Ph.D. in Plant and Microbial Biosciences. They also adopted a dog.

**Lucero Espinal** is a secondary teacher for Howard County (Maryland) Public School System. She teaches Spanish and career research development at the Homewood Center. Lucero is also enrolled in McDaniel College’s Equity and Excellence in Education Post-Baccalaureate Certificate program.

**Kelly Novak** is currently studying for her Master of Science in Meteorology at Florida State University.

**Kavante Green** is in his second year of grad school at McDaniel, pursuing a master’s degree in Human Services Management. Kavante is also currently a community living manager at Target Community and Educational Services.

We are still looking for a class reporter for your class, so please reach out if you are interested in hearing more about this rewarding and important way to volunteer for your alma mater.

The Alumni Engagement Team  
alumni@mcDaniel.edu  
410-857-2296

Eight 2021 Elementary Education graduates were hired to teach in Carroll County elementary schools this school year. Pictured above on their first day are:

- Garrett Vandervalk, Friendship Valley Elementary School**
- Amara Edwards-Foster, Cranberry Station Elementary School**
- Sydney McDonald, Cranberry Station Elementary School**
- Madison Pool, Elmer Wolfe Elementary School**
- Kalyn Wilson, Parr’s Ridge Elementary School**
- Alayna Hoffman, Runnymede Elementary School**
- Nick Lavery, Elmer Wolfe Elementary School**
- Kristen Worry, Linton Springs Elementary School**



# keep climbing

Lessons I took from the Hill

## Swimming into the light on the longest day after the darkest year

BY CARL GOLD '78

**Carl Gold '78 is an attorney based in Towson, Maryland. He took advantage of downtime during the pandemic to become a certified Maryland Master Naturalist and reconnect with nature in a variety of ways. He participated in The Longest Swim on the Longest Day as a fundraiser for The Outdoor Swimming Society aiming to support people's swimming dreams and "help preserve our watery planet."**

I start the longest day of the year, the summer solstice, very early at Hammerman Beach in eastern Baltimore County, Maryland. I look down and see fern moss near the base of the osprey nest in the parking lot. Emerald cushions with spores ready to explode with new single cell life cover the ground, inches away from asphalt. I glance up at the high-pitched chirping of newly hatched osprey fledglings that barely can be heard over the mating calls of millions of Brood X cicadas. Behind me, a doe drinks from a vernal pool until she is startled by a car door closing.

This has been a year unlike any other in my life. The isolation, the loss of contact with what author Jane Brody refers to as consequential strangers — not to mention dear friends and family — has been numbing. The sky, the sea, the river, the land, and their inhabitants have been consistent reminders that not only does life go on but it must go on. Those of us lucky enough to immerse ourselves in water know this viscerally. To me, outdoor swimming is the best way to pay homage to Earth's womb. Water teems with life seen and unseen.

As I swim in the early diffused light from pier to pier, my head turns to the right to catch a breath and a great blue heron is just a few feet away, patiently waiting for her breakfast to appear. A little while later, a shadow appears on the water and I quickly look up to see an osprey grasping what looks like a channel catfish in her talons as she heads back to the nest at the parking lot. A sign of a healthy river, submerged aquatic vegetation occasionally entangles my arms but all I have to do is relax my stroke and it slips away.

I lose count of how many eagles I see. Seemingly stoic and unperturbed by my ripples in the water, they



Sally Keck '78 Gold and Carl Gold '78 have enjoyed spending time in and around the water with their grandchildren over the last year.

gaze down at me giving me the gift of getting close enough to see their eyes. If I'm really lucky, some red-winged blackbirds will pop up from the marsh and yell at me for disturbing them.

Last summer when the pandemic locked us all down, the freedom to swim was sanity-saving. All I had to do was open my eyes to appreciate the beauty and see the light all around me. This freedom is not guaranteed to last. We have an obligation to protect it. The more folks who see this beauty, the more likely we are to recruit people to preserve what we have.

As the gazebo on the Hill reminds us all: Carpe diem. Seize the day, for nothing is guaranteed — not the next year, the next summer, or the next moment — so seek out the light in the darkness.



### How does a CGA work?

**A donor transfers cash, securities, or other properties to a nonprofit like McDaniel College, and you can receive a tax deduction plus a lifetime stream of income. When the annuity ends, its remaining principle supports a designation of your choice.**

**If you'd like to learn more about how you can make a CGA gift or other vehicles that benefit both you and McDaniel, contact Lawrence "Chip" Junkin M.S. '15 at [cjunkin@mcdaniel.edu](mailto:cjunkin@mcdaniel.edu) or 410-857-2256.**

## Changing Lives for Generations

For Charlie '71 and Carol Hoerichs '70 Moore, the Hill brought lifelong friends, unexpected career paths, and each other. Charlie, a McDaniel trustee since 1993, and Carol met as students at Western Maryland College. Supported by mentors including the late Ira Zepp, their connection with their alma mater has deepened over the years.

Charlie and Carol believe in supporting organizations they care about, and alumni financial support is a key part of sustaining an institution like McDaniel. That's why they support McDaniel year after year. When they learned about charitable gift annuities (CGAs), they discovered they could make a lasting impact for generations to come and still benefit from security and income now. That's why they chose to set up a CGA with McDaniel.

As Charlie and Carol celebrate their 50th class reunions and 50th wedding anniversary, there has never been a better time to cement their legacy at McDaniel and create a lasting impact for its students.



Charlie '71 and Carol Hoerichs '70 Moore leaving Baker Memorial Chapel after their wedding ceremony on Jan. 23, 1971, performed by Ira Zepp.



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**“A vibrant, healthy campus community creates a good environment for the town of Westminster. My investment not only keeps my alma mater competitive but helps my hometown, too.” – Debbie Dale '84 Seidel**

Read more about how Debbie and Ethan Seidel remain invested in McDaniel and the Westminster community as a whole on page 26.