



**ST. MARY'S COLLEGE**  
*of Maryland*

*The*  
**MULBERRY**  
**TREE**

WINTER 2011

**PASSAGES**  
*AND*  
**RENEWALS**

A REMARKABLE  
**FIRST-YEAR**  
*SPEAKS OUT*

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UNCOVERING  
**HISTORY**  
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SPECIAL INSERT:  
*2011 Annual Report*



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The magazine is named for the famous mulberry tree under which the Calvert colonists signed a treaty of friendship with the Yaocomico people and on the trunk of which public notices were posted in the mid-1600s. The tree endured long into the 19th century and was once a popular meeting spot for St. Mary's students. The illustration of the mulberry tree on the cover was drawn in 1972 by Earl Hofmann, artist-in-residence when St. Mary's College President Renwick Jackson launched the magazine.

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Shakiera Stokes '15.  
Photo by Bill Wood.

OPPOSITE:  
There's nothing quite like Seahawk spirit!

## SMCM ALUMNI COUNCIL JULY 2011 – JUNE 2012

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# PASSAGES AND RENEWALS

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JOSEPH URGO  
*President, St. Mary's College of Maryland*

## COLLEGE NEWS



Guard Kyle Wise, a sophomore from Baltimore, Maryland, had five rebounds and a game-high four assists.

### A (VERY) BIG NIGHT IN BASKETBALL

The No. 15 St. Mary's College of Maryland men's basketball team nearly pulled an upset on November 1, 2011, as the Seahawks owned a 54-48 lead with 9:11 left before succumbing to a 77-70 setback at the hands of Division I St. John's University in front of a Carnesecca Arena crowd of 3,088.

Seventh-year head coach Chris Harney '97 stated, "I'm very proud of our guys tonight. They played hard. We came in here and almost had a Hoosier's moment. I'm happy with the way our guys played and the experience they gained in playing a Division I school. Playing Division III basketball is like taking on a second major because it's all non-scholarship and these guys put forth a lot of effort every day and that I'm proud of."

### Calm the Cars

New safety and traffic-calming options are being studied to be implemented along the Route 5 corridor through campus, especially aligning the main crosswalk.

### Program Expands

The DeSousa-Brent Scholars Program will expand opportunities, thanks to a \$75,000 grant from the Maryland Higher Education Council. The program gives support to first-generation college students.

### Clifton Anthology

A reading by poets Kurtis Lamkin and Evie Shockley in September marked the publication of the anthology, "Come Celebrate with Me," a VOICES memorial tribute, edited by Michael Glaser, professor emeritus, to Lucille Clifton, beloved poet who died last year. It contains poems by more than 50 writers who she brought to St. Mary's College during her time as a member of the faculty.



### Professors and Passports

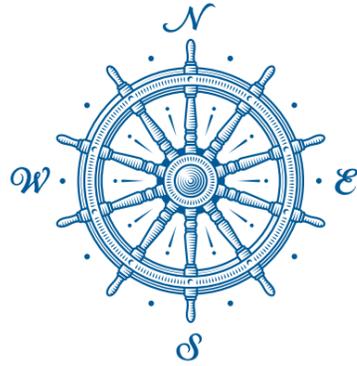
Michael Cain, political science professor, was scholar-in-residence during fall 2010 in Tajikistan and spent spring 2011 in China on a Fulbright. While in Tajikistan, he bumped into Mikey Church '04, who was there on his own Fulbright with wife Ali Sharp Church '03. Jennifer Cognard-Black, associate professor of English, and Andrew Cognard-Black, adjunct professor of sociology and liberal arts associate, head to Slovenia on Fulbrights in spring 2012.

Ken Cohen, assistant history professor, and Laraine Glidden, distinguished professor of psychology and human development, joined the St. Mary's soccer team in June for the U.S. Special Olympics Summer Games in Athens. The team brought home the gold. Ho Nguyen, professor emeritus, with Holly Blummer, associate professor of theater, and Chris Harney '97, men's basketball coach, escorted the women's basketball team on a tour of China. Björn Krondorfer, professor of religious studies, was keynote speaker at Friedrich-Schiller University in Germany. He also spoke in Italy at Turin University.



### NEW SKYLINE

You may get disoriented when you visit the Campus Center these days. The brick Margaret Brent building was moved in September across Route 5 from the historic campus to its new home. It will be home to the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies. See the move at: [www.margaretbrentmove.wordpress.com](http://www.margaretbrentmove.wordpress.com).



## Boats Aplenty

Registration for the **38th Governor's Cup Yacht Race** August 5-6 was at a 10-year high, helped by significant changes that included the introduction of a cruising class and a staggered start.

## New Pub

Students, faculty, and staff have a new late-night venue for food and drink: **The Pub**, open Thursdays through Sundays. Not having to head off campus for a midnight snack has been embraced by all; a liquor license is in the works.

## Smart Math

The math wing of Schaefer Hall was buzzing this summer with students from the Emerging Scholars Program, a part of the Research Experiences for Undergraduates funded by the National Science Foundation. St. Mary's has conducted its own Emerging Scholars Program in the past, but this was the first to be funded by NSF and open to non-St. Mary's students.



*Kenneth Doult '12 and Jonathan Wagner '12 fine-tune the skin of their bamboo boat. Below left, professors David Kung and Sandy Ganzell paddled hard in "We Grade You." Below right, "Lost Johnson" savors victory.*



## Students Outwit the Profs

Two student teams in October's annual **Great Bamboo Boat Race** outpaced the legendary professors' team, pushing "We Grade You," captained by **David Kung**, associate professor of mathematics, to a third place finish. "Lost Johnson," captained by **Kenneth Doult '12** took first and "Windsurfing," captained by **Andrew Surgent '12** took second.

## Please Welcome

**Beth Rushing** has been named vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty. She was previously vice chancellor for academic affairs and a professor of interdisciplinary arts and sciences at the University of Washington Tacoma. **Patricia Goldsmith**, of Scripps College in California, becomes vice

president and dean of admissions and financial aid in January 2012. Goldsmith was formerly at Scripps College in California, where she served as vice president of institutional advancement and before that, vice president and dean of admission and financial aid. **Laura Bayless** was promoted from dean of students to vice president and dean of students. Bayless joined St. Mary's in 2008.

## FONDLY REMEMBERED

**Joseph A. Carroll**, a member of the college's housekeeping staff for the past 20 years died July 17, 2011, at age 66. A native of St.

Mary's County, he joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school and served in South Korea. He worked in Baltimore at Brooks-Huff Tire Co. before moving back to St. Mary's County.



**Alan K. Paskow**, professor emeritus, died April 5, 2011, at age 71. He taught philosophy at St. Mary's from 1981-2005. He is survived by his wife, Jacqueline, a professor emerita of foreign languages and culture who also taught at St. Mary's College, and his daughter Linnea, 35, a professor at Pratt Institute of Art in Brooklyn. Read more on Alan on page 15.

**"As St. Mary's College trustee emeritus J. Frank Raley has reminded me, our mission is to provide an elite education that is not elitist. Our classes are for all classes."**



## Inauguration

With a decree that "today marks a new beginning and a reaffirmation," **Joseph R. Urgo** formally was installed as president of **St. Mary's College of Maryland** on Saturday, March 26.

The day began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new **St. Mary's Arboretum Association**, an effort led by Urgo's wife, Lesley, a founder of the association. Then, during Urgo's inauguration ceremony, their son, **George Urgo**, sang "I'm Ready" by Willie Dixon, giving the event complete family involvement. The day ended with a gathering of faculty, students, staff, alumni, and Urgo's friends and mentors from years past. The students also conducted an "InURGOration" variety show in the evening.



*George Urgo, above, performs at his father's inauguration.*



*Students, parents, and alumni celebrated the grand opening of the new campus Pub on October 1 during Family Weekend.*

PHOTO: BILL WOOD



A REMARKABLE  
**FIRST-YEAR**  
*SPEAKS OUT*

By KEISHA REYNOLDS

**A** college education, for many, is a milestone for personal success. But for first-year, first-generation college student **Shakiera Stokes**, a St. Mary's College education is a family opportunity. It is the chance to right a legacy of hard knocks and to choose an alternate path rather than the one she was traveling, plagued with valleys of gang violence, drug use, and unstable residency, causing her to move 13 times before she finished high school.

"I'm doing this [attending college] so that I can take care of my family," said Stokes. "We don't have much. And, if you're from where I'm from, you don't make it past the ninth grade." In fact, this was the case for her mother whom Shakeira helped tutor to obtain her General Equivalency Diploma (GED).

Shakiera's turning point came in several forms. "I watched Freedom Writers and something changed," said Shakiera. "It taught me you're not the only one in the world struggling. I personally didn't think I could graduate [high school] because no one else in my family ever did," said Stokes.

That notion was turned on its head when Shakiera entered New Era Academy, a small, college-preparatory school in Baltimore City,

and met 2007 St. Mary's graduate, Robin Ricks. At the time, Ricks was a career counselor for CollegeBound. She was also a CollegeBound graduate herself.

"I first met Shakiera when she signed up for the mentoring program I started for the girls at New Era," said Ricks. "She was the only freshman in a group of 20. That in itself says something about Shakiera. She was just finding her voice, but wasn't afraid of being among the older students."

Shakiera realized the value of the helping hand she had in Robin. "Ms. Ricks didn't have to come back to [Baltimore City] New Era after graduating from St. Mary's and John's Hopkins, but she did," said Stokes. "She made sure we were okay when it came to college, from

driving me to scholarship interviews to reading all of my essays. And it wasn't just for me and my friends," said Stokes. "She did this for the whole school."

Ricks worked hard to keep her students engaged in academic success. "I wanted to expose my students to the same things I was exposed to," said Ricks. Following in her own path, Ricks encouraged Shakiera to participate in the Page Program, a two-week program working with the House of Delegates; Law Links at the Murphy Firm where she assisted lawyers; and Teen Court, where she volunteered and provided arrested teens with alternative sanctions to avoid having criminal records.

Once Shakiera was engaged academically, what started as friendly academic competition with a classmate would eventually catapult Stokes into claiming the number one academic position for her class. "I was sick of my classmate being number one," explained Stokes. "So I started to pick up my pace and strive for salutatorian, the position second to valedictorian."

Before long, Stokes was taking only honors classes and even got involved in a protest debating the closing of an AP calculus course. "We were really getting political and we never had that type of thinking before because now we realized what we needed," said Stokes. "I ended up graduating with a 5.0, a 100.41%," explained Stokes. Shakiera was selected as CollegeBound Scholar of the Year from 22 scholars, representing 22 high schools across Baltimore City.

"Oh my God, I was so happy. I was just..." paused Stokes not able to put her emotions into words. "My graduation day was the best day of my life." Not only had Shakiera secured the number one spot as valedictorian but she also won two front-row tickets to see her idol and pop-star Rihanna through a Rihanna look-alike contest by dressing and dancing like her. "I didn't think I would have this kind of

Photos of Shakiera Stokes by Bill Wood.



**“DON'T FEEL SORRY FOR ME, because everyone has a story. There are people worse off than me. The only thing you have to worry about is giving back and never giving up.”**

life...having accomplishments and winning," said Stokes.

As valedictorian, "I specifically put into my speech, 'don't feel sorry for me because everyone has a story. There are people worse off than me. The only thing you have to worry about is giving back and never giving up.'"

Robin Ricks modeled that adage to her students. "I recommend St. Mary's to my students because of the family atmosphere and because there are programs in place so that our kids won't fail. Getting to college and getting through college are two different things and as a guidance counselor, I look at the retention numbers." Six students were admitted to St. Mary's College under Ricks' mentorship.

"St. Mary's can be a culture shock for someone coming from an inner city. You're used to hearing sirens and being in another environment and mindset. I made it through St. Mary's because of my support system and I wanted to share that with my students," explained Ricks.

Despite being offered a full scholarship to Towson University, Shakiera decided St. Mary's College was the right fit. "It was pretty and small and I felt like it was more of a family. When I visited, people kept speaking to me and I figured I couldn't have that at a big college—I want you to know my name."

It seems that many will. As a first-year student and DeSousa-Brent scholar, there's a buzz in the air about Shakiera—some have heard her speak about her life, many are waiting to see what she will accomplish. No matter what, Shakiera's wit, personality and style stand out. "I always taught my girls to be who they are and with her fiery red hair, long Rihanna nails, Shakiera definitely leaves an impression on everyone," said Ricks.

St. Mary's matched her awards with special targeted match funds for Baltimore City high school graduates, resulting from a partnership between St. Mary's College and Baltimore's CollegeBound Foundation.

"I think God put me here [at St. Mary's College] for a reason, to meet different people. I learned that not all black people are the same, not all Christians are the same, not all people from Baltimore City are the same and not all white people are the same."

Shakiera has a long list of goals ahead:

**“USE THAT ENERGY to make you better. Prove them wrong. You don't have to be number one to the world, you just have to be number one to you.”**



Shakiera catches up with her friends during dinner at the Great Room.

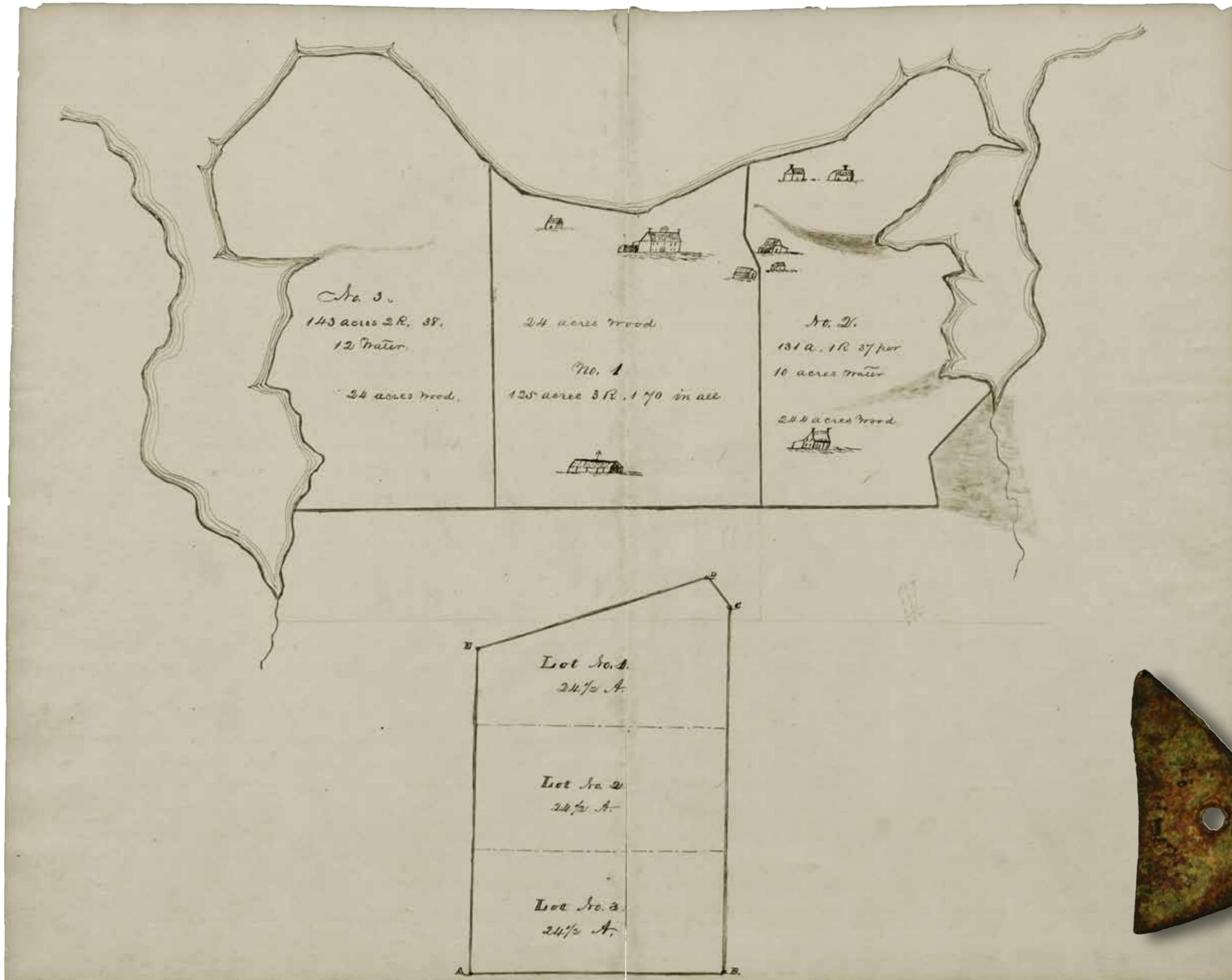
become an actress, teach religious studies, become a chemist, a choreographer, an artist and learn at least four languages. However, while she continues to figure it all out, she knows one thing to be true. "I want to make a difference," she said.

And a difference seems likely—already offering advice to those struggling to find a better path. "Use that energy to make yourself better. Prove them wrong. You don't have to be number one to the world, you just have to be number one to you." ♦

# UNCOVERING HISTORY

By BARBARA GEEHAN

AS FROZEN WINTER WINDS BECAME DUSTY summer gusts and as ticks and mosquitoes made a moveable feast of their victims, Julia King, associate professor of anthropology, and her students successfully uncovered this year two amazing pieces of Southern Maryland history along the eastern shore of the Wicomico River and the Zekiah Swamp. They found Notley Hall, manor home to Thomas Notley, Maryland governor from 1676 to 1679, and the site of a grand love story. And they also found what their benefactor and local businessman, Michael J. Sullivan, calls "Southern Maryland's Holy Grail": a 17th-century Piscataway Indian settlement archaeologists and historians have been seeking for nearly 100 years.



Left: 1868 Plat of Notley Hall Estate, courtesy of Maryland State Archives.  
 Overlay: brass triangle found at the Zekiah Fort site.

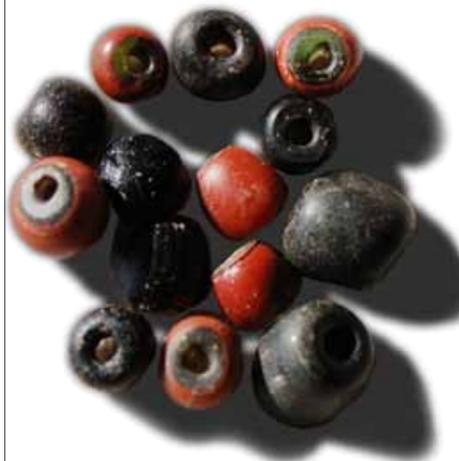
LORD BALTIMORE DIRECTED THE PISCATAWAY to build a fort on his property in 1680 for protection from raids by northern Indian groups. The Piscataway vacated their settlement around Moyoane, in what is now Prince George's County, to move to the fort, creating conditions that allowed English encroachment of their ancestral lands.

The announcement of the discovery of Zekiah Fort at an event this fall drew 400 people, including Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley, Maryland Senate President Thomas V. Mike Miller, Senator Thomas "Mac" Middleton, other state and local officials, numerous history and historic preservation organizations, and representatives of the three local Indian groups to the home of Sullivan and his wife, Laura, to celebrate and thank the hard-working crew. Sullivan, who was working on a history of Charles County for its 350th anniversary, tracked records and deeds back to the 1600s; then, he approached King with a broad idea of where the site might be. The team of King and students from St. Mary's and the College of Southern Maryland picked up the search and examined 300-year-old land records, old patents and tested hundreds of acres of land before narrowing it down to an area outside Waldorf.

It was an undisturbed wooded parcel of private land bordered by a perennial stream and land ridges, making it more "defensible." Route 5, a former Indian trail, is nearby. Today, it blends into the Charles County suburbs, with iron chairs sitting under thin trees and the homeowner's house up the hill.

Alumni Scott Strickland '08 and Alex Flick '09 kept their expectations low the icy February day they first plunged their shovels into the frozen ground. "It's my birthday," Strickland said at the time, "give me something nice." Not long after, Flick complied, finding a 17th-century English white clay tobacco pipe. By the end of the day they had added colonial bottle glass, European flint, Indian pottery, and a glass Italian trade bead. King brought students in her North American Indians class to the site to aid in the search. Beginning in late May, King, Strickland, Flick, and students from both St. Mary's and the College of Southern Maryland expanded the testing, and the artifacts quickly

Alex Flick '09 screens dirt for artifacts at the fort site.  
Below: glass beads found at the site.



added up: lead shot, tobacco pipes, and even a silver belt hanger for an English sword.

"This was an intensively occupied settlement," says King. "At least 90 and perhaps as many as 300 people lived around the fort."

"Although Piscataway history is foundational to Maryland history, we so rarely hear about it, in part because surviving records are thin and somewhat biased, having been written by colonial administrators," King explains. "Finding the Zekiah Fort presents us with a very

*By the end of the day they had added colonial bottle glass, European flint, Indian pottery, and a glass Italian trade bead. The artifacts quickly added up: lead shot, tobacco pipes, and even a silver belt hanger for an English sword.*

different kind of record about Piscataway life. The artifacts we are finding reveal a vibrant culture that shows how, under some unimaginable pressures, the Piscataway nation maintained their lifeways even as they adjusted to the European culture."

Efforts are now underway to identify a public or private organization to purchase the fort site for long-term preservation.

LORD BALTIMORE ALSO SPENT A LOT OF TIME at Notley Hall, the other archaeological discovery King and her crew found this year. In fact, Governor Notley bequeathed it to Baltimore when he died. Eleanor Butler, known as "Irish Nell," worked for Notley, as did an enslaved African named Charles. The story goes that Baltimore tried to talk Nell out of marrying Charles because their children would be born slaves, but love prevailed. "It's a great love story," says King. "Eleanor told Baltimore she would rather marry Charles than even Lord Baltimore himself with all his land."

The law that made the Butlers' children slaves was later changed, but that didn't help Eleanor and Charles's children. So, on the eve of the Revolutionary War, two Butler grandchildren sued for their freedom. Descendants of the Butlers now can be found throughout Southern Maryland and the East Coast.

As for the summer's findings, King says, "the students are as responsible for these discoveries as anyone. They not only excavated the test pits, they were intimately involved in tracing titles, mapping 17th-century property lines onto modern maps, and helping build the model for where both Notley Hall and the fort might be located. Our students have done what much more experienced researchers were unable to do for decades, and that is to find some pretty important archaeological sites." ♦



*Eleanor Butler, known as "Irish Nell," worked for Notley, as did an African slave called Charles. The story goes that Notley tried to talk Nell out of marrying Charles because their children would be born slaves, but love prevailed. "It's a great love story," says King.*

Left, Gov. Martin O'Malley and a member of the Piscataway Indian Nation after the announcement of the discovery of the fort.



Above, Tricia Byers '12 and Brad Hatch, a University of Tennessee grad student, search for artifacts at the Notley Hall site. Left: BBC interviews Professor Julia King



# THE MENTOR

**Alan Paskow**, professor emeritus, taught philosophy at St. Mary's from 1981-2005. He died this past April at the age of 71. In January 2005, he gave the talk "On Writing an Academic Book" at the annual faculty laurels event. His talk, reprinted here, was previously published in "Speaking Out: Faculty Lectures on Campus" (Vol. 1, 2005), by St. Mary's College of Maryland's Office of Publications.

**Sybol Cook Anderson** joined the faculty in 2006. She has a Ph.D. in philosophy from The Johns Hopkins University. She credits Alan Paskow for giving her the confidence to pursue her dreams.

## ON WRITING AN ACADEMIC BOOK

BY ALAN PASKOW

It took me twelve years to write my book on fundamental issues in the philosophy of art, but in a way that's not exactly true, since its germination began over forty years ago with a series of vexing questions I asked myself.

I was a sophomore at Haverford College, away on a glee club trip in Washington, D.C., with free time to view paintings in the National Gallery. Standing before Picasso's Blue Period painting, "The Tragedy," I found myself deeply affected by it. Depicted were a mother, a father, and their young son on an utterly desolate beach. I stared at the painting for probably fifteen minutes, overtaken by its mournful gloom. Why, I wondered, did this simple scene distress me so? After all, the strangely elongated, blue figures were only representations on a white canvas. Why would mere fictions affect me more than most real people did? Was I merely allowing my imagination to run away with itself? What is painting anyway, and why does it matter?

*Photo by Bill Wood.  
Inset photo of Alan Paskow by Robin Bates.*

Paskow enjoyed a laugh with colleagues Katsunori Mita (left) and Laraine Glidden (right) in 2005. In the background, Larry Voté.

When I began my career as a philosopher, and for many years after that, I did my research and writing on topics unrelated to my earlier questions about painting. Still, they periodically nagged at me. Finally, at age 48, during a sabbatical year leave, I decided to face them once again, feeling that I might be ready to investigate their ramifications and think through plausible responses to them. What follows are some discoveries I made about the whole process of writing a book.

One of the first things I experienced in beginning my work was a periodic reminder that no one had asked me to write it. Did the world really need one more book in the philosophy of art? And what would I achieve by writing a treatise on that subject? I was already a teacher of philosophy, a full professor. If the book were ever published, it would likely sell several hundred copies at best. Was I hoping for fame? Glory? Respect as a scholar? I think it was primarily a desire to appease my conscience, to respond to my questions, to which I had developed over the years a kind of obligation, about the matter of painting.

Whatever my true motives were, it seemed that I had to write the book, that no one else could or would write it and that it *should* be written. So long as I had such beliefs, I was able to write. But sometimes my confidence would fade, and then I would urge myself to persist despite my doubts. Those were the darkest times. Some days, especially during the first few years of the project, I was simply unable to write anything. Later, as I saw more clearly its structure, I came to think of the book's creation as a commitment and therefore began to accept the conceptual difficulties I encountered as an unavoidable dimension of my "relationship" to it.

Over time, the book became a person-like being, having a life of its own. Now and then it



**I wish to be read so that I can learn what others think about what I have struggled to understand, to ensure that my beliefs are not misguided or delusional, and also so that I can reach out to them to learn what and how they think about the same issues.**

was a recalcitrant child. I would become angry with it, even hate it, because it would criticize me so harshly for how I was dealing with it. Sometimes it reproached me, as if to say: "Stop this nonsense. You may be giving me life, but you must throw away those detailed outlines. I refuse to be programmed like a computer. You must understand now that I'm no longer a toddler, I have my own things to say." At other times, its responses were more benign. It would oppose me more generously, ask challenging questions, and then accept my corrective efforts.

One of the most difficult tasks in writing the book was to suppress thoughts about how it would be received, even whether it would be received at all. I would think: No one will publish this thing. It's much too personal and idiosyncratic. Or, its central thesis is utterly counterintuitive and wrong. At other times I was sure that the work was too ambitious and sweeping in its generalizations. Or that its methodology was outdated by twenty years. Then there was the periodic despairing thought that the book's central points were already implied by other philosophers. However, there was an opposite and equally dangerous thought too: fantasies that the book would be embraced as important, even acclaimed as a "great contribution to the field."

Especially in the last few years of its construction, this being was always with me. Doing justice to it became at times an obsession. Its conceptual outcome was something wholly unexpected by me. The basic conclusion I found myself driven to in my investigation is that when we are immersed in the world of a painting, even one that is "abstract," we take its content at one level to be *totally real*. Of course it took me several chapters, i.e., years of reflection and writing, to justify this claim, which

you, dear reader, will likely dismiss as false, if not ridiculous. And I must confess that for a long time I too could not accept my own conclusion. Still, I felt that I had to write not what common sense dictated, but what my own experience and logical reflections were telling me.

And yet, if not to common sense, there is still *some other* to whom one must answer as well. If you want to write something good, you have to have a dual orientation. You write in the first instance to yourself and for yourself, but you must also regard what you've produced from the point of view of a receptive, yet critical, other. So, I learned, you have to be ever mindful of terrible mistakes at the extremities: either narcissistic idiosyncrasy or else pandering, that is, offering what 'they' are calling for, what the cognoscenti in the field embrace as au courant and chic. In the end, you hope that your better self and that other become in a way the same person: that what pleases you, pleases him or her, and pretty much for the same reasons.

Since the being I created wasn't the one I had conceived at the outset, I discovered that my new friend helped me figuratively, and in certain respects literally, to come to see certain things quite differently. My new perspective is more important to me than the adulation I occasionally fantasized, which in any case would be isolating. For when I am praised I am enormously tempted to think too highly of myself, to therefore preen, and to forget why I wrote the book in the first place. And what was that reason? To answer those persistent questions that I cited at the beginning, but more generally, to overcome my solitariness. I wish to be read so that I can learn what others think about what I have struggled to understand, to ensure that my beliefs are not misguided or delusional, and also so that I can reach out to them to learn what and how they think about the same issues, which, although having loosened their grip, still have not let go of me.

*Alan Paskow's book, "The Paradoxes of Art: A Phenomenological Investigation," was first published by Cambridge Univ. Press in 2004.*



Sybol Anderson with students, fall 2009.

# THE TEACHER

BY LEE CAPRISTO

**"IN MANY WAYS, ALAN PASKOW MADE ME."**

It was 1998 and Sybol Cook was at one of several crossroads she's encountered along her journey to becoming Sybol Anderson, the twenty-first female African American in the United States to hold a Ph.D. in philosophy. A disenchanted pre-med graduate from Johns Hopkins University, she worked as a contracts administrator,

waitress, and community college instructor. She'd returned to Hopkins for a master's degree in the liberal arts and then a one-year staff position became available at St. Mary's College. Sybol hoped the year would offer her the reflection time needed to decide where to concentrate for her next master's degree: German literature or philosophy. She had time to take a class or two, so she looked for courses and found that a professor "A. Paskow" was teaching a philosophy course on Hegel. "J. Paskow" was teaching a German course. Sybol signed up for both and thus met Alan and his wife, Jackie Paskow.

"Alan was my first teacher of Hegel. He drew me in, and it was during this course that the idea that I could study philosophy and maybe someday teach it became a real 'thing' for me."

By the end of the year, Sybol was headed to American University to start a master's program in philosophy. A year later, Alan called her to ask if she'd consider teaching "Values Inquiry" for the philosophy department. "Do you think I can?" asked an incredulous Sybol. "His encouragement and belief in me gave me the courage to do it." Anderson taught the course for five years as she finished a master's and began her Ph.D.

"I remember coming to visit Alan's Philosophy

**“I’m so excited about the DeSousa-Brent scholars, because they are grabbing onto the liberal arts; they’re finding that St. Mary’s is their home. I got here because of mentors believing in me and helping me. Now I’m in a position to create for these students what was created for me.”**



of Art and Literature class when I was working on my Ph.D.,” says Anderson. “I got there early, and was soon joined by several guys who came into the room singing. I was struck by how happy the students were, how much themselves. And then we had this intense, rigorous class discussion. Alan was amazing with students. He was a wonderful teacher and a true philosopher.”

In 2004, Anderson had just passed her comprehensives at Hopkins when she learned that Alan was retiring. Friends urged her to apply for the position, notwithstanding her doubts about her candidacy. She was only about to begin work on her dissertation. She applied, got the job, and a one-year leave to write her

## FACULTY PROMOTIONS

### PROMOTION TO FULL PROFESSOR

**Charles Holden** (history), originally from Iowa, came to St. Mary’s in 1999. He has a Ph.D. in history from The Pennsylvania State University. His teaching and research interests include the late 19th- and 20th-century U.S. history and Southern history.

### REAPPOINTMENT WITH TENURE AND PROMOTION TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

**Sybol Cook Anderson** (philosophy) came to St. Mary’s in 2006. She has a Ph.D. in philosophy from The Johns Hopkins University. She teaches ethics, social and political philosophy, and early modern philosophy.

**Betül Başaran** (philosophy and religious studies) came to St. Mary’s in 2005. She earned her Ph.D. in Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations from the University of Chicago. She teaches courses on the history, politics, and cultures of the Islamic Middle East, covering foundations of Islam, women in Islam, Islamic empires in medieval and early modern eras, and Islam in the modern world.

**Barbara Beliveau** (economics) came to St. Mary’s in 2005 with a Ph.D. in economics from Yale University. She teaches courses in finance, economic statistics, and cultural economics.

**Adriana Brodsky** (history) came to St. Mary’s in 2005. Her Ph.D. is from Duke

University. She teaches courses in colonial and modern Latin American history, gender in Latin American history, U.S. and Latin American relations, and modern Jewish history.

**Cristin Cash** (art and art history) came to St. Mary’s in 2005 with a Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. She teaches art and architecture of the Americas from ancient times to the present, world architecture and museum studies.

**Christine Wooley** (English) came to St. Mary’s in 2005. A graduate of Amherst College, her Ph.D. is in English from the University of Washington. She teaches courses in literary criticism and 19th-century American and African-American literatures.

dissertation (on Hegel, aptly). Her dissertation became her first book, “Hegel’s Theory of Recognition: From Oppression to Ethical Liberal Modernity” (2009).

Anderson doesn’t dwell on her rare status in U.S. higher education, being in a pool of fewer than 200 African American philosophers. Instead, she uses her privilege to help others through a national collegium that mentors African American undergraduate and graduate women studying philosophy. At St. Mary’s, she is hands-on with the DeSousa-Brent scholars in a program that cultivates the academic and leadership potential of talented students from traditionally underrepresented groups. “I’m so excited about the DeSousa-Brent

scholars, because they are grabbing onto the liberal arts; they’re finding that St. Mary’s is their home. I got here because of mentors believing in me and helping me. Now I’m in a position to create for these students what was created for me.”

Anderson sees an important role for DeSousa-Brent scholars in her scholarship work which deals with recognition theory. “These students are leaders in the causes of inclusiveness and diversity. I want to help them and others see their gifts and what they bring to the life of this campus.”

And so the torch, ignited for Anderson by Paskow, burns brightly to light the way for the next generation of intellectual travelers. ❖

# ALUMNI CONNECTION

## CLASS NOTES

### 1959

**Barbara Lyon Gilbert** and **Marion Pilkerton Mills** had pizza with their husbands at the Elks Club near the Mills home in St. Mary’s County. They caught up on family news and looked at photographs like the one shown here [1] of **Norma Daugherty Parks ’59**, Barbara, and Marion. Barbara lives in Falls Church, Va.; Marion, in Leonardtown, Md.

### 1971

**Dale M. Rausch** is registrar and academic coordinator at the Paul Hall Maritime Center in Piney Point, Md., the largest training center for unlicensed merchant mariners in the nation. He retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2007 after 30 years of service and lives in Solomons, Md.

### 1972

**Robbin Richardson**, of Wake Forest, N.C., is a Realtor with the Allen Tate Company. She has three married children and four grandkids, all living in the Triangle area of North Carolina. She spends each winter at her home in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, following her passion for painting. Robbin exhibits her work in Mexico and North Carolina.

**Bob Webster** recently retired from James M. Bennett High School in Salisbury, Md., after a 38-year career teaching biology and environmental science. Classmates may contact him at 4441bob@comcast.net.

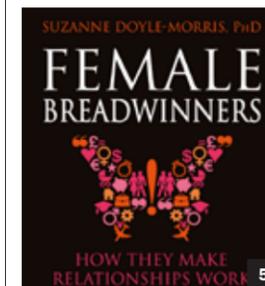
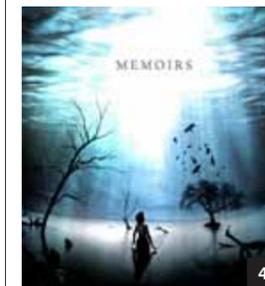
Bob and his wife, Judy live in Tyaskin, Md.

### 1974

**Eddie Weiland** retired from St. Mary’s County Public Schools in June 2011 after a 33-year career. The following month he returned to his high school alma mater, St. Mary’s Ryken, in Leonardtown, Md., as dean of faculty and student life. After college graduation, he got a master’s degree from George Washington University and a doctorate from the University of Maryland, College Park. Eddie taught English at Chopticon High School for four years before joining the original faculty of Leonardtown High School in 1978. In 1988, he left the classroom for a series of administrative assignments, including assistant principal at Leonardtown High, Chopticon High School principal, Leonardtown High principal, and director of human resources for St. Mary’s County Public Schools. Eddie lives in Lexington Park, Md.

### 1975

**Jim Johnson**, Ph.D., is global director for statistics and statistical programming for UCB Biosciences, the world’s 5th largest biopharma company. He has spent his entire career in clinical research and drug development, in the area of biostatistics and epidemiology, and played a key role in developing several effective medicines. From 2002-08, he was an adjunct professor at Campbell University’s School of Pharmacy. He and wife Barbara, a retired pharmacist and clinical researcher, are the parents of three and grandparents of four. They live in Cary, NC., with their Boykin spaniel Clifford.



### 1979

**Lee Langston-Harrison** recently was profiled in The Culpeper (Va.) Times. As executive director of the Museum of Culpeper History since 2006, she continues “finding new and ingenious ways to make Culpeper’s history not just relevant, but a joy to learn.” She has spent 30-plus years in the museum field, including as curator/assistant director of the James Monroe Museum in Fredericksburg, Va., and senior curator at James Madison’s home, Montpelier. Lee notes that researching, writing articles and books, or curating exhibitions was not her life’s ambition while at St. Mary’s College, but it soon became clear that she had a knack for connecting early Americans with relevant issues of today. Lee lives in Orange, Va.; her daughter, Tori is a junior at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Va.

### 1980

**Iva Horn Courtney** has retired from St. Mary’s County public schools after working as a school counselor for 17 years. She also was a mental health counselor for the St. Mary’s County Health Department in the 1980s. Iva married John Courtney in July 2009 and lives in Scotland, Md.

### 1986

**Roberta Kienast Dagher** is serving as the 2011-12 president of The Association of Women in International Trade; a Washington, D.C.-based professional association. Bobbi works for the International Trade Administration of the U.S. Department of Commerce. She and her family live in Havre de Grace, Md.

### 1987

**Susan Pearce Ditch**, featured in the July/August 2011 issue of Southern Maryland Woman magazine [2], owns and manages Chesapeake Pet Resort & Day Spa (www.chessiepets.com) in Hollywood, Md. After receiving a master’s degree in environmental management from the University of Maryland, she worked on Chesapeake Bay water quality issues for the University of Maryland Horn Point Environmental Labs in Cambridge, Md.; the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center in Edgewater, Md.; and Virginia American Water in Alexandria, Va. In 2002, she started a small-scale pet boarding facility, which grew rapidly to its current operation as a pet resort for dogs, cats, and other small pets with a staff of almost 20. Susan, husband Brian and daughter Hannah Rose live in Hollywood.

### 1988

**Lisa Marks** has retired after 22 years with Allstate Insurance Co. She received her M.B.A. from Mount Saint Mary’s College and is a special arbitrator for Arbitration Forums, Inc. Lisa, husband, Jeff Counts, and their three daughters, live in Ijamsville, Md.

### 1989

**Jack Saum**, president and CEO of Beltway Companies in Maryland, and his wife, **Jeanne Brady Saum ’88**, donated \$50,000 to the college. The Beltway Companies Endowed Scholarship Fund will make annual scholarship awards to students with demonstrated financial need. Students from Baltimore public schools and

## THE MAYOR OF EULESS, TEXAS

For **Mary Lib Roseberry Saleh '51**, the water holds the strongest memories of St. Mary's. She used to sail and life-guard and go boating with her family. Before there was a bridge connecting St. Mary's County to Calvert County, "my family would water ski from one side to the other," she recalls.

Now, Saleh is 80 years old and 18 years into office as the first female mayor of Euless, Texas. In June, the St. Mary's College Alumni Association honored her with the Society of Distinguished Alumni Award, given to alumnae/alumni who have gained distinction through significant accomplishments in their chosen professions.

Saleh spent only one year at St. Mary's Seminary Junior College before graduating, but she made the most of her time. She was in the home economics club, on the newspaper staff and public relations committee, in the travelling choir, and played goalie on the field hockey team. "I liked all the teachers but one," she said. The speech teacher, frustrated by her Southern accent, made her repeat "how now brown cow" until she could say it without a syllable. "Even though that speech teacher said I would never make it out of class," Saleh said, "I became a public speaker."

After moving to Texas, Saleh held positions in her PTA, local church, and the city council. Now, as mayor, she is showing no signs of slowing down. She led the effort to create the Texas Star Sports



Ms. Saleh in her St. Mary's days and now.

Centre complex, which is recognized as one of the finest municipal sports developments in the United States. Under her leadership, projects such as a new library, the Texas Star Parks system, a police and courts facility, and a new fire station were created. Her efforts led to the City of Euless's selection in 2008 by BusinessWeek magazine as "The Best City in Texas to Raise Children." She currently serves on the hospital board and is a former school board member and recipient of the school system's Community Award.

In addition to her political accomplishments, Saleh is the mother of five children and holds seven master's degrees in Ikebana flower arranging. She has traveled around the world and, every so often, she runs into someone from St. Mary's. "You get to meet so many wonderful people everywhere you go," she said. ❖

By *Caroline Selle '12*, student-designed major Saleh's brother, *J.R. Roseberry*, is also an alum (Class of 1953), with his own fond memories of St. Mary's. Read his story online at [www.smcm.edu/mulberrytree](http://www.smcm.edu/mulberrytree).

family members of those who work in the commercial trucking and transportation industry will be given preference. Internships also will be available for scholarship recipients. Jack, Jeanne, and their three children live in Davidson, Md.

## 1990

**Aubrey Baden III** teaches English at Broadneck High School in Annapolis. When he's not

teaching, Aubrey enjoys performing in community theater groups, including the Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre and Colonial Players. He lives in Annapolis.

## 1992

**Tim Braue** was appointed to the Harford County, Maryland Council's charter review board which is tasked with reviewing and making recommendations for revisions to Harford Coun-

ty's charter. An attorney at Duane Morris LLP, he focuses on corporate law, venture capital/private equity transactions and mergers and acquisitions. Tim lives in Fallston, Md., with his wife and two sons.

**Matt Sauri [3]** spent the summer cycling across the United States to commemorate the 10th anniversary of 9-11 and to raise educational funds for families of

fallen soldiers. As a member of "Team Jesse" ([www.teamjesse.org](http://www.teamjesse.org)), he began his ride on June 9 in Santa Rosa, Calif., and 95 days and 4,200 miles later, ended his ride at Ground Zero in Manhattan, N.Y. A co-founder and CEO of Wimmer Solutions, Matt has spent years in the information technical consulting industry. Still passionate about lacrosse, he serves on the board of the Washington State Chapter of U.S. Lacrosse, and lives in Seattle.

## 1994

**Veronica Vergara Macalalad** is a family nurse practitioner for Southwest Medical Associates. Her husband, Carl, who she married in 2000 in the Bahamas, is the president of MAC Technology. They live in Las Vegas.

## 1996

If you attended St. Mary's College in the '90s, you may remember the band drumfish and its members **Larry France**, **Aaron Bertoglio**, **Neil Richardson '97**, and **Alex Petty ('92-'96)**. In 2008, drumfish rose to the top of the regional indie rock scene with its third CD, "Under Hill." Last year, drumfish recorded its fourth CD, "Memoirs," [4] with double-platinum producer Kevin "131" Gutierrez. Check the band out at [www.facebook.com/drumfishmusic](http://www.facebook.com/drumfishmusic)

**Ilene Frank** is the new executive director of the Rensselaer County Historical Society located in Troy, NY. Since receiving her master's in history museum studies from the Cooperstown Graduate Program affiliated with the State University of New York, College at Oneonta, she has held a number of leadership roles at museums

throughout the United States. Ilene lives in Albany, NY.

Congratulations to **Chastity Johnson** and **Mary Bowles VanRyswick** for receiving the 2010-2011 Golden Apple Award from the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. The award, given annually to 10 teachers in the archdiocese, recognizes teaching excellence and a commitment to Catholic education. Both Chastity and Mary were hired right after graduating from St. Mary's; Chastity as a third-grade teacher at Father Andrew White School in Leonardtown, and Mary as a kindergarten teacher at St. Michael's School in Ridge. This is not the first award for Mary, who won an outstanding teacher award from the diocese in 2008 and was later selected as one of 12 teachers nationwide to receive an award from the National Catholic Education Association.

## 1997

**Ryan Breymaier** became the first American sailor to finish the Barcelona World Race when he and co-skipper Boris Herrman of Germany sailed around the world in 100 days, three hours, 13 minutes and 25 seconds, finishing fifth out of 15 teams. This unique 25,000-nautical mile race follows the Great Circle route past three capes (Good Hope, Leeuwin, and Horn) and is the only two-crew sailing event in the world. In 2006, Ryan relocated to France to follow his dream of racing in the IMOCA Open 60 class of monohulls and currently is ranked sixth in the world. Not bad for a former lacrosse player from Damascus High School who discovered sailing as a freshman at St. Mary's.

## 2011 Alumni Legacy Scholarship Winner

**Courtney Sanders '12**, daughter of **Steven Sanders '81**, is this year's recipient of the Alumni Legacy Scholarship which is awarded to a current student who is related to an alum.

Courtney graduated from Morning Star Christian Academy in Lexington Park. She went to the College of Southern Maryland for two years, receiving associate degrees in biotechnology and biological sciences before transferring to St. Mary's. With a double major in mathematics and biochemistry, Courtney has maintained a 3.8 GPA while participating in numerous extracurricular activities, including being a student ambassador, playing in a volunteer swing band, volunteering at a local retirement community, and being a high school tutor.

**Suzanne Doyle-Morris Ph.D.**, had her second book, "Female Breadwinners: How they Make Relationships Work and Why they are the Future of the Modern Workforce," [5] published by Wit and Wisdom Press in the United Kingdom. A native of Washington, D.C., she received her doctorate from Cambridge University. Her latest book examines the lives of women in Europe and the United States who earn more than their male partners. Suzanne is an executive coach specializing in strategic career development and leadership coaching for women. She runs [www.FemaleBreadwinners.com](http://www.FemaleBreadwinners.com), which advises companies on developing and retaining their female workforce. She moved to the UK just weeks after graduating from St. Mary's, and now lives in Scotland with her husband.

**Ronald Stone**, assistant director of the bookstore, with professors Barbara Beliveau and Louis Hicks, had their research on textbook buyback published in the "College Student Journal." The idea for the study grew out of the two professors having coffee and watching the bookstore's buyback counter.

They analyzed over 30,000 data points covering every aspect of textbook buyback. The surprise finding of the study was that, contrary to Ronald's expectations, students who did well in class were most likely to sell their books back.

## 1998

**Calvin Schermerhorn**, assistant professor of history at Arizona State University, published his latest book, "Money over Mastery, Family over Freedom: Slavery in the Antebellum Upper South," with Johns Hopkins University Press. The region Calvin investigated was the coastal upper South, including St. Mary's County, which by the time of the Civil War included many African American slaves. His next work, to be published by the University of Virginia Press, is a reprint of an 1869 autobiography by ex-slave Henry Goings entitled "Rambles of a Runaway from Southern Slavery." Calvin provides the book's introduction and is one of its editors. He and his family live in Tempe, Ariz.



## 1999

**Nicolas Troy Abrams [6]** was keynote speaker at the seventh annual Southern Maryland Martin Luther King Jr. Prayer Breakfast held January 17, 2011, at St. Mary's College. A certified financial planner, he founded AJW Financial Partners, LLC located in Columbia, Md. Nicolas and family live in Baltimore

## 2000

**Sheiksha Jenkins** was one of 32 teachers selected as a 2010-11 Albert Einstein Distinguished Educator Fellow. The fellowship offers elementary and secondary science, technology, engineering, and math teachers the chance to work in national education or public policy areas. In 2009, Sheiksha earned national board certification in science for adolescents and young adults and has taught advanced placement biology at Bowie High School in Prince George's County for six years. She spent her year working in the office of Congressman Michael Honda (D-California). Sheiksha lives in Mitchellville, Md.

**Allison Edwards Williams [7]** is living in Highlands Ranch, a suburb of Denver, Colo. She and husband Ryan have been married six years. They met 10 years ago at Lockheed Martin where they still both work today, and are the proud parents of Riley Randolph Williams who will be 2 in December.

## 2002

**Sarah Cramer** is a resident in veterinary anatomic pathology at Oklahoma State University. She graduated from Cornell University's School of Veterinary Medicine in 2008 and is

working towards a doctorate in a joint program for veterinary pathologists.

## 2003

**Zofia Zaplatynski Noe** received her master's of science degree in coastal marine and wetland studies in 2009 from Coastal Carolina University and has worked for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources since August 2010 as a natural resources biologist. She and husband Scott Noe, a graphics designer, were married in January 2010 and live in Alexandria, Va.

## 2004

**Joe Hall [8]** kicked off St. Mary's College's 2010-11 VOICES Reading Series with a reading from his first book of poetry, "Pigafetta Is My Wife" (Black Ocean Press 2010), a Poetry International notable book of the year and a Small Press Distribution bestseller. His poetry and fiction also have appeared in many publications. In 2007, he started a monthly reading and performance series at the Big Bear Cafe in Washington, D.C., called Cheryl's Gone. Since fall 2009, Joe has been a lecturer at the University of Maryland, College Park campus, and is working on his second book, "The Devotional Poems." He will be a doctoral candidate beginning in the fall 2012 at the University of Buffalo's Poetics Program. Joe lives in Baltimore, Md.

## 2005

**Ramtin Arablouei, David Garber '06**, and **Neel Singh ('02-'06)** are members of the band Drop Electric. The three,

along with **Padma Soundarajan '05**, started playing music together while students at St. Mary's and went on to form the band in 2007. In December 2010, their debut album, "Finding Color in the Ashes," was released to critical acclaim. The album's songs, written after Padma's family was killed in a car accident in India while on pilgrimage, were a way for the band to grieve and then heal from the tragedy. Padma, who had been lead singer, left the group after the accident. Since its debut album, the band has performed at venues in Washington, D.C., been voted band of the month by The Deli Washington/Baltimore, a daily website focused on local independent music; and is working on a new album and a film project. You can follow the band at [www.dropelectric.com](http://www.dropelectric.com).

**Tabitha Clem**, Ph.D, was a guest speaker for the college's 2010-11 Natural Science and Mathematics Colloquium. A researcher in fine chemicals for 3M, she lectured on organic electronics and how understanding their conducting properties inspires the development of novel materials for use in photovoltaic devices. Tabitha lives in St. Paul, Minn.

**Brian Conlin** is a staff writer for two Maryland newspapers, the Catonsville Times and Arbutus Times, owned by Patuxent Publishing Co. He graduated in 2010 with a master's in journalism and mass communication from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and lives in Baltimore.

## 2007

**Allen Abrams**, [9] a graduate of the University of Virginia School of Law, is an assistant

staff judge advocate in the U.S. Air Force stationed at Fairchild Air Force Base outside of Spokane, Wash. Recently promoted to the rank of captain, he works primarily in the base legal office as the chief of legal assistance and preventive law. However, within four months of arriving, Allen argued in court as part of a fully litigated criminal trial. His co-workers convinced him to get a road bike and do his first sprint triathlon this past summer.

**Rachael Carter** received her master's of library science from the University of Maryland in May 2010. She works for the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, on a project to digitally archive full text medical journals and make them freely available online. Rachael lives in North Bethesda.

**George Connelly** is the new race manager for the Maryland affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The Maryland race, held this year on Oct. 23, is the state's largest foot race and its largest non-profit fundraising event. George lives in Towson, Md.

**Molly Hubbs**, **Chris Vorhis**, **Michael Grunseth '08**, and **Jen Anthony '09** were members of an April 2011 young alumni panel sponsored by St. Mary's Career Development Center. Molly received her master's in cinema studies from New York University and is the coordinating assistant for the D.C. International Film Festival. She's also an archive project manager for WHUT-TV. Chris taught English in China for three years and is finishing his master's in public policy at the University of Maryland, College Park. He also does

research for the university's Center for International and Security Studies. Michael works at CustomInk, an online custom t-shirt company. Jen works at the Woolly Mammoth Theatre Company in Washington, D.C. She's managing the first of its kind fundraising campaign for the company called "Free the Beast!"

## 2008

**Rachel Boyer** published a book, "Landscapes of Change," available at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com).

**Alyssa Nayyar** is attending the Medieval Institute at Western Michigan University where she is in a master's program of medieval studies with a literature focus. Upon graduation in 2013, she plans to continue her education by enrolling in a doctoral program in English literature with her ultimate goal of teaching at the college level.

## 2009

**Kevin Ader** and **Sarah Hanley** won the first annual Baltimore Diamond Dash (think "Amazing Race") in September 2010 with a grand prize of a \$20,000 diamond ring. For now, the ring sits in a safe deposit box because weeks after winning the couple moved to Thailand. Sarah teaches at Payap University. Kevin teaches math and science at an International Baccalaureate School in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

**Sam Birnbaum** is a student at Harvard Law School in Cambridge. After graduating from St. Mary's, he spent a year in China teaching English as a Princeton-in-Asia fellow.

## 2011 Alumni Doctoral Scholarship

The 2011 Alumni Doctoral Scholarship winner is **James Andrew "Drew" Solyst '09**. A cum laude graduate of St. Mary's College, where he majored in psychology and neuroscience, Drew is pursuing a doctorate in neuroscience at Emory University with an anticipated graduation date of May 2015.

His area of research bridges the disciplines of neuroscience, psychology, and anthropology. His interest in this field started his freshman year at St. Mary's when he became fascinated by the striking differences in how some students engaged their social world as they adjusted to life at St. Mary's. At Emory, he is part of a team of scientists that formed the Center for Translational Social Neuroscience to translate its research into treatment for psychiatric disorders. In Drew's words, "Research is not the practice of solitary individuals secluded in ivory towers. It is the collaboration effort of citizens who dedicate their lives to advancing scientific understanding and improving the health of others. It must be shared with the very community of people that support and benefit from it."

**Chris Madrigal**, **Trevor Zarker '08**, and **James Benjamin** own the Washington, D.C.-based company, Gifts of Good Earth, LLC. Their mission is to bring sustainable botanical solutions to homes and schools through the use of their self-sufficient gardens. Designed to thrive without the time and space traditional gardens require, their patent-pending growing system is self-watering, mobile, organic, and weed-free. Check out their website, [www.giftsofgoodearth.com](http://www.giftsofgoodearth.com) or friend them at [facebook.com/gogebaby](http://facebook.com/gogebaby).

## 2010

**Brian Boyle** [10] spent the 10th anniversary of 9/11 competing in the Marine Corps Ironman World Championship 70.3 Triathlon in Henderson, Nev. One of 1,500 competitors, he qualified for the race for the first time because he won his age group at the June 2011 Subaru Ironman 70.3 Eagleman Triathlon in Cambridge, Md, with a time of 4 hours and 38 minutes, a personal best. In addition to training and running triathlons, Brian continues to work with the American Red Cross, most recently helping to launch a national campaign, the "Red Cross Iron Heart Project," to increase awareness about donating blood. Brian lives in Welcome, Md.

**Esrael Seyum** has returned to St. Mary's College as the new Campus Ministry Staff with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He previously worked with

is working on her master's in elementary education at Marymount University and is student-teaching at two elementary schools in Reston, Va. Sarah lives in Reston.

On August 1, **Caitlin Nichols** [11] was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy by her father, a retired Marine Corps colonel. She received a Navy scholarship and is studying to be a physician assistant at Philadelphia University in Pennsylvania. After graduation in August 2013, Caitlin will serve for three years.

**Kate Pollasch-Thames** is a student at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago in its three-year dual-degree program of a master's in modern art history, theory, and criticism and a master's in arts administration and cultural policy. Kate also works as a curatorial assistant at an artist's house museum and is a gallery assistant for the Woman Made Gallery in Chicago where she lives.

**Daniel Schell** [12] has finished his first year in AmeriCorps as a team leader with the National Civilian Community Corps. He supervised and managed a team of 18-24 year olds who worked on four projects, including building a house in Baton Rouge; working at the Marana Heritage Farm in Marana, Ariz.; working at the Balarat Outdoor Education Center in Jamestown, Colo; and removing tornado debris in Joplin, Mo. After a break, Dan will be going back for his second year with AmeriCorps.

## 2011

**Nathan Beall** has been awarded the St. Luke's Scholarship by the faculty at Berkley Divinity School, Yale University's Episcopal Seminary. The award, given annually to one entering divinity student, consists of a full tuition scholarship and a living allowance.

You're a good man, **Ryan Hancock!** At least he was as Charlie Brown in the Newtowne Players' summer production of the musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown." It's a familiar role, he played it as an 8th grader. Although Ryan was an economics major at St. Mary's, he minored in music and acted in "Cabaret" and "Amahl and the Night Visitors." Currently, he's working on his master's in business administration at Capitol College while he waits to hear if he's been accepted to U.S. Navy's Officer Candidate School. Ryan lives in Loveville, Md.

**Brian Tennyson** received the 2011 Maryland Collegiate Honors Council award for the outstanding Maryland honors student from a four-year college. For the past two summers, he has worked for NASA in the detectors systems branch at Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. His research involved developing instruments to do ion spectrometry of the sun and Jupiter. Brian recently started a doctoral program in physics at Yale University, where he expects to focus on astrophysics. He'll also be a teaching assistant for his first two years and then a research assistant.

## LEARNING TO APPRECIATE MUD



*Shannan Bisese at Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary in July.*

"St. Mary's College teaches you to appreciate mud," **Shannan Bisese '97** tells us as she uses a net to search a murky pond for an enormous bullfrog tadpole. It's not the only thing she took away with her bachelor's degree in biology, but it has surely come in handy lately. Four years spent wading through St. John's Pond more than prepared her for her current job as a naturalist at the Battle Creek Cypress Swamp Sanctuary in Prince Frederick, Maryland.

The swamp is one of the northernmost sites in North America with massive bald cypresses with their strange protruding roots (called "knees") and is home to box turtles, bullfrogs, and damselflies, to name a few creatures that you might glimpse on a tour.

One of the most common questions she gets when she leads summer tours along the boardwalk that spans a fraction of the swamp is "where's the water?" (The summer heat dries it up, and the only water remaining is Battle Creek itself, she explains.) But there still is mud. She has to coax the children she works with that getting grimy with some mud isn't the worst thing in the world. It's when they get down and dirty that they might actually get to understand a little of what goes on at the sanctuary. Whether caring for a red-tailed hawk with one wing, working with Calvert County teachers to develop curriculum-based field trips to the swamp, or leading summer camps, she has found her

liberal arts education indispensable. Her English classes help her write the center's monthly newsletter and the college art classes give her ideas for working with visiting students and campers. Her co-workers drop by her office in the center's single wooden building to borrow her favorite college textbook, "Woody and Herbaceous Plants of Maryland" by Brown and Brown, to help them identify something or to plan a lesson.

Most important were the bonds she created with professors. At St. Mary's, "you can have a personal and a professional relationship with them," something that prepared her for real-world relationships in the workplace. Even though a bigger university might have offered more classes or research opportunities, she said she would have been "a number." Instead, she found herself in an environment where professors nurtured her growth. "They want you to succeed."

And succeed she has. Before working at Cypress Swamp, she worked at nature centers in Delaware and Tennessee; and in each place she found herself creating an outdoor classroom where she could witness students experiencing "a-ha!" moments about nature, whether they were examining a tomato growing in the center's garden or trying to understand the complex ecosystem of the swamp itself. St. Mary's helped her find her niche – and, yes, to appreciate mud. ❖

*By Melanie Kokolios '12, English major*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Mary Hughes Tayloe '33**, of Bethesda, Md., died June 13, 2010, at age 94. Born in Washington, D.C., she was a graduate of St. Mary's Female Seminary. Mary became interested in genealogy when she inherited family papers and wrote a book called, "Jamestown to Charles Town," which was given to the Daughters of the Revolution library. She is survived by a son, Allwood; grandson, Carter; granddaughter, Mary R. Neubauer; and three great granddaughters.

**Ruth Marie Cooper '35** died Nov. 21, 2009, at age 92, in the town where she was born, Seward, Nebraska.

Growing up in Maryland, she was a graduate of St. Mary's Female Seminary and St. Mary's Seminary Junior College. Ruth received her bachelor's degree from Goucher College and worked at the Pentagon during World War II.

**Eleanor Flowers Hurley '38**, of Baltimore, died December 8, 2010, at age 91.

**Ruth Whittington Nutwell '41** died February 2, 2011, in Washington, D.C., at age 88. Born and raised in Deale, Md., she was valedictorian of her Southern High School class and attended St. Mary's Female Seminary Junior College for one year on a senatorial scholarship. During World War II, Ruth

worked at the Washington Navy Yard. After her husband's retirement, they moved back to Deale. She is survived by daughters Brenda Jean Nutwell and Donna Kay Stover; son Samuel J. Jr., six grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

**Martha Meredith Young '42** died Aug. 30, 2011, in Leonardtown, Md. at age 88. A native of St. Mary's County, she graduated from St. Mary's Female Seminary and joined the U.S. Navy in 1943. She was stationed in Oakland, Ca., as a pharmacist mate until the end of World War II. After leaving the Navy, she went to the University of California, Berkeley, where she earned a master's degree in biology. She worked in San Francisco as a medical secretary. Martha and her husband James moved to Park Hall, Md., after her mother died. Martha worked for over 20 years for the St. Mary's County Department of Social Services. She is survived by her children, James and Bruce; three step-children John, Alexander, and Christina Torres; and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Bobette Jenkins Lunergan '47** died Dec. 15, 2010, in Bradenton, Fla. Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., in 1927, she grew up in Arlington, Mass., and attended St. Mary's Female Seminary Junior College. After her marriage, she moved to Framingham, Mass. where she was a stay-at-home mother and a volunteer for garden therapy and the American Field Service. After her children were grown, she became a professional florist and ran Bobette's Boutique. In 1979, she and her

husband retired to Bradenton. Bobette is survived by her daughter, Robin Wentz and her son, Bob; 3 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

**Anne Skone Weaver '47**, of La Plata, Md., died June 2, 2010, at age 80. A graduate of St. Mary's Female Seminary, she received her bachelor's degree from Towson State University, and her master's and doctorate in education from the University of Maryland, College Park. An educator for 30 years in the Charles County public school system, Anne was a teacher, principal, and director of elementary education. She retired as the county's director of staff development and studies. Anne is survived by two grandsons.

**Anne Tilghman "Tillie" Muller '52**, of Hunt Valley, Md., died Oct. 24, 2010, at age 77. A native of Crisfield, Md., she graduated from St. Mary's Seminary and St. Mary's Seminary Junior College and received her bachelor's degree in education in 1954 from the University of Maryland. Tillie was a teacher, a department store manager, and worked at an employment agency before going to work for Johns Hopkins University for the next 30 years, retiring in 2008 as its director of human resources. She is survived by her daughter, Julia Berch.

**Neysa McCoy Armiger '53**, of Millersville, Md., died Jan. 31, 2008. A graduate of St. Mary's Seminary, she became a registered nurse in 1960 after graduating from Union Memorial Hospital's School of Nursing in Baltimore. She is survived by her

husband, Ronald E.; daughter, Carole McNamara; son, Scott; and four grandchildren.

**Grace Mary Ellis Stabler '54**, of Abell, Md., died Feb. 26, 2011, at age 75. Born in Leonardtown, Md., she received her associate's degree from St. Mary's Seminary Junior College and her bachelor's degree in English from the University of Maryland, College Park. Grace worked as a technical librarian for the U.S. Navy and later spent 30 years as a media specialist for the St. Mary's County Public School System. In 2003, she was awarded the Order of Merit by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick for over 50 years of service to the Holy Angels Catholic Church parish in Avenue, Md. Grace is survived by her husband, Allen; four daughters, Susan, Jennifer, Elizabeth Farrell, and Ruth Franklin; a son, Gregory; and four grandchildren.

**Matthew "Skip" Parks '59**, of California, Md., died Oct. 1, 2010, at age 71. A graduate of Great Mills High School in Lexington Park, Md., he created the school's emblem (hornet) and chose its colors (green and gold). At St. Mary's Seminary Junior College, he won "Best Work of Art" in 1959 and continued his studies at the Maryland Institute of Art and Towson State Teachers College. After serving two years in the U.S. Navy, Skip worked as a civilian at Patuxent River Naval Air Station for 24 years, specializing in graphic arts, interior design, drafting, and renovations. He is survived by a sister, Dolores Parks Lewis; two nephews, three nieces and

**Albert "Bert" O'Conner, Jr., '74**, of Yuma, Ariz., died July 17, 2011, at age 64, according to his friend and fellow alum **John Bruton '76**. Before attending St. Mary's, Bert served in the U.S. Navy at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. He owned a travel agency, Affordable Travel, in Kearney, Neb., before retiring to Yuma. Bert is survived by his wife Marty.

**Leslie Carter Kerig '75**, of Ridge, Md., died Sept. 25, 2010, at age 57. Born in Cumberland, Md., she grew up in Leonardtown, Md. After graduating from St. Mary's College, she received her master's degree in history from Goddard College. Leslie was a teacher for 25 years in the Catholic Diocese of Arlington, Va., and also was a pottery instructor at a local recreation center. She and her husband retired to Ridge in 2005. She was a costumed interpreter for Historic St. Mary's City. Leslie is survived by her husband, George; daughter, Erin Nielsen; mother, Ruth Carter; sister, Mary Karen Newstadt; and three grandchildren.

**William "Jasper" Trollinger IV '75**, of Hollywood, Md., died Dec. 7, 2010, at age 58. He received his bachelor's degree in social studies and was employed as a manager for the District of Columbia's Water and Sewer Authority. He is survived by daughters, Lacey and Tara; his mother, Peggy; and sisters, Mary Trollinger and Alice Posey.

**Susan Hooper Tirocchi '76**, of Glen Arm, Md., died Feb. 16, 2011, at age 56. For 17 years she was the treasurer for Trinity Church Day School in Long Green, Md. Susan is survived by her husband, Joseph; son, Matthew; sister, Martha Wheeler; brother, Vance Hooper; and numerous nieces and nephews.

**James "Jimmy" Raley Hurry, Jr., '77**, of Clements, Md., died Jan. 17, 2011, at age 56. He was a lifelong

resident of St. Mary's County. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in social studies, he joined the family business, Hurry's Store in Clements, Va., and also was a pottery instructor at a local recreation center. She and her husband retired to Ridge in 2005. She was a costumed interpreter for Historic St. Mary's City. Leslie is survived by her husband, George; daughter, Erin Nielsen; mother, Ruth Carter; sister, Mary Karen Newstadt; and three grandchildren.

**Theresa Agnes Potts '78** died July 10, 2011, in Cheverly, Md. Born in Prince George's County, Terry graduated with a bachelor's degree in social sciences. She worked with disadvantaged youth until she moved to La Plata, Md., in 1982 and worked for the Charles County Mental Health Department. Terry returned to St. Mary's County in 2006 to live with family. She is survived by her mother,

Margaret and her siblings, Jerry, JoAnn, Richard, Gene, and Fran Potts Conway.

**Gene Widmayer Rockwell '80**, of Arlington, Va., died April 19, 2011, at age 64. Born in Tacoma Park, Md., she received her master's degree from Hofstra University. She taught for 14 years in Bucks County, Pa., and was the lead special education teacher at Campbell Elementary School in Arlington for 10 years. Gene is survived by her mother, Irene Widmayer Ferguson; her siblings, Teresa Marchese, Jamie Carr, Kurt Widmayer and Derek Widmayer; her longtime companion, Guy Thomas Sicilia; her four children, Irene, Amy, Vincent and Natalie; and seven grandchildren.

**Rebecca Marie "Becky" Guthrie '83**, of Baltimore, died Feb. 10, 2011, at age 50. A vocational rehabilitation specialist, Becky worked for the State of Maryland's Department of Education. She is survived by her partner, Jacqueline Adams; her parents, Ronald and Leverne; sister Martha Lonquist; and brothers Daniel and John.

**Debra Lorelle Bower '85**, of Chesapeake, Va., died Aug. 4, 2010, at age 50. A native of Glen Burnie, Md., she was a political science major at St. Mary's. She is survived by her mother, Mitzi Bower; and children Katelyn, Alexandra, and Kirklee.

**Ritva Annikki Murphy '87**, of Faulkner, Md., died Jan. 31, 2011, at age 63. A native of Finland, she was 40 when she graduated from St. Mary's with a bachelor's degree in biology. She worked as a laboratory assistant for Chesapeake Analytical Lab in Waldorf, Md. before becoming a fulltime homemaker. Ritva is survived by her husband, Michael; daughter, Nora Gregorio; sister, Raija Smith; and brothers, Reijo Roslof and Risto Roslof.

**Douglas Martin Allen '89**, of St. Leonard, Md., died April 20, 2011, at age 43. A native of Sykesville,

Md., he met his wife while both were students at St. Mary's College. Graduating with a bachelor's degree in mathematics and computer science, Douglas worked as a software and systems engineer for over 20 years. Most recently, he was lead software engineer developing flight simulators for the Army's CH-47F helicopter. He is survived by his wife, Susan; son, David; his parents, August and Frances; and brothers, **James '77**, Paul, and Greg.

**Charles "Chuck" Herring '91**, of Bel Air, Md., died Oct. 3, 2010, at age 46. Raised in Essex, Md., he joined the U.S. Navy after graduating from high school and served two years as a machinist mate onboard the USS Puffer, a nuclear-powered submarine. After graduating from St. Mary's College, he worked for Monro Brake and Mr. Tire as a training manager and was a corporate facilitator for Mile One. Chuck is survived by his wife, Sheila; sons, Ryan and Cody; his mother, Yvonne;

brothers, Joe and Mark; and sister, Belinda Resh.

**Eric Brandon Baugher '98**,



of Silver Spring, Md., died Nov. 22, 2010, at age 34. Raised in Cumberland, Md., Eric graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology and received his master's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Georgia. An associate at Lee and Associates, Inc., a Washington, D.C., landscape architecture firm, Eric contributed to the award-winning design work for the Pentagon 9/11 Memorial. He is survived by his wife, Lauren Brandes; his mother, Mae; his father, Glynn; and sisters, April Baugher and Dawn Agostini.

**Sarah Michele Guineviere**



**Pyles '13**, age 19, died Feb. 17, 2011, in Alba, Italy, while studying abroad. Sarah, also known as Sadie, was majoring in political science and international relations. She was an avid Lady Gaga fan. A memorial service celebrating her life was held at the campus's River Center April 3. Sarah is survived by her mother, Susan Swanger; father, Mark and his wife, Laura; brother, Daniel; step-brother, Jeffrey Adams; grandparents, Bud and Janice Swanger, and Carolyn Pyles; and her beloved cat, Salem. Memorial donations may be made to the Sarah Pyles Scholarship Fund for scholarships to Chesapeake High School and St. Mary's College of Maryland.

**ERIC BRANDON BAUGHER '98, OF SILVER SPRING, MD., WAS AN ASSOCIATE AT LEE AND ASSOCIATES, INC., A WASHINGTON, D.C., LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE FIRM, WHERE HE CONTRIBUTED TO THE AWARD-WINNING DESIGN WORK FOR THE PENTAGON 9/11 MEMORIAL.**

MARRIAGES & UNIONS

**Doris Combs Byrd '67** and **Thomas Frederick Lee [1]** were married Oct. 10, 2010, in Ridge, Md. The couple honeymooned at Smith Mountain Lake in Virginia. Doris is retired from the U.S. Postal Service and the Wicomico County, Md., Board of Education. Thomas works for J.F. Taylor, Inc. They live in Dameron, Md.

**Kathryn "KC" Ingraham '98** and **Anthony Applewhaite** were married June 28, 2008, in Washington, D.C. **Brandi Hill Piccinino '98**, **Gia Trionfo '99** and **Lesley Kline '98** were members of the wedding party. The couple honeymooned in Europe. Kathryn teaches ESL in the Montgomery County, Md., public school system. Anthony practices law in Washington, D.C. They became parents Oct. 31, 2010, with the birth of their son, Anthony. The family lives in Silver Spring, Md.

**April Howard '99** and **Rob Thompkins [2]** were married Aug. 14, 2010, in Westminster, Md. **Jackie Blaser '00** was a bridesmaid. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. April is a science teacher for the Carroll County, Md., public school system; Rob is the director of operations for a

commercial real estate company. They live in Hanover, Pa.

**Erica Pearson '99** and **Woody Grover [3]** were married Oct. 16, 2010, in Estes Park, Colo. The couple honeymooned in Costa Rica. Erica is a public health analyst for the Health Resource and Services Administration, an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Woody is an information technology systems administrator for Ping Identity. The couple lives in Denver.

**Abi Smigel '99** and **Jonah Mullens [4]** were married April 2, 2011, in San Francisco. The couple spent their honeymoon scuba diving off Komodo Island in Indonesia. Abi is a freelance underwater photographer and owner of Sea Star Underwater Portraits; Jonah is a podiatrist. The couple lives in San Francisco.

**Mary E. Cowan '02** and **Michael J. Bell [5]** were married June 4, 2011, in St. Mary's City. **Kelsey Bush '94** officiated. The couple cruised to Cozumel, Mexico; Belize; and Grand Turk Island for their honeymoon. Mary works as a system analyst III for SAIC; Michael is a data sales consultant for Verizon. They live in Lexington Park, Md.

**Will Sheils '02** and **Carolyn Page [6]** had an outdoor wedding July 18, 2009, on Block Island, R.I. and honeymooned in

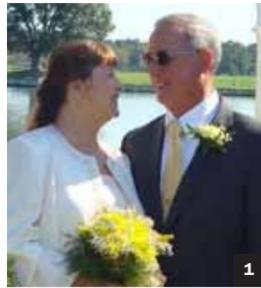
Mal Pais, Costa Rica. The couple lives in Annapolis with their two dogs, Blue and Beaumont and spend as much time as possible boating and traveling.

**Rebecca Brooke Taylor '02** and **Michael J. Hayes, Jr.** were married Sept. 18, 2010, in Catonsville, Md. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. Rebecca is the client relationship manager for Planning Solutions Group, a financial planning firm in Maple Lawn, Md. Michael is a senior Linux consultant with RedHat. The couple and Rebecca's daughter Savannah live in Reston, Va.

**Angel Seymour '03** and **Timothy Pitcher [7]** were married April 22, 2008, in Leonardtown, Md. Angel is the owner and operator of Little Angel's Daycare, an in-home daycare center. Timothy is a machinist at Ship Point Machine Company. The couple and their daughter, Audrina, born June 25, 2008, live in California, Md.

**Jessica Constantino '04** and **Joseph Lopreiato [8]** were married Aug. 21, 2010, in Shelburne, Vt. The couple honeymooned in Paris, France. Jessica volunteers at an elementary school for developmentally disabled children. Joseph is a medical resident at the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. They live in Rockville, Md. with their Siamese cat, Emma.

**Erin Fitzpatrick '04** and **Jeffrey Dyke [9]** were married Oct. 23, 2010, in Taneytown, Md. **Mia Oliver Woods '04** was a bridesmaid. The couple honeymooned in Aruba and in Italy. Erin is a family nurse practitioner at Baltimore Medical Systems Middlesex Health Center, a non-profit family health center. Jeff works as a physical education teacher



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at Warren Elementary School in Cockeysville, Md. The couple lives in Nottingham, Md.

**Lauren Mansky '04** and **Eli Park-Yanovitch '04 [10]** were married Aug. 6, 2011, in Saint Inigoes, Md. Members of the wedding party included **Benjamin J. Church '04**, **Christopher Brady '04**, **Brian Mansky '08**, **Amanda Christiansen '04**, and **Emily Ogden '03**. The couple honeymooned in Curacao. Lauren is pursuing a graduate degree in speech language pathology at the University of Pittsburgh; Eli is a consultant for the Pittsburgh, Pa.-based Economic Development Organization. They live in Pittsburgh.

**Tracy Naylor '04** and **Tyler Wright [11]** were married May 29, 2011, in Hunt Valley, Md. Members of the wedding party included bridesmaids **Judy Gallagher '04** and **Stacy Mann '04**. The couple honeymooned in Greece. Tracy, who received her master's in education from Towson University, teaches first grade at Seven Oaks Elementary School in Perry Hall, Md. Tyler, a graduate of McDaniel College, is a portfolio relationship manager for Howard Bank in Ellicott City, Md. The couple lives in Timonium, Md.

**Alun Oliver '04** and **Cathy Haan [12]** were married July 23, 2011, in Ridge, Md. Members of the wedding party included **Elizabeth Haan Rockenbaugh '00**, **Brad Newkirk '04**, **Dana Josh Hunter '02**, **Mitch Stanton '05**, **Jamison Combs '01**, **Elan Jenkins '04**, and **Aaron Crapster '06**. Alun is St. Mary's new men's head soccer coach; Cathy is a financial manager at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. The couple lives in Leonardtown, Md.



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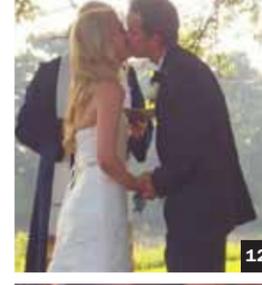
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**Craig Stauffer '04** and **Megan Hawn '07 [13]** were married in May 2009 in Newport, R.I. **Kyle Gahan '04** and **Doug Mayer '04** were in the wedding party. The couple went to St. Martin for their honeymoon. They live and work in Baltimore. Craig is a fourth-year medical student at the University of Maryland Medical School; Megan teaches math at Dundalk High School.

**Matthew Stone '04** and **Erica Tokar '05 [14]** were married May 20, 2011, in Stone Harbor, N.J. The wedding party included matron of honor **Nicky Tilley Manulik '05**, and bridesmaids **Becca Wickizer '06**, **Liz Allen '06** and **Erin McSpadden '05**. The service featured several alumni, including **Hank Miller '08** as an usher and cantor, **Nicky** as a vocalist, and **Abby Rotholz '05** as a reader. The couple honeymooned in Bermuda. Matt teaches third grade in the Montgomery County, Md. public school system, is working on his master's in education technology at the Johns Hopkins University, and is the lead singer of the Killer Balloons (www.thekillerballoons.com). Erica is pursuing a master's in international affairs and a law degree at American University. She also works as a research associate at the Public International Law and Policy Group, at the University's Immigrant Justice Clinic, and on the staff of the Administrative Law Review. The couple lives in Glen Echo, Md.

**Kate Walters '04** and **Sam Mills [15]** were married July 16, 2010, in Emmitsburg, Md. Maid of honor was Kate's sister, **Mary Walters '11**. **Stacy Mann '04** and **Kyleen Davis '02** were bridesmaids. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. Kate teaches English

and is a department chair in the Frederick County, Md., public school system. Sam teaches math and is a baseball coach for the same school system. They live in Frederick, Md.

**Sam Brown '05** and **Matt Acklin [16]** were married April 30, 2011, in Milford, Pa. The couple and their guests celebrated the marriage with a weekend of bonfires, bluegrass, horseback riding and skeet shooting. Sam is a human resources generalist with F.A. Davis Publishing Company; Matt recently completed his master's in higher education administration at Drexel University and is a community relations specialist with ITT Technical Institute. The couple and their cats, Meatball and Lady Bruce, live in the Art Museum area of Philadelphia.

**Dave Coppersmith '05** and **Sara Murphy '05 [17]** were married Dec. 22, 2007, in Baltimore. Members of the wedding party included **Amanda Lamont Link '05** and **Sarah Hobbins Yusko '05**. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. Sara is a research specialist at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Dave is regulatory counsel for the Food and Drug Administration. They live in Baltimore.

**Matthew Duda '05** and **Caitlin O'Brien '07 [18]** were married Sept. 18, 2010, in Bel Air, Md. Members of the wedding party included **Mark Allegri '05**, **Justin Bates '06**, **Mandy Hepler Tourtlotte '07** and **Maggie Dimock '07**. **Colin Woods '05** provided live music. The couple honeymooned in Rivera Maya, Mexico. Matthew is the east coast director for Sonos, an audio software company. Caitlin is an assistant director of admissions at Towson University and is work-

ing on her master's in professional studies at Towson. The couple lives in Nottingham, Md.

**Christina Felde '05** and **Sean Loman [19]** were married June 25, 2011, in Fairfax, Va. **Beth Brennan Shaw '05** and **Angela Giuliano '05** were bridesmaids. The couple honeymooned in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Christina teaches in the Prince George's County, Md. public school system; Sean is a site manager for SecTek. The couple lives in Alexandria, Va.

**Ellie Fletcher '05** and **Andrew Ferrier [20]** were married June 13, 2010, on Kent Island, Md. The bridal party included **Caitlin Thompson '05**, **Meghan Raftery '05** and **Chantal Buchser '05**. Ellie works as a pediatric occupational therapist for Children's Therapy Associates; Andrew is a safety administrator for Copernicus Group IRB. The couple lives in Carrboro, N.C.

**Sherye Hathaway '05** and **Michael Nickerson [21]** were married Oct. 16, 2010, in Denton, Md. The wedding party included **Meredith Stallman Johnson '05**. The couple honeymooned in London, England. They live and work in Easton, Md., where Sherye is a business development coordinator for Celeste Contract Packaging and Michael, a graduate of Salisbury University, is a systems engineer for Shore Bancshares, Inc.

**Leeann Hjemvik '05** and **Matthew Albaugh [22]** were married June 5, 2010, in Waitsfield, Vt. The couple honeymooned on the coast of Maine. Lecann has a master's degree in social work from the University of Vermont and is a clinical case manager for Northeastern Family Institute in South Burlington.



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Matthew is working on his doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Vermont. The couple lives with their Belgian shepherd, Kya, in South Burlington.

**George Jakuta '05** and **Kate Meyer '07 [23]** were married Dec. 17, 2010, in Baltimore. **Dave Coppersmith '05** was best man; **Susan Hanna '07** was maid of honor. The couple honeymooned in Jamaica. They live and work in Baltimore; George is a special education teacher at St. Elizabeth's School and Kate is a program assistant and parent educator for the Even Start Program run by Education Based Latino Outreach.

**Jo Ann Kraft '05** and **Walter Moran, Jr. [24]** were married Feb. 5, 2011, in Lexington Park, Md. Walter's sister, **Samantha Moran '11**, was a bridesmaid. The couple cruised the southern Caribbean on their honeymoon. Jo is an information systems specialist at the U.S.-Saudi Arabian Business Council in Vienna, Va. Walter is an inventory specialist for Insurance Auto Auction in Brandywine, Md. They live in Waldorf, Md.

**Stephanie Nelson '05** and **Travis Theus [25]** were married Aug. 28, 2010, in Baltimore. **Jennifer Short '05** was in the wedding party. The couple honeymooned in the Turks and Caicos Islands. Stephanie is a senior family counselor for Youth Villages in Atlanta, Ga. Travis graduated from the Pratt Institute with a degree in illustration design and is a freelance artist. They live in Marietta, Ga.

**Ashley Sides '05** and **Allen Raley [26]** were married May 15, 2010, in Saint Inigoes, Md. **Tabitha Long Mattingly '05** was matron of honor and **Crystal Joseph '05** was a bridesmaid. Wedding guests included **Lori Linthicum Sides '76**, mother of the bride; and **Joseph Raley**, father of the groom who retired from the college's maintenance shop. The couple honeymooned in St. Lucia. Ashley is an environmental scientist at Resource Management Concepts, Inc., and Allen is a senior field engineer for L3 Communications. They live in Ridge, Md.

**Megan Targarona '05** and her high school sweetheart, **Derek Sophocles [27]**, were married Oct. 30, 2010, in Towson, Md. **Nicole Mulford Fiorito '05** was matron of honor; **Erin McGeeney White '05** and **Lauren Harrington Holthaus '05** were bridesmaids. The couple honeymooned in Hawaii. Megan is director of finance at MuniMae; Derek, a graduate of Loyola University of Maryland, is a real estate agent with Cummings & Co. Realtors. They live in Towson.

**Lisa Burkman '06** and **James Solier '07 [28]** were married May 30, 2010, in St. Mary's City. **Alexis Berry '07** was maid of honor; **Erin Anthony '05** was a bridesmaid; **Neil Feldman '08** was best man; and **Demid Federov '08** and **Jason Catterton '06** were groomsmen. The couple honeymooned in Aruba and live and work in Pittsburgh, Pa. Lisa has started a dog-walking and pet-sitting business called Bark of the 'Burgh and James is working on his MBA at Carnegie Mellon University.



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**Rebecca Eder and Larry Petruccy with their wedding party**



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**Chris D'Antuono '06** and **Elizabeth Thompson '06 [29]** were married May 30, 2010, in Richmond, Va. Members of the wedding party included bridesmaids **Katie Greenberg Matisick '06**, **Julie Hill '06** and **Mitchell Vassallo '06**; best man **Robbie Craven '06**; and groomsman **Ryan D'Antuono '08**. The couple honeymooned in Georgia. Elizabeth received her law degree in 2009 from Pennsylvania State University and practices law with the Dorsey Law Firm in Leonardtown, Md. Chris is a contract specialist at Patuxent River Naval Air Station. They live in St. Mary's County.

**Whitney Torrence '06** and **Marcos Salaverria '06 [30]** were married Oct. 8, 2010, in Annapolis, Md. **Thomas Ogar '06** was best man; and **Lyle Long '06** and **Ryan Alexander '06** were groomsmen. **Jessica "Dallas" Hayden '06** was a special guest. The couple honeymooned in Italy. They live and work in Annapolis; Whitney as office manager for Landmarks Marketing, Inc., and Marcos as volunteer coordinator for Historic Annapolis.

**Rebecca Eder '07** and **Larry Petruccy '07 [31]** were married May 1, 2011, in Cockeysville, Md. Members of the wedding party included **Matthew Majerowicz '07**, **Peter Lo '06**, and **Allison Scheller '08**, **MAT '09**. Rebecca is a product development scientist for Taylor Technologies; Larry manages high school academic placement at Connections Education. The couple honeymooned in Los Angeles, and lives in Nottingham, Md.

**Christina "Keeney" Riedel '07** and **Ron Gabrielle [32]** tied the knot Oct. 9, 2010,

in Historic St. Mary's City. **Kelsey Bush '94** officiated at the ceremony while **Philip Alsop '11** was videographer. The newlyweds honeymooned in Zihjuatanejo, Mexico, before returning to work at Visa, Inc. where they met in 2007. The couple resides in Lansdowne, Va.

**Karyn Sailstad '07** and **Alex Wolstenholme [33]** were married April 16, 2011, at Pilgrim United Church of Christ in Durham, N.C. The reception was held at the North Carolina Museum of Life and Science. The wedding party included maid of honor **Heidi Coxon '04**. The couple honeymooned in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains. Karyn and Alex first met in 2005 when she was studying abroad in Stratford-upon-Avon. Karyn is the U.S. accounts manager for Wild & Wolf, a gift company in Bath, England. Alex is a design engineer for Dyson in Malmesbury, England. The couple lives in Bath.

**Kimberly Williams '07** and **Andrew Politz [34]** were married Nov. 6, 2010, in Bel Air, Md. **Kate Meyer Jakuta '07** and **Lisa Williams '14** were members of the wedding party. The couple took a honeymoon cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Los Angeles. Kim, a graduate of the University of Maryland's School of Nursing, works at Johns Hopkins Hospital as a registered nurse in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. Andy is the Maryland regional manager for CDR Associates. The couple lives in Abingdon, Md.

**Lauren Hannon '08** and **Joshua Gottlieb-Miller '08 [35]** were married June 18, 2011, in Houston, Texas. The couple honeymooned in the Big Bend National Park and



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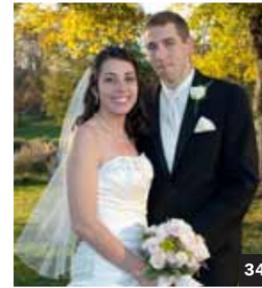
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Marfa, Texas. They met as undergraduates while working on St. Mary's literary magazine, *Avatar*. Lauren is a library assistant for the Hirsch Library at The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, and volunteers at the Menil Collection. Joshua is working on his master's in fine arts, studying poetry at the University of Houston where he is also a graduate teaching fellow, and poetry editor for the school's literary journal *Gulf Coast*. The couple lives in Houston's Museum District.

**James McSavaney '08** and **Amy Royce [36]** were married Jan. 8, 2011, in Washington, D.C. The wedding party included **Jordan Grant '09** and **Jess Vishner '08**. The couple honeymooned in Key West. James is pursuing a master's in divinity at Wesley Theological Seminary. Amy is earning her law degree at Georgetown University. They live in Washington, D.C.

**Nezia Munezero '08** and **Jean Calmère Kubwayo [37]** were married Aug. 20, 2011, in Ridge, Md. Members of the wedding party included bridesmaids **Sylviane Elessie '10**, **Mpho Lichaba '12**, **Vanessa Maggio '11**; **Rachel Mendy '10**, **Kaveirua Murangi '09** and **Marie Rose Thorpe '10**; groomsmen **Gameli Agbleze '08** and **Taiwo Salau '07**; hostesses **Maurine Obi '11**, **Obiageri Okafor '11** and **Anika Green '12**; pastor **Bonnie McCubbin '09**; reader **Meghan Sullivan '08**; and photographer **Morgan Drzewicki Barr '08**. Nezia and Jean Calmère co-founded Burundi Fund for Hope and Restoration, Inc. to make it possible for repatriated refugees to obtain a college degree. The couple lives in St. Inigoes, Md.

**Chris D'Antuono and Elizabeth Thompson were married in Richmond, Va.**

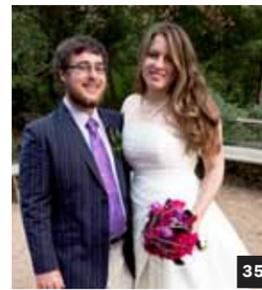


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**Caitlyn Quinn '08** and **Christopher Sarna [38]** were married Aug. 27, 2010, in Lemont, Ill. **Casey Marshall '08** was maid of honor and **Kathryn Tiches '09** played the viola. The St. Mary's crew surprised Caitlyn and Chris by having Baltimore musician Caleb Stine perform the first dance, "Home from Work." The couple honeymooned in Ireland. Caitlyn is an operations supervisor for The University of Chicago Medical Center in Chicago, Ill.; Chris is a senior banker for Harris Bank. The couple resides in Darien, Ill.

**Samantha Roy '08** and **Ryan Noell [39]** were married Sept. 25, 2010, in Washington, D.C. Their reception was held at The Westin in Annapolis. The couple honeymooned in Puerto Rico. Samantha is a medical laboratory technologist at Anne Arundel Medical Center; Ryan is a general foreman for Clark Construction. They live in Annapolis.

**Kathy Brady '09** and **Christian Schneider '09 [40]** were married April 10, 2010, in Catonsville, Md. **Alana Slater '10** was maid of honor.



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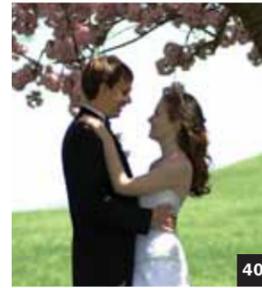
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**BIRTHS**

To **Elise Maccubbin Schreiber '95** and **Daemian Schreiber '98**, a son, Eli David [1], born Oct. 14, 2010. Elise is a school psychologist, Daemian is program manager for QuanTech, Inc.'s fisheries research group. They celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary Oct. 26. The family lives in Burke, Va.

To **Lewis Van Wambeke '96** and Daniela Van Wambeke, a son, Luke Robert [2], born March 27, 2011. He joins brother Jared, 2. Lew is principal of Archbishop Spalding High School in Severn, Md.; Daniela is an attorney for the Board of Veterans Appeals. The family lives in Annapolis, Md.

To **Jim Wood '97** and **Liz Westin Wood ('93-'95)**, a daughter, Charlotte Elizabeth [3], born February 28, 2011. Jim is a senior aide to Congressman Steny Hoyer; Liz is a senior social science analyst for the Government Accountability Office. Charlotte, her brother, Carter, 3, and their parents live in Wheaton, Md.

To **Michael Hughes '98** and **Kristin Montgomery Hughes '99**, a daughter, Kathryn Elizabeth [4], born Feb. 6, 2011. Michael is an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service; Kristin is a program analyst at the Food and Drug Administration. **Fran Galiano Hughes '66** is a proud grandmother and **Carrie Hughes Peery '01** is a proud aunt. The family lives in Laurel, Md.

To **Caron Elzey Inglis '99** and Jeremy Inglis, a daughter, Amelia Jane [5], born April 27, 2010.

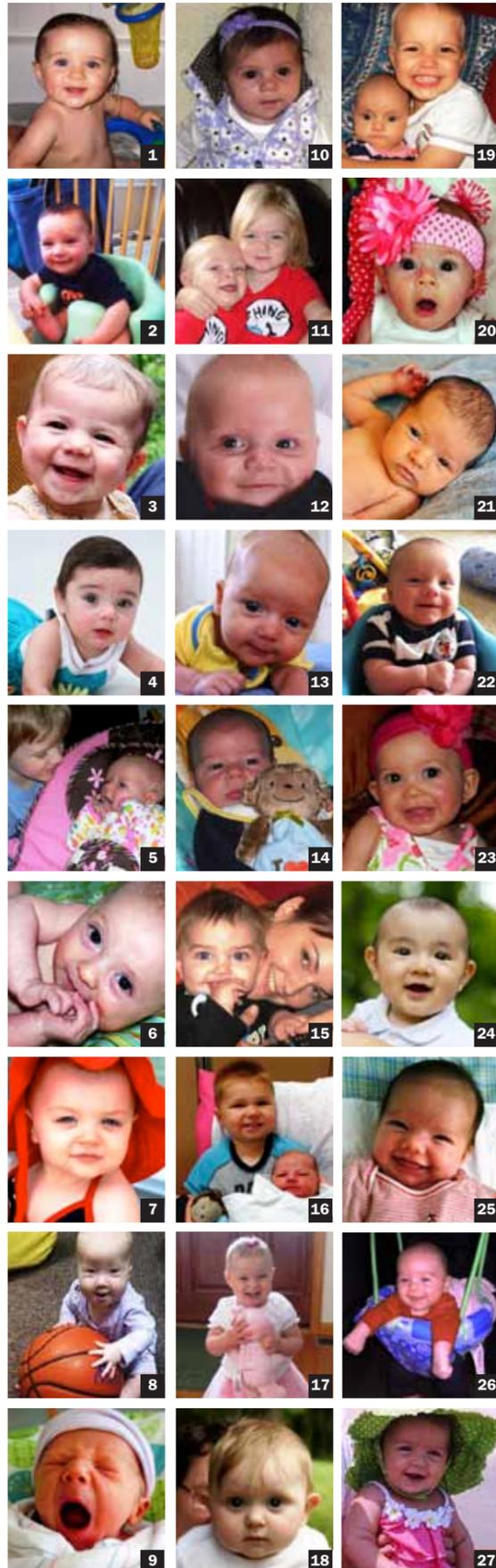
She joins brother Finley, 5. The family recently relocated from Boston, Mass., to Chapel Hill, N.C. Caron works as a behavioral consultant for children with autism; Jeremy is a geochemist at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

To **Emily Grimes Jagusch '99** and Dean Jagusch, a son, Owen Hugh [6], born Dec. 17, 2010. Emily teaches at a charter school in Baltimore; Dean is a regional president with Tecta America, a commercial roofing company. The family lives in Baltimore.

To **Jennifer Woods Nicosia '99** and Brian Nicosia, a daughter, Savannah Grace [7], born Sept. 8, 2010. Jennifer is a project manager for The SI Organization; Brian works for the New York Yankees as a system architect in baseball operations. The family lives in Leesburg, Va.

To **Stephen Morningstar '00** and **Jamie Morningstar '01**, a daughter, WanYing Hope [28], born Feb. 6, 2009, in Jiangzi Province, China, and a "Morningstar evermore" March 14, 2011. WanYing joins her siblings Sam, 10, Ben, 8, and Sasha, 4. A special shout-out goes to **Elizabeth Rose '02**, China program supervisor for World Association for Children and Parents, for her help. Steve is a stay-at-home dad and snow sports instructor for the Sundance Resort. Jamie is a principal product manager for VMware, a virtualization software company. Their home is in Orem, Utah.

To **Kevin Robinson '00** and Trish Youngblood Robinson, a daughter, Kathleen Nicole [8], born Oct. 20, 2010. Kevin is assistant men's basketball coach at The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass. He



coordinates recruiting, player development and opponent scouting. Trish is enjoying being a stay-at-home mom for now. The family lives in Auburn, Mass.

To **Kurt Bradshaw '01** and **Kate Datsko Bradshaw '02**, a son, Sam David [9], born May 13, 2011. Kurt and Kate were married in August 2007. He's vice president of business development-retail for TIG Global, an internet marketing firm for the hospitality industry; she's an elementary school teacher in Montgomery County. The family lives in Kensington, Md.

To **Ashley Irving '01** and Christopher Chaney, a daughter, Evelyn Renee [10], born Nov. 12, 2010, in Philadelphia. Ashley is a stay-at-home mom and Chris is a U.S. Coast Guard flight mechanic. The family lives in Middleburg, Fla.

To **Melissa Daniels McCormick '01** and Brian McCormick, a son, Kristofer Paul [11], born Oct. 14, 2010, joining Abigail, who's almost 3. Melissa is on a two-year leave from the Maryland Park Service. Brian is a civil engineer for the Allegany County Department of Public Works. The family lives in Frostburg, Md.

To **Georgia Abend Ringling '01** and Jerry Ringling, a son, Oliver Finn [12], born April 10, 2011. Oliver joins sister, Sophia Rhea, 5. Georgia, who previously worked as a lab technician for Calvert County, is a stay-at-home mom. Jerry, a 2007 graduate of the University of Maryland University College with an environmental management degree, is a project analyst with Research and Engineering Development, Inc. The family lives in Lexington Park.



Stephen and Jamie Morningstar with their family

To **Michelle Thompson Stulberger '01** and Cas Stulberger, a son, Joel Michael [13], born April 28, 2011. Joel joins brother Patrick, 9 and sister, Lila, 3. Michelle is executive assistant to the president of MedStar Visiting Nurse Association. Cas works for Special Operations Technology, Inc. The family lives in Laurel, Md., right up the street from **Michael Hughes '98** and **Kristin Montgomery Hughes '99** and daughter Kathryn.

To **Amanda Jones Zimmermann '01** and Chris Zimmermann, a son, Andrew James [14], born April 4, 2011. Amanda is a college and career counselor at Thomas Stone High School in Waldorf, Md. Chris is the director of financial aid for the College of Southern Maryland. Amanda writes that they moved back to Southern Maryland from Rochester, N.Y., and now live in Lusby, Md.

To **Becky Porter MacPherson '02** and David MacPherson, a son, Cameron John [15], born May 8, 2009. Becky and David were married Sept. 6, 2008, in Baltimore. **Nichelle Alston (1998-2001)** and **Kai Cunningham '02** were guests. The couple honeymooned in Scotland. Becky works in institutional research at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland; David is the head of a lab that studies cancer genetics at the Carnegie Institution. The family lives in Baltimore.

To **Kathryn Holmes Sulkowski '02** and **David Sulkowski '02**, a son, Nathan Henry [16], born May 14, 2011. He joins brother Tyler, 2. Mom and Dad are proudly serving as physicians in the U.S. Army and are stationed in South Korea.

To **Nick Vallandingham '02** and Tracy Vallandingham, a daughter, Rylee Nicole [17], born March 13, 2010. Rylee joins brother Drew, 4. Nick and Tracy are budget analysts at Naval Air Systems Command. The family lives in California, Md.

To **Katherine Ann Combs '03** and Louis Hicks, a daughter, Catherine Ann, [18] born Sept. 4, 2010. Katie, who worked on the college's River Concert Series and Arts Alliance events for a couple of years, is a stay-at-home mom. Louis is a professor of sociology at St. Mary's College. The family lives in Lexington Park, Md.

To **Jason Lawson '03** and **Valerie Chapman Lawson '04**, a daughter, Julia Gwen [19], born May 4, 2011. Julia joins brother Jesse, 3. Jason is a contracting officer for the U.S. Navy; Valerie, who taught at Chopticon High School for three years, is a stay-at-home mom. The family lives in Lexington Park, Md.

To **Carol Schmoeller Hatton '04** and Matthew Hatton, a daughter, Reese Eliza [20], born May 1, 2011. Carol is the head women's lacrosse coach and director of recreational sports at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Penn. Matt is the head men's lacrosse coach for McDaniel College in Westminster, Md. The family lives in Manchester, Md.

To **Richard Romer '04** and Laura McKeever, a son, Broderick Rhodes [21], born Aug. 8, 2011. Rich is an analyst for Montgomery County Council President Valerie Ervin, Laura is an online teacher coordinator for Connections Learning. The family lives in Silver Spring, Md.

To **Tracy Vallandingham '04** and Jennifer Vallandingham, a son, Dustin Bradley [22], born June 18, 2011. Tracy and Jen are budget/financial analysts at Naval Air Systems Command. The family lives in California, Md.

To **A. Simone Fields '05**, a daughter, Olivia Simone, [23] born Dec. 29, 2009. Simone is a child advocate attorney for the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau in Baltimore, representing children in the foster care system. They live in Baltimore County, Md.

To **Ellen Wilkie Kowal '05** and Michael Kowal, a son, Michael Joseph [24], born Feb. 17, 2011, in Baltimore. Ellen is on leave from the Howard County, Md., public school system. Michael works for Kinder Morgan as an area manager. The family lives in Wexford, Pa.



**TO CARI NANTON HOLMES '08 AND ROBERT HOLMES, A DAUGHTER, REAGAN MICHELLE, BORN SEPT. 14, 2010. CARI IS AN EDITORIAL ASSISTANT FOR THE BALTIMORE TIMES, BOBBY IS THE CREATOR AND PUBLISHER OF WWW.HUEVOICES.COM WEBSITE. THE FAMILY LIVES IN BALTIMORE.**

To **Lori Comegys Schmidt '05** and Andrew Schmidt, a daughter, Ana Elise [25], born May 1, 2011. Lori did higher education and non-profit work prior to Ana's birth. Andrew is an associate at Booz Allen Hamilton doing consulting work for the federal government. The family lives in Middletown, Md.

To **Kathleen Sanders Stephanos '05** and **John Stephanos '06**, a son, Thomas John [26], born Jan. 30, 2011. Kat graduated from the University of Maryland Medical School in May 2011 and is doing a combined residency in pediatrics and emergency medicine at the University of Maryland. John is in the U.S. Coast Guard Reserves stationed in St. Inigoes, Md. The family lives in Baltimore.

To **Sarah Tennent Simmons '06** and **Raymond Simmons '06**, a daughter, Anna Faith, [27] born Sept. 25, 2010, in Annapolis. Sarah, a nurse and performance improvement coordinator for Calvert Hospice, graduated from Western Governors University with a master's in nursing education. Ray, a budget analyst at Patuxent River Naval Air Station, is working on a master's in management from Florida Institute of Technology. The family, including golden-doodle, Brody, lives in Prince Frederick, Md.



A record 71 golfers enjoyed the 3rd Annual Hawktoberfest Golf Tournament at Cedar Point Golf Course on Friday September 30th.

# RENEWING OUR CONNECTION TO PLACE

By Lesley Urgo

**A**SK ANYONE WHAT THEIR FIRST impression was of St. Mary's College of Maryland and most likely you will be given their memories of the visually striking campus on the banks of the St. Mary's River. Joe and I had a similar response to this campus' great beauty when we arrived in the summer of 2010. As he assumed his role as the new president I began to look for ways to become connected to the campus community as well. Acting as a steward of this landscape and bringing recognition to it was a natural fit for me, and a role I've accepted without hesitation.

*We've been acknowledged by Tree Campus USA for engaging the student body and broader community in our activities.*



The mighty willow oak in the Garden of Remembrance is one of the state of Maryland's "Top 20" Champion Trees.

St. Mary's College is perfectly suited to foster an arboretum. As part of an ecological community of about 1000 acres of biologically diverse habitat, where two-thirds of the land falls within the Chesapeake Bay Critical Areas, and missions of education and historic preservation are pursued, the St. Mary's Arboretum allows for greater appreciation and understanding of both

our surroundings and how we as individuals can have an impact on our environment.

As a designated arboretum, we have put a name to much of the work already being done on campus and invited the greater community in to connect with the college, the campus and the unique flora and fauna of southern Maryland. One of the most visible aspects of our re-

cent designation as an arboretum is the labeling and signage that is displayed around the campus. Signs explain how different features like tidal marshes, buffer areas and raingardens contribute to the health of the landscape; labels for specimen trees and plants that thrive in these latitudes have been added and will continue to signify our arboretum work.

To increase the level of interaction with the campus and community, the Arboretum Association, with our neighbor Historic St. Mary's City, hosts many events throughout the year and we have created an interactive self-guided walking tour. See our website, [www.smcm.edu/arboretum](http://www.smcm.edu/arboretum), for a full calendar of events and access to the walking tour.

This past year some of our most successful endeavors included new plantings behind two residence halls, conducted by student and staff volunteers; the establishment of a healing garden on campus for counseling services work; and presentations on herb gardens and raingardens. In 2011-2012, a full slate of community presentations is underway, including a critical areas landscaping talk, a lecture on two recently arrived pests threatening our landscape, a native tree and plant workshop, and more. Again, see our website for dates and details. All are welcome to attend, and there is no cost to attend our public workshops.

The work we have done has already gained recognition from beyond our campus. In our first year we have been named to Tree Campus USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for engaging the student body and broader community in our activities.

Such recognition is made possible though the work of an energetic group of people that includes college staff, students, trustees, alumni and members of the community. Not only have people come together to lend their time to give lectures, host workshops, and take part in plantings, but dozens of people have supported our efforts through financial commitments. This financial support will allow us to continue labeling specimens with a goal of getting to 100 labeled trees and shrubs this coming year, so that students and visitors alike can become more knowledgeable about what grows here in Southern Maryland. Donations will also help



A grove of bald cypress borders one edge of the James P. Muldoon River Center.

us meet our goal of planting nearly three dozen new or replacement trees this year, maintaining our green campus profile. This support also assists our outreach, which enhances our ability to continue to be a good neighbor to our friends here in St. Mary's County.

The St. Mary's Arboretum truly is a project that renews our connection to the environment and strengthens the bonds that make our community strong. This place – the river, the land, the flora and fauna – influences our work and our play daily, and it is only fitting that the Arboretum Association continues to organize our effort to encourage a more thoughtful appreciation of the landscape. Our students, our educational mission, are well-served by this project, and I'm proud to be a part of it.

For more information about the St. Mary's Arboretum Association, and how you can get involved, please visit [www.smcm.edu/arboretum](http://www.smcm.edu/arboretum). ❖

## SUPPORTING THE ARBORETUM – WAYS TO GIVE, WAYS TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

At St. Mary's College of Maryland, there are numerous ways for you to give to the Arboretum, and improve the campus landscape. You can:

**Adopt a Tree:** for \$1,000 you can select (or have our staff select for you) an existing campus tree to 'adopt' and label. The donation will cover the cost of labeling the tree (including an official St. Mary's Arboretum label of tree type, and database entry). Your \$1,000 donation also includes a simple dedication label, with language of your choice. For example: "Remembering John Smith, '77" or "honoring the Arnold family of Laurel, Maryland."

**Adopt a Bench:** for \$2,500 you can select (or have our staff select for you) an existing campus bench to 'adopt' and label. As with adopting a tree, you would be able to provide the inscription for the name plate for the bench.

**Install a Bench:** for \$3,500 you can have a new bench installed on campus, at a place to be determined by you and our Arboretum Committee. Again, all procedures above apply.



The Arboretum Committee will review all proposed dedication labels prior to their purchase and installation by the college's grounds staff.

Additionally, should you choose to, you can elect to hold a dedication or memorial service at the site at a time of your choice. The Arboretum Committee will note your service with a ribbon display (in St. Mary's colors) along with a larger, temporary laminated tag that notes in greater detail your recognition (listing who is being celebrated and why, who contributed and why). These tags will be removed one month later, but the information will go into our permanent tree database and online map.

In all cases, the fees for the above gifts to the Arboretum help us care for our campus landscape. Donations are tax-deductible and are to be made to the St. Mary's College of Maryland Foundation. For more information, contact: Michael Carver, 240-895-3206 or [mfcarver@smcm.edu](mailto:mfcarver@smcm.edu).



The St. Mary's Arboretum Association was dedicated on March 26, 2011, as part of President Urgo's inauguration celebration. Here, Lesley Urgo cuts the dedication ribbon around the mighty willow oak that stands in the Garden of Remembrance.

# IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY

By Lili Afkhami

IT'S OFTEN SAID THAT COLLEGE IS A PLACE where friends become family, and St. Mary's College of Maryland is certainly no exception.

Tom Brewer (Class of 1981) and Marian Bolton (Class of 1979), however, took it to the next level. They married in 1980. And all three of their children chose St. Mary's. Additionally, Tom works at the college as a laboratory coordinator.

"We both started in the fall of 1975, in our freshman year. We both lived on campus," says Tom.

Tom's roots were anchored around the water since his youth, thus selecting St. Mary's seemed a natural fit. "In the summers," he says, "my parents had a place on the (Chesapeake)



Thomas Brewer (center) celebrates his graduation with sisters Erin (left) and Megan (right).

Bay, so since 7th or 8th grade I've been sailing small boats. When I came around the corner and saw the river that pretty much did it." The younger Brewer, Thomas, (Class of 2005) shared similar sentiments. "For me, growing up, my parents both worked during the summers. My dad would bring me and my sisters down here, so this was pretty much summer camp for us. And when I had the opportunity to go here for college, it was an easy decision." Younger sisters Megan and Erin are slated to graduate in 2012.

Thomas returned to St. Mary's this fall after earning a graduate degree in pharmacy from the University of Maryland, Baltimore. Following in his father's footsteps, he will be

*"In the summers, my parents had a place on the Bay, so since 7th or 8th grade I've been sailing small boats. When I came around the corner and saw the river that pretty much did it."*

— TOM BREWER '81



Thomas, Class of 2005, with dad, Tom, Class of 1981.

teaching an organic chemistry lab at the College. "While I was in school, I visited other colleges that friends went to and I had an opportunity to study abroad in Australia," says Thomas. "I used those opportunities to see what it would be like to go to a large university, and it certainly confirmed my appreciation of the small school community we have here at St. Mary's.

"Larger class sizes, like in Sydney, made me realize that you were just kind of a face in a stadium and not in a classroom where professors were looking to make sure you were paying attention, to make sure that you actually understood it and got it."

The elder Brewer also is a member of the

volleyball coaching staff. Through these connections, he has an even deeper understanding of the need to give back to St. Mary's. "We've had to raise tuition every year. We really need any and all additional support to supplement that. We lost one of our volleyball players last year because she simply couldn't afford to come back."

The Emergency Assistance Scholarship Fund is designed to help students who may be faced with tough financial decisions due to unexpected circumstances or life events. Since its creation in 2008, the fund has provided over \$200,000 in aid to 59 St. Mary's students. The current economy only underscores the importance of the emergency fund and its ability to allow deserving students to remain at the college and earn their degrees.

The younger Brewer also understands the importance of giving back and maintaining connections to the College. "Just come back every once in a while and remember why you loved the place so much. If you're coming down for an alumni event, you see the mentality of the people here, both students and alumni, and you remember why it was a much easier time when you were in college. And hopefully you'd like to see that atmosphere be around for other generations so they have the ability to choose their path like you did."

**E**IGHTEEN YEARS BEFORE THE BREWER family began its St. Mary's legacy, Roberta Wood Davis arrived on campus, graduating two years later from then-St. Mary's Seminary Junior College in 1959. "I met my husband, James Davis (Class of 1958), while he was taking liberal arts courses part-time and engineering courses on the base part-time," she said. "He moved in next door to me, and since he was going to school down at St. Mary's, he drove me." The couple married in 1959, and Davis turned her attention to teaching elementary school and raising a family.

When the school became a four-year college, Davis returned to earn her bachelor's degree while raising four children ranging in age from high school to toddler. "My youngest daughter jokes that she went to college before

she went to kindergarten," says Davis. Davis didn't come back alone when she returned to pursue her studies; her younger sister Mary and brother John also attended. In true family fashion, all three siblings graduated from the College on June 3, 1978.

When Davis isn't spending time with her 10 grandchildren, volunteering at Park Hall Elementary School, or caring for the family home located just down the road from the College, she and her family stay connected by attending various events such as Alumni Weekend and Arts Alliance of St. Mary's College of Maryland functions. "I think that giving back is just another piece of being part of the college," says Davis. "The friendships that I made there are long-lasting. I still remember



Roberta and Jim Wood (seated) with their family.

my history and lit teachers. The dedication the teachers had to their students was incredible. When I came back to St. Mary's to finish my degree, people were always there to help me even though I was busy raising four children and running a household."

Roberta is not the only member of the Wood family to find love at St. Mary's – brother Charles '67, met his wife Judy '66, while on campus; the couple soon married and their daughter, Janet, graduated from St. Mary's in 1991.

One of Davis' other siblings, Jim Wood, who currently serves as the college's Alumni Council treasurer, came to St. Mary's College in 1959 and graduated in 1961; he went on to earn his bachelor of science degree from the

University of Maryland. When he was a child, Wood would ride his bicycle from the family home to the campus. In 1958, while working part-time at a grocery store as well as at the post office on the Patuxent River Naval Air Base, Wood came to a realization. "While I was making a good income, especially with both jobs, I realized that at neither of these positions did I really want my supervisor's job. It was at that moment I decided that I definitely needed to pursue my education."

Wood has been involved with the Alumni Council for many years. "I think you can be on

it for a maximum of six one-year terms before a mandatory two-year break," says Wood. "I believe I am in my fifth cycle."

"I think that all alumni should be involved with their alma mater. They are a vital arm of the college. I enjoy being a small part of this through my work with the council." ♦

*The Woods and Brewers are two examples of how St. Mary's College really does run in the family. Generations of alumni are passing the proverbial torch every single day, with a single spark igniting a passion for education that blazes into each and every aspect of life.*

## TRIBUTE GIVING

Tribute gifts recognize family members, friends, and colleagues whose lives touch so many. Made in memory of or in honor of, these gifts provide financial support to uphold St. Mary's promise for public liberal arts education and its goals for accessibility, diversity, and academic excellence. Not only are these gifts significant to the college, but they exemplify the community's spirit and "the St. Mary's way." This year, the college community – faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends – initiated and created two funds to remember beloved members Alan Paskow and Joe Carroll. (see p. 5)

*If you would like to contribute online, go to [www.smcm.edu](http://www.smcm.edu) and click "Support St. Mary's."*



## AHEAD OF THE CURVE

We all know that feeling the first time our car slowly curves down the hill on Route 5 and we see St. Mary's for the first time! And we know our students are indeed "ahead of the curve."

Annual college rankings prove it: U.S. News & World Report lists St. Mary's as one of the top five public liberal arts colleges in the nation, along with the military academies and Virginia Military Institute. Furthermore, The Princeton Review chose it as one of the best 376 colleges nationwide and one of the best colleges in the Northeast in its spring guide. Finally, Forbes magazine rates St. Mary's as the 25th best college in the South.

The top image is a postcard showing the view approaching campus from the north circa 1925, before the construction of Route 5; the St. Mary's River is on the right, with the cottage, pump house and garage in the foreground; the water tower, Calvert Hall and the Lodge can be seen in rear.

The bottom image is from fall 2011, showing Route 5, the boat house, and the James P. Muldoon River Center.



## Renew Your Connections

Students at St. Mary's make connections with lifelong friends, with professors and with academic and personal pursuits. St. Mary's is a place that fosters those connections through its intimate size: 2,000 students, 12:1 student faculty ratio, and a residential campus where 85% of students live and study together on campus.

These connections continue beyond the banks of the river where graduates carry the benefits of the liberal arts education to the world while staying in touch with classmates, professors and ideas that were formed during their academic careers.



*Alumni reconnect with their alma mater and their classmates at Alumni Weekend 2011.*

**Philanthropy plays an important role in fostering these connections. Renew your connection to St. Mary's by making a gift today. To make your gift go to [www.smcm.edu/advancement](http://www.smcm.edu/advancement) or call 240-895-3206.**



PHOTO: BILL WOOD

## One for the History Books

On October 11, the St. Mary's College of Maryland men's soccer team notched their first win over the University of Mary Washington since 1981 as the Seahawks tallied a 3-0 victory against the Capital Athletic Conference frontrunner. Shown here, team captain and mid-fielder Brian Payne, a senior from Catonsville, Maryland.