

W Y O M I N G S E M I N A R Y

JOURNAL

SPRING 2020



#SemStrong

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR



There are times when the Wyoming Seminary Journal seems to organically take on a theme. As we prepared the pages for this edition, I noticed that the common pulse in each of the stories was service – service to our internal community; service to our surrounding neighbors; service to our global peers; service to strangers.

Round Square and Junior Blue Key are two programs we are excited to share with you in this Journal.

Round Square provides a level of service that benefits underdeveloped neighborhoods in countries such as India, South Africa and Peru. Junior Blue Key is a newly implemented program at the Lower School that serves as a welcoming presence for prospective students visiting the campus. They are different degrees of service but the end goal is the same – making others feel good about their surroundings.

But it is not only through established programs that Sem students offer their time and extend their talents and assistance.

On December 20, 2019, the first day of winter recess, three students and two faculty members went to Camp Orchard Hill in the Back Mountain to help out with the annual Christmas at Camp. The event hosts approximately 30 homeless men from throughout the Wyoming Valley for two weeks during the holidays. The group from Sem skipped an opportunity to sleep in a bit longer. Instead, they shared their day with these men by bringing them Christmas cookies and helping to prepare and serve them lunch. They also wrapped gifts that some of the men could give to their own children. It was an act of service that most likely had a profound effect on many families.



Sem closed out the first week of school in August, 2019 with the fourth annual Day of Service (page 3). The morning began with Upper School Blue Knights gathered on Back Campus, ready to embark on their assignments. We collected photos throughout the day of our students painting murals, pulling weeds, packing food, and planting flowers. But my favorite photo of the day is of a Sem student chatting with a gentleman in an assisted living facility; both engaged, both with big smiles.

Sometimes, service is simply just having a conversation. And making others feel good about themselves.

Go Blue Knights!

Jill Snowdon
Wyoming Seminary Director of Communications
Journal Editor-in-Chief
jsnowdon@wyomingseminary.org
(570) 270-2195

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Wyoming Seminary Journal Spring 2020

The Journal is regularly published by Wyoming Seminary and is mailed free of charge to its alumni, parents and friends. We welcome story ideas and encourage letters to the editor.

Please send correspondence to:

Jill Snowdon
jsnowdon@wyomingseminary.org
570-270-2195

Jill Snowdon
Wyoming Seminary
201 North Sprague Avenue
Kingston, PA 18704

Editor-in-Chief

Jill Snowdon

Editorial Staff

Liz Hibbard '69
John Shafer '71
Gail Smallwood

Graphic Design

Shannon Zimmerman

Printing

Llewellyn & McKane, Inc.

Photography

Josiah Lewis Photography
Wyoming Seminary Staff

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On the Cover

This photo was taken in the fall, but the Sem Community stands today as strong as ever.

Integrity, Character and Connection



By Kevin Rea

These last few weeks we have all experienced an increase in anxiety for ourselves and our families. The global nature of this pandemic means that it has reached the entire Wyoming Seminary community. I want each of you to know that we at Sem are thinking of you and your families around the world, and that we are sending you positive thoughts for health and happiness. As Blue Knights of the Susquehanna, our power increases the more we connect. The more we

connect with one another, the more we enhance our ability to transform the world in positive ways.

The cover of this journal captures in one image my faith in Sem. It is the story of why I believe our future is as strong and as inspiring as ever. My thanks to the communications department for gathering this delightful group of happy, smiling Upper School students brought together earlier this academic year on the steps of the Nelson Bell Tower, the site of so many senior photographs and alumni reunion gatherings. These days it seems hard to believe, but once upon a time during the 2019-2020 school year we actually had students on campus who were able to hang out and enjoy one another's company in person!

As I gaze upon our students' smiling faces and the hope and happiness they exude, I am reminded of another group of students who experienced historic levels of adversity – the Class of 1972. The reason we can all see sunlight through the center of the Bell Tower is because of the flood's destruction of Nelson Chapel in June of that year. Like the Class of 1972, the Class of 2020 has experienced great anguish and distress. Recently a member of the Class of '72, **MADDY NEWMAN EICHEN**, reached out to Vice President of Advancement **JOHN SHAFER '71** with a message to the Class of 2020. It read as follows:

"From one in the Class of 1972, I absolutely know the Sem community will work together and stay strong. My message to the Class of 2020...This is a really challenging and scary time, but it will forever be part of your class history. The 1972 Wyoming Valley Flood happened at the end of June, a few weeks after our graduation. I was expecting to spend the summer saying goodbye to friends, but instead found myself in Clarks Summit, where my family relocated from Kingston because our house was totally destroyed. Everything felt (and was) different! I could no longer walk a few blocks or take a short drive to hang out with my friends – and, all of us were in the same situation. Through the years, the Class of 1972 (sometimes known as the Class of the Flood) seems to be bonded in a different type of way. This is one, among many reasons, I continue to go to Class Reunions. And, I'm looking forward to attending our 50th Year Reunion in 2022...! Sending all my best to Sem. Stay healthy!!"



“ I am so very proud of our Sem community. Our resilience through time, our character and our integrity in the face of adversity is what I see in the smiles of our students and our faculty. ”

Confucius says we should study the past if we would define the future. Maddy and the entire Class of 1972 provide inspiration for the Class of 2020 not just to think but to know that, despite the many challenges which beset our community at present, we will persevere. This is also confirmed for me in the transformational effort our faculty have undertaken in bringing the entirety of our learning online in under 48 hours. Because of Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf's recent decision to close all Commonwealth schools for the rest of the school year, our Sem faculty superheroes are sustaining their creative, inspiring teaching online until the end of the spring trimester. We are now developing plans to honor all of our graduating seniors and eighth-graders with joyful and memorable graduation ceremonies later this year.

I am so very proud of our Sem community. Our resilience through time, our character and our integrity in the face of adversity is what I see in the smiles of our students and our faculty. We will meet again because we are strong. And that is all things true, all things beautiful and all things good.

I hope you enjoy reading the stories about the amazing strengths of our community in this wonderful edition of the Journal.



1

DAY OF SERVICE AUGUST 30, 2019

Painting, cleaning, maintenance to local cemeteries, and camaraderie with neighbors were some of the highlights of Sem's 4th annual Day of Service on Aug. 30. The Upper School community worked on and off campus throughout the day on projects throughout the area. The teams of students, faculty, and staff helped beautify parks, wrote letters to service men and women, and shared their musical talents and conversation with residents of assisted living facilities.



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1. GIA HUY LE '21, left, and YINMING WANG '22 work together to collect trash at the Riverfront Park in Wilkes-Barre.
2. XIABU ZHOU '21 performs on guitar for residents of Highland Park.
3. From left: YUDAI KACHI '20, THITIWAT LARNDATE '20, ADAM HONIS '20, JONATHAN MIERS '20, NICHOLAS LUCIEN '20 and LINCOLN HECK '20.
4. SHUOGANG ZHU '23 visits with a resident at the Highland Park Nursing Home.
5. Students work together to clear Japanese knotweed from the Back Mountain Trail.
6. Working on a mural in Wilkes-Barre are, from left: TYRA MCCORMICK '20, LEANNA YATCILLA '20, EMILY URBANSKI '20, IAN POOLE '22, YIFEI LIU '21, GRACE ADAMS '21, REBECCA CRUCIANI '20, and OLIVER LEW '21.

ALUMNI GATHERINGS

1. **ATLANTA:** First row, from left, Phil Arnold, Elizabeth Arnold, **RICHARD WILES '11**, **LIZ CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, **GEORGIA DZURICA '65**, **BETSY BRAVMAN HALPERN '76**, and **JANEL HUGHES WILES '76**. Middle row: **JOHN SHAFER '71**, Kevin Rea, Scott Green, Dolores Byrd, **JOEL PUTTERMAN '69**, **JOHN METZ, JR. '86**, **SHEILA SHEFFLER DE LA CRUZ '95**, Janice Epstein, **WARREN EPSTEIN '52**, and **MARGUERITE WILES '14**.



2. **CHARLOTTE:** First row, from left: **ELLEN HUGHES '09**, and **COURTNEY MCCARTHY '15**. Middle row: **JEFF ROTHBERG '94**, Linda Flick, **JOCELYN PICCONE '82**, Jan Busch, **BOB BUSCH '56**, **JANET MALKEMES '73**, **HARP HEFFERNAN '76**, and Kevin Rea. Back row: **JOHN SHAFER '71**, **DON FLICK, JR. '79**, Katie Harding, **LIZ CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, **JONATHAN HARDING '97**, Jamie Wooton, **JASON OWENS '95**, and **ZAC HARVEY '11**.



3. **DALLAS:** From left, Michael Victor, **MARGIE SHAFFER VICTOR '65**, **JOHN SHAFER '71**, **LIZ CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, **JIM ROSENTHAL '73**, **SANDY THATCHER '61**, **NATALYA SHARP CHERRY '94**, Stephanie Reeves, **FAITH EDWARDS SARRATT '56**, Larry Sarratt, Hedy Rittenmeyer, **RON RITTENMEYER '65**, **NATHAN VILLAMOR '07**, Fariha Rahman, Mohamed Rahman, and Kevin Rea.



4. **HOUSTON:** From left, **JIM SGARLAT '69**, **JOHN SHAFER '71**, **LIZ CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, **LINDA RENVILLE WARDELL '63**, Irene Bourke, **JOE WAITER '69**, and Kevin Rea.

OPPOSITE PAGE:

5. Alumni Council members: first row, from left: **ALEXANDRA HACKETT GROVER '09**, **JILLIAN SEELEY '05**, **LAUREN TOCZYLOWSKI WIELAGE '02**, **JENNIFER JANERICH SWITZER '97**, **CHARLENE AQUILINA '98**, **ELIZABETH CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, Sem Director of Alumni Programs. Second row, from left: **THOMAS ROMANOWSKI '10**, **DAVID JANERICH '05**, **JAMIE FLACK ECKMAN '05**, **JASON NATAUPSKY '03**. Third row, from left: **DANIEL VOLPETTI '03**, **ROBERT BRESNAHAN '08**, **JOHN MCLAUGHLIN '97**



6. First row, from left: **RICHARD ECKMAN '04**, **JASON NATAUPSKY '03**, **JAMIE FLACK ECKMAN '05**, **LAUREN TOCZYLOWSKI WIELAGE '02**, **JAMIE ANZALONE '99**. Second row, from left: **NICHOLAS SORDONI '02**, **JOHN RUCKNO '04**

7. **SIS SCHALM ERTLLEY '62**, **PATRICIA KLEIN ROSENTHAL '64**, Tammie Harris

8. **JANET MURRAY '76**, **STEPHEN ROSENTHAL '93**, **CORNY CONYNGHAM ROMANOWSKI '75**, **JEANNIE MCCARTHY CLEMENTS '77**

9. Alice Sallada, Julie Platt, **JOHN PLATT '49**



HOLIDAY GATHERING

Westmoreland Club, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.
December 4, 2019





A GALA CELEBRATION

A graceful crystal chandelier, twinkling white lights, outstanding jazz music and a lovely dinner of filet and shrimp welcomes guests to Wyoming Seminary's 175th Anniversary Gala, held on a balmy Saturday night, September 28, 2019 at the Westmoreland Club in Wilkes-Barre. Couples could pose for portraits before enjoying a festive reception, and John Vaida and his Madrigal Singers delighted everyone with their heartfelt performance of Sem's Alma Mater. The jazz group Deja Groove brought many to the dance floor after dinner.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SEM!



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175TH ANNIVERSARY

Gala

SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

- 1. **MARY LOPATTO '72, JOHN LOPATTO '69, JEANNE LOPATTO '77**
- 2. **JOSEPH KLUGER '82**, Tina Dowd, **GERRY GUNSTER '85**, John Dowd
- 3. **REBECCA HARRIS '77**, Barbara Anzalone, **TISH MCCARTHY LAST '74**
- 4. **BROCK SIEGEL '99**, Tara Siegel, **JOHN RUCKNO '04**
- 5. David Davies, **JASON NATAUPSKY '03**
- 6. **KARLINE ZIKOR O'DONNELL '01, MATTHEW O'DONNELL '98, WILLIAM SORDONI '93**, Jennifer Sordoni
- 7. **CORNY CONYNGHAM ROMANOWSKI '75**, Anniversary Committee Co-Chair and Gala Committee chair; **ROBERT SMITH '56**, Annelise Smith



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NEWS AND NOTES



From left: **STEPHEN J. ROSENTHAL '93**, Jack Eidam, Clark Switzer, **M. ELIZABETH HIBBARD '69**, Steven Ris, Tim Swanson, Kevin Rea, **PATRICIA MCCARTHY LAST '74**, and **JAY HARVEY '80**

A Founders Day 175 years in the making

The Wyoming Seminary Upper School community welcomed alumni, retired and current faculty, and members of the eighth-grade class to the Kirby Center for Creative Arts on September 25, 2019, to participate in a Founders Day Assembly. This assembly, held on the 175th anniversary of the first day of classes on September 25, 1844, described the rich history of the school in 25-year increments, augmented by highlights of world and national events at the time. Sem's music, dance and theater departments also presented vignettes of the types of entertainment that was popular in each of the time periods. The assembly ended with the Sem Alma Mater, a prayer led by Chaplain Rev. Charles Carrick, and a big birthday cake. Happy Birthday, Sem!



Kindness rocks at Sem

Recognizing kindness, friendship and gratitude is a wonderful way to return to school from the long holiday break, and that was the focus of the 2020 Dude.BeNice Week project in January. A hard-working team of Upper School students, led by **CAMPBELL KELLY '21**, created a lively schedule of events at both Upper and Lower School that emphasized

being kind and supportive of others. An assembly at the end of the week featured recognition of students, faculty and staff at Upper School who exhibit kindness to others every day. This year's honorees are **HADAS RAHAMIM '22**, **OLIVER LEW '21**, Morgan Howard-Penland, faculty; Floyd Bussie, staff; Elizabeth Penland, faculty; **ALLISON HOHN '20**; and **ANDREW MAURIELLO '23**.

SOCA conference in Seattle

Members of the Wyoming Seminary Students of Color Association (SOCA) joined 1,700 students from nine countries in Seattle in December for the Student Diversity Leadership Conference at the National Association of Independent Schools People of Color Conference. The multiracial, multicultural gathering of student leaders uses featured speakers and small group work to develop cross-cultural communication skills and effective strategies for social justice. Sem students who attended were, from left: **JONAH PASCAL '21**, **JILLAYNE GUMBS '20**, **JIAYIN YAO '21**, **ANNELIESE LITTLE '21**, and **ASHLEY DIMEN '21**.



Spelling champ crowned

After nine rounds, **ANDREW KULO-SZEWSKI '24** was crowned the 2019 Lower School Spelling Bee Champion. As each round passed the words became more challenging, and finally, there were only two spellers left standing out of 35 middle-school participants. **THEODORE KRAUS '25** was runner-up.



Kuloszewski, left, and Kraus



Cum Laude Society

Eleven seniors have been inducted into the Wyoming Seminary chapter of the Cum Laude Society, the national academic honor society for college preparatory schools. Seen following their induction are, first row from left: **ALLISON HOHN**, **JESSICA KISHBAUGH**, **EMILY URBANSKI** and **YIFEI CHEN**. Second row, from left: **LIXIANG YIN**, **CHARLES KUTZ**, **JEVON LAYNE**, **ZHENYING CHEN** and **PO-TSUN CHEN**. Not present for photo: **TIANWEI LI** and **CAITLIN WALKER**.



Sem places third at math competition

In October, four Sem students competed at the Fifth Annual Capital Area Interscholastic Math Competition, held at Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. **XINSONG FAN '23**, **TIANWEI LI '20**, **ALVIN TUO '22** and **ROY WANG '21** placed in the top three teams in the team competition, which featured more than 90 students from 23 schools in Pennsylvania. The students qualified to compete in the competition's lightning round of 35 questions and finished in third place. Li also placed second overall in the competition. Seen following the competition are, seated from left: Fan, Li, Wang and Tuo. Coach and Sem math department chair Jim Doherty is seen behind the students.



Sem mock trial team competes

Sem's Mock Trial team competed in the 13th annual Empire New York: The World Championship Mock Trial Tournament in October, which included 40 teams and 600 students from six countries. The Blue Knights earned a 10th place finish with a record of 6-2 and with losses only to the ultimate champion, Venture High School. **ZAHRA CHITTALIA '21** received one of 10 Witness Awards and ranked in eighth place. The Blue Knights also took part in the 10th Annual Blue and Gold Invitational Mock Trial Tournament at LaSalle Universi-

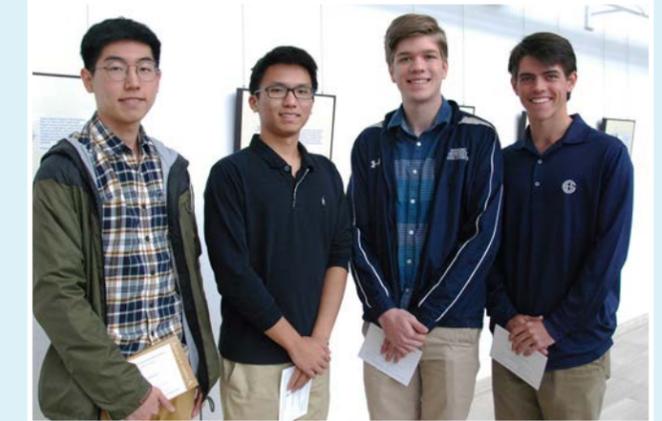
ty, and one of three Sem teams finished in eighth place. **EMILY AIKENS '22** received a Best Plaintiff Attorney Award and a perfect ranking, while **BEN ZHAO '22** received a Best Defense Attorney Award and **MAX LIU '21** received a Best Defense Witness Award. Seen following the Empire New York Tournament are, front row from left: Ben Zhao and Zahra Chittalia. Standing, from left: **JILLAYNE GUMBS '20**, **MYA DOBROWOLSKI '21**, Emily Aikens, **RHIANNA LEWIS '22**, **XIAOBU ZHOU '21** and **ASHLEY DIMEN '21**.

National Merit Scholars

Five seniors have been honored for their exceptional academic promise in the 2020 National Merit Scholarship competition. Senior **EMILY URBANSKI** has been named a finalist in the competition and continues on in the competition for about 7,500 Merit Scholarship Awards, to be offered this spring. In addition, four seniors have been named Commended Students: **EDWARD JANG**, **LIXIANG YIN**, **FELIX HAMMOND** and **ADAM ROGERS**.



Urbanski



Lower School Geography Bee

CAMERON TAYLOR '24 was crowned the winner of the 2019 Lower School Geography Bee. Cameron survived seven rounds of competition and advanced to state competition. **OWEN STRETANSKI '26** came in second. About 40 students competed in the Bee, which is the first round in the 32nd annual National Geographic Bee. From left: Taylor, William Davis, social studies faculty and Geography Bee moderator; and Stretanski.



NEWS AND NOTES



A glimpse into hunger and food insecurity

The Lower School fifth-grade spent much of January studying hunger, food insecurity and waste, and their lessons hit home in a visceral way on one particular day. That day, social studies teacher **BARBARA LUMIA ROGERS '77** organized a Sustainable Nutrition Gathering for her students in the cafeteria. Using colored paper strips, the students were divided into low-income, middle-income and high-income groups, reflecting local population statistics. While the high-income group enjoyed fresh fruit and vegetables, snacks and flavored drinks with cutlery, glasses and a tablecloth, the middle-income group received white

bread with grape jelly on a bare table with paper cups. The low-income group received only a small handful of rice and a small cup of water, and had to sit on the floor. The students discussed how they felt about the gathering. Al Beech West Side Food Pantry Coordinator Clancy Harrison also described how hunger can be hidden in the community. In addition, the students collected more than 700 lbs. of food waste over a three-week time span and brought boxes of donated food and baby supplies to the West Side Food Pantry. These projects were all part of the students' study of geography and food equity.

Maslow STEM school brings science events to Lower School



October's Global Cardboard Challenge/Sem Day of Play and January's Beyond the Hour of Code are two of Sem's Maslow STEM School's most eagerly anticipated Saturday events at the Lower School. The Cardboard Challenge brings primary and middle-school students together to create imaginative games using combinations of cardboard, paint, tape and other materials. The theme of the Cardboard Challenge in October was Apollo 11's 50th anniversary and a celebration of the first manned moon landing. The event concluded with a launch of a 3D-printed model of the Saturn V rocket. Beyond the Hour: Kids Who Code, also open to children in primary and middle-school grades, engages students in the fun and excitement of computer coding, whether they are new to the skill or have experience. This event builds on the international Hour of Code event held in December. From left: **ELLA MAAKESTAD '31** and her cousin, Townes Maculloch, put together their rocket at the Lower School.

Sem musicians earn honors

The 2019-20 academic year has been a very successful one to date for Upper School musicians who have been named to district and regional music festivals. Honored for their musical talents are: **VIKTORIA BASTIAN '22**, district and regional orchestra; **JARED BOZINKO '20**, district and regional orchestra, district band, district and regional chorus; **AISHANI CHAUHAN '20**, district chorus; **BRIDGET DOWD '22**, district jazz band; **YUWEI CHEN '22**, district chorus; **JIANUN CHEN '22**, district band; **JINYANG HAN '22**, district and regional orchestra; **EDWARD JANG '20**, district chorus, district and regional orchestra; **CHRISTINA KASPAR '21**, district chorus; **OLIVER LEW '21**, district chorus; **RHIANNA LEWIS '22**, district chorus; **YIFEI LIU '21**, district chorus; **ZIHAN QIAO '22**, district and regional orchestra, district band; **YINI QIU '22**, district and regional orchestra.

Cuisine and friendship at International Dinner

The annual International Dinner was once again a big hit with the Sem community on Jan. 11, as 23 countries were represented. With some help from faculty and staff, international students prepared and served their favorite foods from their country. Delicious meals and desserts were offered from China, Puerto Rico, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Italy, Chile, Spain, South Korea, Germany, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Vietnam, Japan, Hungary, Taiwan, India, France, Slovakia, United States, Canada, England, Russia, and Australia.



AASHIMA CHAUHAN '23 and **AISHANI CHAUHAN '20**

Sacking local hunger

The Upper School community recently took part in a Sack Hunger program, benefitting the Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank. Sophomore student government members led the drive to collect funds and non-perishable food through a one-day dress-down event. School community members were encouraged to fill sacks with non-perishable food items or contribute money to the drive. The students raised \$600 and contributed 421 lbs. of food to the food bank. Seen at the conclusion of the drive are, from left: 2022 class members **BENJAMIN ZHAO**, **EMILY AIKENS**, **SOPHIA KRUGER**, **CASIDY RHODES-ANISKA** and **JAKE RUDERMAN**. Not present for photo: **VAUGHN KUTISH**.



Lower School holiday project notes milestone

For 25 years Lower School students, faculty and staff have participated in the school's annual Holiday Gift Giving Community Service Project, benefitting Luzerne County Children and Youth Social Services. About 220 students in grades 4-8 and school faculty and staff purchased more than 400 gifts and donated them to Children and Youth, which distributed the gifts to needy children. Eighth-grade leaders of the school's Blue and White teams are seen with Children and Youth staff and the collected gifts; from left: **ELIANA PARRA**, Blue Team co-leader; **SIENNA POPPLE**, Blue Team co-leader; Nicole Lahart, Children and Youth caseworker; **MICHAEL VODZAK**, White Team co-leader; and **CELESTE PERRY**, White Team co-leader.



Rosenthal wins 'Little Mo' tournament

ILANA ROSENTHAL '25, a seventh-grade student at Lower School, won the girls 12-and-under singles championship and took second place in mixed doubles at the "Little Mo" International Championship Tournament held in New York City in late August. She competed against players from 15 states and nine different countries. She is the daughter of Adina and **STEPHEN ROSENTHAL '93** and granddaughter of **PATRICIA KLEIN ROSENTHAL '64**.



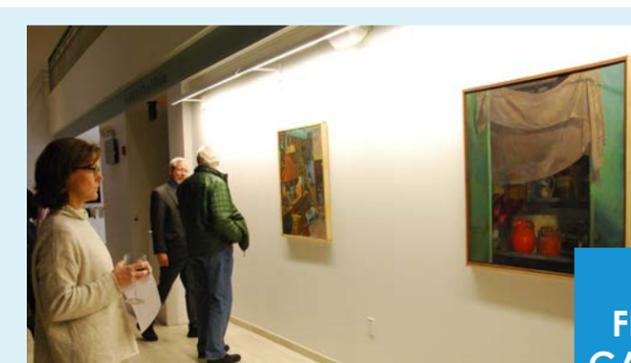
Angel Tree Project brings holiday joy

Making Christmas a little brighter for needy children in the Wyoming Valley is the goal of the annual Angel Tree Project, sponsored by the Salvation Army. In November members of the Wyoming Seminary Upper School Community Service Group began collecting new toys and clothes for 41 boys and girls, completing the drive in December. Seen with some of the collected Angel Tree items are, from left: Elizabeth Frosni, community service group advisor, and **KYLEIGH O'HARA '21**, Angel Tree project coordinator.

THE ARTS AT SEM
SCENE & HEARD

Hooker-Bailey Lights Up KCCA

Wyoming Seminary's Kirby Center for Creative Arts came alive on January 25 as Sem alumna and Broadway actress **JESSIE HOOKER-BAILEY '06** entertained an enthusiastic audience with stories and music from her performing career. Her show, titled "From Wilkes-Barre to Broadway: An Evening with Jessie Hooker-Bailey," featured images and songs from her first appearance in "Annie" at Music Box Playhouse, through her performances at Wyoming Seminary, Shenandoah University and regional theater, to the national tour of "Legally Blond," and her Broadway debut in 2017 in "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical." When her most recent Broadway show, "Waitress," closed in early January, she decided to return to Sem and present a conversation and performance cabaret with her Sem teacher and drama director, **JASON SHERRY '91**. She shared many heartfelt stories and experiences, took questions from the audience and met with fans after the show. We'll be seeing you on Broadway again soon!



FLACK GALLERY EXHIBITS

Departures from Observation

A remarkable collection of eight works by eight original members of the group Perceptual Painters filled the walls of the Rusty Flack Art Gallery in the Kirby Center for Creative Arts from November 15-December 15. Titled "Departures From Observation," the exhibit offered insights into how each artist perceives the world around him through the sense of sight. The exhibit, curated by Flack Gallery Director Mark Webber, was open to the public at an evening reception and offered a full-color catalog.

Hexagon Project

The Rusty Flack Art Gallery hosted a month-long exhibit of artwork depicting the damage done by mine drainage to local streams in October. A Hexagon Project art exhibit, titled "STEM and Art: Changing Perspectives of Waterways," was a community project sponsored by Sem's Maslow STEM School, the Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR), and the Hexagon Project. Kneeling from left: Robert Hughes, EPCAMR director; **EMILY URBANSKI '20**; **YIFEI LIU '21**. Standing, Beth Burkhauser, Hexagon Project director; **ZHENYING CHEN '20**; **AALIYEH SAYED '21**; **CAITLIN WALKER '20**; Dr. Andrea Nerozzi, Maslow STEM School associate director and Sem science faculty; and **TIANGE YANG '21**.



It was a star-studded gala afternoon of beautiful music, as Sem alumni from around the United States and Europe returned to the Upper School for the 175th Anniversary Celebration Showcase. Held on Sunday, September 22 immediately after Homecoming, the showcase included instrumental, operatic, jazz and choral music. A heartwarming performance of the traditional Wyoming Seminary song "For the Beauty of the Earth" concluded the program and included the current Sem Chorale and Madrigal Singers, joined by about 30 Sem alumni musicians. John Vaida, chair of Sem's fine and performing arts department, directed the musicians just as he has done since 1975; they filled the Henry Auditorium with the most memorable and nostalgic music! The afternoon ended with a reception and many happy reunions.



MOLLY ALLEN '11 and SARA CASEY '06



JOHN MICHAEL VAIDA '00, Tsukasa Waltich, MOLLY ALLEN '11 and GRANT MECH '01



JASON SHERRY '91 and DWIGHT FARRELL '91



SARA CASEY '06 portrays a wind-up doll in "The Doll Song."



The Alumni Choir and Sem Chorale joined all the other performers to conclude the showcase with a traditional Wyoming Seminary song.



Upper School Players Present '1776'

Before there was "Hamilton," there was "1776," the hit Broadway musical which premiered in 1969 and earned three Tony Awards, including Best Musical. In November the Upper School Players presented a lively performance of the show, which is based on the efforts of John Adams, Massachusetts delegate to the Second Continental Congress, to create the Declaration of Independence and to convince other members of the Congress to sign it. With a live orchestra, elaborate costumes, a huge set and entertaining songs, "1776" is one of the drama department's most ambitious productions.

A Few Favorite Fables

For centuries the short stories known as Aesop's Fables have entertained and educated children and adults alike. Last fall, the Lower School Players presented a collection of some of the most popular tales as their fall production. With colorful sets and whimsical costumes, the Players told a series of stories such as "The Boy Who Cried Wolf," and "The North Wind and the Sun."





FALL SPORTS ROUNDUP



STATE CHAMPIONS!

FIELD HOCKEY

FINAL RECORD: 23-2
WYOMING VALLEY CONFERENCE
DIVISION 1 CHAMPION
DISTRICT 2 CLASS A CHAMPION
CLASS A STATE CHAMPION

The Blue Knights capped another incredible season with a thrilling finish in the Class A state championship game. The road to the state final started after Sem defeated Wyoming Area, 2-0, in the District 2 Class A championship game, which also marked the 700th victory for coach Karen Klassner. From there, Sem marched on with wins over Bishop McDevitt (5-0), Newport (3-2 OT), and Greenwood (3-2 OT) in the Class A semifinal.

BOYS SOCCER

FINAL RECORD: 12-2-1
WYOMING VALLEY CONFERENCE
DIVISION 2 CHAMPION
DISTRICT 2 CLASS AA DISTRICT 2
CHAMPIONS



Grayek

Led by seniors **REGGIE GRAYEK '20**, **JARED WEISENBERGER '20**, and **ANDREW LEHMAN '20**, Sem defended its division title with an undefeated regular-season record. The Blue Knights held off Wyoming Area, 1-0, to post their second

straight District 2 title before losing to perennial state power Lewistown in the first round of the state tournament. Grayek, a center midfielder, was named Player of the Year by The Citizens' Voice and first-team All-State. He finished the year with 17 goals and 8 assists. **LUKE JOHNS '21**, added 18 goals and three assists, while goalkeeper **GAVIN FLANELY '21** and **SANTI DE LOS RIOS '21** led the Sem defense that posted seven shutouts in 13 regular-season games and just 10 goals the entire season. Grayek, Johns, de los Rios, and **THOMAS ISKRA '23** were selected to the Wyoming Valley Conference Coaches All-Star Team.

FOOTBALL

FINAL RECORD: 2-7
The 2019 Blue Knights squad was comprised of players from six countries and eight states. Sem opened the season with a 19-17 win over visiting Hill, but injuries mounted for the Blue Knights and proved the difference down the stretch. Despite the lopsided record, several Sem players received the attention from college scouts and will be taking their careers to the next level, including **ADAM HONIS '20**, **NICK LUCIEN '20**, **TRIN GONZALEZ '20**, **MAX PLANK '20**, and **MARIO KLJAJIC '20**. Sem has a promising group of underclassmen looking to fill the void of 12 graduating seniors.

In the championship game, **GRACE PARSONS '21** made her first game of the season the biggest goal of her career as she tipped in with a shot in double overtime, giving Sem a 1-0 win over Oley Valley. **MIA MAGNOTTA '21** was a star in the goalie cage for the Blue Knights, turning away 10 shots.

Weeks and months after the championship win, the accolades poured in for the Blue Knights. **ALEX WESNESKI '20** and **HANNAH MAXWELL '20**, both 100-goal scorers, were selected second-team national All-Americans by the National Field Hockey Association. The NFHA also released all-region All-American teams and Wesneski

GOLF

FINAL RECORD: 11-3
WYOMING VALLEY CONFERENCE
DIVISION 3 CHAMPION
DISTRICT 2 CLASS AA RUNNER-UP



Callahan

JEREMY CALLAHAN '20 turned in another outstanding individual season, winning the District 2 Class AA title after shooting a four-over par 75 at Fox Hill Country Club.

Callahan shared medalist honors with **ANDREW MADDOCK '21** and **DAVIS FLANNERY '21** as each shot

a 77 to lead the Blue Knights to the conference championship with a 313-342 win over Holy Redeemer. Sem concluded the season as the District 2 team runner-up. Callahan's efforts earned him conference all-star recognition.

CROSS COUNTRY

BOYS FINAL RECORD: 5-10
GIRLS FINAL RECORD: 4-10



Lombardo and Coates

For the first time since 2015, Sem was represented in the Class A state championship cross country meet in Hershey. **JOHN COATES '21** qualified for states after clocking 18:06 for a sixth-place finish at the District 2 Class A meet.

ANGELO LOMBARDO '22 followed with an eighth-place medal in 18:09. Both were selected to the conference all-star team. In girls running, **CAROLINE SIEGEL '21** was once again the Blue Knights' top finisher in conference meets and was named team MVP.

and Maxwell were first-team selections, while Magnotta was a second-team choice. The Pennsylvania All-State was announced in early December. Wesneski, Maxwell, Magnotta, **ANNA MOZELESKI '22**, and **BARI LEFKOWITZ '20** were first-team honorees, while newcomers **EMMA WATCHILLA '23** and **ELLA BARBACCI '23** were second-team selections. All-Academic honors from the Pennsylvania High School Field Hockey Association and the National Field Hockey Coaches Association were awarded to Wesneski, Maxwell, Lefkowitz, **EMMA BEAN '20**, **REESE BUTCHER '20**, **SHAWNA CASEY '20**, **GRACE PARSONS '21**, and **ABBY SANTO '21**.

GIRLS TENNIS

FINAL RECORD: 17-2
WYOMING VALLEY CONFERENCE
CHAMPIONS
DISTRICT 2 AA TEAM CHAMPIONS



Joanlanne and Krypel

Head coach Allison Joanlanne retired from coaching in fine fashion as she watched her doubles team of **NICOLE JOANLANNE '20** and **ELLA KRYPEL '23** capture a fourth place finish at the Class AA state championships.

The duo earned the District 2 championship and helped the Blue Knights to an undefeated conference record. Krypel was named league MVP by the Times Leader after reaching the semifinals of the District 2 Class AA singles tournament. **EMILY URBANSKI '20** and **SHAILEE DESAI '21** were also key players for Sem throughout the season.

GIRLS SOCCER

FINAL RECORD: 1-13-2

The Blue Knights were hit hard by graduation, losing 10 seniors from last year's squad. While the season proved to be a rebuilding year for Sem, the team was poised when their season was on the line. Facing a must-win situation in a game against Hanover Area to earn a berth in the District 2 Class AA tournament, the Blue Knights scored with just 30 seconds remaining to claim their first win of the season and advance to districts. **KATRINA BANKS '20** was a true leader for the young Blue Knights and earned the Coaches Award, while **NATALIA HANSON-RICHART '20**, was also recognized for her four years of dedication to the team. **LINDSEY LOKUTA '22** was selected as the team MVP.



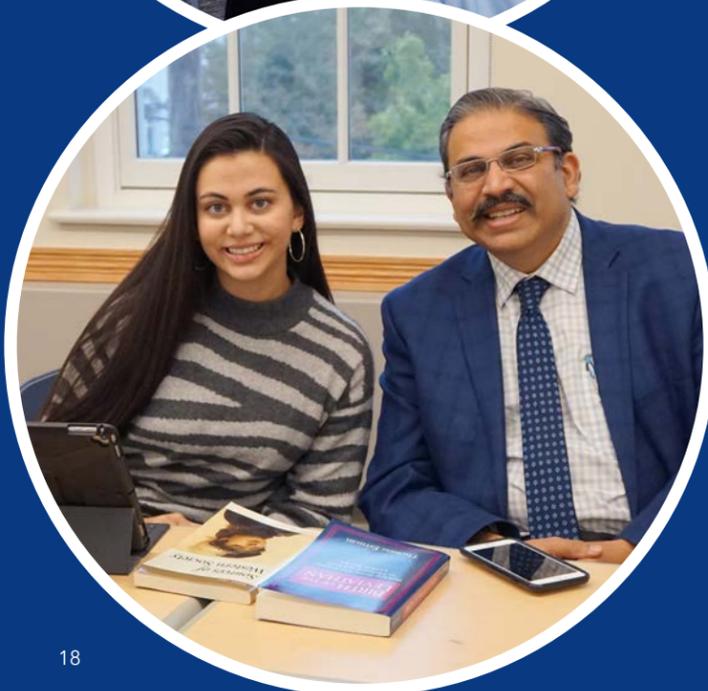
GRANDPARENTS DAY

OCTOBER 3-4, 2019

There are probably more smiles on Grandparents Day than on any other day of the year! During the Upper School event on October 3, the grandparents attended a special chapel service, ate lunch with their grandchildren and attended classes with them. The next day at Lower School, the students welcomed their grandparents into their classes to meet their teachers and see a sampling of school work. Eighth-grade students invited their grandparents to join them in a Colonial Day living history event.



1. Ellen Heck, **VICKI SMULOWITZ '22** and Rosemarie Kovaleski
2. Grandparents John and Betty Probert play a colonial-era ball-and-cup game as their granddaughter **LAINÉ CABELL '24** offers encouragement. Classmate **HAYDEN VOUGHT '24** is also seen playing Nine Men's Morris.
3. Brenda Hackett, **RUBY HACKETT '23**, Barbara Lach and Shep Pawling
4. Fourth-grade students and their grandparents examine the students' self-profiles on display in the fourth-grade hall.
5. Lois Minelli and **MAISE MCGINLEY '32** explore the kindergarten classroom.
6. **BRYNNA MCGINTY '29** and **BRADLEY MCGINTY '25** visit with their grandmother Caroline Templeton.
7. **KATE O'BRIEN '21** and her grandmother Mary O'Brien.



PARENTS WEEKEND

OCTOBER 18-19, 2019

Upper School parents traveled from across town and around the globe to visit with their children and teachers on the Kingston campus. From taking part in building catapults and solving math problems, to enjoying the music and art that their children present every day... plus meeting with the faculty, socializing and cheering on the Blue Knights in soccer and football, Parents Weekend is one of the highlights of the entire school year.



OPPOSITE PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM:
 Nancy Yao and **HEIGER CHEN '22**;
 Krista Urban, Mia Reggie and Edward Urban;
AISHANI CHAUHAN '20 and Deepak Singh

1. GABRIEL ARNOLD '23 and Elizabeth Arnold
2. LEANNA YATCHILLA '20 and Marcia Yatchilla
3. Mike Sweitzer and **OWEN SWEITZER '22**
4. Joseph McDonald, ABBY MCDONALD '21 and Barbara McDonald
5. Student musicians presented a Musical Showcase in the lobby of the Kirby Center for Creative Arts.



Homecoming

SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2019



Alumni Service Award

Eight seniors were nominated for the 2019 Wyoming Seminary Alumni Service Awards, and the award recipients were named during the Homecoming game halftime. Seen from left are: **ELIZABETH CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, director of alumni programs; **ANTHONY PERSI**, **EMILY URBANSKI**, **ALEXANDER MEUSER**, **PAIGE PARSONS**, **EDWARD JANG**, **BARI LEFKOWITZ**, **JARED BOZINKO**, **REESE BUTCHER** and Sem President Kevin Rea. Paige Parsons and Jared Bozinko were named the 2019 Alumni Service Award recipients.



1



2



3

1. **MICHAEL MESSERSMITH '99**, seen with Sem President Kevin Rea, received the Class of 1986 Outstanding Young Alumnus Award during the Homecoming game halftime.
2. The Wyoming Seminary Varsity Club inducted six new members into its Sports Hall of Fame during the club's 45th annual banquet on the eve of Homecoming. The 2019 inductees are **EMILY FORAN CARIFI '01**, golf; **ADAM HEALEY '08**, wrestling; **DONALD MCNEIL '10**, wrestling; **ALENA POLENSKA MILLS '09**, ice hockey; **KENDRA SIRAK '07**, field hockey; and **ERIC TANGRADI '08**, ice hockey. Seen seated in first row, from left: Donald McNeil and Adam Healey. Standing from left: **STEVEN HARASCHAK '06**, accepting for Eric Tangradi; Sem science faculty Renee Casterline, accepting for Alena Mills; and Ron Sirak, father of Kendra Sirak. Not present for photo: Emily Carifi.
3. Members of the 1969 football team, the only Sem football team to finish a season unbeaten and untied, returned to campus for the Homecoming game and a special 50-year reunion. Seen during a half-time recognition ceremony are, from left: **STEPHEN ALINIKOFF '62**, assistant coach; **KEVIN HARDIMAN '70**; **TERRY BYRD '70**; Marvin Antinnes, head coach; James Kersey, assistant coach; **BOB SAMA '70**; **DON INNES '72**; **PAUL GRIESMER '72**; **JOHN MOSCA '72**; **CHUCK HOWLAND '71**; **JACK EVANS '71**; **TOM PERSON '72**; **MIKE FLOWERS '71**.
4. Standing with the the Florentine Society's winning banner are, from left: **ELIZABETH CLEMENTS KATYL '05**, **LAUREN TOCZYLOWSKI WIELAGE '02**, **MADLINE KROPP '05**.
5. Sunny skies and warm temperatures brought out a large crowd of Sem fans, enjoying the football game and expressing their Sem spirit!
6. Three Sem graduates returned to the Stettler Learning Resources Center to speak about their careers and studies in science. From left: **JANET MURRAY '76**, retired engineer and project manager for Con Edison; **LEANA PANDE '16**, enrolled in the biomedical science program at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine; and **BAHARA MOHAMMADI '16**, senior at Drew University earning a bachelor's degree in computer science and economics.



4



5



6

Homecoming

Class Reunions



1. Class of 1999, from left: **MICHAEL MESSERSMITH, KRISZTINA ARANYI, CATHERINE CONYNGHAM, NEIL THOMPSON, NATHAN DAVIS, HILARY KOEHL RIEDERMANN, AARON KATYL, ANDREW LAWRENCE, DUSTIN SWITZER**
2. Broc Moran, **JOSH DEMILTA '09, DEREK KOPEN '09** and Arthur Makaryan.
3. Fariba Mohammadi and her sister **BARHAR MOHAMMADI '16** chat with Jill Carrick, Lower School science faculty.
4. **HOANG ANH PHAN '14** and **JAE HEE LEE '14** reunite at the reception.
5. Class of 2014, first row, from left: **MATTHEW OBEID, CONNOR SCALLEAT, MOLLY TURNER, MALLORY LEFKOWITZ, JAE HEE LEE, TAILOR CAMPBELL, MATTHEW CARTWRIGHT, JR.**; Second row, from left: **MADISON DOWD, KATELYN BUYARSKI, ALXIS RODIS, HOANG ANH PHAN**
Third row, from left: **HUNTER LACOMIS, MATTHEW DOGGETT, ANDREW DREWCHIN, JACK PARENTE, WILLIAM KOZAR, ANDREW LEVANDOSKI, SALVADOR DIAZ, PIERCE JASWINSKI, ANH HUNG (PETER) NGUYEN, CHARLES MOYER, JR.**
6. Sem Chaplain and math faculty Rev. Charles Carrick gets together with two of his former students, **JULIA** and **ANNIE LIVIT '09**.
7. **FRANCES DAVIS BOLANIS '84, STACEY FAY '87, JASON GUBBIOTTI '94** and retired Sem Director of Athletics Gary Vanderburg.
8. Class of 2009, first row, from left: **CARA LATCHUM, ANNIE LIVIT, JULIA LIVIT, REBECCA CARRA**; Second row, from left: **DEREK KOPEN, JOSHUA DEMILTA**
9. Class of 1994, first row, from left: **MICHELE CRECCA GLASSIC, NATALYA SHARP CHERRY, AUTUMN THOMPSON SCHOEN, STACEY KUTISH, JENNIFER EIDAM DAVIS**. Second row, from left: **WILLIAM ANZALONE, AMY VALLI BENNETT, FRANCES DAVIS BOLANIS, LEE ROSENBLATT, JASON GUBBIOTTI, WILLIAM KUKESH, JONATHAN WEINBERGER**
10. Class of 2004, first row, from left: **CAROLINE BLAUM, BRIGITTE HENRY COOPER, LEAH EYERMAN KATYL**; Second row, from left: **DUSTIN GOOD, MICHAEL BONCZAR, CHRISTOPHER KATYL**



THE KEY TO LEADERSHIP

LOWER SCHOOL STUDENTS GAIN VALUABLE EXPERIENCE AS AMBASSADORS OF JUNIOR BLUE KEY

By Jill Snowdon

A few feet inside the front entrance of Wyoming Seminary's Lower School, on a cold January morning, **NATASIA CORBA '24** paced the foyer, peeked outside the door's windows, and anxiously waited to greet a new friend.

Corba is one of 42 Lower School students who are a part of the Junior Blue Key pilot program.

The Junior Blue Key is a student ambassador program that embodies the Sem motto: the True, the Beautiful, and the Good. Representatives are positive role models and leaders who introduce new and prospective students to the Sem community.

"I remember coming here in second grade for my visit day and I was scared," Corba said. "I was shy at that age and I didn't want to leave my mom because I didn't know what to expect."

Corba's first experience at Sem went so well she was sad to leave and eager to enroll for the following year.

Now, Corba flourishes as a leader, and Junior Blue Key gives her an opportunity to help put visiting students at ease.

"I love to see all the new faces when we have a visit day," Corba said. "I want other kids to feel as good as I felt when I came to Sem for the first time. I always tell the kids I meet that it's normal to be scared, and all they have to do is relax and be themselves and everything will work out."

Tiffany Maakestad, Director of Lower School Admissions, and Kate Mercado, Associate Director of Lower School Admissions, launched the Junior Blue Key program at the start of the 2019-2020 school year and it serves as a building block to the Blue Key program at the Upper School.

"We can talk about the positives of the school all day, because that's our job," Maakestad said. "But there's something very special about seeing our students so excited to show off their school and talk to prospective students about their own experiences. We actually had a family tell us that they were coming to Sem because of the students that they met when they were here. It's a positive experience for everyone and I'm glad it's going so well."

Maakestad and Mercado created an application process and opened the program to fifth through eighth graders. Students were informed of the program's expectations, such as welcoming prospec-



Clockwise from top: The 2019-20 Junior Blue Key members; Future Sem student **ANISA MOHYUDDIN '27** and **HANNAH MAAKESTAD '27** prepare to start the day.; **CLAIRE WOO '27** is excited to tell her guest about the plans for the day.

tive students, providing tours and introducing new students to their classrooms, teachers, and friends. Each applicant had to complete an essay stating why they would be a good ambassador candidate for Junior Blue Key.

"I'm new to the school so I thought I would be a good fit for Junior Blue Key because I just went through the whole experience of visiting," **PAUL STEVENSON '24** said. "The best part is looking around at the end of a visit day and seeing everyone smiling and talking with different kids. It feels really good to know you made someone feel welcome and they had a good day."

Proudly wearing their Junior Blue Key shirts, Stevenson, Corba and the team of ambassadors are easy to identify on special days that welcome families to the Forty Fort campus.

"We are so proud of how well-spoken and poised these young ambassadors are," Mercado said. "Our students are the best spokespeople for our school and it's a win-win because it helps them with character building, confidence, and being a leader. You can see them standing tall and how earnest and genuine they are."

Events that Junior Blue Key ambassadors take part in are the annual Scholarship Day and Open House, Fall and Winter Term Visit Days, Accepted Students Day, and a spring Open House.

Their presence on those special days make them a younger

point-person for Sem guests. In October, they also helped initiate inclusion and meeting others through Mix It Up Day, which was a national event that promoted sitting with different people at lunch and making new friends.

"My son (**BILLY HALL '26**) takes tremendous pride in his school and the Junior Blue Key is a welcoming organization that encourages school integrity and a sense of belonging, which allows children to promote their school and its inherent values," Lower School parent Dona Hall said.

While the program is still in its infancy, Maakestad and Mercado have ideas to expand the program and promote daily positivity for students. One project on the horizon is a chalkboard wall made by Junior Blue Key ambassadors. The wall will serve as a place for all students to share positive and inspirational messages.

Junior Blue Key is a welcome addition to the Lower School experience and if the first year of the program is any indication, it will continue to build and serve students and visitors in the most positive and uplifting ways throughout the coming years.

"Our Junior Blue Key students embody that which we most hope for our kids to be – they are kind, outgoing, dedicated students who make our community stronger," Dr. Kathy Hanlon, Dean of Lower School, said. "I am most impressed by their willingness to serve our entire school community and for their presence that adds so much to any endeavor. We are so proud of them!"



NATASIA CORBA '24, OLIVIA SEKEL '24, CELESTE PERRY '24, LUCY LEW '24, ELIANA PARRA '24, and GIULIANA SCHINELLER '24 are eager to greet visitors at the beginning of a Visit Day in January.



BARBARA ROGERS '77, FACULTY

INDIA, 2019

Round Square offers SEM a context in which to enliven our motto, through the six pillars or ideals that form the foundation of the Round Square philosophy. For me, personally, the concepts of the true, the beautiful, and the good often get lost in the day to day aspect of teaching and learning. But, when we tie the concepts of the true the beautiful and the good to the concrete aspects associated with internationalism, democracy, environmentalism, leadership, adventure, and service, then **we begin to teach kids how to live the true the beautiful and the good every day.**



MATTHEW KULOSZEWSKI '21

MOROCCO, 2019

What Round Square does is offer students a chance to break out of their comfort zones and engage in real service and cultural immersion. I boarded my flight out of New York City to Marrakech. There were students from all over the world: Singapore, India, Colombia, and Jordan to name a few of the many nations represented. But what shocked me the most was how hospitable Morocco and the Moroccan people are. With every task at hand, whether it was constructing stairs from the main mountain road to the rural village of Tacheddirt or building an extra classroom onto one of the local mosques, the local people were more than willing to assist us and share their expertise. There's a local Berber (or Amazigh) tradition in which the sweeter the mint tea they give you, the more welcome you are into their lives. I think I had the sweetest tea of my life in Morocco! **I came back from this conference as a changed person,** as cliché as that sounds. I made lasting connections with people from all over the world and felt that I made a real and sustainable difference to a community that welcomed me and others with open arms.



INDIA



GLOBE TROTTERS



PERU



SOUTH AFRICA

ROUND SQUARE is an internationally diverse network of 200 schools in 50 countries on six continents that collaborate to offer world-class programs and experiences that develop global competence, character and confidence in middle-school and high school students. Through a series of regional and international conferences, Round Square demonstrates how its six ideals of internationalism, democracy, environmentalism, adventure, leadership and service can be used to benefit students and their communities. These ideals are now being incorporated into both the classroom and in innovative community service projects at Sem.

Sem President Kevin Rea, who first became aware of Round Square during his tenure at Hackley School, led the way in 2016 in en-

abling Sem to become the only Round Square school in Pennsylvania. "Round Square's ideals overlap and intertwine with the Sem motto of the True, the Beautiful and the Good, and our participation in this organization felt like a natural fit," he says. "These ideals are exhibited every day by our students and faculty as they learn what leadership actually means, and as they learn to become the best versions of themselves. I'd like to see our students continue to be inspired to go around the world and build schools and help communities in need; these experiences are transformative."

Wyoming Seminary was officially welcomed as a Round Square Global Member at the 2019 Round Square International Conference in Indore, India in October.



MORGAN PRICE '19

SOUTH AFRICA, 2018

When thinking about college, I was always very indecisive on what I wanted to study. I was all over the spectrum from theater, to law, to sports management. However, after going to South Africa with Round Square my junior year, I was able to narrow down my choice. I am now majoring in International Service at American University. After experiencing Round Square and learning about internationalism, democracy, service, adventure, environmentalism, and leadership on the global level, I knew that I wanted to further my learning in these subjects. I have been able to expand my knowledge in classes, as well as reflecting on my Round Square trip to help myself further grasp the topics in my classes. **I am so grateful for my Round Square trip and what it has done not only to shape my college experience, but my life.**



JILL STRETANSKI, FACULTY

GERMANY, 2016

I was fortunate to travel with the group to Germany for Sem's first Round Square conference. We had a small delegation since we were a candidate school at the time. One of the things that impressed me the most about the conference was the degree to which it was student-led. The students from the host school (Lousenlund in Guby, Germany) were responsible for a large part of the planning as well as leading many of the sessions we attended during the week. As a language educator, I think **the Round Square network can help our students to explore the languages and cultures they study at Sem.** I would like to see our students to take advantage of the exchange opportunities offered through Round Square.



The Sem Fund makes an IMPACT at Wyoming Seminary

Sem Fund gifts have an immediate impact in our classrooms, on our campus, and for our students. Your generous contributions enhance the Wyoming Seminary experience.

Faculty and staff have attended over 35 professional development opportunities throughout the year, including conferences, workshops, and trainings.

Many alumni and friends earmark their gifts directly for financial aid. Students who attend Sem aided by scholarship funds have brought immeasurable value to the institution. They often credit the School for much of their personal and professional success, and many are among our most loyal alumni.

Visit www.wyomingseminary.org/donate to make your 2019-2020 Sem Fund donation.



Class Notes

These class notes include those received in the Alumni and Development Office as of February 18, 2020.

1949

ELEANOR HUTCHESON EPLER, Port St. Lucie, Fla., wrote, "Many happy memories of Sem, as I grew up at 253 North Maple Avenue, two houses from the Back Campus hockey field. Sem was always a part of our neighborhood life. After graduation, I went to Swarthmore College, married Palmer Epler (Yale '54), and we have three children and four grandchildren. I was a docent at the Yale University Art Gallery until the 1990s when we retired to Florida, where I am now a docent at a house museum - the Mansion at Tuckahoe - and a member of the Garden Club of Stuart."

1954

RUTH GATES KELLY, Oro Valley, Ariz., wrote, "It is with much pride that I share the news that my granddaughter, Aoife Burke, was chosen to portray Klara in the Degnan Ballet Production of The Nutcracker, held December 13-15 at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center for Performing Arts."

1956

JOHN HOPEN, Medford Lakes, N.J., wrote, "Lynn and I still go kayak camping in Maine every August. Three of the four grandchildren are now in college in Florida. Thanks again, Sem, for the structure and discipline!"

1964

ALEX HOWARD, Port Orange, Fla., wrote this Sem memory to his classmates prior to their reunion last year. "Along with Corry's Beatles' memory, a couple of us walked a long way down The Avenue to a record store, so that we could buy the first release of the Meet the Beatles album. Who woulda thunk it, that before the end of the 60s I'd have met - and spent a couple of hours with - John Lennon and Paul McCartney, and (separately) Brian Epstein? And been in a band that interested Brian Epstein?"

"Before that decade was over, I'd also played my drums with Eric Clapton and Jimi Hendrix together; just the three of us for nearly three hours in a rehearsal loft on 19th Street in NYC. There were people there to watch, but only we three musicians. In addition, I played or jammed on stage at the Fillmore East and in an after-hours club called The Scene. I got to play with many other top musicians, including some of the Airplane/Starship folks, and one of the King Brothers, but not BB. The music scene in New York City was like a small town, in which everybody kind of knew everybody else. If you'd developed a good reputation as a musician, you could sit in a jam anywhere."

"I was also in an Academy Award winning movie, 'Midnight Cowboy,' with Dustin Hoffman and John Voight. No lines, just background, but I have ... somewhere ... a couple of stills with the three of us on screen together."

"Once things settled down and the '60s came to a close, I found I had developed a terrible habit - eating! No longer able to make a good living doing commercials, acting, and playing music, I trained myself to write

programs and play with computers for the rest of my professional career. I've loved every minute of it; even in retirement, I can't stop playing with gadgets, like computers and tablets; finally, I am learning about so-called smart phones."

"However, living in Florida makes it nearly impossible for me to show up at a reunion. Unfortunately, I will miss so many of my friends from Sem. Maybe next time, I'll finally tell the story of how That Laundry Cart got chained to a pillar in the Dining Hall. Or, the tunnels underneath Sem..."

1966

ANN HELEN ROBERTS, New York, N.Y., wrote, "BLISS ARNEBERG IRELAND passed away on November 11, 2019, after a three-year battle with pancreatic cancer. Her classmates mourn the loss of a brave and gracious lady. We will miss her always."

1968

JOHN PFEIFFER, Philadelphia, wrote, "In September I enjoyed reuniting with classmates from the class of '68 at the home of BRUCE LOGAN in Arlington, Va. It was great to see Bruce, TAYLOR MILLER, and my old roommate Dr. PHIL SCHWARTZ. Drinks, dinner and camaraderie made for an enjoyable evening!"

1969

RISA FREEDMAN DELONG-MOON, Gray, Maine, wrote, "Daughter Molly married Dan Brubaker September 14, 2019. They moved to Maine from Boston and work remotely."

1970

SUSAN WEISS SHOVAL, Great Barrington, Mass., wrote, "We sold our primary business, Guard Insurance Group, in 2007, hoping the new owners would keep the business intact and the jobs in Wilkes-Barre. We had about 200 Wilkes-Barre jobs at that time. Today, Berkshire Hathaway employs about 900 people at Berkshire Hathaway Guard in Wilkes-Barre. We see that as a great success!"

1973



JANET MALKEMES, Charlotte, N.C., wrote, "the holidays were delightful, with everyone enjoying the balmy weather of Charlotte. The big change has been in Mom's official residence. REBEKAH NICHOLSON MALKEMES '48 moved in with me in

mid-November, in time to enjoy Thanksgiving on Carmel Ridge Road. After a year on the market, the family home in West Pittston was sold to a young family from the Wyoming Valley."

"Last spring, a friend insisted that I had lived without a dog for more than long enough. Thus, Molly from the mountains arrived. She is a now 10-year-old boxer mix

(aka mutt) who came from the Yancey County animal shelter as a Valentine's Day special. Molly has settled into life as a city dog."

1974

ROBERT LEWIS, Tunkhannock, wrote, "Marlene and I continue to be seen at the Gardens nursing facility" (where they are volunteers).

1977



DAPHNE VERAS JORDAN, Halfmoon, N.Y. was elected in November 2018 to serve and represent the New York State Senate's 43rd District, which includes parts of Saratoga, Rensselaer, and Washington counties, and all of Columbia

County located in upstate New York.

Senator Jordan serves as the ranking Republican member on the Senate's Racing, Gaming and Wagering Committee, and serves on the Senate's Agriculture, Banks, and Ethics Committees. Senator Jordan's 43rd District is home to the world-renowned Saratoga Race Course and Saratoga Casino Hotel.

Prior to her election to the New York State Senate in the fall of 2018, Senator Jordan started and ran two successful small businesses, employing 14 individuals. As a job creator, Senator Jordan understands firsthand the serious challenges facing small businesses. Senator Jordan is a recognized pro-business champion within the New York State Legislature.

After graduating Cum Laude from Wyoming Seminary in 1977, Senator Jordan graduated from Lehigh University in 1981, earning her B.A. in government and English. Senator Jordan again graduated Cum Laude, and was a scholar-athlete as an all-time letter winner in Division 1 lacrosse. Senator Jordan graduated from Penn State Dickinson School of Law in 1984, earning her Juris Doctor degree.

A USA certified swim official, Senator Jordan is a proud, long-time "Swim Mom." Senator Jordan resides in the town of Halfmoon with her husband Phil and their sons Lane (26) and James (18).

1988

DEBORAH ROTHBERG COVITZ, Fort Smith, Ark., wrote, "this past summer, my husband, Erik, and I and our four animals relocated to Fort Smith, Arkansas from Florida. We were transferred for my husband's job as V.P. of market development for Weldon, Williams, and Lick, Inc. I was able to find a new job there as the accounting director for Methodist Village Senior Living. Our daughter, Jessica, just graduated from Florida Gulf Coast University with a degree in marketing and is working and living in our previous home in Boca Raton, Fla. Our son, Ben, is a freshman at Florida State University in Tallahassee."

Class Notes

1997

DAVID HARRIS, Philadelphia, wrote, "after 17 years living and working in Boston, I moved to Philadelphia to be closer to family. I currently work remotely from Philly as managing news editor for CRN, a tech industry publication based in Massachusetts that covers such companies as Google, Microsoft, IBM and Amazon. I previously worked for the Boston Business Journal as associate managing editor and tech editor."

2003

MATTHEW KERNS, Dauphin, is now the associate dean of admissions at Widener University Commonwealth Law School in Harrisburg.

JASON NATAUPSKY, Shavertown, recently celebrated his family's 75th year in business. Jason practices General Dentistry in Kingston with his father, Gary. Their practice was established in 1945 by Jason's grandfather, Dr. Daniel Gordon.

2004



LINDSAY STACKHOUSE MCCABE, Exeter, and her husband, Bill, adopted their foster daughter, Ivory, on December 18, 2019.

2007

ELIZABETH J. KILLIAN, Arlington, Va., has been hired as a curatorial assistant by the United States Supreme Court and is living in Arlington, Va.

MIKE VOJTKO, Germantown, Md., is currently producer of the 10:00 p.m. news on Fox 5 in Washington, D.C. The program was recently rated the No. 1 late news show in Washington for people 25-54. Prior to Fox 5, Mike worked as producer of the 11:00 p.m. news at WJZ, CBS, Baltimore, and at WNEP in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area. In May, Mike will marry Michelle Rotella, a meteorologist.

WEDDINGS

2005

ALI BRENNAN KORNFELD, Andover, Mass., married Reid Jackson on June 15, 2019 in Wilkes-Barre. The bride and groom celebrated with their family and friends, many of whom are Seminary alumni. Bridesmaids included Ali's sisters, TESS KORNFELD '11 and NORA KORNFELD '11, cousin KATLIN BUNTON DAVIES '05, and friends MADELINE KROPP '05, SARA ROSENBERG MOLTORIS '05, REBECCA HOWELL ZIEMAK '05, and JILLIAN SEELEY '05. Ali and Reid live in Andover with their dog, Norman.



2008

The Rev. CRAIG C. GOMMER '79, Pastor of the Dallas United Methodist Church, married VIRGINIA BAIRD '08 and Christopher Leschak on August 10, 2019. The ceremony and reception were held at Whitewoods in Wapwallopen, Pa., owned and operated by former Sem parents Bill and Cheryl Roman (BIANCA '06 and HANNAH '08). Pictured left to right: Senator Lisa Baker, HOWARD BAIRD III '06, NORM PRICE '90, AARON SLAFF '06, JEB STEWARD '07, MARGO AIDEUIS '08, MEG STEWARD '08, Chris Leschak, VIRGINIA BAIRD LESCHAK '08, HOWARD BAIRD, JR. '76, NANCY NEARY BAIRD '78, KARL ARBOGAST '75, CORNELIA CONYNGHAM ROMANOWSKI '75, KATHY REYNOLDS BELLAS '77, GARY BAKER '74, ED ROMANOWSKI '75, Whitewoods proprietors Bill and Cheryl Roman, DAVID REYNOLDS '76.



BIRTHS

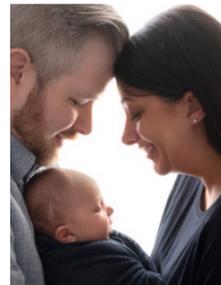
1999



ALEXIS KROPP-KWON, and her husband Young-Nam welcomed Oh Anderson into the world at 10:50 a.m. on December 12, 2019. Anderson is the couple's second son, and the grandson of SYLVIA SANTARELLI KROPP '71, and the nephew of MADELINE KROPP '05 and CAROLINE KROPP '09.

2001

ANDREW VOLPETTI, Philadelphia, and his wife Adrienne Volpetti of Philadelphia welcomed their son Nicholas George, nephew to DAN VOLPETTI '03, on September 26, 2019. Everyone is healthy and happy and very excited about this new chapter.



2003



JASON NATAUPSKY and Kelsey, Shavertown, welcomed their second baby boy on February 7, 2020. Hank Graham joins big brother Leo Gordon.

2006

STEPHANIE WALLACE BRADLEY and MATT BRADLEY, Shavertown, announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Marie Bradley, on June 18, 2019. Brooke was 7 lbs., 14 oz. and 20 inches long. The entire family is over the moon with this little girl!



2007

ELIZABETH COX, Atlanta, Ga., shared a photo of her new daughter, Soleil, born October 8, 2019.



OBITUARIES

1939

JEAN SMITH INGLING, Alexandria, Va., November 5, 2019.

Born in Kingston on Nov. 29, 1920, Jean Louise Straw Smith was the youngest of eight children of Crawford C. Smith and Anna Straw Smith. Her brothers DONALD SMITH '34, Harold (Hal), GORDON SMITH '28, Redmond Smith and RALPH SMITH '37, and her sisters Esther Howe and Catherine (Kit) Smith predeceased her.

Jean will be remembered for her good humor and hearty laugh, her keen interest in her 10 nieces and nephews, her strong friendships, her lifelong love of bridge, her remarkable memory and her phenomenal knitting skills. She knitted over 75 individualized Christmas stockings for family and friends as well as many afghans.

Jean graduated from Hood College with a bachelor of science degree in home economics and took several graduate level courses at Temple University. She worked as a therapeutic dietitian at Nesbitt Memorial Hospital from 1947 to 1954 and as cafeteria director and teacher in the Wilkes-Barre City Schools until 1966. Following her move with her husband to Alexandria, she was a dietitian and instructor with Prince George's General Hospital and Medical Center from 1967 until the mid-1980s.

Jean was married to Alan L. Ingling, a mathematics

Class Notes

professor at Wyoming Seminary, in 1964. After Wyoming Seminary, Alan taught for a year at the prep school for West Point at Fort Belvoir until his health failed. He died in 1973. In the years they had together Jean and Alan enjoyed traveling and playing "duffer's golf." Jean continued to travel and play golf with her many friends as long as she remained in good health.

Jean is survived by nine nieces and nephews, DEBORAH SMITH KERNOCHAN '63; BARBARA (BONNIE) SMITH '66 and her husband Vance Packard; CRAWFORD SMITH '67 and his wife Debbie; MARY ELLEN SMITH '69; SUSAN SMITH LEHRMITT '65 and her husband Akbar Lotfipour; S. KERR (SANDY) SMITH '69 and his wife Jill Marshall; JOHN SMITH '72 and his wife SARA HULTSCH-SMITH '72; JAYNE SMITH MULLEN '74; and LYMAN HOWE '56 and his wife Mary; 16 grandnieces and grandnephews and 18 great-grandnieces and great-grandnephews.

Jean was a sustaining member of the Junior League of Wilkes-Barre and active with Christ Church in Alexandria.

MARGARETTA WALLER VREELAND, Hightstown, N.J., April 9, 2019. She served in the U.S. Navy as a lieutenant junior grade during World War II, when she was stationed in Washington, D.C., and lived in the same building as then-Vice President Harry S. Truman. In 1951, She married Donald W. Vreeland, and together they raised four children in Summit, N.J. She and her family always enjoyed summers at the shore in Mantoloking, N.J. In 1991, she and Donald retired to Stuart, Fla., and Rockland, Maine. They moved to Hightstown in 2003 to be closer to their family.

1940

MARIAN TURNER KITTLE, Trucksville, February 13, 2020. Born in Wilkes-Barre on March 6, 1922, she was the daughter of the late Fred and Gertrude Morgan Turner and was a graduate of Kingston Township High School, Class of 1939 and Wyoming Seminary School of Business. She was a secretary with Morris Run Coal Mining and also with Whitesell Brothers and Stull Brothers. She worked for Celotex when she retired. Marian was a member of the Trucksville United Methodist Church for over 80 years. She loved to knit and crochet which she learned with the American Red Cross during World War II.

EMILIE FRANTZ CRIGLER, Charlotte, N.C., December 18, 2019 at Presbyterian Hospital after a brief illness. She was a caring and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother. Extremely kind and compassionate, Emilie will be remembered fondly by all who knew her.

Emilie was born in Kingston, on July 4, 1922, the daughter of Wilbur Myers Frantz and Viola Nofer Frantz. As her mother died soon after childbirth, she and her brother Wilbur were raised by their father and stepmother Carrie K.M. Frantz. After attending Wyoming Seminary in her hometown, she graduated from Duke University, where she was a member of Phi Mu Sorority. While at Duke, she met her future husband Norris, who played in the 1942 Rose Bowl game held in Durham, N.C.

Soon after their graduation, and immediately prior to his deployment overseas in the Navy, Norris and Emilie were married on November 23, 1943 in South Bend, Ind. Emilie served in the American Red Cross during WWII. During that time, Emilie tragically lost both her father and brother, who died while Norris was in Australia. Soon after Norris arrived home from the war, they moved back to North Carolina in 1947 with her stepmother Carrie. They spent the remainder of their lives in Charlotte.

Family and church were the foundations of Emilie's life. She took responsibility for communicating any important activities and events to family throughout the country. She dedicated her life to her husband, children, and grandchildren with boundless love and constant attention. Her other tireless devotion was to Christ Lutheran Church, where she and Norris were very active for many decades. Another great passion shared by Emilie and Norris was Duke University, particularly the basketball team.

1943

THERESA DEMSKY SIGLER, Kingston, December 14, 2019. Born in Larksville on Aug. 21, 1922, she was the daughter of John and Anna Demsky. Her husband of 60 years, Edward Sigler, predeceased her in 2008.

Theresa was a graduate of Larksville High School and Wyoming Seminary Dean School of Business. She and her husband owned the West Side Burial Vault Co. for many years. She later worked as an instructional aide in the Kingston elementary schools.

Theresa was a life member of St. Stephen's parish where she belonged to the Society of Christian Women and the Trinity senior group. As a member of the Slovak Catholic Women of Luzerne County she participated in many fundraising projects, especially rummage and bake sales. Theresa was generous in giving of herself and her time, especially with her family, whom she loved most of all.

1944

RUTH BLOCH BALTIMORE, formerly of Kingston and Dallas, January 8, 2020, at Highland Park Senior Living, where she had been a resident for the past three years.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late Lt. Col. Samuel Bloch Jr. and Theresa Bergsmann Bloch. Ruth Betty (RB) graduated from Skidmore College with a bachelor's degree in psychology. RB began her career as a case worker for the Department of Public Welfare and was later employed by Wyoming Valley West School District as a home and school visitor for 23 years.

RB was an advocate for children's needs and volunteered in many capacities with Luzerne County Children and Youth Services. RB also served on the boards of Victims Resource Center and Youth Services Commission.

Through her involvement with National Council of Jewish Women, RB was instrumental in the establishment of Council House, a partial

hospitalization program for adults.

RB was a life member of Temple B'nai B'rith, past president of both Valley Tennis and Swim Club and Newberry Estate Homeowners Association where she enjoyed golfing.

In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her husband, Martin J. Baltimore, in 2012.

RB is survived by her daughter, Frances (FRANCIE) HANDMAN '70 and her husband, CARL J. HANDMAN '69; son Samuel (Sandy) Baltimore and his wife, Lesley; five grandchildren, DAVID HANDMAN '99, ALLIE HANDMAN '03, Eric Baltimore (Halli), Alex Baltimore (Caitlin) and Abbey Baltimore Gibson (Tim); great-grandchildren; Olivia, Emerson, Linley Baltimore and Liam Gibson.

KAY JOHNSON EDGERTON, Dallas, December 27, 2019, at Mercy Center, Dallas.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, she was the daughter of the late Ernest F. and Katherine Ritchie Johnson, formerly of Franconia, New Hampshire.

Kay resided in Wilkes-Barre with her aunts, Ms. Ellen, Ms. Margaret and Ms. Sara Ritchie. In June 1950, she married Robert G. Edgerton of Wilkes-Barre. Prior to moving to Dallas, the Edgertons resided in Forty Fort and Cape Coral, Florida.

Kay was a graduate of Wyoming Seminary, Vassar College and received graduate degrees from Marywood University. She was a guidance counselor and psychologist at the Wyoming Area School District, a psychologist for United Rehabilitation Services, a school psychologist with the Luzerne Intermediate Unit and a consulting psychologist with United Cerebral Palsy of South Western Florida. She served on many local service boards and was a sustaining member of the Junior League of Wilkes-Barre.

Kay is survived by her husband of more than 69 years, ROBERT GEORGE EDGERTON, SR. '42; sons ROBERT EDGERTON '69 and wife Nancy, Dallas, RITCHIE EDGERTON '75 and wife Patricia, Hanover Township; three grandchildren Robert III and wife Kristin, Boston, Leigh Edgerton Waring and husband Charles, Philadelphia, and Amy Edgerton Reed, Allentown; and three great-grandchildren.

1945

BETSY BELL PARKHURST CONDRON, Kingston, January 10, 2020. Born March 15, 1928, she was the daughter of the late George T. and Sara Wolfe Bell of Wilkes-Barre. She graduated from the Wilkes-Barre Day School, Skidmore College and held an M.Ed. from Wilkes College/University.

Known for her volunteer work in local, state and national fields of health, education and welfare, she was named a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania in 1975 and later served as its president. Additional honors included Pennsylvania Medical Society's Benjamin

Class Notes

Rush Outstanding Service Award, Luzerne County's Homemaker Service Merit Award; Pennsylvania Health Department Outstanding Volunteer Award.

State and national leaderships included vice chair of Governor Scranton's Commission on the Status of Women, chair of the Education Committee Task Force on Health Manpower, director of International Association of Junior Leagues of America, vice president of the Pennsylvania Council of Home Health Services, vice president of the Medical College Pennsylvania Commonwealth Board, member of the Selection Board for Hahnemann Medical College – Wilkes University, program head of the Mid-Atlantic States Y-Teen Boards, vice president of Skidmore College's Alumnae and Leadership Board, and member of the Pennsylvania Bar Association Judicial Campaign Committee.

Her numerous regional leaderships included Leadership Wilkes-Barre's founding board, Children Service Center executive board vice president, Nesbitt Hospital Board and chair of its Drug Alcohol Abuse Center "Choices," Wilkes-Barre Junior League president, Luzerne County's Homemaker Service founder and president, chair of Luzerne County's Constitutional Revision Committee, acting chair of Valley Crest Home for the Aging, co-chair for Economic Growth, Board of The Kirby Episcopal House, Glen Summit and the Luzerne County Historical Society Board.

She also served the United Way in its cabinet, holding chairmanships and acting in several 13-week television series titled "The Betsy and Bill Show" on WBRE-TV during television's early years in Wyoming Valley. In her later years she gave tours and lectures on Wilkes-Barre's history and architecture.

Some of Betsy's additional board memberships were League of Women Voters, Welfare Planning Council, Girls Scout Reorganization, Flood Recovery Task Force of 1972, PBS's WVIA-Radio, YWCA, Economic Development Council, Children's Home, Blue Cross, and as a community member of Luzerne County's Law and Library Association Executive Board and its Charitable Foundation Board. As a member of the Forty Fort Meeting House Preservation Committee, she co-chaired its Bicentennial Celebration in 2007.

She taught at the Northampton School for Girls and Wyoming Seminary, where she was the college placement director from 1969-1979. At that time, she founded the Northeastern Pennsylvania committee of High School – College Admission Counselors and inaugurated the summer abroad student tour program at Wyoming Seminary. She then joined the administration of Wilkes College/ University as director of Planned Giving, Development, Community Relations and Special Events. She received the Wilkes Colonel Award. She retired in 1998.

She enjoyed a large extended family, friendships and broad travel experiences, including a month in India to study the problems of women in that country.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Joseph C. Condron; her stepson, James Condron; stepdaughter Deborah (John) Hoffman; and brother GEORGE T. (Kathie) BELL '49.

Surviving are her daughters, Sara/SALLY PARKHURST (Norman) VAN WHY '69, Bedford and Betsy/BINKY PARKHURST (John) CARROLL '73 of Wellington, Florida; stepchildren David (Pat) Condron, Ellicott City, Maryland, Carol (Delbert) Keisling, Marco Island, Florida; Mark (Maria) Condron Huntington Beach, California; grandchildren Beth, Eric, Brian, Arthur; as well as step-grandchildren Sara, Michael, Mary, Gretchen, Kara, Katie, Sean, Dan, Joseph and Charles; and nine great-grandchildren. She will also be missed by her many nieces, nephews and cousins.

1947

BEVERLY SLOCUM BROUGHNER, Severna Park, Md., February 6, 2020.

She was born in Carbondale on October 30, 1929, to Floyd Snyder Slocum and Imogene Fowler Slocum. She graduated from Chestnut Hill Hospital School of Nursing in Philadelphia, worked as a registered nurse for many years, eventually residing and working most of her life in the Washington, D.C., area. She worked at the Department of Commerce and the U.S. Capitol, U.S. Senate as an occupational health nurse before retiring in 2001.

Beverly and her husband of 30 years, John, retired to Dallas in 2003 and lived there until 2019 when they moved into a retirement community in Severna Park, Md.

Beverly was a member of the Wyoming Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was also a member of the Friends of the Back Mountain Library and an active member of the Dallas United Methodist Church. She was actively involved in their retirement community, making new friends and participating in and enjoying as many activities as she could.

She was preceded in death by her son, Jay Norman White, and her parents, Floyd and Imogene Slocum.

She is survived by her husband, John Brougher; daughter, Wendy Offutt, of Gulf Breeze, Fla.; granddaughter, Sarah Milligan, of Washington, D.C.; brothers Bruce Slocum, of Dallas, and Barry Slocum (Anna), of New Hope; and many nieces and nephews and grandnieces and nephews.

MARGARET "KITTY" PERKINS SKALLERUP, Washington, D.C., July 12, 2019.

Born in Wilkes-Barre, Kitty graduated from the Wilkes-Barre Day School in 1947 and from Smith College in 1952. While attending Smith, she studied for a year in Paris, along with her identical twin sister, TRUDY PERKINS DAVENPORT '47, as well as Jacqueline Bouvier (later, Kennedy).

Newly graduated, Kitty moved to Washington, D.C., with Smith classmates, where she secured jobs at the National Security Agency as well as "Face the Nation." In 1955 she married Kenneth D. Hull Jr., a young diplomat from Mill Neck, New York. After a brief posting in London they returned to D.C. where they settled in Georgetown alongside neighbors Jackie and Sen. John F. Kennedy.

Through posts in Copenhagen and Tunis, Kitty reveled in the role of the American diplomat's wife, charming foreign dignitaries with her infectious enthusiasm and gracious nature. A favorite memory was hosting the astronauts who visited Tunisia on their 1969 world tour. In 1972 she wed Abed Bouhafa, from Gammath, Tunisia, where she lived for many years. In 1979 Kitty returned to D.C. where she bought the famous log cabin on Arizona Avenue.

After marrying Walter T. Skallerup, General Counsel of the Navy, she moved to McLean, Va. In 1985 she christened the Aegis cruiser USS Bunker Hill CG-52 and became a member of The Society of the Sponsors of the United States Navy.

Upon Walter's death in 1987, Kitty, single again, eventually returned to her old stomping grounds – Georgetown – where she lived for the next 33 years, playing tennis, traveling to the French Open and charming bartenders and fellow diners alike in established haunts such as Café Milano, Martin's Tavern, Black Salt and Two Amy's.

At her core, Kitty was a fighter who responded to the word "no" with a devilish grin. When renovating a house in McLean, her small stature and feisty energy earned her the name "Mighty Mouse on the Potomac" from friends who watched her through a grueling zoning fight that she took to the Virginia Supreme Court. As much as she relished a good fight, Kitty loved being with people and was drawn to their life stories. Not only did she bring strangers together, but she was the glue of her own family. Her children and grandchildren will profoundly miss their "GiGi."

She is survived by her three children and six grandchildren.

1948

ALBERT FOSKO, Lake Silkworth, October 18, 2019. Born May 3, 1930, in Plains Township, he was a son of the late John Sr. and Anna Warek Fosko.

He was a graduate of King's College, earning a degree in accounting in 1952. He began his accounting career in Philadelphia, after which he was an auditor for the Internal Revenue Service for many years until his retirement in 1985.

Albert was a member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Lake Silkworth. He enjoyed the outdoors, golfing and fishing.

Albert was preceded in death by his wife, the former

Class Notes

Dorothy Zoltewicz, in 1972; sisters Adella, Marie, Anna Margie, Margaret Butcofski and Helen Fosko; and brothers John, Joseph and Carl Fosko.

He is survived by his sister, Betty Dobish, of Wilkes-Barre; loving companion, Mary Ann Madajewski, of Nanticoke; and many nieces and nephews.

GERALDINE RUDDY HOURIGAN, Kingston, November 7, 2019.

Born on June 9, 1931, in Wilkes-Barre, Geraldine was the only daughter of the late Gerald J. Ruddy, proprietor of the former Ruddy's Drug Store, Wilkes-Barre, and Mary E. (Murphy) Ruddy.

Geraldine went on to further her education at Mount St. Vincent College, New York City, and Marywood College, now Marywood University, where she acquired her bachelor's degree in education. Later she went on to acquire two master's degrees from Penn State University, Main Campus, and Bloomsburg State Teachers College, now Bloomsburg University.

Beginning her career as an elementary school teacher in Wilmington, Del., Geraldine eventually returned to the local area beginning her long career as an educator in the Wilkes-Barre Area School District. She completed her graduate study in speech pathology, audiology, and special education, leading her to finish her career with the Wilkes-Barre Area School District as a special education supervisor.

Retirement gave Geraldine the opportunity to share her education and experience by serving on many local community boards. She served on the boards of Catholic Social Services, the Foster Grandparent Program, the Area Agency on Aging, the Wyoming Valley Children's Association and the Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, serving as past-president of the state association. Additionally, being that Wyoming Seminary always held a special place in Geraldine's heart, she was proud to have once served on its President's Council, its Selectors Committee and a term on its Alumni Council.

A devout Catholic, Geraldine was a member of St. Ignatius Loyola Church, Kingston. Active within her church, she served as an extraordinary minister of the Eucharist and lector, held membership with its bereavement committee; and served on its parish council.

Geraldine was a longtime member of the Westmoreland Club and the King's College Century Club. She was an avid golfer and a member of Fox Hill Country Club, Exeter, and in her earlier years she was an avid skier.

One of Geraldine's favorite experiences was being present as the inauguration of President John F. Kennedy and having the opportunity to personally meet him on that pivotal day. She also thoroughly enjoyed over 30 Elderhostels during her retirement years, mostly in Europe, but also in Canada and the United States.

Geraldine will be remembered for her strong faith and devotion to her church, her warm, welcoming, and humble nature, her commitment to education and her dedication and generosity toward the betterment of her local community.

1949

LOIS KIEFER TROWBRIDGE, Auburn, Ind., January 15, 2020. Born in 1931 to Fred and Edna (McGinley) Kiefer, Lois was a native of Wilkes Barre area.

She attended St. Ann's Academy and Wyoming Seminary. She was a truly proud member of the Wellesley College Class of '53, where she was honored as a Wellesley Scholar, was an English major, an actor and member of the Wellesley Shakespeare Society.

As a heroic mother, she proudly raised her children in Manhasset, Long Island, and enjoyed a 30-year career as a real estate broker and senior residential appraiser. Recent decades brought her close to her children in Indiana, and treasured times with all of her grandchildren. She loved her time in The Ladies Literary Club of Auburn, Indiana, her volunteer work with Eckhart Public Library, and playing bridge with friends.

Her quick wit and love of theater, opera, literature and the arts had a huge impact on her family, and on her legion of friends and admirers.

Lois is survived by her three children and her five adored grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her brother, Peter; her forever best pal, IDA MAE KIEFER MCCLARY '54; and her blessed grandson, Kiefer.

1950

DANIEL SEGANISH, Springfield, Va., January 20, 2020. He was born in Kingston, son of the late Daniel and Charlotte Regina Pastula Seganish and widower of Clara Headley Seganish. Dan attended Swoyersville High School, graduated from Wyoming Seminary as a postgraduate, and graduated from the Catholic University of America with a B.S. in mechanical engineering. Upon graduation he worked at PEPCO and then proceeded to have a distinguished 37-year career as a civilian for the Department of the Navy, in Washington, D.C. He was a beloved and devoted son, husband, father and grandfather.

1954

RICHARD FOOTE, Jacksonville, Fla., March 21, 2019.

LAURA SEMMER SOBOL, Foxboro, Mass., January 11, 2020 after surviving cancer for more than three years. She is mourned by her husband and companion in life, Richard Neilson; family members and a wide network of friends and neighbors who will miss her bright energy and zest for life. She was predeceased by her sister SHIRLEY SEMMER MCKENZIE '56.

Laura was a proud alumna of Wyoming Seminary and

Cedar Crest College in Allentown. After being raised by her parents, Stanley Semore Semmer and Louise (Lawson) Semmer in Pennsylvania, Laura lived most of her adult life in Foxboro where she was a beloved teacher in the Foxboro Public schools, served on the Trustees of Boyden Library, the vestry of St. Mark's church and the League of Women Voters. Later in her career, she worked as store manager of the London Harness Shop in downtown Boston. Laura was an active member of the Cocasset Lake Association, Foxboro Garden Club and the Monday Club where she served as a leader and mentor over the years. She and Richard travelled widely and had a number of hobbies, including hiking and reading, but enjoyed their time gardening together most of all.

1955

JAMES BASON, Northumberland, February 6, 2019. Born April 11, 1936 in Bloomsburg, Jim was the eldest son of Madalyn and Leonard Bason. He attended Sem as a post-grad; spent four years as a medic in the Air Force; then graduated with a degree in electrical engineering from Penn State University. His career was based in production management in the snack food industry. Jim was preceded in death by his wife of nearly 50 years, Darl Charlotte Robbins, who passed away in 2006. Together they had three daughters and seven grandchildren.

1956

VELMA BERTOCCI DIROBERTO, Doylestown, December 26, 2019.

Born in West Wyoming, to the late Ugo and Marie (Fabri) Bertocci, she resided in Doylestown for more than 46 years. Velma was a graduate of West Wyoming High School, and the Wyoming Seminary Dean School of Business.

DANIEL REID, Largo, Fla., died of cardiac arrest on January 23, 2020. He was 82 years old. A native of Chester, Dan attended Wyoming Seminary and was a member of the Naval Reserve, prior to receiving a competitive appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. He graduated in June 1960 as a member of the 19th Company and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He was assigned to MIT as one of the U.S.A.F. students preparing to serve in the National Space Program. After two years, he was awarded a master of science degree in aeronautics and astronautics and joined the Office of Aerospace Research where he led several projects supporting our country's early space activities.

As a captain, he left the Air Force and joined GE's Space Division in Valley Forge as an engineer in the Manned Orbiting Laboratory and other military and commercial programs. As a control systems analyst, he performed one of the first hybrid analog and digital simulations and later managed systems engineering groups. His major accomplishments were as the program director of the DSCS/IABS Communication Satellite Program for 10 years, including 10 successful launches. He received many awards during his career, including

Class Notes

GE's Centennial Award for outstanding achievement in 1978, Lockheed Martin's NOVA Selectee, and a U.S. patent award for a satellite tracking system. Upon his retirement, the U.S.A.F. presented him with the U.S. flag that flew over the launch pad of his last satellite launch.

Dan is survived by his wife of 59 years, Peggy Reid; his younger brother, Bill; two sons, Dennis and David; and ten grandchildren. Dan joins his deceased eldest son, Daniel Fred Reid Jr., who died in 2014.

MARY JANE SUNDAY WHELAN, Virginia Beach, Va., October 20, 2019. Born on September 20, 1938, Mary Jane was the daughter of Gretchen Stewart Sunday and Leroy McCracken Sunday of Clearfield.

Mary Jane was predeceased by her husband, Ret. Navy Capt. John F Whelan, Jr. and her cousin, SUSANNE SUNDAY SANDERSON '56. Left to cherish her memories are her current husband, Ret. CWO George Dashiell, her brother, Bob Sunday and his family, her three sons and their families.

1959

CHARLES CRAZE, Bethlehem, November 2, 2019. Born November 24, 1940, he was raised in Wilkes-Barre and attended Lehigh University starting in 1960. He played football, winning the 1961 Lambert Cup, and was a member of the "animal house" fraternity Sigma Nu. He served in the Navy on the USS Cascade for two years, peeling potatoes and fixing teletype machines, and then returned to Lehigh, graduating in 1965. He married Susan Schroeder the same year, and they settled in Cleveland, where he worked at Republic Steel while attending law school. After graduating he co-founded a firm specializing in First Amendment law, and over the course of his 30+ year practice, argued cases in all 50 states and in front of the US Supreme Court.

Charlie, Susan, and their daughter, Lizzy, moved to Redwood City, Calif. in 1989. He joined the Elks Club with the sole intention of playing golf, but within a year and a half became fully involved in the Elks community, and served as secretary for many years.

Charlie was a big supporter of organ donation, with two of his children having heart transplants at Stanford Hospital in California in the early 1980s. He also donated a kidney to his daughter Lizzy in 1998.

He is survived by his wife Susan; daughter Lizzy; sister Nance; and many nieces, nephews, cousins, in-laws, and out-laws.

He was predeceased by his children Charles, Jr. (Cheddy), Caitlin, Megan, and Andrew.

1962

PETER MILLER, Bradenton, Fla., November 28, 2019 after a brave fight with cancer. A resident of Bradenton and Manlius, N.Y., Peter was born in 1943 in Brooklyn, N.Y. to Donald H. and Barbara D. Miller. He attended Syracuse University and graduated from Parsons College in 1967. He was the owner and retired president of Paul de Lima Coffee Company.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Linda Haines Miller, daughters MELISSA MILLER '88 (Jessica) of St. Petersburg, Fla. and Julie A. Jordan (John) of East Syracuse, N.Y., sisters Margaret Scripa (Joe) and Nancy Minor (Ned), and four grandchildren. Peter will be fondly remembered for his EMS volunteer work with CAVAC and Smith Ambulance, as an alpine ski instructor for the CNY Special Olympics and his participation with the Syracuse Golf Bandits. Peter served on the Zoning board for the town of Pompey and the Oakwood Cemetery board of directors.

1966

BLISS ARNEBERG IRELAND, Mendham, N.J., November 11, 2019, three-plus years after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, surrounded by her husband, dear friends, and her fur babies - Cinnie, Chico, and sweet Allie.

Bliss was born on August 22, 1948 to Henry and Carmen Arneberg. She grew up in South Sterling, and throughout her life lived in many places (and traveled to even more) with her husband, Tom, and spent their last years together in Mendham. Bliss was an extraordinary woman - compassionate, community-oriented, caring, and competitive, just to name a few of her many charming traits. Her name suited her well as she brought joy to the lives of many. Her dedication to service included volunteering as an EMT, supporting organizations dedicated to alleviating poverty, and to caring for animals.

Bliss is survived by her beloved husband, partner, and friend of 30 years, Tom Ireland; cousins Bob Rochfort, Yvonne Rochfort Barnes, Gary Rochfort, Nancy Gross and Cindy Gross; and numerous extended family members and friends.

1968

GENE RODRIGUEZ, Hazleton, January 5, 2020. Born in Binghamton, N.Y., and raised in Kingston and the Back Mountain, he was the son of the late Carlos and Virginia (Snow) Rodriguez.

A born-again Christian, he attended Word Family Church, Harwood. Gene attended Wyoming Seminary Day School and Upper School, and later continued his studies at the Pennsylvania State University in State College. He was previously employed as a sales person in the real estate field.

Gene was an avid fisherman who loved the outdoors, as well as being a devoted New York Yankees fan. He was a family living provider for the Mentor Agency and was also a member of the Kosciusko Club in West Hazleton.

Preceding him in death, in addition to his parents, were a brother David; and a granddaughter, Jaela DeJesus.

Surviving are Gene's wife of 31 years, the former Jane Allegretto; children Nikki, Jessica, Sarah and Rebecca; sisters CARLA '69 and SUE '71; and brothers Michael and Mark. Grandchildren Tai and Jolie and several nieces and nephews also survive.

1973

STEVEN BOLINGER, Wilkes-Barre, October 20, 2019. Born Nov. 6, 1954, in Kittery, Maine, he was the son of Doris Bolinger and the late Phillip Bolinger. Steven spent his early years in Phoenixville before locating to Wilkes-Barre to finish his education at Wyoming Seminary followed by Wilkes University.

In the summer of 1979 Steve met the love of his life, Cindy, working at Design Galleries. They married on April 11, 1981, and went on to provide a beautiful life for their three daughters, Michaeline, Courtney and Caitlin. Steve was working as a salesperson for the Manning Company for eight years before he decided to take the leap and follow his dream of owning his own restaurant. Together with Cindy he opened Philly's Phinest in the summer of 1995. He was very proud of his restaurant. He loved spending his time there, holding court with the many sales reps, friends, customers, and employees. Steve was always a big fan of the underdog. He took great joy in giving people chances, and always saw the best in everyone.

When he wasn't on the beaches of the Caribbean, you could always find him on the golf course. Steve was a proud member of the Wyoming Valley Country Club. He absolutely loved the game of golf. From playing pickup games every day the course was open, going to the driving range with his grandsons, to getting his first hole-in-one, he loved everything about the game and all the members.

In November 2015 Steve was diagnosed with esophageal cancer, and was given about 18 months to live. It was the love he had for his family, and his amazing spirit, that afforded him four years, years of making wonderful memories with his family and being able to watch his grandkids grow up. Steve had two important items to cross off his bucket list: Seeing the Eagles win the Super Bowl, and getting a hole-in-one. So, it's with a heavy heart that his family knows he left this earth as a happy man.

In addition to his father, Phillip, Steve was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Peoples.

He is survived by his loving wife, Cindy Bolinger, and children, Michaeline and husband Kevin Engelman, of Mountain Top, Courtney Bolinger, of Wilkes-Barre, and Caitlin and husband Eric Samanas, of Wyoming; his grandchildren; mother, Doris Bolinger; brother Larry Bolinger and wife Trish; brother Craig Bolinger and wife Susan; sister Kathy Carter and husband Mark; and countless nieces and nephews.

JOHN STANKOSKI, Wilkes-Barre, November 20, 2019. He was born in West Pittston on May 21, 1955, a son of Edward and Florence Menn Stankoski.

He was a graduate of Boston University Class of 1977, and the University of Bologna Medical School in 1984. Dr. Stankoski completed his residency in Overlook Hospital, Summit, N.J.

Class Notes

Initially, he was an associate at Geisinger Medical Group followed by General Medical Service of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He completed his career with the Intermountain Medical Group where he founded Family Practice Associates with Dr. Drue Paden and Dr. Ernie Julius. Dr. Stankoski retired in 2009 after practicing medicine in the Wyoming Valley for 23 years.

He also served as medical director for Heritage House and Wesley Village, along with several home health and hospice organizations.

He was preceded in death by his parents and his brother, David.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Susan Pascucci Stankoski; his children, Jack and his companion Rebecca Cavill, Michael and his companion Gia Sico, and Nicole and her fiancé Ricky Keiderling. Also surviving are the joy of his life, his granddaughter, Meadow Keiderling; brother, Edward A. Stankoski and his wife Kathy; mother-in-law, Kitty Pascucci; brothers-in-law Andy and his wife Gail, David and his companion Lori; and sister-in-law, Cathy Parsnik and her husband, Joe; numerous nieces, nephews, great-nephews and a great-niece.

John truly loved the game of golf, and was a longtime member of several local courses. He also enjoyed many beach vacations with close family and friends. His greatest joy, however, was caring for his patients and lifelong relations he formed with them and his colleagues.

1975

ARTHUR H. GRAMPS, III, Sweet Valley, February 2, 2020, at home after a battle with a brief illness. He was born in Kingston, the son of Ruth A. Gramps (Kavanaugh) and the late ARTHUR H. GRAMPS, JR. '54.

He attended Wyoming Seminary as a postgraduate, after which he went on to attend college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania receiving a bachelor's degree in criminology in 1979. He went on to work several short-term jobs, finally talking a job at the Red Rock Job Corps Center in Lopez and working there for 35 years up until his death. He worked mainly in the safety and security department where he spent his final years as the safety/security manager.

He had a lifelong love of ice hockey and of the Philadelphia Flyers ice hockey team. He played with and coached various ice hockey teams over the years and was long involved in the game locally. He also instilled a love of the game in his son and oldest grandson, having been involved in the creation of the Wilkes-Barre Area Wolfpack ice hockey team in the early 2000s that eventually became/merged with the Holy Redeemer Royals ice hockey team.

He was preceded in death by his father Arthur Gramps Jr. and an infant granddaughter, Riley Gramps.

Surviving, in addition to his mother, are his son, Zachary Sr. of Forty Fort; and his wife Valerie; sister Lesa of Tunkhannock; brother David of Dallas; grandchildren

Zachary Jr., Liam, Sophia, Teyah and Nora Gramps of Forty Fort; several nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews; and his longtime girlfriend Chris of Sweet Valley and his two beloved dogs Bailey and Nada.

2008

MAX MUKERJEE, Wilkes-Barre, February 14, 2020. Born January 17, 1990, he was the son of Mrs. Karen Linker Sepkoski and her husband, Mr. Bruce Sepkoski of Miners Mills; and the late Dr. Manju Mukerjee.

He furthered his education by attaining a bachelor of arts degree in 2016 from Scranton University, majoring in philosophy with a minor in Russian language.

At the time of his death, Max was employed as a dock worker by Chewy.com in the Hanover Industrial Estates and previously worked as a mental health technician at First Hospital Wyoming Valley in Kingston. Prior to that and loving all of God's creatures, he was employed as an animal care technician for the SPCA of Luzerne County, Plains Twp., for several years.

In his spare time, he became a talented pianist and was asked recently to share his talents in music for an art event at Luzerne County Community College for local artist, Sue Hand.

Above all, Max can be best remembered for his dedication to his faith and his parish. Spirituality was a big part of his life and was an active parishioner at Holy Assumption of Saint Mary Parish.

2013

LORENZO METROKA, Freeland, January 17, 2020. Born Aug. 26, 1995, Lorenzo was the son of Colleen Metroka, Esquire. He attended Sem for two years and was homeschooled for his final two years of high school with an emphasis on calculus, investment banking and the French language.

Lorenzo lived in the tropical paradise of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, for many years and considered it home. He also enjoyed working at his mother's law practice in Wilkes-Barre for several years.

Lorenzo was intelligent beyond his years and had an irresistible, witty personality to match. He had an endless variety of talents, skills and interests, some of which included investment banking, public speaking, politics, Yankees baseball, Philadelphia Eagles football, gourmet cooking, growing Carolina Reaper and Scotch Bonnet peppers for making his super-hot and spicy garlic hot sauce, exotic travel, chess, and reggae/rap music.

Lorenzo will be forever loved and cherished by his devoted mom, Colleen Metroka; his Zuzzie, Gertrude Metroka; godmother Kimberly Metroka; aunt, Janelle Metroka Winsock; and uncle Russell Winsock; cousins Britney and Nicholas Winsock; loving friends, Ronnie and Marianne Rinaldi; beloved dog, August; and many, many additional family members and friends.



IN THE SOLITUDE OF THE LONG RUN
WE GET TO KNOW OURSELVES



JOHN PLATT '49 IS A RUNNER.

He runs in 5K races, half marathons, 5 milers and other races, and has run all over the world, from Saudi Arabia to the Great Wall of China. In 2019 he ran in at least 12 events, including the Houston Half Marathon and the Bethlehem Runner's World Half Marathon. Throughout his running career he has competed in at least 200 races, at least 16 or 17 marathons and has won his age group in all three of the New York City Half Marathons in which he ran. Not bad for someone who did not start running until age 47.

John Platt will be 90 this year.

"Running gets you in touch with who you are," he says. "To reach my 90th year and still be able to run is a blessing."

It's a blessing he is very happy to share with others. He is actively training several runners who are nearly 50 years younger than he is. And he devotes much of his time to designing their training schedules, attending their races, monitoring their times and helping them reach their goals.

"Watching these runners improve their times takes my breath away," he says. "For me, especially at this point, I am living through the runners I coach. I love working with people who love the sport and want to work at it throughout their lifetimes."

"I feel very blessed to work with him," says Colby Bolesta, a nurse who began training with Platt in June, 2019. "He is very supportive and encouraging and is a great role model."

As a student at Sem in the late 1940s, Platt excelled both in academics and athletics. An outstanding wrestler who went undefeated in Sem competition and won a national prep title in his senior year, Platt also played football. While earning his bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering at Lehigh University, he earned three varsity letters in wrestling and won titles at several wrestling tournaments. In recognition of his accomplishments on the mat, Platt was inducted into the Sem Varsity Sports Hall of Fame.

After serving as a first lieutenant in the U. S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division, he built a highly successful career in leadership positions at General Electric, Dresser Industries and Geosource before co-founding CerebroVascular Advances in San Antonio, Texas. Along the way, realizing he wanted to regain his strength and fitness, in 1977 he decided to start running. Within a year or so he began running marathons. A few years later he began working with Jim McLatchie, a Scottish national champion in cross-country running who has trained Olympic and national championship runners.

Training with McLatchie helped Platt further refine the training regimen he had developed for himself, which reflects his engineering focus. Since 1977 he has



kept meticulous records of his training schedules, times and races. These records, and his own experiences, have helped him hone his own training practices, and he now shares those practices with the runners he coaches.

"Running is based on math and science, and records are vital for looking back on what you have done and accomplished," he says. "I keep running logs for my runners and encourage them to do that for themselves."

Platt's first trainee was his wife, Julie, a physician and dedicated runner. He also trained a tutor for one of his 10 children. Since moving from Texas to Dallas, Pennsylvania in 2010 he has picked up several more running trainees; after meeting Sem Director of Communications Jill Snowdon at Alumni Weekend in May, 2019, he agreed to train her and two of her friends for the 2019 Scranton Steamtown Marathon.

Bolesta, a nursing supervisor for Homebound Health Services and one of Snowdon's running partners, has been running for six years. She says Platt has helped her become more serious about her sport and she now runs every day, racking up as many as 85 miles a week. Thanks to his training methods, Bolesta says her time in the 2019 Steamtown Marathon in October, 2019 dropped by almost 90 minutes, compared to her time in the 2018 race.

"Most important, he has taught me to believe in myself, to be patient and to trust the process," she says. "He helped me qualify for the Boston Marathon in April 2021, something I never imagined I could do."

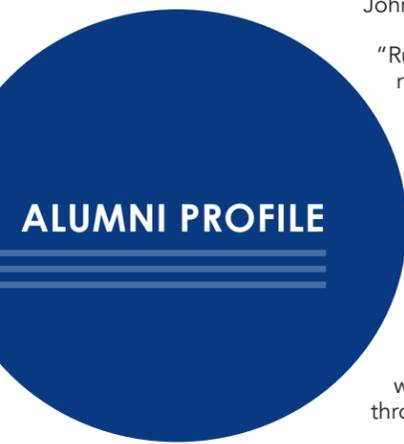
The individualized training programs Platt designs for his runners reflect his understanding of their life commitments, talents and goals. Their success is a source of great satisfaction for him, and it is always a thrill for his runners when he runs in a race with them.

"I think about how much I love this sport and how grateful I am to still be able to run the distance," he says. "It's why I raise my arms to the sky when I cross the finish line, win or lose, first or last."

You may contact John Platt '49 at jfplatt@aol.com.



Top: Three of John Platt's runners pose with him at the end of the 2019 Steamtown Marathon. From left: Jill Snowdon, Sem director of communications; Colby Bolesta, Platt and Tanya Carpenter. Below: **DON DEMBERT '49** and Platt reconnect on the Sem campus.





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