

MICDS

THE MAGAZINE

VOLUME 30 NO. 2 | SPRING 2020

MICDS Honors Distinguished Alumni

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Connecting Students, Changing Lives

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Anna Speller '20 shapes experience
into a peer program

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MICDS

MARY INSTITUTE AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

OUR MISSION

More than ever, our nation needs responsible men and women who can meet the challenges of this world with confidence and embrace all its people with compassion. The next generation must include those who think critically and resolve to stand for what is good and right.

Our School cherishes academic rigor, encourages and praises meaningful individual achievement, and fosters virtue. Our independent education prepares young people for higher learning and for lives of purpose and service.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES



TRANSFORMATIVE STUDENT EXPERIENCE



GREAT TEACHING AND LEARNING 2.0



ENSURING A VIBRANT SCHOOL FUTURE

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MARY INSTITUTE &
SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY
DAY SCHOOL ALUMNI

Dear MICDS Family,



Jay Rainey
Head of School

Nikumaroro Island, which sits in the Pacific Ocean approximately at the intersection of the equator and the International Date Line, is not only one of the most reliably warm places on our planet and one of the first to witness the dawn of each new day, but is also home to a colony of gargantuan coconut hermit crabs.

As a child vacationing on the Outer Banks of North Carolina, I brought home the occasional hermit crab, but never one who grew to be wider than three feet across as these crabs can. I remember my mother's warning me about the surprising power of the hermit crab's claw. I expect she would have admonished me all the more strenuously had my pet been a coconut crab, whose claw can exert 3,300 newtons of force. A tiger's jaws produce a mere 1,500.

In writing about hermit crabs in the pages of the *London Review of Books* earlier this year, however, Katherine Rundell observed that "even monsters start small." Several months into their lives, coconut crabs are still only big enough to inhabit the littlest of shells. That their growth requires them to occupy and then vacate a succession of ever larger shells is one of the challenges of life in a hermit crab's skin. Or exoskeleton, I suppose.

Help avails in community. "Hermit crabs are not, in fact, hermitical," writes Rundell. "They're sociable. When a crab comes across a new shell [that is] too big, it waits for another crab. If that crab also finds it too large, it joins the first crab, holding onto its claw until a queue develops—[up to] twenty crabs, arranged in order of size from smallest to largest, each holding onto the next. When at last a crab arrives who can fit the vacant shell, the first crab in line claims the new crab's former shell, and there is a flurry of crabs climbing into their neighbour's home."



A privilege of my office is the connection it affords me with our most veteran alumni and our youngest students alike—members of our MICDS family who were 5 years old in 1940 as well as members who are 5 years old in 2020. I recall once being told, in connection with the study of William Shakespeare's *King Lear*, that "all conflicts are intergenerational." It is a hyperbolic claim, of course, but nevertheless one that has troubled me frequently since hearing it made. I have often wondered whether it is essentially true. Perhaps it is, but perhaps its antitheses are true as well. Perhaps "all collaborations are intergenerational" and "all communities are intergenerational," too.

How like ever-evolving hermit crabs we are at MICDS, simultaneously providing and assuming each other's legacies year by year—our good and nurturing shells—as we grow in community together. In this issue of our magazine you will discover stories of older students supporting and mentoring younger students, both within and beyond the bounds of our school, and you will read about several notable alumni whom we have honored for their achievements and invited back to campus to speak with and inspire our current students. We are so fortunate to inhabit a school community in which giving back is endemic. At MICDS, we get because we give.

I am fond of proclaiming that I want MICDS to be the happiest school in St. Louis, but just this once, with a nod to our crustaceous counterparts on Nikumaroro, I will say, too, that I want us to be the crabbiest school. Here's hoping that this issue of our magazine finds you comfortable in your present shell, grateful to those who have passed it along to you, and humbled at the opportunity to pass it along in turn. Happy spring!



#RamNation

Twenty Student-Athletes Participate in National Signing Day

Congratulations to the students who will continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.

Twenty student-athletes from the MICDS Class of 2020 signed symbolic letters of intent at the annual college signing day ceremony in February as parents, coaches, teammates and friends cheered them on. "Today is a celebration of your outstanding achievements both in the classroom and in the athletic arena," said **Matt Essman, Director of College Counseling**. "You have devoted numerous hours to your studies and to your sport, and it has resulted in the terrific opportunities that now lay ahead for each of you."

Congratulations Rams!



- Bottom Row (left to right):
Eliana Brook—Oxford College (of Emory), Tennis
Reagan Calcari—New Hampshire, Field Hockey
Skyler Lesslie—Georgetown, Field Hockey
Parker Perry—Grinnell, Golf
Mackenzie Macam—Cornell College, Softball
Anna Speller—SEMO, Gymnastics
Grace Vogel—Transylvania, Swimming
Naomi Ferguson—Brown, Soccer
Jessica Brooks—Washington U, Basketball
Annika Kline—Haverford, Field Hockey
- Top Row (left to right):
Filip Aleksic—Brown, Water Polo
Evan Hofer—Rose-Hulman, Soccer
Luke Bernstein—University of Dayton, Football
Griffin Baur—Cornell University, Baseball
Gus Pulos—Holy Cross, Baseball
Ben Axelrod—DePauw, Baseball
Liam Sallee—Lafayette, Baseball
Caroline Carr—Dartmouth, Field Hockey
Molly Christopher—Villanova, Field Hockey
Mia Duchars—Louisville, Field Hockey

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Danielle Kain '21 with Greg Foster, Coordinator of Student Engagement

Youth of the Year Award

Danielle Kain '21 won the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis 2020 Youth of the Year award, the highest honor in the organization that celebrates contributions to family, school, community and Club. The award includes a scholarship, celebratory dinner and a new car. Over the past eight years, Kain has engaged deeply in several meaningful Club programs. As just one example, she won the BGCA Hank Aaron Scholarship Award and purchased STEM materials and equipment to provide sessions for club members.

Kain shared, "Overall, though the process has been challenging, the title is completely worth all of the work that has been put in. Thank you to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater St. Louis, my family and the MICDS community for constantly supporting me in my endeavors."



Publications And Resources Available From The St. Louis Country Day School Archives

The Country Day News

Now available free online: access to all 1,765 *NEWS* issues (8,300+ pages) published from 1917 to 1992. Professionally scanned. Searchable. Free instructions upon request.

Celebrating The History Of St. Louis Country Day School

20-page fact-filled booklet assembled by Country Day Archives listing all "treasured reminders" of Country Day remaining today on the MICDS campus plus dozens of milestones in CDS history. Updated in 2020. Free copy upon request.

All-Time List Of Country Day Faculty

Faculty members' years at school, subjects they taught. Free copy upon request.

St. Louis Country Day School Football 1919-2011

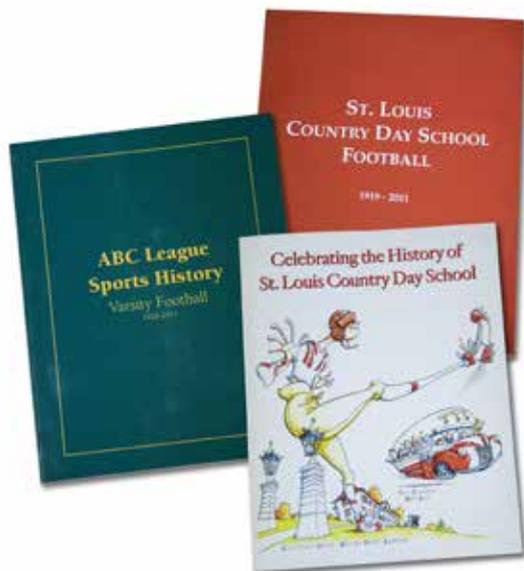
Meticulously researched 540-page compendium of everything you want to know about Country Day football including year-by-year summaries with team photos, box scores of every game, lettermen, series records, "B" and "C" teams and features on

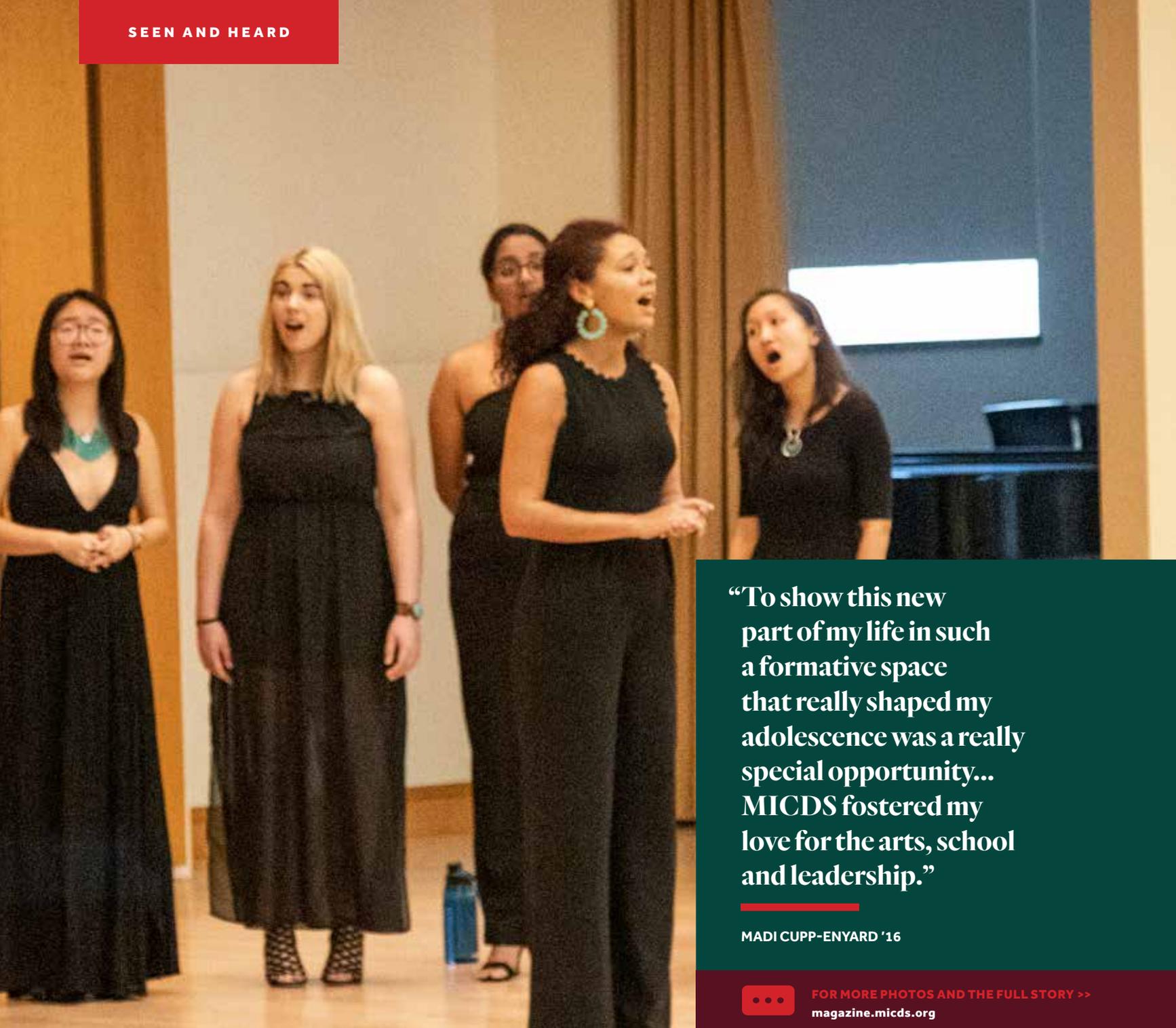
Pop Hughes, Ron Holtman, Russ Stickney and Don Webb. Published by the St. Louis Country Day School Archives. Soft-cover edition \$39.95 plus shipping. Hard-cover edition also available for \$124.95 plus shipping.

ABC League Sports History Varsity Football 1928-2011

Highlights of every ABC League football season, League standings, longest-serving coaches, scores, League champion team photos, history of each League school and of the League itself. Published by the St. Louis Country Day School Archives. \$25 plus shipping.

For further information or to place an order: email countrydayarchives@micds.org or phone 314.308.3559.





“To show this new part of my life in such a formative space that really shaped my adolescence was a really special opportunity... MICDS fostered my love for the arts, school and leadership.”

MADI CUPP-ENYARD '16



FOR MORE PHOTOS AND THE FULL STORY >>
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Alumna A Capella

Whim 'n Rhythm, a female a cappella group from Yale University, wowed Upper and Middle School students with their vocal talents in songs ranging from *Killing Me Softly* to *Jolene*. **Madi Cupp-Enyard '16** gave an especially impressive performance, not only because of her vocal talent as Soprano 2, but also in her leadership skills as Musical Director. This performance was made possible by the Mary Institute Class of 1976 James P. Stearns Honorary Humanities Series Endowed Fund.



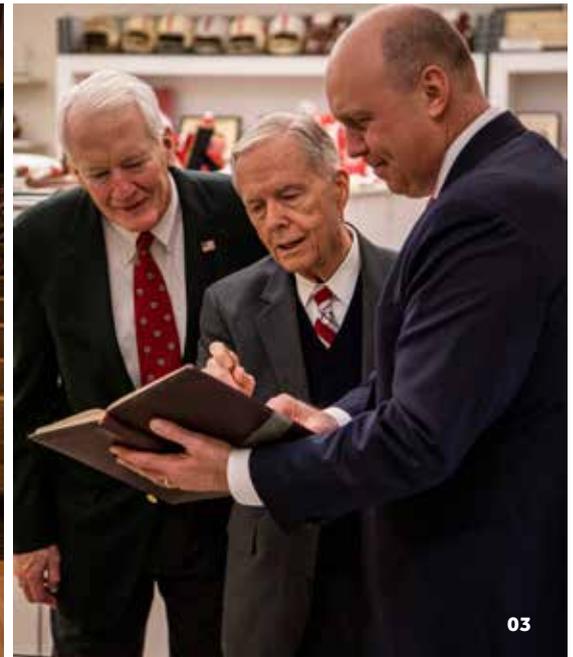
Pete Wilson '51 Visits Upper School; Normandy Academy Fellows Announced

Lifelong public servant returns to MICDS

Peter Barton Wilson, a 1951 Saint Louis Country Day School graduate whose eight years in the United States Senate overlapped with two other CDS alumni also serving as U.S. Senators, accumulated a distinguished record of public service spanning more than three decades and including terms as mayor of the city of San Diego and, from 1991 to 1999, as governor of the state of California. We were honored to welcome Wilson to Brauer Auditorium for a special Upper School assembly, where we also announced the inaugural winners of the Pete Wilson '51 Fellows for Normandy Academy.

Wilson spoke about why remembering World War II is important and advised the students to use their freedom as Americans as an opportunity to serve others. He shared that his brother served in the armed forces, and thankfully returned home when many others did not, and he talked about four CDS educators who also served before coming back to teach.

Wilson came to MICDS as a guest of **Mr. Edward "Tee" Turner Baur '64**. Through the generosity of Mr. Baur, two MICDS students will be selected each year as the Pete Wilson '51 Fellows for Normandy Academy, and receive full scholarships (including flights, tuition and meals) to participate in the Academy. The National World War II Museum's Normandy Academy is a 12-day immersive summer



learning experience in New Orleans, Louisiana, and Normandy, France, that challenges students to learn from the choices made before and during the historic D-Day landings. Interested 10th and 11th graders submitted applications, essays and faculty recommendations last fall.

After Wilson's remarks, **Head of School Jay Rainey** introduced the two inaugural year winners of the Pete Wilson '51 Fellows for Normandy Academy: **Andrew Lindsey '21** and **Cate Cody '22**. Next winter, Lindsey and Cody will give a brief presentation on their experience to the 9th grade class, in alignment with the Post-1900 World unit on World War II.

After the assembly, Wilson visited the CDS archives for a trip down memory lane before stopping by two history classes to share deeper insights with students.

Congratulations to our inaugural Pete Wilson '51 Normandy Academy Fellows and many thanks to Tee Baur for his generous gifts.



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01. Pete Wilson '51 addresses Upper School Students.
02. (l-r) Pete Wilson '51, Andrew Lindsey '21, Cate Cody '22, Tee Baur '64 and Head of School Jay Rainey.
03. Tee Baur '64, Pete Wilson '51 and Jay Rainey browse a Country Day School yearbook in the CDS Archives.
04. Pete Wilson '51 visits an Upper School history class.



Connecting Students, Changing Lives

Anna Speller '20 wanted to share what happened to her, in case she could help one person avoid the pain she's been through. She steeled her courage, wrote her story and, with her parents' support, granted permission to her classmates to read it to 8th grade students.

"I couldn't be down there when they were sharing it, it was too much, but hearing all the positive feedback...that was amazing," she said. It was an extraordinary journey from the sexual assault she experienced as a freshman on a religious youth-group trip to Washington, D.C., to this year's 8th grade advisory session on consent and sexual assault.



Anna Speller '20



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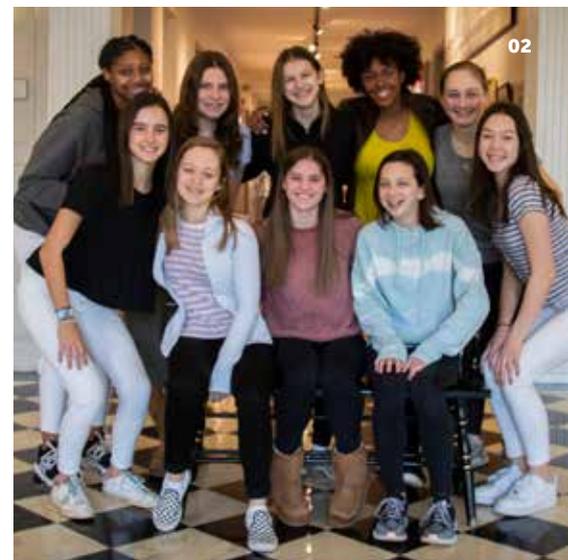
With a strong support network of family, friends, classmates, coaches, teachers and staff, Speller worked through recovery and ultimately decided to harness her feelings into a powerful resource that helps Middle School students at MICDS. She collaborated with classmates, faculty and staff to develop Peer to Peer, an Upper to Middle School mentoring platform that is now in its second year.

Many parents and teachers today don't remember exactly what it feels like to be a Middle School student and definitely didn't grow up with social media. To make matters worse, 7th and 8th grade students aren't known for listening well to their parents anyway, even if parents could impart the necessary wisdom. Listening to—and learning from—slightly older students helps young adolescents through what can be a difficult time of growth. This is the premise behind the student-led Peer to Peer program. Speller said, "We cover all the hard things that come in Middle School and all the things I wish I had known. It's different when the information is coming from people who are only two or three years older than you. It's more inspirational, and I think the students hear it more."

Twelve times this academic year—six sessions per grade—a dedicated group of Upper School mentors visited 7th and 8th grade students in Advisory and over lunch. They talked about a variety of topics that can be uncomfortable to discuss with Mom and Dad or teachers, led discussions and activities, and shared the insights they have learned as they navigate high school life.

Speller developed the program with **Vicki Thurman, Director of Student Support Services** at MICDS, and a committed group of classmates. Together, they began working on a way for Speller to share what she had learned with younger classmates, to hopefully help them avoid the same sticky situation. "It didn't start off as a big idea," Speller admits.

Although she dislikes public speaking, especially in front of large groups, she steadied her nerves and gave a presentation about Peer to Peer at an Upper School assembly two years ago, inviting students to apply. Thirty-five sophomores, juniors and seniors joined the fledgling program. The team worked together to develop lessons for 7th grade with a vision to eventually expand to 8th grade. When an original co-head



01. Upper School mentor Chase Siewert '21 who is stepping up as a Peer to Peer co-leader next year with Ally Kalishman '21 and Gretel Wurdack '21, laughs during an advisory session with co-mentor Ethan Stevenson '20.
02. Anna Speller '20, bottom center, reconnects with eighth grade girls she met during their advisory last year: back row (l-r): Ava Moore '24, Sophie Reed '24, Rachel Phillips '24, Jada Greer '24, Laurel Potter '24. Front row (l-r): Alexandra Walker '24, Mia Krieger '24, Speller, Zoe Zlatic '24, Jaida Smith '24.

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"If I was still in 7th or 8th grade it would be very beneficial to have a highschooler come down and talk about the types of things we talk about. I was surprised at how well I personally connected with the students."

JAKE KELLNER '22

stepped down, classmate **MacKenzie Macam '20** jumped on board and brought even more ideas about how to help. The curriculum for Peer to Peer exploded, and today covers self-respect, healthy decisions with regards to drugs and alcohol, healthy relationships, consent and sexual assault, communication styles and healthy relationships, transition to the Upper School, technology and social media, stress and anxiety, and healthy decision making/peer pressure.

Macam said, "I was inspired to help lead this program because I know how scary Middle School can be for some students. I also have a sibling in the Middle School, so I get first-hand experience about what she is going through. Middle school is such a crucial point in a student's life, and my hope is that our mentors share their own stories about the lessons they've learned throughout their time in both middle and high school."

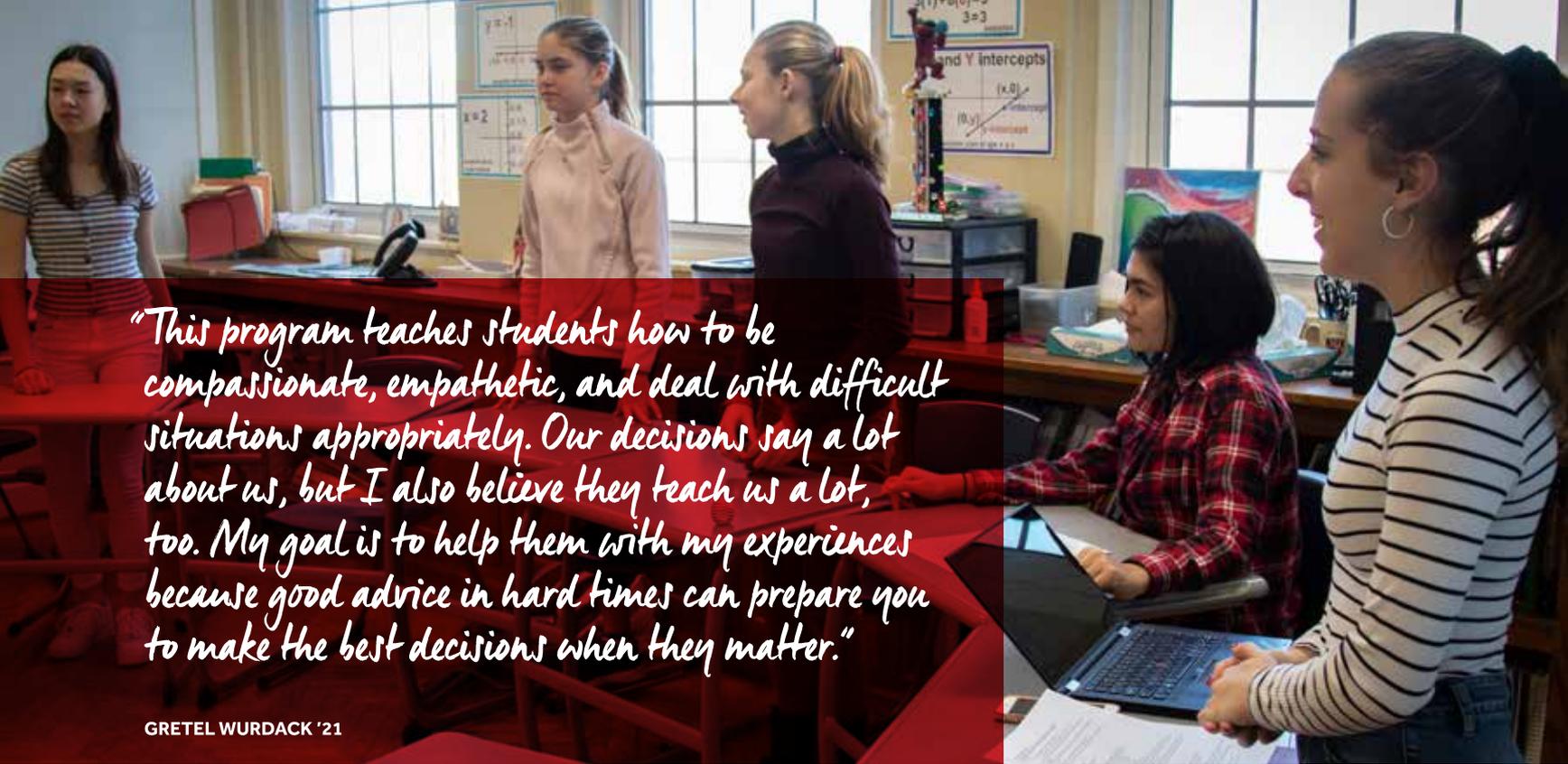
The Upper School mentors are carefully vetted before being accepted to the Peer to Peer team. Students apply to the program and Thurman and the co-heads review each one. Thurman also checks course load and other commitments, ensuring that mentors have the capacity to commit to the program since building relationships throughout the school year is key. This year, 39 Upper School students serve as mentors, and even shy, quiet students have become integral parts of the Peer to Peer team. "One of the things I love about this is that you can see different things in kids than you would otherwise," said Thurman.

The Upper Schoolers go through a rigorous orientation at the beginning of the year to learn what it means to be a mentor and discuss topics and lessons. Then, they work in teams of three to plan lessons and meet with both 7th and 8th graders on different days. Sessions are scheduled with the school year in mind and after consulting with the 7th and 8th grade deans; for instance, the topic of transitioning to the Upper School was covered just as 8th graders began making their course selections for 9th grade.

The program is organic and evolving as the team looks to improve. The first year followed a large group presentation-advisory discussion format. Mentors reported that "the magic was actually in advisory connection and pairings, so we removed the group presentations and went straight to advisory," said Thurman. Mentors are also leading groups over lunch. The longer session offers the opportunity to delve into heavy subjects, like technology and social media, and it's working. "There's a big student voice in the development of the topics," said Thurman. For example, a survey of 7th graders at the end of last year's program showed a need for more content covering anxiety and stress, so it was added as a specific discussion topic.



Brian Paine '24, Saketh Byrapuneni '24, Vivek Patel '24, Hasan Aslam '24, Jeremiah Clay '24 and Colin Hutton '24 discuss peer pressure with their Upper School mentors.



"This program teaches students how to be compassionate, empathetic, and deal with difficult situations appropriately. Our decisions say a lot about us, but I also believe they teach us a lot, too. My goal is to help them with my experiences because good advice in hard times can prepare you to make the best decisions when they matter."

GRETEL WURDACK '21

Eighth grade girls participate in an interactive exercise during advisory.

The two groups of students are clearly connecting; when mentors visit the Middle School some of their younger classmates will rush to give them hugs. Many of the mentors receive emails from their young friends requesting advice or insight, and some share jokes and memes. **Jake Kellner '22** said, "If I was still in 7th or 8th grade it would be very beneficial to have a highschooler come down and talk about the types of things we talk about. I was surprised at how well I personally connected with the students."

Macam agreed, "This year, my goal for the program is to continue building relationships with the Middle School students while making sure they know that although Middle School is tough, it will get better!" **Grant Purdy '21** said, "I love the energy that the kids bring to every session. We truly focus on connecting and becoming their friends before we try and teach them hard subjects like substance abuse and healthy relationships. I cherish the relationships and true friendships I have with the kids. The experience for me as a whole has been enriching and an activity that I look forward to."

Speller has a simple goal in mind: "I said from the beginning if I can touch one person then I am happy. If just one person is helped from anything we've taught, if one person gets out of a toxic friendship or goes to a teacher for help because they are anxious, that is 100% success." She recognized the profound effect of the support she found through her family, friends, teachers and coaches, and knows that it may be difficult, for younger students especially, to recognize resources for support. "Suffering in silence is not necessary," she said. **Simrin Phatak '21** agreed, "I hope that this program brings a sense of reassurance to them, and reminds them that there are always people here to help whenever they need it." **Estephania Estrada '21** said, "For a lot of these kids, they sometimes don't want to go to a teacher or don't want to ask these questions to their advisors, but because we are closer to their ages, they know that their questions are legitimate. I am happy that we are able to be that vessel, their guides to all things Upper School."

What happens after Speller and Macam graduate and are off to college? They worked to make Peer to Peer sustainable,

recruiting co-heads for next year early in the season, and involving them in planning and implementation during the 2019-2020 school year. **Retel Wurdack '21** is ready to take on her leadership role.

She said, "This program teaches students how to be compassionate, empathetic, and deal with difficult situations appropriately. Our decisions say a lot about us, but I also believe they teach us a lot, too. My goal is to help them with my experiences because good advice in hard times can prepare you to make the best decisions when they matter." She is surprised by how much being a mentor has helped her, too. "I've actually learned how to be a better person from the Middle Schoolers. They've taught me to reflect on my own life and make more considerate and mature decisions to make me become my best self."

Through the Peer to Peer mentoring program, Speller has positively influenced the lives of many of her classmates both young and old. "Everything is a learning experience," she said. That's a great lesson for all of us.



MICDS Honors Distinguished Alumni

MICDS was pleased to bestow the Distinguished Alumni Award upon four former students, welcoming three alumni back to campus for medal presentation and a lively panel discussion for Upper School students.

The four winners of the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award are **K.K. DuVivier '71**, **Ting Wu '72**, **Ernest L. Greer '84**, and **Sterling K. Brown '94**. These alumni have distinguished themselves in their chosen fields and continue to make a positive impact on our world. From renewable energy to genetics education, from professional and charitable leadership in the practice of law to ground-breaking performances in film and on stage, each one of these former students personifies the mission of MICDS. They are "responsible men and women who can meet the challenges of this world with confidence and embrace all its people with compassion." They think critically and have resolved to stand for what is good and right, and they live lives of purpose and service.

Ms. DuVivier, Mr. Greer and Mr. Brown returned to campus for an intimate evening reception, visiting with family, friends and classmates in Brauer Hall.

Head of School Jay Rainey welcomed guests and remarked that Dr. Wu was unable to join as she was attending a genome conference.

The next day, Upper School students, faculty and staff, along with guests of our honorees, gathered in Brauer Auditorium to hear from the Distinguished Alumni. **JK-12 English and Language Arts Department Chair Lynn Mittler** led the panel discussion, using questions from students to spark conversation. The overwhelming message from our guests was this: embrace who you are and what you want to be, while recognizing the need to be flexible enough to seize unexpected opportunities. Each of our guests overcame hardships and stumbling blocks to achieve greatness, and they did it with grace, kindness and acceptance.

After the assembly, our guests spent time mingling with students at a reception, over lunch and in class. Upper Schoolers appreciated the opportunity to connect personally with our honored guests. Congratulations to our 2020 Distinguished Alumni!





01



02

01. K.K. DuVivier '71 laughs during the panel discussion.
02. Sterling K. Brown '94 makes a point.
03. Naomi Ferguson '20, Ernest L. Greer '84, Jessica Brooks '24 and Sandra Polanco '20 visit in the Blanke Room after the Distinguished Alumni panel.



03



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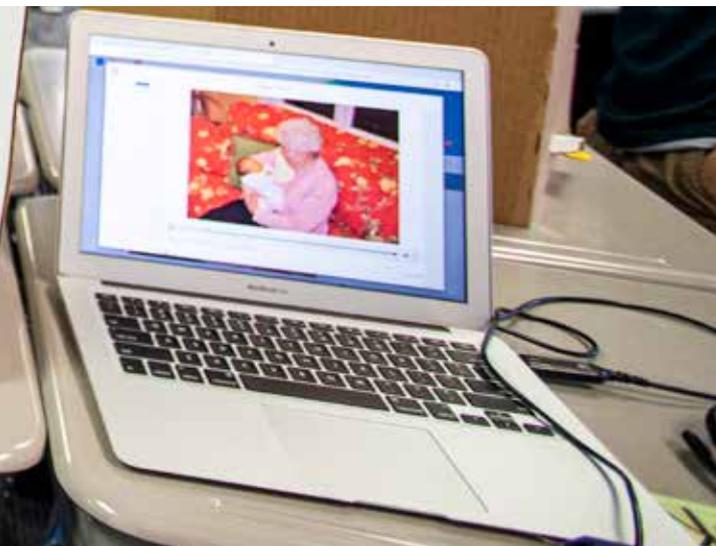
3rd Graders Become Historians, Researchers and Curators

01



The Lower School Social Studies program teaches children about themselves, their families, their city, state and country. Finally, it teaches them about the world. In the beginning, though, our families are our worlds. It's important to get a firm foundation in who we are to better understand the wider world around us. This fall, our 3rd graders began to deeply explore their own histories through their Family History Project, where they interviewed family members to learn how they came to live in St. Louis, including when and why. Then they made interactive displays, or "museum exhibits," that encouraged visitors to learn about each student's personal history. These 3rd grade curators offered a variety of photos, games, charts, flags and narratives to catch the attention of their visitors and share important information.

Head of School Jay Rainey said, "I was struck by each student's contextualization of his or her family's story within the larger story of immigration to the United States from other nations and regions. We have so many stories to offer at MICDS, and we must find opportunities to tell and listen to them all."



“We have so many stories to offer at MICDS, and we must find opportunities to tell and listen to them all.”

JAY RAINEY



02



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03



04



05

01. Abby Masiel '29 shows her family history through photos.
02. Noah Malik '29 is proud of his presentation.
03. Isabelle George '29 shows her family history display to the father of classmate Samar Patel '29.
04. Timo Finnegan '29 presents to parents and Head of School Jay Rainey.
05. Mason Kuhn '29 explains his display to Assistant Head of School Brian Thomas.

Robotics Students Bridge the Gap Between Learning and Application

Upper School Science Teacher Mr. Travis Menghini's robotics class applied what they've learned to a real-world application by building bridges. Their bridges had very strict parameters, and the students excelled within their limits.

Six teams researched, brainstormed and designed their bridges in a CAD program before actually building them. Each team researched various well-known bridge designs—such as truss, suspension and arch—before starting their plans.

At the end of the project, the bridges were tested on their strength static load in addition to their strength/weight ratio. Students added weights in increments until the bridges broke, with some bridges holding a tremendous amount of weight. After the stress tests, students analyzed where, how and why their bridges failed. Nearly all the teams cited torsion issues within their designs.



To complete the project, students presented their processes and results to their peers and reflected on what they've learned. **Lauren Mishkin '20** said, "By brainstorming, designing and constructing, we learned many lessons on teamwork, CAD, construction and engineering elements. We overcame adversity by using trial and error, and we learned how to properly support more weight and create a more durable bridge. This project taught us many lessons we can apply to other classes."

Gerald Bentley '20 enjoyed the project. He talked about how he was surprised by the amount of weight the bridges could actually hold. "I liked that we can use simple materials to make complex bridges that hold a lot of weight!" **Jack Bay '20** agreed. "I was surprised by the notion that more isn't necessarily better."

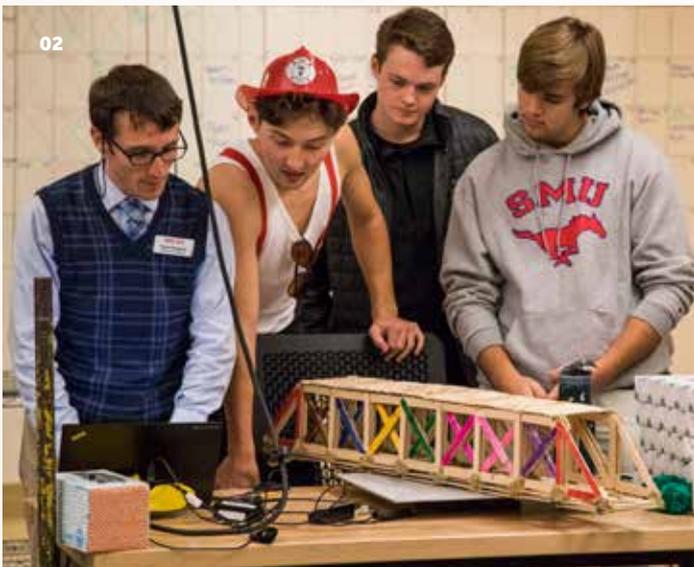
Congratulations to the team of **Bay, Bentley, Jack Parks '20** and **Dean Sliney '20**, who won the competition with a bridge that weighed 9 lbs .2 oz, held a whopping 635 lbs and had a weight/load ratio of 70.5!



01. A team dressed in Halloween costumes adds weight to their bridge.
02. Mr. Menghini inspects a bridge designed by Tripp Gatch '20, William Schott '20 and Chase Siewert '21.
03. Lauren Mishkin '20 explains how her team designed their bridge.
04. Many of the bridges were able to withstand tremendous amounts of weight.
05. Jack Bay '20 and Dean Sliney '20 check out a bridge.



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02



03



“This project taught us many lessons we can apply to other classes.”

LAUREN MISHKIN '20

$$x (\sin 45) = 37$$
$$\frac{x (\sin 45)}{\sin 45} = \frac{37}{\sin 45}$$
$$x = \frac{37}{\sin(45)}$$



04



05



01

Simulating Plant Life on Mars

Students in the Autotroph Biological Design course in the Upper School Plant Science Strand contemplated life on Mars, specifically *plant* life on Mars. To investigate, the students assembled five MARSfarm bio chambers to replicate what a garden would require to survive conditions on Mars and planted bok choy seedlings inside. The chambers used different wavelengths of light as the main dependent variable in the experiment, and small computers, lights and fans to control the growing environment. The goal was to determine optimal growing conditions because, in a resource-scarce environment like Mars, it's important to be efficient.

To simulate the remote monitoring phase that would be required in the real world, they deployed the bio chambers to a "remote location," otherwise known as the Middle School Science wing, and monitored them with small cameras. They trained and collaborated with "remote researchers," otherwise known as MICDS 6th graders, who studied and reported on plant growth and bio chamber conditions.

Upper School Science Teacher Paul Zahller shared, "The long-term vision is to identify the most suitable conditions for crops in a Martian environment. The design and construction of

innovative hydroponic plant growth chambers are centered on using plants to sustain a continuous vegetarian diet for astronauts and to provide air revitalization. Additionally, the team will provide recommendations and secondary applications for sustainable farming on Earth."

The MARSfarm project moved into the STEM office in Brauer Hall as a scientific installation with educational activities and information, while students engaged in a second iteration of testing.



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02



03

- 01. Garret Christian '20 and Max Novak '21 move a MarsFarm from the Upper School to the Middle School.
- 02. Max Bierman '26 and Gabe Weaver '26 take measurements on their MarsFarm.
- 03. Zachary Withington '26 and Sean Hogan '26 document the growth of MarsFarm plants with digital cameras.



Band Director Gets EXTRA CREDIT

Upper and Middle School Band Director Ms. Becky Long performed with the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra at Powell Hall as part of the symphony's EXTRA CREDIT program, which brings together music teachers from across Missouri. That evening, 104 EXTRA CREDIT music educators bringing 1,210 years of experience performed several pieces of music together. The educators currently teach 20,845 students involved in school music programs. Mrs. Long was part of the percussion section. She and the other educators gathered at Powell earlier that day for their one and only rehearsal. The final performance, conducted by Gemma New, was the theme to Star Wars, much to the delight of the many children (and adult science fiction fans) in the audience.





A Man of Letters: David Terrell Shares His Love of English

"When we give students literature it's like giving a nine-year-old broccoli. 'I know you don't like it but it's good for you and here it comes.' Most of the time students don't get to pick what they read and they resent that. I know I did."

Perhaps one of the reasons **English Teacher David Terrell's** students like him so much is that he can relate to them. He remembers what it's like to be a disconnected student in a high school English class. And, after more than 30 years of teaching, 17 at MICDS, he knows how to reach them anyway. "I tell my students that until my junior year, I was a very indifferent student." Terrell entertained ideas about going to law school until a high school humanities and English teacher gave him

his first exposure to art and music history, philosophy and comparative religion. The teacher was "the first real intellectual" that Terrell ever knew, and he was intrigued. That relationship forms the basis for how he works with students today. As a result, even though his classes come with a hefty load of both reading and writing, they also come with a healthy respect for the role of student-teacher connections.

One of Terrell's former students, **Henry Coen '21**, said, "Mr. Terrell was the first teacher who truly treated me like an adult. He is funny and engaging while also bringing out the most analytical and deep parts of all his students."

After students submit their papers, Terrell returns them chock full of comments and without a grade. His door is always open for a more in-depth discussion of the notes. By meeting in person, he said, "I can see what they understand or don't understand, or sometimes it's something I misread. Those conferences are windows to see kids have breakthroughs." It's his favorite part of teaching.



His students learn that reading is an important part of the writing process. Terrell sometimes gives them the opportunity to choose their own book, in addition to traditional selections that offer a variety of life lessons. "They are often surprised by how relevant the works can be, even if they weren't written recently. *Antigone*, written over 2,400 years ago, forces students to make comparisons with our current political climate," he said. "They connect some dots they wouldn't otherwise." William Golding's *Lord of the Flies* is his favorite book to teach. "Girls like it as much as boys, which surprised me at first because there are no girls in the story. The conflicts that come up are fascinating, about how, as a group of people, the characters develop myths without even thinking about it as a way to cope with their disastrous situation."

Terrell has picked up a few beloved MICDS traditions that fall beyond the scope of the classroom. He works closely with students auditioning for Prize Speaking, encouraging

David Terrell builds lasting relationships with his students.



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Sophia Taylor '20 and Elizabeth Schmidt '23 enjoy a game of Scrabble on a winter Wednesday afternoon.

them to select a work that their audience—primarily Upper School students—will respond to. There is value in students practicing the recitation of a piece over and over, turning it into an act of interpretation, so he makes it part of his coursework. “If they’re attentive to what’s going on they’ll recite it in a way that shows they really understand it,” he said. “For some, it’s just sound. For others, it’s an internalization. It becomes like a piece of music.”

Scrabble and Tea, another MICDS tradition, turns his classroom on dreary winter Wednesday afternoons into a safe haven filled with laughter, hot tea, animal crackers and music of Terrell’s choosing “I’m old. I get to pick the music,” he said. The club attracts a wide variety of students, some of whom might not interact otherwise. It’s a social event and he admits that he’s not the best Scrabble player. “When it’s my turn



I play quickly and then move on.” He smiled wryly. “It’s not hard to beat Mr. Terrell at Scrabble.” What began as a place for off-season athletes to hang out has turned

into a way for his former students to stay in touch. **Bonnie Sneider '21** said, “After freshman English class with Mr. Terrell, I knew that I had to find a way to still see him during the week. Scrabble and Tea gives me the opportunity to relax and vent to Mr. Terrell, whose presence is so calming. He is quite humorous and tells us about his many quirks, such as using his stovetop to store books. The animal crackers, which he claims he hand makes, are a plus, too.”

Perhaps Terrell’s Scrabble deficiencies can be chalked up to fatigue by the end of the school day. He rises before the sun to

have time to read. He admits this schedule results in “drinking coffee fluently.” He gets to campus early, and by 7:20, he’s ready for his favorite part of teaching: one-on-one meetings with his students. He’s working to change how students receive and use feedback. This feedback comes full circle as he consistently hears from his former students who return to visit. “So much of what they learn doesn’t become evident to them until years later. It’s nice that there are so many graduates who come back and say, ‘I get it now.’”



Even current students recognize the gifts Terrell offers. **Jonah Zacks '21** said, “He has consistently imparted a firm commitment to seeing students do something better. His goal is to see us move beyond the grade because that’s a few digits on a screen. Without having had Mr. Terrell, I would not be the scholar that I am today.”

Terrell holds the **Ethan A.H. Shepley '41 Chair of Distinguished Teaching in English and Composition** established and endowed by members of the Country Day School Class of 1941 as a memorial to their classmate Ethan Shepley, a distinguished public servant and former Board Chair. He’s exploring how the School can improve student experience while pursuing an interest in positive psychology and its relevance to education. “A significant obstacle for many of our students is how they tend to define success only in terms of grades. This is hardly surprising because students have always viewed grades as currency. However, grades don’t tell us nearly enough, and they are often counterproductive because they encourage students to frame learning as



Favorite books Terrell keeps rereading:

The World of Charles Addams
by Charles Addams

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

The Liars' Club by Mary Karr

A Fine Balance by Rohinton Mistry

Skippy Dies by Paul Murray

The Human Stain by Philip Roth

Super Sad True Love Story
by Gary Shteyngart

White Teeth by Zadie Smith

All the King's Men by Robert
Penn Warren

Native Son by Richard Wright

a transactional experience (What’s my grade?) instead of transformational (What am I learning?).”

With a healthy understanding of what motivated him as a student and research into what drives students today, Terrell continues a tradition of building relationships that mirror the one that affected his life. “I was immature and I wasn’t that interested. I couldn’t make myself do what I needed to do. I couldn’t sit down and read a book when I was that age,” he said. “It was all about having that one teacher I really connected with.” Today, he’s using that connection to go beyond teaching the basics of grammar and literary analysis. He’s using it to help students foster a deeper understanding of themselves and the world around them.

Perhaps **Meredith Goldberg '20** says it best: “For Mr. Terrell, teaching is not merely a profession; it is a calling.”





MICDS Musicians Fill the Winter Season With Melodies

Winter Masterworks Concert

Last December, the Upper School Choirs presented their 11th annual Winter Masterworks Concert led by **Dana Self, Director of Choirs**. Due to popularity, there were two identical performances in Orthwein Theatre.

The choir, accompanied by a professional orchestra, performed works by George Frideric Handel. This year marks the 300th anniversary of *Joy to the World*, which many credit Handel for composing. In celebration of this special anniversary, the choirs performed John Rutter's arrangement of this popular carol. The students

rounded out the concert with a few holiday favorites, complete with a surprise that delighted the audience. It's not often that snow flies in Orthwein Theatre!

As is tradition, the choir invited the alums and adults in the audience to join in singing the *Hallelujah Chorus* at the end of the concert. "It's exciting to see students, faculty, staff, parents and alumni on stage singing together," said Mr. Self. "I hope our evening of wonderful music put everyone in the holiday spirit."

The Winter Masterworks concert showcases voices from ninth through twelfth grades.



Winter Strings Concert

Beautiful music sounded through Brauer Hall at the Winter Strings Concert. This two-part concert featured the Lower and Middle School Strings Programs followed by the Upper School Strings Ensemble. Led by **MICDS Strings Faculty Mr. David Doherty and Ms. Erin Hamill**, the concert was the first performance in the second year of the MICDS Strings Program.

Selections for the concert ranged from classics and holiday tunes to Romanian folk dance music and concertos. The Lower and Middle School Beginning String Ensembles kicked off the night with six pieces. The Middle School Intermediate String Ensemble performance got the audience into the holiday spirit. Closing out the evening, the Upper School String Ensemble performed pieces from Mozart, Vivaldi and Arcangelo Corelli before finishing off with a series of Béla Bartók's Rumanian folk dance songs.



Strings students from Lower, Middle and Upper School entertained the audience.



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Winter Band Concert

The Middle and Upper School bands treated a packed Orthwein Theatre to a variety of musical compositions at the annual Winter Band Concert.

The 6th and 7th Grade Beginning Bands kicked off the evening with a demonstration, before launching into renditions of four holiday favorites. Then the 7th Grade Advanced Band took the stage and performed three pieces. After their performance, the 6th and 7th grade musicians joined the 8th Grade and Upper School bands in the Upper School Dining Hall for fun, fellowship, pizza and cookies between performances.

The 8th Grade Band then filled the stage in Orthwein Theatre to perform two works before ceding the spotlight to the Upper School Band for a variety of music that ended with a rousing version of *Sleigh Ride*. Finally, the 8th Graders joined their Upper School peers for *Beyond the Seven Hills*, a wonderful way to end an evening filled with musical treats.

Becky Long, Upper and Middle School Band Director, said, "We are very proud of all our students have accomplished! It was a wonderful evening of showcasing talent and celebrating our musicians."



The band program at MICDS unites musicians in both the Middle and Upper Schools.

Noises Off Brings Laughter to the MICDS Community

Called “the funniest farce ever written,” *Noises Off*, by English playwright Michael Frayn, presents a manic menagerie of itinerant actors rehearsing a flop called *Nothing’s On*. Doors slamming, on and offstage intrigue and an errant herring all figure in the plot of this hilarious and classically comic play performed by our 11th and 12th grade thespians in Orthwein Theatre.

Noises Off was an incredible experience for me, but it was also incredibly difficult,” shares **Jack Morris '21** who played Gary Lejeune/Roger in the production. “I feel such a vulnerable thing (physical comedy) has the power to create long-lasting, valuable relationships.”

Hadley Cooper '20 also shared about her experience in a lead role for *Noises Off*: “This show required a lot of hard work because it is a comedy that requires exact movement and timing, almost like choreography for a dance.”



01. Bryn Daney '20 in a scene from *Noises Off*.
02. The senior cast and crew of *Noises Off* pause for a group photo.
03. Jack Morris '21 and Hadley Cooper '20 are expressive in this scene from *Noises Off*.
04. Charles Huber '20, James Hammersmith '21 and Hope Pohlman '20 share the stage.
05. Hope Pohlman '20 shushes Morgan Niven '20 in *Noises Off*.



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First place drawing by Olivia Warren '21

Empathy Through Art

Fourteen MICDS artists place in top 40 of the 100 Neediest Cases Competition, with Olivia Warren '21 taking first.

The artwork of 14 Upper School students placed in the top 40 for the United Way and *St. Louis Post-Dispatch's* 100 Neediest Cases campaign competition, as judged by a panel of local artists and educators. This annual campaign has helped St. Louis families and individuals facing hardships for 97 years.

To support the program, students from around the region submitted original artwork demonstrating the emotion of people in need while also providing an outlook of hope. **MICDS Fine and Performing Arts Teacher Tiffany D'Addario** included the drawing contest as part of her course curriculum. Students underwent a demanding problem-solving process and used brain research to convey a specific message and increase empathy. Congratulations to our winning student-artists!



Second place drawing by Hannah Keener '22



The 14 MICDS students in the top 40 are:

- Olivia Warren '21—1st place
- Hannah Keener '22—2nd place
- Maya Gralnick '22—4th place
- John Curylo '20—6th place
- Hailey Kim '22—8th place
- Dilyn Halverson '21—9th place
- Ava Todd '21—15th place
- Laine Tompras '22—19th place
- Shudi Wang '21—28th place
- Charlotte Bitting '22—29th place
- Landis Bingham '21—31st place
- Sydney Pollock '21—32nd place
- Kendall Rozen '21—33rd place
- Kaitlyn Turnell '21—36th place

Dancers Grace the Stage

This year's Winter Dance Concert included a classical Indian dance, a contemporary musical theater jazz piece, a ballet performance and a K-pop dance number. Students not only starred in the show, they also choreographed ten of the eleven pieces and designed the lighting and costumes for their performances.



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Another Remarkable and Adorable Beasley Winter Program

Students, teachers, family members and friends packed Mary Eliot Chapel yet again for this year's Lower School Winter Program. Junior Kindergarten through fourth grade students performed songs representative of a variety of holidays and the winter season with direction from **Lower School Music Teachers Barb Spieler and Kathy Norvell.**

Spierer shared, "The Beasley Winter Program offers a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the traditions that bind families and communities together. Our Beasley musicians shared pieces

about Hanukkah, Chinese New Year, Diwali, Christmas and Kwanzaa."

Students ended the program with a crowd favorite, *Peace The Whole World Over*. Each verse of the song used the word "peace" in a language spoken by one of our MICDS families, including Japanese, Spanish, Hindi, French, Hebrew, Korean and Arabic. To top it off, **Head of School Jay Rainey** played the piano accompaniment for this finale to the surprise and delight of students and families alike.





“The Beasley Winter Program offers a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the traditions that bind families and communities together.”

BARB SPIELER



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01. Fourth graders beat a lively tune on the stage in Eliot Chapel.
02. Shayaan Merchant '29 entertains the assembly in Eliot Chapel.
03. Abby Selner '28 plays the violin at the Beasley Winter Program.
04. Henry Walsh '33, Terrance Sadler '33 and Caleb Newton '33 sing for the audience.

Tropical Paradise at the Middle School Talent Show

Twenty student performers in 12 different acts wowed the audience with piano and guitar skills, comedy, singing and dancing.

Eliot Chapel transformed into a tropical paradise for this year's Middle School Talent Show. Featuring island decor, "best dressed" awards for each grade level, tropical-themed attendance prizes and a closing hip hop dance number from Middle School faculty and staff, the event was a smashing success with community-building fun for all. The winner of this year's talent show was **Joe Walsh '25** singing *Someone You Loved* by Lewis Capaldi.



01. Joe Walsh '25 won this year's Middle School Talent Show.
02. Middle School faculty and staff entertain the student audience with the *Git Up* line dance while judges tally the results.
03. Julia Guerra '27 wows the audience with her gymnastics skills.
04. Zoe Zlatic '24 and Walker Graves '24 won "Best Dressed" for the eighth grade class.



FOR MORE PHOTOS AND THE HIGHLIGHT VIDEO >>
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Hearts Full of Gratitude at Turkey Train

OUR GENEROUS COMMUNITY DONATED



10,240 pounds of food



enough to provide **8,359** meals

to help others in need through the St. Louis Area Foodbank.



01



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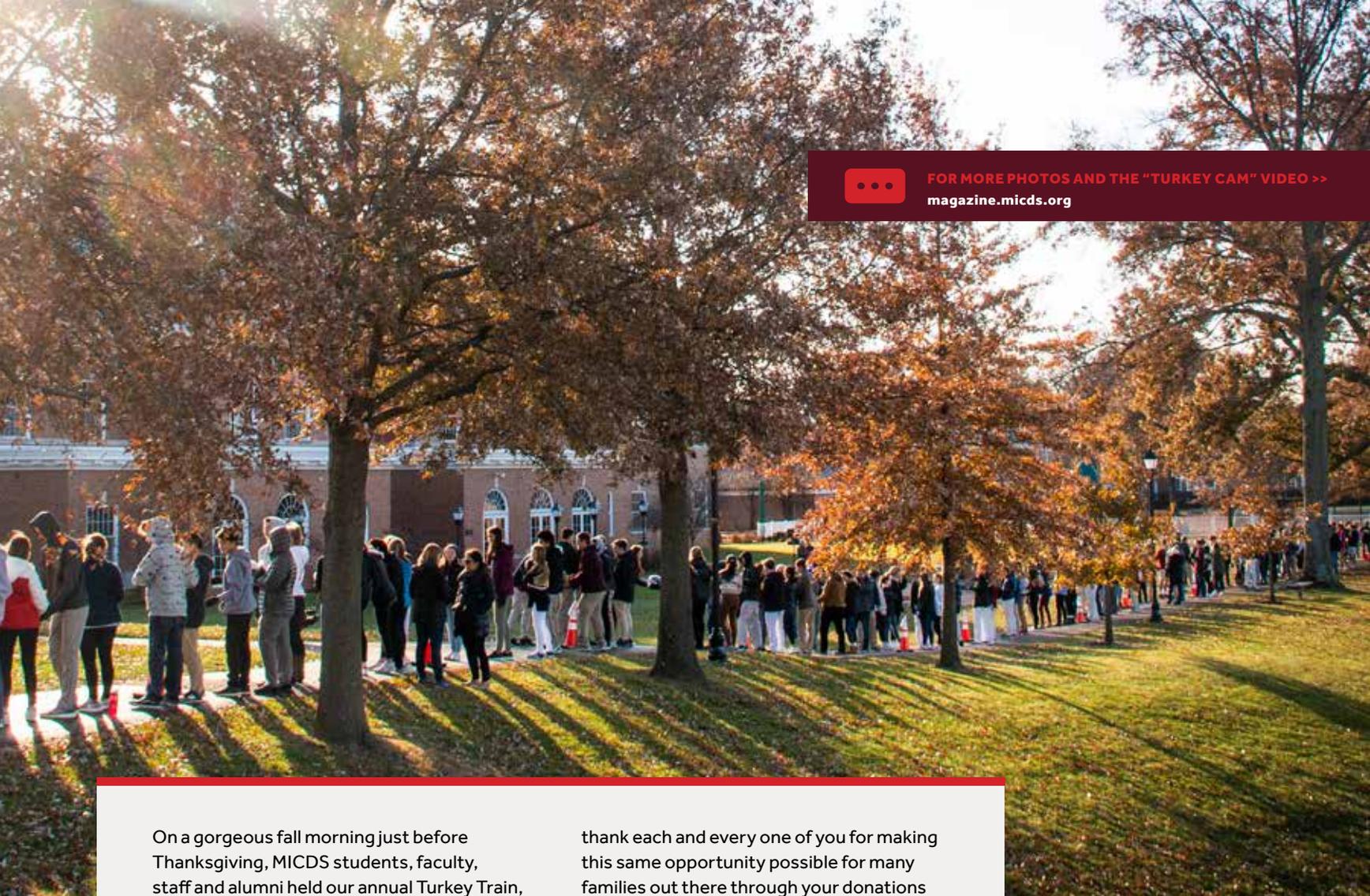


04

01. The Turkey Train stretches all the way across campus, starting at the Upper School, passing the Lower School, and ending at the McDonnell Athletic Center (MAC) by the Middle School.
02. Parker Cabbabe '29, Sam Taylor '29, Timo Finnegan '29, Hunter Giles '29 and Peter Tschudy '29 enjoy watching the Turkey Train unfold.
03. Austin Stoddard '23 accepts a frozen turkey from Jack Mills '23. Upper School students line up by advisory for Turkey Train.
04. Students find plenty to laugh at as they pass frozen turkeys down the line.



FOR MORE PHOTOS AND THE "TURKEY CAM" VIDEO >>
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On a gorgeous fall morning just before Thanksgiving, MICDS students, faculty, staff and alumni held our annual Turkey Train, a tradition that's been going strong for 16 years.

The community celebrated this tradition with an all-school assembly, which included band and choir performances; inspirational remarks from Upper School Community Service Co-Chairs **Ally Kalishman '21** and **Nischal Ada '20**, St. Louis Area Foodbank representative Will Beshore and **Head of School Jay Rainey**; and video productions from our Lower and Middle School students.

Ada said, "On Thanksgiving, we all look forward to the wonderful meals we are able to share with our loved ones. We would like to

thank each and every one of you for making this same opportunity possible for many families out there through your donations and spirit. This is what Thanksgiving is really about."

Rainey thanked the School community for the generous donations and said, "The Turkey Train is as much a gift to us today as it is a gift to families who will depend on the St. Louis Area Foodbank this Thanksgiving. It is the gift of understanding that just as we have lined up to provide sustenance to those who need it, so have we depended on the sustenance that others have lined up to give to us, in ways that we know and in ways that we will never know."



"The Turkey Train is as much a gift to us today as it is a gift to families who will depend on the St. Louis Area Foodbank this Thanksgiving."

HEAD OF SCHOOL JAY RAINEY

Creating a World for All at the Diversity Leadership Conference

Planned and led by MICDS students *for* students, the 6th annual Upper School Diversity Leadership Conference brought together about 100 students and faculty from MICDS and five other area schools to talk about the issues they face around identity, diversity and inclusion.

The theme for this year's conference was "It's Our Time: Creating a World for All." Centering on this theme and topics such as equity vs. equality, social media and criminal justice, the day included an opening welcome, interactive workshops, small and large group discussions, a keynote speaker and an open mic session. Christopher McPherson, the owner of Possibility of Positivity LLC who specializes in personal development and human potential, offered the keynote address.

Eighteen MICDS Upper Schoolers from the iDentity Club planned the conference as student facilitators. iDentity Co-Head **Shreya Mehta '20** reflected, "I've learned to appreciate each word that is said by the members of the conference and club as it is something of value and an opportunity to broaden my own perspective."

Director of Faculty Equity & Inclusion and Director of Student Activities Erica Moore said, "This conference is an effort to help create opportunities for dialogue and understanding, to empower students to be confident in who they are, to stand up for others and to create a dialogue on how we can work with each other to create a more just and equitable community."



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01



02

- 01. Christopher McPherson, owner of Possibility of Positivity LLC, addresses students as the keynote speaker at the Diversity Leadership Conference.
- 02. Back (l-r) Lauren Douglas '22, Amani Hendricks '22, Addie Jung '20, Jala Muhammad '20, Shreya Mehta '20, Nicita Anand '20, Asher Clarke '20, Téa Mitchell '21 and Najaah Muhammad '21. Front (l-r) Camille Henderson '22, Zoe Carter-Konate '22, Raygan McDile '22, Naomi Ferguson '20, Anna Speller '20, Morgan Sutton '21, Olivia Ferguson '22, Shreya Gowducheruvu '22 and Arya Ramakrishnan '22



Author Kwame Alexander Energizes the Middle School

Kwame Alexander, author of 32 books, met with Middle School students to talk about his work and share some of his poems. **Middle School Librarian Annie Tsai Gomez** said, "His energy was contagious and immediately grabbed kids' attention." Alexander entertained students with dynamic spoken word performances of his poems, and he engaged them by having them complete the last word in several lines of poetry. He shared personal stories and discussed his own lessons of resilience and perseverance.



Why I Give

BY RITU CHOUHAN ZEI '04



Ritu Chouhan Zei '04 is a current senior kindergarten parent. She and her husband, Markus, support the MICDS Fund and have designated their gifts to benefit Student Access, which provides generous financial aid for tuition and extracurricular programs for students of all backgrounds. She shared why she and her family feel it's important to support MICDS.

MICDS means so much to me. Not only did it provide me with an excellent education and a solid foundation to navigate college and beyond, but it also gave me amazing friends, a framework for values and ethics, and a strong community. It helped me set standards for what I expect in my educational and professional life beyond MICDS, and for what I want for my own children's education.

As much as I loved my time and experience at MICDS as a student, I continue to be amazed at the changes I've seen take place over the years. One of the most impressive aspects of MICDS is its ability to respect and stay true to tradition while fearlessly moving forward in a quickly-changing world, and this skill is reflected in its compassionate, generous and open-minded students. I am so proud of MICDS' commitment to diversity, both in terms of its student population and in terms of the education and opportunities offered. I am a parent of one of the youngest students at MICDS, and it is heartwarming to hear Adiya's excited chatter about the different cultures and traditions (including her own!) she is learning about. Her appreciation of other cultures is cultivated by the school so well and age-appropriately

with cooking, singing, reading and parent involvement. I can't wait to see what opportunities await her as she moves through her education at MICDS.

Great institutions and organizations are made great in large part by giving back through volunteering, donating and more. To me, it's a way to show appreciation and pay it forward by helping give current students an even better education filled with more exciting opportunities.

My favorite MICDS memory is a toss-up between the annual pep rally/bonfire and Lessons and Carols. One so energetic and loud and the other very quiet and peaceful, but both give me such warm nostalgic feelings. I know how lucky I was to attend a school like MICDS and I feel even more blessed that I am able to give that to my own kids. In my line of work, I am reminded on a daily basis that not every child is so fortunate. Having access to a wonderful education should not be determined by financial means, and it is important to my husband and me that anything we can give back to MICDS is directed to help these children.





“Best All-Around Girl” Janet Ann MacCarthy Parke ’54 Leaves Legacy to MICDS

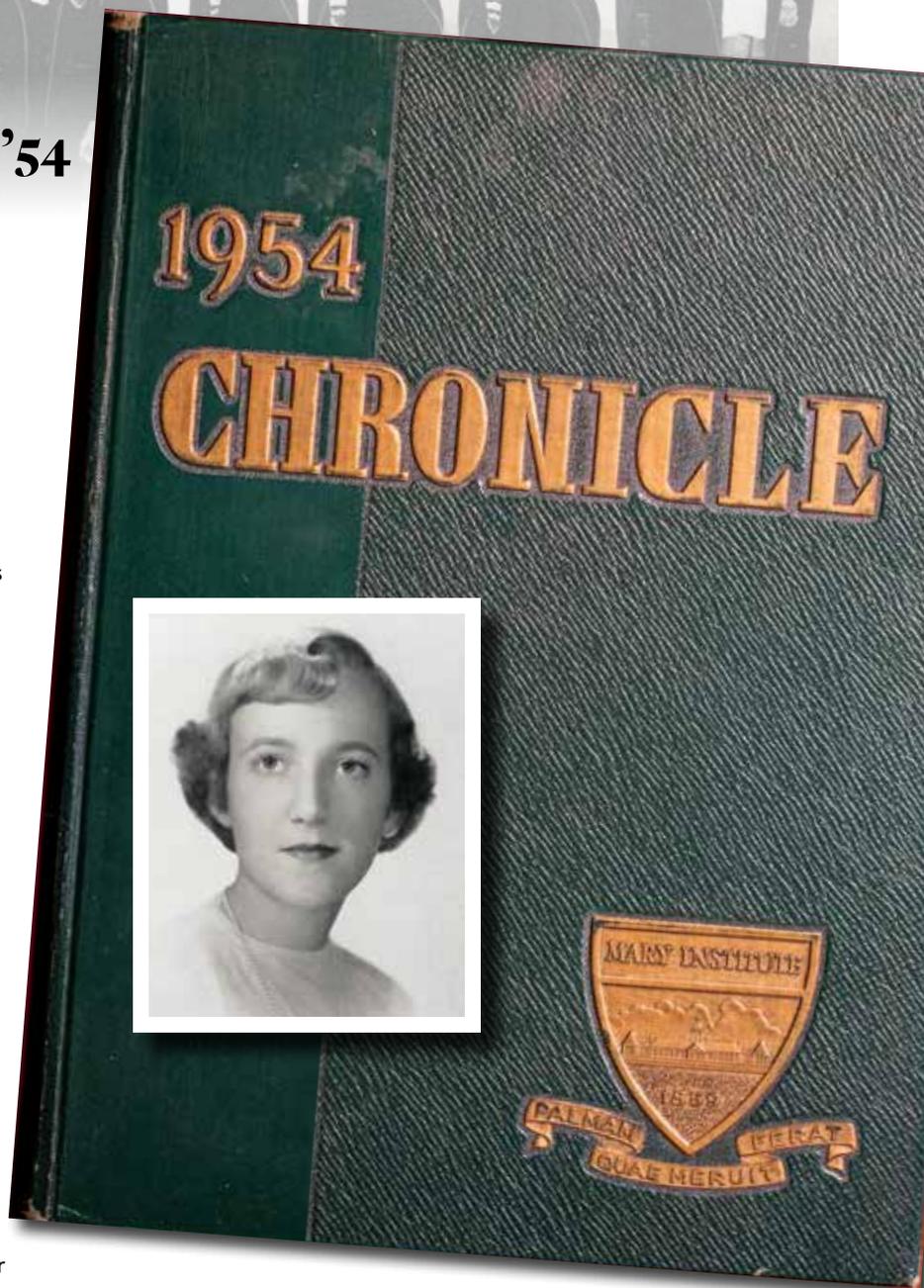
Dust off a 1954 Mary Institute *Chronicle* and a bouquet of acclaim for **Janet Ann MacCarthy Parke** tumbles from its pages. Voted “#1 Best All-Around Girl” by her classmates on one page, and renowned as “full of pep” and “sparkling personality” on another, it’s no wonder her senior picture boasts: “The Class of ’54 couldn’t do without her.”

Best known by her classmates as “Mac,” Ann “was one of the people who made the class very special,” recalls good friend and classmate **Talbot Leland MacCarthy ’54** (who later married Ann’s cousin, **Peter MacCarthy ’50**). “She loved to laugh, loved to have a good time, and was a talented team player in so many ways. In sports, she was one of only two girls to make the Varsity team in every sport.”

And now, even after Ann’s passing last year, it’s clear her heart stayed with her Mary Institute teammates through her entire life. Several months ago, the School received word that Ann had quietly left MICDS in her estate plans. Without pomp and circumstance, she simply supported her team by establishing an unrestricted endowed fund for MICDS to use at its discretion—a most generous last gift to the School where she formed lasting friendships.

“She really loved Mary I and was very proud of her class,” says Talbot. “In fact, she left college early to start working in the Athletic Department at MI for 15 years. She eventually finished her degree at Washington University and gave credit to Ronald Beasley (then Headmaster of Mary Institute) for encouraging her to finish school. She was a great admirer of his.”

And we suspect he was a great admirer of hers as well. In his letter to the senior class, Mr. Beasley wrote: “One of the most happy characteristics of the Mary Institute Class of 1954 has been your sense of unity.” Now, 66 years later, we celebrate “Mac,” her leadership, and her continued commitment to that sense of unity by accommodating her alma mater in her final plans. If we could rewrite her *Chronicle* page today, we would proudly add the distinguished accolades “Lifetime Team Player and Member, Eliot & Thompson Society.”



If you are interested in joining the Eliot & Thompson Society for planned giving donors and creating your own legacy at MICDS without costing you anything today, contact Kalleen Capps Rose, Director of Major and Planned Gifts, at 314-995-7455 or krrose@micds.org.





Bridging the Transition to Middle School With Confidence

Starting a new school can be stressful for students. They may not know any of their new classmates, nor do they know where anything is. “Where is the restroom?” “What is the dress code?” “What are the teachers like?” There are a myriad of questions swirling amidst the excitement of a new adventure. To help with this transition, MICDS developed Summer

“The quick, natural transformation of students when they arrive on Monday to when they arrive on the last day is the highlight of the program...they no longer walk alone but with new classmates and friends.”

**EIGHTH GRADE SCIENCE TEACHER
CALLIE BAMBENEK**

Bridge, a series of one-week programs designed to help new students make friends, learn the campus and meet their teachers.

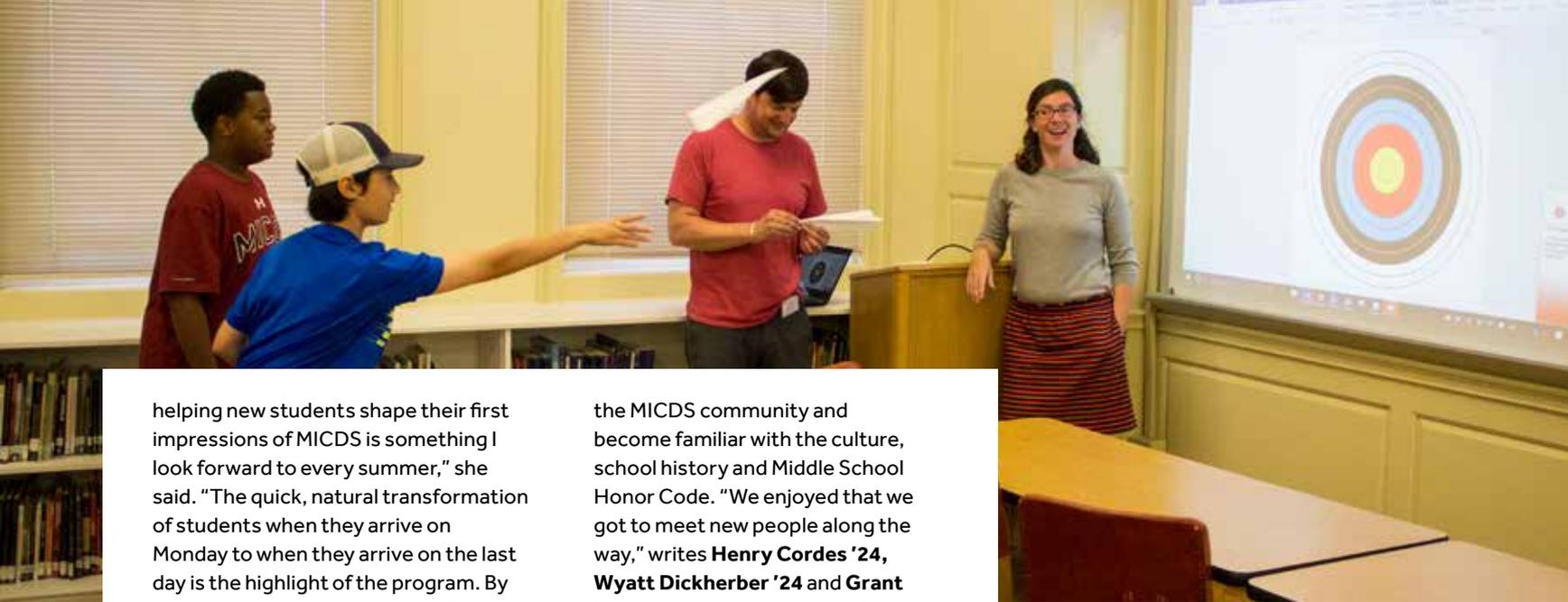
At a time when the School was considering a “bridge program,” two visionary philanthropists stepped forward to help MICDS launch the initiative. Being familiar with bridge programs that focused exclusively on the needs of students of color, **Dustin Griffin ’61** and his wife, Gale, established the endowed Griffin Summer Bridge Program Fund in 2000, with the purpose of offering financial aid support to students of color who enrolled in the program.

Now, MICDS offers Summer Bridge to *all* families free of charge, as a universal experience for incoming Middle School students. More than 20 years later, the Griffin Summer Bridge Program Fund continues to play a critical role in ensuring that all students, regardless of need, have the opportunity to participate. One may question how a gift made over two decades ago can have such an enormous impact today.

The answer is simple: the MICDS endowment.

Donors establish named, endowed funds for a specific and strategic purpose with gifts of \$50,000 or more (\$25,000 or more for our 25th Reunion classes). Through a formal, written gift agreement, the School and the donor define the purpose and appropriate restrictions of the gift, and agree to the spending policy as determined by the Board of Trustees, which allows the corpus of the fund to grow at a steady rate despite the unpredictabilities of the investment markets. As the corpus grows, so too does the allowable draw off the fund, sustaining the impact of the initial gift in perpetuity. Today, MICDS holds over 230 endowed funds that generate over \$3.5 million in revenue for the School and provide consistent, enduring resources that support the mission of the School.

Eighth grade science teacher Callie Bambenek has led the Middle School Summer Bridge program since the summer of 2015. “Being involved in



helping new students shape their first impressions of MICDS is something I look forward to every summer," she said. "The quick, natural transformation of students when they arrive on Monday to when they arrive on the last day is the highlight of the program. By Friday, they leave their cars confident in knowing the route to our Bridge location. They no longer walk alone but with new classmates and friends."

Over five days, rising 5th-8th grade Rams enjoy a campus orientation, academic enrichment and lessons on organization and study skills. They meet teachers who fill them in on life at MICDS by conducting game-show style group quizzes about the dress code and assembling scavenger hunts around the Middle School and athletic facilities. By the culmination of the program, new students feel right at home. "When I started at MICDS, I already knew my way around," remembers **Rachel Phillips '24**. "I already knew most of my classmates, even the ones who didn't come from my previous school."

The program also dedicates significant time to helping students socialize with

the MICDS community and become familiar with the culture, school history and Middle School Honor Code. "We enjoyed that we got to meet new people along the way," writes **Henry Cordes '24**, **Wyatt Dickherber '24** and **Grant Nicholson '24** in their group Bridge reflection. "The teachers put us in different groups for different challenges, and we got to bond with everyone in our group."

Bridge intentionally centers around the wishes of new MICDS students. At the end of the first day of each session, students share the top three things they hope to learn during Bridge. "In the past four years, we have been able to accomplish every goal that students requested," said Bambenek.

Come the first day of school, our newest Middle Schoolers hit the ground running as they begin their MICDS careers with confidence and connection thanks to the generosity of the endowed Griffin Summer Bridge Program Fund!



*If you want to go fast, go alone.
If you want to go far, go together
-African proverb*

A Decade of Madness

This year marked the 10th anniversary of MICDS Madness, our annual 10-day giving challenge between several young alumni classes which this year included the classes of 1996 through 2015. These 20 classes came together to achieve 24% participation—over four times the national average for alumni participation. Their gifts made an immediate impact this school year and supported academics, faculty, students, athletics and arts at MICDS. Additionally, many gifts were made in honor or in memory of beloved teachers and classmates. We are enormously proud of these classes who worked hard to ensure a transformative educational experience for today's students. Your enthusiasm, generosity, contagious spirit and volunteer efforts are why MICDS continues to be a national leader in independent education with a thriving culture of philanthropy. Thank you!



IN 10 YEARS OF MADNESS...

442 VOLUNTEERS
FROM THE CLASSES
OF 1993 - 2015

6,800 GIFTS **OVER \$1,200,000**
FOR MICDS

100%
OF OUR STUDENTS, FACULTY AND PROGRAMS
BENEFIT FROM THIS SUPPORT

THANK YOU
FOR BRINGING HOME A WIN FOR TODAY'S STUDENTS!

MICDS.ORG/SUPPORT-MICDS/MICDS-MADNESS



24%

**TOTAL PARTICIPATION
AMONG 20 CLASSES**

TOP 5 CLASSES

1. 2002 [58%]
2. 2000 [42%]
3. 2003 [38%]
4. 1998 [35%]
5. 1999 & 2011 [31%] *TIED!*

649 DONORS
WORLDWIDE

45 VOLUNTEERS

**MILES THE FARTHEST
GIFT TRAVELED**
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

9,057

THE OVERACHIEVER AWARD:
CLASS OF '96 & '11
(11 GIFTS OVER GOAL!) *TIED!*

**CLASSES
WITH MOST
GAINS OVER
LAST YEAR**



**ROOKIE CLASS
WINNER: 2011**
(OF THE FIVE YOUNGEST CLASSES)

1. 1996 [+15%]
2. 2011 [+13%]
3. '98 & '99 [+8%]
TIED!



FOR MORE PHOTOS AND TO READ
MORE ABOUT BLEDSOE'S VISIT >>
magazine.micds.org

Build It Yourself: The 2020 Bond Lecture

Every February MICDS holds the Bond Lecture in observance of Black History Month. The lecture brings a noted African American to campus to address Upper Schoolers. Jaylen D. Bledsoe, entrepreneur and Chairman of the Bledsoe Collective, was this year's Bond Lecture speaker. Bledsoe, who attended MICDS in 9th grade, shared his experience as a young entrepreneur, and the importance of helping others as he was helped along the way. He also encouraged students to actively shape their own futures instead of waiting for opportunities. "If you aren't getting hired because you don't have experience yet," he said, "build it yourself. Don't wait for someone to hire you."



#RamNation

GO RAMS!
Photos by STHighSchoolSports.com and Parents

2020

Rams Rewind

WINTER SPORTS SEASON RECAPS



Boys Basketball

Head Coach: Travis Wallace
1st Place in Metro League Conference

Boys Basketball had one of the best seasons in the program's history. The team opened up the season by winning the championship of the MICDS Tip-Off Tournament. The team was ranked in the top 10 by the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* all season long, and they finished with a 23-5 record—quite a turnaround story from last year's record. The team placed 1st in a tough Metro League Conference. With every player returning next season, the Boys Basketball team is looking forward to building on this solid season.

Girls Basketball

Head Coach: Scott Small
A Milestone Season

The MICDS Girls Basketball team had a season filled with milestones, which you can read about in the sidebar on page 42. The team finished 5-1 in the Metro League highlighted by a buzzer-beater win against Lutheran North and continued dominance over rival JBS with two regular-season wins. The Rams finished the season with a 14-11 record.

Cheerleading

Head Coach: Lauren Fletcher
Showing School Spirit

The Rams Cheerleaders showed their school spirit throughout the winter season! The team led the crowds in cheers, chants and halftime performances. They showcased their hard work with a challenging routine that involved stunting and dancing. Next year, the team will miss its three seniors: **Addie Jung '20, Asher Clarke '20 and Lucy Zhao '20.**



01



02



03



04



05

Dance Team

Head Coach: Summer Beasley

Performing for the Crowds

The dance team attended camp at Southeast Missouri State University to kick off the year. They learned five routines in three days and also improved upon their technique. In the fall, they performed sideline and halftime routines during home football games. The dancers demonstrated leadership and commitment to the MICDS community by guiding and mentoring Middle School dancers. The team finished strong this winter with halftime performances at Boys Varsity Basketball games.

Ice Hockey

Head Coach: John Mattingly

Extremely Bright Future Ahead

The MICDS Ice Hockey team had a solid performance this winter season. After losing a large senior class last year, nine freshmen played active roles this year and the team accomplished an 8-8-5 record. With seniors **Jack Parks '20**, **Joe Condie '20**, **Tripp Gatch '20** and **Nick Niemann '20** leading this young squad, the team earned an 11-seed in the Wickenhauser Cup playoffs. Although MICDS was eliminated in the crossover games of the playoffs, the future of the program is extremely bright.

- 01. Jack Pronger '21 heads back up the court.
- 02. Zaire Harrell '22 celebrates after a victory.
- 03. The Cheerleaders perform at halftime.
- 04. The MICDS Dance Team performs a routine at a Boys Varsity Basketball game.
- 05. The Rams Ice Hockey team defeats the John Burroughs School Bombers 3-1.

A Milestone Season for Girls Basketball!

The Girls Varsity Basketball team celebrated **Scott Small's** 300th win as head coach on Monday, January 27, at Lindbergh High School. The Rams won the game 61-27. Small shared, "You think about all the kids you've had in the program who worked really hard to make this possible."

One of those players—**Jessica Brooks '20**—set a new record for the School by scoring 1,458 points this season! Brooks was also named the Metro League All-Conference Player of the Year.



01. The Girls Basketball team helps Coach Scott Small celebrate his 300th victory.
02. Congratulations to Jessica Brooks '20 for setting a new scoring record at MICDS with 1,458 points this season.





Boys Squash

Head Coach: David Doherty

5th Place at Nationals

The Boys Varsity Squash team once again finished the season in Connecticut with a 3-1 record at the U.S. Squash High School Nationals, earning 5th place in the championship thanks in part to the admirable leadership of team captain **Sully Keeley '20**. The team visited Louisville, Kentucky, to play against high school and club teams. They played local away matches at Washington University and the Missouri Athletic Club. The team travelled to Mercersburg, Pennsylvania, where it won the Flanagan Cup for the second year in a row. The team is very grateful to **Alex Migala '20** for his third and final year of managerial duties, Coach **Mohammed Tahir** for his professional expertise and all the team parents for their support throughout the season.

Girls Squash

Head Coach: Robyn Williams

8th Place Finish in Division III at Nationals

The Girls Varsity Squash team worked hard all season and was rewarded with a bump up to Division III in the U.S. Squash High School Nationals, where they finished 8th. Their strong performances and 2nd place finish at the Tom Flanagan Invitational Tournament at Mercersburg Academy contributed. The team added matches against the Missouri Athletic Club and Washington University, as well as a trip to Louisville, Kentucky, to play a mixed team of middle and high school players. A high level of team camaraderie, sportsmanship and determination was demonstrated at both practices and matches. Junior tri-captains **Raneem Alzahabi '21**, **Imaan Amin '21** and **Annalisa Goot '21** led the team with enthusiasm, positivity and grace throughout the season. The team looks forward to building on the foundation set this season with all players returning next year.

01. The Boys Squash team won the Flanagan Cup for the second straight year.
02. The Girls Squash bumped up to Division III in the U.S. Squash High School Nationals.
03. Rhea Patnana '23 plays hard at Wesleyan.



Coach Lohr Honored with Hall of Fame Status

Head Track and Field and Head Girls Cross Country Coach and Lower School Physical Education Teacher Jim Lohr was inducted into the Missouri Track and Cross Country Coaches Association Hall of Fame. The induction ceremony occurred in December and included a moving video featuring many former and current athletes congratulating Coach Lohr on his remarkable and well-deserved accomplishment.

Coach Lohr was also awarded the Class 3 Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year award after a phenomenal cross country season and state championship title.



High five to Coach Lohr on his recent recognitions.

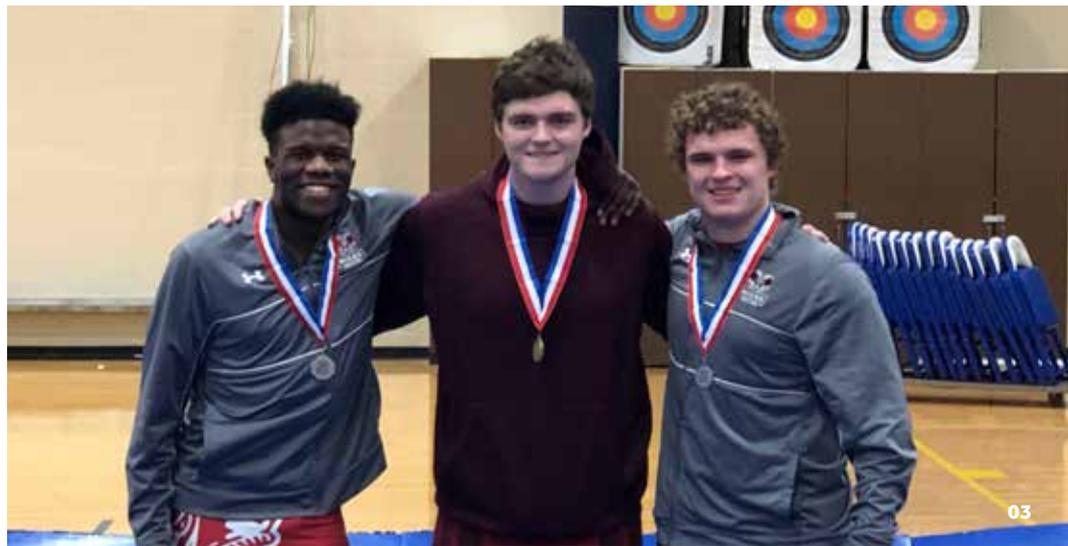
Coach Lohr inducted into Hall of Fame.



01



02



03

Girls Swimming & Diving

Head Coach: Chris McCrary

15th Place Finish at State

The Girls Swimming and Diving team ended the season with an impressive 3rd place finish at Conference and 15th place finish at State. Captains **Meaghan Cannon '19** and **Grace Vogel '19** brought together a close-knit team that included freshman standouts **Erica Engelhardt '23** and **Livi Thomas '23**. **Renee Stanec '20**, **Maddy Cowen '21** and **Lexie Reeb '22** were a formidable diving squad, with Stanec placing 10th at State. **Elle Haines '21** and **Madigan Kinsey '21** were crucial to both top-16 scoring relays at State, with Kinsey also scoring in the 100-yard breaststroke. **Anna Scott Baur '22** was the top performer all season, placing 3rd at State in the 200-yard individual medley and 4th in the 100-yard breaststroke. The fantastic end to the season was a direct result of the girls' hard work and belief in themselves and the program.

Wrestling

Head Coach: Vito Krischke

Strong Performances in Tournament Season

Wrestling had a strong showing this year, including a dual win over Principia. Standout performances of the year included a 1st place finish at the Chaminade Invitational and a 4th place finish at the Eric Lewis Tournament by **Will Schaumburg '21**. **Nat Bilderback '22** battled back from an injury and had a strong showing at the district tournament, just missing qualifying for State. The team was led by **Morgan Niven '20** and newcomers **James Bilderback '20** and **Ethan Stevenson '20**. **Jake Hausler '22**, **Grayson Marks '23**, **Jack Morris '21** and **Jack Baptist-Jarvis '21** had strong showings and will be back to represent the Rams next season.

01. Renee Stanec '20 executes a dive.
02. Madigan Kinsey '21, Erica Engelhardt '23, Meaghan Cannon '20, Grace Vogel '20 and Anna Scott Baur '22 competed at State.
03. Ethan Stevenson '20, William Schaumburg '21 and James Bilderback '20 show off their medals.

Class Notes

NEWS FOR MARY INSTITUTE
AND SAINT LOUIS COUNTRY DAY
SCHOOL ALUMNAE AND ALUMNI

The following pages reflect
notes submitted through

February 7, 2020

Submit your news for the next issue to:
classnotes@micds.org

Births and Adoptions

WE WELCOME THE FOLLOWING CHILDREN TO OUR MICDS FAMILY.

Stephen Douglass '98 and Sara:
Lily Ann Douglass, *March 14, 2019*



GETTING MARRIED? EXPECTING?

We'd like to help you celebrate, but we can't print news about future weddings or babies. When your plans become reality, please let the Alumni Office know and we'll gladly print your news after the fact, and all share in the excitement!

Alumni/ae Deaths

THROUGH FEBRUARY 23, 2020

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE
FAMILIES OF ALUMNI/AE WE HAVE LOST.

- Betty Ann Cooke Wood '40**, March 6, 2019
- Charles C. Allen '41**, December 20, 2019
- Mary Ann Leschen Morsey '42**, October 26, 2019
- John Shepley '42**, January 20, 2020
- John W. Eisenbeis '43**, December 3, 2019
- Don R. Schneeberger '49**, December 27, 2019
- John A. Isaacs III '49**, January 27, 2020
- Julius Jensen '50**, October 12, 2019
- John B. McKinney Sr. '50**, December 27, 2019
- Allen W. Whittimore '51**, October 20, 2019
- Robinson Ord '51**, February 12, 2020
- David Schettler '52**, January 26, 2020
- Judy Fry Hancock '54**, January 28, 2020
- Roy R. Heimburger '55**, May 30, 2019
- Gay Hirsch '55**, July 10, 2019
- Charles S. Smith '55**, December 17, 2019
- Herbert "Bert" D. Condie III '55**, February 8, 2020
- Stephen E. Kalish '60**, December 18, 2019
- Ann Calfee Alden '65**, July 25, 2019
- R. Steven Wunsch '65**, October 25, 2019
- Robert L. Reck '66**, July 22, 2019
- Maida Cannon '67**, January 4, 2020
- Thomas L. Gross '67**, January 5, 2020
- Marion Bland Langdon '69**, January 2, 2020
- Raleigh Andrews Trovillion '81**, November 9, 2019
- Jennifer L. Bellar '93**, November 16, 2019
- William Scott Peterson '93**, December 10, 2019
- John A. Holtz '06**, January 2, 2020

Faculty Deaths

Philip W. Alderks, former CDS Headmaster, December 25, 2019

Darrell L. Gage, former CDS faculty, November 24, 2019

Ann J. Johanson, former MI faculty, January 30, 2020

Allen W. Whittemore '51, former CDS faculty, October 20, 2019

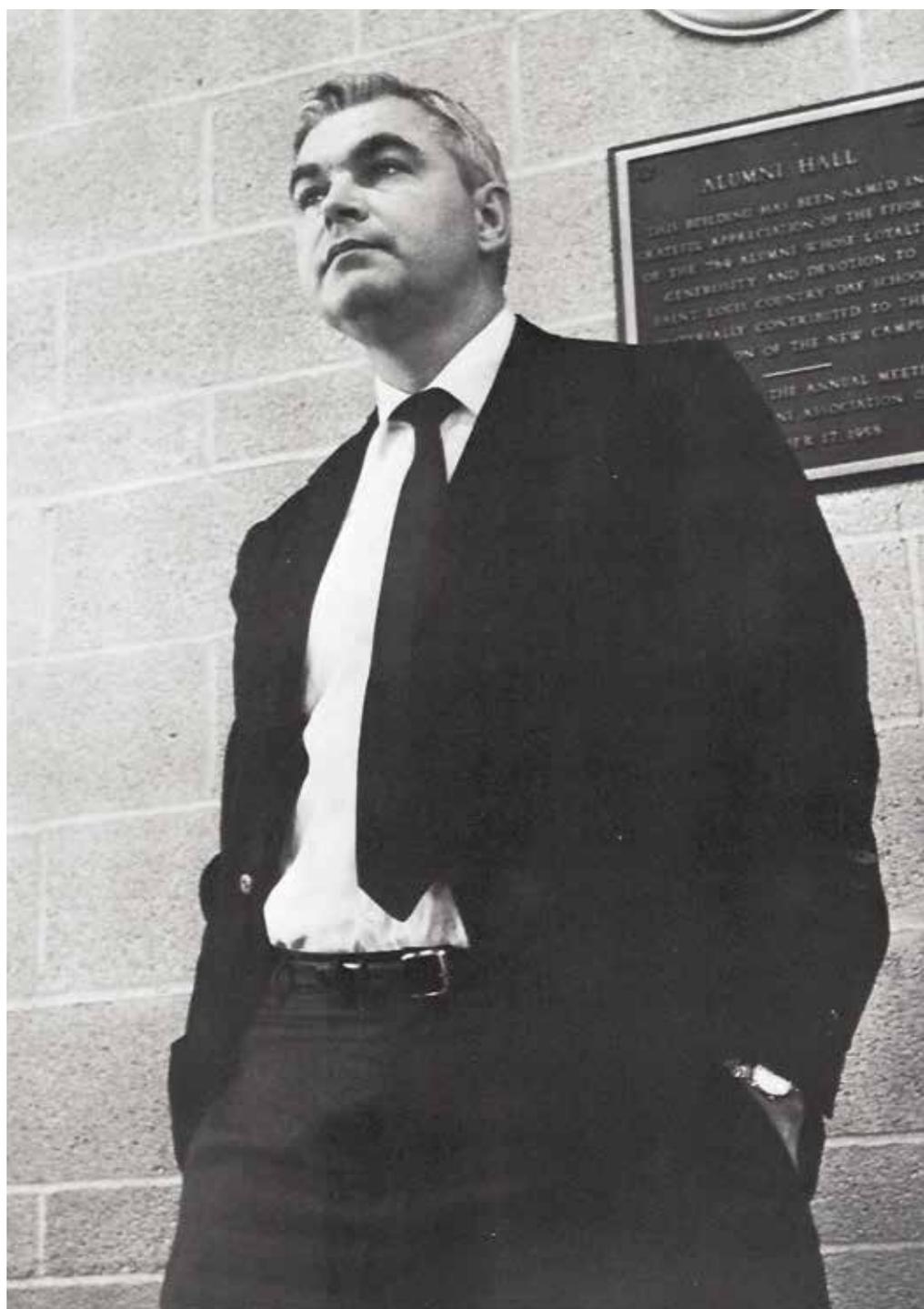
Philip W. Alderks, Former Headmaster of Country Day School

We are saddened to report the death of **Philip W. Alderks**, head of the Country Day Art Department in the 1950s and '60s and later Headmaster of CDS. Alderks attended Carleton College where he earned a degree in fine arts. He went on to receive a masters in fine arts degree in 1955 from the University of Iowa before joining the Country Day faculty in 1956. At CDS, Alderks first taught art to students in the Lower, Middle and Upper Schools. An avid athlete, he coached football, tennis, baseball and basketball at the junior varsity and varsity levels, and he chaired a number of faculty committees during his first decade at our School.

In 1961, he was commissioned by Headmaster Ashby T. Harper to paint a large mural of the original Country Day campus in Berkeley. The artwork, the only known color representation of the "Old School," is now displayed in the lobby of McDonnell Athletic Center.

In 1968, as Country Day celebrated its 50th anniversary, the Board named Alderks to succeed **David M. Pynchon** as the eighth Headmaster of the School, a position he held until 1972. While Headmaster, he continued to teach and coach.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Ann Burrige Alderks, two daughters and two sons, eight grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.



1941 CDS

Charles C. Allen Jr. died peacefully in his sleep on December 20, 2019, at the age of 96. He is survived by his wife of 65 years, **Cynthia Hayward Allen '51**, his son, **Charles Allen '73** (Lisa Schlesinger) of St. Louis, three grandchildren and three step-grandchildren. Charlie was a lifelong resident of St. Louis. He interrupted his studies at Princeton University to serve in the U.S. Army field artillery. He graduated from Princeton in 1947 magna cum laude and received a law degree from Washington University in 1950. He joined Lewis & Rice in 1960, serving as managing partner from 1970-1975.

1954 MI

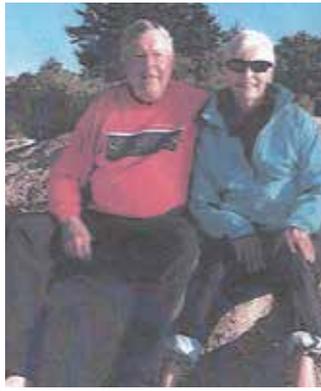
SUSAN SPOEHRER ELLIOTT
selliott@sseinc.com

Mydie Baldwin Sant shares with us that she and **John '50** enjoyed a three-week trip in South Africa and had great game drives seeing the Big Five. Then they visited Victoria Falls before going to London to visit with their granddaughter, **Sarah Sant '16**, who is studying for her Masters in Psychology in southern England.

1955 CDS

PETER T. HALL
phall@lookafterhairco.com

Bob Jackes and his "Little Sweetie," Mary, drove from Michigan to Maine last August for a four-day/night cruise on a coastal schooner, the "Mary Day." They shared berths, meals and showers (two) with 22 other passengers and five crew. They had a lobster feast on a rocky beach plus a dip in the 55° Atlantic Ocean. The schooner is the same size as Bob's ranch house: 100 feet long and 23 feet wide...fun!



Bob Jackes '55 and his wife Mary enjoyed a cruise on the coastal schooner, the "Mary Day."

1958 CDS

DANIEL B. FEINBERG
dbfeinberg@sbcglobal.net

Hugh Bartlett and Jane are going on a cruise from "Jerusalem to Athens" in May, run by Hillsdale College with their faculty providing lectures. Greatly looking forward!

Bill Hall says not much new, but he and Cheryl are moving into an 1888 house (Pippi's house) on Amelia Island, and his 14-year-old granddaughter, Allison Hall, placed 5th for her age group in the Nike National Cross Country Championships in Madison, Wisconsin.

Bill Kelley's youngest son, Rob, and grandson, Peter, both moved from their neighborhood in Illinois to Salida, Colorado. They and son, Clay, still operate Bill's old business with help from their daughter-in-law, Becky, and granddaughter, Katie Sheehan. In South Carolina, Bill still rides the Paso Fino horse he bought from **Bud Hirsch**. Judy enjoys bridge and golf in and around their place at Hilton Head Island. Bill says their greatest pleasure is their big family: four great-grandchildren, seven grandchildren, three children and five in-laws.

Geoff McClelland reports there is nothing exciting, although he and Molly are scheduled to have Marilyn and **Dick Helmholtz** over for dinner soon. First time they have seen them in several years.

Maurice "Bud" Hirsch continues to take photo tours and have his images in juried shows. In 2019, he went to Cuba, the Amalfi Coast and Sicily. 2020 will mark his 80th birthday with his wife on an Alaskan cruise in the summer. His images of Cuba are part of a group show at the

St. Charles Community College. He continues to photograph his granddaughter, **Anna Speller '20**, a Level 10 gymnast. He will feature her in a short photo essay at the St. Louis Camera Club, showing her on beam from 2011 to 2020.

1959 CDS

ARTHUR LUEKING
arthurl@msn.com

A big thank you to everyone who responded to my call for personal news. There doesn't seem to be much. **Norman James** pretty much summed it up, "Nothing exciting is happening, and that's just fine." Similarly, **Ed Fordyce** says, "I wish I could offer some pithy comments that all would enjoy, but I really have nothing to offer. No great vacations, no meetings with lost classmates or anything else."

The ever-thoughtful **Bill Tucker** provides a bit more: "Wish I had news, but mostly, though I continue working professionally a couple of days a week, I'm sliding—unexpectedly but gratefully—into grandparenting. Having learned through Sheila's urging and coaching, I've gotten lots of experience on hers, but in the last nine years, I've gotten some on my own, as well. There are three so far." See! He doesn't think that's "news," but it is. So those of you who "don't have anything to share" are wrong.

Bill Spencer checked in from Mexico but failed to provide details (I assume all is well).

R. K. Barton (one of the lunch semi-regulars) spent time with **Sonny Harrison** in Annapolis last fall, but details have been redacted for purposes of national security. Speaking of Sonny, he has been doggedly pursuing the

location of **Jim Frick** in the DC area and may have found him (if he wants to be found) in Alexandria, Virginia.

Chip Matthews and I have been joined regularly at our Monday lunches by **Butch Welsch**, whose family business, Welsch Heating & Cooling is celebrating its 125th anniversary with multiple events throughout the year. Butch has also been lecturing at Washington University's business school on family businesses, a subject in which he is an expert.

George Bornstein reports the birth of his first grandchild, a baby girl named Serena. Congratulations!

I'm in my 39th year as Director of the Loretto-Hilton Center at Webster University with, God willing, no intention of retiring. Chip, Butch and I have lunch every Monday at Lester's Restaurant at 11:30. We have been joined at various times by **R. K. Barton**, **Nat Griffin**, **Luke Fouke**, **Fred Hanser**, **Julius Frager** and (in the summer and fall) by **Jim Schneithorst**. Speaking of Jim, it is with great sadness that I report the demise of Schneithorst's Restaurant which was so important to many of us during our CODASCO days. No more Big Bevos with special sauce. Tears!

1961 MI

CHARLOTTE MASTIN ELLIS

cellis57us@yahoo.com

Claire Foster Evans and Marshall have been married 52 years and have 12 grandchildren and two great-granddaughters. They still live in three places—Atlanta, Georgia; Vail, Colorado; and Vero Beach, Florida. Their activities include golf, biking, bridge, Bible study and travel. Last year they went to the Dalmatian Coast and Saudi Arabia, and cruised around Montreal playing bridge. Claire is on Facebook and Instagram and would love to connect.

Pam Willhite Finch says she can't hear or walk but can still teach and sew. She reads to Mt. Zion preschoolers three days a week. This year she sewed 178 dresses and 63 pillows for St. Louis Crisis Nursery.

Hadley Hesse Wood has retired from teaching but taught one course last spring for a professor on sabbatical. She has been traveling the world—Eastern Caribbean, 10 days in China, river cruise from Bucharest to Budapest and a long cruise from Los Angeles to Sydney. She is home now and not expecting to travel as much this year.

Fo Hatton Logan lives in South Carolina. She has grandkids from 28 down to 13. Her kids are in their 50s with one still in the 40s. She hopes we all have our health and are enjoying life.

Mary Greve St. Clayre says she is enjoying life hugely. She is still working in financial services and is busy with nine grandchildren aged from 17 to one. She is grateful she has nothing negative to report personally in this troubled world. She loves hearing news of classmates.

Susan Lewis Vatterott is winding down her design business. She says 35 years is enough. She and Greg are doing well. Their travels are directed to New Orleans and Charleston where their daughters live. Their son and his family live five minutes from them. They have eight grandchildren and have been married 53 years.

Pam Mesker White and Paula went to Bulgaria for a 10-day workshop based on Paula's book *Our Horses, Ourselves; Discovering the Common Body*. In October, they went to Colorado where some wonderful friends and relatives live including daughter Bimala and family. They visited **Debbie Meyer Curlee** who has moved to Golden and has a wonderful mountain retreat with donkeys and chickens. Pam and Paula are still doing all their choreography and art/writing work. They are working with people who are having their immigration status challenged. They wish peace and kindness to all.

I, **Charlotte Mastin Ellis**, retired last January after over 50 years in Washington University libraries. I thought I'd hate retirement but I am loving it. I keep busy all the time. I'm on the board of my church's food pantry. My travel is pretty much limited to visiting my daughter and her husband in Salt Lake City.

1962 CDS

JOHN C. HENSLEY JR.

bluemoon53@aol.com

Schneithorst's closed on December 24, so planning our annual Boxing Day lunch did not make much sense since Boxing Day is on December 26. We did plan an event for December 10 to commemorate the decades we all attended Schneithorst's, and a few classmates showed. Boxing Day was moved to Lester's, so the 56-year tradition of Boxing Day lunch at Schneithorst's ended but we had a nice turnout at Lester's. **Karl Weinkauff** and Sharon, **Jim Harrell**, **Jim Grove** and Dudley, **John Hensley** and Linda, **Skip Culver** and Patty, **Bill Dehlendorf**, **Joe Von Kaenel** and Margaret, **CB Gebhard**, **Duff Morrill**, **Denny Niedringhaus**, **Lou Cariffe** and **Sandy Primm** were there.

Mike Witte reports that "Things are good here. Still playing tennis/paddle tennis and rowing although hip's getting a bit creaky. Still drawing and working in baseball. Recently joined the Board of the Edward Hopper Museum here in Nyack (Edward Hopper's birthplace and childhood home) and have deconstructed three subtextual levels of meaning in his art that have thus far gone unnoticed. Am in the process of writing a book that I hope will revolutionize Hopper scholarship. And having fun in my latter years!"

Jigger (John) Primm writes "All is well here in Thailand, I am still teaching ESL (I think that means English as a Second Language), swimming daily, riding my mountain bike and enjoying life. I am very grateful to be healthy and above ground."

1963 MI

ANN KEELER POUCHER

ann@poucher.net

NETTIE ORTHWEIN DODGE

tnodge@tdnod.net

Becky Atwood Patton: Landey and I are still operating Abigail Inn but expect to be making a change this year. After all, he turns 80 in March. Yikes! Maybe if we get out from under the inn, we'll have time to travel and see some of you. Yet we have loved our seven years of living in Lexington and plan to stay.

Lucinda Bagby Marrs: Lots of travel to see family and have adventures. When in Texas, I must visit Dallas, Houston and Austin to cover all the families. Oldest grandchild Bradley is 15, and #14 was born in April. I knit caps. Beau and I went to France and Germany last year. We stay for at least a month when we travel so far. I'm learning about music and musicians from Warren as we go along. Jazz mostly here and in France, and to The Kingsbury Ensemble's summer festival in the Pyrenees.

Margaret Blanke Henderson: Most of us have faced or are facing our three-quarter century mark this year. As my oldest grandson turns 16, I worry even more about the world we are leaving him, his cohort and the generations to follow. I continue to act politically in Golden, Colorado, and Stallings, North Carolina, where I live part-time near each of my children and grandchildren to encourage the town councils to think more environmentally. I spend time with family and friends (Scrabble!), garden, walk in nature and ballroom dance.

Allison Bradbury Kitchen: We enjoy our home in Flint, Texas, with three bedrooms for family and friends to visit. We have 2/3 of an acre with large oak trees that give us lots of shade but piles of leaves in the fall. I especially like being closer to kids and grandchildren. Unfortunately, my little great-granddaughters are in Atlanta with my oldest granddaughter and her husband. Jim just turned 85 last week, and we are both in good health. Maybe a bit

slower but doing well. We are still able to spend time at the cottage each summer.

Suzanne Franklin Corry: By the end of March I will be moving to a life care community in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. My health is pretty good, but because I do not have family in this area, I have decided to move to a community which will care for me until I die. It's called Willow Valley Communities and is a beautiful place with so much to do! My dog and two cats are coming too, and I have two friends who are also moving there! Very busy now with condo sale, etc., but looking forward to the future!

Ann Haigler Rittenbaum: We had all our children and grandchildren here over Xmas and New Year's: 12 people in our house! It was delightful, except for one small event: our sewer backed up on New Year's Eve and no one could shower or... But we found someone to come out and fix it that night! Amazing!

Hila Hampton Green: Dan and I are happy and healthy and looking forward to our 50th wedding anniversary next December. I am still enjoying designing jewelry, and Dan is busy with his exceptional artwork. We have both decided to concentrate on our "skiing"—otherwise known as "spending the kids' inheritance."

Ann Keeler Poucher: Ann and Ralph are busy traveling the Globe and being with family when in Colorado.

Jane Lewin Steinger: I have had a full year starting with trips to Puerto Vallarta and Tucson where Bob and I had such a fun two weeks that we booked for six weeks this winter! My granddaughter, Naomi, was a star at her June Bat Mitzvah which **Ann Haigler Rittenbaum** attended. **Edie Levy Brown** did not, but I still visited her in July. We saw two fab plays in NYC and a great exhibit at the MET in 24 hours! The fall saw a trip to Italy and the Spanish Islands. I turned 75 on December 6 and celebrated with family in Detroit. Still taking tons of classes and attending mainly political lectures, volunteering and keeping out of trouble with my soul mate Bob, pooch Darby, and cat Whiskers.

Nancy Lungstras Broadfoot: We have had a wonderful year! All our children and grandchildren live here in Atlanta, and our daily lives are so enhanced by them. Our son remarried this past May. His new bride is wonderful. We have had a few getaways: to the Caribbean, Cape Cod and Florida. We are very active in our church. I participate in various local volunteer activities. Bert continues his law practice, going to his office every day, and working out/running most days. Luckily, we are both healthy. So life is so good for us these days!

Barbara Martin Smith: Tim and I are now grandparents of five. Our youngest, Caroline, was born just before Christmas. We both continue to work. I serve on the Beaux Arts Council Task Force at the St. Louis Art Museum. I am represented by McCaughen and Burr Fine Art, and my paintings are being collected by individuals and institutions. One depicting the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers at sunset was included in an exhibit at the Mercantile Library featuring *Artists of the Mississippi & Other Great American Rivers*.

Nettie Orthwein Dodge: I am still staying busy with the ranch and now in the gravel business. Our children and grandchildren are near, and I get to see them fairly often. I had a delightful lunch at the St. Louis Art Museum with **Barbara Martin Smith** and **Cindy Bagby Marrs**. It was fun catching up. Had a delightful dinner with **Muffy Culver Matthews** and **Chip Matthews '59**. I enjoyed seeing their lovely new home. Congratulations to all who have conquered 75, and best wishes to those of us who are approaching that milestone.

Dudley Rouhlac Grove: Hi to all. You are always welcome to a room in St. Louis. Jim and I make sure we enjoy every day. Volunteer work with the 42 schools served by The Little Bit Foundation and Book Buffets (a buffet for your mind) at Froebel, a city elementary school, fill the weeks. Travel to Key West and Nova Scotia keep us moving. Grandchildren visits are a highlight of the year. Will be in Florida on the boat this spring!

Suzanne Williams Haaland: Busy year with lots of travel—the Netherlands (tulip time) and Belgium, Glacier Bay, Alaska adventure trip (kayaking and hiking) with 10- and 13-year-old grands, also Maine, Florida and NYC. Enjoying good health and plan to travel as long as I can. Also spend a lot of time digging in my garden. My 14 grandchildren (three in college) are great fun.

Roxie Pool: Still going to my place in Mexico in November, April and May, Breckenridge condo in the summer. I try to ski in February and March if the sun is out and the snow is good! Just got back from Jerusalem, Petra and Wadi Rum in Jordan, UAE's Dubai and Abu Dhabi, Oman and Saudi Arabia. With all of the stuff we hear, you'd think everybody was running from bombs all the time, but it's really pretty much everyday living everywhere. Not too exciting, but an interesting and educational experience.

1964 MI

JANE COX

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ANNE STUPP MCALPIN

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Greetings, all, from St. Louis. Those classmates who have responded to our plea for news have reported good news and sad happenings in their lives since our 55th.

Ann Greve Sadler had a truly dreadful 2019 and wrote Jane to say: "Glad to see 2020...2019 was awful. My husband, Rodney, died in March after a long illness, and just when I was feeling as if I could go on, my youngest was killed in a crash in October. So I am grieving... and cleaning out my home of 40 years and so looking forward to 2020. Have had amazing support from **Mary Vogt Myers** through it all. **Susie Primm** and I had lunch in Boston when I was there visiting with my sisters in July. Thank God for classmates! Still running a social day center for Seniors and have wonderful kids and grandkids (10 girls and two boys). My seven-year-old is doing well through this very tough year. She was very close to her Pop and her Dad."

Mary Vogt Myers added that she and Ann have, for years, emailed two or three times a week and that she feels "Ann seems to be rebounding a bit...tough cookie that she is." Mary also shared her news: "We're all well here on the far west frontier of Ladue. My Leslie has turned into a honeybee maven. He's always on the lookout for backyards in which to set up hives. Hope anyone with an interest will contact me at mcbride101@aol.com... Free honey!"

Jacky Israel Blakeslee submitted happy news. Luke Kinder, Jacky and Peter's oldest grandchild, was married to Christina Lykken on January 4 in Fredericksburg, Texas. Luke is the son of Stacy and John. Jacky's comment: "Fun times."

Other good and exciting news comes from **Kimmy Thompson Brauer:** "We had a terrific 55th Mary Institute reunion! PLEASE stay healthy for our upcoming 60th! **Steve '63**, our three kiddos and six grands keep us focused on the present and seizing the moment! A special treat is when we travel as a family! We LOVE holidays more each year as they bring us all together! The Cardinals are playing the Chicago Cubs in London on our actual 49th Anniversary on June 12, 2020! Looking back at all of you with THE happiest of MI memories!"

Punkin Hirsch (aka Carolyn Michel) reports: "Since our reunion in May, a lot has transpired. My beloved sister, **Gay Hirsch '55**, passed away this summer. She was a beautiful soul inside and out and a terrific big sis! We all miss her, but her spirit lives with us always. Her youngest daughter, **Jennifer Lieberman '85**, now lives in Sarasota near me. September found me in New Hampshire at the Peterborough Players performing a one-woman play, *Rose*, as well as the great role of the housekeeper in *A Doll's House Part 2!* Then to Amsterdam to walk the red carpet again as a Best in Sarasota, organized by Florida Studio Theatre. My wonderful husband, Howard Millman, and I are spending quality time together. Life is good. Treasure your family and friends."

Becky Jones Fouke and Luke are taking a huge leap and moving from their home of many years in Briarcliff to a high-rise co-op on the western

edge of Forest Park. Gone will be the worry of steps, the garden, greenhouse and pool. They will have to learn to be city-dwellers. Becky will have the new lifestyle under control in no time!

Late-breaking news: the Fouke house was purchased by John and **Marie Campagna Brauer's Janey Brauer Miller '99**. Sadly, Janie's husband Zach died just before Christmas. Now Janey and her boys will have a fresh start in a "1964 Legacy House!"

Marianne Schultz Galt and **Sandy '60** split their time between Florida and St. Louis. This winter they are spending time on a cruise ship going to South America. We will have more to report next time.

Josie Pettus Wiseman says she went to Phoenix in March for her annual stint as a volunteer at the Heard Museum Indian Market. She stayed with **Barbara Baur Dunlap** and Charlie. In June she plans to travel to a jewelry-making class in California, and she will see her sister, **Lisa '62**.

Barbara Baur Dunlap wrote with lots of news. **Kitty Shelton Bollinger's** granddaughter was this year's Veiled Prophet Queen. The young lady in question is **Lily Shelton Baur '18**. Barbara mentioned that she "was surprised to meet **Joan Schneithorst Fick's** little sister **Jackie '70**, who now spends some of her time in Arizona. She said it was the last week before Schneidy's was leveled to become an office building. I felt a special bond with her because she was the class below my brother **Jim '69** and knew him in high school." Barbara then talked about her recent foot surgery—she's now an expert on crossed toes—and she and **Jane Cox** continually compare notes on therapy to get stronger. Sadly, Jane called from the ER two days ago. She had done something to her back and couldn't move. The upshot is that she is to have surgery soon.

Our "Class Baby," **Vicki Shinkle Charles**, turned 73 this week. We are all quite mature, and some of us have even "grown up!" Hugs go out to those who have suffered loss and/or health issues this year. Best wishes to **Debbie Roulhac Poitevent** who sent the following happy news to conclude these tidings: "My

new adorable granddaughter, Amelia Laine Sanders, was born in October and we are over the moon! We call her Millie and she gives us such love and laughter! Best to all.”

Jane and I join Debbie in wishing you all the best.

1965 MI

PEGGY DUBINSKY PRICE

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Here's what's new:

Mimi Johnson Severs: This Fall, I was lucky enough to enjoy visits with my whole family. In late August, my brother-in-law and I took a cruise with my son Scott and family to Southeastern Alaska, my first trip to that state. In October, I visited Matthew and Jen at their new home in Elmhurst, Illinois. Then the entire Severs family joined me in Phoenix to celebrate my 73rd birthday and Thanksgiving.

Connie Shapleigh Martin: How wonderful to have my grandchildren, Liliana (7) and Alejandro (6), join me at Mishaum Point, Massachusetts, my childhood summer paradise! It's a great time to be alive as we all turn 73 this year, and I wish all of us good health and many adventures, whether they be large or small, for every day is filled with new discoveries! I love you all.

Irene Leland: My song, *As You Dream Tonight*, was chosen to air on a special Valentine's series on the award-winning *Women of Substance* podcast on iTunes and Spotify. I have been nominated for the Akademia 2020 Artist Vision Award for exceptional talent and vision in the field of music. Finally, Elaine Presley and I spoke about our upcoming book, *Kid of the King*, at the Volunteer Service Council hosted by my cousin, **Erle Lionberger Broughton '77**, in January.

Linda Glick and husband Steve Cohen had to postpone a trip to Vietnam because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Ann Calfee Alden's daughters, Jennifer Parker and Alexa Alden, would love to hear stories about our memories of Ann. Please contact Jennifer at jpagape@comcast.net.

I enjoyed a fun mini-reunion with **Elizabeth Kendall** in New York last October and another with **Jane Atwood Whitehead** and **Nancy Burkham Williams** in Longboat Key, Florida, in January. If any of you get together with other classmates, be sure to take pictures and write me about it.

MI '65 Book Club news: Latest favorites are *Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts (very appropriate given that our 7th grade play was *The Wizard of Oz*) and *Circe* by Madeline Miller. Reading *Circe* brings back memories of reading Edith Hamilton's *Mythology* in 9th grade.

Hoping more of you will send news next time.

1966 MI

GALE RUTHERFORD DUNLAP

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Hello Ladies of '66. As usual, thank you for your speedy responses to my request for your news. Starting in Florida, **Anne Steiner Manning** reports she is now living in Miami Beach and Martha's Vineyard and invites us to visit any time. Anne is teaching classes in Creative Thinking for Organizations at Harvard. She has become an avid traveler and will hike in the Dolomites in June. To get ready, she goes to the gym, plays tennis and attends a “dollop of yoga.” Anne greatly appreciates her wonderful life, adding “and I have not had any warrants out for my arrest...yet.”

Tauna Urban Durand tells us that she and her husband, Doug, still enjoy good health and retirement in Sarasota, Florida. They both volunteer in the schools and are involved in registering voters and supporting their local

political candidates. They have three sons, three daughters-in-law and six grandchildren—all teenagers. Good luck, Tauna! Besides spending time with family, the Durands most enjoy travel. She adds, “Our intention is to run as fast as we can for as long as we can.”

Liza Jones Henderson is just to the geographic right of Tauna and Doug, closer to the east coast in Ponte Vedra. She and Paul have moved to be nearer to some of their 11 grandchildren... that is not a typo. Their children, six kids between them, are scattered around the country, so they spend a lot of time traveling to see them. Liza and Paul are both retired but work part-time at fun jobs: Paul at a kayak center and Liza at J. McLaughlin. Liza says: “very little pay but great deals on beautiful clothes.”

Traveling way south in this glorious state, we find **Mary Schlapp Thistle**, who has lived in Florida for 45+ years—geesh! She has reached the pinnacle of success with her accordion—there is no more room on her mantel for more “genu-wine” plastic trophies. Therefore, her new challenge is joining The National Accordion Orchestra which has been asked to play at the next inauguration. Daughter Ellen has moved to Denver and son Joe works in NYC. He and his wife recently bought a house in nearby New Jersey.

Up to Connecticut, we find **Ellen Griesedieck** and husband, Sam Posey. Sam is still working, most recently recording a piece for NBC, *24 Hours of Daytona Race*. Daughter Judy and her husband are in film production in L.A. Son John is working on two novels and is Ellen's right-hand man for help on her American Mural project. She tells us some of the sections of this massive project contain heavy marble, ceramic and glass. Ellen, we applaud your tenacity but are not surprised. Who was it who spearheaded most of our wild and crazy class projects?

Staying in the northeast, **Nancy Eliot Ulett** lives on Mt. Desert Island, Maine, in Acadia National Park. Nan keeps herself amused by playing tricks on and messing with the contractors and carpenters she deals with at her job at Home Depot. She continues her artwork

Class Notes

01



02



01. Connie Shapleigh Martin '65 enjoys time with grandchildren Ale and Lili Martin.

02. Connie Shapleigh Martin '65, world traveler, in Cafayate.

03. Mimi Johnson Severs '65 with family on a cruise to Alaska.

04. Mimi Johnson Severs '65 visits family in Elmhurst, Illinois.

05. Peggy Dubinsky Price '65 with Jane Atwood Whitehead '65 and Nancy Burkham Williams '65 in Longboat Key, Florida.

06. Irene Leland '65 with Elaine Presley and Erle Lionberger Broughton '77 at the book signing for *Kid of the King*.

07. Peggy Dubinsky Price '65 with Elizabeth Kendall '65 in New York.



03



04



05



06



07

and had a couple of shows in February 2020. Mostly she stays warm and cozy in front of her wood stove with her two cats and loves hearing about all the adventures of our MI classmates.

Abby Martin Packer is still making pottery and working with other “clay addicts” at her local Wayne Art Center. Her offspring have moved west, with a son, daughter-in-law and four-year-old grandson in Frisco, Colorado, and their design business in Breckenridge. Abby’s daughter, Cameron, is now working for the University of Idaho as Operations Manager for an 11,000-acre ranch, coordinating research studies and public access initiatives. We applaud Cameron for protecting our public lands. And congrats to Abby for still being married to the same guy for 48 years!

Over to St. Louis, **Laura Kloos Justiss** tells us she is living in the Central West End with her three cats, enjoying long walks in Forest Park and visits to Straub’s. Her walks prepared her for a rigorous four-day Vermont walking tour in October in the Southern Green Mountains with **Leslie Knowles McIntire**. They hiked 40 miles, learning how to be “one” with Mother Nature and what “Green Latrine” means. Laura continues to do Medicare counseling at Barnes.

2019 saw many changes for **Robin Ewing Engler’s** family. **Lele ’96** moved from NYC to San Francisco and is employed with BBC America. Her second daughter, **Ashley ’10**, has moved with her husband and four-year-old twins to the home of Ole Miss in Oxford. Robin and Curt keep busy traveling between St. Louis and Florida. Robin’s mother, **Rosalie McRee Ewing ’40**, is residing at One McKnight Place and doing well.

Charlie Twedell ’66, was kind enough to send us this blast-from-the-past photo (at right) in the form of four of our classmates sitting on Santa’s lap. Where was this—maybe at Famous Barr? Here is **Sally Schaum Witte, JoAnne Larkin, Jayne Schneithorst Land** and **Liz Douglas**. Watch those hands, Santa.

It is with a heavy heart that **Jayne Schneithorst Land** reminds us that her family’s historic Schneithorst Restaurant and Drive-In has closed. Gone forever are the Big Bevo, “Schneity Packing” and checking out all the local boys. Right, Ginny? We’ll never forget Jayne’s Schneithorst-catered pool parties, our senior-year birthday cakes from their bakery, and **Irene Johnson** exclaiming to Jayne how much she loves “cheap sheet cakes.” Jayne’s daughter, Molly, lives in Golden, Colorado, and while they bike and hike, Jayne babysits for her 14-month old granddaughter.

Now out to California where **Patty Glaser**, retired since 2016, continues to live in the Bay area. She loves the weather and her home in the East Bay, but laments the growing population, the cost of living, the traffic, the fires, the mudslides and...! She still loves deep-sea fishing in Alaska and Mexico, and her local travel includes St. Louis, NYC and Las Vegas. Her mother, age 92, continues to live in St. Louis at One McKnight Place.

Becky Egle Brittain von Schrader is loving her life with husband, **Eric ’66**, in Carpinteria, California. And now they are both authors! Eric has written a novel about St. Louis entitled *A Universe Next Door*. Becky is just finishing a how-to book/memoir called *Sparkling: A Dance in Light*. She tells us she “sparkles people, clients and her world with this energetic tool.” Any surprise she was our May Queen, still dispensing goodness and light everywhere. Between them, they have eight grandchildren. The latest is **Otto Eric von Schrader Galligan** who lives in Manchester, United Kingdom, with the rest of his family.



Now way out and down to Australia. Thank you to our class for your many heartfelt wishes and donations to Australia as she struggles with historic fires. We heard from **Liz Douglas** that, although the smoke in Melbourne was significant, she is fine. Last year, her son (Tom’s) wife, tragically lost her battle with cancer. Tom and the three boys relocated to Southern California. There was some joy, Liz says, when her youngest son married a “gorgeous, talented woman from Melbourne.” Since retiring from Monash University, Liz is now volunteering as a researcher for the Asylum Seekers Resource Center.

From hard-hit Sydney, **Diane Deal Parks** reports that they are dealing with bush fires and terrible drought. She says they have had severe water restrictions but feels she cannot complain when she looks at the huge areas of devastation in other parts of the country. Diane’s new joy is making music with a friend who plays the flute while Diane plays the piano. She admits to a bit of stage fright, so when they play for their ladies dining group, they prime the audience with lots of Prosecco before they perform. Brilliant!

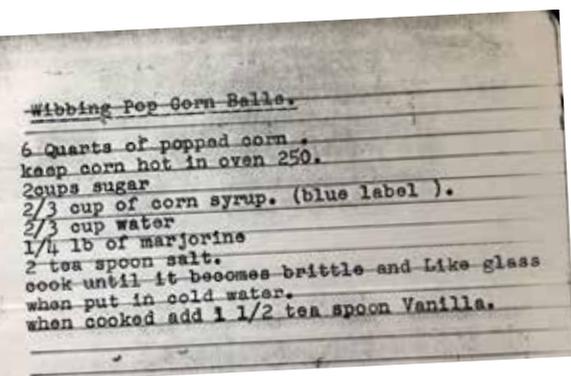
We also heard from **Ginny Limberg**, who is on the far western coast of Australia, in Perth. She admits to feeling somewhat guilty because they have not been affected by the fires. Her thoughts go out to Liz, Di and the many other Australians who are experiencing so much pain and loss.

Zippering back to the U.S., we end with an update from our classmates in Colorado. **Noel Messing Hefty** has been on a veritable tear in the travel arena. To celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary (oy vey), she and Terry took a month-long trip to Slovenia and Croatia; then on to Italy, Sicily, Pompeii and Naples. This fall, Noel “celebrated” her old age with shoulder replacement surgery, but reports that she is back to swimming, trying to lose the eight pounds she gained since surgery. Noel plaintively asks: “Why is weight still an issue at age 72?”

Gale Rutherford Dunlap and husband Sandy have now lived in Boulder, Colorado, for almost 34 years. Gale continues to work at her company, Standout Strategies, as a management coach to senior executives all over the world. Sandy retired last year and now skies regularly with Claire when she is in Colorado. Both kids have moved back to Colorado, so they get to see their grandsons, Ellis (6), and Thomas (4), all the time. Sandy and Gale still travel as much as possible, including a month-long hiking trip this year to Slovenia, Northern Italy and Croatia.

Claire Keeler Beck still travels between Colorado and Vermont. This last winter was great skiing with Gale's husband, Sandy, and one glorious day trying to out-ski the "Crawford boys" **Jim '64**, **Steve '66** and **Michael '70** in Vail. Claire traveled to Cornwall, England, to ride horses in May 2019, and then in November 2019, she and David went to Madagascar to see the enormous varieties of lemurs. Otherwise, life has been quiet and calm. "And Jayne," Claire adds, "I also love cheap sheet cakes. So there."

From **Sally Morfit Lewis Kennedy**: Hi, Class of 1966 and many other classes! I thought you all might want this recipe in your files. It's from my grandmother's cookbook for Miss Wibbing's popcorn balls. My grandmother, Sallie VanDeventer Morfit, did not go to Mary I, but my mother, **Nancy Bliss Morfit Lewis '37**, did and I think she had Miss Wibbing as a teacher, as did I. FYI, After the sugar sauce is all cooked, drip it over the big bowl of popped corn, mix it with a big spoon, put on some rubber gloves and start shaping the balls in whatever size you'd like. I remember them being about 3 inches in diameter. They're delicious! Cheers!



1968 MI

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Ruth Falchero reports: **Ann Grossman Boon**, **Jannie Jones Ramatici** and I had a wonderful get-together lunch here in Denver. I'm hoping in the fall that Ann and **Helen French Graves** and **Suzanne Blanke Sophocles** and I can get together for a dinner at my house. Bill and I are doing well and loving being grandparents to our son Philip's little girl. We're lucky to have both our sons living here in Denver. We're also lucky to finally have a girl in the family! Had visits with both **Holly Holtz** and **Carol Ferring Shepley** while they were visiting in Colorado. I love seeing all my old pals from MI and actually having time to spend with them. Let me know if any of you are heading this way.

1969 MI

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It is with great sadness that I report that **Marian "Mim" Bland Langdon** died on January 2, 2020 from complications due to Alzheimer's disease. Marian is the first member of our graduating class to die. She is survived by her children, Maggie and Jason. There was a wonderful memorial gathering for Marian at Hawken House in Webster Groves on January 26. In attendance were classmates **Alice Beckers Muckerman**, **Beth Green Kling**, **Nancy Grove**, **Barb Kennedy**, **Phoebe Scott Burke**, **Christine Smith**, **Anne Taussig**, **Tandy Thompson** and **Stacey Tooker Brinkop**. Nancy did a wonderful job of gathering photographs and memorabilia of Marian through the years which elicited many great reminiscences from the assembled MI group. There was a charming photograph of

Marian from May Day. She looked so lovely, young and happy in her white dress holding a bouquet of flowers. That is how I plan to remember her.

Susie Belz Wiegand reports that she has retired from Hager Hinge and is busier than ever. Her older son has recently married and has moved to St. Louis from New York. Susie is helping with the transition. Her younger son works for Columbia University in New York.

Alice Beckers Muckerman, **Phoebe Scott Burke** and their husbands journeyed to Morocco this past November. Besides visiting most of the major cities of Morocco, they rode camels while glamping in the Sahara, learned to make a fabulous chicken tagine, hiked in the High Atlas Mountains and greatly added to the Moroccan economy via multiple successful shopping excursions (no surprise!).



Alice Muckerman '69 and Phoebe Burke '69, Queens of the Sahara!

Globetrotter **Marie Howe Sprague** reports that she and her husband went to Egypt last fall, cruising the Nile, visiting temples and riding camels beneath the pyramids. Clearly the camel population of Africa is becoming well-acquainted with the bottoms of the MI '69ers! This fall the Spragues plan to sail on a tall ship from Dubrovnik to Naples.



(l-r) Lawrie Conant Smylie '70, Meg Jolley '69, Jennifer Royal '69, Patty Shenker '69



Ellen Langtree '70 appeared on Antiques Roadshow.



Ernie Plank '70 reports that his son Max '00 was married in October in Lake Como, Italy.

Jennifer Limberg Royal is spending the winter in LA—escaping the snowy climes of her new home in Colorado. She plans to reconnect with her old SoCal pals and indulge in quality time with her one-year-old grandson, Hendrix.

Nancy Macdonald Hinkson and her husband, David, continue to enjoy life in Kirkwood even though their two daughters have flown the coop. Daughter Laura and her husband are both teachers at the American Embassy School in New Delhi, India, where they live with their two daughters. Nancy, David and **Parker Block McMillan** have all made visits to India. When not in Kirkwood or New Delhi, Nancy and David squeeze in visits to see **Marki Cady** and her husband, Joe, at their home in the Cayman Islands. Nancy's younger daughter, Allison, and family live in Denver.

Cynthia Plumb Hubbard is thoroughly enjoying her children's peripatetic lifestyle. Her daughter, son-in-law and children are spending the year traveling around the world. Cynthia and her husband joined them for a month this fall in South Africa, including a safari in Kruger National Park. Cynthia's son and daughter-in-law, who are expecting their first child very soon, live in Amsterdam.

I know many of you were able to tour MICDS last spring when you were in town for our 50th reunion. I think all of you would be very pleased with the leadership of the new Head of School, **Jay Rainey**, who started his tenure this past fall. He is a dynamic educator who has great respect

for history and tradition but is also cognizant of the need for constant adaptation as our world evolves. I am confident he will maintain the standards that have made Mary Institute and Country Day great while guiding the school through these changing times.

Best to all of you, sexagenarians! —Phoebe

1970_{MI}

PAMELA FARRELL DUPUIS

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Linda Ferguson Benoist ended the decade with a Broadway trip to NYC with Joe and **Annie Conant Schlafly** and started the new decade with a beach trip to Turks and Caicos with Bill and **Barbie Howell Reisner**. Both trips were wonderful. Still working with **Lisa Dennig Coulter '75** at Janet McAfee peddling houses. Love having two grandkids at Beasley.

Jill Stein has been living in Paris for nearly 30 years and is still enamored of the city. She travels to St. Louis often for short visits.

Ellen Langtree appeared on *Antiques Roadshow* with the submission of a unique kinetic sculpture. Many of us were fortunate enough to tune in and watch.

Sad news for **Genie Cannon Guilliams**. Her sister **Maida Cannon '67**, passed away January 4, 2020. Genie and her entire family met in

Sarasota, Florida, to release Maida's ashes in the Gulf of Mexico. Please accept our sincerest condolences, Genie.

Note from the Editor: Our sincere apologies to **Maud Essen**. It appears we unwittingly married her to someone she hasn't met in the last issue of *MICDS Magazine*. Good news, though: she reports the annulment is in works and she will be using her maiden name now.

1970_{CDS}

PAUL C. ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

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Greetings to all the classmates, family and friends reading this installment of the CDS '70 Class Notes. I hope this spring finds you happy, healthy and sunny.

I heard from **Tom Duncan**, who regretted missing our annual matriculation reunion dinner in September. He and his wife had to watch their grandson Henry all day and night. Apparently Henry has "boundless energy" which overwhelms the grandparental energy level. Tom says he is looking forward to our 50th.

Ernie Planck reports that his son **Max '00** was married in October in Lake Como, Italy. Ernie's daughter-in-law is named Liberty. Max is launching his own virtual reality entertainment business, Adventure Lab.

Ernie's daughter, **Laura '03**, moved to Cleveland, Ohio, from across the street. Her husband, Danny, merged his exotic car business with one in Cleveland. This means that Susan and Ernie will have to commute to Ohio, rather than across the street, when they want some grandchild time. Thus the spoiling may diminish a bit, although I'm sure they will make up for the loss when visiting.

I'm informed by **Jeff Miller** that he and **Ed Potter** did some fishing in the Seychelles. The sporting was excellent and "the weather wasn't anything like St. Louis in January." Their wives accompanied them and had a great time.

Life in Carlisle is slowing down just a bit. I am now about 75% retired: not pursuing new work and taking work from existing clients at a slower pace. This leaves time for some volunteering and pursuing my two mainstream hobbies, building scale models of cars, and designing and emulating fictitious computers. My current modeling project is an Aston Martin DBS, mildly customized. Cynthia continues writing articles for the *Carlisle Mosquito*, our independent town newspaper.

1971_{MI}

LAURIE JACOBSON PROVOST

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Our most exciting news is that **K.K. DuVivier** is the recipient of the school's highest alumni award: The MICDS Distinguished Alumni Award. The award represents a demonstrated record of distinguished service and extraordinary achievement in a particular field or endeavor that brings distinction and honor to MICDS. We could not be more proud of K.K.

Her dear friend and classmate, **Kathy Fordyce Peake**, wrote, "While K.K.'s professional achievements alone qualify her to receive this

award, I believe it is her intangible qualities—humility, thoughtfulness, inclusiveness, compassion for outsiders and dedication to the environment—that set her apart from the average over-achiever." We could not agree more.

Audie Woolsey, Kathy Fordyce Peake and I flew in especially for the event. Among the others who joined the two days of festivities were **Marika Csapo-Sweet**, **Cyndi Trauernicht**, **Debbie Smith Fitzgerald**, **Babs Claggett Wagner**, **Beth Trueblood** and **Laurie Wolff Miller**.

Lisa Culver sailed off on another escapade in February. "It's a 40-day expedition cruise, not a classic cruise—no casino or dancing girls, just zodiacs and great adventures. Ushuaia to Cape Town is 21 days, then up the coast of West Africa via Namibia, Angola and Benin up to Ghana for an additional 19 days. It will be very interesting! I did West Africa with Beth Ingham years ago...looking forward to seeing the changes!"

Lucy Ferriss survived the 6.4 magnitude earthquake in Puerto Rico in January, albeit with some terrifying moments. In other news: her collection *Foreign Climes* is on the shortlist—one of five finalists—for the Jordan Prize for Literary Excellence awarded by Columbus State University. Wish her luck!

As for me, **Laurie Jacobson**, I was blessed with a second grandchild in November, Lucas. Now I have a complete set and love it. I have a new book out in March: *TV Dinners: 40 Classic TV Kid Stars Dish Up Favorite Recipes With a Side of Memories*. It's all the kids we grew up watching, like Wally and the Beaver, Greg Brady, the Mouseketeers and, of course, Timmy. I had a ball writing it and am excited for it to come out.

In May, we begin plans for our 50th reunion in 2021. We're going to blow the roof off. I expect to see you all there!!

1975_{MI}

ELIZABETH DENNIG COULTER

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KATHERINE SCHNEIDER-CLARK

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Hello '75ers!

Hope this finds you all well and happy!

Cindy Armstrong shares, "My big news is that, as of today, after my Defense, I will be Dr. Armstrong! I have a Doctor of Education in Organizational and Instructional Leadership. I'm supervising special ed student teachers at Portland State U. now. My three grands are doing super well, and I'm looking forward to having a clean chapter to have new adventures!"

Martha Scott Roeder is still giddy from daughter Ashley's wedding.

1979_{CDS}

ALLAN P. GULLBORG JR.

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From **Steve Spalding**: I enjoyed seeing everyone at our reunion, and it's great to know that Bebee still has some awesome dance moves?! I have been somewhat of a hermit these past four years as I negotiated a difficult divorce, but following in Andy's shoes, I've come out clean on the other side! Son Dylan is a senior and has better grades than I ever did. On November 1, 2019, I merged my commercial P&C insurance brokerage into The BrookStone Insurance Group. Feel free to contact me via email or cell 214-502-7970, and if you ever come through Dallas, I'll buy the first round!



01. (l-r) Mary Essen Detrich '75, Lisa Ritter Hayman '75, Maud Essen '70 and Joan Essen '72.

02. Lisa Dennig Coulter '75 and Lisa Ritter Hayman '75.

03. (l-r) Kathleen Brackeen '75, Kat Schneider-Clark '75, Mary Essen Detrich '75 and Lisa Ritter Hayman '75.

04. (l-r) Heather Riggan '00, Erin Moore '00, Laurie Hemberger '00, Zack Michaelson '00, Jon Powell '00, Eric Smith '00, Ndid Oteh '00 and Hadley Schnuck '01.

1982 CDS

H.C. MUGLER III

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From **Robert Zafft**: In May 2020, Rowman & Littlefield published my book, *The Right Way to Win: Making Business Ethics Work in the Real World*. The book incorporates lessons learned from practicing law and working as a McKinsey consultant in the former Soviet Union and Asia, among other places.

1983 CDS

From **Bill Baker**: The Baker kids have been busy. Billy graduated from Auburn with an ME degree. Betsy, our youngest, is now in her freshman year as a nursing student at Clemson. Our oldest, Mary, is working for Penguin Random House publishing in New York City.

1985 MI

AMY MCFARLAND DOVE

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CAROL PLATT LIEBAU

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Anne Turcen lives in the hills just outside of Florence, Italy with her husband, Marco. Their two children have flown the nest and are experimenting with different jobs. Anne breeds Irish Terriers, and has bred numerous champion dogs and placed top dog for the past six years. She is an accredited FCI judge. She writes for the international trade journal *Best in Show Magazine* and has published a book on handling. While waiting for publication of her breed book on the Irish, she is well ahead on her third volume, a cynological textbook.

1987 MI

DREES ARNESON CLINE

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From **Wendy Brafman**: I continue to serve at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan, but will move to Mumbai (formerly Bombay), India, late this summer to begin an assignment at our consulate there. In February, **Kerry Meadows Carl** and **Adrianna Ahern Donat** sojourned to Jordan to visit me and the sights. I celebrated my 50th last year with special trips to France, Italy, and Portugal.

From **Gina Gaines Bundy**: We only have one son left at MICDS with the other three already graduated. **Crawford '21** is a junior at MICDS. He underwent two hip surgeries, missing football season but was back for lacrosse in the spring. **Graham Jr. '19** is a freshman at Georgetown, playing lacrosse there and loving it. He has made the USA U19 team, so he will be playing for USA in Ireland next summer and is super-excited. **Gaines '17** is a junior at University of Arizona. He is currently looking for an internship this summer and playing a lot of golf during his off time. **Foster '12** is in Phoenix, working for a commercial real estate firm and doing well! Graham is still working at Worldwide Technology, and I just moved real estate firms and am now working at Dielmann Sotheby's International Realty and loving it.

1994 MICDS

Catherine "Claire" Wedemeyer Panopoulos:

My husband Lou and I had a baby girl, Zoe Anna Panopoulos, in January 2018. It's a little late for an announcement, but the last two years have been a blur. I have taken a career hiatus for my initial few years of motherhood but hope to get back in the circus ring soon (www.ClairetheClown.com). I love being in touch with my MICDS classmates.

2000-01 MICDS

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Members of the Class of 2000 (and one from 2001) connected in New York. See photo 04 on page 59.

2013 MICDS

Olivia Gacka graduated with her BA from Rhodes College and her MA from the National University of Ireland Galway. She now lives in Memphis and works at the Rhodes College Alumni Office as the Alumni Services Coordinator.



A Family Legacy

At MICDS, we are proud that our community has a strong tradition of family ties, where multiple generations within the same family have graduated from Mary Institute, Saint Louis Country Day School and MICDS. We celebrate these important connections and legacies with our graduating seniors each year. The 15th annual Legacy Dinner on Sunday, November 24 brought back grandparents and parents for a special evening with 35 members of the Class of 2020 who are the latest members of their family to matriculate. Guests included alumni

from the 1940s and every decade since. Several seniors can trace their families' connections to the School back to the 1800s!

This year's event featured four speakers who shared their thoughts and memories on what this School means to them and what it means to be a legacy: **Carol Bodenheimer Loeb '59**, grandmother of **Maggie '20**; **Dan '86** and **Tracy Kaye Jasper '86**, parents of **Adam Jasper '20**; and **Caroline Latta '20**, representing the MICDS Class of 2020.

01



02



03



04



05





06

Jay Rainey Visits Atlanta, Palm Beach and Naples



07



08

01. Nancy Lungstras Broadfoot '63, Bert Broadfoot and Lana Mueller Jordan '58

02. Head of School Jay Rainey speaking with Atlanta alumni at the Piedmont Driving Club

03. Sara Tegethoff Lowery '87, Charles Brickley and Suzie Leydig Brickley '90

04. Susan Elliott, Judy Gissler Adair '56, Page Sharp Jackson '56 and David Elliott '63

05. Diane Garesche Reed '71, Elizabeth Moore Coulter '08 and Dru Webster Patterson '71

06. Trip McCoy '90, Kate McCoy, Bill Shepherd '87, Jay Rainey, Katherine Stone Solomon '11 and TJ Solomon

07. Hosts Bob '60 and Signa Hermann and Jay Rainey

08. Sally Driemeyer, Derick Driemeyer '52, Carol Kent Diggs '58 and Walter Diggs '54

09. David Elliott '63, Tee Baur '64, Shellie Baur, Jay Rainey, Walter Diggs '54, Derick Driemeyer '52 and Terry Franc '54 (front)



09



Chris Kerber '90 relinquished the microphone for a period of the Stanley Cup Final game to fellow broadcaster John Kelly, a selfless act of kindness. Kerber was honored at the Musial Awards in November 2019 for his noble gesture. The Musial Awards are bestowed by the St. Louis Sports Commission and National Sportsmanship Foundation to figures in athletics "who embody class and character."



Chrissy Taylor Broughton '94 was named CEO of Enterprise Holdings.

Hair Love, a short film by Lion Forge Animation, won the Academy Award for best animated short film. This film was the first project of Lion Forge Animation under Polarity, the holding company organized by **David Steward II '95** to manage his media businesses. Lion Forge Animation is one of the only black-owned animation studios in the United States.



01. Jennifer Belmont Jennings '99 was selected by the *St. Louis Business Journal* as "40 Under Forty" for 2020.

02. The Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner law firm has promoted 10 of its associates worldwide to the title of counsel, including **Elizabeth Schlesinger '01** in St. Louis. She is a member of the firm's private client group. Her practice involves estate planning and administration, with a focus on wealth transfer tax planning.

An Off-Broadway Play by **Liza Birkenmeier '04**, *Dr. Ride's American Beach House*, ran in the fall of 2019 at the Greenwich House in Manhattan. Birkenmeier has numerous productions under her belt and is an alum of Ars Nova's Play Group and the 2019-2020 Tow Foundation Playwright-In-Residence. She worked with Ars Nova to present the world premiere of this new play.

03. Josalynn Smith '12 is the recipient of the SFFILM Sloan Science in Cinema Filmmaker Fellowship which supports the development of narrative feature screenplays that explore scientific or technological themes and characters.

Congratulations!



Yulkendy Valdez '13 is part of the 2020 class of *Forbes* "30 Under 30." Every year, *Forbes* honors the top young leaders who will shape every field for the next 50 years in industries ranging from the arts to social impact. Yulkendy and her Forefront co-founder, Josuel Plasencia, are honored to be part of this impactful community of young entrepreneurs, including Canva CEO Melanie Perkins, NBA veteran Kevin Durant, Guild Education CEO and Co-founder Rachel Carlson, and Grammy Award-nominated rapper 21 Savage.



Inspiring Self Portraits

St. Louis artist Shevare' Perry visited the Beasley Lower School and creatively shared the story of Wynk, a time-traveling character from the distant future, through a poem and multimedia display. Third and fourth grade students workshopped with Perry on self-portraits inspired by her work.



MICDS

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**From the Country Day Orchestra formed a century ago
in January 1920 to the Winter Band Concert last December,
music education is a longtime MICDS tradition
with student musicians inspiring our community
through their passion and skill.**