

The Hill

McDANIEL COLLEGE | Summer 2023



WEAVING THE FABRIC OF
COMMUNITY

2023 ALUM OF THE YEAR
CORYNNE COURPAS '76

The Hill is published three times yearly by:
McDaniel College
2 College Hill
Westminster, MD 21157-4390
www.mcdaniel.edu

Editor: Lindsay Sherman

Staff Writers:
Cheryl Knauer,
Caitlin Wilson

Design: Samantha Arellano,
Katie Grim,
Jamie Reams Leinauer

Sensitivity Reviewer:
Kenrya Rankin

Alumni correspondence to:
alumni@mcdaniel.edu
410-857-2296 or
The Office of Alumni Engagement
McDaniel College
2 College Hill
Westminster, MD 21157-4390

All other correspondence to:
ocm@mcdaniel.edu
410-857-2290 or
The Office of Communications
and Marketing
McDaniel College
2 College Hill
Westminster, MD 21157-4390

McDaniel College, in compliance with federal and state laws and regulations governing affirmative action and nondiscrimination, does not discriminate in the recruitment, admission, and employment of students, faculty, and staff in the operation of any of its educational programs and activities as defined by law.

The diverse views presented in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editors or official policies of the college.

©2023 McDaniel College

On the cover:
Corynne Courpas '76 can often be found admiring art all over Westminster, including this mural on the side of Pomeroy Jewelers on Main Street.

Photo by
Maximilian Franz



During Alumni Weekend in June, Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) enjoyed the traditional GOLD Crab Feast outside of the Roj Student Center.

FEATURES

10 From Aberdeen to Anchorage

Catherine “Cathy” Pendorf Arnatt '02, M.S. '04 found her calling in public health

16 Stepping into the light

David Colquhoun is embracing his role as McDaniel's presidential spouse

22 Following his own game plan

Garrett Eagan '09 invests his entrepreneurial skills in his hometown

28 A love for college and community

Alum of the Year Corynne Courpas '76 is called to give back to her communities

DEPARTMENTS

3 Carpe Diem
News around campus and beyond

8 Double Take
Sights worth a second look

34 Invested
Advancing the vision

38 Alumni Updates
Life after college

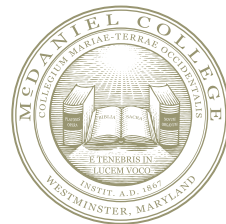
56 Keep Climbing
Lessons I took from the Hill

Don't forget to check out the online edition for digital content at mcdaniel.edu/magazine!





“Community on the Hill is about fellowship with others for the common good.”



Dear Hill Readers,

When you hear the word “community,” you might first think about geographical surroundings: a place of employment, a city, a region, a state. Those places are, indeed, representations of community. But the type of community we embrace at McDaniel is so much more than a location.

Community on the Hill is about fellowship with others for the common good. It is about taking responsibility, contributing to a larger society, and forming connections that enable us to be greater than our individual parts.

At McDaniel, we are proud to prepare students for successful lives of leadership, service, and social responsibility. In doing so, we send students out into the world to make a difference, not only here in Carroll County during their time on the Hill, but also in their future communities — wherever our alumni land as they begin the next and future chapters of their lives.

The theme of community is the heart of this issue. For Cathy Pendorf Arnatt '02, M.S. '04, that community is Anchorage, Alaska, where she is raising her family and providing accessible health care to underserved Indigenous communities. For Nick Giusti '08 and Zach Nibbelink '14, it is Fort Hood, Texas, where they are stationed together as AH-64 Apache pilots. For Alison Lafferty States '19, community is formed through her support for and advocacy of those suffering from chronic disease.

I'm also excited for you to read about our Alum of the Year Corynne Courpas '76 — one of the most community-minded Carroll Countians I know. And even closer to home, my husband David shares his experiences of living on campus and supporting the students, faculty, staff, and alumni in his role of presidential spouse.

For the many ways to define community, I think that American poet Gwendolyn Brooks captured it best: “We are each other’s harvest; we are each other’s business; we are each other’s magnitude and bond.”

Happy summer to you and your community from the Hill!

Sincerely,

President Julia Jasken

Congratulations, Class of 2023!

On Saturday, May 20, 649 bachelor’s and master’s degrees were conferred at the college’s 153rd Commencement ceremony. Graduates from 18 countries and 28 states, plus Washington, D.C., received degrees from 36 different undergraduate majors and 19 graduate programs.

Thirty-six graduates are the children or grandchildren of McDaniel or Western Maryland College alumni, and 28 of the master’s degree candidates have previously earned a McDaniel College bachelor’s degree.

The weekend of celebration kicked off on Friday evening with the traditional Arch Walk, signifying the end of the undergraduate students’ journey on the Hill, walking through Ward Memorial Arch, just as they did as first-year students.

At the Senior Investiture and Honors Convocation, academic and activity and leadership awards were presented, including the Bates Prize and Mary Ward Lewis Prize, awarded to the two most outstanding members of the graduating class. Stephani Xiomara Portillo Ordoñez, a Self-Designed French Studies major and Political Science major specializing in International Studies, received The Mary Ward Lewis Prize, while Psychology major Dylan Elroy Hughes was awarded The Bates Prize.

Sharon Love M.S. '76, who graduated with a master’s degree in Deaf Education, was the Commencement speaker at the graduate ceremony on Saturday morning. At the afternoon’s undergraduate ceremony, legendary Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative journalist and bestselling author Bob Woodward addressed the graduating class, and an Honorary Doctor of Journalism was awarded to Stan Stovall, retired veteran journalist and news anchor with WBAL-TV.

“You are McDaniel’s Class of 2023, and you are prepared and ready to change the world,” said President Julia Jasken. “Each one of you has left your mark on this college, and I know that you will continue to impact the world, the people you meet, and the places you call home, wherever your journey takes you.”

At the ceremony, History major Stephanie A. Eckard was honored with The Edith Farr Ridington Writing Award for best senior paper. Six undergraduates were tied for the highest cumulative GPA and were recipients of the Argonaut Award: Kate Rebecca Cramer, Evan J. Darr, Kyra M. Greenfield, Lyra Juliet Houghton, Grace Elizabeth Maglietta, and Eleanor Vivienne Tomkins.

Additionally, two faculty members earned the top undergraduate teaching awards presented by the college. Professor of Accounting Kerry Duvall earned the 2023 Ira G. Zepp Distinguished Teaching Award, and Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies Elyzabeth “Elly” Engle was presented the 2023 Ira G. Zepp Teaching Enhancement Grant.





New provost Flavius Lilly joins McDaniel

Following a national search, Flavius R. W. Lilly, Ph.D. joined McDaniel College as its new provost in June. He has most recently served as the vice provost of academic and student affairs and the vice dean of the Graduate School at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

In his new role at McDaniel, Lilly will serve as the chief academic officer, having broad responsibility for both the undergraduate and graduate academic programs.

“I am thrilled to embark on this new chapter at McDaniel College, eager to immerse myself in its vibrant community, engage with the expertise of its faculty, and be inspired by its exceptional leaders,” said Lilly. “From the moment I set foot on campus, I felt a deep sense of belonging, and I eagerly anticipate forging meaningful connections and contributing to the advancement of McDaniel College’s mission.”

Lilly holds a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, and obtained a Master of Public Health in Epidemiology from Drexel University. He also has a master’s degree in Applied Sociology and Ph.D. in Gerontology from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Four students presented business plans at Innovation and Entrepreneurship Challenge

ReDorm presented by rising junior Javon Spencer, Business Administration major from New Castle, Delaware, earned the \$5,000 top prize as the first-place winner of McDaniel’s seventh annual Innovation and Entrepreneurship Challenge.

ReDorm is a recycling app that connects college students with products that they need, such as furniture, room accessories, textbooks, and more. “ReDorm connects students who need products with those who are downsizing, preventing perfectly adequate items from going to waste,” said Spencer.

Y LIME presented by rising senior Emily Trachoo, Marketing major from College Park, Maryland, received \$1,000 as the runner-up, while rising senior Kiyara Fleming, Sociology major from Baltimore, who presented Kiy Productions was the \$1,000 People’s Choice Winner. Sophomore Eric Grinwis, Business Administration major from Laurel, Maryland, who presented TATMANERC was the \$1,000 Community Changer award recipient.

In the month before the event, the students engaged in the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Challenge Training Program, led by Jennifer Yang, McDaniel’s entrepreneur in residence. The five-week program paired each student with a mentor — alumni, faculty member, or local business owner — who assisted them in developing their ideas in the lead-up to the competition.



Second Annual Academic Symposium highlights community

As another academic year ended, we were inspired by the work our community did this year, much of which was celebrated at the second annual Academic Symposium on May 1. This daylong event recognized the best of what a liberal arts education has to offer, showcasing the research, scholarship, creativity, and service of our students, faculty, and staff.

Over breakfast, President Julia Jasken joined a panel of Carroll County Leaders in a conversation moderated by Westminster Mayor Mona Becker to discuss the ways local organizations are collaborating for a better Westminster and Carroll County.

Carroll Community College Provost Rose Mince, Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS) Superintendent Cynthia McCabe, County Administrator Roberta Windham, Westminster City Administrator Sara Imhulse, and Westminster Police Chief Thomas Ledwell highlighted exciting projects for each of their organizations and answered questions submitted in advance by guests. From public safety to hiring needs, dual-enrollment agreements between Carroll Community College and McDaniel, and opportunities to enhance career- and college-readiness for students in CCPS, the conversation demonstrated how engaged each leader in the community is.

Academic research presentations from a variety of disciplines were held throughout the day, including Art, Biology, Chemistry, Communication, Computer Science, Education, English, Environmental Studies, History, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Social Work, Sociology, and World Languages, Literatures, & Cultures.

To round out the experience, an afternoon service fair organized by the Center for Experience and Opportunity included quick on-site service projects hosted by student groups and community partners. Whether creating pinecone bird feeders, making PB&J sandwiches for the food bank, or putting together school supply kits, the McDaniel community got hands-on experience in giving back.

*Top: Five students participated in “Preparing for a Career in Health and Medicine,” discussing their future plans for medical school and beyond.
Middle: Over breakfast, President Jasken and Carroll County leaders discussed the importance of collaboration for a better community.
Bottom: Community members were invited to participate in quick service projects, like making pine cone bird feeders.*



Wilberger with two of his mentees, screenwriter Kayla Catlin '20 (left) and DGA member and assistant director Tricia Meola '15 (right).

Jim Wilberger '72 honored with Trustee Alumni Award

The McDaniel College Board of Trustees presented its prestigious Trustee Alumni Award to Jim Wilberger, who earned a bachelor's degree in Theatre Arts in 1972 from the college. The award is the highest alumni honor given at McDaniel in recognition of alumni career and service achievement.

As a Hollywood producer, Wilberger has more than 101 producing credits for movies, mini-series, and television movies. He is currently executive producer of Hallmark Crown Media.

Wilberger regularly hosts McDaniel students in Los Angeles for film internships, assists the McDaniel Cinema Department with mentoring programs for current students, speaks on campus, and donates instructional materials to the department. He was also the recipient of the 2020 Alumni College Service Award.



McDaniel earns Military Friendly® Schools silver designation

McDaniel has been recognized among the nation's top schools doing the most for military veterans and their families for the 14th consecutive year. McDaniel is also among the schools that earned the Military Friendly® Silver Award for scoring within 30% of the top 10 schools.

McDaniel appears on the 2023-2024 Military Friendly® Schools list published in the May issue of G.I. Jobs® magazine in honor of Military Appreciation Month. First published in 2009, the list is compiled annually by Viqtory with input from the Military Friendly® Advisory Council of independent leaders in the higher education and military recruitment community.

The Green Terror Battalion Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) is one of the nation's oldest ROTC programs, founded at McDaniel College in 1919. McDaniel also offers a guaranteed Military Legacy Scholarship, valued at up to \$120,000 over four years, to all military veterans, active-duty military personnel, and their children. In addition, the college participates in the Post-9/11 GI Bill and Yellow Ribbon Program, which covers up to the cost of full tuition at McDaniel.



Earth Day on the Hill

McDaniel celebrated Earth Day on Friday, April 21, in Memorial Plaza with eco games, recycled crafts, live music, food, and more. Elly Engle, assistant professor of Environmental Studies, called it the college's "biggest sustainability celebration yet."

Additionally, the McDaniel Environmental Center hosted the entire Gerstell Academy student body to celebrate Earth Day. The students participated in 18 different educational stations and service activities focused on taking action to improve the local community and the environment.

Jason Scullion, associate professor of Environmental Studies, discussed the history of the McDaniel Environmental Center, formerly known as the Singleton-Mathews Farm, and the Carroll County Bureau of Land and Resource Management also assisted with the event.



Left: Human Resources hosted a table with a free plant giveaway for all members of the community.

Top: Daniel DeHollander, associate director of career development in the Center for Experience and Opportunity, talked with students about work opportunities and corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Bottom: Students from Gerstell Academy participated in 18 educational stations and service activities focused on taking action to improve the local community and the environment.

double take

Sights worth a second look

A DAILY REMINDER OF

THE HILL

TWO GREEN TERRORS REFLECT ON THE RARE OPPORTUNITY
TO FLY APACHE HELICOPTERS TOGETHER IN THE ARMY

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN



“
It’s nice to be able to
serve with someone who
has similar roots and
shared experiences.”

— Zach Nibbelink '14

The Green Terror network runs deep, and that is no exception in the lives of Zach Nibbelink '14 and Nick Giusti '08. While they didn't attend McDaniel at the same time, they first met when Giusti was a member of the Green Terror football team.

“My dad, Gregg Nibbelink, has been the head athletic trainer since 1991. I grew up on the Hill, going to work with him after school,” Nibbelink says. “That’s how I met Nick.”

But neither one probably imagined that more than a decade later they’d both be enlisted in the U.S. Army, stationed together at Fort Hood, Texas, in the same unit flying AH-64 Apache helicopters.

“I developed such a good relationship with Gregg that I would always make time to go see him if I was in the area,” Giusti says. “During one of those trips, he told me that Zach was becoming a warrant officer, so I was able to reach out and offer some advice to him, having been a warrant officer and a pilot for a couple years myself at that point.”

Fast forward seven years, and they ended up in the same unit, bringing their relationship full circle.

“Being in the Army, I spend a lot of time away from home and in unfamiliar places,” says Nibbelink. “It’s nice to be able to serve with someone who has similar roots and shared experiences.”

Giusti says that this unique opportunity is not lost on him: “For us to both be Apache pilots is rare enough. On top of that, for us to be together in the same unit is pretty special. Working with a fellow Green Terror has allowed me to think back on my time on the Hill and those relationships I developed during my college years. I don’t think it’ll ever happen again, so I’m making sure to enjoy it while we can.”



Learn more about Zach and Nick’s time on the Hill, their careers, and why they value being Green Terrors for life.

Opposite page: Zach Nibbelink '14 and Nick Giusti '08 are stationed together at Fort Hood, Texas.
Top: Giusti shows off his Green Terror football jersey while deployed in Syria in 2022.
Middle: Nibbelink in the cockpit of an AH-64 Apache helicopter.
Bottom: Giusti flying the Apache during deployment to Afghanistan in 2019.



From **ABERDEEN** *to* **ANCHORAGE**

ALONG THE WINDING ROAD TO BECOMING A CLINICAL PHARMACIST IN ALASKA, CATHERINE “CATHY” PENDORF ARNATT '02, M.S. '04 FOUND HER CALLING IN PUBLIC HEALTH.

BY CAITLIN WILSON | PHOTOGRAPHY BY NATHANIEL WILDER



Catherine “Cathy” Pendorf Arnatt '02, M.S. '04 fell in love with Alaska unexpectedly. It started with a pharmacy school rotation with the Indian Health Service in Anchorage, Alaska. Working with the Southcentral Foundation (SCF), a tribal nonprofit health care system serving Alaska Native and American Indian people, changed the course of her life and career.

“It was going to be my five-week Alaskan adventure,” she says. She didn’t realize at the time that it was only the start of a journey that would bring her community and challenge in equal measure.

In fact, back then she couldn’t wait for her next rotation when she returned to Richmond, Virginia, where she was enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) program at Virginia Commonwealth University. But her next rotations didn’t spark her interest like Alaska had.

“I fell in love with the work being done there, and the mission and vision of the Southcentral Foundation,” she says. “Plus, the mission of the U.S. Public Health Service seemed like something I had a passion for.”

Arnatt had learned about a post-doctoral pharmacy residency with the SCF that would take her back to Anchorage. It included an accelerated pathway to join the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS), one of the eight uniformed services of the United States, uniformed but unarmed, whose primary mission is the protection, promotion, and advancement of health and safety of the nation.

Taking a chance, Arnatt applied for the residency — and, to her surprise, ended up moving with her husband to Alaska, their home for the past 10 years.

From Psychology undergraduate to a Human Services Management graduate student at McDaniel College, then becoming a clinical pharmacist in Anchorage, Arnatt has always had one constant: a passion for providing her communities with knowledge, care, and support.

CLINICAL PHARMACISTS ARE A CORNERSTONE IN HEALTH CARE

As a commander with the USPHS Commissioned Corps, Arnatt is commissioned with the Indian Health Service and can be deployed anytime during public health crises. Most recently, she deployed to support Alaskan vaccine efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Being an officer is one of my jobs, but my other job within that role is being a clinical pharmacist,” she says.

Day to day, Arnatt works in the ambulatory care clinic at the Alaska Native Medical Center, serving Alaska Native people and the American Indian population in Alaska. That population includes distinct cultures such as the Iñupiat, Yup’ik, Dene, Cup’ik, Unangax and Sugpiaq (Alutiiq), Eyak, Haida, Tsimshian, and Tlingit.

Arnatt spends her time providing medication consults to her patients and to primary care teams.

“When it comes down to it, I love being able to help people. Every day I get to do something rewarding and joyful,” Arnatt says. “It fills my cup to be able to help people, especially those who may have difficulty accessing health care, have lower health literacy, or who just want to be heard.”

As a clinical pharmacist, Arnatt provides drug therapy consultations to providers and medical staff, and helps her patients with anything from managing chronic disease states to using anticoagulation medication. She is also a board-certified psychiatric pharmacist and works closely with the hospital’s substance abuse program.

“One of my passions is to help underserved populations,” Arnatt says. “There are limited resources for individuals living in Alaska. So, being a health care provider who has the passion and also has support federally and from my organization, I’m able to make a lot of impact.”



MAKING A DIFFERENCE AS A LIFELONG LEARNER

When Arnatt first began working in Alaska in 2013, the SCF had only one provider offering medication-assisted treatment. She slowly began integrating pharmacy services, and a decade later she’s proud to say that over 60 providers now prescribe medications to treat substance abuse, supported by their integrated pharmacists.

Arnatt is a subject matter expert on medication-assisted treatment, and she takes every opportunity to share her knowledge. She has provided consultations to local tribal organizations, lectured at several universities, presented at national conferences, and is a clinical faculty member for the USPHS and has served on the Surgeon General’s Education Team.

“I’m a lifelong learner. I find it very rewarding to directly apply the things I learn to the people I serve,” Arnatt says.

Her efforts to improve health care quality and access for her patients have been recognized with the Alaska Pharmacist Association’s 2022 Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award, the Indian Health Service Director’s Award in 2017 and 2022, a 2021 Outstanding Service Medal from the USPHS, and the Indian Health Service Junior Pharmacist of the Year award in 2020.

She jokes that her love for learning has added an alphabet to her resume, but it’s always worth it. “I am accumulating letters over the years — with my PharmD, M.S., BCPP, NCPS, this and that. It’s one certification after another, but it all started on the Hill. After I finish one, I wonder, “What else can I do?””

Top: Arnatt is a subject matter expert in substance use treatment, chronic pain management, and psychiatric pharmacy, and often teaches and lectures in clinical and academic settings. Bottom: Arnatt (second from left) and her coworkers Tiffany Ma, Brandon Boller, and Aminda Skan provide pharmaceutical services to patients at the Anchorage Native Primary Care Pharmacy.

“WHEN IT COMES DOWN TO IT, I LOVE BEING ABLE TO HELP PEOPLE. EVERY DAY I GET TO DO SOMETHING REWARDING AND JOYFUL.”

Involved Overdose Deaths by All Ages, 1999-2021





CONNECTING THROUGH A SHARED SENSE OF COMMITMENT AND ADVENTURE

“It is definitely a different world up here,” Arnatt says. Less than 300,000 people live in Anchorage — and that’s slightly under half of Alaska’s population. For Arnatt, it feels like raising her children in a small town.

“Even though we’re far away from family, we’ve built a community,” Arnatt says. “A lot of our friends are also transplants from other places, so we all have the spirit of adventure and a passion for our work.”

Arnatt frequently volunteers her expertise to local and national causes. For the past five years, she has worked with Project Hope, training over 500 community members to administer Narcan, a drug used to halt opioid overdoses. She has also supported SCF’s yearly flu clinics and education booths to promote public health.

Her other commitments include the Healthy Minds Initiative, Special Olympics of Alaska, Health Occupations Students of America, and the Public Health Services’ Women’s Leadership Support Group.

“We have a lot of opportunities to help people here, because we do have a lot of need up here, and sometimes there aren’t enough people to support those needs. I like being able to step in and do that,” Arnatt says.

BRAVING THE ALASKAN WILDERNESS TO PROVIDE FOR PATIENTS

Alaskans can face unique challenges when it comes to picking up their prescriptions. Getting medicine from pharmacy to patient in Alaska requires careful planning for tasks that pharmacists in the lower 48 may take for granted.

Winter in Alaska means two feet of standing snow. Add fresh snowfall and below-zero temperatures, and the rural Anchorage Service Unit has to get creative to safely deliver medicine.

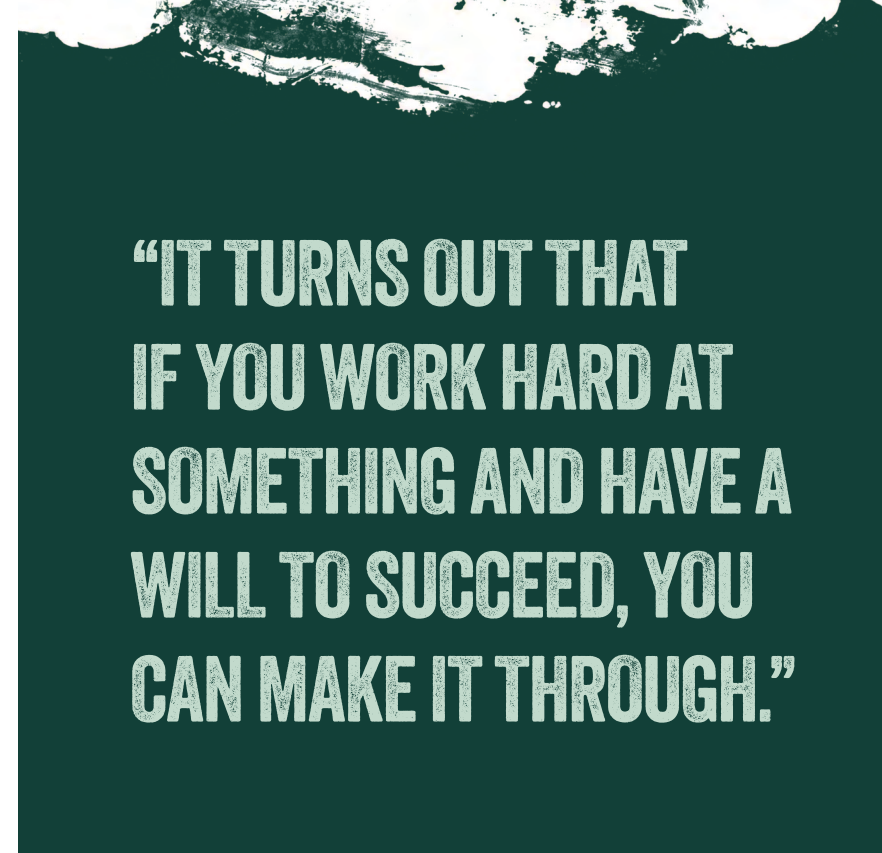
For people living in the Aleutian Islands in the Bering Sea and other isolated regions, deliveries are made by bush plane, boat, or snowmobile. It can also be distributed through centralized medication vending machines.

Arnatt must also account for socioeconomic differences among her patients, like a lack of running water or inability to travel. That, plus Alaska’s distance from the lower 48, can affect the demand for certain medications, she says.

“We have to have our own consensus of when we are going to offer treatments, because we have different diseases and time frames here, and higher incidence of certain diseases versus others,” Arnatt says.

Top: At home in Alaska with her husband, Michael Arnatt, a neuropsychologist, and their children, Josiah Arnatt, 5, and Amelia Arnatt, 7.

Bottom: Arnatt provides patient counseling on diabetes and asthma medications to Debra Tobuk.



Arnatt (pictured standing second from the right) can trace her passion for public health back to the Hill and her involvement in student organizations like ASAP (AIDS Support, Awareness, and Prevention).

A MEANDERING PATH THAT MAKES PERFECT SENSE

Arnatt thrives as a pharmacist in Alaska, but neither the job nor the location were part of her plans as an undergraduate.

As a Psychology major with minors in Sociology and Theatre Arts, she planned to become a psychologist but didn’t let that stop her from diversifying her studies.

“I love my liberal arts education,” she says. “There were so many opportunities for me to grow as a person.”

She was one of the founding members of the Asian Community Coalition, which continues to bring students together today, and did stagecraft for theatre productions. “I made so many good friendships, and I still think of my time at WMC with such fondness — and I still love theatre.”

After graduation, she enrolled in McDaniel’s Human Services Management master’s program. As part of the program, she managed an assisted living unit at Target Community & Educational Services in Westminster, Maryland.

The partnership between Target, a nonprofit supporting individuals living with disabilities, and the college allowed her to transition into a career while continuing her education. It was also where she first worked alongside clinical pharmacists.

After earning her master’s degree, she worked with children with disabilities in Maryland and Virginia schools, which is where her interest in pharmacy began.

“While working with children in underserved populations, sometimes the families would ask questions about their child’s medical care that I couldn’t answer,” she says.

Arnatt would seek out and share resources with the families, but she soon realized that she wanted a more in-depth education. In the end, pursuing a PharmD and becoming a pharmacist goes back to her desire to help people find the answers they need.

“Sometimes I was scared and wondered if I really wanted to go into pharmacy. It meant I would have to take chemistry and calculus and all these hard things that I thought I wasn’t very good at,” Arnatt says.

“But it turns out that if you work hard at something and have a will to succeed, you can make it through. And, it turns out, I actually love those subjects.”

Her journey from her hometown of Aberdeen, Maryland, to Anchorage, Alaska, has been a “meandering path that makes perfect sense,” Arnatt says. “It led me exactly to where I feel like I belong.”



STEPPING INTO THE LIGHT

DAVID COLQUHOUN IS EMBRACING HIS ROLE AS McDANIEL'S PRESIDENTIAL SPOUSE

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAXIMILIAN FRANZ

When he's walking around campus, David Colquhoun has been fairly anonymous — that is, unless he's walking the second most famous member of the McDaniel presidential family, First Dog Kira. Often, that's when students recognize him as McDaniel's very own presidential spouse, the husband of President Julia Jasken.

But as he becomes more involved in various roles throughout campus and in the wider community, that's starting to change. Now, in his own words, we can all get to know Colquhoun and the ways he sees himself fitting into the various communities he's a part of, including McDaniel, the presidential spouse community, and Westminster.



ABOUT

DAVID COLQUHOUN,
PRESIDENTIAL SPOUSE

Birthplace:
Sheffield, England

Bachelor's degree:
Applied Microbiology, University
of Sunderland

Master's degree:
Environmental Microbiology,
Michigan Technological University

Ph.D.:
Environmental Health Sciences,
Johns Hopkins University

Job title:
Market Development Manager –
Biomarker Research, SCIEX

Other titles:
Dad, Husband, Presidential Spouse,
Coach, Mixologist/Bartender, Dave

Hobbies:
Soccer (watching, coaching, and playing),
cooking, hiking, canoeing

Tell us about your first impressions of McDaniel.

I had actually never set foot on McDaniel's campus until we moved here. Julia and I were graduate students when she interviewed for a faculty position, and she immediately fell in love with it. She came back to Michigan and said, "I think this is the place." It was one of the places we had also identified as a great way for me to continue my graduate studies at Johns Hopkins, so we made the move. What we didn't realize was what a strong network of support would be waiting for us when we arrived. It was the summer of 2003, and we'd driven two days from Michigan with all of our belongings; our 3-month-old son, Iain; and a neurotic border collie, Molly. When we arrived at our rental house, we were surprised to find the entire English faculty was there to help us move in. Professor LeRoy Panek was a very important part of both of our lives, and Professor Mary Bendel-Simso essentially adopted our family very early on. My family all lives in the U.K., and Julia's family lives in Minnesota, so Mary and her family are a second family to us and always invite us over for birthday parties, Easter, and Thanksgiving. Although that feeling of family started with the English Department, it's grown over the years to include students, other faculty, staff, and even alumni now.

What has your career path looked like since moving to Maryland?

I had just finished my master's degree when we moved, and I initially accepted a substitute teaching position at North Carroll High School. They offered me a full-time job, but the same day, I found out that I received a full scholarship to pursue my Ph.D. at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health. I finished my Ph.D. in just over three years and worked at Hopkins for 10 years after that. Then I moved into industry, first at Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, and then at SCIEX, where I've been focused on biologics and mass spectrometry since January 2016. I spent five years as the sales rep that covered the state of Maryland, and then I moved into a technical specialist role, which has required a lot of travel throughout the Mid-Atlantic area. It's been great because I'm able to use my science background, but at the same time, I'm interacting with many companies and researchers who are doing really cutting-edge work. I like having the pulse of what's going on and how our technology's being used as well as how companies are developing vaccines or treatments for diseases. In April, I transitioned into a position as a market development manager for biomarker research, which will give me more time to be present on campus for the activities and events.

You perhaps don't fit into the traditional demographics of a college presidential spouse. What has it been like getting integrated into that community over the past two years?

I've had the opportunity to meet other presidential spouses through the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), which has been great. We're all different, but we all have the commonality of being supportive spouses of college and university presidents. It's interesting to start seeing the demographics shifting, where there are a growing number of female presidents and same-sex couples, and I think that's fantastic. What's interesting in this group is that we're all sharing our perspectives, and everyone has something to bring to the table. For me personally, it's about the challenges of holding a full-time job while being a presidential spouse.



Favorite cocktail:

"Ooh, I love an old fashioned. But I am militant about it. There is a very specific way to make it, so I don't always order it because it's so easy to be disappointed."



Favorite food to cook:

"Growing up in Britain, I love Indian food. And I have a Cajun cookbook that has some awesome recipes in it, like a shrimp and tomato stew that was just to die for. I also love cooking ribs and pulled pork with a sous vide."



What are some areas of opportunity for you to meld your passions with initiatives as a presidential spouse?

That's still evolving a bit for me, and there are so many community angles I could take on. I've always been a proponent of stewardship and environmental causes, so I'm excited about the work happening with the McDaniel Environmental Center and the upcoming changes to Harvey Stone Pavilion. My master's degree is in Environmental Microbiology, and I worked on bacteria that would degrade pollutants in the environment, so that's an area that I'm still passionate about and like to stay in touch with. I'm also a big fan of the college's soccer program and other sports. It's great to attend the competitions and cheer on our Green Terror teams.



What changes can you make to the traditional role of presidential spouse on the Hill?

One of the things I learned at one of the CIC sessions for presidential spouses was that it was important to determine what the traditions are, what traditions you can build upon, and what traditions of your own can you build. Julia has had a big focus on building on the already strong relationships with the city, so we've had a lot of events open to the city over the past few years. Probably the biggest have been our Movies at McDaniel summer events, which have been very popular. I think my favorite event was an event where faculty and staff could select one of JeannieBird's Thanksgiving pies for their Thanksgiving celebrations. I made and served a Swedish mulled wine drink called glögg. It was fun to appreciate the McDaniel community in this way.

In what ways have you been connected with Westminster, Carroll County, and McDaniel even before becoming presidential spouse?

Soccer has always been a big part of my life, and I've coached both of my boys' soccer teams as they've grown up, so we've made a lot of friendships there in the community. I'm a fan of Sunderland AFC, and I've become a bit more involved with the North American branch of the supporters association. I also play soccer at Carroll Indoor. Here on the Hill, I am also friends with Chemistry Associate Professor Dana Ferraris, and that friendship led me to get involved with the Program in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PIE). So, I'll stop by the PIE Club meetings every once in a while.

Tell us about your involvement with Covalent Spirits, the new distillery on Main Street.

My undergraduate degree is in Applied Microbiology, and my specialization my senior year was brewing and winemaking. I made commercial brews and sold them in the pub. I like to do a little bit of mixology and play around with drink recipes, and I was a bartender for many years. I also worked with a local mixologist to design the signature cocktail for Julia's inauguration. Jennifer Yang is the entrepreneur in residence here and when she let us know she was opening Covalent Spirits on Main Street, Julia and I decided to become investors. We became friends with Jenn and Drew, and I helped them do some of the painting, furniture assembly, and stuff like that before they opened. Then I kept going behind the bar and saying, "This feels kind of right." I let Jenn know that if she needed any help just let me know. So, every once in a while, I bartend down there and it's something I've really enjoyed. I even participated in their Final Four Bartender Cocktail Competition this year as "Dr. Brit Wit."

Every prince needs a sword:

"We hosted a dinner at the house for retired faculty and presidents shortly after we moved in. President Joan Develin Coley attended, and she asked what my title was going to be. I said I didn't know, and she looked at me and said, 'Prince Consort. That fits.' Then at Christmas, a box showed up at the door and she had bought me a sword, which now sits on our mantel. But I'm not allowed to touch it because it's a little bit dangerous."



Aspiration as presidential spouse:

"I want to be the Green Terror for a day."



What makes Westminster such a special place?

Downtown Westminster's always been pretty vibrant, but now we have the distillery and tasting room, all the local restaurants, and coffee shops like JeannieBird. There's Gotham Comics, where my boys spent so much of their time. And there's Rudolph Girls, which my sister in London has mentioned she is jealous of, because she doesn't have a bookstore near her that hosts book clubs like Rudolph Girls does.

It's just such a vibrant space, especially when they close Main Street for events like the Flower and Jazz Festival or the Beer and BBQ Stroll. When we first moved to Westminster from a very rural town, we were impressed by all the strip malls. And there's some importance in that, too. But the real heart of what's happening is down on Main Street, and that's one of the things that I really love about living on campus now.

Above left: Colquhoun has coached both of his sons' soccer teams over the years, and he still enjoys kicking the ball around with younger son, Kyle. Opposite page: Covalent Spirits co-owners Drew Cockley and Jennifer Yang have welcomed Colquhoun behind the bar where he can put his mixology skills to the test.



FOLLOWING HIS OWN **GAME PLAN**

**GARRETT EAGAN '09 INVESTS HIS ENTREPRENEURIAL
SKILLS IN HIS HOMETOWN COMMUNITY**

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN



Looking at his resume, you might assume that Garrett Eagan '09 studied Business Administration and Entrepreneurship on the Hill. But the fact is that Eagan's business education was self-taught, and started after graduation, in his hometown of Cumberland, Maryland.

After graduating with a major in Communication and a minor in Journalism, Eagan moved back home and started working in local sports radio. He still spends some time on the air broadcasting local college men's basketball, but his focus shifted to business pursuits in 2013.



We were born here, we grew up here, we want to be part of the next step in downtown Cumberland.”



While renting a house with friend Chris Hendershot, “we created a business kind of out of thin air,” Eagan says. Ten years later, Hendershot and Eagan’s retail shop — Cartridges Galore, a buy/sell/trade video game small business — has eight locations in Maryland, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania. In 2022, the company sold \$6.1 million in video games, proving wrong the naysayers who thought they wouldn’t last.

Knowing that it wouldn’t hurt to have a backup plan in case retro video games were no longer trendy, the business partners decided to expand and invest their success in something bigger. With the incorporation of CG Enterprises LLC, they got into the real estate game.

In 2016, Eagan and Hendershot had already purchased the Perrin Building, where their original Cartridges Galore store and office is located. With the third story of the building vacant, they renovated it and turned it into two luxury apartments. They also did a couple of house flips in the area and started trying their hands at different things in the real estate development world.

“Then our accountant, Zach Hattenfield, told us about The McMullen Building on Baltimore Street in downtown Cumberland,” Eagan says. “There is all this redevelopment and revitalization happening on Baltimore Street — I think it’s upwards of \$15 million the city has invested — to reopen this main street that used to be so key and is in all our memories from childhood. We wanted to be a part of that.”

They purchased the four-story building in 2020, making a \$3.5 million investment — an investment in the building, their business, and ultimately the community they have loved their whole lives.

Left: Eagan welcomes former Maryland Gov. Larry Hogan to downtown Cumberland in February 2022. Eagan and Hendershot received a Governor’s Citation during the visit. Opposite: Hendershot and Eagan meet with Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot during his visit to downtown Cumberland businesses in 2016.

The McMullen building has three new tenants going in on the ground floor, including a major chain in the local area, and in March, they opened applications for residents to begin applying to the 13 new luxury apartments. In a week, 11 of the 13 apartments had already filled.

“The reception so far has been really great. The city of Cumberland and the economic development company here have been very supportive,” Eagan says. “The people that want to see Cumberland do better — people who still live here and have invested in downtown — see the big picture and the greater good of this work.”

Eagan knows that the energy around Baltimore Street has changed since they purchased the McMullen Building based on one key metric: “Right around the time that we bought this building, there were about 10 buildings vacant and empty for sale on the street. Now, there’s just one left.”

With the successful redevelopment of the Perrin Building and the McMullen Building, CG Enterprises has recently purchased the Rosenbaum Building as well, housing modern office spaces, shopping and dining, luxury short-term vacation rentals, and luxury apartments.





The people that want to see Cumberland do better — people who still live here and have invested in downtown — see the big picture and the greater good of this work.”



A look inside the McMullen Building Project's luxury apartments: preserving the original wood floors, high ceilings, and warehouse style windows (circa 1899), as well as furnishing the units with new amenities such as granite countertops and tile bathrooms, the \$3.2 million project drew 300+ visitors during the building's open house, and quickly filled units within the first month.



Garrett Eagan (left) and Chris Hendershot (right) were selected as members of the Allegany Magazine's September 2022 issue cover story entitled "Under Construction: The Fab Five of Renovation."



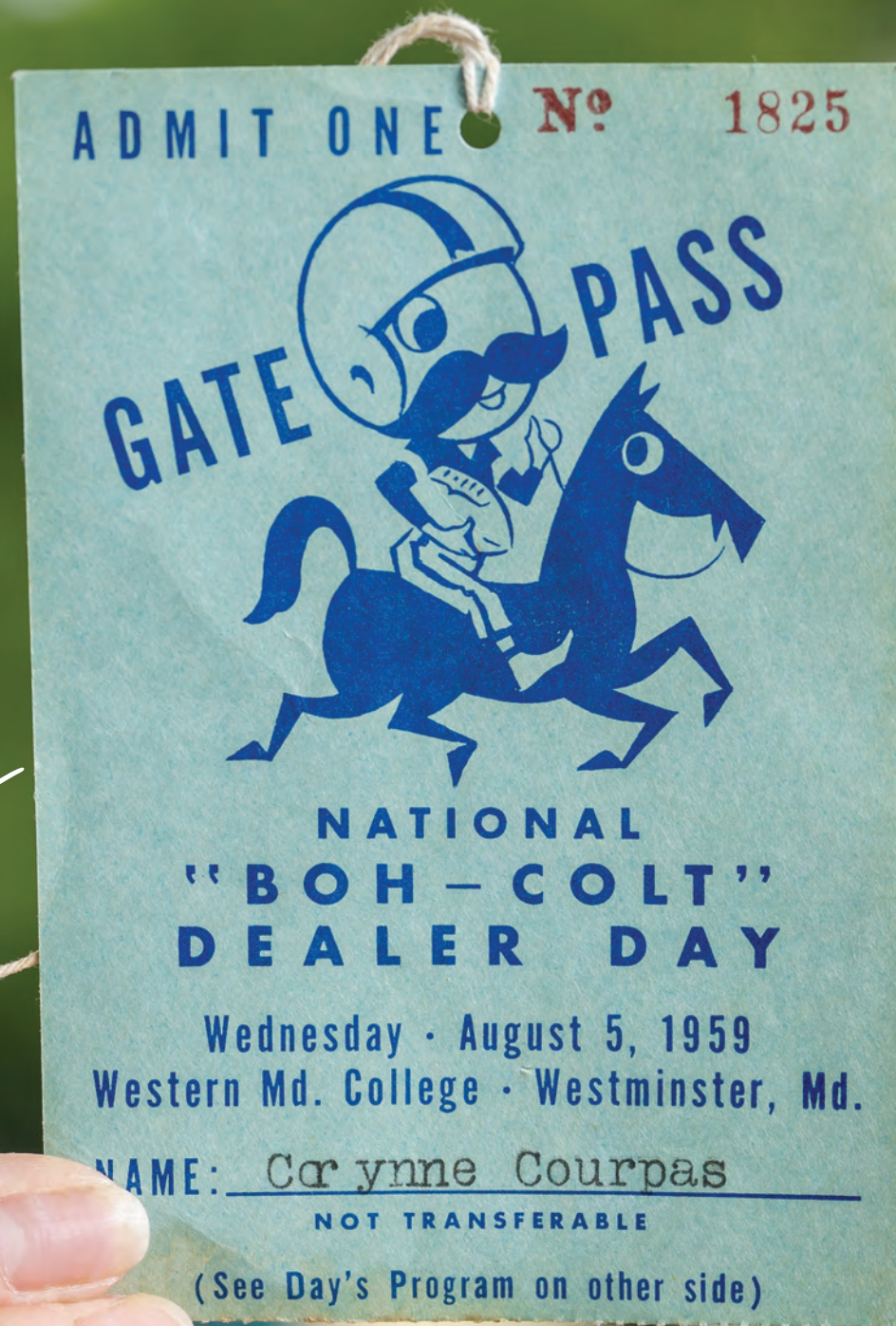
The original vision of the McMullen Building put to paper by designer/architect Charles Crislip. The McMullen Building Project also includes the front corner façade redesigned to a historical-conscious modern concept for new restaurant/retail businesses in downtown Cumberland.

And even out in Cumberland, Eagan is finding McDaniel and Western Maryland College (WMC) ties. "Laurie Peskin Marchini '85 is a Cumberland city councilwoman who has been very supportive," Eagan says. "It turns out, her college roommate Carrie Miller Parker '85 is the great-great-granddaughter of the original owners of the Rosenbaum Building, and their family has been very supportive throughout the process. It's cool that this new project has some shared roots in the community I found on the Hill as we try to revitalize our hometown community."

Eagan says he's definitely heard some of the talk about he and his business partner being too young as millennials to know what they're doing or what it takes to be successful. But over the past decade, he says it's been fun to prove otherwise, because ultimately their greatest measure of success comes down to their desire to bring their hometown back to life.

"We were born here, we grew up here," Eagan says. "We want to be part of the next step in downtown Cumberland."

A LOVE FOR
*College and
Community*



ALUM OF THE YEAR CORYNNE COURPAS '76 IS CALLED TO GIVE BACK TO HER COMMUNITIES

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MAXIMILIAN FRANZ

Few people can probably say that they remember the exact date that they first set foot on their alma mater's campus — especially if that day was more than six decades ago when they couldn't even spell "college" yet.

That's not why Corynne Courpas '76 was named the 2023 Alum of the Year, but it's certainly a demonstration of the love and dedication she has had for McDaniel College (formerly Western Maryland College) since Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1959, a date that lives on in her memory and her heart as the introduction to the college that changed her life.

On that summer day in 1959, 5-year-old Courpas accompanied her dad to the Baltimore Colts practice on the Hill. "Dad was a big Colts fan and a vendor who sold National Bohemian beer, so he got tickets to come to practice one day and he brought me," she recalls. "From the first time I set foot on the campus, my dad — even more than me — fell in love with it."

Fast forward about 12 years when Courpas was college searching: she knew she wanted to stay fairly close to home in Reisterstown, but she also wanted to live on campus. "Dad was just such a fan of Western Maryland that even though it seemed a little out of our reach, he was determined to make it happen for me," she says. "That meant so much to me."

After graduation, Courpas made Westminster her home permanently, and she's been working to make a difference in the college and the community ever since. We talked with her about how the different phases of her life have led her to being named Alum of the Year for 2023.



CORYNNE COURPAS '76

(in her own words)

“ I had opportunities that my parents never had, and it just seemed like it was my responsibility to give back, to pay it forward. And I'll be totally honest: you get more than you give. Hundreds of friends that I've made in this community were made through my volunteer work, through meeting other people that volunteer and give of themselves no matter their capacity. It's an amazing network.”

A MAJOR CAREER PIVOT

I majored in Biology kind of on a whim. I had a feeling in the back of my mind that I might wind up in science, though I thought I wasn't cut out for medicine. I took the state employment test and scored very well and got an interview at Springfield Hospital Center in Sykesville. I was hired as a medical technologist, and it was the last thing in the world I ever wanted to do, but I came to really like the job and the challenges.

About seven or eight years in, I started thinking about my future and next steps as a state employee, and I found out I'd gone as far as I could go in my area. So, I decided to go back to school to get a second bachelor's degree in Business. Thankfully, a professor advised me to go to University of Baltimore, where they would let me enroll in the Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) immediately. He saved me about three years of my life. I had such an amazingly well-rounded undergraduate education at WMC that I only needed to take two or three prerequisite courses alongside my graduate courses. I completed my M.B.A. in 1987, taking just a little over two years.

By this time, I had 11 years of experience as a med tech and had worked in my family restaurant business my whole life. I realized I wanted to get back into food service instead of medical equipment sales. I started working at Carroll County Foods on Dec. 21, 1987; the company merged with Performance Foodservice (PFG) in 2000, and by the time I retired in 2020, it was a Fortune 200 company.

MAKING CARROLL BETTER

When I started at PFG, I got a little bored because I was used to working two or three jobs and going to school. That's when I started getting back into volunteering in the community.

I remembered my parents being involved when Paul Sarbanes ran for Congress back in the 1970s, so I got involved in my first national political campaign in 1988 when Michael Dukakis ran for president. I've been involved politically with the Democratic party on the local, state, and national levels ever since. I even served as an elector for the Electoral College for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, and following the 2022 elections, I was named secretary of the Maryland Democratic Party.

The first board that I ever served on was at the YMCA, which Carroll "Splinter" Yingling '68 had invited me to. We always talk about giving time, talent, and treasure; I had a fair amount of time, a little bit of talent, and no treasure. But that was my first board, and it was all because of Splinter's support and encouragement. Since then, I've been involved with the Y, Carroll County Arts Council, The Arc of Carroll County, Carroll County NAACP, Carroll County Torch Club, and Carroll County American Wine Society.

I had opportunities that my parents never had, and it just seemed like it was my responsibility to give back, to pay it forward. And I'll be totally honest: you get more than you give. Hundreds of friends that I've made in this community were made through my volunteer work, through meeting other people that volunteer and give of themselves no matter their capacity. It's an amazing network.

This has been my home since 1977, and I have strived to contribute to my community. While I have no children of my own, I am actively involved in the lives of my nieces and nephews, and I strive to make Carroll County a better place for their futures.

... you get more than you give.





GIVING BACK TO THE HILL

Splinter and Marcus “Lee” Primm ’89 got me involved in the Carroll County Student Grant Program (CCSGP) at McDaniel, which was my first fundraising experience. The next thing I did was join the Alumni Council, and I have been involved in the Sports Hall of Fame and the Alumni Awards Committee in the past. I served as president of the council from 2007 to 2009, and I am currently the vice chair of the WMC Heritage Society.

But a lot of my involvement in the college is a little more casual. It’s responding to the requests like “Can you show up for this event? Can you help hand out caps at graduation?” I love being local and being able to do those things. It’s great to be welcomed and to always have people be so appreciative of everything you do at the college.

It all started for me the year after I graduated, when I got my first call asking for money. The first check I wrote to the college was probably \$10 or \$20. That grew over time, and I have given to the college every year since the year after I graduated. But I always felt like the college helped me out when I needed it, so I needed to give back what I could. That lesson in philanthropy was really important to me. You should not be embarrassed to give a little bit. Every little bit you give helps.

Meeting the students is also really encouraging. Being in politics, I hear all the time that young people don’t care. And that’s not true. They do care, and a lot of them are just absolutely wonderful people. I’ve gone on two Jan Term trips as an alum, and I have just been blown away by the students. They are bright and ambitious and dedicated. You get more than you give when you engage with the campus, with the staff, and most of all with the students.

ON BEING NAMED 2023 ALUM OF THE YEAR

I was shocked. I was not an outstanding student, and I wasn’t really involved on the campus because of my need to work a lot. So, I guess my body of work — my years of community service and college service and my career — all of that taken together really means something to the people that are watching.

My takeaway in this recognition is that you don’t have to graduate at the top of your class. You don’t have to give a million dollars. You don’t have to do any one huge thing. People look at all the little things you’ve done over the years, and it adds up to something meaningful.

Knowing that I’m appreciated in that light, it just means the world to me. From being nominated by Don Hobart ’62 for the Alumni College Service Award in 2014 to this most recent honor, I was and am so grateful to be part of the Western Maryland and McDaniel College community, and to be seen as someone deserving of recognition in a circle of people who inspire me every day is incredibly special.

“ My takeaway in this recognition is that you don’t have to graduate at the top of your class. You don’t have to give a million dollars. You don’t have to do any one huge thing. People look at all the little things you’ve done over the years, and it adds up to something meaningful.”

*... engage with the campus, with the staff,
and most of all with the students.*



Bottom Left: Alumni Council president — and Courpas’ former tenant — James Martin ’93 and McDaniel College President Julia Jasken present Courpas with the 2023 Alum of the Year award. Bottom Right: Courpas embraces opportunities to connect with current students on the Hill, such as at the DEI Breakfast during Homecoming 2022.

ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS PROVIDE HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

THREE ALUMNI SHARE THEIR REASONS FOR ESTABLISHING ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS ON THE HILL

BY LINDSAY SHERMAN

Each year, more than 90% of McDaniel students receive some form of financial aid. With more than 350 endowed and annual scholarships funded by donors, our alumni, families, and friends truly make a McDaniel liberal arts education accessible for students who might not otherwise be able to spend four years on the Hill.

As funds invested in the college's endowment, endowed scholarships continue to produce income over time that can be awarded to students for years — or even decades — to come, increasing the impact of an initial gift.

Three such alumni-funded endowed scholarships that have been established in the past two years will ensure students studying Counseling, Teaching, Mathematics, Accounting, Economics, and Business Administration are given greater opportunities to shine on the Hill, and change the world beyond it, just as the Hill changed the lives of the donors.

The Ron and Suzanne Jones Endowed Scholarship Fund

Many on the Hill know Ronald “Ron” F. Jones ’55, M.Ed. ’61 simply as “Coach.” Having served as a coach for Green Terror football, tennis, and track from 1958 until 1981, it’s an integral part of his personality. In a 1980 interview with *The Evening Sun*, he said, “I was born a teacher. Teaching is all I ever wanted to do. Coaching is just a more intense form of teaching.”

In addition to relationships built as a coach and teacher on the Hill, Jones treasures the friendships formed with Mike Rentko ’53 and Leroy Merritt Jr. ’52; was honored to have his marriage to Suzanne officiated by his friend and teammate Ira Zepp ’52, Hon. D.H.L. ’15; and proud that his stepdaughter Debbie Taylor Meagher ’81 (grandchild of David Taylor ’25 and former trustee Caroline Wantz Taylor ’26) continued a legacy of education on the Hill.

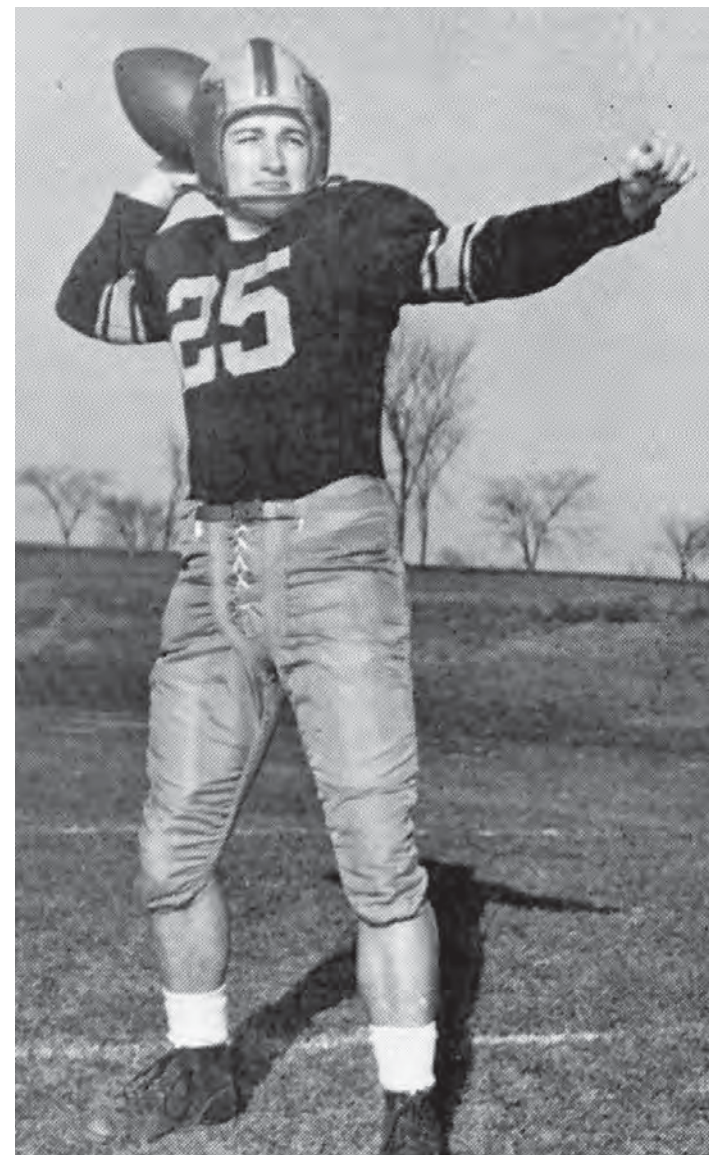
As first-generation college graduates, Jones and his wife, Suzanne Lussier-Jones ’63, know what a burden paying for college can be on not just the student, but their families. “I was almost unable to return to college for my senior year,” Jones recalls. “At my wits’ end, I talked to my football coach, Charlie Havens ’30, and he helped arrange a work scholarship for me to work part time for Dean Bill David during my senior year. I stayed in touch with both of these fine men for the rest of their lives.”

Jones says that when he returned to the college as a coach, it was a privilege to pay it forward and help his student-athletes stay on course to complete their degrees.

Now, the Joneses are ensuring that they will be able to help students do that for decades to come through the Ron and Suzanne Jones Endowed Scholarship Fund. Established in 2021, the scholarship is awarded annually to a student enrolled in Graduate and Professional Studies, preferably in Counseling or Teaching programs.

“For most, our degrees have not come easily, but are a result of hard work, financial hardship, and the devoted support of families, friends, teachers, and all those who helped make our educations possible,” Jones says.

“It is our hope that our scholarship will help financially struggling students complete their education, and that they will have models and mentors from the Hill in their lives as we have had in ours.”



The Robert M. Gagnon '71 Endowed Scholarship Fund



Growing up in a hardworking, blue-collar family, Robert “Bob” M. Gagnon '71 says that college wasn't really on the radar for his family, but he always felt it was in his future. He was accepted to many colleges though he couldn't afford most of them. It was when his grandmother mentioned that she knew the president of then Western Maryland College (WMC), Lowell Skinner Ensor, that he thought it might become a reality. He was the first in his family to attend college.

“I was a co-op student before WMC even had a co-op because I simply couldn't afford it,” Gagnon recalls. “I couldn't make enough money in a summer or even in a semester to pay for the next year, so I'd go a semester and then work a semester. President Ensor single-handedly helped me maintain my student deferment so I wouldn't get drafted to Vietnam while I was working to try to get back into school.”

He remembers the summer of 1968 being the turning point in his life. He was a Fortran programmer assistant for Vitro Laboratories and his supervisor, Commander Reynolds, noticed Gagnon having trouble walking. He ended up needing a back operation, which would take up every dollar he'd saved for the next school year. As he was recovering in the hospital, he received a phone call from President Ensor saying that the Board of Trustees had met and found the money to ensure he would be able to pay for school the next year.

It was because of that act of care and generosity — something he doesn't think he would've gotten at a “bigger, fancier” school — that Gagnon was able to complete his degree in Mathematics in 1971 and become commissioned as a second lieutenant into the U.S. Army Infantry from his time in ROTC on the Hill.

Gagnon went on to earn B.S. and M.S. degrees in Engineering, become a renowned expert in the field of fire protection engineering, and establish his own consulting firm, Gagnon Engineering, where he worked until retirement in 2015. Today, he still occasionally serves as an expert witness in lawsuits involving fire protection engineering.

But none of that would have been possible without the financial support he received to complete his bachelor's degree at WMC. “Over the years, it developed in my mind that I should establish a scholarship dedicated to mathematicians on the Hill who really need the support,” Gagnon says. He established an annual scholarship in 1993, but this year decided to plan for the future by establishing a trust and funding the Robert M. Gagnon '71 Endowed Scholarship Fund, which will be used for a scholarship for a sophomore, junior, or senior studying Mathematics.

“My hope is that this scholarship serves those who really have need, like I did,” Gagnon says. “And, boy, did I need it. I couldn't even make it through at \$1,250 per semester in the 1960s without the college's help. You remember stuff like that, and this is how I can repay the college for all it did for me.”

Want to learn more about any of these funds or how you can contribute to increase the impact of the funds?

Contact Chip Junkin M.S. '15 at cjunkin@mcdaniel.edu or Justin Forget at jforget@mcdaniel.edu.



The Susan M. Milstein Endowed Scholarship

In the fall semester of his sophomore year, Aaron Slaughter '10 was enrolled in an Accounting course that he thought would fulfill his Humanities liberal arts requirement. On the first day of class, Professor Susan Milstein burst his bubble: the course wouldn't fulfill that requirement. But she encouraged him to stick it out for a few weeks, and if it didn't work out, she'd sign his drop request form, no questions asked. As the weeks went on, Slaughter says, “I ended up killing every quiz. We had a test, and I crushed it. She pulled me aside and said, ‘I told you so. Have you ever thought about being a CPA?’ I had no idea what a CPA was.”

Over the next three years, Milstein became a mentor to Slaughter as he found his way from not knowing what a Certified Public Accountant even was to an internship at Bond Beebe, an opportunity that came about through the college's Interviewing Day his senior year. That internship led to a full-time job offer, and Slaughter has been with the firm (now Withum) ever since.

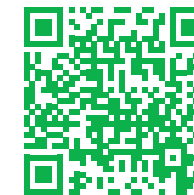
Slaughter has always wanted to give back to McDaniel, knowing that he wouldn't be where he is today without the support of the faculty, staff, and coaches who helped him along the way. “There were people who went out of their way to make sure I never went without, that I had rides, had food, had a place to stay, had people come to football games to support me, and had people to keep me in check,” he says. “I remember thinking about how lucky I was to have this chance to further my playing career and get a great education. I also thought about how there were a lot of people back home who didn't get the same opportunity. Being able to help someone else get there has always been a personal goal of mine.”

In 2021, Slaughter became a member of the Board of Trustees, but he still always had it on his list to establish a scholarship; he just kept putting it off for various reasons. In December 2022, there may have been a little divine push from Milstein, his longtime mentor.

On the day that he was flying home from a trip to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, in celebration of making partner at Withum, Slaughter heard the news: Milstein had passed away. He hadn't even had the opportunity to let her know that he'd made partner.

It was in that moment that he decided the time was finally right to establish an endowed scholarship, and that it should be in her memory. Wanting to help students like him, The Susan M. Milstein Endowed Scholarship will be given annually to a student with demonstrated financial need from Baltimore (where he was born and raised), with a preference for those studying Accounting, Economics, or Business Administration.

“She changed my life by encouraging me to take a chance and believe in myself,” Slaughter says. “I hope that this scholarship will provide a chance for a young person who wants to get across the finish line, but just doesn't have the means. I know every little bit helps, so I hope this takes some of the stress off a student the way my scholarships and mentors did for me.”



Watch this video to hear more directly from Aaron about his special relationship with late Professor Susan Milstein.

alumni updates

Association news & class notes



1959

Larry Langfeldt and his wife, Robin, have been married for 27 years and between them have four children and nine grandchildren. They are both retired, she from private industry and he after 34 years with the federal government. They now live in a small condo in Solomons, Maryland, having sold their home on the water in Hollywood, Maryland, several years ago. They are active in the yacht club, and he is about to end 60 years of boating with the sale of their final boat, a Sea Ray Express Cruiser. He continues drawing with several other artists on a weekly basis. They are both in good health and spend time traveling and visiting friends and would welcome visits by anyone who is in the area.

Marianne Shears Poston plans on making changes as she closes her law practice and works on becoming a famous watercolor artist. She is digging out the paints and brushes and taking some classes to remind herself how to capture what she sees. When she wrote us, she could see snow on the mountains close to her home in Tucson, Arizona, a rare sight. Otherwise, she keeps busy feeding and watching the birds and the occasional coyote or bobcat who jumps over the wall.

"There are only 24 hours in the days," are words **Eva Lallas** remembers from high school when deciding what activities to pursue. Sciatica has become a major issue, as her gardening has all but come to a standstill, and travels are limited to short day trips. She is still able to participate in several ministries in her church, including the monthly newsletter, and "Diamonds," the lively senior group. She believes that it is most important to maintain a positive attitude: focusing and appreciating all that we can accomplish, not on our limitations.

Ellen "Winkie" Richmond Sauerbrey and her husband, Wil, began 2023 with broken ribs and a heart valve replacement for him, and an infection requiring hospitalization and antibiotics for her. They are still living in their 1835 farmhouse, and she continues to be involved in conservative causes.

Teresa Mancuso Albright continues to enjoy life at Oak Crest Erickson Senior Living Community in Parkville, Maryland, where her new activities include serving as worship chair on the council for the Protestant Faith Community. In 2022, she was thankful to be able to travel to the weddings of two of her grandchildren. She would like to meet with other WMC alumni living in Oak Crest.

Congratulations to the 649 members of the Class of 2023 who received their bachelor's and master's degrees on May 20. We are thrilled to welcome you as the newest members of the McDaniel College Alumni Association!

All submitted class notes are edited multiple times, first by the designated class reporter, then by the college. Submitted notes may be edited for length, clarity, cultural sensitivity, or any reason deemed reasonable by the class reporter and/or editor.



"The community that I've been a member of at McDaniel has been one of the most supportive, close-knit, and loving bonds that I've ever known."

— KYLIE BAKER '23

Environmental Studies
and Political Science major

Carol Pettersen Willen and **Erich Willen '58, Hon. Sc.D. '91** were very thankful for television, watching more movies — old and new — than all previous years put together during the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite all the hurdles, they did manage to visit their son in Dubai and to have their annual trips to Aruba. She adds that they are certainly appreciating their move four years ago to Carroll Lutheran Village in Westminster, where they have made many friends and rekindled some old friendships, including some from our class.

After 50 years **Kitty Bond Allen** retired from the Grace Church staff where she held several roles. Life at the Edenwald retirement community where she lives was challenging during the pandemic, but they were well cared for. Currently, her main activity there is as chair of the board of the Edenwald Scholarship Fund, which last year awarded 93 employee scholarships, a rewarding undertaking that brings smiles to many.

Carmela "Butch" DeFlora Veit is still "digging in the dirt" with involvement in the Gunpowder Garden Club, a 501c3 nonprofit tucked in the Hereford Zone of Baltimore County, Maryland. Their charge is to make Monkton Gardens a restful and replenishing oasis on the NCR hiking trails within the Gunpowder Falls State Park system. On a sad note, she shared that their daughter died of complications from Type 1 Juvenile Diabetes, which she had had since she was 2 years old, and MS with other complications. She and her husband feel fortunate to have been helpers to her in her last year. She says that their adventures are smaller in scope, but they try to remain active, keeping up with the home chores, their five acres of Woodland Park, and feeding their birds.

Rebecca House Pullig writes that in their past travels to Russia and the Baltics, they toured Moscow and Belarus, and that in Lithuania they were very glad to see the Gates of Dawn and the Hill of Crosses. Her French-speaking American Association of University Women group has ended with the loss of several members, including the award-winning co-author of a mystery series written under the pen name of Charles Todd. She continues to play the piano — easy listening and Chopin.

After a long time with no communication, as he put it, **Tom Davies** sent his news and updates. He is living independently as a widower of 11 years in a seniors complex overlooking lovely Long Pond in South Yarmouth on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. He is in regular contact with **Lewis Johnston '60**, who is the widower of **Janet Sutherland Johnston**, with whom he collaborated in the development of our

Junior Follies in the spring of 1958. Business travel in broadcasting and Lew's work in sales for GE often took them to Rhode Island, where they reunited with **Bill Wardlow** in his hometown of Newport, Rhode Island. He mentioned **Patricia Krell Yates '58** and other WMC alumni whom he meets with occasionally in D.C. for lunches, dinner, parties, theatre, museums, and other cultural events. He adds that he was amused to see the initials "NGA" at the art gallery as that reminded him of the NGA at WMC, "the Neat Guys of America, a rogue semi-fraternity formed by the notorious **Tom Riffin '58, M.Ed. '70** in 1956."

Gail Armstrong Peterson was ill recently and still enjoys chatting with friends and listening to classical music. She says that her motto has become "Be happy, enjoy each day, and be content."

I received a Christmas card from **Marsha Reifsnnyder McCormick** with news that she and **Bob McCormick '58** are doing well and their son Jon is a great help to them.

After two years of doing nothing, we had three major events in one week: a family reunion in Detroit with Dan's large extended family to remember his sister-in-law who passed away, followed by granddaughter Maggie's graduation in Baltimore, and then a trip to Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, for granddaughter Erin's graduation.

*Joanne Trabucco Shaheen
1959 Class Reporter
126 Evans St.,
Rockville, MD 20850
joannshaheen@aol.com*

1965

Stan Makover and **Judy** are still living in Syosset, Long Island, and enjoying their eight grandchildren. They just experienced the first wedding of a granddaughter. Stan is playing a lot of tennis and Judy is still a snowbird. They continue to spend winters in Boynton Beach, Florida, and recently had breakfast with some WMC alumni and dear friends, **Irwin "Ozzie" Stewart '61, Howie Wagner '63, and Rich Eigen '66.**

After 41 years in Washington, D.C., **Simma and Ron Liebman** are now living full time in what had been their weekend home on Maryland's Eastern Shore. Simma spends her days in her painting studio on their property, while Ron continues to work on what he hopes will soon be his latest novel. They see their daughters and their husbands, and the five grandkids, all of whom live in New York, as much as

they can. Ron often thinks about his time at WMC and says they were great years that brought him so much in so many ways.

Susan and Greg Tassey moved about 40 miles north of Seattle 10 years ago after Greg retired from NIST. He continues to do consulting work in technology-based economic growth policy and publishes on this topic. They really like Washington, both the people and the beauty of the state, and they are blessed to be near their daughter and grandchildren.

Mark Kappelman continues to enjoy retirement from thoracic and vascular surgery and splits his time between New Orleans and Miramar Beach, Florida, with his wife, Susan. Fishing, boating, and golf occupy his time.

Ed Daniels and **Sally O'Neil** live in Baja, Mexico, and absolutely love the culture, the gracious people, the climate, and the cost of living. From his home in Mexico, Ed continues to supervise and oversee a psychological practice in Philadelphia, where his associate works. Ed keeps active with golf and skiing. He skied the Alps for the first time last year at 78 years of age and hopes to continue with a few days each year out west.

Ginny Krebs Wright and **Steve** are well after knee surgery for Ginny in November 2021 and hip surgery for Steve in December 2022. They never missed a beat and spent two months in Florida at their daughter's home in Winter Park and all of March 2022 at Bonita Beach. Steve and Ginny traveled to Maine in fall 2021 visiting his frat brothers and then touring the state, where they hit beautiful weather with changing leaf colors. In July 2022, they went to Alaska on a cruise with their daughter's family, and in September they took the postponed Viking cruise from Italy (Lake Como) through Switzerland, stopping at Lucerne for lunch then on to Basel where they boarded the ship. They enjoyed a beautiful trip through Germany and the Netherlands, ending in Amsterdam, where they stayed for two days visiting the museums, taking a canal ride, and a walking tour. The rest of the summer they spent at their lake cottage with family visits. Ginny is still quilting and won two more awards at a fall show.

Carole Price Frederick taught music for 36 years, the last 30 at Severna Park High School in Maryland. Since retirement, she has served as corresponding secretary and recording secretary respectively for both The Kent Island Heritage Society and Friends of Historic Christ Church. She has lived her whole life on Kent Island, Maryland, and grew up in this Episcopal church. Playing bridge is her favorite pastime, either in person or online. She remembers the days when several people played bridge in the Grill, which always made her

[Departed]

**Professor Emeritus of Chemistry
Richard "Rick" H. Smith Jr., age 78**

Professor Emeritus of Chemistry Richard "Rick" H. Smith Jr. of Woodsboro, Maryland, passed away on March 30 at the age of 78.



Born and raised in Hagerstown, Maryland, Smith graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry from Washington College and obtained his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of Virginia. He came to the college in 1971 after a brief post-doctoral residency at The Ohio State. He taught at the college for 44 years and was made an honorary alum upon his retirement in 2015.

He loved teaching above all else and taught courses that ranged from Organic Chemistry to History of Science to Trees on the Hill. Generations of students benefitted from his guidance and mentorship. During his time at the college, he carried out student-faculty research with more than 70 students and published over 50 scientific papers. Much of his research focused on chemical compounds that had potential for cancer pharmaceuticals. He spent his summers performing research at the National Cancer Institute at Frederick's Center for Cancer Research and Yale University.

An accomplished scientist, he received national recognition for his work. In 1992, he earned an award from the Camille and Henry Dreyfus Scholar-Fellow Program to provide mentorship to a young scientist from 1993-1995. He was a National Institute of Health's Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award Senior Fellow from 1984-1986. And in 1995, he won the Maryland Chemist of the Year award from the American Chemical Society.

The college awarded him the Zepp Distinguished Teaching Award in 1998, which honors inspired classroom work and dedication to students. He was also the recipient of Faculty Special Achievement Awards in 1987, 1990, and 2012, and Scholarly Publications Awards in 1984, 1986, 1989, 1991, and 1992.

He earned multiple grants from the National Science Foundation, one of which allowed him to establish a molecular modeling laboratory on campus in the 1990s making then-Western Maryland College the first institution on the East Coast to do so. Besides laboratory research, he was also passionate about genealogical research, which he shared with students in a unique Jan Term course. Students not only traced their own family history but also visited an undocumented, African American cemetery in Frederick County, Maryland, to make a record of the people buried there. The course was inspired by a genealogy workshop he taught for Common Ground on the Hill called Roots: A Search for Your Past.

In his spare time, he loved woodworking, bass fishing, and conducting historical research. He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Marilyn Kroeger-Smith, associate professor emerita of Chemistry, five children, and 10 grandchildren.



DYLAN HUGHES

“I started the Chess Club simply hoping to make friends to play with. I quickly recognized that the club became a way for students to develop confidence in their cognitive abilities.”

— DYLAN HUGHES '23
Psychology major
Chemistry minor

want to learn the game. **Connie Bue Schlee** and Carole text or talk almost every day. There are about 10 others who meet for a couple of days of museums and dinners and lots of conversation.

Pat Mullinix continues to enjoy the beauty of Garrett County, Maryland, even in the winter when there are so many days of snow, ice, and cold winds. However, there have been lots of changes in her life over the past few years. Following five years of being full-time caregiver to her husband, Bud, who suffered from Parkinson's disease, and an aunt, she now finds herself adjusting to life on her own. Bud died in 2021 and her aunt, Ann, passed away at age 102 in 2020. In the process of seeking homes for an extensive collection of books last year, she found herself visiting the library at McDaniel with a large box of donations. It was a wonderful experience to see the many changes on the campus and to walk through a larger and more elegant Hoover Library than when she worked there as a student so many years ago.

Charles Manning, Hon. LL.D. '05 and **Sherry Fischer Manning, Hon. L.H.D. '79** report that two of the 16,000 canceled flights over Christmas were to bring their girls and their families to the ski house on top of Schweitzer Mountain, to join their brother and his family, and Charlie and Sherry for Christmas. They successfully rescheduled Christmas over the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday weekend and loved it. With grandchildren whose ages range from almost 21 years to 17 months, and six more in between, they had a chaotic and quite wonderful celebration. Charles and Sherry say the irony is that by the time they can afford a ski-in/ski-out property on top of a ski mountain, they are both too old to ski; but hey, one can't have everything. When they are on top of the mountain in Idaho over the ski season, they are above the clouds many mornings, have blue sky and brilliant sunshine and great views of Lake Pend Oreille through the Walt Disney trees. But they only get The Wall Street Journal once or twice a week, and several days late, so Sunday mornings, Sherry has a catch-up day, and her own personal “Week in Review,” really a lot like being on vacation. Reading the news late, and mostly once a week, is an interesting perspective, and at this age, she kind of likes it.

Bob Dinger and **Char-Lu Swenson Dinger** continue to enjoy life in Chico, California. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, they avoided getting the virus. However, in January 2023, they both came down with a very mild case. In October 2021, they visited with Bob's sister, **Margery Dinger Gillikin '74**, and her family in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, then drove to Pennsylvania via Salisbury, Maryland, where they visited with **Vicki Weber Greene**. During the

visit with Char-Lu's sister in Hanover, Pennsylvania, Bob and Char-Lu drove down to McDaniel for a visit, their first since the 25th Reunion in 1990, and said it was great to see the campus again. Bob backpacked with son Eric and family in March 2022 in the coastal mountains near Santa Barbara, California. Otherwise, Bob continues his woodworking and Char-Lu her knitting and genealogy.

Ed Scheinfeldt wishes he had exciting news to report but says he doesn't. His wife, Mary, and he are just living their lives in Marble Falls, in the Texas Hill Country about an hour west of Austin.

Ed Welch, Hon. L.H.D. '12 is still active on the Vandalia Health System and Charleston Area Medical Center boards as well as chairing the West Virginia Drug Intervention Institute board.

Debbie Dudley Michaels's Zoom group of more than a dozen Class of 1965 graduates continues to meet. They started by meeting once a week for an hour every Wednesday in 2020. Initially, it helped them get through the pandemic by sharing experiences. Now that their worlds have opened back up a bit, they share travel experiences, family news, good reads, favorite movies, sports wins and losses, and college news and memories, and they still provide support for those facing health issues and other concerns.

Joyce Russell Miller reported that following hip replacement surgery that didn't go well in December 2021, she had a repair done in January 2022. Many months of physical therapy later, she was well on her way to total recovery and even made a train trip to Maryland to reunite with a dozen girls from 1965. However, 2021 ended with Christmas in the hospital as Joyce suffered a stroke. Last year was spent with more PT and all is back to normal with her right arm and her speech. Right leg is a different story, and she continues with rehab hoping to get back with walking with a cane. She's turning 80 this year and is looking forward to driving again and a reunion with the same girls from '65. Her daughters refer to her as a “tough old broad,” so she is hoping to prove them correct. Jim continues to cope with his loss of vision but practices law with the help of his computer and Joyce as his paralegal.

Dianne Briggs Martin lives in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, near her daughter, son, and grandchildren. Dianne continues to teach information policy and computer ethics for both George Washington University online and for the University of North Carolina in person. She stays active by leading three exercise classes a week at the local senior center. During the COVID-19 lockdown, she started a regular Zoom call with a number of our classmates who call themselves the McDaniel Divas

(**Joyce Russell Miller; Mara Dilson Walter; Debbie Dudley Michaels; Carole Price Frederick; Sylvia White Winterling; Connie Bue Schlee; Susan Snodgrass Case, M.Ed. '84; Nancy Whitworth McIntyre; Judy Hobart Pearson; Meredith Hobart Crew; Marge Engel; Claire Rolker Oates; Peggy Van Dyke Tapager; Carla Smith Moxon; Fran Sybert Baroch; and Joy Holloway DeLopez** coming in from Mexico). Ten of them had an in-person get-together in Havre de Grace, Maryland, in May 2022 for several days where they enjoyed a trip to the Andrew Wyeth museum, a walk about Chesapeake City, and lots of good eating at local restaurants.

Marty Taylor Dzioba and her husband, Ed, retired to New Bern, North Carolina, in 2009. She spent about 30 years as a trusts and estates paralegal, probating wills and administering estates for law firms in Manhattan, the last being a big one in Midtown. Her husband is a Bayside (Queens) boy and they lived there for 35 years. Their children, Jennifer, and Jim Day (son of **Jack Day '63**) were raised there. Jimmie died of cancer in 2016, a grief she'd wish on no one. Marty had the great good fortune, she believes, to make Miss Smith proud of her theatre training at WMC. In New York, at Douglaston Community Theatre, she got to play Sister Mary Amnesia in “Nunsense,” Mrs. Noah in “Two by Two,” and appeared in a host of other plays. Since they have been there, she auditioned on a lark for “Driving Miss Daisy” at a respected local theatre and got the part. She got to age 40 years in a play that's as relevant today as it was when it was written. COVID-19 kept them at home like everyone else for an extended time, but she is to appear as Abby Brewster, the older sister, in “Arsenic and Old Lace.” Learning lines is nowhere as easy as it used to be! Marty quilts and serves as an election day judge and generally tries to get into “good trouble,” as John Lewis said.

Ron Garvin and **Joan Smith Garvin** are grateful for their good health and that they are still able to be active. Joan says that so far, they have all their original body parts and no major medical issues. Since moving to Shepherdstown, West Virginia, two years ago, their church has become their primary focus — Ron in men's ministry and Joan in hospitality. Ron still rides on a long trip each summer with his motorcycle buddies. Joan still loves growing flowers to share. They travel back to Vermont several times a year to visit their sons and their families.

Frank Kidd says the past year has been a busy one for him and Ann Marie. In February 2022, they went downhill skiing at Crested Butte, Colorado, for a week. In July 2022, they took a 10-day cruise to Alaska via the inland passage, plus a five-day land extension into Denali National Park. In November 2022, they took

a 10-day cruise through the Panama Canal, Costa Rica, Honduras, Belize, and Cozumel. In December 2022, they had the pleasure of spending the weekend with **Cal Fuhrmann** and his wife Denise at their new home near Kennebunkport, Maine. In February 2023, they skied 81,000 vertical downhill feet over five days at Vail, Colorado. Over the course of the past 12 months, Frank has stayed active on his road bike with his local bike group with a total of 2,500 annual miles. He is still working with his facilities maintenance business, TLCMAN LLC, with clients such as 7-Eleven, Panera Bread, and other restaurants and commercial chains. He stays in touch on a regular basis with good buddies **Art Renkowitz, Dennis Amico, John Trainor, Eric Wagner, Ben Laurence, and Cal Fuhrmann** just to make sure that they are all on the right side of the grass.

Pam Gebhard Wicklein '68 and **Jerry Wicklein** continue to live in Timonium, Maryland. Pam retired from her counseling practice last year and Jerry continues his part-time ministry at a small rural congregation in northern Baltimore County. He has been at this church since he retired from full-time ministry 17 years ago. They are enjoying part-time retirement. Their oldest grandson, **Jack Bayne '22**, graduated from McDaniel and their granddaughter, **Sadie Bowman '25**, just finished her sophomore year in the Honors Program and as a lacrosse player on McDaniel's women's lacrosse team. Pam and Jerry visit the Hill often and enjoy seeing the growth of the college. They celebrated 57 years of marriage and have great memories of their wedding at Little Baker Chapel with Ira Zepp officiating.

George Harmeyer and Phyllis are still in good health and continue to spend the winter in Texas and the summer in Arlington, Virginia. Someday they will have to stop moving between two places. Last summer, they drove to Montana so George could fish with his Warriors Afield Legacy Foundation companions on the Bighorn River. While he was fishing, Phyllis visited friends in Butte, Montana. He joined her for the drive back home through Jackson Hole, Wyoming, to visit friends and then on to Steamboat Springs for two days. They enjoy driving through this beautiful country, staying off the interstates to see how wonderful it is. They plan another drive to Montana again this summer then back through North Dakota and South Dakota.

Fran Sybert Baroch and **Jerry Baroch '64** continue to live in Sarasota, Florida, where they are active in golf and tennis. However, they now spend summers in Washington, D.C., because of their 4-year-old grandson, Porter, son of daughter Amy and her husband, John. Porter is, and will be, their only grandchild, so they are trying to see and enjoy him as much as possible.

family

WE DID!

Wedding vows exchanged this season:

Annie Schaffner '73 to **Fernando Nieto** on Dec. 22, 2022. They reside in Vienna, Virginia.

Wendy Ploger '90 to **Peter O'Conner** on Nov. 16, 2022. They reside in Tucson, Arizona.

Rachel Hoffman '13, M.S. '14 to **Brian Anders** on April 16, 2022. They reside in Ellicott City, Maryland.

Hannah Krauss '18 to **Nick Druyor '18** on March 19, 2023. They reside in Westminster, Maryland.

Divya Aloor '19 to **Romil Nahar** in September 2021. They reside in Timonium, Maryland.



“What took me by surprise was how compassionate faculty are at McDaniel. It is clear that their positions at the college are more than simply a job for them.”

— JACK BUCKLEY '23

*Philosophy and Political Science major
Spanish minor*

They love every minute with him, and he's keeping them young. They have continued annual visits to France in the Loire Valley, where Jerry celebrated his 80th birthday this year with a visit from said grandson and family — a big surprise! Now they will probably travel closer to home and began that idea recently with a cruise to the Caribbean. They enjoy keeping in touch with some of their McDaniel classmates, especially when they are in D.C.

Colin Thacker and his wife continue to travel, having three trips planned for 2023: Florida, California, and Alaska. His mobility is somewhat limited due to weak legs so he uses a walker when traveling. Colin continues to fix watches for six different charities and, as an avid stamp collector, donates duplicates to these same organizations. He had to give up on his garden, so no more homegrown tomatoes for friends and neighbors.

Margorie “Marge” Engel is now living in Maryland at Charlestown. She is finally traveling again. Her multiple myeloma has been under control for four years and she has two new hips. Most of her travel is by train instead of airplanes. She has five daughters, 16 grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. She is proud that she can still remember birthdays! When not visiting, she stays in touch via texting because the kids have moved on from email and Facebook.

Sylvia White Winterling found a fun and interesting career in her retirement as a tour guide. She has given biking tours of the monuments in Washington, D.C., and Old Town Alexandria, Virginia. She is currently working at Carlyle House Historic Site and Woodlawn/Pope-Leighey, both in Alexandria. Both of her children and their families are close by, so she gets to attend lots of baseball games and tennis matches for her grandsons. She also enjoys being one of the McDaniel Divas as they celebrate their 80th this year.

Marilyn Hahnefeld Wockley writes that life is good at the beach in Delaware, where the description “Lower Slower Delaware” is well earned, especially in the off-season. She and **Ray Wockley '63** enjoy the beach, the many restaurants, and the overall lifestyle there. It is peaceful, and they appreciate the friendly, kind people. Ray and Marilyn participate in local clubs and church activities and do some volunteering. Marilyn still gardens (with Ray's help) and claims photography as her hobby.

After working four decades with a St. Louis nonprofit, **Sandra Roeder** returned home to Maryland in June 2018 to research early women elected to city and county governments. She started with Western Maryland. In October 2020, she was connected with Janet Lawler-Heavner and they cofounded The Western Maryland HERStory Project (WMHP).

Last fall, Sandra moved to Baltimore to continue her work and connect with The Maryland Women's Heritage Center. Her mother's story connects to the early YWCA movement in Tokyo and YWCA National Canada. In early 2023, Sandra envisioned a second pilgrimage to Mount Fuji this summer. She first experienced Mount Fuji 60 years ago with the first Student Opportunity Service (SOS) Project. This time, she hoped for a longer visit to research, write, and be. Sandra is grateful to be fairly healthy and still curious.

As for me, I have not done any major traveling since COVID-19 hit but hope to get back to normal soon. Although I live near Ocean City, Maryland, I continue to vacation at the shore in Ocean City, New Jersey. I have been quilting to stay busy, including making quilts for veterans in hospice care.

*Victoria “Vicki” Weber Greene
1965 Class Reporter
117 East Isabella St.
Salisbury, MD 21801
vgreene43@gmail.com*

1971

In fall 2021, we searched high and low for the sweatshirts and other green and gold accoutrements before making our way to Westminster for a combined Reunion with the Class of 1970. We lunched with the new president and applauded those receiving awards, dashed between the raindrops that came out of nowhere, and made merry into the night. Wearing medallions highlighting 50 years of lasting connections to Western Maryland/McDaniel College, we toasted those who couldn't make it to the Reunion and with full hearts remembered those who are no longer among us.

The Reunion happened just after the feline assistants had seen our last column published in *The Hill* and were ready for a well-deserved catnap. They were a bit startled, then, when after what seemed like no time at all, it was time to get another edition of the “Adventures and Antics of the Class of 1971” ready for press.

After several meetings regarding workload, compensation, and benefits with said felines, we agreed to bring on additional staff — four new feline assistants to the feline assistants — and to set up a staff account at Chewy. Our staff of six was ready!

And so, it seems, were all of you. News started coming in quickly and the workroom was buzzing.

Gloria Phillips-Wren was the first to reply, seemingly somewhat motivated by (greatly appreciated) concern for me over now having six cats. Gloria has been moving faster than a speeding comet. Still holding down several positions at

the Sellinger School of Business at Loyola University in Baltimore, she says this past year was so much better for her, getting back to travel including Ireland, Hungary, and Italy in summer 2022. “All expenses paid, one a special keynote invitation — so meeting with old friends and making new ones in real life. Plus, the ocean and southern fam. What could be better?” Gloria also saw old Sigma friends, thanks to **Donna March Zeller** and **Candy Cooper Fairbanks** and the Tripple (you all know who you are). Gloria's feeling blessed at this “sweet spot in the universe.”

At home in the Northwest, **Chris Spencer** is still puttering away on Whidbey Island, Washington, writing (book number five is due out shortly), volunteering, doing yard maintenance, sculpting, and wandering the wind-swept moors in search of goblins. He made the journey back east in early 2023 and met up with **Pam “Zap” Zappardino** and **Charlie; Barb Payne Shelton '70; Barb Shipley Guthrie, M.Ed. '76; Susan Phoebus Panek '72; Charlie Moore** and **Carol Hoerichs Moore '70; Richard Anderson; Linda Berry Van Hart '68; and Wasyl Palijczuk**. More travel took Chris to Scotland in 2022 with a side trip to see the French chateaux in the Loire Valley again. He also spent a week last summer on the schooner Ladona out of Rockland, Maine, and then he went to his perennial cabin on Lake Winnepesaukee. He explored Victoria, British Columbia, and hiked parts of Mount Rainier National Park and the canyons in Tucson, Arizona.

Susan Seney says things are pretty much the same in Seattle where she and Dorothy have spent 21 of their 32 years together. They have a son and two grandchildren nearby, so they are able to be together often. Their other son and his wife love Arizona. Susan continues active gardening and participation in their Senior Village (a national “stay in your home and enjoy community activities” group movement) NEST. She meets with folks for Spanish, science, poetry, folk song, and more. She and Dorothy finally returned to Maryland for a visit in 2022 and had mini reunions with various WMC friends in person: **Julie Kline '72** and **Susan Baker '72**, online with **Susan Schmidt**, and over lunch with **Will Werley '70, Dave Buller '69, and Steve Davis '69**. With their pet population down to Tinker, the dog, Susan and Dorothy get to sleep past 4 a.m. these days, though they miss the chaos of many pets just a bit. But, Susan says, “life changes and brings new challenges and opportunities as the ancient women tell us, and how we react is what matters.”

After 22 years, **Marshall Adams** and **Leslie Hohn Adams '73** have made a tough decision to pass their New Mexico ranch onto another family. They need medical services that are not readily available in a timely manner in very rural New Mexico, so they now live in Misquamicut, Rhode Island, year-round. Marshall says it's a really cool place, but quite a different landscape from New Mexico. They'll miss everything about the Land of Enchantment — the wonderful weather, daily life on the ranch, the unlimited and varied wildlife, New Mexico friends, the rich Navajo and Apache cultures, the open spaces (no neighbors for eight miles), the village of Magdalena, New Mexico craft beers and wines, genuine New Mexico food, and trips to Cloudcroft, Ruidoso, Mesilla, Pietown, Old Town Albuquerque, Taos, and the hot springs at T or C. Luckily, Leslie cooks so many of the southwest meals, but it will be tough to find those Hatch chiles that Hatch, New Mexico, is famous for and make just about every dish served in New Mexico very special. Like many of their WMC friends, they are celebrating their 50th anniversary this summer, and wonder, “Can we possibly be that mature?”

Phil Enstice reported, “Well, the good news is not much is changing for **Gail Chance Enstice '73** and me other than painting and recarpenting the house that we bought four years ago.” Phil participates in a weekly Zoom call with **Phil Riggin '69, Jeff Carter '70, Neil Messick, and Gene Grosh**, where they rehash local sporting events and other trivial matters.

Vecica Mummert Michaels reported that she has had three years of staycations, as they were able to get one of the last completed Catalina Pools three years ago. It took them nearly a full year to get it completed, but the pool provides a lot of pleasure in the summers and makes retired life more enjoyable. After 42 years of teaching, Viv said, “I don't really miss that routine anymore.”

Brenda Murray, M.Ed. '77 is still living in the 55-plus community she moved into two years ago, where she has wonderful neighbors and many new friends. Her home is on one floor with no steps, which was a blessing when she needed back surgery last year.

Charlie Moore and **Carol Hoerichs Moore '70** continue to feel blessed that all is well with all the family. In 2022, the Moores went to the Holy Land, Zimbabwe (twice), and Italy. The last was over Thanksgiving when they visited their oldest granddaughter, Annabelle, who was studying in Sorrento for the fall semester of her senior year at Elon University. Another highlight of 2022 was the 50th reunion of the Phi Delta Theta Charter in April. Chas says brother and classmate **Don Schenk** did an incredible job of organizing a great weekend with over 200 brothers attending.

Keith Muller and his husband, Stephen, have been busy traveling all over the place, most recently returning from a tour of South Africa and Victoria Falls. Closer to

home, they are exploring relocating to a life plan community in 2024. But they don't have plans to stay put by any means. So far, both are healthy and enjoying life in retirement. “We realize how fortunate we are and are most grateful,” says Keith.

Donna and **Harold Baker** really like being “really” retired. They finally traveled to Israel in October and have had time to visit family and friends in Atlanta and Orlando. Unfortunately, Harold mused, “funerals have become frequent gathering venues (remember when it was weddings?).” Even though the 50th anniversary celebration of Phi Delta Theta Maryland Beta Chapter's founding was delayed one year due to COVID-19 concerns, Harold said the golden reunion occurred in April 2022 and was a great success thanks largely to the efforts of classmates **Don Schenk** and **Charlie Moore**. Enough present members and alumni turned out to fill Little Baker Chapel at the memorial and new member induction ceremony. They were pleased to have President Julia Jasken speak at the reunion dinner in Gill.

Betty Tokar Nitchie, M.Ed. '77 is in New Hampshire (over 40 years now) with kids and grandkids close by in New Hampshire and Massachusetts. In post-retirement, Betty spends a lot of time as a volunteer. She works with the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program, where they prepare income taxes for free for pretty much anyone who needs it. She is very involved with the National Alliance for Mental Illness. Betty also volunteers as an usher at a local theatre and gets to see some great touring and local shows. Traveling when she can (generally one trip a year), Betty spent several weeks in Costa Rica last year. She's been to many of her bucket list destinations outside the U.S., but still has a couple more to go.

In thinking over the past two years, **Dave Clark** wrote, “I noticed that we pour our life and love into family milestones and celebrations.” They recently enjoyed a week at Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, in a huge, rented house right on the beach with Colleen's side of the family (five of her siblings, three spouses, two adult children, and two teenage grandchildren) for a total of 12 energetic, ocean-loving people! Dave and Colleen visited grandson, Joseph Mastrangelo, at Fort Lee, Virginia. He's now Airborne, loves jumping out of planes, and is serving in Anchorage, Alaska! Dave continues to serve as an Episcopal Supply Priest on an as-needed basis. He and Colleen are also now on the board of directors for the United Democrats of Washington County, Maryland, which is a political activist organization. In the midst of all this, somewhere, somehow, Colleen managed to get a knee replaced. Imagine what she can do with that new knee!

The feline assistants absolutely adore **Don Schenk**. He addresses all his

comments to them, commiserating that I “remorselessly hand out tasks” to them. They never tell him about the treats! Don and Janet are thriving in Michigan. If 2021 was the year to stay put, 2022 was the year to go. And go they did: to Missouri (Don), Vermont (Janet), WMC (Don), Florida (both), Oregon (both), Arizona (Don), and Maryland and North Carolina (both). The Schenks haven't caught up with **Hugh Carew** and **Sue Ball Carew** or **Keith Muller** and Stephen, but aspirations are high. Son Josh and Elizabeth moved back to Chicago, so that's in the plan, as is a trip to D.C. to visit Zach. The newest member of the family is another rescue dog (“grrr, take that Artemis and Arrow!”), who at 13 pounds turns from cuddly Chewie to chomping Cujo when any dog appears within sight of his one eye. Don continues his work with McDaniel students in his role as chapter advisor to Phi Delta Theta. He's here a lot. I was sitting in front of the library with my iced mocha after teaching one morning, and who should come walking by? None other than DJ on his way to meet with Phi Deltas. Don and several WMC alums gathered recently to honor classmates fallen too soon. The “Friends of **George Shellem, M.Ed. '75**, [of blessed memory]” met in Havre de Grace recently. Joining Don were **Ron Clawson '69; John Offerman '70, M.Ed. '75; Frank Sullivan '70; Mike Rudman '70; Charlie Moore; Harold Baker; Chuck Spicknall '72; Dave Petrucci '73; Milford Sprecher '73; Ron Freeman '72; Bucky Paper '72; Matt Zimmerman '73; Don Mohler '72, M.L.A. '77; Larry Van Horn '76; and Randy Witter '76**. During dinner, they shamed some others by phone for not being present.

Leon Cronce had two weeks of “house arrest” due to Type A flu. Since he had the annual flu shot, it could have been much worse. But it sure didn't keep him from all the fun the rest of the time. The annual Kettle Creek fishing/camaraderie trip was had, he reports. **Terry Conover '70, M.Ed. '74** hosted attendees **Tom Mavity, M.Ed. '76; Artie Blake**; and Leon, who look forward to this event each May/June. In addition to all the fishing, in 2022, Betty and Leon were on a 10-day tour of Ireland with three bonus days stay with their Danish daughter's sister, who resides in Dublin. It was a great tour of the whole country, he says, with a private driver/guide in a vehicle just for them and one other couple. Having downsized, Leon and Betty are greatly enjoying condo life. It makes heading to their lake house so much easier. And last year, they hosted their aforementioned Danish daughter with her 21-year-old son and his girlfriend. Not sure how they fit it in, but the Cronces spent the weekend at WMC for the **Sam Case '63, M.Ed. '66** Wrestling Duals, visiting with **Susan Snodgrass Case '65, M.Ed. '84** and several alumni grapplers.

family

ARRIVED

Family additions this season:

Remy Jack Clark on April 15, 2023, to **Laura** and **Liz Clark '99**.

Landon Garbutt on Jan. 23, 2023, to **Brian '11** and **Leslie Higgins Garbutt '11, M.S. '19**.

Grant McLister on May 15, 2023, to **Emilie Doggett** and **Tim McLister '13**.

Declan James Connor in August 2022 to **Kyle '13** and **Kira Young Connor '13**.

Victoria Anastasia Merkel in March 2022 to **Peter '15** and **Sam Curry Merkel '19**.



STEPHANI PORTILLO

“Rick and I have been putting lots of miles on our motorhome,” wrote **Eileen Sechrist Ott, M.Ed. '87**. Though they thoroughly enjoy their home in Green Cove Springs, Florida, they find the summers to be a wee bit hotter and more humid than they'd like. So, they take to the road. No longer campers, they choose instead to “RV.” Their little RV still has a small kitchen and bathroom, so they're definitely not roughing it. In summer 2022, they headed north to join up with an RV caravan for a 49-day adventure. Meeting in Bar Harbor, Maine, the RVs crossed into Canada, traversing New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward Island before disbanding. “We met a lot of nice folks along the way and were treated to some interesting local customs. Upon arriving in Newfoundland, we were promptly ‘screeched in,’ a ceremony involving kissing a fish, repeating some Newfoundland dialect, doing a little dance, and tossing back a jigger of screech (rum). It was a memorable experience.” On the way to Bar Harbor, the Otts swung over to visit **Carol Sims Nupp** and her husband, Jim, in Wolfeboro, New Hampshire. “It was fun just relaxing and enjoying memories of our days together at WMC.”

Speaking of **Carol Sims Nupp**, she is in a whirlwind of activity. Since our 50th Reunion on the Hill, Carol and Jim visited with their kids both in New Hampshire and in Colorado. Then the Nupps celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 10 in East Boothbay Harbor, Maine, continuing with their boys and families for a week in a beautiful waterfront Airbnb in Harpswell, Maine. In August, Jim was finally able to take his solo/self-guided trip to Norway and Finland after two previous plans were thwarted by COVID-19. Carol reports that she spent her summer “down at the lake, relaxing, reading, swimming, chatting with friends, and making new friends. Walking on our local rail trail and around our beautiful town was another of my preferred activities.” September brought Carol and Jim to a lovely farm venue near Winchester, for a family wedding and reunion. Carol was thrilled to be singing again in fall 2022 with Clearlakes Chorale. That fall, Jim and Carol attended his U.S. Naval Academy 50th reunion. “It was such a joy to spend a few days with Jim's classmates and their wives in celebration of time spent together when we were all so very young!” she wrote.

“I am so thrilled about our Golden Reunion!” exclaimed **Robert “Bob” Gagnon**, one of my most faithful correspondents. “It was so well planned and executed. The entire alumni staff at McDaniel were on top of their game the entire weekend. Kudos to everybody who made this event one that we will never forget. We were treated like kings and queens!” Bob enjoys

working with the Alumni Council, the WMC Heritage Society, and McDaniel Alumni Engagement on events for accepted, incoming, and new students. This is important work and is so beautifully coordinated by McDaniel staff, he notes. Bob sends special appreciation to **Heidi Snyder Reigel '97**, who is “so enthusiastic and dedicated to WMC and McDaniel alumni, the Alumni Council, and the WMC Heritage Society.” The Heritage Society project painting the water tower next to Gill Center with the McDaniel logo was really exciting, and the society is now working toward lighting it so it can be seen and appreciated for miles at night. Bob is retired, but still accepts some engineering projects that sound interesting or challenging. He misses teaching at the University of Maryland engineering school terribly. “Martha is retired as well, but we assist **Rebecca Gagnon Mason '88** in her business ventures as much as possible.” The Gagnons live with Rebecca and the grandkids in a very large new house that they designed and built in 2019. “What a gift it has been to be a part of their lives as the kids go to college, graduate, and begin their lives as professionals!” Bob says, smiling from ear to ear, I'm sure.

Darlene Richardson Robison and **Steve Robison '72** love retirement. Darlene says, “We can say ‘yes’ if we choose to, not because we should. How freeing!” The Robisons are blessed to have lived in the same house for 36 years in the same area for 43 years. Amazing, considering that United Methodist ministers and their families are “itinerate,” she added. Another 50th wedding anniversary here. They have been spending time with their kids and grandkids observing, as we all do, “They really grow up fast.” Steve enjoys his woodshop and preaches quite a bit as “guest minister.” Both bring him joy and satisfaction. Darlene is enjoying their home and being able to be in it a lot. She calls the attic “the treasure chest,” as she goes through stuff and does find treasures with great memories. Some things are from their parents' homes. “Now that I have time to go through them, I have discovered my parents saved their long-distance phone calls only for my brother and me and our families. The bills also track the places we have lived. We *did* itinerate more in the beginning of our lives together. Why they saved the phone bills is a mystery that will go unsolved,” she says. They are going to visit NYC for a weekend just because it will be fun. Darlene says, “I enjoy reading about our classmates. I do miss hearing from those who do not report in.”

Barbara Shipley Guthrie, M.Ed. '76 and Steve are still living in Bethany Beach, Delaware, and love being near the ocean. They are both retired, but busy being involved in many organizations and

programs in the community. “I am very lucky to still be running and occasionally run in races,” she says. She still goes to Zumba classes several days a week. She had great fun being a chaperone for her daughter Jessica's French class trip to Quebec with about 48 students who were so excited to be there. She and Steve also boarded the Queen Mary in London and traveled across the Atlantic to arrive in New York City. And each spring, Barb and Steve have been traveling to San Diego. Barb also mentions our “great lunch at the Baltimore Museum of Art with some great alumni from WMC, **Sue Phoebeus Panek '72**, **Chris Spencer**, **Barbara Payne Shelton '70**, and **Pam Zappardino** and Charlie.” (Steve was there too!) “We talked about our experiences at the college: early, early curfews; compulsory chapel; girls not being able to wear pants unless the dean proclaimed it a snow day; and meals in the dining hall!”

Still in Massachusetts, **Mike Weinblatt** continues to practice rheumatology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital and teaches at Harvard Medical School. COVID-19, he says, has impacted every aspect of his professional life. Fortunately, he's been able to reduce his in-office time and in the summer only sees patients one day a week. This allows him to spend most of the week on Martha's Vineyard, where Barbara and he race Herrshoff 12.5 sailboats. “We have three rules on the boat,” Mike says. “Don't hit another boat, try not to be last, and have fun.” They travel down to New York to see their daughters and grandchildren. After a sabbatical due to COVID-19, Mike's annual bike rides have resumed. Last year, he started the Lewis and Clark trail along the Pacific Ocean going across Oregon to Washington state. This year, the crew starts at the Idaho border and hopes to cycle into Central Montana.

Gary Scholl, M.L.A. '78 and Kathy had their seventh grandchild, Cal, last year. Kathy still volunteers for the Harford County Historical Society, as the chair of the textile department. Gary, meanwhile, is finishing up his 49th year of employment at John Carroll School. He's hoping to make it through his 50th year and take it year by year after that. In his spare time, he makesoccasins. As you may remember, Gary spent a lot of time working with Indigenous people right around the time we left the Hill and has continued that relationship into the present.

Eric and **Sue Shermer Seevers** spent the past two years close to home. It has been a difficult time dealing with losses of friends and family as well as political unrest in Washington, D.C. Sue attends and helps lead a women's Bible study at her church. She also has a passion for scrapbooking, which she shares with her mom. Both of these activities stayed vibrant due to Zoom and slowly returned to in person over

the past two years. In spring 2021, they made weekly visits to Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania. And in September 2022, Sue, Eric, and Sue's mom, Betty, enjoyed an evening at the Lancaster Hot Air Balloon Fest watching balloon after balloon inflate and rise in the air to sail away on the breeze. Sue attended our 50th Class Reunion at McDaniel, exploring corners of the library during the rainstorm Saturday to watch the football game in comfort. She reconnected with several classmates, talked to others who returned for their Reunions, and thanks one really helpful staff member who got Sue safely back to her car across a dark campus after dinner. Sue was amazed at all the changes since she had last visited the school.

From April until October last year, **Candy Cooper Fairbanks** spent half her time in Barton, Maryland, trying to get the old family home (where both she and her mother grew up) ready to put on the market. In the family for 100 years, it was filled with lots of memories and old stuff. She is still working on giving things to family members and hoping the house will sell soon. Candy lived in the Tripple in Blanche Ward with **Donna March Zeller** and **Mary Lou O'Neill Hoopes** at WMC. And the three of them get together with other WMC friends every summer, as **Gloria Phillips-Wren** mentioned in her note. “Candy often arrives a day or so early to help get things ready. The group started out as a Sigma reunion and has grown a bit since then. I had been writing about it for so long, Donna decided I needed to experience the gathering for myself and so I did. What a fun time! And now I'm on the annual guest list.” Ya never know what new excitement awaits, but back to Candy. She spent several days last spring with Donna and Kent at Massanutten Resort near Harrisonburg, Virginia, which was a convenient stop on the way to West Virginia. Meanwhile, she is still working part time at the Walmart Pharmacy, going on year 35 even as we speak.

Rounding out the Tripple, **Mary Lou O'Neil Hoopes** checked in, writing that she and Jim celebrated their 50th anniversary last September by visiting nine national parks and other beautiful scenery in Arizona and Utah traveling by car. It was great weather the whole time for hiking and exploring. She missed the annual Tripple reunion at Donna's house with Candy, Gloria, and several other third-floor Blanche Ward sorority sisters while out west seeing all those sights. But she and Donna got together with Gloria and their husbands after Christmas for a very enjoyable dinner at her home. Mary Lou is still preparing tax returns at her family's business. “It hopefully keeps my brain cells fring,” she said. Still enjoying the worship ministry and serving at church, Mary Lou

says “life is filled with unexpected blessings from the Lord if we just keep our eyes and hearts open for them. Blessings to all!”

We had lots of time to talk at Homecoming thanks to **Johnson Bowie, M.Ed. '74**; **Chuck Sullivan '72**; and members of the Class of 1972. Johnson and Chuck brought a whole caboose load of Gamma Betes from the years 1968-1976 back to campus for a party in the sky box at the football game. And there were plenty of non-Betes there, too! Not a whole lot of football watching happened. Folks were too busy talking, laughing, reminiscing, and hugging. Even a few tears were shed as old friends got back together. The guest of honor, Sports Hall of Fame inductee **Gary McWilliams** was unfortunately grounded in Florida because of Hurricane Ian, but he would have enjoyed the party. We did! And we toasted Gary's induction into the hall. Then, as if one party at Homecoming wasn't enough, the Class of 1972 decided to have an after-party at the Greene Turtle in Westminster, Maryland, for their class ... and they invited the Classes of 1971 and 1973 to join in. What a great time. Johnson was wanted to get a multi-year party going for a while, and this year we had two of them.

Addressing each kitty by name, **Coe Sherrard** wrote that he knew they “were all pesky, but that's probably what your servant (Dr. Pam) wants. As we age, we do less, so there is less to report ... unless we default to senior ailments, recent trips, and grandchildren. You get enough of that already, though.” **Coe** and **Jeanie Castle Sherrard** are doing fine in beautiful Shenandoah County and now see Joan and **Dave Harrison '70** often as they've moved two doors down from them. Coe has done a lot of interesting things since WMC — the Navy, managing Dollywood, and café proprietor come to mind. His latest novel, “Pedaling West,” was published in April. Meanwhile, Coe's third novel, “The Other Side of Good,” won a silver medal in the 2022 International Readers' Favorite book competition. Do yourself a favor and read Coe's work ... he is really good! But don't go looking for novels by Coe Sherrard; his nom de plume, so to speak, is E. A. Coe.

Montana has been home to my roommate, **Pat Callbeck Harper**, for so long now that I'm pretty sure she's not moving back to the East Coast. Pat's husband, Rusty, says they are busy fulfilling a promise they made to grow old together. And I think busy is the operative word. They have both been involved in Montana politics and their Methodist church for a long time and that hasn't changed. Following her stint as executive director of the Helena Symphony, Pat has been working as co-leader for the local chapter of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America.

This spring, I drove up to McDaniel to attend the annual B. Christopher Bothe

Memorial Lecture. (**Chris Bothe '72** passed away in 1984; you may remember him as “Hiroshima.”) Many friends return for this event every year, and who should I run into but **Mike** and **Cathy McCullough Shultz**. Both are retired, although Cathy says she is having to retire a second time, this time from all of her volunteer “jobs.”

Neither Charlie nor I have really retired yet, teaching online for the University of Rhode Island and mostly in person for McDaniel. Our teaching these days mostly focuses on nonviolence in all its myriad aspects and its implementation as well. (I do my best to channel **Ira Zepp '52**, **Hon. L.H.D. '15**, who taught many of us how nonviolence works.) Surprisingly, and despite my lack of resemblance to certain professors past, I have taught Statistics in four different departments at McDaniel, including Econ! We are both teaching First Year Seminars these days; mine is called Taking it to the Streets: Nonviolent Protest. Charlie's is the Psychology of Violence and Nonviolence. Our students give us hope for the future.

COVID-19 put our civil rights trips to the South on hold for a bit. But things are starting to open up, and I have just completed a journey with a busload of masked students from Nazareth College. I never realized how much I love these journeys and their impact on the folks on the bus until we had to stop for a while. I'm glad to be back on the road again. We stay politically active — Charlie writes; I organize protests and teach-ins, and volunteer for the college and a number of social justice organizations. And my work with the Adjunct Faculty Union at McDaniel continues.

In my last column, I wrote about **Jim Hobart's** battle with Parkinson's disease and the work he and **Kathy Walter Hobart '73, M.Ed. '76** and their friends and family were doing to support research to find a cure. I am heartbroken to let you know that Hobie passed away shortly before our 50th. Kathy was with us as we remembered him with great love and thankfulness for his friendship at the Reunion.

With great sadness I also need to tell you that we lost **Rowland Hill** not long before I wrote this column. **Richard Anderson** wrote the following: “You may see elsewhere in this issue that our classmate Rowland Jacob Hill passed away Feb. 7, 2023. Rowland and I met at WMC when we were in our freshman year and both 18 years old. We were best friends from that time on. Rowland and his wife **Marcie Ellithorpe Hill '75** were homesteaders in Ritchie County, West Virginia. I was there the day they settled on their farm, and I visited often over the years. Rowland was the best man at my wedding. He helped me with many house projects over the years. He went into the film business with me, and we produced two documentaries

family

DEPARTED

Those who will be missed:

The Rev. Don Griffin '42 of Lake City, Iowa, on Feb. 2, 2023.

Elizabeth Wright Preston '44 of Bel Air, Maryland, on April 7, 2023.

Luciene Ramsburg Pfefferkom '45 of Edgewater, Maryland, on Aug. 12, 2022.

Phyllis Voorhees Johnson '45 of Cherry Hill, New Jersey, on July 3, 2022.

Marion “Suzy” Maddox Suhorsky '45 of Durham, North Carolina, on March 2, 2023.

Ada Thomas Petrun '46 of South Park, Pennsylvania, on Jan. 25, 2021.

Katherine Heimmuller Harper '46 of Los Alamos, New Mexico, on Jan. 17, 2022.

Frederick Brown Jr. '47, M.Ed. '51 of Frederick, Maryland, on Jan. 25, 2023.

Elizabeth Armiger Maas '48 of Severna Park, Maryland, on Jan. 8, 2022.

Jean Somerville McLane '48 of Bel Air, Maryland, on Dec. 15, 2022.

Jacqueline Blick Fuss '49 of Chatham, Virginia, on Oct. 5, 2022.

Howard Myers '50 of Taneytown, Maryland, on April 10, 2023.

Jean Simms Cooksey '51 of Swan Point, Maryland, on Dec. 22, 2022.

Dr. Richard Leighton '51 of Savannah, Georgia, on Feb. 5, 2023.

Emily “Jeane” Hoyt Snyder '52 of Fort Wayne, Indiana, on April 18, 2022.

Cathryn Neal Brown '52 of Colonial Beach, Virginia, on Jan. 4, 2023.

Kathleen “Kay” McLaughlin Burkhardt '52 of Boulder, Colorado, on Jan. 14, 2023.

Brent Wood '52 of Rutland, Vermont, on May 5, 2023.

(Continued)



BAILEY MULLEN

“After graduation, I will be doing research for an immigration lawyer on Main Street, right here in Westminster. I’m looking forward to continuing to use my research skills after college, as well as staying close to McDaniel’s campus!”

— BAILEY MULLEN '23
English and Theatre Arts major

together with West Virginia themes. Rowland even adopted my 1930 Model A Ford that some of you may remember was my car when I was at WMC. One of the last activities we were able to share was replacing the head gasket and adjusting the valves in early July of 2022. Three weeks later, Row was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor. Despite immediate medical intervention, Rowland was unable to defeat the disease. He showed great courage and calm acceptance in the face of this personal catastrophe and as usual I learned a lot from him as he went through this. We have all reached the stage where the losses will mount. There is no avoiding it. However, we can learn from Rowland to be brave and ultimately accepting. My plan is to continue my work as a photographer and filmmaker and riding my bike and traveling with my family just as long as possible. Our son Nicholas accompanied my wife, Valerie, and I on a trip to England and France this October. We were pleased to be able to introduce him to Europe at the formative age of 23, the same age I was when I made my first trip to Europe. In the end, it's all good.”

Look to the stars. Find the magic. Enjoy every second of the journey.

Love y'all,
Zap, Arrow, Artemis, Vanilla Bean, Bentley, Grampy, and Grampy's kitten
Pamela Zappardino, Ph.D.
1971 Class Reporter
zapinator@aol.com

1977

Rob Andrews and Betsy Eline Andrews took a 34-day European river cruise in 2022. They started in Paris, and then picked up the boat in Bonn, Germany. They sailed through Germany, Austria, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania, and added a few days in Transylvania. At the end of January 2023, they flew to Bali for a three-week cruise of Indonesia, ending in Darwin, Australia. They have also reconnected with **Jan Wilder** and **Robyn Kramer Talbott** in Denton, Maryland, as well as a week in Bethany, Delaware, with those two, **Terry Holland**, and **Lonni Myers Bechen**. Their twice-yearly visits with **Jerry Landsman** and **Cathy Dannenfeldt Landsman** recommenced early last spring down in South Carolina and in the fall in Boonsboro, Maryland. Rob and Betsy were on hand to celebrate Betsy's mom's 90th birthday in February 2022, but sadly they lost her in August. Their kids are now 40 and 37. Their granddaughters — Theona, 11, and Frankie, 6 — remain the loves of Rob and Betsy's lives. Theona is an excellent soccer player and made the Washington all-state team. Frankie, the

Disney princess, loves ballet. Rob and Betsy travel with their son Kevin for yearly trips to Kentucky for the Bourbon Trail. Golf remains their recreational passion as Rob and Betsy each post 100+ rounds a year. On New Year's Day, Rob finally got his first hole-in-one after many close calls, giving them one each.

Dale Brenneman and his wife of 45 years, Cheryl, have lived in Ocean City, Maryland, for the past five years, enjoying the ocean but regretfully seeing less of their four kids and their families, who are all in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C., areas. Dale still works in computer software and Cheryl is retired from school nursing.

Frank Caplan is still happily perched on Key Biscayne, Florida, walking to the beach, and sometimes jogging. He is busy still with the law practice and is back in government service and overcommitted on boards. He keeps promising to shrug volunteer jobs but keeps taking on new ones. He says his health is good, unaffected by an out-of-nowhere coronary scare a few years ago. Frank and Gina host friends and family at home a lot. When not hosting, they travel. He was happy to be in Baltimore in October for a wedding and took the nostalgic tour of old neighborhoods that today are not as remembered. They enjoyed a short side trip to Westminster, Maryland, and a nice evening walk around the lovely campus. They visit their daughter Cailen in the Bay Area and the siblings in Rhode Island frequently. Frank has been in touch with former roommate **Carl Gold '78**. Recently, Frank looked through a long-forgotten box of letters, from the late '70s. It was like time traveling to read 40-some-year-old notes from **Bruce Wahlgren '76, M.L.A. '81; Meg Caddick; and Jeff Mintzer**. Meg's had news of **Sally Marshall Wogsland, Gerry Philips McCormick, Chris Edwards, and Jean Molesworth Kee '78**.

Jack Dyson writes that he and his wife, Gladys, finally got to go on a Danube River cruise originally scheduled for 2020 as a celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary. In September 2022, Jack started a new role as the president of Africa Dream Partnership, which is a ministry working with elementary and high school students in South Africa.

Robyn Furness-Fallin spent the last four years as a senior consultant with the DBD Group, focused on supporting nonprofits with strategic resource development. She is inching her way toward retirement, taking the first steps this year by spending less face time with clients and more on content development for the firm. Robyn and her husband, Bill, are still in their home in Fairhope, Alabama, on Mobile Bay, and enjoy hosting friends and family year-round. They are stepping up travel, having spent one month in 2022 in Taos,

New Mexico, skiing and visiting the Costa Del Sol of Spain in the early summer.

Mark Flaharty's biggest news is that his granddaughter has been accepted at McDaniel for this coming fall, 50 years after her grandpa first graced the WMC campus! Mark is so proud of her. She was accepted as an early decision applicant and has been awarded an Alumni Legacy Scholarship. Mark is still working as a senior compensation analyst at WellSpan Health in York, Pennsylvania, where he has been for 35 years. He is considering retirement at the end of this year.

Nancy Schwarzkopf Gaffney writes that it is amazing how fast time flies. Her big news for 2022 was surviving Hurricane Ian. Luckily, she was visiting with **Terry Holland** and **Brenda Eccard Dellinger '79** in Washington, D.C., when Ian hit. Her husband, Tom, and kitty, Lola, weathered the storm and have vowed not to do that again. They consider themselves lucky. All their friends and family were safe, but they did have some damage: 3.5 feet of water in the garage (and one of their cars ending up in their neighbor's front yard) plus some minor damage on the house. Nancy loves retirement, which includes kayaking with friends, pickleball, yoga, and house projects. She says **Beth Heckert Tevis, M.Ed. '84** became a grandmother in September and shares pictures of baby Jack. **Terry Holland** is an avid Washington sports fan (Nats, Caps, and Commanders) and can be seen at many Nats games. She and **Jan Wilder** also enjoy following the Lady Terps basketball team. The Munchkins are still Zooming about twice a month, and it is wonderful catching up with everyone including **Sherry Wensel Bowers '78, M.Ed. '84, and Brenda Eccard Dellinger**. Sherry is still working and keeps the group informed of all the cool things NASA is doing. Brenda continues to travel and just returned home from a cruise in the Caribbean.

Nan Hollinger Gangler retired in July 2019 after 36 years of teaching health and physical education in Garrett County (Maryland) Schools. She has seven grandchildren and babysits them often. When not babysitting, she crochets and plays her hammered dulcimer and handbells in her church handbell choir. Throughout basketball season, she works the clock at Southern Garrett High School basketball games, which she has done for about 20 years. Family fun time is spent boating at Deep Creek Lake, skiing at Wisp, and going on side-by-side rides through the back roads of West Virginia.

Schuyler Grant and **Margi Voelkel Grant** still live in San Diego. Their second and third daughters bought homes during the pandemic, so no more rent help or co-signing! The Grants are happy to be back to traveling again. Last year, they took a

cruise of the Norwegian fjords and post-cruise visits to Delft, Antwerp, and Paris. Then three weeks later, they took a cruise from Istanbul to Athens, visiting many archeologic ruins in Turkey and Greece. Schuyler is still working at Leidos with no plans to retire anytime soon. Margi is retiring from her volunteer position with La Leche League after 35 years.

After graduation from WMC, **Nancy Shepherd Green, M.L.A. '79** taught French and Spanish for 14 years in Westminster, Maryland, then in Severna Park, Maryland, before taking a 10-year hiatus to be a stay-at-home mom. In 2001, she returned to the classroom in Wake County, North Carolina, then took early retirement in 2019. Nancy and her husband, Dave, moved to Ocean Isle Beach, North Carolina, at the beginning of the pandemic and had a rough go of getting to know people since everything was boarded up for a while. Now, she keeps busy playing pickleball and mah-jongg, tutoring remotely, and enjoying living by the beach.

Carlton Harris and his wife, Ji, moved back to the U.S. in July 2022 after over 12 years in China. They moved to Seattle, where Ji currently works for Amazon as a senior manager in their branded business. They live downtown in an apartment with their 13-year-old son, Zhen, but will be house hunting soon. They added a new member to the family at Christmas of 2020, a 3-pound toy poodle named Hanna. They still have a home in Naples, Florida, and spent a month there last summer. Carlton's three older children are all doing well. Carlton is a semi-retired investment banker, hopefully moving to fully retired soon. His home office remains in Hong Kong.

Gary and **Mary Frank Honeman** have resided in downtown Westminster, Maryland, since 1977. Gary is an adjunct instructor in the Social Work department at McDaniel and Towson University's graduate Counseling program. Mary is in her 14th year at the Westminster library as a circulation clerk. They have enjoyed more traveling time in recent years. Gary “finally” went on his distance running bucket list trip to Eugene, Oregon, in spring 2022. Plans are underway to make the “big move” in 2024 to a new home near Easton, Maryland, to enjoy the benefits of Eastern Shore life while still being close to Baltimore, the Orioles, and visits to Westminster.

Steven Jaskulsky has been a urologist in the Baltimore area since 1986. Steve is still quite active playing music, although balancing a career and family has made playing challenging. He still carries the fond memories of jazz from his days at WMC. Steve and his wife, Andy, like to travel and enjoy their Baltimore home as well as vacation homes in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and Manhattan, New York.

Bill Johnson writes that the past year has been busy. Ruth, having the talent in the family, continues to sing with the New Albany Symphony, their church, and a local community choir. They are planning a trip to Europe, where Ruth is to sing in Salzburg, Vienna, Prague, and Dresden. This trip will take Bill back to where he served in the Army in 1978 through 1982. He will get to act as tour guide for Ruth and take her to many sites along the Romantic Strasse. Bill has been working a year and a half for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida (Florida Blue) Medicare. He works with accounts in Florida. He lives in Columbus, Ohio, but works remotely as an affinity partner strategist. He and Ruth were able to take a trip on the Disney Fantasy over the Christmas holiday to the Eastern Caribbean (Tortola, British Virgin Islands; St John, U.S. Virgin Islands; and Castaway Cay, Disney's own island). They returned home Dec. 31 in time to watch the Buckeyes lose to Georgia Bulldogs. Bill is looking forward to coming back to Frederick, Maryland, in September for his 50-year high school reunion.

Cynthia Longley Kehr traveled last July with her sister to Quebec to the Jardin de Quatre-Vents after watching “The Gardener” documentary about Frank Cabot and this famous garden. It's only open four days a year for tourists. It was an incredible experience. Cynthia and her husband, Alan, went to Kauai, Hawaii, for three weeks in September and they took their first hot air balloon ride. Cynthia continues to enjoy her three grandchildren (Elena, 11; Logan, 9; and Kaela, 6), sewing, writing, and updating the family website. Cynthia visited the college last October with some WMC classmates (**Susie Tucker Taylor '80; Kim Baugher '80; Robin Oroian Davis '79; Debbie Tull Paulsgrove '78, M.L.A. '07; and Johna Ruffo '78**) to celebrate Johna's birthday. Cynthia says the campus is beautiful as always and she loves the improvements that have been made since we were there. She stays in weekly contact with these ladies on a Zoom call, which also includes **Judy Byrd Fox '78, M.Ed. '79; Peggy Gibson Klein '80; and Loreen Sherwood '81**. She also talks regularly with **Fred Lister** and hears from **Ellen Pierce Savarese** at Christmas.

Jerry and **Cathy Dannenfeldt Landsman** write that this past August brought knee replacement surgery for Jerry. After months of rehab and exercises, he is finally getting back to normal. The rest of the family is doing well. They have finally been able to travel and visit those they have missed seeing since 2020. In 2022, they resumed their semi-annual visits with **Rob** and **Betsy Eline Andrews**. They traveled to South Carolina in the spring to see them, and saw them again in the fall when they, in return, came to Maryland.

In November, Jerry and Cathy made their annual trip to Shenandoah National Park for several days of hiking with dear friends. They have also been able to get together with **Robert (Cubby) Mitchell '75, M.Ed. '82; Bob Cullison '75, M.S. '97; Paul Rowley '77; and their wives, and Ray Ulm '76**. The guys don't play golf, but they never miss a train show! Speaking of trains, Jerry is always buying and selling train collections, and adding to his own platforms as well. Cathy's Christmas village and trains also keep growing.

Gay Jewell Love, M.Ed. '85 retired from McDaniel College in 2021 and is enjoying more time with Dick and their four grandchildren. **Dick Love '78** sold his dental practice in 2021 and enjoys working part time for the young dentist who bought the practice.

Harry Malone writes that he is the president for his Beall High School class in Frostburg, Maryland, and he is knee-deep in planning for their 50-year reunion. Harry mostly retired from and mostly shuttered his defense consulting business last year, but has some opportunities in 2023 that he may option. He and Deb celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary in December. For travel, his family went to Lake Anna, Virginia, then visited extended family in Frostburg while prepping for his reunion. Speaking of reunions, he also helped plan and execute a military unit event at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, with folks from Harry's first field artillery assignment in Hawaii in the late '70s! As if that wasn't enough nostalgia, Harry helped set up yet another reunion dinner in Old Town Alexandria for those in the D.C. area that were in his artillery unit in Germany in the mid-'80s. Harry sold his 1972 and 1996 Corvettes (as well as his Harley), and bought a 2017 Vette in 2021, taking it on trips to the Outer Banks, North Carolina, and Charlotte, North Carolina, where he and Deb drove the twisty (318 curves in 11 miles!) Tail of the Dragon in North Carolina and Tennessee. Harry's grandchildren (Natalie, 8; Noah, 3; and Lukas 1½) all live nearby, so it's easy to spoil them and help out with babysitting.

Mike May writes that he retired in mid-2021 from Anne Arundel County (Maryland) Public Schools as an administrator when the county decided to change to a new software system. After 42 years, Mike decided he did not want to learn a fifth software system. He sold his house in Catonsville, Maryland, and moved to a house he has outside of Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. He is enjoying retirement and has adjusted to living away from major cities. He is learning to relax and just enjoy what happens. He has also learned not to go to Saturday mass in case the Bidens are in town since the priest likes to talk more when the president attends. Mike enjoys

family

DEPARTED

Those who will be missed:

Elizabeth Adams '53, M.Ed. '69 of Gainesville, Florida, on Dec. 23, 2022.

George Van Nostrand '53 of Ocean Pines, Maryland, on April 4, 2023.

Arnold Chapin '55 of Jupiter, Florida, on Jan. 23, 2022.

Janet Boller Heins '55 of Kensington, Maryland, on Feb. 22, 2023.

Neil Blake '56, M.Ed. '65 of Red Lion, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 19, 2023.

O. Lee Bowen '57 of Bluffton, South Carolina, on Aug. 13, 2021.

Richard Kline Jr. '57 of Frederick, Maryland, on Feb. 9, 2023.

Donald Shure '61 of Canton, Georgia, on Jan. 20, 2023.

David Sullivan '61, M.Ed. '68 of New Oxford, Pennsylvania, on March 28, 2023.

Marie Black Sasse '62 of Baltimore on Feb. 22, 2023.

Gerald Clark Jr. '63, M.L.A. '77 of Allentown, Pennsylvania, on Dec. 9, 2022.

Melvin Sears Strohming '65 of Baltimore on March 15, 2023.

Dr. James Rauch '66 of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, on March 19, 2022.

Lynne Marck McDonough '66 of Bradenton, Florida, on Jan. 20, 2023.

The Rev. Richard McCall, Ph.D. '68 of Bloomington, Indiana, on Dec. 30, 2022.

Rowland Hill '71 of Harrisville, West Virginia, on Feb. 7, 2023.

Michael Mahaney '73 of Harwich, Massachusetts on Dec. 5, 2022.

Frederic Baker M.Ed. '73 of Mount Airy, Maryland, on April 8, 2023.

(Continued)



“I don’t have to keep myself in a box just because I’m Black or a male or queer. I can do what I want to do, and I don’t have to be concealed.”

— KEISHAN DEMPSEY ’23
Psychology major

taking a friend’s daughter and her 3-year-old to story time every week and then to the park. Mike is updating his house and planning for the next steps in aging. He keeps in contact with **Marjorie Feuer Waxenberg** and gets to see pictures of her two beautiful granddaughters. Mike regularly talks to **Janice Knable** (she was at WMC for our first two years), who is living on the North Carolina Outer Banks and also looking forward to just enjoying the beach instead of work. Mike would like to get back to traveling and is planning to see the next solar eclipse in October 2024 outside Fredericksburg, Texas, with people he worked with over 30 years ago. They are all retired and are starting to get together regularly.

Nancy Dean Mattingly says life is grand in Fairfax, Virginia. She stays busy with two grandkids nearby and another on the way. She volunteers as a guardian with Honor Flight Chicago Flights and makes and sends cards for a care ministry at her Lutheran church. She still bakes for many neighbors on a regular basis and is happy to report all recipients enjoy that. Husband, **Curt Mattingly ’75**, started a brew ministry with their church about seven years ago, and they have a good time brewing, tasting the beer, and serving it at local functions.

Karen Miller writes that she is in her fourth year as volunteer at Oldfields School, where she worked before retiring to take care of her mom in her last years. During her three days a week at Oldfields, she manages the library and keeps the archives organized. She also spends some time at Hereford Senior Center where she is vice president of the board and where she and Todd play bridge at least once a week. They continue to love their little house in the northern wilds of Baltimore County.

John Olson retired from Willard Agri-Service based in Frederick, Maryland, in March 2022. He had been CFO for the companies and thoroughly enjoyed his 30 years with the business. He and his wife, Linda, live in the country near Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, and enjoy having horses, goats, and cattle. John volunteers with a Bible Adventure program for elementary school kids and together they help run the food pantry at their church. With more time to travel, they just took a tour of Israel, which was very interesting. John enjoys having seven grandchildren. He is still an avid baseball fan (Nationals and Orioles) and got to catch up with **Wayne Coblenz** a few months ago.

David Reinecker continues to enjoy singing and performing with four different groups. One group, the East Berlin Community Singers, has been invited to perform in Normandy, France, for the 80th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy in World War II in June 2024. They will be performing concerts

in both Normandy and Paris during the nine-day stay in France. This may be the final service that will have living service members in attendance as it is only done every five years. Dave is really looking forward to this opportunity to honor this occasion with song! Their family is healthy and growing, now blessed with four grandchildren! They all live within two miles of Dave and **Cheryl Collins Reinecker ’79**, which gives them the chance to give plenty of hugs and attend many of their activities. Dave has sort of retired, which means he only works 60 hours a week instead of the normal 80. Dave and Cheryl returned from their 27th trip to the island of St. Kitts in February. It has become their home away from home where it is sunny and 83 degrees every day.

Eric Rosenberg and his brother, **Mark “Manny” Rosenberg ’79**, sold their business of 21 years, Seaside Golf Vacations, in September. So, Eric is now retired. They had a great time working together to build a successful business. This is his second retirement; the first was in 2001 from the U.S. Coast Guard after 22 years of service. His retirement plans include traveling with his wife, Anita, in their motorhome, playing golf, and fishing.

Steve Schonberger and **Holly Sewell Schonberger** celebrated 45 years of marriage this year, living in Finksburg, Maryland, in the same house they purchased in 1980. They are both retired and enjoying their eight grandchildren as much as they can, as well as enjoying their second home in Ocean City, Maryland.

Tony Sager and **Susan Fairchild Sager ’79, M.Ed. ’85** are still working, each in their second careers, having too much fun to stop just yet. Susan will celebrate 20 years with Southwest Airlines next year, which is her target. Despite the winter scheduling meltdown, she loves her work, the many friends she flies with, and all the new friends she makes along the way. Tony is still working (from home since 2012) for the nonprofit Center for Internet Security. He spends his time focused on company strategy and messaging. He is also doing volunteer work on numerous government and industry boards, study groups, etc. Currently, he is focused on the Cyber Safety Review Board, created last year by executive order as a cybersecurity version of the National Transportation Safety Board. Earlier this year, he had the honor of speaking to students in the McDaniel College National Security Fellows Program. His topic was “Cyber Security as a Liberal Arts Challenge,” which might resonate with some readers. Beyond work, Tony and Susan are still very active in bicycling and hiking adventures. The best in their life is that they get to spend time with their two granddaughters, ages 5 and 2.

Gary Walters reports everyone in the Walters family is healthy and well. Gary has established a charter business on the Chesapeake Bay (Evergreen Charters), which he runs out of his home on Kent Island, Maryland. One of his primary clients is a wedding venue — Kent Island Resort — that is located across the creek from his home. He gets several bookings each season there, where his job is to keep groomsmen busy for two to three hours. (His only obligations are to return the groomsmen to the venue at least 10 minutes prior to the ceremony and sober enough to walk down the venue pier.) A note about Hurricane Ian: The Walters have property on Manasota Key, a barrier island near Englewood, Florida, and his son, Mitch, and his family live on Pine Island, which is near Fort Myers and Cape Coral, Florida. Pine Island was very near ground zero when the hurricane made landfall and Manasota Key was in the northern eyewall of the hurricane with sustained winds of 130-150 mph for 10-12 hours. Gary’s condominium is a complete rebuild and will not be ready for occupancy until the summer. Fortunately, his son’s house fared much better, but a nearby village, Matlacha, Florida, was devastated by the storm. Many friends, especially GBX brothers, sent kind words and well wishes during and after the hurricane and they all were greatly appreciated. Gary’s standard reply is: my family is safe and healthy and all of our damages were repairable. In contrast, he says, there were and are thousands of folks living in Southwest Florida who cannot make either of those statements.

Mike Warthen writes that he and Mary Fran have moved from Palm Harbor, Florida, to North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They made the move to be within a day’s drive of their first granddaughter in Syracuse, New York. Mike retired (for the second time) April 1, 2022, and they are lucky to spend eight months at the ocean and four months at Oneida Lake near Syracuse. He still has a couple of business ideas floating around, so maybe he will “beat Tom Brady” and get to retire for a third time. Mike and Mary Fran enjoyed having **Rusty Hess** and Amy visit in South Carolina for some golf and dining in 2022 and are looking forward to the next Phi Fest on the Hill.

Marjorie Feuer Waxenberg writes that for the past few years they have been on babysitting detail whenever daughter Elise and her husband, Ian, and the kids go up to Vermont to go skiing, mostly to Stowe and the Catskills. Last May, she and Steve spent two weeks in South Carolina, in North Myrtle Beach and Charleston and then on to **Victoria “Tori” Fowler’s** house in Simpsonville. In the summer of 2021, they went up to Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and

scheduled a boat ride to Martha’s Vineyard for the day and one to Nantucket where they did an overnighter at the Jared Coffin House. Marjorie is hoping to go to Maui, Hawaii, this summer to see an elderly cousin. Marjorie says Steve’s health has stabilized. He has been plagued all his life with genetic coronary artery disease and has had two official heart attacks to date. He had a pacemaker/defibrillator implanted in August 2021. He takes about 25 pills a day and is doing better. He is officially retired now, and they have been going through the Medicare and Social Security ordeals. Marjorie’s best news is that they have two granddaughters: Madeleine, 3, and Claire, 2. Marjorie gave up the church choir when COVID-19 hit, and dismissed her piano students, but she is still active in her piano club, Noteworthy.

Lonni Myers Bechen has been enjoying visits from **Betsy Eline Andrews, Jan Wilder, and Robyn Kramer Talbott** to their farm in Central Florida, with many touring adventures and shopping! “I am still enjoying trail riding and dressage with my horses. My husband, Scott, and I have lived in our small farm for 33 years and are enjoying our seventh year of retirement. We love the peacefulness here in rural country setting with easy accessibility to both Florida coasts.”

It is always such a pleasure to read your news and notes. Thank you all for your kind comments, too. A year ago, I had COVID-19 and spent a rough six weeks in bed with two trips to the hospital. It has been slow recovering and working full time. I still tire easily. I was fortunate I still had one daughter at home and one daughter close by to care for me, and my dog, Molly. My daughter, Katie, was married last July so I am now an empty nester. After raising seven kids, the house is just too quiet. I work full time for Intercessors for America (IFA) as a financial administrator and still work for the Loudoun County (Virginia) Election Board for elections and certifying the county results after each election. I use my vacation time from IFA to do the election work. I also work with my church’s chapter of Celebrate Recovery, leading the women’s open share, facilitating step studies, and sponsoring women in the program. My daughter, Anna, and her family live a block from where I work. I drop off my dog there, for doggy daycare, and am thrilled by enthusiastic morning hugs from my grandchildren.

*Donna Joy Armstrong
1977 Class Reporter
P.O. Box 431
Round Hill, VA 20142
freshmerciestoday@gmail.com*

1983

Beth White Werrell, her husband, and her family have been careful and fortunate enough to be able to stay healthy during the pandemic. She recently retired from her job as a marketing copywriter. She still lives in Carroll County, Maryland, so she is close enough to attend Reunions and gets together with WMC friends. She has been enjoying some of the hobbies she did not have time for while working, namely knitting, crocheting, quilting, and painting! She joined a quilting guild and has been taking workshops on new techniques and creative approaches, plus she is now the vice president of the group. She also joined a painting club and has been learning a lot from it! She and her husband have many trips planned for the next year.

Wayne Reese has had a great start to the year with retirement at the end of January. They also moved from North Carolina to South Carolina to be close to their granddaughter! He retired from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and has many plans to travel with Joan, his wife of 37 years.

Neil Epstein recently sold his home and has moved a few miles away into a great rancher in Bel Air, Maryland, and enjoys the empty nest lifestyle. He travels often to Nashville, Tennessee, and Philadelphia to visit his three daughters. He traveled to Tampa, Florida, this past fall with **Hunter Steadley ’81** and **Katie O’Dwyer Steadley ’82** to see the Ravens play Tampa and hung out with **Scott Kallins ’81** and **Steve Asroff ’81** while down there. Life is good and looking forward to seeing a bunch of Dead & Company shows this summer with **Rick Watts ’84** and **Vince DiRienzo**.

Bob Iber and his wife, Roberta, own three dogs and two horses. He continues to work for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (36 years). He is thinking about retiring in a couple years. He started traveling a little more this past year; he has been to Denver and New Orleans and some local trips.

Peggy Stonebeck Beardmore and her husband, Paul, are enjoying his retirement. They welcomed a second grandchild recently and love to help with them. She has been substituting at a local private school that she can walk to and really enjoys it.

As for me, my husband’s band, Bobby and the Believers, has ended but Brad still occasionally plays with the band Radio City. We have two grandsons that live only 30 minutes away, and we feel so blessed to be able to see them so much. One of my greatest joys is running into former students and hearing about the fantastic things they are doing. A few years ago, we started traveling to all the Major League Baseball stadiums, something **Bob Iber**

has already accomplished. We have visited about a third so far. Our mothers are still doing well at 98 and 84 and we visit them often. Our nephew, **Cameron Etris ’23**, graduated from McDaniel in May.

*Traci “Breeze” Holland Anderson
1983 Class Reporter
anderbr1@verizon.com
410-598-8873*

1989

Jim Cardea started a new law firm last year after being with his prior firm for 22 years. His new firm, Baird Mandalas Brockstedt Federico & Cardea, has offices in Delaware and Baltimore, and Columbia, Maryland. They specialize in medical malpractice and mass torts. **Frances Fato Cardea** remains the controller at the Aspen Hill Club in Silver Spring, Maryland, where she has worked for over 30 years. The past two summers, they have been enjoying spending time at their beach house in Bethany Beach, Delaware. They have met up with several WMC alums at the beach including **Eric Landgraf ’87** and **Kim O’Dea Landgraf ’87**, **Tom Paranzino ’82** and **Kathy Marvel Paranzino ’85**, **Dave Ferguson, Marc Bouchard ’90**, **Jon Hawkins, and Ann Kangas ’90**. After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, Jim and his brother held the annual Dr. Don Cardea Memorial Golf Tournament, where several alumni participated. Jim and Frances are just a year away from being empty nesters as their youngest daughter will be starting her senior year in high school. Their two older daughters have graduated from college and are out of the house living in the real world.

Terry Dripps Grothmann is in her 16th year of teaching preschool. She and her husband, **Bob Grothmann ’90**, have been traveling as often as possible now that both of their sons are college graduates and their daughter is beginning her junior year at the College of Charleston. They keep in touch with several friends from WMC.

Patrick Dail took a mid-career gap year during 2022 to focus on a couple of bucket list experiences. He took a summer literature class at the University of Edinburgh, went deep sea fishing in Cuba, and is finishing his dissertation on supervisors and performance feedback. Pat has lived in New York City for 17 years, but is currently in job search mode and is planning his return to Maryland.

Chris Dolch and **Jen Manger Dolch, M.S. ’96** are loving their new house and new lives in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Jen retired from teaching after 33 years and Chris continues to run his business from home. Both of their sons are married and living in Maryland. Chris and Jen miss seeing their two beautiful granddaughters

family

DEPARTED

(Continued)

John Dyrenforth M.Ed. ’75 of Center Sandwich, New Hampshire, on June 10, 2022.

Derek Neal ’75 of Cockeysville, Maryland, on Dec. 16, 2022.

William Hiatt M.Ed. ’75 of Westminster, Maryland, on Jan. 20, 2023.

Mary Walker Seay M.Ed. ’75 of Kerrville, Texas, on Feb. 8, 2023.

Wayne Patterson ’77 of Annapolis, Maryland, on March 9, 2023.

Richard Cox ’77 of Prince Frederick, Maryland, on April 13, 2023.

Phyllis Stuckey Yingling M.Ed. ’79 of Catonsville, Maryland, on Aug. 30, 2021.

Jacalyn Sloan Stover M.Ed. ’80 of Star City, Arkansas, on Jan. 5, 2021.

Janet Butts Anderson ’80 of Gainesville, Florida, on March 7, 2023.

Michele Neuman Seburn ’83 of Greencastle, Pennsylvania, on March 14, 2023.

Louis Hamilton Jr. M.S. ’87 of Woodbine, Maryland, on Sept. 15, 2021.

Scott Grocki ’95 of Parkesburg, Pennsylvania, on Feb. 6, 2023.

Aaron Ahlbum ’97 of Chicago on March 24, 2023.

Julie Brodziak-Crandell M.S. ’07 of Riva, Maryland, on Jan. 31, 2022.

Manuel Sorrentini ’22 of Westminster, Maryland, on Dec. 24, 2022.

[Departed]

Professor Emerita of Music **Julia Taylor Hitchcock**, age 97

Professor Emerita of Music **Julia Taylor Hitchcock** of New Oxford, Pennsylvania, died April 27 at age 97. Hitchcock first began teaching voice lessons at the college in 1960 and retired 25 years later.

She found teaching vocal music to be “a great joy.” The students she mentored on the Hill regularly sang in campus performances, and Hitchcock often sang beside them. During her tenure at the college, she gave numerous faculty recitals and was a member of the College Singers, Baroque Ensemble, Women’s Glee Club, College Choristers, and a soloist with the College Choir.

Highly involved in local and national music communities, Hitchcock was a member of the choir at Westminster Church of the Brethren, the Carroll County Chorale, the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Delta Omicron Music Fraternity, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

She also served as president of the American Association of University Women and of the Carroll County Choral Arts Society.

She was born in Wilmington, Delaware, in 1925. Musically talented from a young age, she performed in recitals with her father and as an actor with the Brandywiners at Longwood Gardens, Pennsylvania.

She graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in 1948 with a B.A. in Music and Music Education. She then moved to Westminster, Maryland, and taught music in Carroll County Public Schools for a decade. In 1949, she married Fern R. Hitchcock Jr. ’47, professor emeritus of Physical Education.

She is survived by four children — including Dorothy Hitchcock Keene ’74 and Sharon Hitchcock ’80 — as well as eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her husband, Fern, and her eldest daughter.

but try to visit often. They spend much of their free time with **Dave Bell** and **Laurie Vozella-Bell ’87**, who have also moved to Mount Pleasant. **Bill Desciak** and his family live nearby as well, and when **Rich McCaughey ’90** and **Barb Pierantozzi-McCaughey** visited, they all got together.

Maria Filshie Douglas and **Dave Douglas ’87** have been spending their free time between Maryland, Florida, and Aruba. They are still living in Easton, Maryland. They own a property in Aruba that they visit often and rent out when they are not there. Their oldest daughter is in graduate school in Baltimore and their other daughter just moved from Florida to Kansas City for work. Maria and Dave just celebrated their 33rd wedding anniversary in New Orleans. They have several trips planned over the next year with many WMC alumni.

As for me, **Mary O’Hara Zorbach**, life is good! My son has graduated from the University of Maryland and is working in the D.C. area as a civil engineer. My

daughter is a junior at the University of Delaware. My husband and I are also now property owners in South Carolina! We built a house in Pawleys Island and are spending as much time as we can down south, but haven’t moved there permanently yet. Hopefully in the next few years we will be full-time South Carolina residents. Pawleys Island is just a little north of Mount Pleasant, and we plan to spend a lot of time with the Bells and Dolches. This past December, I spent a week in Aruba with **Maria Filshie Douglas**. It was an amazing week of sun and fun! Hopefully this summer, I’ll see several WMC friends at home in Maryland, in Bethany Beach, and down in South Carolina!

*Mary O’Hara Zorbach
1989 Class Reporter
8 Forest Ridge Court
Timonium, MD 21093
443-465-5319*

1995

Keith Abel is still living in Mystic, Connecticut. He is running his own boat dealership, Maritime Boat Sales, selling previously enjoyed boats and is a dealer for Tidewater and Jupiter Boats. He still likes to go to the bars and enjoys surfing, skiing, mountain biking, fishing, playing guitar, singing, and dancing. “Nothing has really changed; I am still goofy and silly. Looking forward to seeing you soon. If you are ever in Mystic, let me know.”

It’s been a busy year for **Christa Mose**. She retired from Phoenix Police Department as a detective after 23½ years in March 2022. Her fellow Phi Mus, **Andrea Romich Sykes**, **Krista Shaffer Wilson**, **Claudia Pyers Eckstrom**, **Mare Sheehan Gallen ’96**, and **Holly Roback Plank ’96** flew out to Phoenix to surprise her and celebrate her retirement. In August, Christa moved to Germany with her girlfriend, Pam, for her career, and in January 2023, they were married in Copenhagen, Denmark. They are currently enjoying life in Germany and traveling around Europe.

In summer 2022, **Edward Navarre** was promoted to the rank of professor at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where he teaches Chemistry.

Scott Stout shared that his daughter, **Kayla Stout ’20**, received her master’s degree from Towson University in December 2021.

Tyler Wilson is still president of the Kiva Group, and **Michele Reavy Wilson ’94** started a new position at Canuso Pipe. Tyler has also been a guest to the Board of Trustees at McDaniel and has enjoyed working with McDaniel as they move the institution forward. In December, Tyler’s daughter **Mia Wilson ’21, M.S. ’22** graduated from McDaniel’s M.S. in Human Resources Management program. “We have all enjoyed being on the Hill to tailgate for sporting events with **Matthew Wilson ’23**.”

Matt Baker says hello from Austin, Texas! It has been a busy year helping Liberty explore colleges. Sadly, McDaniel is not in the running, with the majority of the candidate schools in New England. In January, Matt celebrated his 18th year at Dell Technologies, where he is senior vice president and head of corporate strategy. He often cites the importance of his time on the Hill to his career in tech, especially the impact that both Dr. Christianna Leahy and Dr. Pamela Regis had in developing his confidence and critical thinking skills. There are a surprising number of English and Political Science majors in corporate strategy roles in the Fortune 100.

Jim Gibbons and **Danielle Paquette Gibbons** live in Annapolis, Maryland. They recently celebrated their 50th birthdays and 25-year wedding anniversary over the summer in Napa, California. They met at WMC in their first year and have been

together ever since. Jim owns a wealth management company, Alpha Pointe Capital, and Danielle is a teacher at the Naval Academy Primary School. They have two sons, 19 and 23, who are in college and graduate school respectively.

As for me, **Julie Lucas Davitian**, I am still happily living in Boston and working as a vice president at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

*Julie Lucas Davitian
1995 Class Reporter
julieandrealucas@gmail.com*

2001

Matt McVey and his wife, Lauren, moved back to their hometown in Harford County, Maryland, after living in the Canton neighborhood of downtown Baltimore for the past eight years. They purchased a mid-century split-level home and are having fun renovating it from the ground up themselves. This year, Matt celebrates his 20th anniversary working for the U.S. Army and is now the chief information officer for a two-star command at Aberdeen Proving Ground. He comes back to the Hill for Homecoming and alumni basketball games annually and gets together with the crew — **Eric Byrd ’93**, **Evan Desatnick**, **Raphael Taylor ’03**, **Kash Wright ’99**, **Carl Taylor**, **Bob Spruill ’00**, and **Mike Proto** — regularly.

Since our last update, **Sarah Mae Harper** and her husband, Hugo, bought a condo in Inglewood, California, where they plan to make their forever home. They look forward to hosting many pool parties there. Sarah Mae continues to work as a library manager for Los Angeles County Library and Hugo is back at Inglewood Library. They are celebrating their 10th year of marriage and look forward to all the sunny years to come!

Jessica Lile Posey is living happily in Severna Park, Maryland, with her daughters, Lila and Elena. She returned to T. Rowe Price in 2019 and continues to love the professional challenges and growth there.

Jeff Groff was named 2019 West Virginia Professor of the Year in 2020 and is part of a team that was recently awarded \$1.4 million to build an agricultural small business incubator at Shepherd University’s farm. He’s looking forward to the end of his second term as department chairperson and having more time to devote to his cabin build project near George Washington National Forest and organizing field courses for his students, like the one to Yellowstone and Grand Tetons National Parks, where they will be developing hardware tools for the Tezos blockchain. He will continue to find joy in caring for his honeybees and growing his

recently founded 501(c)(3) nonprofit, The Groff Family Foundation, Inc.

Jeremiah Kelly and his wife, Aimee, celebrated 20 years of marriage in 2022. Jeremiah was recently elected as partner in the Washington, D.C., law firm of Venable LLP, where he practices FDA law. He joined Venable after 12 years at the U.S. Army Medical Research & Development Command at Fort Detrick. Jeremiah and Aimee have five children: Lillian, 17; Rhiannon, 13; Isaiah, 12; Abram, 10; and Elias, 9. They continue to live in the Middletown, Maryland, area where Jeremiah coaches the kids’ baseball and basketball teams, and the family is active in their local church.

Justin King ’02 and I, **Gina Rende King, M.L.A. ’07**, still reside in Ellicott City, Maryland. Justin continues to work with Aroseal Windows and Storefront, and I am now serving University of Maryland, Baltimore County as its director of undergraduate admissions and orientation. Our 11-year-old twin sons, Wyatt and Jonathan, keep us busy with ice hockey, football, basketball, and putting new holes in our drywall at any opportunity. The fun really takes shape when we get together with our cousins **Ryan Legge ’00** and **Kristen Rider Legge ’00, M.S. ’04** in their pool for cannonballs or tearing up the streets of Old Ellicott City. I’m beginning to think it might be true that life starts after 40.

*Gina Rende King, M.L.A. ’07
2001 Class Reporter
ginaking25@gmail.com*

2007

Martin Camper is in his ninth year as a professor of writing at Loyola University Maryland, and since 2021, he has directed Loyola’s Center for the Humanities. In January 2023, he became engaged to Jerry Schearer, who also works in higher education, as interim assistant vice president and dean of students at Kutztown University. They have three dogs: a boxer-pug mix named Joey, a Shiba Inu named Samson, and a Boston terrier named Photo. Martin continues to live in Baltimore.

Caitlin Potter Ciorletti is still teaching in the Philadelphia School District. She and her husband, Michael, and their daughter, Kelly, vacation each summer in the Adirondacks, trying a new lake every year. They recently purchased a new home in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania. Caitlin keeps in touch with her Omega sisters and looks forward to their yearly Moms’ Weekend in Ocean City, Maryland.

Britnie Greene Ehret had a second son, Daniel Andrew Ehret, on May 6, 2022. She is also staying busy with her toddler, Carter, and her business of renting out baby gear for traveling families in the area.

Rachael Dickey Gilde celebrated her ninth wedding anniversary with husband George Gilde. She recently started a new job with the Maryland Port Administration focused on outreach about the Port of Baltimore and the variety of ecological restoration work that is involved in maintaining shipping channels. She has had the pleasure of working with several McDaniel alumni in her field over the past five years and has loved seeing the wonderful professionals generated by the college. She and George have four beautiful children: Brayden, 19; June, 9; Levi, 5; and Maisie, 4. Things came full circle while taking stepson Brayden on college visits, including several stops at McDaniel. It was wonderful to be back and see how it’s grown!

By day, **David Greisman** is now the media relations manager for Capital Impact Partners, which helps close the racial wealth gap in communities throughout the United States. When he’s not working, David loves to hit the trails at national parks, visiting 18 of them since late 2021, including the Grand Canyon, Big Bend in Texas, and Haleakala in Hawaii.

Theresa Hess had been living and practicing veterinary surgery in snowy Syracuse, New York, for the past year and a half. She recently moved south again to Chattanooga, Tennessee, for a better job opportunity. In August 2022, Theresa lost the first dog she ever raised on her own to cancer. In October 2022, Theresa was awarded the McDaniel College Young Alumni Award. In November 2022, another sweet dog stole her heart with one pleading look to save her from euthanasia (she required surgery that her family could not afford). The surgery was a success, and she has been the best split-second decision Theresa has made in life to this point!

Chloe Watson Irla was promoted from assistant professor to associate professor of Art with tenure at McDaniel effective August 2022. She spent the fall of 2022 on sabbatical, and while it was a break from teaching, Irla kept busy by earning a professional certificate in client relations from AIGA, taking gardening and public art classes, and producing work for her solo exhibition at McDaniel during January 2023.

Scott Koleszar is keeping busy with the new addition to the family, Ryan Scott Koleszar, born Feb. 11, 2022. He and **Lauren Schwartzbart Koleszar ’11** still reside in Sykesville, Maryland, which is close enough to the Hill to make routine visits. Scott also left the auto industry after 10 years and now works as an order manager for a tech manufacturer.

Matt Lufkin and **Jamie Janowich Lufkin** reside on the north shore of Massachusetts, with their two daughters. Matt is a senior product marketing manager at Thermo Fisher Scientific. He received an M.B.A. from Boston University in 2019. Jamie



“Professor Steve Pearson encouraged me to take myself seriously as an artist, while also guiding me to opportunities that I would not have known about otherwise. He is a strong supporter of the liberal arts.”

— **KATE CRAMER ’23**

*Studio Art major
PreK-12 Education, Art
History, and European
Studies minors*



CHARESS THOMPSON

“At Interviewing Day, it was amazing that those who interviewed me were alumni of McDaniel. It was nice relaying experiences of the college and our classes.”

— CHARESS THOMPSON '23
Accounting and Business Administration major

supports the U.S. Air Force as a defense contractor. You can find Matt at CrossFit and always working to accomplish his personal goals and build friendships. Jamie stays grounded with yoga practice, fitness, books, and trending television series. Both are enjoying their daughters' activities, which include basketball, gymnastics, soccer, and school.

Kurt Rauschenberg, Sociology major and Army ROTC graduate, recently celebrated the birth of his son, Grayson. He also recently celebrated his military retirement after serving almost 23 years in the Maryland Army National Guard. This is very exciting for Kurt since he can now grow a full beard. He's currently a public affairs professional for the federal government and has a part-time side business, called Paradigm Shift Communications, LLC, providing public relations consultation to local businesses and organizations.

Time sure has flown by for **Josh Russin** and Maggie Leberz. Josh and Maggie still enjoy running their specialty retail shop, L.O.V.E., in historic downtown Frederick, Maryland, and are spending as much time as they can with their 4-year-old son, Orion. Over the summer of 2022, they acquired a beautiful, wooded property in northern Frederick County to tent camp, hike, and fish when they can. They love swimming in the stream on their property, clambering over boulders, and looking for animal footprints. Orion loves camping and has become quite the naturalist and outdoor explorer. Josh continues to remain in touch with other Class of 2007 alumni, including **Sean Maslin**, **Andy Cummings**, **Rob Goeke**, **Steve Furst**, and **Beth McLane Angleberger**. Even though he missed the Class Reunion in 2022, he hopes to return to the Hill this fall!

Samantha Hemler-Parthree Schlitz added a four-legged fur baby to her family in May 2021! River, a female boxer pup, adds excitement and warmth to the home and is currently in training to be a service dog. Just one year later, Up Schlitz Creek made its maiden voyage on Lake Marburg in Codorus State Park! The 20-foot Bennington pontoon boat is a wonderful place to spend lazy summer days with friends and family. In August 2022, Samantha decided that 13 years in municipal government was enough, and she shifted her career focus back to forward-facing customer service. She found a new position at Doceo, a technology service company based in York, Pennsylvania, and it has been an amazingly rewarding experience! Samantha still maintains her position as a communications officer with the Department of Campus Safety and looks forward to reaching the 20-year milestone in 2024.

Jon Silverman got engaged on April 1, 2022, to Adden Laughlin, of Sherborn, Massachusetts. Jon asked **Brian Hartwyk '08**

be one of his co-best men. Jon also hosted a couple of McDaniel Budapest students in Los Angeles. It was great to reconnect after all these years.

Kathleen Woodward has been a physician assistant since 2009 (“14 years, holy smokes!”), but she recently moved from a position in trauma/general/vascular surgery to critical care (ICU) medicine in the fall of 2021 and still dabbles in surgery from time to time. While her marriage ended in an amicable divorce in 2021, she is still out living her best life and proving that just because it didn't work out the way you planned doesn't mean it didn't work out for the best. Even though they are all scattered around the U.S. these days, she keeps in touch with her McDaniel roomies: **Chelsea Phillips Clark**, **Lindsey Grieb Graves**, **Melissa Magnuson Salemie**, **Heather Williams Barton**, and **Melanie Socco Greenway** and looks forward to their get-togethers — whether they are virtual or in person.

Jeff Zamostny was promoted to the rank of professor of Spanish and appointed director of the Office of Undergraduate Research at the University of West Georgia. His co-edited volume “Towards the Digital Cultural History of the Other Silver Age Spain” came out in 2022.

As for me, **Chelsea Phillips Clark**, my husband, Phillip; daughter, Emma; and I moved into our dream home in Westfield, Indiana, the week of Thanksgiving 2021. We have spent the past year settling in and making updates, including recently renovating the entire kitchen ourselves. Phil and I have also been busy growing our business and team, as our consulting organization, ENABLE Special Needs Planning, has expanded, and now serves families with loved ones with special needs nationwide. We recently joined a 12-month mastermind group for entrepreneurs and have been enjoying traveling to quarterly live events in Scottsdale, Arizona, in addition to traveling around the country to present planning-related workshops at several national conferences every year. We can't believe our baby girl is already 3 years old. She's frequently begun insisting that she's a “big girl” and needs to transition from her crib to a “big-girl bed,” but this mama isn't quite ready to believe it! I thoroughly enjoyed catching up with most of my NV 191 roomies (**Lindsey Grieb Graves**, **Kathleen Woodward**, **Melanie Socco Greenway**, and **Heather Williams Barton**) along with other 2007 grads at our 15-year Class Reunion in April 2022 — and Emma surprised us all by loving the Green Terror mascot.

Chelsea Phillips Clark
2007 Class Reporter
14926 Warner Trail
Westfield, IN 46074
chelseajclark86@gmail.com
301-606-0746

2013

It has officially been 10 years since we graduated, rang the bell, and began our post-college lives — and I don't know about you, but it's hard to believe that it's been an entire decade already.

As **Will Haddad** put it, “Though time marches irrevocably on, it's very comforting to think of the Hill standing there as firm as ever.” Last June, Will passed the California state clinical exam to become a licensed marriage and family therapist. Now he works for Foothill Family Service in their intensive services department, where he acts as a clinician on a four-person care team providing therapy to high-needs and high-risk youth and their families. He says it is simultaneously some of the most challenging and rewarding work he has ever done. Will also opened a private practice, which he hopes to grow into his primary profession.

Kira Young Connor and her husband, Kyle, welcomed their first child, Declan James, in August 2022. After Kyle retired from the Army and started a contracting job in Reston, Virginia, they moved to a wonderful little farm in Berryville, Virginia, and now also care for a menagerie of animals.

After six years as an administrative assistant with the Maryland Center for Legal Assistance, **Gregory Nolen** was promoted to office manager and has been enjoying his new role and additional responsibilities. These days, he works primarily in Annapolis, Maryland, but enjoys teleworking when he can. He lives with his family in Laurel, Maryland.

Gary Smith officially left professional baseball after working for the Orioles for eight years. He moved to Sarasota, Florida, and accepted a job as a certified athletic trainer at a private K-12 school called The Out-of-Door Academy, where he enjoys the warm weather and improved work-life balance.

It's been a momentous couple of years for **Rachel Shlaferman Heimann**, who achieved a hat trick of milestones. She married **Andy Heimann '12** in 2020 right before the pandemic, and they bought a house together in Bethesda, Maryland. Recently, Rachel was promoted to vice president at the Zins-Shlaferman Group with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management. **Tim McLister** is a senior associate attorney for Greenberg Traurig LLP in Washington, D.C. He and his wife, Emilie, live in Leesburg, Virginia, with their three children: Harper, 5; Riley, 3; and Grant, 1.

As a contributing writer at the magazine Music Daily, **Drew Garrison** credits English professors Kate Dobson, Kathy Mangan, and Corey Wronski with the research and writing skills he utilizes every day.

Sydney Kirchoff Knower, M.L.A. '13 is celebrating 10 years (seven married) with

Chuck Knower '15. He is an engineer with Northrup Grumman, and she is the human resources manager at a company based in downtown Annapolis, Maryland. They love working so close to their Annapolis home so that they can spend time with their kids, Callan, 6, and Cora, 3, who are best buddies. In her free time, Sydney is president of Cal's school's Parent Teacher Organization. She also volunteers with the local YWCA as an event coordinator and loves being part of her neighborhood book club. Chuck is den leader for Cal's Cub Scouts troop and has been enjoying lots of camping expeditions recently. She says, “We're so thankful to McDaniel for bringing us together and for giving us the skills, knowledge, and opportunities that have helped us in our careers and personal lives.”

Rachel Hoffman, M.S. '14 is in her ninth year of teaching middle school Spanish for Howard County (Maryland) Public Schools. Her marriage in April 2022 was officiated by **Tyler Justice**, and **Sarah Holbrook Heeney** was a bridesmaid. Rachel and her husband recently purchased their first home together and are enjoying making it their own.

As for **Tyler Justice**, he is still with the Seaford (Delaware) Police Department, where he was promoted to sergeant for his patrol division. Tyler is happily married with two little girls, ages 2 and 4, who are “growing like weeds.”

Lisa Vasapollo recently started a new adventure teaching television broadcast at Washington Township High School in New Jersey. She is excited to combine her passions of education and media into this role. Lisa is also still an audio engineer with Beasley Media Group. A short film she worked on with a group of friends in the summer of 2021 premiered at the Garden State Film Festival in March and has won several awards.

Charles Mullin and I, **Hanna Barker Mullin**, recently bought our first home, a condo in Halethorpe, Maryland. I am still with Perkins Coie LLP as a litigation paralegal, and the pandemic-induced shift to hybrid work has been a boon to my work-life balance. Last year, I was promoted, and this year, I received the Pro Bono Leadership Award for Business Professionals for my work supporting asylum applicants and veterans. After several years as a coach with Teach for America, Charles returned to the classroom in 2021 — this time at Digital Harbor High School in Baltimore, where he teaches 11th grade English and AP Composition.

Hanna Barker Mullin
2013 Class Reporter
barkerhanna@gmail.com

2019

Dustin Miller got engaged to **Patricia Dixon '21** on Oct. 8, 2022, on a fall hike at Lost River State Park, West Virginia. He is currently serving as the associate director of career services at the University of Pennsylvania. This is the second institution he's worked for after completing his Master of Education in Student Affairs in Higher Education Administration from Kutztown University in May 2021.

Katerine Cuzco received her master's in Environmental Ecology in May 2022 and is currently working as a marine science educator at a nonprofit in Connecticut. Katerine teaches marine and environmental sciences to K-12 students in laboratories and schools and on boats and beaches. She is also part of the Derelict Lobster Trap Removal Project, in which crews remove any debris from the aquatic environment to reduce ghost fishing. Her favorite part is getting to spend time outside on the boats teaching about the Long Island Sound and its biodiversity. In addition to her full-time job, she works as a medical interpreter trainer for a nonprofit.

Divya Aloor Nahar received her master's degree in Human Services in November 2022. She is now working toward a special education teaching certificate and got a promotion at her job as a teacher's assistant, while working her way toward becoming a teacher. Divya got married in September 2021 to Romil Nahar.

Andrew Richards worked for three years as an assistant language teacher (ALT) at various elementary and junior high schools in Murakami, Japan, and its surrounding villages. He enjoyed his time in Murakami because he could go hiking in the mountains in the morning and relax at a beachside onsen in the evening. Shortly after he arrived, the COVID-19 pandemic began and he had to navigate all the complexities of the pandemic in a language he wasn't proficient in. Many foreign residents left Japan during the pandemic, which resulted in Andrew being one of three foreign residents remaining in Murakami. Despite the difficulties, he persevered, met his now wife, and transferred to a high school ALT position in Niigata City last August, where he will finish his final two years in the Japan Exchange and Teaching program. He spends his time now studying Japanese, playing with his nieces and nephews, and spending too much money on tabletop miniatures. He is now enrolled in McDaniel's online TESOL master's program.

Isaac Ray attended England's University of Chester for a postgraduate degree in Human Nutrition in 2019-2020. He ended up playing a year of basketball for the university and got married to the love of his life in 2021. For the past two-plus

years, he has been working for an online personal training company called Athletic Truth Group, founded by Ben Patrick, aka @kneesovertoesguy on all social media platforms. They have blown up to more than 20,000 online members and have been featured by Men's Health, Joe Rogan, and many other large-scale platforms.

Samantha Curry Merkel and **Peter Merkel '15** welcomed their second child, Victoria Anastasia, in March 2022. In October, Samantha opened her own business, called The Sunflower Striders, that offers personalized running plans from a 5K to a marathon, as well as group training programs. She furthered her education by completing the USA Track & Field coaching certification program as well. She enjoyed visiting with the McDaniel cross country team at the Marymount Derby race, as well as competing in the race herself.

Caitlin McCadden has been pursuing her Ph.D. in Chemistry at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. Caitlin's work focuses on genome mining approaches to identifying bacterial biocatalysts and natural product biosynthesis. She has attained several milestones necessary for completing her program. Having passed all required classes, cumulative exams, and her qualifying exam, Caitlin has achieved Ph.D. candidacy and will continue to conduct research toward her dissertation. In the summer of 2021, she was invited to present her research on a national stage at the American Society of Pharmacognosy's 63rd Annual Conference in Charleston, South Carolina. She has also been awarded a University of Florida Women's University Club scholarship, ASP President's Travel Award, and CBI Symposium 2022 Best Poster Award. Additionally, she has become the proud aunt to two beautiful nephews last year!

Jasmin Chavez Cruz shared that she recently became a Biden-Harris presidential appointee serving as a confidential assistant for the White House Initiative on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunity for Hispanics. Her partner, **Eli Jaffe**, has just reached his one-year anniversary at Acclaim Technical Services as a machine learning engineer. Jasmin and Eli also just reached their four-year anniversary as a couple. They began dating during their senior year at McDaniel and now live together with their dog, Territa, in Reston, Virginia.



REUBEN HUBBARD

“People are so willing to help. Not only professors, but staff, community members, and experts in my field have all been invaluable resources.”

— REUBEN HUBBARD '23
Philosophy major
Art and Cinema minors

keep climbing

Lessons I took from the Hill



Alison Lafferty States '19 earned a B.A. in History from McDaniel. On the Hill, she was a member of Phi Alpha Mu, a Peer Mentor, and a Peer Mentor Advisory Board member. In 2020, she moved to South Carolina with her husband, who is serving in the U.S. Marine Corps. They are expecting their first child in July.

A one-in-a-million community

BY ALISON LAFFERTY STATES '19

When I graduated from McDaniel a semester early, I was excited for my future. I was moving to South Carolina with my now husband, and I would be teaching high school social studies. I didn't know I would soon have to prepare for another more demanding transition in my life.

Just six months into my first year of teaching, I suffered my first attack where I found I couldn't move — at all. I went on bed rest for two weeks while test after test by the orthopedic surgeon came back normal, and every blood test showed a picture of health. Yet, I had no relief from debilitating pain and weakness. When the orthopedic surgeon told me we'd exhausted our options, I went to a neurologist.

In November 2021, I tested higher than the doctor had ever seen in a patient before for one test. GAD65, or glutamic acid decarboxylase 65 antibody, is a biomarker for autoimmune central nervous system disorders and non-neurological autoimmune disorders such as type 1 diabetes. GAD65 also tests for a one-in-a-million disease called stiff-person syndrome (SPS). Marked by severe muscle spasms and increasing rigidity, SPS is a progressive and degenerative disease that often leaves patients using mobility aids and receiving frequent infusions.

And I had it. I was one in a million.

Aside from complete devastation, I wondered what would happen next. I had to quit teaching to focus on my health. I couldn't go out and play with my dogs unassisted, and I spent nearly three consecutive months in the hospital working up a treatment plan.

I learned I would be on multiple medications and infusions for the rest of my life, and at some point,

they would stop working. At 23, I was forced to consider that I might not ever have the life I had always envisioned.

Before long, I realized that while this new chapter of my life wasn't what I had planned, that didn't mean I couldn't refocus and move toward advocating for myself and others with this rare disorder. This is where I found my four years at McDaniel had given me so much more than just my degree in History.

McDaniel's required liberal arts curriculum introduced me to communication classes, psychology lectures, and public speaking seminars that all gave me skills I have found useful in my advocacy. My extracurriculars also introduced me to the concept of a community, which has helped me find my footing as an advocate for myself and others.

Community is necessary for everyone, but that is especially true when someone is diagnosed with a debilitating chronic disease. Finding community in the rare disease world is like finding a needle in a haystack: hard to do but rewarding when accomplished. Advocating together for advancements in treatment and cures is just the first step to building a strong foundation where we can support one another, no matter the disease.

I hope that through my advocacy work, I can help others see that being chronically ill is not the end of their life. My goal has always been to educate, inspire, and mobilize the next generation to be aware of chronic illnesses — the rare and the common — and to realize this happens to everyday people, but that by joining together as a community, we can make a difference.

Congratulations

TO OUR 2023 ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARD WINNERS!

Our alumni are pretty outstanding. And once a year, we have an opportunity to recognize individuals who personify the college's tradition of excellence in their careers, communities, and at the college at our Alumni Association Awards Celebration.

These 2023 Alumni Association Award winners exemplify what it truly means to be a Green Terror:



ALUMNI PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Greg Merrill '87

YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD

Jasmin Chavez Cruz '19

ALUMNI COLLEGE SERVICE AWARD

Donald F. Schenk '71

ALUM OF THE YEAR

Corynne B. Courpas '76

ALUMNI COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Ludley O. Howard '84

Congratulations once again to these impressive Green Terrors, and thank you for celebrating with us during our reimaged Alumni Weekend in June! We can't wait to see you back on the Hill for Homecoming weekend, Sept. 29-30, 2023!

NOMINATE TODAY!



It's never too early to nominate your favorite alumni for the 2024 Alumni Association Awards!

LOOKING TO GET MORE INVOLVED AT THE COLLEGE?

Learn more about the opportunities available to get back on the Hill, volunteer, give back, and connect with friends old and new at mcdaniel.edu/alumni.

McDANIEL COLLEGE

2 College Hill
Westminster, MD 21157-4390

Change Service Requested

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
McDANIEL
COLLEGE

**“...[it’s been a] meandering path that makes perfect sense.
It led me exactly to where I feel like I belong.”**

— CATHY PENDORF ARNATT '02, M.S. '04



Read more about Arnatt’s journey to build community from her hometown in Aberdeen, Maryland, to the Hill, and onward to Anchorage, Alaska, on page 10.