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Summer 2018

## **Stonehill Alumni Magazine Summer/Fall 2018**

Stonehill College Office of Communications and Media Relations

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# Stonehill

Summer | Fall 2018

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

*Melanie (Malone)  
O'Neil '99  
Turns a Gift  
Into a Business*





**A WELCOMING PLACE** "I'll be using the high-top tables by Au Bon Pain to do homework. Also, the little study nook above the Admission Office has a great view and is a place I'll be all year,"

*said Kateri Collins '19 at the opening of the new Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences building. Turn to page 22 to read about the May School and its features.*

## Summer & Fall 2018

### FEATURES

#### 12 A Good Sign

"What am I getting myself into?" is what Melanie (Malone) O'Neil '99 first thought when she left her full-time job to turn a hand-painted sign hobby into one of the country's fastest-growing companies.

BY KIM LAWRENCE

#### 18 Telling Stories

During oral history sessions with 50th Reunion classes, alumni share all sorts of stories, from pranks and hijinks to protests and reflections.

BY KIM LAWRENCE, NICOLE (TOURANEGEAU) CASPER '95 AND JONATHAN GREEN '10

#### 22 One Gift Sparks a Lifetime of Giving

Named after Thomas '69 and Donna (Jermyn) '70 May, the School of Arts & Sciences reflects the alumni couple's commitment to furthering the opportunities for current and prospective students.

BY MARTIN MCGOVERN

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COVER Melanie (Malone) O'Neil '99 owns Rustic Marlin, a hand-painted sign company. Photo by Nicki Pardo.



## Welcoming

IN THE MID-1960s, THOMAS MAY '69 was excelling in his classwork, but financial difficulties had the potential to jeopardize his ability to complete his studies at Stonehill. College leaders, however, stepped in and found the resources necessary to ensure he would be able to earn his degree at the College. Tom went on not just to graduate, but also to become one of Boston's top business leaders. A first-generation student, he has chaired our Board of Trustees since 2007, and he has never forgotten the way in which the College helped him at such a critical moment—sparking a lifetime of leadership and giving.

To show their appreciation, Tom and his wife, Donna (Jermyn) May '70, have been a force—as volunteers, advocates and benefactors—in expanding opportunities for successive generations of Stonehill students.

Given their leadership and generosity, the Board of Trustees, at its fall meeting, named our School of Arts & Sciences in their honor. Our campus' new Thomas and Donna May

School of Arts & Sciences building is home to our Admission Welcome Center, the office of our Dean of Arts & Sciences Peter Ubertaccio, and the departments of history, philosophy and religious studies [p. 22].

It's no coincidence this building is graced by a statue of Brother André Bessette, the first member of the Congregation of Holy Cross to be named a Catholic saint. A humble porter at Collège Notre-Dame in Montreal, Br. André spent his life greeting visitors and attending to their needs.

St. André's life was characterized by the virtue of hospitality, as is the College's mission. A Stonehill education encourages students to develop a lifelong desire for self-discovery and commitment to service that will lead to truly purposeful and rewarding lives. St. André's service and genuine concern for others are aspects of a Holy Cross tradition that Stonehill carries forth today and fosters in its students and graduates. Reflective of our founding mission, nearly a quarter of our first-year students are first-generation. It is paramount that we provide the resources and support necessary to assure they succeed and flourish, so that they become impactful leaders in our society, like Tom and Donna May.

This issue of the *Stonehill Alumni Magazine* also highlights the importance of mentorship in the lives of our students and alumni. In "A Good Sign," Melanie (Malone) O'Neil '99 explains how in her senior year, business faculty listened to her changing goals and guided her in achieving them [p. 12]. Elizabeth Scopac '12 recalls how Dean Ubertaccio helped her devise a unique major to support her goal of becoming a fashion designer [p. 35]. In our "Volunteer Spotlight," we meet three young alumni who mentor current students as their way of giving back [p. 27].

I hope this issue's stories provide you with insight into how our educational mission continues to transform our students' lives and how our alumni lead lives of meaning and purpose. Please come back and visit campus and know that you are always welcome.

Sincerely in Holy Cross,

Rev. John Denning, C.S.C.  
President

### Stonehill ALUMNI MAGAZINE

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## Kente and Rainbow Celebration

AT THE ANNUAL Kente and Rainbow Ceremony, 50 graduating students, supported by their peers, faculty and staff, came together in unity and celebration as they prepared for Commencement and life after college. The special occasion was marked by a spirit of joy, friendship, solidarity and accomplishment. The Kente and Rainbow Ceremony recognizes graduating seniors from Black, Latinx/a/o, Asian, Pacific Islander, Middle Eastern, Native American and multiracial backgrounds as well as those who identify with LGBTQ+ communities.



CELEBRATING SENIORS: 2018 classmates [l to r] Cristianie DePina, Jorelis Peguero, Nikia Davis, Jenise Gonzalez, Carolina Capote, Meggie Wambui and Azariah Boyd are all smiles at the Kente and Rainbow event.

## Connected but Lacking Connection

"ONE THING that I will never forget about those eight years in Washington was, and you've all seen this on cable television, people yelling at each other but never listening to one another. People talking at one another, but always waiting in those pauses to rebut and never to hear and to understand," said David Simas '92, CEO of the Obama Foundation and former senior advisor to President Barack Obama, during his Commencement address in May.

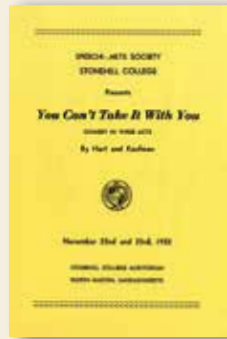
"People so firmly committed that theirs was the only repository of truth, the only way to do anything, to the exclusion of others, have put us in this moment, this deep moment, where, even though we are more connected than ever to one another, we lack

connection. Connection where you actually see the person and hear the person to understand them rather than to rebut...Please, make sure that when you hear that inner voice saying someone is automatically wrong, check yourself. Put yourself in their shoes. Understand their perspective. See where they're coming from," continued Simas,

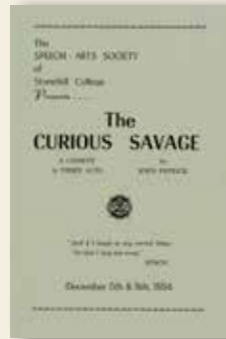
who received an honorary doctor of humane letters. Acclaimed poet and playwright Claudia Rankine also received an honorary doctor of literature, and author and scholar John Stack '72, dean of the Stephen J. Green School of International and Public Affairs at Florida International University, received an honorary doctor of humane letters.



HIGH HONORS: CEO of the Obama Foundation David Simas '92, poet and playwright Claudia Rankine and author and scholar John Stack '72 received honorary degrees at Commencement.



**You Can't Take It With You**  
1953



**The Curious Savage**  
1954



**Little Bit of Luck**  
1961



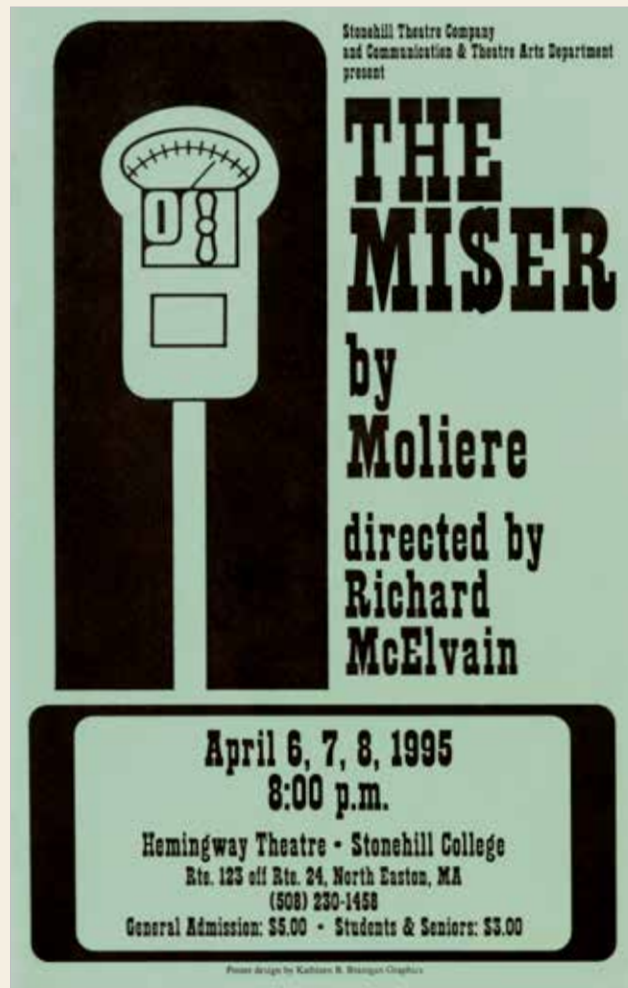
**Bury the Dead**  
1973



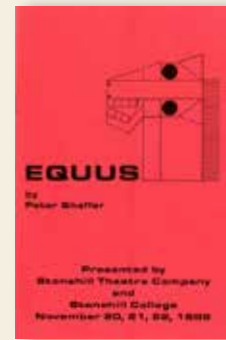
**A Delicate Balance**  
1974

## Playbills

STONEHILL HAS ENJOYED a long tradition of theatre, as shown through our playbills. Below, *The Miser*, from 1995.



**The Lady's Not for Burning**  
1982



**Equus**  
1986



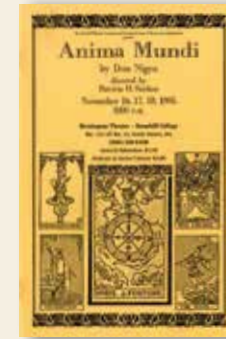
**Chekhov in Yalta**  
1987



**A Clearing in the Woods**  
1988



**Tom Paine**  
1989



**Anima Mundi**  
1995



**Picnic**  
2008



**Antigone**  
2014



**Talk Radio**  
2018



### QUICK CHAT

#### Matthew Greene

*Assistant Professor and Program Director of Theatre Arts*

**Years at Stonehill:** One  
**What is exciting about Stonehill Theatre?** We're entering a new era with an approach to theatre that is active, alive and healthier for the practitioner. Audiences will see original works, an increase in musicals and plays from the great American playwrights. The world-

renowned London theatre company, Frantic Assembly, will also train our students in their groundbreaking movement style.  
**Theatre is important because:** It's how we communicate with each other. We tell stories, every day, dramatizing our interactions with the world. Theatre is a truly communal, yet individual event. Our job is to tell riveting stories, and the audience supplies the meaning as it resonates with them. It's a unique and vital part of the human experience.  
**Advice that I give to my student-actors:** Read plays and follow the action.

**A play that I've seen many times:** My latest favorite play is *Once*—simple, beautiful story, music that haunts you. I saw it three times last year, including twice in one day. After seeing the matinee with my wife, I gathered some of my seniors, bought them tickets and took them.  
**As a former Blue Man, what were the challenges of that role?** The stamina. There's no off-season so after 1,000 performances, you start to feel it. People often ask, "What is the trick to catching the marshmallows in your mouth?" Practice. I think my record was around 35.

# Campus Updates

**NOW OPEN AND FULLY INTEGRATED** into the life of the College, the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences is a hive of activity, bringing new life to the heart of campus. "One Gift Sparks a Lifetime of Giving" [p. 22] features the building's highlights and the story behind its namesake, Thomas May '69 and his wife, Donna (Jermyn) May '70.

Hot on the heels of the completed May School is the construction of the Leo J. Meehan School of Business building, which is rapidly taking shape and is on track to be completed in time for the 2019 academic year. In August, the College community gathered for the building's topping off ceremony.

### SUMMER PROJECTS

"We use the summer to make upgrades and improvements to our buildings and facilities so that we remain competitive in terms of the resources we offer to students and faculty and avoid deferred maintenance," says Associate Vice President for Finance and Operations Craig Binney '83. In 2018, these projects included

- ❖ Creation of a Center for Innovative Design in the MacPháidín Library.
- ❖ Construction of a modern computer science laboratory in the College Center.
- ❖ Refinishing the floor of the Merkert Gymnasium, home to men and women's basketball and women's volleyball.
- ❖ Replacing turf on the Timothy J. Coughlin Memorial Field at the W. B. Mason Stadium and resurfacing the running track.

### SPECIAL EDUCATION MASTER'S DEGREE

As of summer 2019, Stonehill's Department of Education Studies will be offering a master's degree in special education designed to prepare teachers to assist students with special needs to reach their full potential in public, private and parochial schools.

In exploring the complexity of culture, language and learning differences in contemporary classrooms, program participants will graduate with the skills and knowledge to design learning environments that promote inclusivity and that ensure full, meaningful access and engagement for all students.

Participants will also learn how to develop a curriculum for a diverse group of students.

Geared toward teachers seeking to earn an initial license in moderate disabilities Pre-K-8 or wishing to add to their current license, this NEASC-approved degree program can be pursued either on a part-time basis in

**"This is a strong master's degree program tailored to assist special needs educators in better serving students..."** — Professor Margaret Pierce

a 33-42 credit program or through an accelerated 12-month program.

Faculty are credentialed and experienced in a wide range of specialized fields. Teaching in small class

environments, they serve as mentors and are deeply invested in the success of each student in this master's degree program.

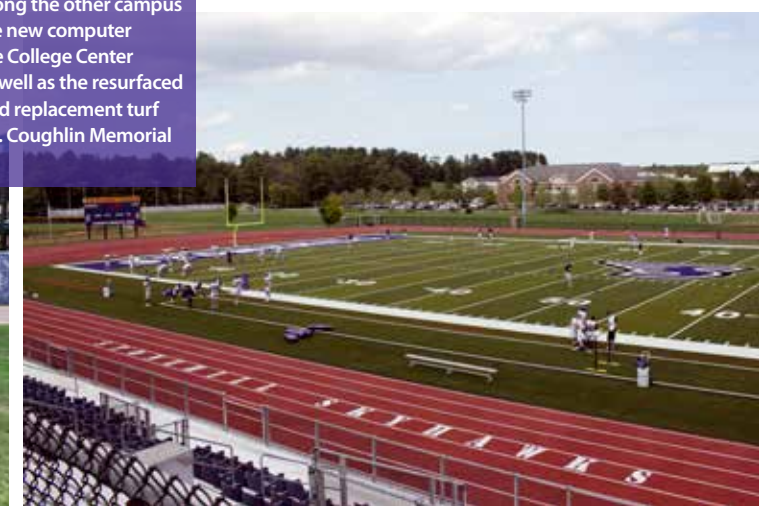
"This is a strong master's degree program tailored to assist special needs educators in better serving students with mild to moderate disabilities that impact their academic and social development," said Associate Professor of Education and Program Director Margaret Pierce.

"For teachers seeking to grow professionally and obtain additional credentials, it meets a growing need locally. Our focus is to ensure special needs educators have the skills and strategies that help students with disabilities to maximize their potential."

For more information about the program, visit [stonehill.edu/academics/special-ed/program-of-study/](http://stonehill.edu/academics/special-ed/program-of-study/).



**SUMMER JOBS** It was a busy summer on campus with the construction of the Leo J. Meehan School of Business well underway. The College community gathered in August for the building's topping off ceremony [left and center]. Among the other campus upgrades are the new computer science lab in the College Center [right, above] as well as the resurfaced running track and replacement turf on the Timothy J. Coughlin Memorial Field [below].



# Heard on the Hill

**COOL BREAK:** To give students a break from finals and the heat wave in May, Campus Ministry placed popsicles around campus with an encouraging message.



**1973 THROWBACK:** Ahead of Reunion in June, the Alumni Office posted this 1973 photo on Facebook to remind class years ending in 3s and 8s of the event—turnout exceeded expectations. See Reunion coverage on page 28.

**EYE-OPENER:** “The number of Stonehill students who have volunteered at My Brother’s Keeper is now in the thousands. Again and again over the years, our students report that their volunteer experience with My Brother’s Keeper is eye-opening not just to poverty but also to their responsibility in life to help those in need.” —*Excerpt from citation honoring My Brother’s Keeper at the annual President’s Dinner in May.*

**HOW ICE MELTS:** As part of the 23rd year of the SURE (Stonehill Undergraduate Research Experience) program this summer, Nicolas Cannavo Berrazueta '20 and Jaisil Chacko '20, with Assistant Professor of Mathematics Jane Lee, studied the dynamics of water molecules in the process of water’s state change from ice to liquid water using a computer simulation method called molecular dynamics. They will present their findings at the Northeastern Section of the Mathematical Association of America in the fall.

**EVERYDAY MINIATURES:** These miniature Flyaway roller skates look just like the real thing! Curated by students in the Public History course, an exhibit featuring scrap metal miniatures by Cambridge machinist Abraham Megerdichian is on display in the David Ames Sr. Gallery in Cushing-Martin Hall through December.



## “Buff Chick” Penne Pasta

*Campus lingo for a favorite meal at the Dining Commons.*

## Flying High

Women’s soccer striker and business major Alexandra Giardina '21 fulfilled a bucket list wish when she, along with her sister and father, went skydiving this summer. This photo of her in flight was posted on the women’s soccer Instagram feed as part of the team’s Skyhawk series, which showcased what players were up to during the summer months. Giardina says, “I definitely felt like a true Skyhawk when I jumped from the plane!”



# Winning Off the Field

**THROUGHOUT THEIR TIME** on campus, students often hear the words of Blessed Basil Moreau: “The mind will not be cultivated at the expense of the heart.”

That wisdom, often applied to academics, is echoed each summer through Fr. Matt Fase, C.S.C., Stonehill’s athletic chaplain. During preseason, Fr. Fase shares those words with our new and returning athletes while adding, “If at the end of four years all that you are is a better athlete, that’s not enough. Your work here is about being a better person, a more whole human being.”

For our student-athletes, that notion goes beyond developing a strong work ethic or earning good grades. Skyhawks recognize that altruism is just

as important as individual accolades, which is why every team at Stonehill participates in programs meant to improve the lives of others. Annual Team IMPACT drafts match a child with a life-threatening or chronic illness to the new members of eight teams on campus, building a bond that strengthens over four years of practices, partnership and competition.

Athletes are regular participants in Stonehill’s Into the Streets program, taking days to serve in the community. And the new Benching to Break Barriers weightlifting competition, coined by Strength and Conditioning Coach Mark Zabicki, raised nearly \$2,000 to build awareness for sexual assault and domestic violence.

For nearly a decade, volleyball’s Aces Girls wellness and mentorship program has been working with young women in the area on the importance of fitness, mental health and inclusivity. Baseball’s annual Blood Bowl donation drive with the Red Cross gets students, faculty and staff to give blood. And field hockey won last year’s athletic Community Service Award for the team’s work in food pantries and soup kitchens, volunteerism with

the Special Olympics, visits to Trinity Catholic Academy in Brockton to assist in reading programs and cancer awareness fundraising. Meanwhile, the College’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee was recently recognized by the Northeast-10 Conference for its fundraising in support of the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

**“If at the end of four years all that you are is a better athlete, that’s not enough...”**

—Fr. Matt Fase, C.S.C., Athletic Chaplain

At every sporting event, Make-A-Wish donation buckets are in the stands. Those efforts, along with the first Rock-a-Thon this past spring, which saw six purple rocking chairs stay in motion for a full day, raised more than \$6,600 for the foundation.

“Our students see the value of sacrifice and hard work,” says Fr. Fase. “They see the results in their exploits on the field, so it’s pretty easy to then say, ‘We need to turn this effort outwards and better not just ourselves, but also our community.’” —Michael Shulansky



**ROCK STARS** Last Spring, purple rocking chairs stayed in motion for a day to help raise money for the Make A Wish Foundation.



## Political Theorist

**WHETHER DISCUSSING** immigration reform or the Syrian refugee crisis, Bettina Scholz, associate professor of political science, is known for making political theory relevant to her students. A recipient of the Hegarty Award for Excellence in Teaching, she is equally known for her high expectations and care-filled advising. Here, Scholz discusses her research on patriotism and how she came to learn about Cesar Chavez. She also shares how she relates to New England—from cold swims and cross-country skiing to swatting black flies and cooking with rhubarb.

**An interesting conversation I had with my students:** At the end of the semester, I ask students in my Power, Order and Justice course to apply the theories of power we have studied to evaluate Stonehill. Let's just say I learn

interesting things about the student experience on campus—sometimes even about their take on my classroom. It's illuminating and a bit humbling!  
**I encourage my students to:** Not dismiss abstract theories as irrelevant to

practicing politics but recognize their power for good and for evil.

**The course I most enjoy teaching:** Citizens of the World. It is wonderful to see students connect to their own experiences as citizens of the world.

**If I weren't teaching, I would be:** Working for the foreign service or the United Nations. I grew up with dual citizenship [the U.S. and Germany] and traveled often before settling down in Easton, so I used to imagine I would work internationally in some capacity.

**How my research relates to today's world:** My research is on the ethical challenges of patriotism. Many are willing to sacrifice their lives for their country in military service but are not willing to sacrifice consumer habits to save the environment. What does that tell us about the role of sacrifice in politics and ethics?

**Most influential person in my life has been:** My mother, both personally as well as professionally. While doing research for a course, I asked my mom which nonviolent peace activist first came to her mind. Everyone else had said Martin Luther King Jr. or Gandhi. With no hesitation, she said Cesar Chavez. My mom's recommendation led me down a new path of inquiry into the political theory of Cesar Chavez. I now discuss comparisons between Chavez and King in my class.

**I am most curious about:** New England. Despite having lived here for a few years now, I have only recently begun to really explore. It has been fun and full of surprises, from freezing swims in some of the coldest water I had ever experienced and swatting black flies to the vast number of different ice cream stands one can sample from in the summer and cross-country skiing in the winter. Perhaps, before too long, I will actually know where the towns are that many of my students call home.

**Something new that I recently learned:** How to cook rhubarb. I love to bake but had never cooked with rhubarb. Where I live there is a huge rhubarb patch, so I have been experimenting!



## Top Picks

### NBA Draft Research Receives Attention from *The New York Times*

**WHAT'S THE BEST WAY** to build an NBA team? Is it through tanking and restocking the roster using top draft picks? Or is it more important to open up salary cap space and construct a team through free agency? These are the questions Akira Motomura seeks to answer in his research.

Motomura, the chair of the economics department and co-program director for Sport Commerce and Culture, has devoted much of his career to the field of sports economics, with a focus on professional basketball. His recent scholarship has centered around the NBA draft, where he's investigated topics like the impact of selecting international players.

In fact, his research recently caught the attention of *The New York Times*, which centered a June 2018 article around his paper about whether or not there are long-term benefits for teams selecting at the top of the draft.

Motomura's research originally focused on the economics of 17th-

century Spain. However, he notes, early on in his academic career, he recognized there were challenges when it came to continuing his work, as he would have to spend significant time overseas. Around this time, Motomura says the field of sports economics was emerging. For him, it was a natural transition.

"I've long been a sports fan, and I thought this would be an interesting subject to teach," says Motomura. "It's something I thought students would be interested in—and they have been."

Though he's written multiple papers on professional basketball, the *Times* centered a column before this year's NBA draft on Motomura's 2016 *Journal of Sports Economics* article entitled "Does It Pay to Build through the Draft in the National Basketball Association?"

In the paper—which was coauthored by former student Kelsey Roberts '13, as well as Daniel and Michael Leeds—Motomura explored the theory that

teams who pick at the top of the draft improve more than others. The results ended up being contrary to his expectations, Motomura says. Picking at the top of the draft didn't necessarily lead to success. Instead, a combination of attributes, such as making smart picks wherever a team is picking in the draft and developing talent, was more closely linked to improved performance on the court.

Motomura plans to continue researching basketball. He mentions exploring how players change their shooting habits the year before hitting free agency.

For Motomura, who spends his free time playing pickup basketball, there's no subject he'd rather research.

"There's a lot of data to work with," he says. "There is data on the team level and on an individual level. And personally, I'm a big basketball fan."

—Andrew Clarke

## Bringing Colonial History Alive



**WHEN FRIENDS** showed History Professor James Wadsworth a 325-year old ledger detailing economic activity in colonial Massachusetts, the historian knew he had a very valuable primary source for research.

As he explains, the daybook ledger proved to be "a unique window into the economic, material and social lives of the people of Weymouth at a crucial time in the development of early American culture and society."

Covering March 1692 to February 1711, the ledger was written by James Richard, a prosperous colonial farmer who tracked 5,000 economic transactions involving more than 600 individuals stretching from Charlestown to Barnstable. Passed down through the generations of a New England family, it had been stored in a pillowcase in a dusty attic before Wadsworth received it in 2005.

Appreciating what he had discovered, Wadsworth turned the ledger into a valuable annotated transcription in his book called *The World of Credit in Colonial Massachusetts: James Richard and His Daybook*, a project that took him more than a decade to complete and which involved 20 Stonehill students assisting with research and editing on the manuscript over that period.

"All of these students contributed considerable time and effort to the project and labored over James Richard's penmanship and obscure phonetic spelling," he notes.



# A Good

S I G N

**IT STARTED AS A LOVE STORY, REALLY.** A young couple—soon to be married—wanted to give their siblings a simple yet meaningful gift at their wedding but couldn't find what they were looking for in stores. So the couple decided to make personalized signs for them, spelling out their brother's and sister's last names with white paint on blocks of old wood. Then, they went on their honeymoon to St. Lucia and Antigua for two weeks and turned off their phones.

*Melanie (Malone) O'Neil '99 and her husband, Brian, are letting an unexpected passion take them on a journey.* **BY KIM LAWRENCE**



“When we came back, we had all these messages from our wedding guests wondering if we could make them signs,” recalls Melanie (Malone) O’Neil ’99. At the time, Melanie and her husband, Brian, were installing reclaimed wood floors in their Millis home. “We took the leftover wood and started painting.”

It was a fun hobby. Along with what was quickly becoming their signature block-letter style, the couple also started painting American flags on wood slats, an idea that grew out of a gift that Melanie had made for her dad. Everything they created was in their favored rustic farmhouse style.

The newlyweds could have just left it at that and continued as planned in their new home, with their satisfying and secure jobs—Melanie, who had worked in global marketing at Reebok for a number of years had recently begun working for various startups while Brian worked in sales for a natural pet food company. But, instead, they decided to do something their friends and family thought was crazy—take a chance and follow what was quickly becoming an unexpected passion.

## GROWING UP,

Melanie didn’t have a natural interest in art or design. Actually, she wanted to be a dentist until her father told her to look in his mouth. “Then I realized that this is not for me,” she says.

### Introducing Rustic Marlin

The popularity of their signs continued to grow merely by word of mouth. A few months after their 2012 wedding, Melanie and Brian turned their hobby into a business and named it Rustic Marlin—coupling their choice aesthetic with Brian’s love of fishing (and a nod to the marlin he once caught)—and headed off to the Cohasset Farmers Market to test appeal. “If we sold \$500 worth of merchandise, we felt successful,” Melanie says of their weekends setting up a stand and selling to the public.

Their first major order came from Setting the Space, a home staging company with retail locations in Plymouth and Mashpee. “My sister-in-law was shopping there and saw a wooden American flag, but it was made in China. She told the shop owner that the store should sell flags from a local business and shared our website,” says Melanie. Setting the Space ordered \$3,000 worth of merchandise and became Rustic Marlin’s first real account.

“We were working out of our living room and garage,” Melanie recalls of those early days. “We had friends and

family come over to help us paint, and we paid them in pizza and beer.”

In 2013, Brian started working at the business full time. Melanie followed a year later, after Rustic Marlin had been featured on WCVB Channel 5’s *Chronicle*, leading to a surge in business. But she wasn’t entirely sure that she was making the right move. “It was an extreme risk to leave a full-time job, salary and benefits to do this,” she says. And although she doesn’t consider herself a natural risk taker, she admits, “I’ve always tried my best, pushed limits and have wanted to take things to the next level. But when you do something like this, it is sort of like jumping out of a plane without a parachute. I thought, ‘What am I getting myself into?’”

What the couple was getting into was major growth. By 2016, Rustic Marlin had sold over \$1 million worth of merchandise from their home, quickly outgrowing what Melanie and Brian’s garage and yard could hold. In August of that year, the company moved into a 50,000-square-foot headquarters in Hanover, with space for a wood shop, design and art, finishing, shipping, research and development, sales and marketing, as well as a showroom.

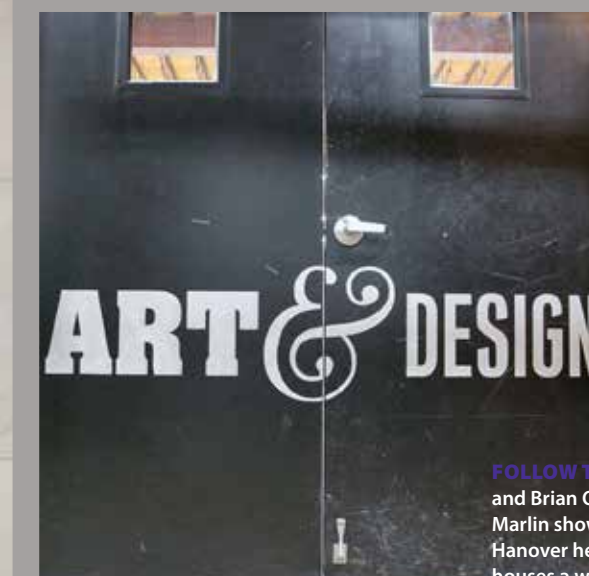
With the new location came more business. Rustic Marlin now makes custom signs for L.L. Bean, Stonewall Kitchen, Life is Good and Black Dog. Last year, they acquired the official licenses to create premium sports décor for the NFL and the NHL and this year, they will have the NCAA license. That’s a big deal for the relatively small business, as each of these leagues gives only one official license to a home décor business. Rustic Marlin merchandise is also sold at retail locations throughout the country, such as The Paper Store.

With a total of 60 employees and a catalog of more than 6,000 products, Rustic Marlin now has sales reps who sell to all 50 states. This past spring, the company experienced a record-breaking number of orders, and in August, it was ranked 366 overall among *Inc. 5000’s Fastest Growing Companies in America* as well as the number one fastest growing consumer products company in Massachusetts.

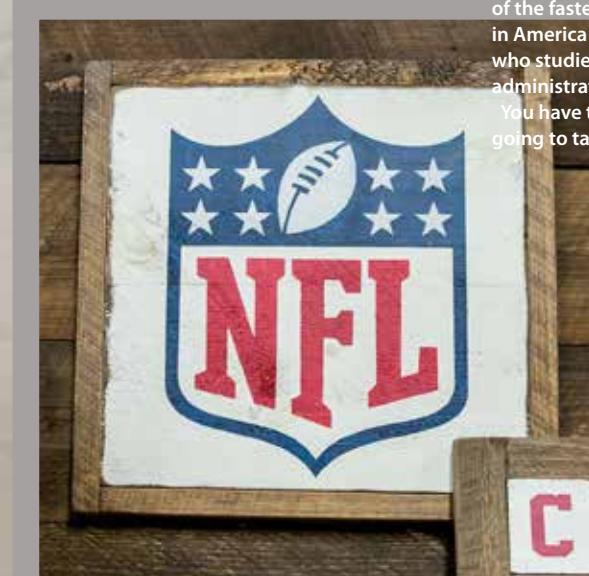
### Learning to Learn

“We never said that we were going to be a sign company,” Melanie reflects. And nothing in her life pointed in this direction. Growing up, Melanie didn’t have a natural interest in art or design. Actually, she wanted to be a dentist until her father told her to look in his mouth. “Then I realized that this is not for me,” she says.

At Stonehill, she changed her major often, ultimately settling on Spanish. During her senior year, she decided to tack on a business minor, and with the guidance of Business Administration Professors Robert Carver and William Burke, she even completed an internship. “I believe you go to college to learn how to learn. You learn how to show up, learn how to tackle projects, work as a team, work independently, learn how to live with someone. Then you take that all with you,” Melanie says.



**FOLLOW THE SIGN** Melanie ’99 and Brian O’Neil [right] in the Rustic Marlin showroom at the company’s Hanover headquarters, which houses a wood shop, design and art, finishing, shipping and sales. The sign company was named one of the fastest growing companies in America by *Inc. 5000*. Melanie, who studied Spanish and business administration as a student, says, “You have to put this first if you are going to take a risk of this size.”





## The Stonehill and Rustic Marlin Connection

**MELANIE RECALLS** going to Stonehill’s career services department during her senior year—before the days of online job searching—and looking through “those big binders” for interview opportunities. It worked. She was offered jobs right after graduating. She is now giving back to her alma mater.

Revisiting the College’s Career Development Center via Handshake, its online job posting site, and the Stonehill Connect Mentoring Database, Melanie has hired Stonehill interns to work at Rustic Marlin in several departments. Kate Stallings ’17 was one of those interns.

During the summer before her junior year, Stallings worked as a marketing intern, helping to develop Rustic Marlin’s marketing and social media plan. Stallings, who now runs her own Web development and management company, Kate Creative Media LLC, notes, “I always had the idea of starting my own company. Interning at Rustic Marlin gave me a unique perspective on not only the reality of being entrepreneurial, but also on how to be successful at something you love.”

Nearly two years ago, Melanie hired Maureen (Dannemann) Burns ’94 [pictured above with Melanie] as the director of sales and marketing operations—or as Melanie jokingly refers to as the “director of everything.”

While the two didn’t connect initially through Stonehill, they have since further bonded through their shared Stonehill experience. “We have definitely talked about our different courses and professors and the buildings—where she lived on campus versus where I lived on campus. We still bring up our times at Stonehill. Those four years are really formative, so it shapes who you become as a person. It’s a camaraderie,” says Burns.

Rustic Marlin is also listed on the Stonehill Alumni Association’s Purple Door Network so that alumni can connect with the company.

Actually, one of Melanie’s first employees, from when Rustic Marlin was still in her Millis home, was then-16-year-old Emily Maltinsky, a current Stonehill senior. “Mel always raved about her years at Stonehill and how much she genuinely loved the school. Her love and appreciation for Stonehill inspired me to apply and ultimately attend the College,” recalls Maltinsky.

Mentoring Stonehill students is important to Melanie. “Stonehill provided me with the foundation to take my career down quite an unexpected path,” she says. “I love when I have Stonehill interns to chat with or when our high school interns decide to go to Stonehill. It is such a wonderful way to give back and guide students who experience what I once did with the same awe and excitement.”

This ability to learn how to learn may be one of Melanie’s most valuable attributes in business. She admits that she and Brian don’t necessarily know how to make a wooden home décor business successful—they’ve never done this before. “I’m always asking questions. We go to trade shows and spend a lot of time talking to people who have lived and breathed what we are doing. Where do they buy their boxes? What bank do they use? We are always learning,” she says.

As for her entrepreneurial spirit, she credits Professors Carver and Burke for believing in her. “They created an internship for me and believed in a student who was changing minors her senior year,” she recalls. “Stonehill allows you to get to know your professors, and they are willing to give advice and lend a hand. It is similar to your family life in that way.”

This type of culture is one that she is working to establish at Rustic Marlin. “I look for employees who are teachable and passionate,” she says. Honest, too. At Stonehill, she felt that she could be honest with her professors, telling them when she was struggling or needed extra help. “That is the atmosphere I hope we are building at Rustic Marlin, where an employee can come to me with an issue and ideas for solving it.”

### Gift Giving

Staying true to its roots, all of Rustic Marlin’s signs are still handcrafted and painted. With the exception of machinery to help with woodcutting, there is no mass production. “That is what makes us unique. That’s our story,” Melanie says.

While Melanie runs the day-to-day operations now, she still sometimes gets sawdust-covered in the wood shop, which is staffed with expert woodworkers. “They don’t really want me in there, let’s be real. But I’ll come in and help out if there are a lot of orders, and we are short staffed.”

Melanie understands the need to stay relevant in an evolving industry. Rustic Marlin started just before the rise of Chip and Joanna Gaines—HGTV’s popular *Fixer Upper* couple, credited with launching the appeal of modern farmhouse style. “Farmhouse is trending a lot right now,” notes Melanie. “We work to stay on top of it. Things like: Do people want more white than traditional rustic?” The company has an entire team that watches for trends and brainstorms new design approaches such as incorporating script fonts, metallic colors or rose gold, which seems to be everywhere these days. They have also branched out beyond signs to bottle openers, wine racks, trays, coasters and shelving units and are heading in the direction of restaurant and office design.

“We are constantly assessing where we see the company going and how we want to grow,” she says. “But it is also important to us to stay true to who we are.” And this means remembering that almost all of their products started out as gifts: the block letters for their siblings, the flag for Melanie’s dad, the growth charts for their nieces and nephews. “That is very meaningful to us. When we hear stories of how our customers are giving Rustic Marlin signs as gifts—for teachers,

at weddings and baby showers, in sympathy—that is when Brian and I really see the impact that the company is making.”

### Eat, Sleep, Breathe Sawdust

It’s been a while since Melanie has had a day off. “My friends tell me that they’re doing yard work or going to Target on a weekend, and I think, ‘One day, I’ll be able to do that kind of stuff again.’” She admits that she and Brian often turn to each other and ask, “Are we crazy?” They work day and night and have made numerous sacrifices to ensure that the business is sustainable. “It’s not just us in our garage anymore. We have employees, and this is their livelihood. They have families,” says Melanie. “I’m more concerned about them than I am about myself.”

### AS FOR HER

entrepreneurial spirit, Melanie credits Professors Carver and Burke for believing in her. “They created an internship for me and believed in a student who was changing minors her senior year,” she recalls.

There is a joke at Rustic Marlin: Eat, breathe, sleep sawdust. It is a lot of work to start a business from the ground up. Melanie notes, “You have to put this first if you are going to take a risk of this size.” And you have to keep your eye on the ball—a catchphrase that Melanie’s dad often said to her growing up. As she says, “It is true for softball but also for life.” Fittingly, Melanie made an “Eye on the Ball” sign and gave it to her dad for his birthday.

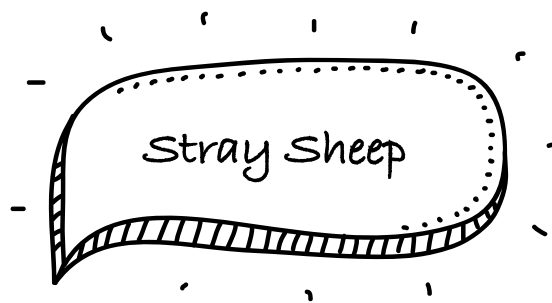
No matter how many hours she’s at work, Melanie makes her own family and friends a priority. She is particularly close with her young nieces and nephews, who are often featured on the company’s Instagram feed and who like to “play Rustic Marlin” at home. She is also committed to her Stonehill friends. “I can honestly say that if I needed Melanie right now, she would drop everything and be here immediately,” says Catherine Kearney ’99, who met Melanie her freshman year and then lived together in a townhouse, forming a group of friends they refer to as the Amesbury girls. “She will drive two hours in the middle of the week just to meet up with us,” says Kearney.

And when Melanie and Brian, who celebrated their sixth anniversary in September, do eventually have that day off, what will Melanie do? “Spend time with my mom. And Brian and I will probably go fishing.”

# Telling Stories

**T**HERE ARE STORIES TO TELL ABOUT STONEHILL. A lot of them. Just ask any of the alumni who return to campus for their 50th Reunions and participate in the oral history activity. You'll hear all sorts of stories about commuting to campus, wearing a shirt and tie to class, trying to pass math class, drinking bad coffee and professors who changed lives. You'll hear hilarious stories about pranks, hijinks and skipping class and reflective stories about what campus was like during the Cuban Missile Crisis and the day President John F. Kennedy was shot.

BY KIM LAWRENCE, NICOLE (TOURANGEAU) CASPER '95 AND JONATHAN GREEN '10



Daniel Kulick '53

ONE OF MY MOST remembered memories of Stonehill is when I was a member of the basketball team, and we used to practice at the building which is currently called Alumni Hall. Most of the fellas on the basketball team lived in Stoughton in a house that was owned by one of the player's parents. On this given day, we got out of practice late. It was dark out, we were tired, and we were hungry. We decided



that we would take the one-way road [Rhododendron Drive, left]—in the wrong direction—to make a shortcut to get off campus and get over to Stoughton.

The road is a very serpentine-type road that goes out to Route 138, probably for a good half-mile. We jumped in the car and started to travel down the road. We kind of knew that Fr. [Francis] Boland, who was the president, used to go into North Easton to pick up the paper at about 5:30 at night, but we said, "We have a couple of minutes before he's going to be coming back from picking up his paper. If we hurry up and get out of here, we'll hit that entrance before he does."

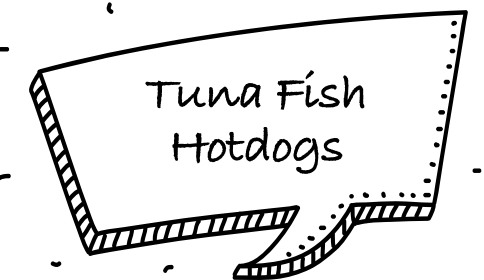
We drove down the road [in the wrong direction]. We got to the very, very end, and we said, "Oh we got it made." However, Fr. Boland had one of these big black cars, and all of a sudden, we saw this big black car turn into the driveway with his headlights on. We're probably about five feet away from making it out to Route 138.

He started to flash his lights on and off. And I said, "Oh God, we're in trouble." He tooted his horn and waved and said, "Come here, I want to talk to you." I got out of the car, walked over, wondering what's going to happen. The first thing he said was, "Well, well, well, it looks like some of my sheep have strayed from the flock. They've strayed away, and they've got lost. Just where do you think you're going?" We began, "Well, we were using this road." And he says, "What I want you to do is get back in the car, and I want you to back it up [back down the road]—all the way."

**THESE DAYS**, we often tell the important story of how Stonehill continues to grow and develop. Through our oral histories, however, we preserve and honor the stories of our past—the ones in which we are rooted. Here, SAM shares a few of our oral histories. They have been edited for length and clarity, but their conversational tone remains.

And we backed [the car] up all the way, and while we're backing it up all the way, he's, of course, following us in with his lights on, making sure that we went back all the way to the parking lot.

Needless to say, from that night on, we never took another chance at going out the wrong way.



Robert McAloon '53

A HUMOROUS LITTLE side story on the cafeteria [located at that time in the basement of Donahue Hall, below]. It was about as basic a cafeteria as you could find. We wanted something different, but it was Lent, and at that time, there wasn't much you could do with Lent. It was a Friday, and Brother Sergius [Rogan, C.S.C.] was in charge. He wanted to come up with something different. We decided on tuna fish hotdogs. Tuna fish hotdogs! So we bought the tuna fish hotdogs, and we couldn't give them away. None of these Irish Catholics would [eat them]. Their mothers would kill them if they thought they were eating a hotdog on a Friday during Lent. We couldn't get them to eat them. They wouldn't.



# And other stories ...

## Ladies Room

**Luice Moncey '53**

*Moncey, below, was the first woman to graduate from Stonehill. She entered the school in September 1951 as a transfer student, during her junior year.*



I WAS AT THE University of Massachusetts studying French, and I realized that there were many students there that had been to French parochial schools. I did not have that background, and I thought I would never make it as an interpreter at the United Nations. I decided to leave.

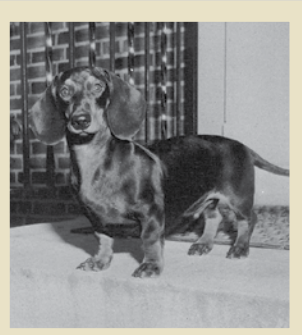
My mother said there was a small little article in the *Brockton Enterprise* that said Stonehill is going coed. I came over in the evening. Fr. John Lucey, C.S.C. [College dean] was in that little room right off to the right

in Donahue Hall, which is now the ladies room, and he interviewed me. When my mother dropped me off at the front door, I thought, "I have never been in such a peaceful, beautiful place." It has remained that all my life. I fell in love with it, and I didn't want to go anywhere else.

## walking with a Dachshund

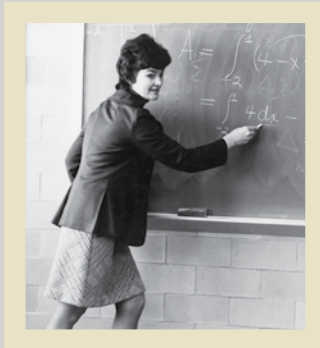
**Margaret Griffin '64**

FR. [THOMAS] LOCKARY, C.S.C. [professor of mathematics and physics] and his dachshund [right]. I think what he brought to many of us—especially the three of us who ended up going off to the Peace Corps to different continents—he brought the social conscience. I remember walking with him and the dog, and him talking about civil rights and world affairs and people's responsibilities. He taught physics. But he also taught social justice, in ways that were very important.



## Slack-ing

**Paula (Belinkewicz) Cannon '66**



THE GIRLS USED TO have to wear skirts. I remember coming to the library on a Saturday wearing slacks. I didn't own a pair of jeans until 20 years later maybe. The female math teacher, Mrs. [Louise] Hegarty [left], she came to help us that Saturday and wore slacks. It was the first

time in my entire education that I had seen a female teacher wearing pants. It was an absolute shock.

## Beatles-Mania

**Mark Wong '67**

I THINK THE DORM experience was unique—because we ate together; we socialized together; we studied together. There were many an evening where we would just be together, exchange stories, learn about one another. And we came from many diverse backgrounds. The opportunities for bonding were spectacular. We listened to music together. When the Beatles first came out with their music, I can remember very vividly, we all got together in a particular room and listened to the Beatles music, and we were all enthralled.

## Silence

**Robert Gaffney '67**

WHEN THE PRESIDENT [John F. Kennedy] was assassinated, we were notified by one of our classmates. We all went over there [to the cafeteria] and assembled. There was a tiny, little portable radio on one of the tables, and you could hear a pin drop. And the contrast of the way [it was usually in] that Spa—we called it the Spa, the Student Union [above]—was so great that it was something that remained in my memory. Just the contrast of dead silence.



## Spoon-In

**Brian Murphy '68**

THEY WERE GOING to build the towne houses in front of the pond. And they put a huge mound of [construction] dirt in, getting ready to do it, but nobody wanted them to ruin the view as they looked down the hill. So people brought spoons [from the caf] and used them to remove some of the dirt from the construction site. And they changed [plans]; they moved the towne houses over [Summit article, below].



### RECALLING CAMPUS LINGO

*"Who remembers what the commuters were called?"*

asks Eleanor (Collins) Vacchina '68 during an oral history session.

*"Four o'clock flyers!"*

responds Thomas Keating '68.

EACH YEAR at Reunion in June, the College's Archives and Special Collections Department conducts and records oral histories with the alumni who are celebrating their 50th Reunion. These stories and personal remembrances then become a part of the College archives.

"Archives are full of official records like publications, correspondence and reports, but they do not often tell the personal side of the college experience.

Because Stonehill is so young, we have had the unique opportunity to interview students who were a part of the College's early years and record their stories, which supplements and enhances the written record," notes Director of Archives Nicole (Tourangeau) Casper '95. "It's important to hear these stories from our alumni who were here during Stonehill's early years. At each oral history session, we hear something new that we didn't know before."

While oral histories can be tricky, given the fallibility of memory, Archives has found that engaging in the oral history process energizes alumni. One person may recall a particular event that then triggers another person's reminiscence that inspires dialogue.

Assistant Archivist Jonathan Green '10 notes, "This is perhaps the oral history's most prevailing byproduct—providing a welcoming venue in which the emotive power of memory and dialogue reveals moments that escaped the semi-permanence of ink and paper, light and film. To an extent, these oral histories bring alumni closer through the simple process of reminiscing."



# One Gift Sparks a Lifetime of Giving

*Stonehill helped a struggling student. Remembering that act of kindness, an alumni couple gives back.*



**T**HE THOMAS AND DONNA MAY SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES is the newest building on campus, located on the site of the Old Student Union on the main quad. A hit with students, faculty and visitors, it has been buzzing with activity since it opened in August.

BY MARTIN MCGOVERN

The \$19 million building is home to technology-driven classrooms, collaborative work spaces and a world-class lecture hall. With the Admission Welcome Center located on its west side, the building is now the first stop for greeting potential students and their families before they tour campus.

To appreciate why the school—which brings together both academic excellence and a place of welcoming—bears the name of Thomas '69 and Donna (Jermyn) '70 May [right], we can step back 50 years, to when Tom was midway through his studies at Stonehill.

At the top of his class but running out of money, he was on the verge of dropping out. An unexpected intervention, however, saved the day for him, and he went on to successfully complete his business administration degree on schedule.

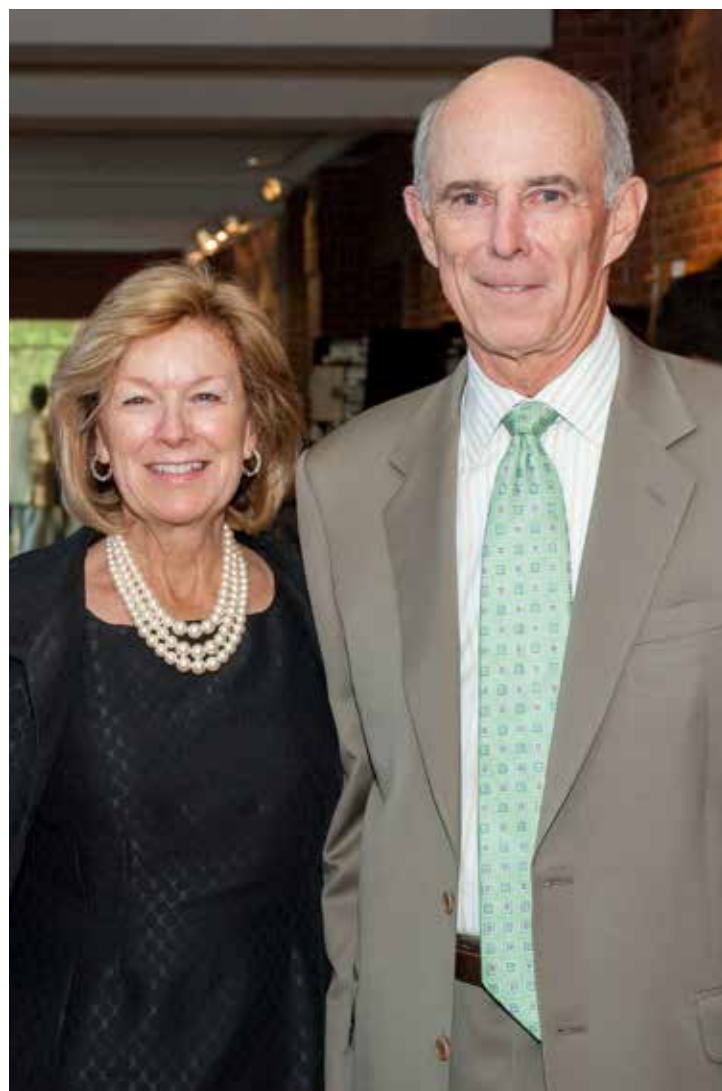
### Timely Compassion

To this day, May, who chairs the College's Board of Trustees, still recalls the interest that the late Rev. William "Bill" Gartland, C.S.C. and other Holy Cross priests on campus took in his situation and their timely compassion towards him.

"With Fr. Bill leading the charge, they found the funds to keep me going. I've never forgotten that and will always remain grateful for the support the College gave me at such a critical time in my life," explains May, whose family struggled financially after the death of his father in 1961, four years before he entered Stonehill.

May worked in the accounting department at nearby Cardinal Cushing Hospital throughout his time at Stonehill. He explains that if it wasn't for Stonehill helping him out, he wouldn't have been able to continue his education or be as successful as he has been in his career.

Known today as one of Boston's most influential business leaders, May began his career working for Coopers & Lybrand. One of his clients, Boston Edison, recruited him to lead its financial management department, and from there, he



**"It's a privilege to be able to give back, help the next generation and provide students with the same kind of opportunity and support that I received."** *Thomas May '69*

### Features of the May School

Following in the campus tradition, the architecture of the 35,520 square foot building is Georgian Colonial.

#### FIRST FLOOR

- ❖ Lobby
- ❖ Two Classrooms (30 seats)
- ❖ Admission Welcome Center
- ❖ Presentation Room (60 seats)
- ❖ Auditorium (365 seats)
- ❖ Skyhawk Shop
- ❖ Au Bon Pain Café
- ❖ Mechanical Spaces
- ❖ Catering Space

#### SECOND FLOOR

- ❖ Two Classrooms (30 seats)
- ❖ Three Seminar-Style Classrooms (18–20 seats)
- ❖ Office of the Dean of the School of Arts & Sciences
- ❖ Faculty Offices for History, Philosophy and Religious Studies
- ❖ Faculty Workroom
- ❖ Kitchenette
- ❖ Breakout Spaces Throughout



worked his way up to becoming the CEO. Through a series of mergers, the company became NSTAR and then Eversource Energy in 2012. After 22 years of leading the utility, May stepped down as CEO in 2016 and today, he serves as chairman emeritus of Eversource.

**EXTRA SPACE** The Skyhawk Shop—an extension of the College's bookstore—sells Stonehill merchandise [left, top]. The new building also features plenty of study spaces [left, below] as well as modern classrooms [above, top]. Dean of Arts and Sciences Peter Ubertaccio advises Rachel Riani '19 in his office on the second floor of the building.

### Privilege to Give Back

"Given the foundation for life I got at Stonehill, both professionally and personally, it's a privilege to be able to give back, help the next generation and provide students with the same kind of opportunity and support that I received," says May, whose wife, Donna, is equally supportive of the College.

An English major when she met Tom, Donna says, "Stonehill was such a wonderful place to go to college. Everyone was so caring, as is evident in Tom's experience."

Over half a century, the Mays have found numerous ways of helping and giving back to their alma mater. Long before Tom became a trustee in 1993, he and Donna were active, engaged alumni, serving as class agents, helping with reunions or volunteering for the alumni auction.

“As an alumni couple, Tom holds a business administration degree while Donna has a liberal arts one, which is representative of where the College is today since our recent reorganization into two schools. Over 50 years, they have always put their treasure where their hearts are,” notes President John Denning, C.S.C. “Regular visitors to campus, they are the first alumni to make a \$1 million gift to the College and have continuously and generously contributed to scholarships, building projects and academic initiatives.”

### Stellar Leadership

In 2007, Tom became chair of the Board of Trustees at Stonehill, and in the intervening 11 years, he has guided the College through the 2008 recession, which hit colleges hard, a fundraising campaign that raised just under \$60 million and a major expansion in campus facilities.

“As chairman, Tom provides stellar leadership, all the while challenging us to set ambitious goals but then working diligently with us to reach them. He insists that we think ahead, anticipate change and prepare fully for it. At all times, he is gracious with his advice and counsel,” says Francis X. Dillon '70, vice president for advancement.

“Finding a way to thank both Tom and Donna for the many ways in which their partnership has helped the College, I thought the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences would be an ideal way to pay tribute to them,” says Fr. Denning. The Board of Trustees approved his naming recommendation at its September meeting.

### Points of Pride

For Tom and Donna watching the College grow in stature is a point of pride.

“We entered Stonehill when it was less than 20 years old and still under-resourced. The campus we visit today represents such a transformation from those early days, as the College now is more confident and much stronger academically and financially,” says Tom. “To have had the opportunity to help with that transformation has been something Donna and I have wanted to do and have enjoyed doing. We feel incredibly honored and so excited to have the School of Arts & Sciences named for us.”

Donna further reflects upon the relationship between their experience as students and the building’s purpose.

“As students, we got an outstanding education, albeit in different fields, within a welcoming, supportive environment at Stonehill,” she says. “Having the School of Arts & Sciences named after us is a beautiful reminder of how that same combination remains integral to the ethos at the College. When we visited the building in early September, we were touched by the kindness of so many students and faculty who stopped to say hello to us. We really could never have imagined this when we were students.”

**A TRIBUTE** As students, Thomas '69 and Donna (Jermyn) '70 May [above] never imagined that the School of Arts & Sciences would be named in their honor. The Georgian architecture follows Stonehill tradition.



### André's Welcome

The first member of the Congregation of Holy Cross to become a Catholic saint, Brother André Bessette (1845-1937) was a humble porter and miracle worker who welcomed all who visited Notre Dame College in Montreal. A statue of André, given as a gift by the Congregation, now graces the Thomas and Donna May School of Arts & Sciences building. It stands as a symbol of the new building’s spirit of welcome for all who visit, work or study there. In making the gift, each Holy Cross priest at the College wrote a prayer of petition for the Stonehill community, and the prayers are housed within the statue.

## Alumni Community

### VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Three Young Alumni Mentors

**TODAY, TRACA RAFFERTY '10** is settled in Los Angeles, working as the social media and marketing manager of the Oprah Winfrey Network [top].

But the Maine native and former communications major remembers all too well how hard it was when she first landed in L.A. seven years ago to work at the E! Network, “not knowing anyone, really, or the town at all.”

Rafferty now mentors current students “to give back,” she says. “Because Stonehill gave so much to me.”

“Coming from the East Coast, I know how hard it can be to break into the entertainment industry,” says Rafferty, who has mentored Stonehill students and alumni during brain-picking coffee dates and dinners, phone calls and office tours. “I make introductions and pass along résumés if I can,” she says.

**“I realized I wanted to be the person people could bounce questions off of—I’d love to be that person.”** — Traca Rafferty '10

A few years ago, over coffee with a Stonehill junior she was mentoring, Rafferty had an aha! moment. “I had the most surreal flashback to my own experience of moving to L.A. I wish that I’d had someone to ask even the littlest questions,” Rafferty recalls. “I realized I wanted to be the person people could bounce questions off of—I’d love to be that person.”

**Timothy Culverhouse '14**, an assistant site editor at Newton-based TechTarget, also says mentoring Stonehill students is his way of giving back to the community that “helped me become the person I am today” [middle].

“I can remember being in their shoes not so long ago,” recalls Culverhouse, a mediated communication major. “I try to be as honest as possible and to let them know I’d be happy to help them in their job search in any way I can.”

As a student, he found that talking with alumni about their career experiences as well as discovering how they landed their positions and what their day-to-day lives looked like was really important to him. “There are things you don’t learn in the classroom,” he says.

Aside from taking student phone calls and responding to emails, Culverhouse discussed his experience with students at a Liberal Arts Networking Event on campus last year. He also serves as chair of the WSHL Alumni Board, overseeing alumni involvement with the College’s radio station.

**Katelyn Kelly '09**, who serves as chief of staff to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, House Committee on Post Audit and Oversight, says she volunteers to help Stonehill students “as often as they ask me” [bottom].

Kelly meets with students and alumni at the State House and connects with them through phone calls and emails. She helps with résumés and conducts mock job interviews as well.

The political science major has also spoken to students on campus about her career path, careers in public policy and working for the state. Kelly, who is teaching an American Government and Politics course as an adjunct professor at Stonehill this semester, says she’s not only happy to mentor, but she also sees it as her duty.

“I believe in the mission of the College to lead with courage towards a more compassionate world,” Kelly says. “And this often means reaching out to those who may be following in your footsteps.” —Lauren Daley '05



**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT** mentoring, visit Stonehill Connect at [stonehillalumni.org](http://stonehillalumni.org).





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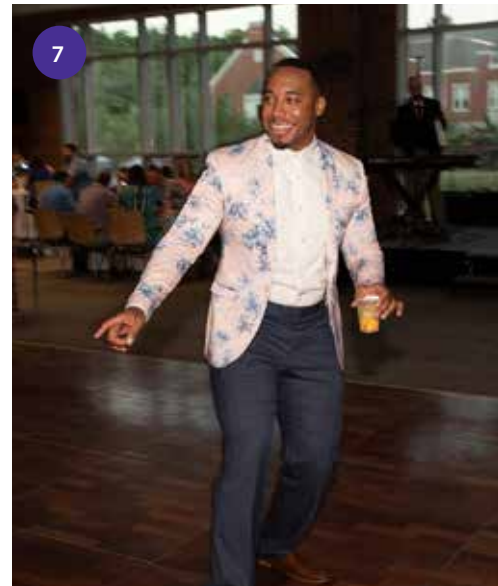
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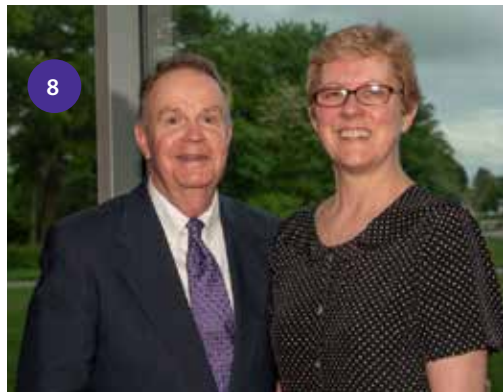
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## Reunion 2018

**IN JUNE**, more than 900 alumni made campus their home for the weekend—attending class receptions, exploring new buildings, practicing yoga, enjoying a family barbecue, praying, dining, dancing and remembering deceased classmates. Of course, there was endless catching up and reminiscing.



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### Gather and Celebrate

- 1 | **Edward Nordberg '52** snaps a photo at the Pillar Society Luncheon.
- 2 | **Saturday morning yoga** on the hill—a relaxing way to start the day.
- 3 | **Lauren (Bombardier) and Kyle Weeks'** [second and third from right] golden retriever, Nugget, gets some love from their fellow 2013 classmates.
- 4 | **Michelle (Risatti) Ryan '93** and **Grace (DaSilva) Linhard '93** display their ACRES yearbook photo buttons.
- 5 | **James Duane '68** poses with his wife, Lisa, at the Pillar Society Induction Ceremony.
- 6 | **Brian '03 and Suzanne (Bade)'03** Fetky and their children, Blake and Lila, enjoy the family barbecue.
- 7 | **Jareed Gaines '13** dances the night away at the Reunion Celebration Gala.
- 8 | **Brian Murphy '68** and his wife, **Katharine (McLellan) Murphy '85**, return to campus for the Pillar Society Induction Ceremony.
- 9 | **Members of the Class of 2013** gather around at the Courts.
- 10 | **Jennifer (Moura) Silva** and **Christopher Canning** open up their class's time capsule at the 1993 reception.



## Alumni Intentions

**THE DEATH OF A FRIEND** from college can be a difficult loss for alumni. In grieving for their former roommate or classmate, alumni often feel the pull of campus, a desire to be back where a great friendship was formed and to remember it with prayer.

One way in which Alumni Chaplain Rev. Anthony Szakaly, C.S.C. provides for that spiritual need is with the Monthly Mass for Alumni Intentions in Our Lady of Sorrows Chapel, located in Donahue Hall [top], at 8 a.m. on the third Thursday of every month.

When the Alumni Office learns about alumni deaths, they contact the family of the deceased and alert their classmates, and at the next Monthly Mass of Alumni Intentions, Fr. Szakaly prays for those who have passed. In August, for example, he remembered eight recently deceased alumni as well as four deceased relatives of alumni. Those who live locally are always welcome to attend the Monthly Masses.

### Linked with History

"We have a beautiful chapel in the College's defining building. As a location for our Monthly Mass for Alumni Intentions, we could not ask for better, as it is linked so closely with our history. For alums, being there is akin to being home," notes Fr. Szakaly.

Over the years, Our Lady of Sorrows Chapel has undergone renovations to make it a brighter and more welcoming place for spiritual reflection and for celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

### Prayer Request

With Thanksgiving approaching, another option available to alumni who want to remember a deceased classmate or

loved one, or for those who want to request prayers for themselves or for others dealing with life challenges, is to submit a prayer request to Fr. Szakaly.

When he celebrates the annual Alumni Mass of Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 18 at 7 p.m. in the Chapel of Mary, Fr. Szakaly will pray for those intentions at the Mass. If you live locally or will be visiting the area, you are welcome to attend the Mass.

Every year, close to 1,000 alumni send intention cards to be prayed over at the Mass. Intention request cards will be mailed to all alumni but if you have misplaced your card or need another one, email alumni@stonehill.edu.

### Every year, close to 1,000 alumni send intention cards to be prayed over at the Alumni Mass of Thanksgiving.

### Christmas Events

One of the highlights of the year for children and grandchildren of alumni is the Alumni Council Programming Committee-sponsored Children's Christmas Concert [middle], which is followed by a visit from Santa Claus. For more on this year's event, which will be held on Saturday, December 1 at 2 p.m., visit stonehillalumni.org/childrenschristmas2018.

Another popular Christmas tradition at Stonehill is the Gift Wrap Party, sponsored by the Alumni Council Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Committee, which will be held on Friday, November 30 in Donahue Hall at 6:30 p.m. Alumni volunteers, along with their families, gather to collect and wrap presents [bottom] for children in need. All are welcome. For details, visit stonehillalumni.org/giftwrap2018.

For information about any of these events, email alumni@stonehill.edu.



## Class Notes

### 1959

**David Pomfret** received the Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award from Marquis Who's Who, the world's premier publisher of biographical profiles. A retired medical internist, cardiologist and medical educator of more than 30 years, Pomfret received a silver medal in medicine and a gold medal in surgery from the University College Dublin School of Medicine in 1964 as well as the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Stonehill in 2003.

### 1970

**William Alberti Jr.** was a featured guest at a Holmes Public Library event in celebration of National Poetry Month this past April in Halifax. The author of five published chapbooks of poetry, Alberti has had his poems published in various newspapers and journals.

### 1973

**Mary Beth (Barker) Cooney** is the executive director of Creative Comfort Pet Therapy, whose certified teams of owners and their pets provide comfort and healing to thousands of people in facilities in eight northern New Jersey counties.

### 1975

**Mark Lague**, the director of the Canton Public Library, retired in August after guiding every aspect of the library over his 40-year career.

### 1976

**Jean O'Loughlin** is serving in the Peace Corps for the second time in her life, teaching secondary school English in Amhara, Ethiopia, with her husband. Her first Peace Corps mission was in 1977 in Zaire, Central Africa.

### 1980

**James Fitzgerald** was promoted to president of VERC Enterprises, a

family-owned convenience store, car wash and Mobil/Gulf gasoline operator with locations throughout Eastern Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Fitzgerald has been with the company for 22 years and most recently served as the company's vice president and CEO. He is the first non-family member to serve as its president.

**James Miller** was named North America property chief underwriting officer for the global insurance organization American International Group, Inc. (AIG). He previously worked as the managing director for Swiss Re, a wholesale provider of reinsurance, insurance and other insurance-based forms of risk transfer.

### 1981

**Donna (Cercone) Glynn** was elected president of the American Nurses Association Massachusetts. She is an associate dean at Regis College in Weston and also a nurse scientist with the VA Boston Health Care System.

### 1982

**Paul Falvey** was named director of healthcare services practice for Danforth Advisors in Somerville, which specializes in accounting, finance support, strategy for life science companies and now healthcare services. Falvey has worked in the healthcare industry for 30 years and will continue to serve as CFO of PhysicianOne Urgent Care for which he was named CFO of the Year by the *Hartford Business Journal*.

**Robert Poucel** was promoted to executive vice president and general manager of Broadcast Pix, a live video production integration company. He previously served as its director of support.

**Alan Schumann Jr.** was named senior vice president of operations for Hartford Credit Union. He joined the company in August 2017 as its vice president for lending and compliance.

### 1984

**Karen (Grady) Buckley** is a state/national sales representative at the



## Writing on War

**IN A CORNER** of the dining room in his Needham home, **Thomas Keating '68** has a writing nook where he conjures up the horror, the wonder, the sadness and the hopes of his younger self in a memoir about the Vietnam War. "The world changed, and I changed," says Keating.

Keating joined Holy Cross Seminary and Stonehill in 1963 and left both in 1968. "When I left the seminary, I had no intention of returning," he recalls.

After graduation, Keating enlisted to fulfill his military duty. When he arrived in Vietnam, the personnel clerk was a Stonehill graduate. He assigned Keating a noncombat job at 1st Logistical Command. "I can't remember his name, but he saved my life. I did guard duty and perimeter sweeps but no combat," he says.

When Keating came home in 1970, he went to visit Holy Cross. "A lot of the rules we had to follow—silence, strict obedience—had been discarded," he explains. "I felt sadness seeing that way of life gone from the seminary."

When he retired from a career in education and corporate communications, Keating found the time to read through his war journals and write.

He was accepted into William Joiner Institute's master writing class at the University of Massachusetts, Boston and has completed 12 chapters of his wartime memoir. One chapter, "The Elephants (Con Voi)," about his harrowing experience in a small village in Vietnam, has already appeared in an anthology, *War Stories*, published in 2017 by Oregon Humanities.

"There are things that you will always remember and things you will always forget," says Keating.

Arriving in Vietnam, the personnel clerk was a Stonehill graduate. "He saved my life..." Keating says.



## FinTech Cool

**RALPH DANGELMAIER '88** does things “in a snap.” As CEO of BlueSnap, a leader in e-commerce that provides the software for online purchases, Dangelmaier’s goal is to provide quick, seamless and secure transactions for the more than 8,000 businesses that use BlueSnap worldwide. “You would never know we’re there because it looks like the business is processing the purchase,” explains Dangelmaier. “We’re better at accepting payments across the globe than any other e-commerce payments company.”

When Dangelmaier graduated from Stonehill, he joined a management training program at Bank of Boston. “Little did I know I was starting a career in FinTech,” says Dangelmaier, with a chuckle.

FinTech stands for financial technologies. Broadly, it’s a newer industry that uses new technology to improve activities in the delivery of financial services. FinTech companies such as BlueSnap develop innovative technologies that allow businesses to process payments on behalf of their customers.

“We bring an Amazon-type experience to the middle-market business. For example, most businesses can’t afford to build their own payment structures to compete with Amazon,” he explains. “We’re dealing with tons of innovative companies that come up with all kinds of cool apps. Whether it’s crowdfunding or new ways to order tickets or retail, we provide tool kits tailored to the goods or services they are selling.”

Dangelmaier and BlueSnap are in high demand. He speaks at more than 40 annual events and was a regional finalist for EY Entrepreneur of the Year. “FinTech is now cool,” marvels Dangelmaier, who is a member of the President’s Advisory Council at the College. “It took me 30 years to become cool.”

Valley Breeze newspaper in Cumberland, R.I.

**Daniel Flannery** has joined the Marr Companies, a New England-based construction company, as vice president of administration. He previously worked for eight years as director of finance for the construction firm Bond Brothers.

**Edward Gallivan Jr.** was named CFO at FS Credit Real Estate Income Trust, Inc. He had served as the CFO of FS Credit Income Fund since September 2017, FS Energy Total Return Fund since February 2017 and FS Energy and Power Fund since November 2012.

## 1985

**Rev. Robert Campbell, O.**

**Praem.** was appointed the priest/chaplain for Christus St. Vincent Hospital in Sante Fe, N.M. He is a Norbertine religious residing at the Abbey of Sante Maria de la Vid in Albuquerque, N.M.

**Karen (Dussault) McDonnell** was named chief human resources officer at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Ga. She previously served as senior vice president of human resources at PruittHealth.

## 1986

**Robert Rivers** received the Robert F. Kennedy Children’s Action Corps Embracing the Legacy Award for his commitment to social justice and his passionate and visionary leadership. Rivers is the chair and CEO of Eastern Bank and is a member of Stonehill’s Board of Trustees.

**Jean (Szymaniak) Reese** was named marketing specialist for Palm Realty in its Indialantic office in Florida.

**Patricia (O’Neill) Toth** has joined the board of directors at the Child Guidance Center of Southern Connecticut. She brings to the mental health services nonprofit more than a decade of executive experience as she serves as the managing director of financial and risk transformation for Thomson Reuters/Blackstone Partnership Agreement.

## 1987

**Christine (Paulo) Reilly** was named president and CEO of The Boston Home in Dorchester. She formerly served as the executive director of Spaulding Nursing and Therapy Center in West Roxbury. The Boston Home provides specialized clinical care and residential services to adults with advanced progressive neurological diseases.

## 1988

**Michael Grant** was named head baseball coach at The Morgan School in Clinton, Conn.

**Michael McCaffery** is working for the Pentagon after having served in the Army.

**Kathleen Roche** was appointed vice president of channel management at Ascensus, an independent retirement and college savings services provider. She previously served as vice president for Commonwealth Financial Network.

## 1990

**James Hines IV** was appointed business development manager for Univest Capital, an amusement and vending firm.

## 1991

**Kristyn (Butkuss) Glennon** was named vice president and BSA/AML officer at BayCoast Bank. She previously served as vice president of compliance and BSA officer for Envision Bank.

**Kyle Gendreau** was named CEO and executive director at Samsonite International, LLC.

## 1992

**David Simas**, the chief executive of the Obama Foundation in Chicago, visited his hometown of Taunton to speak at his alma mater, Coyle and Cassidy High School, this past spring. He served as a senior aide for President Obama during his tenure in the White House. Simas also delivered the Commencement address at Stonehill in May. See page 3 for an excerpt from his speech.

**Richard Welch Jr.** is the president and CEO of Spark Technologies, an IT consulting firm in Rockland.

## 1994

**Mary (Harrington) Hart** published her first book, *Some Horrific Evening*.

**Siobhan (McCarthy) Marzluft** teaches art at Kihei Elementary School in Kihei, Hawaii.

## 1995

**Christopher Butler** was inducted into Fairhaven High School’s hall of fame. Playing center on its basketball team, Butler amassed 920 career points over his three-year varsity career, averaging 18 points and 12 rebounds per game as a senior.

**Sean Giovanello** is an associate professor of political science and policy studies at Elon University in North Carolina.

## 1996

**Patrick Sullivan** was named the East Hartford Officer of the Year for 2017. During his career, he has received multiple awards, including a bravery citation, two distinguished service citations and a military service citation for his service in the U.S. Army.

## 1997

**Erica (Hart) Bryson** was promoted to chief philanthropy officer at Saint Elizabeth Community, a senior care nonprofit, in Warwick, R.I. She previously served as a senior philanthropy officer.

**Edmund Cabellon** was named vice president for student services and enrollment management at Bristol Community College. He previously spent 12 years at Bridgewater State University, most recently as director of administration, student affairs and enrollment management.

**Christine (Bounds) Cavanaugh** is a member of My Brother’s Keeper development board, which raises funds and awareness for the Easton-based Christian ministry.

## 2002

**Melissa Federico**, an attorney with Murtha Cullina LLP in Hartford, Conn., was appointed

to the executive committee of the antitrust and trade regulation section of the Connecticut Bar Association.

## 2005

**Stacey (Beavers) Forrest** was named assistant executive director of JRI Connecticut, which operates three group homes and the Susan Wayne Center of Excellence, a residential treatment center and clinical day school in Thompson, Conn.

## 2006

**Cheryl Bartlett** was honored by the Public Health Association with its Lemuel Shattuck Award, which recognizes significant contributions in the field of public health. Bartlett, who now serves as president and CEO of the Greater New Bedford Community Health Center, is the former commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

**Marquis Taylor**, cofounder and president of Coaching4Change, was the keynote speaker at a Taunton Kiwanis Club event in March.

## 2008

**Lindsay Briggs** celebrated her 10-year “lungaversary” in July, when the American Legion in Plymouth surprised her with a party in recognition of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of her receiving a double lung transplant to treat her cystic fibrosis.

**Kathryn (Sylvia) Rattigan** was appointed chair of the Massachusetts Bar Association’s health law section council. She is a member of Robinson+Cole’s business litigation group and its data privacy and cybersecurity team.

## 2009

**Frank Amato** has joined North Brookfield Savings Bank as its vice president. He previously served as a sales manager for Citizens Bank.

**Christine (Eisnor) Cabral** is an administrative assistant for Wayland Public Schools.

**Karissa (Nickerson) Koster**, a pediatric dentist, has joined ARCH



## Church and Dancing

**ON THE PULPIT**, she leads; on the dance floor, she follows. “You have to really learn to relax and follow your partner, the motion of his hands and the motion of his body,” explains retired Episcopal priest the **Reverend Billie Mae (Dickinson) Gordon '91**, who took up competitive ballroom dancing five years ago.

Ballroom dancing had long interested Gordon, but it wasn’t until the retirement community where she lived offered an introductory course that she finally found the time to kick up her heels. “Dancing is fun and therapeutic,” says Gordon, who takes weekly lessons and has danced with her instructors in competitions for four years. [She is pictured above with instructor Kemar Bennett.]

“Dancing is fun and therapeutic,” says Gordon.

And, what about the costumes? “It’s all about glitz and glamour,” says Gordon, who has rarely worn makeup or heels in her daily life. “At first, I rented gowns, and then I had some made. You have to put on fake eyelashes, eyeliner and mascara, sometimes little sparkly diamonds around your eyes. You have to wear fishnets over pantyhose.” Gordon draws the line at two-inch heels. One instructor told her that “unless you look like a streetwalker, you’re not made up enough.”

Though officially retired, Gordon serves as an interim priest for churches in the midst of searches or with clergy on sabbatical. Though she continues to take dance lessons, she is taking a break from competing.

“I’m going to be 77 in December,” says Gordon. “Someday, I’ll slow down, but right now I’m in good health and enjoy the wonderful people I meet through church and dancing.”



## Quality Control

**ARISTOTLE FAMOUSLY SAID**, “Quality is not an act, it is a habit.” **Benjamin Isiah '00** couldn't agree more. As director of compliance and quality improvement for The Providence Center Mental Health and Addiction Treatment Services, Isiah ensures that the organization strives for high quality in all that it does.

“I've been working in quality management for almost 16 years, and I've stayed in this field because our work touches every single department in an organization,” explains Isiah, who majored in healthcare administration at Stonehill. “It's an opportunity to have our eyes, ears and hands in everything.”

Isiah oversees a team of 12 people who focus on analyzing processes with the goal of streamlining for efficiency. “How do we eliminate waste to be more efficient? We look at each role. Is there an opportunity to do things in a different way? If yes, then we come up with plans for improvement,” he explains.

Much of Isiah's work involves assessing metrics and meeting requirements set by regulatory bodies and insurance companies. “We supply a lot of data that is tied to reimbursement dollars from Medicare and Medicaid,” he explains. “We also look at data for our own improvement.”

Compliance also comes into play. “We try to mitigate risks, assess all of the things that could go wrong,” he says. “We want to be proactive instead of reactive.”

In his free time, Isiah likes to play tennis and cards as well as travel and spend time with friends and family, including two nephews and a niece. When he heads to the office, his focus is always on the patient experience. “We survey patients and ask them for comments, analyze the results, improve processes, including wait times, and find ways to improve communication. We take what patients tell us and try to provide the best experience possible.”

Orthodontics in Southeastern Massachusetts.

**John Sommers Jr.** was a recipient of the 2018 Franklin Luminaire Award, which recognizes exceptional professionals for their positive contribution and service within the media and graphic communications industry. Sommers is president and CEO of Allied Printing Services in Manchester, Conn.

## 2010

**Benjamin Albert** is a senior manager for corporate partnerships at Plan International in Washington, D.C., an independent development and humanitarian organization that works in 71 countries across the world to advance children's rights and equality for girls.

**Deirdre Murphy** is the first head girls' rugby coach at Weymouth High School.

**Alexandra Strangis** was promoted to home care program manager at Old Colony Elder Services in Plymouth. She formerly served as a home care program lead supervisor.

## 2012

**Timothy Connors** earned a master's degree in English composition from the University of Massachusetts, Boston in 2016 and began teaching English at UMass. He went on to earn his certificate to teach English as a second language and is now part of the Peace Corps in Thailand. He teaches English to children 6 to 16 years old and has been learning the Thai language.

**Deirdre Kleist** was appointed director of campus ministry at St. Xavier University in Chicago, Ill.

## 2013

**Dana Borges** was named an assistant hockey coach for the University of Alaska, Anchorage. He spent last season as an assistant coach at Williams College in Williamstown.

**Emily Dolan** graduated from the Medical College of Wisconsin in June and has started her internal medicine residency at Gundersen Health System in La Crosse, Wis.

**Hanna (Pattie) Hugel** is the associate manager of integrated marketing at Reebok.

## 2014

**Brittany McCauley** is an IT program manager at the Medical University of South Carolina.

**Christina Mondy** is a public relations assistant at Acme PR in Studio City, Calif.

**Annemarie Rosa** was named a sales operations manager for Valiant Entertainment in New York City, a character-based entertainment company that owns the largest independent superhero universe in comics.

**Chelsea Shepherd** participated in Miami University's earth expeditions global field course in Australia, where she studied coral reef ecology and the conservation of marine systems along the Great Barrier Reef.

## 2015

**Alexandra Maloof** received a master's degree in healthcare administration sciences from Regis College in Weston.

## 2016

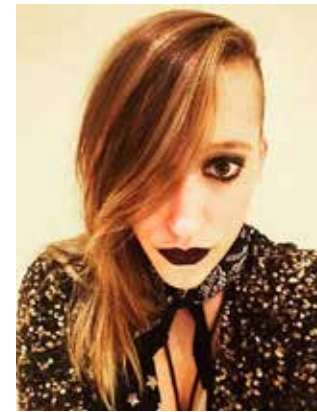
**Matthew Brown** served as the keynote speaker at Dedham High School's graduation ceremony. He spoke of facing adversity and challenges. In high school, Brown injured his spinal cord while playing hockey, becoming paralyzed from the shoulders and chest down.

**Jared Chandler** is a business development manager for Coca Cola Bottling Company.

**Joshua Gallant** is a patrol officer for the Hopkinton Police Department.

**Benjamin Zaniewski** graduated from the U.S. Army's initial entry rotary wing course at Fort Rucker, Ala. Trained to fly the UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter, he is now serving with the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division out of Fort Bragg, N.C.

**Nathaniel Proto**, who works for PricewaterhouseCoopers in Boston, was recognized by the American Institute of CPAs as a top CPA exam performer.



## Fashion Forward

**WITH TWO** semesters in Italy, one internship in New York City and one on-campus fashion show, **Elizabeth Scopac '12** admits that her college experience was not typical.

Scopac was determined to create a major that gave her the experience needed to start a career in fashion design and a life in New York City—all while still graduating on time.

Today, Scopac is an associate technical designer for ready-to-wear knitwear at Alexander Wang, Inc., in New York City, a position she worked hard for and truly enjoys.

“Technical designers are the engineers of the fashion world,” says Scopac. “We see in shapes and creative visions, but we think in terms of numbers.”

“Technical designers are the engineers of the fashion world,” says Scopac. “We see in shapes and creative visions, but we think in terms of numbers.”

She understands what her creative design colleagues are envisioning and communicates that to the factory in order to make it happen.

As a student at Stonehill, Scopac took advantage of the interdisciplinary major. Under the guidance of her advisor, Professor Peter Ubertaccio,

she set out to construct a course of study focused on apparel design development.

During her semesters on campus, she focused on graphic design, marketing and international business courses, many of which are relevant to the work she does every day. Scopac spent both semesters of her junior year studying at Lorenzo de' Medici, the Italian International Institute, in Florence, Italy, where she took all of her technical design courses.

As a senior, she spent a semester interning full time at Kenneth Cole in New York City before returning to campus for her final semester, during which she worked tirelessly to design over 50 pieces to be used in her capstone project—an on-campus spring fashion show.

Scopac emphasizes that she cannot thank her former advisor, Professor Ubertaccio, enough for believing in her vision and giving her the room and support to create a major that helped her get started in fashion.

## 8 Upcoming Events

### NOVEMBER

- 18 Alumni Mass of Thanksgiving
- 30 GOLD Gift Wrap

### DECEMBER

- 1 Children's Christmas Concert
- 1 Holiday Celebration
- 4 Rhode Island Christmas Reception
- 11 Washington, D.C., Christmas Reception
- 12 New York City Christmas Reception
- 20 Monthly Mass for Alumni Intentions

## REUNION

May 31– June 2, 2019



**CLASSES OF**  
1969, '74, '79,  
'84, '89, '94, '99,  
2004, '09, '14

**AND THE PILLAR SOCIETY.**

Visit [stonehill.edu/reunion](http://stonehill.edu/reunion) for more information.

## Notepad

**Purple Door Business Network**  
The Alumni Association's Purple Door Business Network is your best resource for finding businesses owned and operated by alumni. With more than 26,000 living graduates, Stonehill has alumni in nearly every industry. The network is searchable by industry and location and includes business descriptions and contact information. Listing a business in the network is available to all alumni. Visit [stonehillalumni.org](http://stonehillalumni.org) to find or list a business.

**Career Mentoring Directory**  
The Career Development Center and the Office of Alumni Affairs offer a career mentoring directory, housed on the Stonehill Connect site. By registering as a career mentor, students and alumni interested in entering your field will be able to contact you for career advice and career development opportunities. As a mentor, you can choose how you wish to be contacted and how you would like to be involved. To sign up as a mentor or to search for mentors, visit [stonehillalumni.org](http://stonehillalumni.org).

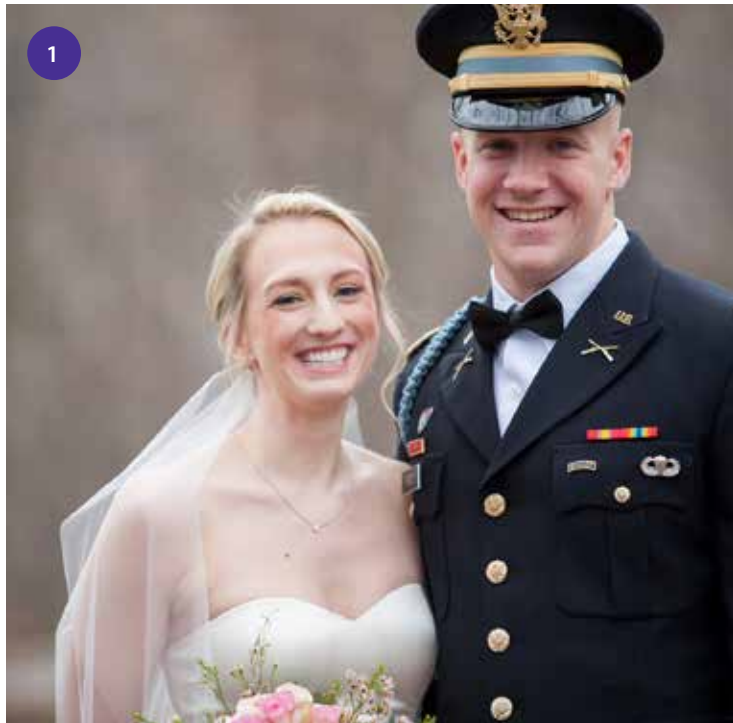
**Become Educators in the Faith**  
The Congregation of Holy Cross Priests and Brothers is an international community dedicated to educational, pastoral and social ministries. For vocations, contact Rev. Tim Mouton, C.S.C. at 574-631-6385 or at [tmouton@holycrossusa.org](mailto:tmouton@holycrossusa.org). Visit [holycrossvocations.org](http://holycrossvocations.org).

## ALUMNI DAY 2019

Save Saturday,  
February 2.

- ❖ Open science labs hosted by faculty for children of alumni
- ❖ A winter carnival, including a Barn Babies petting zoo
- ❖ A cook off
- ❖ Craft beer tasting
- ❖ Basketball games
- ❖ **AND MORE!** Details forthcoming at [stonehill.edu](http://stonehill.edu).





1



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## Weddings

**Michelle Pinnetti '91** to Patrick DeStoop, 11/19/17

**Shannon Rosa '04** to Paul Thorin, 5/12/18

**Jacqueline Woodbury '06** to Samir Kassar, 5/12/17

**Elizabeth Jefferies '07** to Michael Comerford, 3/11/17

**Sarah Karian '07** to Ben Butterfield, 8/12/17

**Sarah Deloury '08** to Andrew Fotos, 11/11/17

**Amy Royal '08** to Bill Klotz, 9/16/17

**Coral Azarian '09** to Daniel Kerl '09, 7/7/18

**Brianna Touzjian '09** to Peter Payack '09, 9/23/17

**Alana Mihovics '10** to Thomas Sullivan, 7/14/18

**Mark Kudlate '11** to Caitlin McEvily '11, 9/30/17

**Lindsey Pinkham '11** to Andrew Jacobs '12, 9/3/17

**Mary Previte '11** to Christopher Davis, 9/30/17

**Corinne Sherman '11** to Jeffrey Stewart, 5/27/17

**Alyson Weston-Murphy '12** to Brian Benson, 10/7/17

**Ryan Forde '12** to Katrina Rubner '12, 8/6/17

**Kaylee Johnson '12** to Derek Krevat '13, 6/2/18

**Jessie Booher-Hendrick '12** to Paul Ostrander '12, 6/23/18

**Kevin Barron '13** to Allison Gutkowski, 9/9/17

**Vanessa Egan '13** to Jack Dowd, 9/16/17

**Katherine Strout '13** to James Mize, 8/12/16

**Meghan Kenny '13** to Eric Schott '13, 8/13/16

**Erin Bozsnyak '13** to Scott Worth, 7/16/16

**Lenna Dwyer '13** to Andrew Zitter, 5/12/17

**Joseph Scherr Jr. '14** to Nicole Colantonio '14, 8/12/17

### Weddings Pictured

1. **Taylor Campbell '16** and **Thomas Flett '16**, 1/28/18

2. **Carola Meléndez-Ríos '13** and Luis García Altagracia, 6/15/17

3. **Kendal Collins '15** and **David Baer '14**, 1/13/18

4. **Kelsey Reilly '13** and **Daniel Kincade '12**, 9/30/17

5. **Susan Tinkham '09** and **Mark Lamoureux '01**, 9/15/17

6. **Diane LeBeau '04** and Binaya Basnet, 8/6/17

7. **Gabriella Noreña '13** and **Sean Hanlon '13**, 9/9/17

8. **Gabrielle Kwiatkowski** and **Brian Reynolds '04**, 9/16/17



- 7. Kaileigh Marie, 12/12/17, **Zachary Ennis '08** and **Emily LeDonne '08**
- 8. Liam Jackson, 7/5/17, **Lindsey (Pietrasik) '11** and **Brian Moriarty**
- 9. Maxwell Jacob, 1/22/18, **Jennifer (LeFebvre) '07** and **Mark '07 Montemagni**
- 10. Warren Patrick, 3/29/18, **Anne (Kostic) '12** and **Zachary Boothe**



## Babies

**Theresa (Huntenburg) '02** and **Andrew Starnes**, Chattanooga, Tenn., daughter, **Hannah Gabriella**, 4/5/18

**Sarah (Orszak) '03** and **Andrew Gomes**, Attleboro, daughter, **Morgan Hope**, 11/3/17

**Tara (Connolly) '05** and **Daniel '05 D'Onofrio**, Winthrop, son, **Freddie James**, 6/14/17

**Katherine (Romel) '07** and **Christopher '07 Husband**, West Hartford, Conn., daughter, **Charlotte Grace**, 7/4/17

**Nicole** and **John Ferris '08**, Reading, son, **Jake Robert**, 8/10/17

**Amy (Simmons) '08** and **Greg Meagher**, Tewksbury, son, **Thomas John**, 2/22/18

**Sarah (Lewis) '08** and **Andy Soristo**, Salem, N.H., daughter, **Ruth Elizabeth**, 1/2/18

**Elise (Mostello) '09** and **Daniel Congreve**, Cambridge, daughter, **Eleanor Marie**, 6/1/18

**Bridget (Conway) '10** and **Brian Moore '10**, Stratford, Conn., daughter, **Madison**, 11/14/17

**Amanda (Santacroce) '10** and **Nicholas '10 Pace**, Melrose, son, **Salvatore Nicholas**, 8/27/17

**Alex (Linder) '11** and **Brian Flett**, Billerica, son, **Dallas William**, 1/27/18

**Kristen (Charlesworth) '11** and **David Myles**, Taunton, daughter, **Nora Katherine**, 7/25/17

**Devan** and **Mario Ranalli '12**, Lakeville, son, **Mason Paul**, and son, **Parker Karl**, 3/7/18

**Lenna (Dwyer) '13** and **Andrew Zitter**, Fayetteville, N.C., son, **Philip Ethan**, 1/4/18

### Babies Pictured

1. **Alexandra Siobhan**, 3/20/18, **Elisabeth (Croteau) '11** and **Adam Walker '11**
2. **Aubrey Rose**, 4/8/17 **Samantha (Lindquist) '13** and **Andrew Carrico**
3. **Cotter Daniel**, 9/19/17, **Jenna (Walsh) '08** and **Daniel Roman**
4. **Tessa Lauren**, 10/7/17, **Aimee (Rioux) '03** and **Angelo Antidormi**
5. **Elizabeth Marie**, 7/26/17, **Meghan (Hartford) '10** and **Mark '11 White**
6. **Harper Marie**, 6/2/18, **Janna (Stanke) '11** and **Brenden Naraine**

## WAIT, There's More to See!

Want to see more photos of your classmates getting married or of their little bundles of joy? You now can by visiting SAM online at [stonehill.edu/alumni-magazine](http://stonehill.edu/alumni-magazine).

Want to Submit a Wedding or Baby Photo? Here's how: Visit [stonehill.edu/alumni/keep-in-touch](http://stonehill.edu/alumni/keep-in-touch) and complete the form and photo upload.

To be considered for publication, upload digital photos in .jpeg format, at least 2



MB in size. The person submitting the photo must be part of the wedded couple or parent of the baby and a Stonehill graduate. Because of

space constraints, not all photos submitted will be included in the print version of the magazine, but those meeting the specified requirements will be included in SAM online.

## Obituaries

**George Lillyman '53** of Tulare, Calif., died June 9. He is survived by his wife, Frances, and five siblings.

**Robert Walko '55** of Richmond, Ky., died May 29. He is survived by his nieces and nephews.

**Franklin Kelleher '56** of Sarasota, Fla., died July 24. He is survived by his wife, Barbara, his brother John '53, eight children, 15 grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

**Carol (Sousa) Cowdrey '58** of Tallahassee, Fla., died April 10. She is survived by her husband, Peter, and four siblings.

**Bernard Swansey '58** of Franklin died May 26. He is survived by seven children, a brother, 14 grandchildren and cousin, Michael Whelan '63.

**Diane (Parker) Bryant '59** of Whitman died June 3. She is survived by her husband, Ronald '64, and her daughter.

**Alfred Capozzi '59** of Mansfield died March 8. He is survived by his partner, Jimmy, two children, and his former spouse, Athena.

**Patricia (Gallivan) Cronin '59** of Walpole died March 8. She is survived by four children, including Kevin '90 and his wife, Jennifer (Sampson) '93, two siblings, 12 grandchildren and nephew, Edward Gallivan Jr. '84.

**Ernest DeCristofaro '59** of Plymouth died June 7. He is survived by his wife, Katherine, three children, 10 grandchildren and three siblings.

**Thomas Graham '62** of North Abington died May 2. He is survived by his wife, Mary, six children, including Thomas Jr. '92, and 17 grandchildren.

**Edward Moore '65** of Brockton died May 3. He is survived by his three children, including Jennifer Bamford '93, four grandchildren and a sister.

**Robert Beggan '66** of Alexandria, Va., died May 2. He is survived by his wife, Pamela (Hudson) '66, four children, 11 grandchildren and two siblings.

**William Fanning '66** of Berlin, Md., died June 18. He is survived by his wife, Marilyn, two children and five grandchildren.

**William Quirk Jr. '69** of Upton died February 23. He is survived by his wife, Rosemary, two sons, a granddaughter and his mother.

**Katherine (Andrade) Russell '69** of Middleboro died June 4. She is survived by her four children, a brother, four grandchildren and an uncle, Rev. John Dias, C.S.C. '59.

**Michael Farricy '71** of Orleans died May 20. He is survived by his brother.

**Thomas DeCosta '75** of Brockton died February 23. He is survived by his extended family.

**Kenneth Rodel '76** of Brockton died February 15. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy, two sons and a brother.

**Lawrence Ganski '81** of Lakeville died February 20, 2016. He is survived by his wife, Kathryn, three children, a grandchild and three siblings.

**Marianne (O'Connor) Morrisey '81** of Hillsborough, N.J., died February 23. She is survived by her husband, Scott, two children, her mother and five sisters.

**Richard Graham '82** of Simsbury, Conn., died March 27. He is survived by his wife, Karen, his daughter, parents and a sister.

**David Hafey '82** of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., died April 20. He is survived by two sisters.

**Steven Mills '82** of Martha's Vineyard died April 25. He is survived by his daughter, four siblings, including Joseph Mills '74, three grandchildren and niece, Julie Mills '13.

**Marilyn (Murphy) Fickert '86** of Middleboro died March 6. She is survived by three children, six grandchildren and a sister.

**Robert Chicoine Jr. '87** of Bridgewater died July 30. He is survived by his mother, two children, three siblings, and his former wife, Patricia (Silvia) '89.

**Thomas McGrath '87** of South Yarmouth died June 3. He is survived by his son, parents, a sister and his former spouse, Johanna (Brady) '90.

**Paul Mulvey '91** of Westport died September 27, 2012. He is survived by his wife, Jennifer (Albanese) '89, parents, two sons, including Nicholas '21, and a brother.

**Keith Kruse '92** of Mansfield died March 30. He is survived by four children, including Kathy Murray '82, and nine grandchildren, including Michelle (Brokaw) McDougall '05. He was the brother of the late Rev. Robert Kruse, C.S.C., '55, longtime teacher and administrator at Stonehill.

**Gregory McTigue '95** of New York, N.Y., died May 23. He is survived by his mother and a sister.

**Anthony Palmer '02** of Winthrop died March 15. He is survived by his companion, Alessandra Servideo, his son, mother and two brothers.

**Jeralyn Boccuzzi '08** of Rockville, Conn., died June 10. She is survived by her partner, Matt Zenko, her parents, brother and grandmother.

**Christopher Golden '12** of Sandwich died March 6. He is survived by his wife, Jillian (Jones) '12, parents, three siblings, including Ryan '09, and grandparents.

## College Obituaries



**Officer Sean Gannon**, a well-respected, former member of the Stonehill College Police Department

was tragically killed on April 12 while on duty with the Yarmouth Police Department. He was the brother of Timothy Gannon '09

and the son of Denise Gannon, a former member of Campus Ministry. In honor of Officer Gannon's service, the Stonehill Police Department officially retired his badge.



**Joseph Skaff '57**, a scholar of Islam who taught in both the History and Religious Studies departments with over 41 years of service to the College, died in June. He is survived by Skaff and Carlton family members and his many friends and colleagues.



## Good People

BY EMILY SCHARIO '18

FOUR YEARS, FOUR MOVE-IN DAYS, 120 credits, eight finals weeks and roughly \$220,000 later—all for what? Over the weeks leading up to graduation this past May, I spent a lot of time thinking about why I came to Stonehill, and more importantly, why I stayed.

For me, I remember my mom sifting through a sea of college pamphlets and stumbling upon Stonehill's iconic purple envelope. After reading the College's website and watching countless videos of students sharing their Stonehill stories, my mom was convinced that Stonehill was the perfect place for me. I, on the other hand, was not.

Quite frankly, I didn't really know anything about Stonehill. Solely focused on the name and prestige of a school, my stubborn 17-year-old self could not imagine myself at a small, Catholic, liberal arts campus in the middle of

Easton. My heart was set on wearing a college sweatshirt that people would recognize and be impressed by.

However, despite my resistance, I applied, was accepted, and on April 5, 2014, I made the drive from Auburn, Maine, to Stonehill for my first Accepted Students Day. If I learned anything from that day, it's that your ego is always wrong and your mom is generally always right.

Within a matter of hours, I found myself warming up to the purple sidewalks, the high-fiving mascot and President Denning's Rhode Island accent preaching that, "Stonehill's gotta lotta harht."

However, it wasn't until I spoke with Professor John Lanci at an Honors Program luncheon that things started to click for me.

"The reality," he said, "is that you can get a degree in English, biology or business from any college. However, the difference is that Stonehill doesn't just produce good students, they produce good people." This comment has stuck with me for the past four years, and it

wasn't until recently that I was finally able to articulate what Professor Lanci's comment truly meant.

As a first year student I thought, perhaps it's our politeness, as Stonehill students are notorious for holding doors for long amounts of time, or maybe it's because everyone happily waves at each other on the way to class. While these two things are true, as a senior, I found that they only begin to define what it means to be a Stonehill student.

Being a Stonehill student is having the courage to question, to challenge and to stand up for what you think is right. Being a Stonehill student means holding each other up in the face of grief and tragedy, and celebrating as one in moments of joy and gratitude.

It means spending your spring break on a H.O.P.E. trip or a Wednesday afternoon at My Brother's Keeper. Being a Stonehill student means running out of meal plan money but always having a friend, or a stranger, pick up your tab. And it means proudly answering others when they ask, "Oh, you go to Stonehill...What is that?"

As a tour guide, I would tell people that Stonehill has taken me to 10 countries, two continents and 25 cities, quite literally giving me the world. But, perhaps more importantly, Stonehill has connected me to a lifelong supportive community.

To the Class of 2018: Thank you for always making me proud to wear my Stonehill sweatshirt. As we stand on the precipice of the real world, always remember that you are smart, driven and hardworking, but most importantly, you are and always will be a member of a kind, compassionate and loving community. As Professor Lanci said, "You are good people, and you are exactly what this world needs."

*Emily Schario '18, a mediated communication and English literature major, delivered the student address at Commencement in May. This is an excerpt from her speech, which was edited for space.*

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**SHARE YOUR STORY.** Submit your 500-word essay about your Stonehill thoughts and memories to [klawrence@stonehill.edu](mailto:klawrence@stonehill.edu).





# STONEHILL COLLEGE

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**IN NUMBER ORDER** At the Reunion cookout, a group of 2008 alumni not only brought their children, but they also had special T-shirts made for them. The front proclaimed Stonehill's Next Generation and the back number represented birth order. These future Skyhawks are sitting from youngest to oldest [l to r].

