



# Connections

A MAGAZINE FOR THE ST. MARY'S RYKEN COMMUNITY

## FEATURED ARTICLE

Donnie Williams Center and  
Innovation Lab – Opening in 2018!  
p.02



2017

A XAVERIAN BROTHERS SPONSORED SCHOOL

## IN THIS ISSUE

12 | Students Fall in Love  
With the Service of God

16 | God Bless the Class of 2017!

40 | Alumni Spotlight Stories

# Dear Alumni and Friends,



I am exhilarated to be part of this historic time of growth at St. Mary's Ryken.

As the cover story states, we broke ground in early May for the new Donnie Williams Center, which will provide

48,000 square feet of modern, spacious facilities for many types of school, community and sporting events. (*Architectural renderings and additional details can be found on page 2.*) We also celebrated the additional phase of this project, the enhancement of Paschal Hall for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) facilities. These essential projects come from the vision, aspirations and strategic planning

of the St. Mary's Ryken Board of Directors, past trustees, the leadership of our Vision Belief Pride Campaign Committee and our parent focus groups. Thank you all!

The success of our journey rests in the generosity and support of so many individuals and friends, including the Xaverian Brothers, who provided this beautiful campus for us and gave us the gift of their charism and their values. Due to the campaign's success, we surpassed our fundraising goal of \$7 million and have extended the goal to \$8.5 million. I ask that you join us in supporting our students and faculty by helping us to continue to build a strong future for St. Mary's Ryken. Please visit [www.smrhs.org/DonnieWilliamsCenter](http://www.smrhs.org/DonnieWilliamsCenter) to view available giving levels and naming opportunities, and to donate today. Thank you for your time, consideration and support.

Called by our mission and our Xaverian values, we are committed to both of these projects as a testament to serving our students and our greater community by providing space and resources for a 21st century educational experience.

Please pray for a safe project and for the continued prosperity of our school community!

God bless you and the Class of 2017,

Mary Joy Hurlburt  
President and CEO

## 2017 CONNECTIONS

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### Mission Statement

St. Mary's Ryken is a Catholic, coeducational, college preparatory school community operated under the Xaverian Brothers' sponsorship dedicated to academic excellence and individualized student growth.

Please send alumni news and updated contact information to [advancement@smrhs.org](mailto:advancement@smrhs.org) or call 301-373-4162.

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Cover photo, from left: Rick Wood (Principal), Donnie Burch, RHS '78, Bob Taylor, RHS '68, Alice Hession, Carolyn Williamson, Gordon O'Neill, RHS '81, Richard Braam, George Heinze, RHS '80, Ernie Bell, Esq., RHS '59, Anne Bell, SMA '62, Gabrielle Forte, Dr. Theresa Fazio, Bob Russell, RHS '57, Leonard Raley, RHS '74, Kevin Murphy, '91, Jim Cornelsen, Mary Joy Hurlburt (President), Daniel White, Esq., Mike Mummaugh, Bill Reuter, Brian Norris, '84, Mark Guadagnoli, Bruce Lloyd, RHS '64, John Taylor, RHS '79, Dr. Keith Crowley, Mary Lynn Stone, Sue Ann Armitage, Esq., '83, Jimmy Burke, '86

# Contents

## 02 COVER STORY: The Donnie Williams Center and Innovation Lab

## 05 Student Life

- 05 Student Life at SMR
- 07 Performing Arts Students  
With Challenging Roles
- 10 Spectacular Performances  
by Fine Arts Students
- 11 Chorus Students Earn Top  
Score at State Competition

## 12 Service

- 12 Students Fall in Love With  
the Service of God
- 14 Students Support Those  
in Need

## 16 Class of 2017

- 16 God Bless the Class of 2017!
- 20 Awards
- 21 Legacy Families
- 22 Diamond, Gold and  
Silver Diplomas
- 24 List of Colleges, Universities  
and Service Academies
- 26 Signed Student-Athletes
- 27 A Conversation With  
Eleanor Tennyson

## 28 Admissions

- 28 Welcome Class of 2021!

## 29 Faculty News

- 29 Golden Apple Award
- 29 Interact Club
- 30 Years of Service
- 30 Alumni Employees
- 31 Father Woods Honored
- 31 Teachers of the Year
- 32 Integrating Technology

## 33 Alumni News

- 33 Reunion Celebrations
- 34 Class Notes
- 37 In Loving Memory
- 38 Golden Gathering
- 39 Founders Week

## 40 Alumni Spotlights

- 40 Tamika Langley Tremaglio, '88
- 41 Stephanie Stearns Witte, '86
- 42 Alex Wyvill, '12
- 43 Maggie Sheehan, '12
- 43 Young Alumni Return
- 44 Rebecca Howard, '11
- 45 Praying for Our Alums

## 46 Supporting SMR

- 46 Thank You for  
Supporting SMR!
- 48 Knight Gala
- 48 Why Every Gift  
Makes a Difference
- 49 Upcoming Events



Drama students receive rave reviews! **p.07**



Kenneth Scheiber surprised to receive Golden Apple! **p.29**

The Class of 2017  
earns record-breaking  
scholarship offers!  
**p.20**





48,000-square-foot facility for athletics, fine arts, school and community events

## The Donnie Williams Center and Innovation Lab

### Enhancing the St. Mary's Ryken Experience for All of Our Students!

It is with great excitement that St. Mary's Ryken has started construction on the Donnie Williams Center, which will provide 48,000 square feet of modern, spacious facilities for many types of school, community and sporting events. The center includes a gymnasium, locker rooms, training facilities, concessions, gathering spaces, stage, outdoor patio and common area for students. Located on the upper campus, this facility also will become the new location for graduations, all-school Masses and assemblies.

"The SMR community spoke, and we listened!" said Mary Joy Hurlburt, President

and CEO of SMR. "It is clear that this new multipurpose facility will create a center that our students, faculty and staff will be proud of. It will enable our entire school to gather to celebrate our most important events. The new gymnasium will provide improved athletic facilities to compete in the prestigious Washington Catholic Athletic Conference, and allow us to welcome the community to host their events."

The building was named during a groundbreaking ceremony on May 4. Current and former members of the Board of Directors, campaign steering committee, community

members, faculty, staff and students were in attendance to commemorate this historic event.

"It is an honor to share with our community that the new facility will be named the Donnie Williams Center!" Hurlburt said. A member of the Ryken High School Class of 1971, Donnie Williams held close all of his life the values he learned from the Xaverian Brothers. "Mr. Williams let the values shape the person he would become as he grew through adolescence into a young man during his transformative years at RHS," Hurlburt said.



The center will be located between the MIL Family Stadium and the lower campus.

Williams was president of his class sophomore and junior years and vice president of student government his senior year. He was active in many clubs and activities, and he is remembered as the catcher on the winning varsity baseball team. He was truly a Knight! After graduation Williams attended Salisbury University, and through the years he became a very successful developer, entrepreneur and mentor to individuals who

were starting out in new business ventures or real estate. He loved helping people succeed, and he loved to serve others.

Williams, who passed away in May 2012, established the Donnie Williams Foundation so that children would have the opportunities in life that he did not have growing up – places to come together, in formal and informal settings, to participate in activities after school.

“The Donnie Williams Center will open in the fall of 2018, and it will be a tremendous source of pride for our students,” said Jimmy Burke, Capital Campaign co-chair.

“The new center is very important to provide more space for students to express themselves in athletics, the arts and during Mass, plus it will enhance the overall SMR educational experience,” said freshman Demetrius Poole.

As an additional phase of this project, the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) facilities in Paschal Hall will be enhanced. Modeled after university-level STEM labs, the SMR Innovation Lab will include a classroom, build space and collaboration space that will be available to all SMR students. “The repurposing of Paschal Hall intrinsically sets a dynamic marriage in place between the Scholars Program, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum and STEM labs,” said Hurlburt. “Called by our mission and our Xaverian values, the commitment of both of these projects is a testament to serving our students and our greater community.”

“The new Innovation Lab will provide a dedicated, exciting environment where our students can engage in authentic design and construction to complement PLTW,” said



From left: Demetrius Poole, Diamond Powell, '17, Gia Beaton, '17, Sohyun Kwon, '17, Brennan Hudson, Mary Joy Hurlburt (President), Kimberly Roemer (Donnie Williams Foundation), Kirk Kinnamon (Donnie Williams Foundation), Allen Brown (Donnie Williams Foundation), Mark Granger (Donnie Williams Foundation), Rick Wood (Principal), Jacob Halterman, '17, Camryn Morris, Sydney Neal, Briana Bowen

## COVER STORY



## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE NEW LEARNING ZONES INCLUDE:

### Classroom Space

- 24-seat classroom
- MacBook Pro computers

### Build Space

- 3-D printers
- Wind tunnel
- Construction equipment for robotics and unmanned aerial vehicle program

### Collaboration Space

- 5 breakout areas for team construction
- Interactive touch screens
- Full-size robotics competition space
- Presentation area

Elizabeth Schuck, science department chair. “Students who choose to participate in this program will have a unique opportunity to develop their critical-thinking skills while envisioning solutions that in the past were limited by their imaginations. This lab space will be where student-generated plans and ideas will be transformed into physical products and original inventions.”

For more information about the SMR Scholars Program and seven specialized tracks, visit [www.smrhs.org/ScholarsProgram](http://www.smrhs.org/ScholarsProgram).

“SMR’s commitment to preparing our students with the skills that today’s universities and employers expect requires that we continue to foster an environment that inspires collaboration, critical thinking, creativity and problem solving,” said Principal Rick Wood.

The Innovation Lab will open in the winter of 2018.

“These extraordinary projects demonstrate the continued commitment to providing spaces and the resources for a 21st century educational experience for our students,” said Hurlburt.

“St. Mary’s Ryken is all about community and family. These are the reasons why it is so important to give back – because it’s our responsibility to take care of our family.”

—Patrick Haley, '99



From left: Jay Mattingly, '99 (Town Council Member), Laschelle McKay (Leonardtown Administrator with Vision, Belief, Pride Capital Campaign Steering Committee), Christine Senese, SMA '72, Bob Taylor, RHS '68, Jeff Taylor, '86, Shannon Rowland, Rick Wood (Principal), Kevin Murphy, '91, Kim Burke, Jimmy Burke, '86, Mary Joy Hurlburt (President), Mary Lynn Stone, Joe Stone

Do you want to stay up to date on the development of these projects and watch drone footage as the construction progresses? Aerial footage will be uploaded to [www.smrhs.org/VBP](http://www.smrhs.org/VBP).



“The momentum is here, and we need to continue that momentum to take advantage of all the right pieces being in place – our faculty, administrators and students. This school is going to be here for a very long time.”

—Mary Lynn Stone, parent, '06, '08,  
Capital Campaign Co-Chair

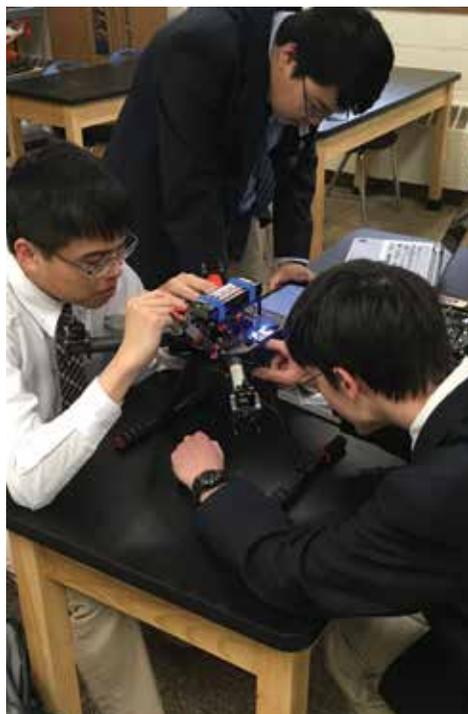


As part of the 11th grade curriculum that is focused on social justice and action, juniors visited the World War II Memorial, Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The goal of this trip was to help students deepen their understanding of social justice issues and their role and impact as global citizens.

## Student Life at St. Mary's Ryken Provides Richness to the Experience

### UAS4STEM Drone Team

In the spring, seven SMR students participated in the national UAS4STEM drone competition sponsored by the Academy of Model Aeronautics. They also took part in flight safety training sessions through the Navy's Patuxent Partnership. Both programs provided opportunities for students to explore the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) drone phenomenon through teamwork, competition and success. Students learned how to safely use the drone's autopilot, remote control and video systems. The ground schools courses also prepared students to take the new FAA commercial UAS exam. In competition, the SMR team was called upon to provide simulated rapid response using its small drone to support various missions, including search-and-rescue.



From left: Jackie (Wenjun) Ning, George (Jiyu) Luo and Richard Braswell

### Programming Students Conquer Code Quest

SMR students were among more than 1,000 students participating across the country in the annual Code Quest competition sponsored by Lockheed Martin. Teams of two to three high school students work together for 2 1/2 hours to solve problems by using Java and/or Python programming to complete the "quest." The problem set consists of 15–20 challenging problems created by Lockheed Martin engineers and computer programmers. This year Code Quest added the ability to solve problems using either Java or Python. Language selection is done per problem submission, and students can switch freely between the two languages during the competition.

Participants included Reagan Burke, Timothy Dixon, Nicolette Glut, George Luo, Alex Rouff and Chris Skane.



## English Class Visits New York City

*(Above)* English teachers Misty Frantz and John Pennisi took students from AP Literature to New York City. The group had the pleasure of seeing Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie," starring Sally Field! The students and faculty had a great trip to the Big Apple.

## Scholars Program Broadens Exposure to the Arts

*(Below)* Scholars Program students visited The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to see "Freeze Frame" featuring the Emmy Award-winning Debbie Allen Dance Academy. "Freeze Frame" (a fusion of dance, music, film and theater) addresses the conversation about violence in



America, the call for social progress and the value of human life. Visit [www.smrhs.org/ScholarsProgram](http://www.smrhs.org/ScholarsProgram) to learn more about the program and the seven specialized tracks, including the Project Lead the Way curriculum.

## Student Translates Korean Grandfather's Book

A group of students traveled to Catholic University to showcase projects to their peers in a workshop-type setting for the annual Academic Symposium. K.W. Yang, who translated a book written by his Korean grandfather titled "Journey to Holiness," presented a sentimental project. "The main idea of the book is to explain how we should all strive to become a saint," said K.W. "It explains the difference between pleasure and happiness, and the true meanings of Catholic teachings. My grandfather was the one that led our family into Christianity and who taught me how to live my life as a Christian. Since then, I wanted to find a way to commemorate him and help others learn from what he taught me. I realized that a good way to spread his message was to translate one of his books."

K.W. Yang,  
Scholars Program  
STEM student





Dominic Delcoco, Joshua Michaud and Matthew Schreyer in "Murder's in the Heir"

## Performing Arts Students Spread Their Wings With Challenging Roles

This year, the St. Mary's Ryken theater department produced two very different productions. Each allowed the students to grow within their acting and dancing abilities.

In the fall, students tried a new format on stage – an audience interactive murder mystery called "Murder's in the Heir."

"Murder's in the Heir' tested their abilities to think quickly on their feet as they practiced the nine possible endings to the mystery," said Tessa Silvestro, SMR theater director.

"Playing the character Miss Paula Thompson, I learned about acting while using an accent, which was very weird at first, but got so much easier as the show went on," said Meaghan Travis. "I love the atmosphere within the fine arts department; there's no feeling greater than being surrounded by people who have the same interests as you do."

The second student-acted and -produced production was "Thoroughly Modern Millie." The musical tells the story of young Millie Dillmount from Kansas, who goes to New York in search of a new life for herself. Filled with flappers, dashing leading gentlemen and a dragon lady of a villainess that audiences loved to hate, "Thoroughly Modern Millie" was a wonderful evening of merriment.

"Thoroughly Modern Millie' took students singing and dancing their way through the streets of New York City, with many of our students putting on tap shoes for the very first time," said Silvestro. "Our students not only met every expectation given to them this year, they exceeded them!"

"This was my first time tap dancing, and although tricky at first, it was a ton of fun once I got the hang of it," said Matthew Schreyer. "I love being able to express myself through the arts, singing, dancing, and acting all at once, and doing it with my friends only makes the experience better. Being able to work with such wonderful and talented people is such a gift!"

**SAVE THE DATE  
for 2017-18 Theater  
Productions!**

**November 2-5  
"Fools" by Neil Simon**

**March 22-25  
"Hello Dolly"**





XBSS Stewards for 2017-18, top row, from left: Principal Rick Wood, Matthew Schreyer, Nick Jaffurs, Kristian Marks, Jon Pappas and Teresa Matthias. Bottom row, from left: Misty Frantz (faculty adviser), Meaghan Travis, Allison Brown, Kutina Carlos, Valentina Nazzaro, Hannah Papp, Father Scott Woods and President Mary Joy Hurlburt

## XBSS Stewards Announced for 2017-18 School Year

Congratulations to the students who have been selected as new Xaverian Brothers Sponsored School (XBSS) Stewards for the 2017-18 school year.

XBSS Stewards are a group of seniors who are called to keep the spirit and traditions of the Xaverian Brothers alive by spreading excitement about faith, service and our Catholic identity throughout the school community. The stewards serve on behalf of our school and are called to keep the spirit and traditions of the Xaverian Brothers alive by spreading excitement about faith, service and our Catholic identity. It is one of the biggest honors of an SMR student to be chosen as an XBSS Steward.

## Leadership Inductions for Thespian and Tri-M Societies

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into St. Mary's Ryken High School's Troupe 7517 of the International Thespian Society. Members were selected based on scholarship, character and serving over 100 hours within the St. Mary's Ryken theater department.



Andre Bizier, Haley Bullis, Erin Carroll, Kevin Grace, Shannon Mooney, Valentina Nazzaro, Laura Papp, Matthew Schreyer, Sarah Sears, Sarah Skane, Katherine Standish, Jessica Thompson, Meaghan Travis, Samantha Walzel and Lauren Weeks

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into Chapter 6677 of the Tri-M Music Honors Society. Their nomination for membership was based on musicianship, academic qualification and demonstrated leadership.



Lydia Bowman, Robert Braswell, Jelani Gayle, Elizabeth Kidwell, Teresa Matthias, Catherine Nguyen, Ezra Quemuel, Matthew Schreyer, Sarah Skane, Samuel Silverstone and Katelyn Tedford

## Leadership Inductions for NHS Society

Congratulations to the following students who were inducted into the Theodore James Ryken Chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS). In addition to academic achievement, members are selected to NHS based on leadership, service and character.



Fall Induction: Isabella Aldridge, Andre Bizier, Brett Blandford, Annette Braun, Marisa Brock, Allison Brown, JaKayla Brown, Gianna Bucci, Reagan Burke, Robert Casey Burke, Kelisa Cain, John Callaghan, Kutina Carlos, Ashley Collins, Kenna Collins, Shelby Davila, Faith Davis, Frank Furtado, Kevin Grace, Nicole Hedspeth, David Hruda, Brennan Hudson, William Jarboe, Jacob Kost, Andrew Larson, Jiayu Luo, Mackenzie Loewe, Xintian Ma, John Makell, Brittany Manion, Teresa Matthias, Jessi McCloskey, Ryan McGilloway, Cassandra Meizoso, Mikaela Meizoso, Shannon Mooney, Sarah Mudd, Camden Murphy, Valentina Nazzaro, Wenjun Ning, Hannah Papp, Jonathan Pappas, Anna Shevchuk, Elizabeth Staufenberger, Tiffany Tran, Meaghan Travis, Sophia Trentacosta, Julia Vogel, Kyung Yang



Tiffany Tran

## Student Named National Merit Semifinalist and Four Others Commended

Tiffany Tran was named a National Merit Semifinalist, and Rhys Duarte, Moira Sullivan, Jesse Parreira and Gabriel Wilkins were named Commended Students in the 2017 National Merit Scholarship Program. A National Merit Semifinalist places in the top 1 percent of the 1.6 million students who took the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Commended Students are recognized for placing among the top 5 percent.



Spring Induction: Eric Bain, Margaret Bennett, Alexandra Buscher, Adam Ferrero, Amy Gateau, Jelani Gayle, Caroline Keller, Elizabeth Kidwell, Samantha Matthews, Holly McGarvey, Melinda McNamara, Hayley Nickerson, Ty Oehlerking, Jazzmyn Pilkerton, Matthew Schreyer, Rachelle Wakefield



Rhys Duarte and Moira Sullivan



Jesse Parreira and Gabriel Wilkins



Honors jazz band performs a Victor Lopez arrangement of “Cry Me a River” by Arthur Hamilton featuring Erin Carroll on voice. Top row, from left: Michael Mazuc, Kelly Bergmann, Isabella Pineda. Bottom row, from left: Erin Carroll, Xintian (Mike) Ma, and Jennifer Tennant

## Spectacular Performances by Fine Arts Students

Each winter and spring, fine arts students work tirelessly to showcase their skills during the Fine Arts Festivals.

“I am very proud of the fine arts students for their hard work and dedication this year. The students grew musically and created fantastic performances. In addition, I wish to acknowledge the seniors for their hard work, compassion, love of music and love for our ensembles. This year would not have been as successful without them.”

—Dante Marmo, Bands and Orchestra Director and Fine Arts Department Chair



Honors Dance 3 seniors Sarah Fernbaugh, Christine Wagner and Kayla Jurew perform a contemporary piece about friendship.



Dance 2 students, inspired by the Marine Corps Memorial, created a contemporary piece about peace.

## Chorus Students Earn Top Score at State Competition



Chorus students competed at the county level for the Maryland Music Educators Association's Solo and Ensemble Festival. Six students earned a top score of 1, which qualified them to move on to the state competition.

At the Maryland State Solo and Ensemble competition, these same students earned another top score of 1!

Special recognition goes to Valentina Nazzaro, who for the second year in a row sang in the Maryland All State Women's Chorus. She was accepted through a vigorous vocal audition in which only 250 students were selected out of 1,500.

Valentina with Lori Hetzel, director of the Maryland All State Women's Chorus



Congratulations to the following students, from left: Sarah Skane, Margaret Sullivan, Katie O'Shields, Samantha Young and Lydia Bowman. Not present: Valentina Nazzaro



Twice a month, SMR students prepare and serve dinner at the Three Oaks Center homeless shelter in Lexington Park, Md. Before dinner they bake and serve cookies, then prepare a meal and eat with residents. SMR students learn how blessed they truly are to be servants of God, and to be grateful and humble. Pictured above: Katherine Donavin and Wenjun "Jackie" Ning prepare dinner at Three Oaks.

## Falling in Love With the Service of God

### Acts of Kindness Were Abundant on #GivingTuesday.

On Tuesday, Nov. 29, the national day set aside for giving your time, donations, goods and services, SMR Knights joined thousands of other schools and nonprofits around the world to celebrate generosity. SMR faculty, staff, students and friends gave back to our local community through an online giving event and individual acts of kindness.

In keeping with this year's theme of **Compassion**, #GivingKnights gave back in a variety of ways including:

- Schoolwide drive to collect canned food as well as hats and gloves for Three Oaks Center homeless shelter
- Raised funds for CareNet Pregnancy Center

- Students wrote cards to their parents thanking them for the opportunity to attend SMR
- Donated pieces of student artwork to Cedar Lane Senior Living Community
- Delivered dinners to priests who are part of the SMR Spiritual Direction Program
- Delivered coffee and donuts to local police

Thank you to everyone in our community who gave of their time and resources!

**Save the Date for  
#GivingTuesday 2017:  
11/28/17**



Michaela Turner writes a thank you note to her family for the opportunity to attend SMR.





(Above) For its eighth year, the SMR National Honor Society **supplied homemade baked goods and thank you cards** to help make Thanksgiving dinner more homelike for the military personnel at Naval Air Station Patuxent River. This year, NHS donated over 100 cakes, pies, cookies and brownies, as well as 100 thank you cards!



(Above) In January, students and faculty **Marched for Life!**

St. Mary's Ryken conducted an **annual food drive** in honor of a late teacher, Mr. Patrick Farrell. The community collected over 1,200 nonperishable food items and \$750. All of the donations supported the St. Mary's Helping Hands Food Pantry in Mechanicsville, Md.



(Below) Theology teacher Joan Stevens and the Habitat for Humanity Club **helped repair a house for a family in need** at the annual Christmas in April.

(Above) The outpouring of compassion during the annual **Santa Knights assembly** is an overwhelming example of how our community responds to help 40 families and 60 children to have a Christmas that would not have been otherwise possible. Thank you to the St. Mary's Ryken Student Government Association for organizing this event, and to all of the SMR students, faculty and staff for their generous donations!

(Right) **Letters of Love** were delivered to the residents of Cedar Lane Senior Living Community. These cards were created by the students in the World Language classes to show their love and support of the residents.



# Students Support Those in Need Every Day!

The Class of 2017 completed over 22,312 hours of community service in their four years as SMR students.

“I am able to empathize with others and their struggles.”

—Katherine Agate



“It’s through giving back that we love others. Volunteering is love and sacrifice.”

—Katherine Standish



“Service through SMR is such a humbling experience. I have come to really love helping others, and it has benefited me with my spiritual growth.”

—Brooke Oliver

Students Discuss Benefits of Being Charitable. Watch video at [www.smrhs.org/service](http://www.smrhs.org/service)



“Working with NHS members and nonprofit organizations, I feel more connected with my community.”

—George Luo



SMR ice hockey players Dominic Delong, Shane Gregan and Pete Behrens collect canned goods for the Three Oaks Center homeless shelter.

“SMR has inspired me to be a lector at my church.”

—Emily White

“St. Mary’s Ryken students have always been very motivated, joyous, giving and outgoing. They are a blessing to be around.”

—Jocelyn Beckman,  
CareNet Program Director



Top row, from left: David Hrudá, Jelani Gayle, Jon Pappas, John Callaghan, Andre Bizier, Reagan Burke, Brennan Harper, Frank Furtado, Brittany Manion and Caroline Keller. Middle Row: Valentina Nazzaro, Sophia Trentacosta, Alexandra Buscher, Casey Burke, Kelisa Cain, Annette Braun, Jakayla Brown, Amy Gateau, Matt Schreyer, Sarah Mudd and Elizabeth Kidwell. Bottom row: Mindy McNamara, Kutina Carlos, Haley Nickerson, Rachele Wakefield, Samantha Matthews, Marisa Brock, Jazzmyn Pilkerton, Mrs. Jocelyn Beckman (Director of the Leonardtown office of the CareNet Pregnancy Care Center)



Janie Bryner, Allison Thompson, Genevieve Vavrus, Jatori Hughes and Sarah Skane from the Hands and Feet of Christ service club pack lunch bags for those less fortunate in our area.

“My family donated blankets on Christmas Day to the WARM program. I felt like I was giving someone hope and something to smile about.”

—Dargenae Somerville



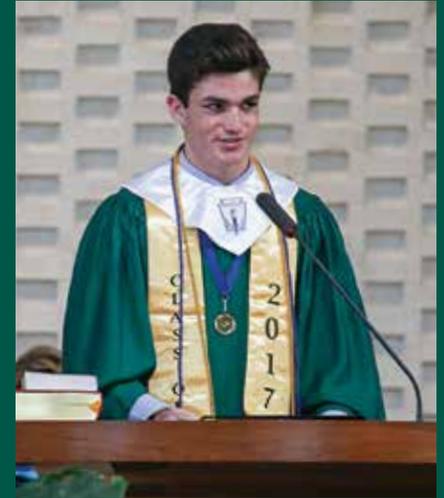
Katherine Standish, Katherine Donavin and Emma Thompson prepare dinner at the Three Oaks Center homeless shelter.

# God Bless the Class of 2017!



Top row, from left: Grant Hooper, Malik Cousar, John Makell IV, Eugene Barnes Jr., Joey Bryner, Jackson Rhodes and Blair Leach. Bottom row: Nicholas Pe and Isaiah Randolph

## Xaverian Orator



Senior Jacob O'Hara speaks to SMR graduates, their families, faculty and staff during the Baccalaureate Mass at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church, Solomons, Md. The senior who earns the top cumulative GPA over their four years at SMR receives the prestigious Xaverian Orator award.

# CONGRATULATIONS



Katherine Agate, Mrs. Sue McEvoy and Andrea Vavrus



Top row, from left: Andrew Hill, Cameron Dziekiewicz, Haley Bullis, Karen Anderson, Brooke Oliver, Erin Carroll and Jesse Parreira. Middle row: Krista Schaidt, Taylor Brown and Allesandra Bergmark. Bottom row: Class speaker, Tiffany Tran. Tiffany was chosen by faculty and staff from the group of students with the top 10 cumulative GPAs over their four years at SMR.



Top row, from left: Rev. Msgr. Michael Wilson (Pastor, Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church), Jessica Thompson, Erin Balderson, Azara Seek and Sarah Sears. Bottom row: Chandler Moore, Cameron Dziekiewicz, Jacob Halterman, Jesse Parreira and David Nehf

# CLASS OF 2017!

Sydney Isom, Jenalyse Edejer,  
Erin Balderson and  
Allesandra Bergmark





From left: Wenjun (Jackie) Ning, Andrew Larsen, Jesse Parreira, Robert Braswell, Samuel Ripple, David Nehf, Ryan Palmieri and Chris Skane

“Class of  
2017, do  
not fear!”

—Jacob O’Hara,  
Xaverian Orator



From left: Gabriel Wilkins, Tiffany Tran and Jesse Parriera

156  
graduates

228 offers of admission  
from colleges and universities



74%  
of the senior class  
received a scholarship



22,312  
service hours completed

\$24,706,248 in scholarship offers



27  
offers of admission  
into honors programs



1  
National Merit  
Scholar  
Finalist

5  
National  
Merit  
Scholars

9  
AP Scholars

3  
AP Scholars  
with Honor

3  
AP Scholars  
with  
Distinction

# Congratulations to the Following Graduates for Earning These Prestigious Awards

## Xaverian Orator and Brother Lambert Academic Achievement Award

*presented to the student with the top cumulative GPA over their four years at SMR*

Jacob O'Hara  
*(Jacob is attending the University of Notre Dame in the fall.)*



Brother Jerry O'Leary presented the P. Francis Murphy Peacemaking Award to Katherine Standish.

## Class Speaker

*chosen by faculty and staff from the group of students with the top 10 cumulative GPAs over their four years at SMR*

Tiffany Tran  
*(Tiffany is attending the University of Maryland, Honors College in the fall.)*

## Sister Sara Ann Abell, SCN, Service Award

Caroline Heisey

## Brother Clyde Student-Athlete Award

John Makell  
Kathryn Prebble

## Cardinal's Citizenship Award

Emma Thompson

## Brother Edward Driscoll, CFX, Service Award

Sydney Isom

## Bishop Francis Murphy Initiative for Justice and Peace Award

*presented for outstanding contributions to peace and social justice in the community*

Katherine Standish

## Christian Service Millennium Club

*for providing over 1,000 hours of community service in their senior year*

Kathryn Barthelmes  
Richard McCourt Jr.  
Katherine Standish

## St. Mary's Ryken Knight Award

Katherine Agate  
Gia Beaton  
Jacob Halterman

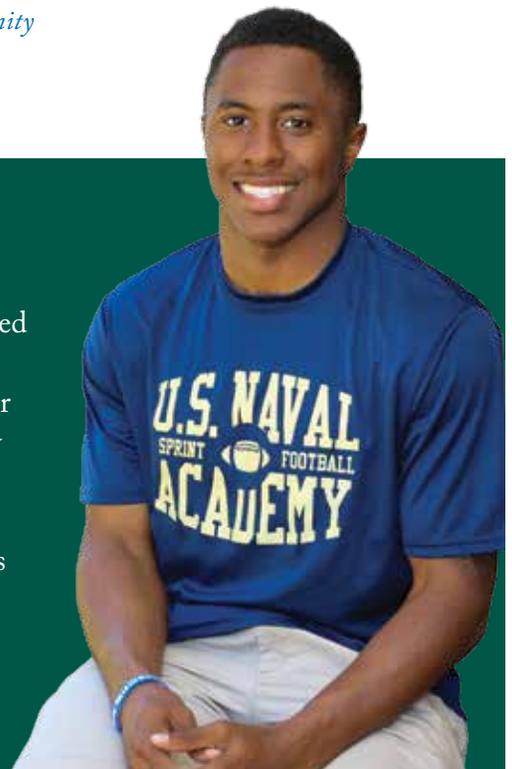
## Xaverian Award

Rhys Duarte  
Tiffany Tran

## Grant Hooper is Ready for the United States Naval Academy!

"I believe that St. Mary's Ryken specifically helped to prepare me for the United States Naval Academy by placing an emphasis on character. The academy's honor concept states: Midshipmen are to be persons of integrity and stand for what is right. I've seen that modeled day after day while a student at SMR by our coaches, teachers, administrators and students. These morals and values, along with the college preparatory curriculum, have helped to prepare me for the expectations of the Naval Academy." Out of 16,000 applicants, Grant was one of 1,200 accepted to the USNA Class of 2021.

Grant was a member of the National Honor Society, varsity football and track teams, and he received the Ryken Award for a top athlete who demonstrates character and high academic standards.



# Legacy Families

From the Class of 2017, 19 alumni parents and eight grandparents celebrated their child's graduation from SMR. We are honored that so many families have this long-standing tradition with our school!



Top row, from left: Patricia Jenkins Agate, '90, Joseph (Teeny) Guy, RHS '62, Sarah Turner Hruda, '85, Joan Sprague Heinze, '87, Chris Heinze, '85, Patricia Fenwick Carruth, '88, Charles Carruth, '85. Second row: Katherine Agate, Sydney Guy, Emily Hruda, Charlie Heinze, Bradley Carruth. Third row: Doug Beck, '83, Marta Kalnasy Bullis, '82, Cheryl Gerek Woodburn, '85, Jennifer Wiggington Thompson, '82, Robert Wiggington, RHS '57, Catherine Moroz Dziekiewicz, '88, David Ramsey, '92. Fourth row: Virginia Mattingly Schaidt, '81, Olivia Bech, Haley Bullis, Sarah Woodburn, Jessica Thompson, Cameron Dziekiewicz, Ashley Ramsey. Fifth row: Krista Schaidt, Tracey Jubeck, '88, Helen Krissoff, '84, Brooke Oliver, Kimberly Burris Oliver, '84, Gary Oliver, '82. Sixth row: Bernard (PeeWee) Cullins, RHS '60, Rita Alvey Cullins, SMA '62, and Elizabeth Krissoff. Not present: Jerilynn Jameson, '86, Tucker Jameson, '17, Mackenzie Loewe '17, Patricia Herbert Sanchez, SMA '62, C.J. Weirich, Maria Sanchez Weirich, '86



## Rhys Duarte is Off to Stanford University!

"I am confident that my time at St. Mary's Ryken will enable me to be successful at Stanford. The academic rigor of the AP classes and the Scholars Program prepared me for a competitive university. The inspiring SMR community and welcoming campus have made my high school experience memorable!"

Rhys completed the biomedical track in the SMR Scholars Program. She also was a member of the varsity volleyball team, National Honor Society and Interact Club, and she tutored younger students.

## 36th SMR Graduation Honors Alumni Who Received Honorary Diamond, Gold and Silver Diplomas from the St. Mary's Academy and Ryken High School

Alumni from Ryken High School, St. Mary's Academy and St. Mary's Ryken joined the graduation celebration and received honorary diplomas in recognition of their 75th, 50th and 25th year since graduation.



Loretta Abell Taylor and Robina McKay Keatley from the St. Mary's Academy Class of 1942



St. Mary's Ryken Class of 1992, from left: Barbara Smith Kappel, Jessie Dean Williams and Cindy Tolbert Owens. Also present: Cathy McGowan Raley and David Ramsey



The Taylor family celebrates the alumni tradition. From left: Robert Taylor, RHS '68, Loretta Abell Taylor, SMA '42, Marie Taylor Tarleton, SMA '71, and Frank Taylor Jr., RHS '67



Thomas Dillow, '67 and Peggy Wible Dillow, SMA '67, met during high school in 1966 and married in 1970. They are celebrating 47 years of marriage.



From the SMA Class of 1967, top row, from left: Denise Thompson Guy, Christine MacKin Garner, Irma Anderson Blankenship, Nancy Schroeder Sheck, Rita Hammett Farr and Gloria Banks Fitzgerald. Middle row: Diane Duke Dorsch, Peggy Wible Dillow, Lynn Mattingly Delahay and Sara Abell Brown. Bottom row: Marcia Latham Hansen and Jean Thomas Adams



From the RHS Class of 1967, top row, from left: Thomas Dillow Jr., Dr. James C. Boyd, Bobby Wentworth, Reinhold J. Herberg, Glenn Gass, Frank Taylor. Bottom row: John P. Rue II, Daniel Raley, John D. Popp, Ernest H. Johnson Jr., Chuck Lancaster Jr., Wayne H. Russell and Joseph Densford

## Below is the list of colleges, universities and service academies that offered admission to the Class of 2017.

Albright College	Duquesne University	La Roche College	Purdue University
Alderson Broaddus University	East Carolina University	La Salle University	Quinnipiac University
Allegheny College of Maryland	Eastern University	Lawrence Technological University	Radford University
Alvernia University	Elon University	Le Moyne College	Randolph College
American University	Emmanuel College	Lebanon Valley College	Randolph-Macon College
Anne Arundel Community College	Fairmont State University	Liberty University	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Arcadia University	Flagler College	Lincoln Memorial University	Rice University
Arizona State University	Fordham College at Rose Hill	Longwood University	Roanoke College
Auburn University	Florida Institute of Technology	Louisiana State University	Robert Morris University
Ave Maria University	Florida Southern College	Loyola University Maryland	Rosemont College
Belmont Abbey College	Franciscan University of Steubenville	Loyola University New Orleans	Saint Anselm College
Benedictine College	Frostburg State University	Lycoming College	Saint Francis University
Berklee College of Music	Gardner-Webb University	Lynchburg College	Saint Joseph's University
Bethune-Cookman University	Gannon University	Manhattan College	Saint Leo University
Bluefield College	George Mason University	Marymount University	Saint Louis University
Boston College	Georgetown University	Marshall University	Saint Vincent College
Boston University	The George Washington University	McDaniel College	Salisbury University
Bowie State University	Hampton University	Messiah College	Salve Regina University
Bridgewater College	Harford Community College	Miami University	Seton Hall University
Bryant University	Harrisburg University of Science and Technology	Millersville University	Seton Hill University
Campbell University	High Point University	Morgan State University	Shenandoah Conservatory
Campbellsville University	Hofstra University	Mount Ida College	Shenandoah University
The Catholic University of America	Hollins University	Mount St. Mary's University	Shepherd University
Champlain College	Holy Cross College	Newberry College	Siena College
Chatham University	Hood College	North Carolina Central University	Spelman College
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania	Howard University	Northeastern University	Spring Hill College
Christendom College	Hudson Valley Community College	Notre Dame College	St. Andrews University
Christopher Newport University	Immaculata University	Notre Dame of Maryland University	St. John's College
Cincinnati Christian University	Indiana University Bloomington	The Ohio State University	St. Joseph's College
Clarkson University	Iona College	Ohio University	St. Mary's College of Maryland
Clemson University	James Madison University	Oklahoma State University	St. Olaf College
Coastal Carolina University	John Carroll University	Old Dominion University	Stanford University
College of Charleston	John Paul the Great Catholic University	Pace University	Stetson University
College of Southern Maryland	Johnson & Wales University	Palm Beach Atlantic University	Stevenson University
College of Saint Rose	Kansas State University	Penn State Harrisburg	Stony Brook University
Community College of Baltimore County	Keiser University	The Pennsylvania State University	Swarthmore College
Coppin State University	Kutztown University	Pepperdine University	Temple University
DeSales University		Point Park University	Tennessee Tech University
Drexel University		Providence College	Texas A&M University
		Purchase College	Thiel College
			Towson University
			Tulane University
			United States Air Force Academy Preparatory School
			United States Naval Academy



“The SMR Fine Arts Department helped me discover and explore my creativity. The dedication of the fine arts faculty has really impacted my life decisions, and I will be pursuing an acting major at Shenandoah Conservatory this fall!”

—Erin Carroll

The University of Alabama	University of Kentucky
University of California Berkeley	The University of Maine
University of California Irvine	University of Mary Washington
University of California San Diego	University of Maryland, College Park
University of California Santa Barbara	University of Maryland, Baltimore County
University of Central Florida	University of Maryland, Eastern Shore
University of Dallas	University of Massachusetts Boston
University of Dayton	University of Miami
University of Delaware	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Detroit Mercy	University of Mississippi
The University of Findlay	University of Nevada, Las Vegas
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	University of New Haven
University of Indianapolis	University of New Orleans
The University of Kansas	University of North Carolina, Wilmington

University of Notre Dame  
 University of Pittsburgh  
 University of Rhode Island  
 University of Richmond  
 University of Rochester  
 University of San Diego  
 The University of Scranton

University of South Carolina  
 University of South Florida  
 University of Southern California  
 University of Southern Mississippi  
 University of Tampa  
 University of Tennessee, Knoxville

The University of Texas at Austin  
 University of Virginia  
 University of Washington  
 University of Wisconsin-Madison  
 Ursinus College  
 Villanova University  
 Virginia Military Institute

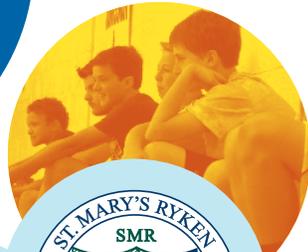
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
 Virginia Wesleyan College  
 Walsh University  
 Washington College  
 Waynesburg University  
 Wesley College  
 West Virginia University

West Virginia State University  
 West Virginia Wesleyan College  
 Western Carolina University  
 Wheeling Jesuit University  
 Wichita State University

Widener University  
 Wingate University  
 Wittenberg University  
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
 Wright State University  
 Xavier University  
 York College of Pennsylvania



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 Opens March 1



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- NEW!** Football

**JULY 17-21**

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- Boys Basketball
- Boys Soccer
- NEW!** Comprehensive Strength and Conditioning
- Intermediate Sailing



Visit [smrhs.org/SummerKnights](http://smrhs.org/SummerKnights) to learn more & register today!



## Congratulations to the Class of 2017 Signed Student-Athletes

Thirty-two seniors from the Class of 2017 have signed letters of intent to play their respective sport at the collegiate level.

### Baseball

Joey Bryner /  
St. Mary's College of Maryland

Jackson Schmidt /  
Lebanon Valley College

Donavan Steward /  
Penn State Wilkes-Barre

### Boys Basketball

Chris Greene /  
Wheeling Jesuit University

### Football

E.J. Barnes / Notre Dame College

Malik Cousar / Stevenson University

Jonathan Hickey / St. Olaf College

Carrington Jones / Temple University

Blair Leach / Randolph-Macon College

John Makell / Seton Hill University

Nicholas Pe / St. Vincent College

Isaiah Randolph / Stevenson University

Hauns White / St. Vincent College

JaHarold Williams /  
Alvernia University

### Boys Lacrosse

Austin Barnett /  
University of Indianapolis

Quinn Ellenwood /  
Belmont Abbey College

Ryan Figueiras /  
University of Detroit Mercy

Tucker Jameson / University of Dallas

Alex Miller / Albright College

Drake Moran /  
Alderson Broaddus University

Joey Snight / Belmont Abbey College

### Girls Lacrosse

Marissa Laidley /  
Belmont Abbey College

### Boys Soccer

Frank McGarvey /  
Wheeling Jesuit University

Trey Wolfe / Wright State University

### Girls Soccer

Haley Bullis /  
St. Mary's College of Maryland

### Softball

Michaela Guy /  
College of Southern Maryland

Katie Prebble / Gardner-Webb University

Emma Thompson / Ave Maria University

### Swimming

Marion D'Aurora / St. Vincent College

Sarah Woodburn / Hollins University

### Volleyball

Brenna Goebel / College of Saint Rose

Mackenzie Loewe /  
Randolph-Macon College

# A Conversation With Eleanor Tennyson, Current Parent, Board Member and Esteemed Supporter of St. Mary's Ryken

## *Why did your family choose Catholic education for your children?*

Our Catholic faith and traditions are very important to our family. We want our children surrounded and constantly reminded that Jesus is most important in their lives. It is a blessing to have priests on our campus for spiritual direction, regular Mass, prayers during class and before games, and service requirements – a few reminders.

## *Did your family consider a public high school?*

We talked with several parents and SMR graduates prior to our oldest entering high school. We were confident SMR would provide an excellent education with smaller classes, STEM/Scholar programs and teachers who would go the extra mile if our children needed help. SMR teachers include core values in their daily routine and expect respect, kindness and good behavior, which is important to us. Also, due to the smaller school size, we feel our children are safe.

## *How have your children (Christopher, '13, & Elizabeth, '15) benefited from their SMR experience?*

Both children had a great four years and are proud to be SMR graduates. It was not always easy (academically, socially or athletically), but they were successful. They had great teachers and made great friends – friends they will have for a lifetime.

They were absolutely prepared for college, and it was an easy transition. Both took SMR courses that stretched their comfort zones; with honor classes and AP courses, they knew what to expect at college. They learned how to study and how to communicate with their professors if assistance was needed.



Tennyson family: Christopher, '13, Elizabeth, '15, Ellie, Pat, Grace, '20, and Joseph, '18

Christopher graduated in May 2017 from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Finance and Risk Management. Elizabeth is starting her junior year at the University of Maryland and wants to be a Catholic school teacher.

## *What attributes about the SMR experience surprised you?*

We could name every SMR teacher and administrator and describe how they impacted one of our children since starting at SMR in 2010. However, we will narrow it to two people at SMR who are mentors and role models for our four children.

**Principal Rick Wood** is a blessing to SMR. He has many responsibilities, yet we are pretty sure he knows the name of every student at school and strives to know the students' strengths. He looks to build on their strengths to ensure confidence. He once told us "everyone makes mistakes; it is

how you fix those mistakes that shows your true character."

All SMR teachers have a passion for teaching and want their students to be successful, especially **Ms. Tara Everly**. Her expectations are high and she does not lower the bar. She is tough but fair. She cares and is willing to go the extra mile if you need help. Her students know what to expect, and they respect her. Ms. Everly brings that same discipline and expectations to her field hockey and lacrosse teams.

## *When you were asked to serve on the Board of Directors, what made you say yes?*

I was honored when **Mrs. Mary Joy Hurlburt** asked me to serve. My admiration and respect for Mary Joy and love for SMR led me to say yes. I want our school to continue to be successful, to thrive and to be the school my future grandchildren attend – helping on the board is the best way to ensure that.



# Welcome to the Class of 2021!

## Congratulations to the Class of 2021 Scholarship Winners!

SMR is pleased to welcome <b>180</b> students	From over <b>45</b> middle schools in Md. & Va.	Average GPA for incoming freshmen: <b>3.53</b>	<b>42</b> were accepted to the Scholars Program	<b>46</b> were awarded merit-based scholarships
---	---	--	---	---

- Presidential Merit**  
Rebecca Arnold  
Gregory Belvin  
Sydney Chamberlain  
Peyton Dziekiewicz  
Kylie Flerlage  
Luke Getson  
Kayla Gormley  
Matthew Harrer  
Jared Hutson  
Katelyn Kovach  
Blake Meyer  
Joshua Nguyen  
Peter Schumacher  
Jack Smith  
Daphne Spencer  
Caroline Tedford  
Tyler Tran
- Visual Art**  
Matthew Stiffler
- Instrumental**  
Jaida Rhea
- Piano**  
Natalie Fajerski
- Theater**  
Julia Baddour  
Naomi Fuller
- Vocal**  
Julia Baddour  
Katelyn Kovach  
Megan Skane
- Blaine Whorl**  
Thomas Annulis Jr.  
Rebecca Arnold  
Jasmine Caniban
- Leadership**  
Rebecca Arnold  
Blake Brinsfield  
Sophia Dean  
Lila Flores  
Luke Getson  
Matthew Harrer  
Jesse Harris Jr.  
Jaeden Hosea  
Katelyn Kovach  
Luke Seep  
Hannah Wetherald
- Community Service**  
Andrew Beckman  
Layla Cozart-Amos  
Karmen Krechman
- Laurie Collins**  
Emily Gardiner  
Caili McCarthy

Join us to tour the campus, meet our students and administrators and get to know our school.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22  
1 - 4 P.M.**

St. Mary's Ryken Campus  
22600 Camp Calvert Road  
Leonardtwn, Md. 20650

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AT ST. MARY'S RYKEN!**

Visit [smrhs.org/OpenHouse](http://smrhs.org/OpenHouse) to learn more and R.S.V.P.

### Important Admissions Dates for the Class of 2022

Application deadline:  
**December 10, 2017**

Scholarship Day: **January 27, 2018**

Questions about the admissions process? **Please contact us at [admissions@smrhs.org](mailto:admissions@smrhs.org) or 301-373-4183.**

# SMR Teacher Kenneth Scheiber Honored by Archdiocese of Washington

In his theology classes, Golden Apple teacher seeks to help students pursue truth

*Excerpt from article originally published on May 1, 2017.  
Reprinted with permission by the "Catholic Standard" News Magazine*

By Richard Szczepanowski, "Catholic Standard"

As a theology teacher at St. Mary's Ryken High School, Kenneth Scheiber says his ultimate goal is for his students "to learn truth, the right way to understand our place in the universe and what is our place in history."

"I want my students to become conversant in how to talk about the universe, about life, about God, about creation and how to relate to that creation," said Scheiber, who has taught at the Southern Maryland school

for eight years. "I want them to have an understanding of the faith and the greater truths of the universe."

Scheiber was recognized recently as one of 10 Archdiocese of Washington Catholic school teachers to be named as a Golden Apple Award winner. The annual award recognizes a teacher's professional excellence, leadership, commitment to Catholic values, and devotion to teaching. The 10 Golden



Scheiber and his fellow Golden Apple honorees were recognized by Cardinal Donald Wuerl at a May 4 awards dinner in Washington.

Apple Award winners were singled out from among the nearly 2,000 educators in the Archdiocese of Washington.

"I was very surprised," Scheiber said of his honor. "I knew that I was being considered, but I was surprised that I was actually a winner."

# New SMR Service Club Is Off to a Great Start

The Interact Club, a leadership and service group sponsored by the Lexington Park Rotary Club, capped off its inaugural year at St. Mary's Ryken by inducting more than 20 students into the group. Senior Jacob O'Hara was inspired to start the club with assistance from SMR English teacher and faculty adviser, John Pennisi.

"Jacob explained that he would need a faculty moderator to help him get the club off the ground," Pennisi said. "I didn't hesitate to help him because, unbeknownst to him, I had been president of the Interact Club when I was a senior in high school and had very fond memories of the club and its work."

Throughout their first year, the club was very active in service-oriented and leadership projects, including a 30-Hour Famine, which raised \$2,960 for World Vision, a Christian organization that provides food, education and health care to needy children around the world.



The 2017-16 Interact Club members and special guests are pictured here. Top row, from left: Alex Miller, Connor Russell, Camden Murphy, Carson Phillips, John Callaghan, Principal Rick Wood, John Pennisi (SMR English teacher and Interact Club faculty adviser) and Brad Chamberlain (SMR Dean of Academics). Middle row: Frank Taylor, RHS '67, P '00, '98 (member, Rotary Club of Lexington Park), Dr. Linda Lymas (President-Elect, Rotary Club of Lexington Park), Owen Burke, Drew Hill, Joey Snight, Mackenzie Loewe, Jake O'Hara (Interact Club President), Jake Kost, Sean Egnaczyk, Taylor Brown, Andrea Vavrus and Mary Joy Hurlburt (SMR President, Interact Club adviser and member, Rotary Club of Lexington Park). Bottom row: Rhys Duarte, Katie Agate, Christine Wagner, Sydney Isom, Krista Schaidt and Caroline Heisey

## St. Mary's Ryken Faculty and Staff Celebrate Years of Service During Catholic Schools Week



Top row, from left: Jason DeLucco, '98 (15 years, Dean of Academic Technology); Principal Rick Wood; Edward Szymkowiak (5 years, science department); Jackson Webb (5 years, history department); Elizabeth Krahling (5 years, school nurse). Bottom row, from left: Joan Stevens (10 years, theology department); Sara Butcher (5 years, math department); Tess Meizoso (10 years, science department); Minyue Li (5 years, world language department); Annette Bennett (5 years, computer science department) and Diane Kestler (10 years, Chief Financial Officer)

## SMR is Grateful to Call These Alums Employees!



From left: Jason Early, '04 (history department and golf coach); Christa Hayes, '93 (theology department); JJ Raley, '08 (Dean of Student Life Assistant and varsity boys soccer coach); Principal Rick Wood; Jason DeLucco, '98 (Dean of Academic Technology) and Stephanie Dameron, '10 (English department and assistant varsity softball coach)

### Theodore James Ryken Award



Father Scott celebrates the Liturgy during a schoolwide Mass along with Father Peter Giovanoni and student lectors Marie Kwon and Colin Madden.

## Father Scott Woods Honored

During the schoolwide Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass, Father Scott Woods, St. Mary's Ryken chaplain, was presented with the highest award in the Xaverian Brothers school community, the Theodore James Ryken Award.

"One of the greatest blessings in my entire life is finding St. Mary's Ryken and becoming part of this community," said Father Scott. "Each morning when I wake up and realize that I will be coming to this campus, I am happy and excited to work with the students and faculty. It is truly one of my best gifts in life."

Father Scott began a spiritual direction program at SMR that now serves more than 225 students. In creating this program, he has influenced other local priests to serve the SMR community. Today, a dozen priests from the tri-county area provide spiritual direction and daily Mass to our students because of the dedication and vision of Father Scott.

"Father Scott embodies the characteristics and qualities of our Xaverian mission and each of our values – Humility, Trust, Zeal, Simplicity and Compassion," said SMR President Mary Joy Hurlburt. "Spiritual

life on campus is alive and robust in large part due to his love and commitment to our school community."

"I am humbled and blessed to present Father Scott this award. He's made an indelible and powerful mark in the formation of the spiritual life at St. Mary's Ryken," said Principal Rick Wood during the presentation.

Father Scott has created the opportunity to share his gift with young adults every day, to help provide vocations for students who may decide to also spread the Gospel and bring Christ's love and hope to others. "It's a great grace and an honor," he said. Since 2012, when his involvement at SMR began, 14 young men and women in our SMR community have answered a personal call to a religious vocation. Currently, nine SMR alums are in the seminary and two are in the convent.

Currently, Father Scott serves as the chaplain of St. Mary's Ryken High School in addition to his other roles as the assistant director for priest vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, and pastor of St. Cecilia Parish in St. Mary's City, St. Peter Claver in St. Ingoes and St. Mary's College of Maryland.

## Congratulations to Our Esteemed Teachers of the Year!

Both teachers were selected by St. Mary's Ryken faculty and staff for these awards!

### Gloria Dempsey Veteran Teacher of the Year



Mrs. Dempsey is a world language teacher, Honor Council moderator, Faith Formation Committee chair and Apple Teacher. She has taught at SMR for 12 years.

### Stephanie Dameron Novice Teacher of the Year



Ms. Dameron is an English teacher, assistant varsity softball coach and faculty adviser for the Class of 2018. She has taught at SMR for two years.

Mrs. Dempsey and Ms. Dameron make a difference in the lives of their students every day, and the SMR community values their dedication!

# Faculty Continues to Integrate Technology to Engage Students

St. Mary's Ryken is a leader in Southern Maryland for technology integration by faculty. Beginning in 2017–18, all of our faculty will be using Apple MacBooks and iPad Pro tablets for instruction. In addition, all classrooms will have a new fourth-generation Apple television to ensure the best possible environment for airplay, and multiple computers have been acquired to support our growing Scholars Program, specifically the Project Lead the Way curriculum.

## Faculty Become Apple Certified

Recently, SMR teachers completed the certification process to become certified as Apple teachers. This professional self-guided learning program is designed to support teachers who use Apple technology in their classrooms. The skills they learn directly apply to the lessons they teach.

## Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Computer Science Track

During the 2017–18 school year, computer science teacher, Marcos Lindekugel, will kick off the PLTW Computer Science track by teaching a yearlong course, Computer Science Essentials. In this class, students will experience the major topics, big ideas, and computational thinking practices used by computing professionals to solve problems and create value for others. They will use a visual programming language and advance to text-based programming. Throughout the course, students will have opportunities to apply computational thinking practices and collaborate just as computing professionals do to create products that address topics and problems important to them.

## Paula McGuigan Honored as Community Bank's Financial Scholars Program Teacher of the Month!

Paula McGuigan (computer science department) was selected as Community Bank's Financial Scholars Program Teacher of the Month in May! She was presented this award for her outstanding implementation of the Financial Scholars Program with her students. The program uses a

personal online finance course to help create an engaging and interesting way to educate students on financial literacy.



Congratulations to our teachers who are Apple Certified! Top row, from left: Gloria Dempsey (world language department), Terry Wood (media specialist), Paula McGuigan (computer science department). Bottom row: Marcos Lindekugel (computer science department), Misty Frantz (English department chair), Annette Bennett (computer science department), Sam Spaulding (world language department chair), Tessa Silvestro (fine arts department) and Jason DeLucco (Dean of Academic Technology). Not present: Crystal Dunkin (Director of Faculty Programs and world language department)

# Reunion Celebrations

**The Class of 1951** from Ryken High School and St. Mary's Academy celebrated its 65th reunion



**The Class of 1971** from Ryken High School and St. Mary's Academy celebrated its 45th reunion.



**The Class of 1976** from Ryken High School and St. Mary's Academy celebrated its 40th reunion.



**The Class of 1986** celebrated its 30th reunion.



**The Class of 1991** celebrated its 25th reunion.



**The Class of 1996** celebrated its 20th reunion earlier this year.



**The Class of 2006** celebrated its 10th reunion.



# Alumni Class Notes

## Class of 1944



**Elizabeth Burroughs Cloonan** celebrated her 90th birthday! Betty lives in Canyon Lake, Calif., surrounded by four children, nine grandchildren and

three great-grandchildren. She is active in her children's lives, volunteers with Children's Hospital of Orange County, gardens, crochets baby blankets for charity and attends St. Vincent Ferrer Catholic Church near her home.

## Class of 1949

**Lucille Abell Nunn** has released her second book, "Guiding Stars: A Journey to God." Her first book, "Placentia, A Glimpse of Southern Maryland," is also available.

## Class of 1951



MedStar St. Mary's Hospital named **Kitty Wilkinson Doering** the 2017 Fayrene Mattingly Auxilian of the Year. As a dedicated Auxiliary volunteer for many years, Kitty was chosen because of her loyalty, dependability and selflessness to volunteer countless hours to her Auxiliary commitments.

## Class of 1959

**M. Patrick Keehan** was elected president of the Sigma Delta Kappa National Law Fraternity for 2016–17.

**Betty Nester** is loving life in Williamsburg, Va., and so happy she chose to move seven years ago!

## Class of 1962



**Ernie Bell, RHS '59** and **Anne Bell, SMA '62** celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on New Year's Eve surrounded by their four sons and their families. They were married at Holy Angels Church in Avenue, Md., on Dec. 31, 1966.

## Class of 1970



**John Wheeler Jr.** was elected chairman of the Board of Directors of St. Agnes Health Care in Baltimore. St. Agnes is a member of Ascension Health,

the largest Catholic health care provider in the U.S.

## Class of 1988

**Tamika Langley Tremaglio** was promoted to lead Deloitte & Touche LLP's Greater Washington practice, the largest accounting, consulting and audit operation in the region. (See Alumni Spotlight story on page 40.)

## Class of 1990

**Derk Droze** is a former professional soccer player who is currently coaching in Denmark for the Danish Club FC Nordsjælland. During his playing career, he played professionally in Chile, Denmark and the United States.

## Class of 1991



**Jeanna Bryner** is a renowned journalist serving as managing editor of Live Science of TechMediaNetwork Inc. She covers a range

of topics, from human behavior to geology to astronomy, for two websites: LiveScience.com and Space.com. Jeanna has also written and edited for children's publication Scholastic "ScienceWorld" for middle and high school students. She resides in New York with family.



**Michelle Bryner**, a former chemical engineer, is now the senior editor at “Chemical Engineering Progress,” where she covers topics ranging from metamaterials (what they are and how they’re being used), to supercomputer advancements, to what’s up in biotechnology. She has written for “Popular Science,” “Psychology Today,” TechNewsDaily.com, Innovation-NewsDaily.com, and MensHealth.com. In her free time, she trains in Muay Thai kickboxing.

### Class of 1992

**Cathy McGowan** married fellow Knight **John Raley, '87**, on Oct. 8, 2016, and the couple lives in Mechanicsville, Md.

### Class of 1993

**Nathan Buonviri** is the assistant professor of music education at Temple University, an active orchestral musician with the Utah Festival Opera and the author of “Building Better Dictation Skills,” which was recently published.

### Class of 1997



**Leah Alice Mitchell Benedetti** continues to work on Broadway as a wardrobe and costume professional for film, television and live performance, including costuming, dressing, design assistance, pulling, shopping, occasional makeup, hair and wigs. Currently,

Leah is the main costume designer for the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, led by Wynton Marsalis.



**Nicholas Quin Serenati**, Ph.D., M.F.A., was promoted to director of Flagler College Television and Professor of Media Studies in the Department of Communication. He recently published a book, “Illness is a Window: Reframing Leukemia through Dharma Art.”

### Class of 1998



**Amy Spelz Travis** is an international nonprofit child protection consultant and has dedicated her life to helping and protecting children across the globe from abuse by the people who care for them.

### Class of 2007

**Jason Torres** is currently stationed in Jacksonville, Fla., as a Navy pilot flying the MH60-R helicopter and awaiting orders to a new squadron in Jacksonville. He expects to be deployed within the next few months.

After attending Norwich University and having played lacrosse for Limestone College, **Reggie Harvey** is living in Tampa, Fla., where he owns a personal trainer business, Body-Right-By-Reg.

### Class of 2008

**Adrienne Milner Hieb** earned her Masters in library science from the University of Maryland in December 2015 and is currently working at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center as a metadata librarian. Adrienne and her husband reside in Greenbelt, Md.

**Andrew Harvey** earned his degree in computer science as a four-year Army ROTC Scholarship student from Fort Valley State University and went on to accept a commission in the U.S. Army’s Signal Corps. Upon safe return from deployment with the famed 1st Infantry Division (The Big Red One), Andrew is now stationed at Fort Stewart, Ga., attending advanced schooling. He is scheduled to be promoted to captain in the summer of 2017.

### Class of 2009



**Devin DelRocco** is working for Hendrick Motorsports and is the rear tire changer for Dale Earnhardt Jr.

**Lauren Feusahrens** joined the SMR family as the new women’s varsity lacrosse coach. We are happy to have her back on campus and inspiring our female students today!

SMR welcomed **Joe Walker** as Associate Director of Admissions and boys tennis coach. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Immaculata University, Joe earned a Masters of Science in sports management from Florida State University.

## Class of 2010



**Ned Arick** married Christina Romanello on Oct. 9, 2016, in Bradenton, Fla. The couple honeymooned in Sicily. They reside in Tampa, Fla.



**Kateline Norris** married Justin Readmond on October 17, 2015. They welcomed a baby girl born on March 19, 2017 named Adelyn Jane Readmond and weighing 5lbs, 8 oz.!

## Class of 2011

**Treveen Graham** was signed as a guard/forward for the Charlotte Hornets basketball team.

After graduating from Queens University of Charlotte, N.C., in May 2015, **Rebecca Howard** served as an AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer for one year with the Madison House Autism Foundation. In November Rebecca accepted a job with the Department of Legislative Services as a legislative editor, where she is working on bills, LRs, amendments and Annotated Code in Annapolis, near the State House. (See Alumni Spotlight story on page 44.)



**Meaghan Neace** graduated from Auburn University and now is a full-time illustrator. Earlier this year, she stopped by Ms. Catherine Dunn's studio art class to show the students ways to create a portfolio and offered tips about how to get a job in the illustration field. She also taught the students how to create a watercolor illustration of a fish.

**Emily Harvey** continued her soccer career with a scholarship to George Mason University where she earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree and a Master of Arts Degree in applied anthropology. She traveled to Spain and South Africa during her academic career and now lives in Washington, D.C. She is working as a researcher for a large nonprofit organization.

## Class of 2013

**Nate Blondino**, a lacrosse player at Salisbury University, was named the nation's Player of the Year by the United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association and Player of the Year by the Capital Athletic Conference. Nate will graduate from Salisbury's Perdue School of Business in December with a Bachelor's Degree in finance.

**Romar Dennis**, a Loyola University Maryland lacrosse alumni, was selected in the Major League Lacrosse Collegiate Entry Draft by the Denver Outlaws. Romar earned All-Patriot League Second Team honors for the second year in a row this year. In 16 games during 2017, he scored 17 goals to go with eight assists for the Greyhounds. The midfielder tallied 82 points in four years with 55 goals and 30 assists.

Mount St. Mary's senior **Rachel Heinze** has been named the Northeast Conference Softball Player of the Year and First Team All-NEC at the catcher position.



**Zach Stauffer** earned a *Magna Cum Laude* distinction for his degrees for Bachelor of Arts in both philosophy and English from St. Mary's College of Maryland.



Congratulations to **Soo Min Jeong** for being accepted to UC Berkeley School of Law. Soo Min graduated from Vanderbilt University in May.

## Class of 2014



**L. Faye Harvey** is a junior at St. John's University in New York City, pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in physics education. After the five year Masters/Honors Program, she plans to establish her own school of learning in Chicago.

**Carlee Joseph** attends Meredith College and earned selection to the Academic All-District women's at-large lacrosse team from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA). The program recognizes the nation's student-athletes who perform at the top of their game both academically and athletically. Carlee maintains a 3.86 grade point average with a major in mathematics. She is also a part of Meredith's dual-degree

engineering program with nearby N.C. State University and will receive two degrees over a five-year period.

### Class of 2015

**Lindsay Heinze** was named First Team All-NEC at third base of the Mount St. Mary's Softball team.

**Alfonso Nazzaro**, a member of the Cornell sprint football team, was awarded All-

Collegiate Sprint Football League honors this year. Alfonso is a sophomore at Cornell studying economics and history.

### Class of 2016

**Devin Montgomery** has transferred to West Virginia Wesleyan University and is a running back on their football team. Devin joins a fellow Knight, **Ryan Deal, '13**, who is the quarterback.

## In Loving Memory

### Book of Intentions

Throughout the year during daily Mass we remember the family and friends of our community who have passed away. To submit a loved one's name into our Book of Intentions, please complete the online form at [smrhs.org/BookIntentions](http://smrhs.org/BookIntentions) or contact the Advancement Department at 301-373-4162.

7/2/2016	Betty McNey Taylor, '45, P '66, '67, '73, '75, '84	12/13/2016	Gene Mulligan, GP '17
7/10/2016	George McWilliams, '52, GP '03, '06	12/15/2016	Ronald J. Ball, '02
7/11/2016	D. Scott Mattingly, '02	1/6/2017	Peter R. Worch Sr., GP '16, '18
7/11/2016	Michael W. Cronan, P '90, '93	1/13/2017	Dennis T. Riggs, P '03, '09
8/13/2016	Casimir Szlendak, '63	1/14/2017	Rose A. Sivak, '74
8/3/2016	Molly E. O'Neill, '84	3/16/2017	Mary E. Floyd Bogie, '42
9/28/2016	Col. Gary M. Urbanski, USAF '63	3/30/2017	Joseph M. Blair Sr., '54, P '78
9/28/2016	Shirley Abell, '45, P '81	4/6/2017	Sharon E. Pilkerton, '77
9/30/2016	Jerry Carr, GP '00, '02	4/6/2017	Meta Wilt, P '10, '12, '15, '18
10/21/2016	Thomas Tabbs, P '18	4/24/2017	Tony R. Weaver, P '19
11/2/2016	Bruce Davidson, GP '19	4/24/2017	James M. Mayonado, '80, P '19
11/24/2016	Jane M. Gough, '53	4/25/2017	Donald "Buddy" Burch, P '75, '78, '81, '84, GP '07, '10, '13, '15
12/1/2016	James S. Trent, P '76, '77, '79, '80, '82, '83, '84, '86, '88	5/15/2017	Shirley Evans Colleary, Former RHS Board '70-'75, P '72, '73, '76
12/4/2016	Mary V. (Ginger) Freeman, '56, P '76, '81, GP '12, '17, '18, '20	5/28/2017	George Donely, P '08
12/7/2016	Philip Giguere, GP '19		

P = parent of SMR alum GP = grandparent of SMR alum



# Annual Golden Gathering Is a Chance to Reconnect

Over 70 alumni and friends joined us in May for SMR's Golden Gathering! Old friends and classmates reminisced and shared stories about their school days. President Mary Joy Hurlburt welcomed our guests and shared SMR's vision of the future for our Knights, today and tomorrow. After brunch, alumni and guests celebrated Mass in the Chapel of Charity, with Father Scott Woods and members of the Tri-M National Honors Music Choir, directed by SMR choral teacher, Mrs. Kim Norris.



Bo Bailey, SMA '48, David Abell and Dolly Miedzinski Abell, SMA '61



Carl Raley, RHS '62, Judy Wathen DiGiovanni, SMA '62, and Betty Ridgell Gray, SMA '62



Pat Hunt Abell-Guy, SMA '56, Lois Abell Fowler, SMA '56, and Diane Abell Delahay, SMA '63



From left: Shelley Long DeLucco, '94, Tom Jarboe, '87, Derek Greer, '99, Tamika Langley Tremaglio, '88, Jimmy Burke, '86, and Kim Burris Oliver, '84.

## Alumni Return to Participate in Founders Week

During Founder's Week in November, St. Mary's Ryken, along with the other Xaverian Brother Sponsored Schools, celebrate Theodore James Ryken and St. Francis Xavier. As part of the celebration, six distinguished alumni returned to SMR to speak to the students about their own high school experiences, careers and leadership achievements as well as how they still live their Xaverian values.

Shelley Long DeLucco, '94, Kim Burris Oliver, '84, and Tamika Langley Tremaglio, '88, spoke to the girls about leadership and management skills, and the importance

of being accountable. Tamika emphasized adopting a personal philosophy. "It's all about PIE – performance, image and exposure. Work hard to achieve greatness, protect your image and how others perceive you and be accessible and open for new opportunities," said Tamika.

Jimmy Burke, '86, Derek Greer, '99, and Tom Jarboe, '87, met with the boys. Their very timely take-away message was to "use social media responsibly!" They reminded the group that the job you want in 10 years may be lost by what you share on the Internet today. A good tip for all of us!

Interested in Coming Back to Campus to Speak to Current Students?

Please contact Associate Director of Advancement Jerrilyn Borneman at 301-373-4162 or [jerrilyn.borneman@smrhs.org](mailto:jerrilyn.borneman@smrhs.org).



## Performance, Image and Exposure - Sound Advice from a Talented SMR Alum

Tamika Langley Tremaglio, a 1988 graduate of St. Mary's Ryken, continues to make significant achievements in the world of professional services. Tamika, a resident of Dunkirk, Md., was recently named Deloitte LLP's Greater Washington Managing Principal, where she is responsible for over 9,500 professionals.

In addition to her Managing Principal role, Tamika is a principal in Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP and serves as the Deloitte Risk and Financial Advisory Managing Principal, East Region, Deloitte Financial Advisory Services LLP.

Professional accolades aside, Tamika's biggest strengths stem from her power to motivate and encourage others. "I am a leader-servant," said Tamika. "I cheer on others and work to develop others. I try to teach my peers and those who work with me about the importance of P.I.E, a philosophy shared with me by Carla Harris in her book 'Carla's Pearls' that I follow and teach my children."

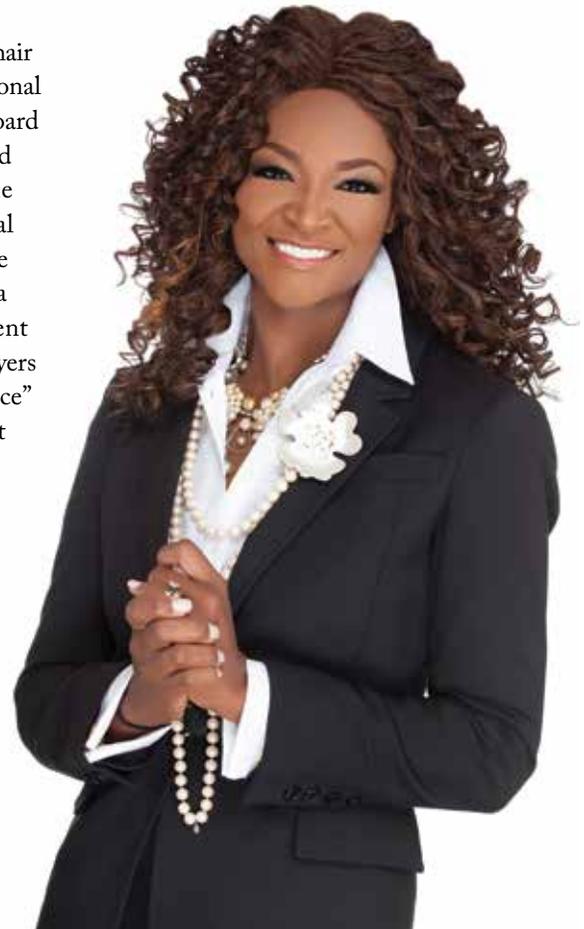
Tamika shared very sound advice while she spoke during the Founders Week Leadership Panel in November.

"Be amazing! Always think about going above and beyond. Spend time with people who make a positive influence on your life and be strategic about who you spend time with. Ask yourself: Am I making a good decision with my friends and relationships? Be in a constant state of gratitude. Don't allow struggles to take away your joy. Be present in the moment and enjoy the journey. Take a risk and watch yourself RISE!"

Tamika is an active member of the community, including serving as Vice-Chair and Audit Committee Chair of the National Aquarium in Baltimore. She is on the board of visitors of the University of Maryland School of Law, the advisory board of the Commercial Law Section of the National Bar Association, an active member of the Rho Xi Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and serves as President of the Women's National Basketball Players Association Foundation. In 2014 "Essence" Magazine included her on its Power List as a "Game Changer."

Tamika holds a Bachelor of Arts in business administration from Mount St. Mary's University; a Juris Doctorate from the University of Maryland School of Law; and a Master of Business Administration from University of Baltimore, Merrick School of Business.

St. Mary's Ryken is proud of Tamika's accomplishments and excited to welcome her son to the Class of 2021!



### P.I.E.

**Performance** - Strong academics, notable awards, accolades, degrees

**Image** - Protect and refine your image starting in high school through college and your professional career. Thirty percent of individual success and how others perceive you is due to your image!

**Exposure** - Make wise decisions about whom you associate with socially and whom you choose to partner with professionally.

*Concept first introduced by management consultant, Harvey Coleman in his book, "Empowering Yourself, The Organizational Game Revealed."*

# Stephanie Stearns Witte, SMR '86, Makes an Impact With Her Support

Did you know that a graduate of St. Mary's Ryken owns the California, Md., location of Chick-fil-A? Stephanie Stearns Witte, '86, leverages her success in the restaurant industry to support the local community and to spread God's word.

Stephanie's "life verse" is Colossians 3:23: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.*

"I approach each day by saying to myself, what can I do today to show people Christ?" said Witte. "I try to do what God wants me to do every day by living this mantra with my employees. I want them to be treated fairly, feel safe, and feel like they are at home here."

As a leader in the community, a business owner and one who donates her time to many organizations, Stephanie's support of SMR is very generous. Beginning this year, Stephanie sponsored the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy (CLA) for 30 of our students. The academy is a national high school leadership program focused on impact through action in the local communities. Students participate in monthly Leader Labs and then spearhead a year-end project that allows them to utilize their new leadership skills.

"The CLA teaches students the value of servant leadership. It teaches students to be bold and take healthy risks, like starting a new club/organization that mentors school-age children in the community or spearheading a community beautification project. This club teaches students that they can make an impact, which I believe then fuels their passion for service in college and beyond," said adviser and SMR guidance counselor Loretta Baylor.

"The Chick-fil-A Leader Academy was an amazing experience," said Clarke Weddington. "It allowed me to develop



Thank you, Stephanie, for your tremendous support of St. Mary's Ryken.

new leadership skills with my peers. It also taught me compassion for others and how to make a difference in, not only my community, but also around the world."

"Students have the ability to be creative and bring their unique talents and personalities to complete the project as a team. It's exciting to see how passionate students are about their end-of-the-year project," said Baylor.

"For our end-of-the-year project, we went to a local elementary school to throw an end-of-the-year carnival," said Clarke.

The CLA will return next year due to Stephanie's dedication as the school sponsor.

In addition to the academy, Stephanie hosts spirit nights at Chick-fil-A, when proceeds

from the sales directly support the school. She also opens the restaurant doors to local students who need extra tutoring. Weekly throughout the school year, SMR students tutor local public school students, and all of the students receive a free meal.

"Tutoring younger students at Chick-fil-A every Thursday was a thoroughly enjoyable and rewarding experience," said Tiffany Tran, '17. "I felt honored to assist the students in their studies and to watch them grow in their understanding of a variety of subjects."

Stephanie reflects back to her time at SMR: "I loved that everyone knew each other. The small community and expectations to be responsible by the faculty forced me to focus and use my time wisely – attributes that are very important managing a business today. I was completely prepared for college after my SMR experience, and this is why I think it's so important to support the school – so that other students can gain the same real-world knowledge and leadership skills that I had the opportunity to learn."

## Many Ways to Support the Knights

You too can join Stephanie in support of the SMR Knights by sharing your time, talents and resources.

**Interested in becoming a leadership speaker, mentoring students who have a specific interest in a field of study, attending SMR-sponsored events or giving to the annual fund?**

To learn more, visit [www.smrhs.org/](http://www.smrhs.org/) support or contact the Advancement Department at [advancement@smrhs.org](mailto:advancement@smrhs.org) or 301-373-4182.

# A Foundation in Christ: How St. Mary's Ryken Transformed My College Experience

By Alex Wyvill, '12

As I stepped down from the podium, I felt a profound sense of satisfaction and peace. I was proud to be graduating from St. Mary's Ryken, but was especially happy to celebrate this achievement with our families at the Baccalaureate Mass. I looked around and saw the many smiling faces of my classmates, each topped with a green cap and tassel. I saw my teachers, who had lovingly toiled these past four years to provide the Class of 2012 with an education not only in academics, but also in character, spirituality and a sense of mission. Above all, I saw the hand of God, who had touched this place and guided it with His Spirit to become a school in the truest, most profound sense: a school for the whole person, body and soul. My sense of peace cut deep; I knew that, through the extraordinary people at St. Mary's Ryken, I had been given a rare gift: a solid foundation, a rock to stand on through the turbulent storms of college life.

Four years later, as I walked the stage to receive my degree from Vanderbilt University, I experienced a tremendous thankfulness for that same solid foundation of concern for the things that truly matter. This foundation supported me through college. While many of my peers at Vanderbilt knew themselves as talented, intelligent and hard-working, they didn't know themselves as sons and daughters of God, that identity that is most essential to happiness and human flourishing. Thanks to the many convincing witnesses that I encountered during my SMR education, I entered college well aware of this deepest identity. Because I knew that I was a son of God, college became for me an occasion of profound spiritual and moral growth, not a place to "take a break" from responsibility to God and neighbor.

I cannot overstate the uniqueness of this gift of spiritual and human formation in a



high school setting. Far too often, college becomes an intensely isolating place because we do not know where to find the purpose and joy we so deeply desire. For myself, it was quite the opposite; college, for me, was full of love, life and fulfilling relationships.

I attribute this success in college to the culture of St. Mary's Ryken, which sold me on a simple truth: Purpose and joy cannot be found apart from a relationship with God and His Church. Because of this truth, I was equipped to flourish in college from the very get-go. I knew to immediately seek out the Catholic campus ministry at Vanderbilt; it became my bedrock faith community for the next four years. I knew to immediately enroll in spiritual direction; it became an anchor of accountability throughout college. I knew to invest in solid friendships in the

context of intentional discipleship; I still keep in touch with the men I encountered in college Bible studies and discipleship meetings. All of these beautiful pillars of my college support system were built on the foundation established at St. Mary's Ryken.

While so many in college lose their way in a world chock-full of distractions and false promises of freedom, I enjoyed a genuine freedom throughout college. But I never would have pursued that freedom, a freedom built upon the edifice of character, spirituality and a sense of mission, unless it was first honestly and convincingly proposed. Thank you, teachers, coaches and administrators at St. Mary's Ryken, for proposing Christ to me.

Alex is enrolled at St. John Paul II Seminary in Washington, D.C.

# SMR Class of 2012 Alum Maggie Sheehan Campaigns for Gov. Kasich

Maggie Sheehan, '12, graduated from the University of Dayton in 2016 with a degree in communications and public relations, and a minor in social work. Before Maggie graduated, she was lucky enough to gain experience in a field that is very competitive – politics.

Maggie interned for Ohio Gov. John Kasich during the summer of 2015 when he signed the Ohio state budget and announced he was running for president of the United States. “I got to see many interworkings of what it is like to do communications for someone at that level of importance,” said Maggie. “My everyday included special events for the governor, answering questions from the media, social media posting, anything politics may throw at you at any given moment. It was very exciting and intense.”

After Kasich announced he was running for president, Maggie had to go back to the University of Dayton to finish her senior year but was still involved in the campaign. “I hopped on the campaign trail a little during the primaries. It was amazing to see an entire state rally around one person for one cause. No matter the outcome, I can say I was 20 years old working for a presidential candidate!” said Maggie.

Following graduation, Maggie returned to the Kasich administration. “I currently work for the Ohio tax commissioner that was appointed to Kasich’s cabinet at the beginning of the administration. It has been such a roller coaster ride ever since. Learning how a General Assembly works has been truly amazing. I owe it all to one person – that person would be former Ohio governor and grandson of President Taft, Robert Taft,” continued Maggie.

Maggie was a part of Gov. Taft’s internship program. “Former Gov. Taft was a professor

at the University of Dayton who I was so lucky to get to know. He introduced me to a world I had never seen before and taught me how to be a leader, hard worker, and how to ask a lot of questions because no one knows everything. I am ever so grateful for his guidance,” said Maggie.

Maggie attributes her beginning success to her experience as a St. Mary’s Ryken student. “SMR was a foundation for everything I have accomplished thus far. I am 22 years old, I have a job, and I recently obtained a promotion within six months. Being involved, getting good grades – these are things that build the foundation of how you become a hard-working American, and it is how I got to where I am today!”



Maggie on the campaign trail for Gov. Kasich

## Young Alumni Return to Share College Life Experiences

In January, SMR welcomed home five alumni from the Class of 2016 to participate in a panel discussion for our juniors and seniors. They discussed everything about adjusting to college life, such as living in a dorm and away from family, balancing a spiritual life with clubs and sports, studying and being independent, making new friends and Greek life.



Panelists, from left: Alanna Daley, Rachel Stauffer, Kayla Collins, Cullen Taylor and Chris Matthias

## SMR Class of 2011 Alum Rebecca Howard Prepares for a 4,000-Mile Journey to Find a Cure

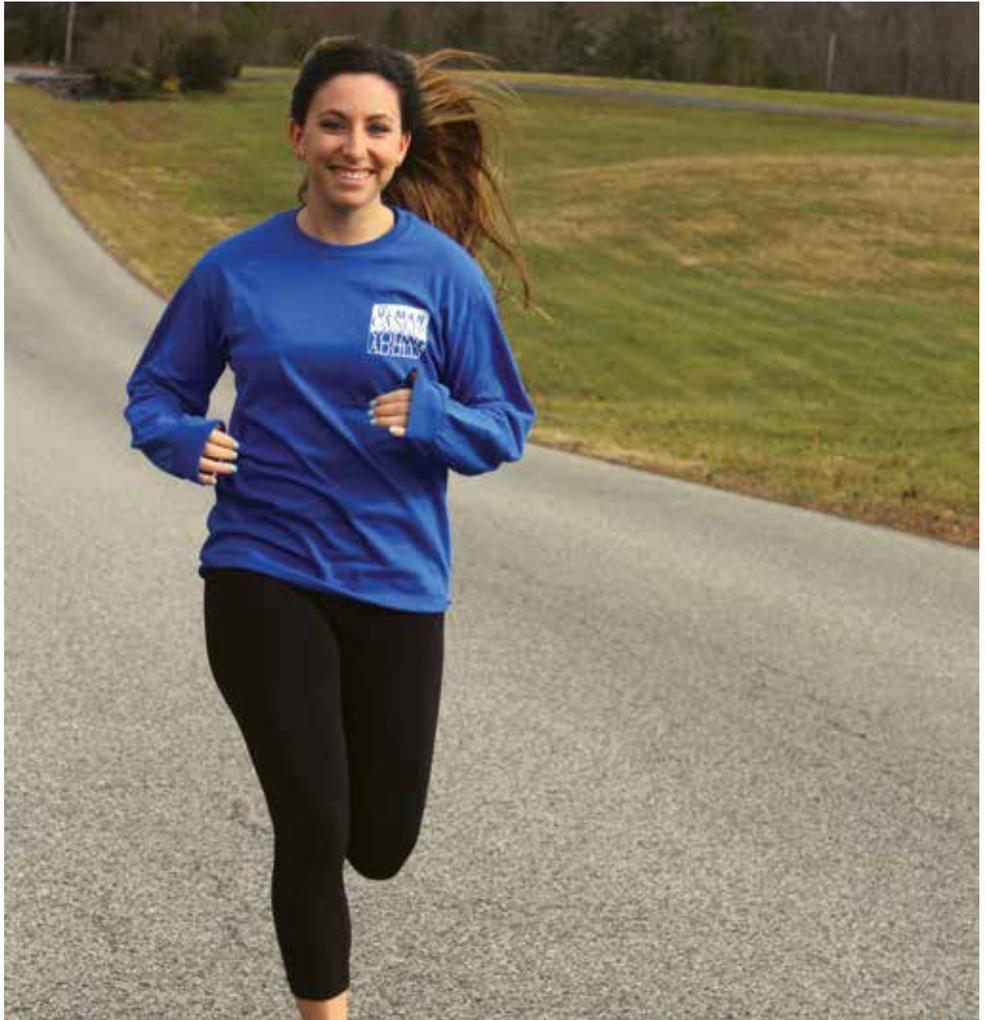
For Rebecca Howard, '11, service to others is a family motto. Rebecca's parents, Charles and Mary Ellen, led by example and made service work a part of everyday life, no matter how small the act of kindness.

Rebecca's love of volunteering started at her local food bank during middle school and grew while a student at St. Mary's Ryken. She volunteered at the food bank for eight years, and it opened her eyes to people struggling to provide basic needs for their family. "Service taught me empathy, compassion, dedication and integrity."

While at SMR, my favorite experience doing service work was when I was invited to sing the national anthem for the Individual Augmentee Ceremony to welcome soldiers home from deployment at Naval Air Station Patuxent River," said Rebecca. "It was an incredible feeling being able to use my voice to welcome the returning soldiers. I was honored that they invited me to sing and represent SMR."

While studying at Queens University of Charlotte, Rebecca joined Alpha Delta Pi sorority and volunteered at a Ronald McDonald House. After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in business in 2015, she decided to take a year to give back to her community. She joined AmeriCorps for a one-year stint at Madison Fields Farm, part of Madison House Autism Foundation, where she worked with adults with autism, promoting the farm and its opportunities to those adults and their families.

But it was another life-changing event in 2012 that led her to embark on a journey of a lifetime this summer. She lost her grandfather, "Pap-Pap," to skin cancer. Since then, her father has had multiple spots removed, one of which came back positive for melanoma. She worries about him every



day and how cancer touches everyone in some capacity.

Rebecca felt compelled to take action and be a part of finding a cure in any small way she could help. She heard about a 4,000-mile run for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults. She knew she had to do it. "I want young adults battling cancer to know that they aren't alone, and I want to promote hope and perseverance in place of worry and fear. I am not running the 4K for myself; I am running for every mother, father, son, daughter, brother and sister who has ever

been affected by this ugly disease. This is what I remind myself during training and what I will continue to remind myself throughout my journey this summer."

On June 18, Rebecca started her journey with a group of college-aged students on a 49-day, 4,000-plus-mile run from San Francisco to Baltimore to raise funds and awareness for the Ulman Cancer Fund for Young Adults. Please keep Rebecca and all of the participants in your prayers this summer for safe travels and good health during this inspiring run!

# Praying for Our Alums

St. Mary's Ryken is very proud of our alumni who have pursued religious vocations. Please join us in praying for them as they remain committed to the divine call to God's service.

**Father Keith Woods, '86**, is ordained with the Archdiocese of Washington and is currently the pastor at St. Peter's Church, Waldorf, Md. Prior to this assignment, Father Woods was the pastor at St. Joseph's Church in Morganza, Md.

**Father David Verghese, C.Ss.R., '98**, is a Redemptorist priest with the Baltimore Province. Currently, Father Verghese is a reverend at St. Mary's Parish, Annapolis, Md.

**Megan Schreyer, '14**  
(Sister Anna Maria Schreyer, OP)

**Emma Madden, '14**  
(Sister Corredemptrix, SSVM)

All of the following young men are seminarians with the Archdiocese of Washington and attend St. John Paul II, Washington, D.C.:

**Alex Wyvill, '12, Mark Mergner, '13, Ryan Braam, '14, John Winslow, '15, Joseph Brown, '16, Chris Feist, '16, D.B. Martin, '16, Thomas Showalter, '16**



From left: John Winslow, '15, D.B. Martin, '16, and Chris Feist, '16, visit SMR during a fall break.



Sister Anna Maria Schreyer, OP



From left: Ethan Rudman, '14, Elise Carney, '15, Emma Madden, '14, and Kayla Collins, '16

# Thank You for Supporting St. Mary's Ryken!

## 5K Family Fun Run/Walk Raises Over \$9K

The 6th annual Blaine Whorl 5K took place Oct. 22 despite a rainy and windy start! The event raises money for the Blaine Whorl, '02, Memorial Scholarship Fund. Participants enjoyed breakfast sponsored by Dunkin' Donuts and our very own longtime faculty member Carol Edick. We are grateful to Blaine's family, classmates and friends who help make this benefit possible each year. Save the date for this year's race during Homecoming Weekend on Oct. 14!



Jeanette Carr, Danny Carr, David Carr and Stephanie Carr show off their medals following the race.

## Freshmen Welcome Grandparents to Learn About Life on Campus!

More than 100 grandparents attended the annual Grandparents Day luncheon to share an afternoon with their grandchildren. Students gave firsthand accounts about their SMR high school experience!



Gavin Willis with his grandparents, Brenda and John Ryan



Renzy Pilkerton with her grandparents, Richard and Janice Pilkerton and Chuck and Elaine Jefferies

## Scholarship Day

Scholarship recipients had a unique opportunity to meet their benefactors and thank them for their generosity for supporting the scholarship program! SMR is fortunate to have alumni, parents and friends establishing academic and service-based scholarships that benefit our Knights today and for future generations. If you are interested in establishing a legacy that will provide for future Knights, contact the Advancement Office at 301-373-4162 or [advancement@smrhs.org](mailto:advancement@smrhs.org).



Alicia Ojeda, Karen Kaufmann and Holly Kaufmann, '16



Demetrius Poole and James Cornelson (President and CEO, Old Line Bank)

## Golf Tournament Raises \$125,000 for the Jenna Stone Memorial St. Mary's Ryken Scholarship Fund

Golfers and others from across the Maryland and D.C. Metro region came together on June 8 at the Breton Bay Golf & Country Club in Leonardtown, Md., for a great day of golf to raise money for the Jenna Stone Memorial St. Mary's Ryken Fund. The tournament kicked off with a mid-morning shotgun start. Corporate and individual sponsorships ranging from \$150 to \$10,000 helped bring the total raised to \$125,000. Over 400 golfers and other attendees also showed incredible generosity through their contributions to the basket raffles and post-tournament dinner. Thank you to Joe and Mary Lynn Stone, and the Century 21 New Millennium staff and real estate agents, for all of their support of the SMR community.

Save the date! Registration for the June 2018 tournament opens in May.



Mary Lynn Stone, Mary Joy Hurlburt, Devin Stone Fox, '06, and Joe Stone

## A Knight Gala to Remember

The SMR community celebrated its annual Knight Gala on March 18 with a packed crowd of parents, alumni, friends, faculty and staff. Although we danced the night away, we also raised money for STEM equipment for the new Innovation Lab in Paschal Hall. Thank you to all of our guests for making it a Knight to remember!



## Why Every Gift Makes a Difference

Nurturing extraordinary students and faculty takes extraordinary resources! Donations to the St. Mary's Ryken Annual Fund enriches the lives of each Knight through the important work of preparing leaders, growing spiritually through faith and service, creating art in all its glorious forms and providing a challenging 21st century curriculum. Your support gives us the resources to be able to say YES as opportunities arise to provide for our students, faculty and campus.

When you make a gift to the SMR Annual Fund, you can earmark it for a particular area: arts, campus ministry, humanities, professional development, tuition assistance or the student life fund, to name a few! The amount you are able to give may vary, and the areas you choose to support may change. But your commitment to giving every year provides the sustainable base of support that allows us to make a difference every day.

Help us to answer YES when we are called to be extraordinary!

You can make a difference today with the enclosed envelope or visit our website at [www.smrhs.org](http://www.smrhs.org) (and choose the Support SMR tab). Your gift, no matter what the size, will have a positive impact. Please contact our Advancement Team with any questions or if you want to learn how you can leave a legacy gift: 301-373-4182 or [advancement@smrhs.org](mailto:advancement@smrhs.org)

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day With Us!

Save the date for next year's Knight Gala on Saturday, March 17, 2018.



# You Are Invited!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming SMR events:

## Freshman Grandparents Day

Fall 2017

## “Fools” by Neil Simon

November 2–5, 2017

## Homecoming Weekend, Reunions and Blaine Whorl 5K and Family Fun Run

October 13–15

## Open House for Prospective Families

October 22, 2017

## Giving Tuesday

November 28, 2017

## Winter Fine Arts Festival

December 2017

## Deadline to Make an Annual Fund End of Year Gift!

December 31, 2017

## Summer Camp Registration Opens

March 1, 2018

## Knight Gala

March 17, 2018

## “Hello Dolly”

March 22–25, 2018

## Spring Fine Arts Festival

April 2018

## Golden Gathering

May 6, 2018

## Graduation

May 29, 2018

Diamond, Gold and Silver Diploma Ceremony for the Classes of 1943, 1968 and 1993

## Jenna Stone Memorial Golf Tournament

June 2018

## Stay Connected With St. Mary's Ryken

Want to stay in touch with your St. Mary's Ryken classmates and learn about SMR events—including fundraisers, the annual Knight Gala and networking opportunities? Please share your contact information and alumni news with us.

**Visit:** [smrhs.org/AlumniNews](http://smrhs.org/AlumniNews)

**Email:** [advancement@smrhs.org](mailto:advancement@smrhs.org)

**Call:** 301-373-4162



## Follow Us on Social Media!



St. Mary's Ryken Alumni page: [facebook.com/StMarysRykenAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/StMarysRykenAlumni)



St. Mary's Ryken High School page: [facebook.com/SMRKnights](https://www.facebook.com/SMRKnights)



[@stmarysryken](https://twitter.com/stmarysryken)



[@stmarysryken](https://twitter.com/stmarysryken)

# Homecoming 2017 October 13–15

Homecoming Weekend offers plenty of opportunities for our alumni to visit campus and participate each day.

## Friday

- Alumni Tailgate from 5–6:30 p.m. in Alumni Hall
- Football game at 7 p.m.

## Saturday

- Blaine Whorl 5K/Family Fun Run at 8 a.m.
- Tours on campus from noon–2 p.m.

## Sunday

- Brunch with Hall of Fame Inductions & Alum of the Year
- Mass Celebration at 1 p.m.

The following classes are planning to celebrate a reunion during Homecoming Weekend:

## SMA & RHS Class of 1967

Contact Rita Farr at [randjfarr@md.metrocast.net](mailto:randjfarr@md.metrocast.net).

## Class of 1987

Attend the game on Friday, then participate in Saturday's Blaine Whorl 5K/Family Fun Run!

Class party on Oct. 14 at The Striped Rock, Solomons, Md., from 7–11 p.m. Contact Kenna Hathaway at [spraguek@calvertnet.k12.md.us](mailto:spraguek@calvertnet.k12.md.us).

## Class of 1997

Contact Will Lancaster at [wlanaster1173@gmail.com](mailto:wlanaster1173@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Reunions

### SMA Class of 1972

Sept. 30

Contact Pamela Ellis at [pam.ellis@verizon.net](mailto:pam.ellis@verizon.net).





**St. Mary's Ryken**  
*A College Preparatory Catholic High School*  
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