# He St. Mary's Springs Academy Magazine

Cover photo: Ella Bach-Watson '32 **2019 EDITION** 



### A Message from our President, Stacey Akey

### Dear Friends of St. Mary's Springs Academy,

with the holiday season upon us, I am humbled by the many blessings for which we can all be grateful at SMSA. Remaining true to the core values under which we were founded, and steadfast in living The Ledger Way,

you can be proud to be part of the 110 year legacy. Personally, I can't help but reflect on what has become the most transformational and life affirming time in my professional career. Upon my arrival and over the months that have followed, the opportunity to connect and engage with alumni, students and their families, donors and other stakeholders at events, liturgies, reunions, social engagements and other activities, learning more about SMSA and the impact graduates continue to make on others and their communities, only served to deepen my passion for the people and the sacred places of SMSA.

It is my sincere hope that this magazine connects you to your legacy as a Ledger and that you find inspiration in reading about SMSA. This edition includes a feature article on Sister Florence Magnan and her transformative impact on gender equality and athletics during her 19 year tenure, as well as stories on Zach Hintze '15 and Eric Steffes '11, who went on to play football in Madison for the Badgers, drawing on the life lessons learned both on and off the field.

In addition, it is with gratitude and pride that we present to you, The Ledge, which includes the 2018 - 2019 annual report and listing of donors. We invite others to join us in advancing our mission and traditions, as we continue to learn together, serve together, and pray together. I can assure you, the future of St. Mary's Springs Academy is very, very bright!

In your service,

Stacey Akey President

St. Mary's Springs Academy



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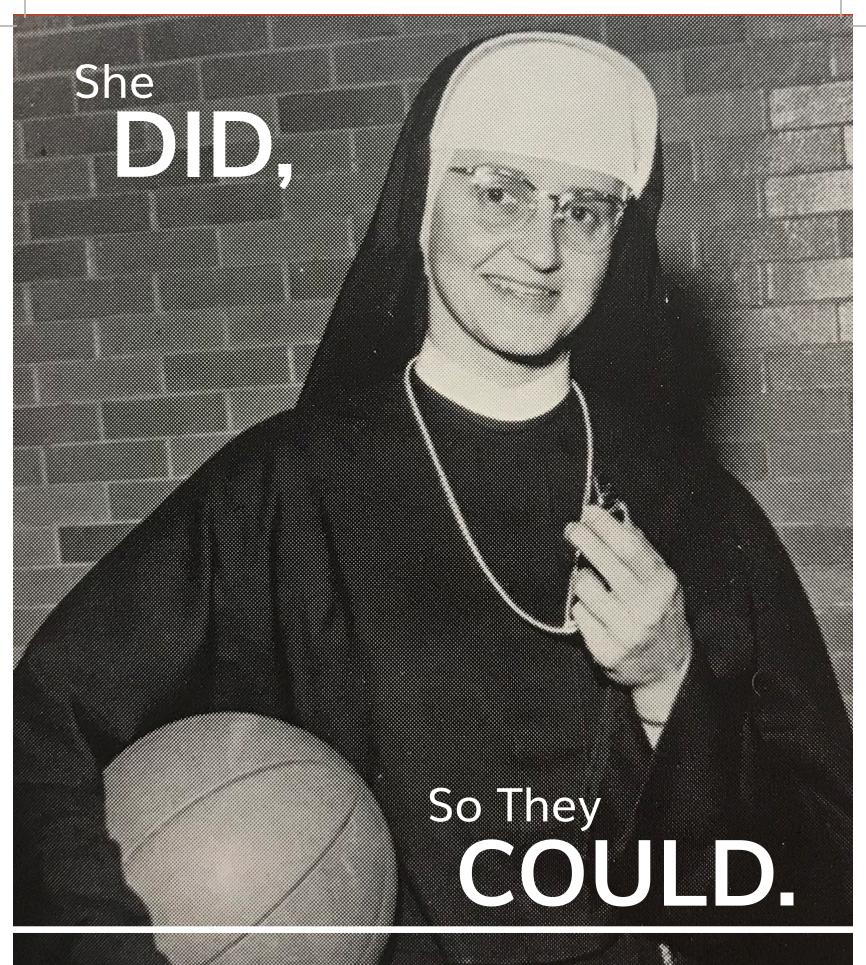
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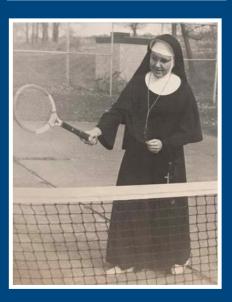
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Sister Florence Magnan
Pioneer for girls athletics at SMSA





**Top**: Cheering on one of her many teams. Middle: Teaching an approach shot. Bottom: Enjoying time on the ice in her habit.

### A DAUGHTER IS BORN

By: Chelsea McKay, Marketing Coordinator

On November 2, 1934, in Fort Atkinson, WI, Maryann Magnan was born to Dr. Harold and Mary Magnan. Maryann was an addition that wasn't common for this family, as the many generations born before her were filled with boys. If a daughter were to be born into this family, she'd have to be tough; and tough she was. Maryann spent most of her childhood playing outside with her three brothers and the neighborhood kids. She loved sports of any kind and when given the chance to compete, she was there.

Her love of athletics followed her throughout High School, and upon graduation, she attended UW-La Crosse to pursue a degree in Physical Education. During her first year there, she and her classmates watched the movie "Quo Vadis" and the line, "Where are you going?" really struck a chord. She knew she was being called for something more. The following year, she left UW-La Crosse to begin her journey to join the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes (CSA) at the Motherhouse in Fond du Lac. Although she was drawn to a different path, this move did not deter her from finishing her degree. She continued her studies, and in 1958, earned her degree in Physical Education.

A few years following graduation, Maryann made her perpetual profession to be a Sister of St. Agnes, taking the name of Sister Florence Magnan. She recalls, "Not long after my profession, the General Superior sent me to Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, to study Chemistry." Upon graduation, she was called to teach Chemistry, Biology and General Science at St. Mary's Springs Academy. This was the beginning of an SMSA legacy.

> Sister Florence was inducted into the 2019 SMSA Athletic Hall of Fame for her work as a coach, mentor and advocate for girls athletics on the Ledge.

### our ledger girls





**Top:** Posing with her 1976 volleyball team. **Middle:** Enjoying a laugh with her tennis team. **Bottom:** Keeping score at the boys basketball game.



### **COACH, TEACHER, MENTOR**

While on the Ledge, Sister Florence found there was an association for female students allowing them to dabble in athletics. This group was named the Girls Athletic Association (GAA), which included basketball, volleyball, tennis and badminton. Those who participated in this "association" recall it not being much more than an after-school club. In the mid-60s, there were schools in Wisconsin that had similar organizations, but unlike other schools, SMSA was not part of an athletic conference, and therefore never had the opportunity to travel and play competitively in real conference games. SMSA girls would simply play against one another wearing different colored pinnies.

There was an ever-growing number of female students who showed an incredible amount of passion for athletics and Sister Florence knew that something needed to be done so these girls could compete. A few days after this epiphany, as if it were sent from the heavens, Sister Florence received a letter from the Beaver Dam girls organization asking SMSA to join them for a tennis tournament. Sister Florence jumped at the opportunity and drove the girls down to Beaver Dam to compete. During the tournament, she made a point to speak with every single coach in attendance, securing a spot for SMSA in the conference so her athletes would finally have the opportunity to compete in real conference matches. Other schools in the conference included, Lourdes, Xavier, St. Joseph, and even schools as far north as Marinette.

In order to remain competitive in this new conference, Sister Florence knew it was essential to train regularly and obtain the best equipment that could be afforded to them. In the late-60s, SMSA female student athletes shared the gym with the boys. As the school expanded, plans were drawn, updates were made and in 1970 a new gym was built (later known as Hutter Gym). The new gym was built for the boys, while the girls would still have to play in the old, outdated gym...well, let's just say Sister Florence had other plans. One evening, she guietly snuck in and painted volleyball lines on the floor with tempera paint to make sure her girls could equally use the new gym. The school never asked for the lines to be removed and the girls were ecstatic as they now had the same opportunity to use the new gym as the boys.

During her time at SMSA, Sister Florence held the positions of girls athletic director, coach, statistician, equipment manager, bus driver, athletic trainer and teacher...not to mention her most proud role as mentor and advocate for girls athletics. Under her watch, girls athletics went from playing against one another wearing pinnies, to traveling across the state in a bus driven by Sister Florence, and competing in uniforms proudly adorned with an "S" on the front.

Her former player, Terri Sheridan, class of 1975, said, "Sister Florence was an advocate for girls and womens sports long before it was cool to be an athlete. She advocated for Title IX and made sure the girls had the opportunity to compete as Ledgers on the field, court and track. She is remembered by many as simply, Coach, with a whistle on her lanyard, always on the go in her white sneakers." Without a doubt, Sister Florence impacted the lives of many young female athletes.

Her perseverance gave female students an opportunity that may not have otherwise been available. Because of her unwavering dedication to girls athletics at SMSA, female athletes were

recognized alongside the boys in the record books. To this day, SMSA has 37 Conference Championships, 35 Regional Championships, 7 Sectional Championships, 11 State Runner-Ups and 6 State Championships in girls athletics including: Cross Country, Tennis, Volleyball, Basketball, Hockey, Soccer, Softball and Track.

After leaving SMSA in 1984, Sister Florence spent the next 30 years at Monroe Clinic/Hospital in Monroe, WI in their therapy department until her retirement in 2014.

Sister Florence is currently retired and living in Nazareth Court, the convent for retired CSA Sisters. Her tireless efforts will remain embedded in the hearts of many.

Simply stated:

"She did, so they could."



**Above:** Posing with her 1976 basketball team. **Below:** One of the groups from the athletic camps at Camp Vista in Dundee, WI.



Sister Florence was also passionate about younger girls having opportunities to compete in athletics. She founded an all-girls camp at Camp Vista in Dundee, WI. Young athletes would come from as far as Illinois!

# THE NEXT CHAPTER.

The 2019 Graduating Class Plans Following Graduation.

as of June 2, 2019

Adrian College
Lilly Baumhardt\*

Army National Guard/ St. Norbert College Sam Skiff

Bellin College Salena Zook\*

**Belmont University** Eric Reid

Concordia University Brianna Freund

Fox Valley Technical College Abby Gehring Troy Hermanny Michael Nemitz Myles Ottery

**Grand Canyon University** Adam Ringwell

**Junior Hockey** Noah Blanck\* Cade Tennessen

**Lakeland University** Karlis Ozols

**Lakeshore Technical College** Mitchel Burns

Marian University Amber Pelletier

Marquette University
John D. Ahern\*
Jayna Bartel
Kamil Fidziukiewicz
Doyle Kelly\*
Robert Miller
Mario Moreno - Salutatorian
Veronica Winkler

Moraine Park Technical College Nathan Flood

Steven Hoepfner Jacob Lisowe Isaac Shannon\* Michael Timblin

**Mount Mary University** Morgan Vander Kooy

**St. Cloud State University** Chase Lau

St. Norbert College Savannah Grass Joseph Hanlon\* Elyse Hornung\* Emma Hutter\* Emma Kirkwood

University of Notre Dame Zachary Welsch\* - Valedictorian

**University of Richmond** Isa Hopper

**U of Minnesota at Duluth** Lexi Baudry\*

U of Minnesota at Twin Cities Cade Christensen MacCrea Flood Rachel Petersen\*

US Army ROTC/UW-Madison Derek O'Leary\*

UW-Eau Claire Anna Sutton

**UW-Green Bay** Bennett Feudner\*

**UW-La Crosse** Alice Schreiner Olivia Spartz **Tradition Never Graduates**\*son or daughter of an alumni

**UW-Madison** Katie Baker\*

Jen Chatterton Jordan Krupp\* Andrew Loehr

Jackson Sabel\* McKenna Thurke Ezra Tucker

**UW-Milwaukee** 

Sam Busse Lexi Franz Lily Shireman Daniela Steiner

UW-Oshkosh -Fond du Lac Campus

Jacob Barr\* Anastasios Mastorakis Matt Moul Isaac Poss

**UW-River Falls** Melissa Ebertz

**UW-Stout**Mitchell Waechter

UW-Whitewater Leah Flitter Daniel Peters Gracie Rieder\* Caleb Schaefer

West Virginia University Kincaid Carter\*

WI Army National Guard/ UW-Milwaukee John Kain\*

Winona State University Jacob Schrauth

### **CLASS NOTES**

#### **Teachers**

Former teacher, Carol Kazmierczak, loved her years of teaching at St. Mary's Springs from 1992-2009. She is now enjoying retirement with her husband wintering in Naples, Florida. They have ten grandchildren!

### 1940's Necrology

Neil Francis King '44 Raymond Riegert '44 Jane (Schmitz) Ditter '46 David A. Sullivan '47 Ellen (Costello) Ericksen '47 Maureen (McDonald) Rathman '47 George Flood '47 Ann Hefter '48 Gale P. Brick '49

Dorothy (Burke) Anderson '45 reports that "life is still good." She lives on her own in Fond du Lac and has 11 children (1 deceased), 38 grandchildren and 36 great grandchildren!

Joan (Schorr) Janis '48 and her classmates celebrated their 70th reunion in 2018 with 20 graduates present.

Eleanor J. Becker '48 has had four grandchildren that have graduated from St. Mary's Springs. She was also Prom Queen in 1948!



The SMSA class of 1949 celebrated their 70th class reunion in 2019.

### 1950's Necrology

Lee Perrizo '50 Theresa (Lyons) Nelson '51 Alice Burns '51 Dee (Bingen) Ottery '51 Sally Anne (Wolff) Giebel '52 John Ahern '53 JaLaine M. (Cravillion) Karl '53 loanne (Shepro) Kahl '54 Ione (Franzen) Fisher '55 Mary (Wirtz) Huck '55 Charles Ogie '55 Margaret Mary (Massey) Hadsell '56 Ann Marie (Scott) Padzuikas '56 Patricia (Hadaller) Stone '56 Timothy Therkelsen '56 Mary Ellen (Schraufnagel) Schaefer '58 Stanley Steffen '58 Donald R. Schuh '59 Gary R. Steinke '59

Ann (Hoffmann) Hale '50 keeps busy by volunteering at the Senior Center and Senior Living. She also enjoys singing in the Resurrection and Cantor choirs as well as spending time with her 14 grandchildren.

**Ann Nickodem '52** is now living in Madison, WI connecting with family and friends in the state. Ann previously lived in Washington for 12 years.

Mary Eva (Perrizo) Demet '58 is enjoying life and activities in Tennessee.

John Luczak '59 and Charmaine have been retired for 10 years and love it. All five of their children and nine grandchildren are back in Wisconsin, 45 minutes from Fond du Lac. Happy to have two grandchildren attending SMSA!

#### 1960's Necrology

Paul "Chip" Kremer '60 Dennis Gutman '60 Tom Wiener '60 Stephen Donohue '60 John Neumann Jr. '62 John Tessner '63

Barbara (Hillenbrand) Rae '64 Daniel Hau '64 Jean "Jeannie" Smith '65 Mary Ann (Koenigs) Zins '69

Carol Williams '60 and Don continue to enjoy Florida. They spend their time golfing and being involved with volunteering in their active park community. They love visiting their seven grandchildren and great-grandson!

William Hoepfner '62 and wife Sandy (Kaiser) '63 are firm believers in the mission of St. Mary's Springs Academy. They have graduated their four children from SMSA. Three grandchildren have graduated from SMSA, one of which, Julia Schneider '11 currently teaches first grade, and three more are currently attending.

Kathryn (Berenz) Lang '62 has been married to Tony Lang for 48 years. They have four children and 10 grandchildren. Carol is an RN who graduated from St. Agnes School of Nursing in 1965. She is now retired from being a school nurse at St. Pius X School in Bowie Maryland.

Rita (Cartwright) Last '66 writes that her mother and active SMSA supporter passed away in 2018. Mrs. Margaret Cartwright is the mother of Rita (Cartwright) Last '66, Marion (Cartwright) Smith '68, Norine (Cartwright) Olson '71, David Cartwright '79 and Ann (Cartwright) Simon '84.

Agnes (Meyer) Timbrook '68 and husband Jim, attended Agnes' SMSA 50th class reunion in 2018 and had a great time. Lots of fun was had by all and it was wonderful to see so many former SMSA classmates.

### 1970's Necrology

James P. (J.P.) Van Horn '72 David M. Schmitz '73 Linda Jean Kirst '74 Julie (Pickart) Riese '78 Mary Beth (Wirtz) Osiecki '70 tells us that "as a spiritual director, one of my greatest joys is to lead Days of Reflection for Women." In the summer of 2019 she was blessed with the opportunity of helping facilitate the retreat day for the Associates of the Sisters of St. Agnes.

Gary Birschbach '71 tells us that granddaughter, Mubanga, was born in London, England to his son, Jeff. Jeff works in Accra Ghana. Gary's 14th grandson, Patrick, was born in October to son, Kevin and wife, Jojo, from China. "I'm Loving It!"

**Sue LaPlante '74** is a grandma! Her granddaughter was born in July of 2018. Blessings flow!

**Jim Kennedy '74** is currently working at Geneutech, Biomarker Testing Team. Retirement is in sight!

Joseph Simon '79 writes that he is keeping busy while working at Vorc, Westby Co-op Credit Union and St. Mary's Catholic Church in Richland Center, WI.

### 1980's Necrology

Peter Zacherl '81 Daniel Gilgenbach '83 Elissa "Lisa" (Kaiser) Moriearty '86

**Br. Steve Herro, 0. Praem '81**, recently began the Spiritual Direction Preparation Program at the Franciscan Spirituality Center in La Crosse, WI.

### 1990's Necrology

Ryan Fitzgerald '97

Andrew Flanigan '94, has been promoted to the Regional Sales Director at Folio Fine Wine Partners over the Southern Region. Andrew and his wife Christy have a new puppy, Ollie, who is a very active and cute black pug.

For additional alumni resources, visit smsacademy.org/alumni

Sarah (Massick) Bahr '92, received her Doctorate of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing in May, 2019 from Marquette University.



Sarah (Massick) Bahr with her family after receiving her Doctorate of Philosophy in May.

Shawn McClone '09 and his wife Kelsey welcomed their first child, a son named Landon, on March 29, 2019.



### 2010's

Matthew K. Michels '13 married Lilia Draime in October of 2019. He was commissioned as an Army Officer in August 2019.



Andrea (Beres) Rosemeyer '11 and her husband Jacob welcomed their second daughter, Josephine Frances.



Kim (Michels) Dorr '00 and her husband Richard Dorr welcomed their first child, Margaret Alice in March. The family, including fur-baby Tuga, lives in Madison where Kim is a project manager for Epic and Richard is a personal builder at Veridian Homes.

The Ronsman family - Ed '01 and Emily (Floyd) '01 celebrated Isaac's 1st birthday. His older brothers Henry (8), Andrew (5) and James (2) helped him open his presents.

Katie (Michels) Boland '02 and husband Brian Boland welcomed their second child, Henry James in March. Henry joins big sister Annabelle. The Bolands reside in Mt. Horeb.

Courtney (Snider) Smith **'02** and husband Travis Smith announced the birth of their son, Jude Donald Smith, born on May 22, 2019.



Cassie Kurek '07 continues to work for CLA and was recently promoted to manager. She loves traveling for business and pleasure. Most of the time she can be found in Minneapolis with friends.



The SMSA class of 2004 celebrated their 15th class reunion in 2019.







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# LIFE ON THE LEDGE.



Junior cheerleaders helped cheer the Ledgers on to victory!

Students, parents, faculty and staff participated in the Soles Walk event in Milwaukee to help promote Catholic Schools.



Varsity baseball won the Conference Championship!

Math Team attended a meet at Kettle Moraine Lutheran.



Volleyball players volunteered to help at the Cops for Kids program.







High School business students held mock interviews with Elementary students to prepare for "Biz Week" in Milwaukee, WI.



The Middle School track team competed in the State Track Meet in Waupun, WI.



High School students performed the play, "The Beverly Hillbillies."



# ¡BIENVENIDO A COSTA RICA!

"Welcome to Costa Rica!"

By: Soledad Theel, High School Spanish Teacher





**Above:** Standing with students outside their school and preparing for zip lining. **Below:** Students enjoy a traditional Costa Rican dance before dinner.



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I love to travel and believe that when you travel, you get to see and experience the world in a completely different way. When I began teaching at SMSA, I had this dream to take my students to the locations we talked and learned about during class. My hope was that they might experience first-hand what the cultures were all about and why I teach them more than just vocabulary and grammar in their Spanish classes. With the help of a colleague in the New Holstein School District, who has organized and led multiple trips with his students, I connected with WorldStrides, to begin the planning process for a Costa Rican excursion.

During the eight-day visit, my 27 students and eight adults made many wonderful memories from boarding airplanes, some for the very first time, to fly to another country, to zip lining in the rain forest. Every single minute was amazing and challenging for all of us. An important piece of this trip was to visit a local school to bring school supplies for the students. The SMSA students and families were incredibly generous in collecting and donating a variety of supplies, in fact, we collected far more than I could ever have imagined and needed to ask for an additional carry-on suitcase to take all of these gifts to the children!

When the day arrived to visit the school, we were all a bit anxious, not knowing what to expect. Would our students show how great they were? Would the local children greet us with happiness? I think each and every one of us was surprised by this visit, local students greeted us with kindness and curiosity.

First, we visited a 1st grade classroom and talked to the children, among whom was a little girl named, Sophía. She was happy to see us and tried to speak English as much as she could. Students in public schools are taught English beginning in kindergarten!

While our Ledgers were talking to these children, Mrs. Sales and I went to the teachers' work area to drop off the supplies we had brought along. One of the teachers there told me that they had never before received as many supplies in one visit. They were especially grateful for the numerous packets of loose-leaf.

From there, we all moved to a 6th grade classroom, where local students introduced themselves to us in Spanish, after which, we did the same. That day was also when, Brianna Freund '19, turned 18, and the children in the classroom sang happy birthday to her in Spanish, it was priceless. Finally, our students played a soccer match against the 6th graders, although there was no way our Ledgers could win, they had a great time.

During our bus ride back to the hotel, I overheard students talking about their experiences and about Sofía. I then took the

microphone and shared with them information that I had learned from the school principal. Twenty percent of the students in that school, including Sofía, were orphans. There was silence on the bus, and, after a while, one of our Ledgers said, "but, they were happy," as if until that moment, we all had forgotten that happiness comes from within.

Thankfully, this experience served as a wonderful and real-life reminder to be sincerely grateful for our blessings and that true happiness comes from within. Our next destination is Perú in July 2021. I am very excited for this trip, as we are going to spend nine days in this beautiful country, visiting amazing places including another school, and Machu Picchu, one of the seven wonders of the world according to UNESCO. I know it is going to be another amazing trip with wonderful memories for all of us!



### Student reflection, Nicole Tennies '20

Imagine growing up without your parents, in a country with so few resources. When people think of a trip to Costa Rica they think of warm beaches, green plants, and wealthy tourists, but in Costa Rica, I saw the other end. I saw many people who are much less fortunate than the typical person.

At a school there, we met some children who had to grow up without their parents. People should always be thankful for everything they have because some people do not even have a family to love them or rely on.

The main purpose of this service trip was to bring school supplies to the students of a school in Costa Rica. The Spanish Club asked for people to donate supplies. The gently used and new supplies quickly piled up. Our students were very generous with their donations, as we collected many notebooks, loose-leaf paper, markers, pens, and much more. The abundance of supplies would not even fit into just one carry on bag. We had enough donations to fill a second bag. I knew that we were going to be taking the supplies to a school, however, I did not exactly know what to expect. When we arrived at the school, we grabbed the heavy bags and hurried inside. First, we talked with the principal of the school who did not speak English, so there was someone there to translate from Spanish to English. They told us how grateful they were for the abundance of supplies that we donated. We were then

led into a classroom filled with children in first grade, their curious eyes following us as we entered.

I was surprised that there were children from all over Central America and even one child from Florida! Everyone went around the room and said their name and age as well. Then we moved to the grass field next to the school with the students to play soccer for a while. With the hot, bright sun beating down on us, we ran up and down the field. It was so much fun, even though I do not know how to play soccer.

After we said our goodbyes, we got back onto the bus to ride back to the hotel. On our bus ride back we were talking about our experience at the school. Our teacher told us something very shocking...twenty percent of the children at the school were orphans. This surprised me, they seemed like normal, happy kids. I could not even imagine what they had to deal with throughout their early years of life and hearing that made me feel so empathetic. It also made me feel extremely appreciative for what I have. Seeing those children who had gone through such difficult times in their lives gave me a wake-up call of how truly fortunate I am. I am usually grateful for my parents and family, but this experience gave me a newfound thankfulness. I could not even imagine growing up without the support of my loving parents.

I am so thankful for this experience that taught me to be more appreciative of my family and my home. The people that had to go through multiple hardships were so welcoming to us. Even though they had little, they still greeted us with open arms. Our small acts of kindness helped to brighten their days and hopefully improve their school year. Small acts of kindness like this can make a huge impact on the lives of others.



By: Chelsea McKay, Marketing Coordinator

With Zach Hintze '15 and Eric Steffes '11

From Fruth Field to Camp Randall Stadium, these former Ledgers tell us about family, SMSA and football as a Badger.

### Are the two of you both from Fond du Lac?

Zach: Yup! Born and raised.

Eric: I'm a Holylander, from Mt. Calvary.

### Do you have siblings?

**Zach:** I have a younger sister, Annika, and brother, Ben, who both attended SMSA. They are currently in college. **Eric:** I have two older brothers, Ryan and Alex, they too attended SMSA.

# Did your siblings also play football? Any fun sibling rivalries from when you were younger?

**Zach:** Like myself, my brother started High School playing soccer, basketball, and golf. My sister was a competitive volleyball player, she also played basketball and soccer.

Eric: Both of my older brothers played football. No big rivalries that I can remember. We all grew up playing sports together and I definitely looked up to both of them. I tried to emulate them and worked as hard as I could to be the best athlete possible.

### Did your Mom or Dad coach you?

**Zach:** They did not, but they are my biggest supporters.

Eric: They never coached me, but they made a ton of sacrifices and put in a lot of time and effort throughout my athletic career. I can't imagine how many miles they drove for games and practices over the years for my brothers and me. I am very thankful for everything they did, and definitely wouldn't have developed into the athlete I became without their help.

# Did you grow up watching the Badgers?

**Zach:** I didn't initially, but when I was in Junior High, I started to watch them more as my talents opened up options to possibly play there.

**Eric:** Yes, I did. Wisconsin was definitely my favorite college football team growing up, and it truly was a dream come true to be able to play football there.



### At what age did you start playing football? Did you always want to play your position?

**Zach:** I started playing football in 5th grade when it was initially offered. I then began to pursue soccer as my main sport while finishing Grade School and into my first two years in High School. I liked playing the positions I held in High School (safety, kicker, receiver), but as I got an offer from the University of Wisconsin Madison, I started to truly appreciate my talent of being a kicker.

Eric: I started playing football in 5th grade because I really had no interest in playing flag football before that. I originally wanted to be a quarterback, and I did get to play the position while I was growing up and in High School. But, eventually I realized, tight end was a perfect fit and could be a position I could play in college.

### Were you interested in other sports or activities when you were younger?

**Zach:** I always loved to play soccer, basketball and golf.

**Eric:** Absolutely. When I was younger, I really liked baseball and thought that would be the sport I would try and play in college. Eventually I switched my mind and wanted to pursue hockey. But by my sophomore year of High School, I realized that football was going to give me the opportunity to play college athletics.



**Above**: Steffes forced a fumble against Arcadia in the State Championship game - 2009.



Hintze set up to kickoff against Illinois - 2017.

### What are your favorite memories of Coach **Hyland?**

**Zach:** My favorite memory playing for Coach Hyland would definitely be playing in and winning the State Championship at Camp Randall my senior year.

**Eric:** When I look back on my High School football experience, my favorite memories were the times spent off the field with my teammates and coaches. I remember Coach Hyland telling stories that usually didn't make any sense but somehow got us motivated to practice or play a game. I remember all the pregame traditions and pregame meals more than I remember the games themselves.

### When did you "get the call" that you were going to be a Badger? How did you feel?

**Zach:** That was a weird situation. I was contacted by the coaching staff, under Gary Anderson, in December of 2014. Then when the coaching staff changed, I didn't know if I would still have the spot or have to move to the next team. Thankfully when the new staff was hired, they were still interested and offered me a scholarship.

Eric: I was in class, and Coach Hyland came to get me and said we had to go make a phone call. While we were walking to his office, he explained we were going to call Coach Bielema from Wisconsin, and they were going to offer me a full scholarship. No one answered the phone, so I had to wait for the entire class period with my mind racing all over the place thinking about it. I was so excited and happy, and I didn't pay attention to a single thing in any of my classes for the rest of the day!







**Top:** Steffes breaks a tackle against Lancaster High School during the State semi-finals - 2009. **Middle:** Hintze poses with Rafael Gaglianone after winning the Pinstripe Bowl trophey - 2018. **Bottom:** Steffes scores a touchdown against Michigan State at Spartan Stadium - 2016.

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# What are your favorite memories or games playing for the Badgers?

Zach: My favorite memories will be the times I got to spend with guys I looked up to for the years they played for the Badgers. Rafael Gaglianone, a true inspiration, really brought a ton of great memories to our group of specialists. I wouldn't trade for anything the time spent building connections with the guys I spend 15 hours of my day with.

Eric: Honestly, just like High School, my favorite memories from college were in the locker room and time spent off the field with my teammates. But, if I had to pick a few favorite games, I would go with LSU at Lambeau Field, Nebraska my senior year at Camp Randall when we won in overtime, and all the bowl wins that I was a part of.

# What career would you like to pursue as a young adult?

**Zach:** I plan on pursuing a career in health care. I am currently majoring in biology.

**Eric:** I am currently starting my career in medical sales with a distribution company in Dallas, TX.

# What values did you learn at SMSA that helped guide you into adulthood?

Zach: SMSA has taught me to really value the time that I am given. Not everyone will get the chance to be where I have been and SMSA taught me to be so appreciative of the opportunities that are to come.

**Eric:** I think my work ethic started at SMSA and continued to develop throughout college. That value has helped me succeed in adulthood.

# What advice would you give young athletes who share the same dream as you?

**Zach:** I would say follow your dreams. Give yourself a chance to make your dreams a reality. You will never regret something in the future that you are so sincere about in the present moment.

Eric: Don't let someone else out-work you. If you have dreams of playing college or professional athletics, you have to be willing to put in the time and work to improve. No matter how gifted you are, you won't be able to succeed at the next level without putting in the extra work.

## **Academy Girls Luncheon**

In the spring, since the late-80s, St. Mary's Springs Academy has held a luncheon for female alumnae who have graduated from Springs for 50 or more years. This event is a wonderful affair where former classmates can mingle and catch-up on the latest news from their forever friends.

This year's event was held on Wednesday, May 8th. We welcomed 208 ladies to the event at Whispering Springs Golf Club with graduation years from 1947 - 1969. The SMSA vocal jazz students performed songs for the ladies including "Mr. Sandman" by The Chordettes, a popular tune from 1958.

Ladies, mark your calendars! The 2020 Academy Girls Luncheon will be held **Wednesday**, **May 13th** at Whispering Springs Golf Club. We will be welcoming the class of 1970!









### Men of the Ledge

On Thursday, September 26th, we held our annual Men of the Ledge event at Whispering Springs Golf Club. This event is welcome to any male alumni who have graduated from Springs for 50 years or more. Approximately 50 male alumni were at the event this year and we welcomed the graduating class of 1969 to the group!

We were very excited to again welcome our most seasoned alumnus, Michael Gerred '40. It was a great evening full of laughter and fun trivia, that ended just in time to get home to watch the Packers, even though they lost.

Gentlemen, mark your calendars! The 2020 Men of the Ledge will be held **Thursday, September 17th** at Whispering Springs Golf Club. We will be welcoming the class of 1970!

To view more photos from either event, please visit www.smsacademy.org/alumni-special-events

# **Tradition Never Graduates.**

# Athletic Hall of Fame.

### A Tradition of Excellence

### By: Chelsea McKay, Marketing Coordinator

### THE 2019 ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

welcomed eight athletes, two coaches and one honored team on Friday, August 23rd. Inductees shared personal stories of hard work, family support and unbreakable bonds with their former teammates and coaches who helped them reach their full potential.

A number of these stories were centered around the statement, "I, too, was not part of the track team for a couple weeks...until Coach Hyland caught me." For those of you who played for Coach Hyland you'll understand this statement and for those who didn't, let's just say Coach was very adamant that his players also participated in track. Coach Hyland's former players, in attendance, had a great laugh together about their personal experiences attempting to skip track, until Coach found out. They were figuratively "dragged by their ears" down to the track to keep their legs warm during the off season. It should be mentioned, that Nilo Lloren '89, was an exception to this story. Nilo willingly joined track and excelled. His achievements were so great, it filled an entire page in the program, written in size 7 font!

Another great story from the night came from Sean Heaney '77. Sean, a past President of Key Club, recalled a story from his High School years involving a boat motor, the Key Club Vice President, Michael Brandmeier, and the Key Club Treasurer, Gerard Berenz. Sean explained to the crowd that the three of them would host Key Club meetings cruising Lake Winnebago in Sean's brother's boat. One summer afternoon in July of 1976, the starter broke on the boat. The three of them took the boat to Clarence's Marine to fix it and was given the quote of \$37.41. Sean couldn't afford that amount, so he borrowed the money from \$75.00 the Key Club had in their money box. The boat was fixed, and the three continued their planning session on the water. Once school began in the Fall, monthly meetings were held with other members from Key Club and Gerard would give the treasury report. He reported

there was \$75.00 in the account and the members would cheer.

Then Gerard would go on to say \$37.41 of the amount was in the form of a paper IOU. That would cause the members cheers to turn to jeers! Well, 43 years later at the 2019 Hall of Fame event, Sean repaid his IOU, with interest (around 350%!), and presented a check written out to the Key Club.

The evening continued on with hilarious reminiscing from earlier years: from a bus speeding ticket paid off by Sister Florence, poking fun at the athletic dynasty of the Schneiders born in the Holylands, the early years when our opponents would mock us, saying the "S" on the front of our jersey stood for "Sissy," to a police escort out of Madison, WI for our hockey team.





**Top:** Coach Sister Florence Magnan enjoys a laugh with Coach Bob Hyland.

**Bottom:** Brothers and inductees, Josh '03 and Mitch Schneider '08 pose for a photo.

### **Tradition Never Graduates**

This year's Athletic Hall of Fame inducted the following members, Mitchell Schneider '08, Josh Schneider '03, Jacob Mueller '99, Jose "Nilo" Lloren '89, Craig Hawley '82, Gerard Berenz '77, Joseph Brandt '62, John Pawsat '57, Coach Joe Bird '65, Coach Sister Florence Magnan and honored the '81-'87 Varsity Boys Hockey teams.

We encourage you to begin considering nominations for the 2020 Athletic Hall of Fame by visiting, www.smsacademy.org/ahof, and click on the HOF Nomination Form for 2020. Next year's event will be held on Friday, October 2, 2020 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center (625 Rolling Meadows Drive, Fond du Lac).



Don Grebe '84 and Jacob Mueller '99 enjoy a handshake.



2019 Athletic Hall of Fame Inductees
From top left, Mitchell Schneider '08, Josh Schneider '03, Jacob Mueller '99, Nilo Lloren '89, and Gerard Berenz '77.
Bottom left, Craig Hawley '82, John Pawsat '57, Coach Joe Bird '65, Coach Sister Florence Magnan and Joseph Brandt '62.



Members from the Honored '81-'87 Varsity Boys Hockey teams From top left, Kevin Klapperich '88, Bob Englehart '82, Tony Ahern '87, Scott Pavegilo '88, Mark Grebe '82 and Doc Schaefer '87. Bottom left, Tim Ahern '85, Todd Deanovich '88, Dean Deanovich '88, Pete Manowske '84, Don Grebe '84 and Randy Polakoski '82.

# **CALLING ALL ALUMNI HOCKEY PLAYERS!**

Join your former teammates in this alumni match-up against the Fond du Lac Cardinals.



FRIDAY DECEMBER 20, 2019 5:00 P.M.

Blue Line Family Ice Center 550 Fond du Lac Avenue

### **REGISTER TODAY!**

smsacademy.org/alumnihockey

After the alumni game, enjoy the SMSA vs Fondy hockey matchup! Puck drops at 7:00 p.m.



# Can't Miss Events.

For a full list of events, please visit www.smsacademy.org/events



### Friday, January 17, 2020

What would you do with \$20,000!? Purchase your tickets today!

Call Kristin Zitlow '00, at (920) 322-8006.



### Saturday, April 4, 2020

Join us for a night of mystery and intrigue. Purchase your tickets today!

Visit www.smsacademy.org/ledgerfest



Friday, July 31, 2020

Save the date for this fun summer event!

Not a golfer? Not a problem! Join us in the evening for dinner and entertainment.

Visit www.smsacademy.org/SFS







# Report on

# GIVING

### July 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019 Annual Report



Katie (Kemp) Tank '08 Chief Development Officer

I feel incredibly blessed to share with you that for the second consecutive year, SMSA closed the 2018-2019 fiscal year in a strong financial position. Increasing enrollment, sound financial planning, and budget controls helped to maintain a balanced budget, while our annual fund and special events exceeded the goal, resulting in an opportunity to accomplish some pretty significant things at SMSA! Of course, this is only possible through the generosity and unwavering support of our invested donors, several estate gifts, and high performing special events.

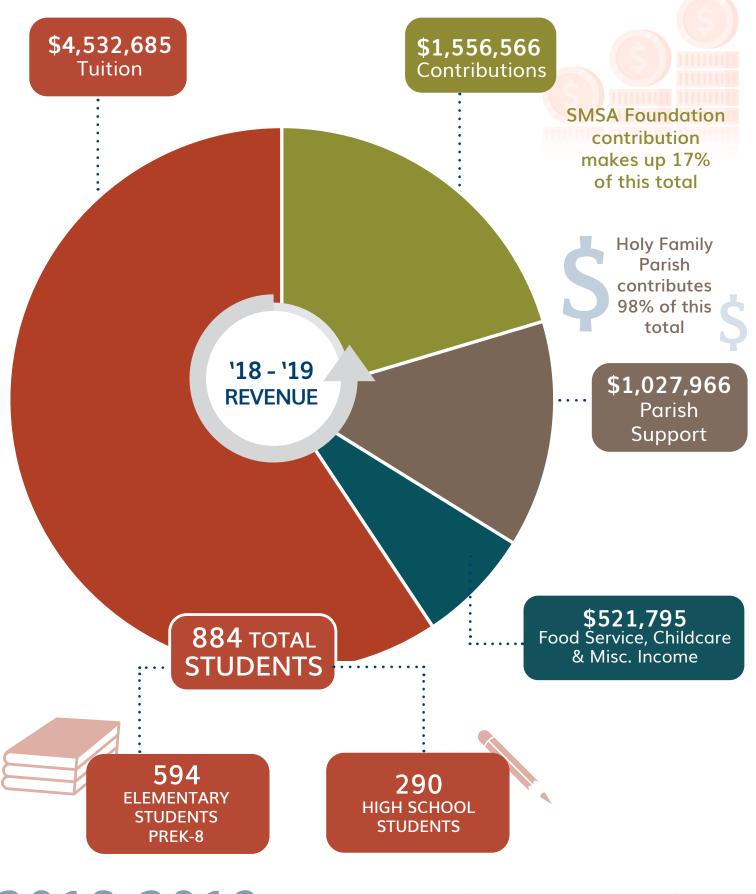
As a result of our fiscal strength, we have been able to:

- · Reinvest in the physical campus by increasing classroom space by over 1,700 square feet through the renovation of the 2nd floor storage space. This project was able to increase student capacity and course offerings.
- Invest in 1:1 technology in the High School, thereby placing Chromebooks in the hands of almost 300 students. This, in addition to technology infrastructure updates, ensures enhanced learning opportunities for our students.
- · Reorganize the academic model to align with best practices, through deployment of a Principal/Assistant Principal framework, providing leadership consistency and long-term sustainability.
- · Implement year one of a three-year faculty wage adjustment based on years of service in the teaching profession and degree attainment. Our eventual goal is to pay teachers 80% (or more) of the public school salary!
- · Upgrade Hutter Gymnasium with new floorboards, bleachers, basketball hoops, a fresh coat of paint, and new pads under the basketball hoops.
- · Pay for the two new classrooms mentioned above, and pay down a portion of our capital loan for the new campus.

Thank you for all you do to support SMSA and Catholic education. I am truly proud to be called a LEDGER alongside you.

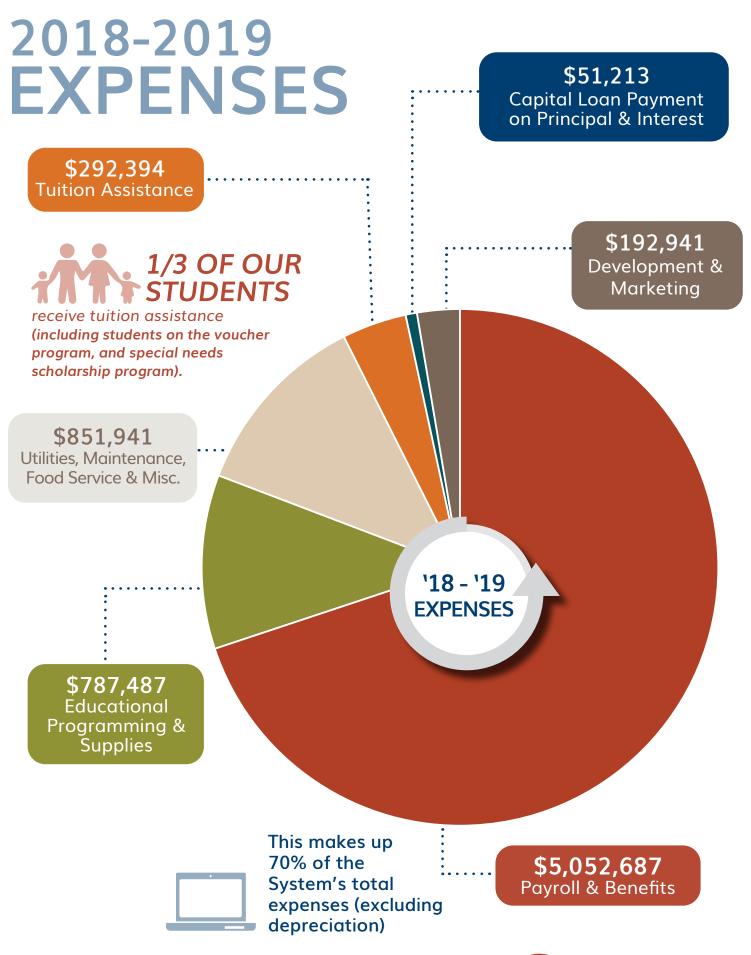


Katie (Kemp) Tank '08 Chief Development Officer



2018-2019 **REVENUE** 

99 TOTAL VOUCHER SEATS across the System





# 2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT DONORS CIRCLES

This report represents new pledges and new gifts made between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2019.

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The Twisted Warrior

SMSA Chaplain, Fr. John LoCoco, stands with third grade students at this year's All Saints Day Mass.

# Thank you to our donors!

# 2018 - 2019 Foundation Report



### INVEST TODAY, INSPIRE TOMORROW.

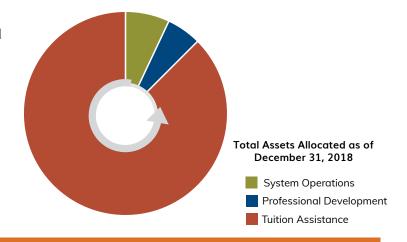
The St. Mary's Springs Academy Foundation is responsible for managing the System's endowment funds – totaling nearly \$6 million in assets. Total funds distributed to SMSA for all funds managed by the Foundation for use in the 2019-2020 academic year was \$242,667.

#### What is an endowment fund?

An endowment fund is a monetary investment in which the organization invests the principle (the investment) and uses the interest (the earnings) to fund areas of need. The organization cannot use the principle to fund needs, only the interest may be used. This makes endowment funds some of the most effective and far-reaching gifts as they last forever!

Have additional questions about the St. Mary's Springs Academy Foundation?

Visit www.smsacademy.org/foundation or contact Katie Tank, Chief Development Officer, at 920-322-8011 or at ktank@smsacademy.org.



### **SMSA Foundation Current Named Endowment Funds**

Doug Tighe Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dr. Ewald & Dorothy Pawsat Scholarship

#### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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# Thank you Holy Family.

Holy Family Catholic Community provides St. Mary's Springs Academy with an extremely generous annual donation, which supports the yearly operating expenses. Additionally, Holy Family's priests preside over our weekly chapel Masses, provide reconciliation on campus, visit students in classrooms and much more!

Thank you Holy Family Catholic Community, for your investment in St. Mary's Springs Academy!

# THANK YOU TO OUR OTHER CONTRIBUTING PARISHES

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin - North Fond du Lac St. Catherine of Siena - Ripon



Students, staff and faculty gather at Holy Family for an All-System Mass during homecoming week.



# Core values to learn, live and grow by.

In 2018, SMSA introduced a new set of System core values, coined "The Ledger Way." Our values are instilled in every nook and cranny of our campus, serving as a constant reminder of our call to live like Jesus. More importantly, we continue to seek ways to draw our values off of paper and signage and into the thoughts, attitudes and actions of our students, staff, and broader community. With this at heart, there has been a considerable amount of work to lay the foundation for new expectations of our students relative to community service. There is now an elevated focus on



community service work requirements, awards for students going above and beyond their service hours, students now assisting in leading System service projects, athletic teams being required to complete team community service projects and more. The intentionality of our core values and the commitment to developing servant leaders, is truly what unites us as members of the Ledger community.

St. Mary's Springs Academy 255 County Road K Fond du Lac, WI 54937

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